

Book 38: Zechariah

Messianic Hope for Discouraged Builders

Zechariah: Introduction

- Zechariah, like Jeremiah & Ezekiel, was a priest as well as a prophet.
- His ministry coincided with that of the prophet Haggai.
- They both spoke to the people who had returned to Jerusalem from captivity.

- Haggai was direct and practical in encouraging the people to finish the rebuilding of the Temple.
- Zechariah's prophecies are filled with symbolic visions and several predictions pointing to Jesus Christ.

- Zechariah makes more references to the coming Messiah than all of the other Minor Prophets combined.
- In turn, he is quoted or referred to at least 40 times in the New Testament.

Zechariah: Structure

- Chapters 1-6: Eight Night Visions
- Chapters 7-8: Four Messages
- Chapters 9-14: Two Oracles
 - An *oracle* is a divine utterance or pronouncement. The Hebrew word can also be translated "burden", indicating the weight of the message upon the prophet who spoke it.

Zechariah: Discussion

- As we study the book of Zechariah consider the following questions:
- What impact do you think the prophecies of Zechariah had on the people who first heard them?
- How – or why – does the Lord still use Bible prophecy to speak to us today?

Zechariah: Key Passages

- 1:1-17 God will have mercy upon Jerusalem.
- 2:10-13 The Lord will dwell in Zion, ruling over the nations.
 - 2:12 Holy Land This is the one place in the Bible where this phrase is actually used.

Zechariah: Key Passages

- 3:1-5 Satan accuses Joshua the high priest, but the Lord declares him clean.
- 4:6-10 God's Spirit can do what human strength cannot. Z-babel will complete the Temple.
- 5:5-11 Wickedness will be sent off to a house built in Shinar.

- 6:12-13 The Branch shall one day rule as both Priest and King.
- 8:1-8 Jerusalem's future glory
- 9:9-10 The King over Jerusalem
- 11:12-13 A prophecy about Christ's betrayal
- 11:16-17 A prophecy pertaining to Antichrist

- 12:10 Israel's future repentance
- 13:6-7 Jesus, the Shepherd who was wounded
- 14:1-4 The Second Coming
- 14:16-19 Celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles in the Messianic Age

Zechariah: Discussion

- Now let's take one more look at those questions:
- What impact do you think the prophecies of Zechariah had on the people who first heard them?
- How – or why – does the Lord still use Bible prophecy to speak to us today?

Zechariah: Fulfillment in Christ

- *John 19:34,36-37* But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.... For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled ... "*They shall look on Him whom they pierced.*"

- *Revelation 1:7* Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.