

Historical & Scriptural Placement:

The prophet Zechariah ministered in Judah after the Jews had been allowed to return from exile by the Persian King Darius in 536 B.C. Zerubbabel returned to Judah in 535 B.C to rebuild the temple; but after one year the building stalled. February 15, 519 B.C. Zechariah received eight visions for Judah. He was a contemporary of Haggai. The Scriptural account is recorded in Ezra 5:1-2; 6:14.

Main Point: Zechariah is the second of the three post-exile prophets. In addition to the tough task of rebuilding the nation that had been ravaged by the Babylonian invasion, the people also set out to rebuild the temple and restore their broken relationship with God. Under the leadership of Zerubbabel and the practical instructions of the prophet Haggai the rebuilding of the temple restarted in 520 B.C. Because of limited resources, constant opposition, and continual complaining it didn't take long for the people to become discouraged in the work. Knowing this would happen, God gave Zechariah a series of eight visions describing the future plan of God. These visions of a future Jerusalem, a coming kingdom, and the King who'd occupy the throne were intended to provide encouragement and motivation to finish the work. The people needed to keep a heavenly vision, maintain a pure heart, and hold fast the heavenly promise.

OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF ZECHARIAH

CH 1:1-6 INTRO OF ZECHARIAH: VISIONS OF 519 B.C. / EVENTS OF 520 B.C.

KEEP A HEAVENLY VISION

CH 1:7-17 VISION #1: THE LORD'S HORSEMEN
 CH 1:18-19 VISION #2: FOUR HORNS & FOUR CRAFTSMEN
 CH 2:1-13 VISION #3: MEASURING JERUSALEM
 CH 3:1-10 VISION #4: THE CURRENT HIGH PRIEST & THE COMING BRANCH
 CH 4:1-14 VISION #5: AUTOMATED MENORAH
 CH 5:1-4 VISION #6: FLYING SCROLL
 CH 5:5-11 VISION #7: WOMAN IN A BASKET
 CH 6:1-15 VISION #8: FOUR CHARIOTS

MAINTAIN A PURE HEART

CH 7:1-8:23 HISTORICAL INTERLUDE: QUESTIONS OVER RELIGIOUS RITUAL
 CH 7:4-14 ANSWER #1: IT'S A MATTER OF THE HEART
 CH 8:1-23 ANSWER #2: GOD'S SOVEREIGN PURPOSE OVER JERUSALEM

HOLD FAST THE HEAVENLY PROMISE

CH 9:1-11:17 MESSIANIC BURDEN: MESSIAH'S FIRST COMING
 CH 9:1-17 VISION #1: THE COMING OF THE KING
 CH 10:1-11:3 VISION #2: SALVATION & REDEMPTION
 (CORNERSTONE, TENT PEG, BATTLE BOW, EVERY RULER TOGETHER)
 CH 11:4-17 VISION #3: SHEPHERD'S REJECTION & THE FALSE SHEPHERD
 CH 12:1-14:21 MESSIANIC BURDEN: MESSIAH'S SECOND COMING
 CH 12:1-13:6 VISION #1: PHYSICAL RESTORATION & RENEWAL
 CH 13:7-14:21 VISION #2: JUDGMENT & TRANSFORMATION

