

Zechariah: The Lord Remembers

Introduction

I. The Author—Zechariah (Yahweh remembers) is identified as the “son of Berechiah” (Yahweh blesses), “son of Iddo” (appointed time). Iddo was the head of the priestly families that returned to Israel after the Babylonian exile (Neh 12:4, 16). Thus, Zechariah was both a prophet and a priest.

II. The Audience—the post-exilic community in Judah.

III. The Aim—To exhort the returned remnant to rebuild the temple by reminding them of the coming of Messiah to subjugate the Gentile empires, save His people, and set-up His Kingdom.

IV. The Arrangement

ZECHARIAH			
	Call to Repentance	Encouragement and Motivation Visions	Encouragement and Hope
	Horses and riders Horns and craftsmen Surveyor and measuring line Joshua (the priest) and Satan Lampstand and seven lights Flying scroll and warning Woman and a basket Chariots and judgment <i>CHAPTER 1:1–6</i>	Questions Fasting Failure Future of Zion <i>CHAPTERS 7–8</i>	Predictions First “Oracle”: Rejection of Messiah Preservation of Israel Deception of false prophets Second “Oracle”: Israel’s final victory Messiah’s final victory <i>CHAPTERS 9–14</i>
Time	Written during the building of the temple		Written after completion of the temple
Purpose	To motivate those working on the temple to continue in spite of their own crop failures and financial distress. Rather than rebuking or condemning, Zechariah inspired the people to work.		To give the workers hope that there was a better day, a far more glorious day yet to come. Vivid scenes of Messiah are included. He is revealed as coming, rejected, returning, and conquering.
Theme	Build the temple; build your future		
Key Verses	4:6; 8:3; 9:9–10		
Christ in Zechariah	Zechariah is second only to Isaiah in its number of messianic passages. Among Zechariah’s explicit references to Christ are the angel of the Lord (3:1–2); the righteous Branch (3:8; 6:12–13); the King-Priest (6:13); the cornerstone, tent peg, and bow of battle (10:4); the good shepherd who is sold for thirty pieces of silver (11:4–13); the pierced One (12:10); and the coming Judge and righteous King (14).		

8 Visions
(1:7—6:15)

4 Messages
(7—8)

2 Burdens
(9—14)

V. The Analysis

Introduction (1:1-6)

8 Night Visions (1:7—6:15)

1. Horse Patrol (1:8-17)
2. 4 Horns and 4 Craftsmen (1:18-21)
3. Man with a Measuring Line (2:1-13)
4. Clothing of Joshua (3:1-10)
5. Lampstand and Olive Trees (4:1-14)
6. Flying Scroll (5:1-4)
7. Woman in the Basket (5:5-11)
8. 4 Chariots (6:1-8)

4 Messages (7—8)

1. Message of Rebuke (7:1-7)
2. Message of Remembrance (7:8-14)
3. Message of Restoration (8:1-17)
4. Message of Regathering (8:18-23)

2 Burdens (9—14)

1st Burden—Messiah's First Coming and Rejection

2nd Burden—Messiah's Second Coming and Reign

VI. The Application

