

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Zechariah is one of the three post exile prophets (along with Haggai, Malachi).
- B. His writing is dated in the Bible and is concurrent with that of Haggai.
 - 1. Hag 1:1 - 6/1/2 – about 520 BC (“2” refers to the Second year of Darius)
 - 2. Hag 1:15 - 6/24/2
 - 3. Hag 2:1 - 7/21/2
 - 4. Zech 1:1 - 8/1/2
 - 5. Zech 7:1 - 9/4/4
 - 6. Hag 2:10 - 9/24/2
 - 7. Zech 1:7 - 11/24/2
- C. Zechariah’s name means “Jehovah has remembered.” It was a very common name. There are almost 30 men with this name found in the Bible. (Archer)
- D. His father’s name means, “Jehovah blesses.” His grandfather’s name means, “his time.” Put the three names together – “Jehovah remembers to bless in His time.”
- E. Zechariah was the grandson of Iddo, a priest who returned to Jerusalem with Zerubbabel (see Neh 12:4, 16, Ezra 5:1, 6:14). His role was that he was a priest, also.
- F. Zechariah was probably young, and born in Babylon.
- G. Jesus refers to a man named, “Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar” and the name seems to be too close to consider as someone else. Compare Matt 23:35 with Zech 1:1.
- H. As the history of Zechariah’s day is identical to that of Haggai, it is best to study them together. We have already examined the history of Haggai’s day.
- I. Zechariah is the longest of the minor prophets, and has the most difficult and rich imagery and visions. Hailey says it is the most difficult of the Old Testament books to interpret. It is also called the most “Messianic.” Ryrie says that Zechariah prophesied more about the Messiah than any other prophet except Isaiah.
 - 1. Zechariah has more visions than any other minor prophet
 - 2. Amos would be the next most envisioned minor prophet
- J. The following is one author’s list of the prophesy of Christ in Zechariah
 - 1. The Angel of the Lord --- 3:1
 - 2. The stone with seven eyes --- 3:9
 - 3. The Righteous Branch --- 3:8; 6:12-13
 - 4. The King/Priest --- 6:13
 - 5. The humble King --- 9:9-10
 - 6. The cornerstone, tent peg, & bow of battle --- 10:4
 - 7. The Good Shepherd who is rejected & sold for 30 shekels of silver, the price of a slave --- 11:4-13
 - 8. The pierced one --- 12:10
 - 9. The cleansing fountain --- 13:1
 - 10. The smitten Shepherd who is abandoned --- 13:7
 - 11. The coming Judge & righteous King --- chapter 14
- K. There are also parallel passages between Zechariah and The Revelation
 - 1. The four horsemen --- Zech. 6:1-8; Rev. 6:1-8
 - 2. The two olive trees --- Zech. 4:3; Rev. 11:4
 - 3. The lamp stand & seven eyes --- Zech. 4:2-10; Rev. 1:12
- L. Angels are particularly evident in the first six chapters of Zechariah, as they are in The Revelation.

II. OUTLINES IN ZECHARIAH

- A. Be Not Like Your Fathers – Zech 1:1-6 (see 1:2)

1. Their fathers refused to repent (1:4)
2. They refused to believe (1:6)
3. They were judged (1:6)
- B. Vision of the Four Horns and the Carpenter (1:18-21)
 1. The horns represent four strong kingdoms (horns are strength) which disperse the Israelites (they are Gentiles)
 2. Carpenters are artisans and craftsmen who have tools with which to dismantle the horns and also to build things again (i.e. reassemble Israel)
 3. Both are instruments of God, used to chasten and repair Israel
 4. God will tear down things in our life and build new ones that are superior
- C. The Apple of God's Eye (Zech 2)
 1. This phrase appears five times in the Bible
 - a. It was also used by Shakespeare, Alfred the Great, and others
 - b. Sir Walter Scott popularized it in an 1816 novel
 - c. It means "something very special to me."
 2. Zech 2 is a vision of a man with a measuring line.
 - a. He measures Jerusalem (which means it is a literal city)
 3. God promises to protect, indwell, and inherit the "holy land"
- D. The Removal of Reproach (Zech 3)
 1. A contest between the priest and Satan (3:1)
 2. The resister is rebuked (3:2)
 3. The raiment (filthy) is replaced (3:4-5)
 4. The responsibility is rehearsed (3:6-7)
 5. The reproach is removed (3:8-10)
- E. The Vision of the Candlestick and Gold (Zech 4)
 1. The Beauty, Purity, and Perfection of God's people (2)
 2. The provision of God for His people (3)
 3. The dependence of God's people upon Him alone (6)
 4. The defeat of the enemy for His people (7)
 5. Two anointed (chosen) ones – as Joshua and Zerubbabel (4:14)
 - a. Christ as both the civil and ceremonial leader –
 - b. Visions of Christ abound in Zechariah (i.e. ch. 3 - the BRANCH and stone)
- F. Judgment of Sinners and their System (Zech 5)
 1. Vision of the flying roll - a mobile book of judgment (1-4)
 2. Vision of the Ephah, woman, and talent - The woman (Great Whore) is placed in a basket and held down by a lead weight - This is God's judgment of false religion and apostasy (5-11)
- G. Vision of the Four Chariots (Zech 6) - God's dealing with the world
 1. Chariots and horses are military instruments of war
 - a. The colors of horses could portray their effect
 - b. Red - war
 - c. Black - death
 2. Brass in the Bible pictures judgment
 3. The going forth of the spirits to the north and south result in the quieting of God's spirit in the north country
 - a. His spirit is appeased by judgment
 4. The BRANCH is the Lord Jesus Christ
 - a. He is Priest and King
 - b. He will be crowned after judgment is fulfilled
 5. Application

- a. He will be “quieted” through judgment upon the earth (8)
 - b. He will be crowned priest and king (11-13)
 - c. He will be worshiped & served (15)
- H. A Practical Question about What Motivates Worship (Zech 7)
1. This is a new prophesy which is directed to the people of Zechariah’s day and their “misunderstanding.” It is very personal.
 2. The people ask if they should continue to weep in the fifth month, as they had done on the past.
 3. God asks, “why do you do what you do?” “For me?”
 4. In other words, tradition pleases men but obedience pleases God
 5. God commands that they replace mourning with obedience (7:9).
- I. Ten Formal Declarations Concerning Jerusalem (Zech 8)
1. (V2) EXPLANATION – The reason the LORD judged so harshly was because of their idolatry — he was jealous for Zion with “great jealousy” which caused great fury
 2. (V3) REINSTATEMENT – The judgment is passed: The LORD has returned to Zion
 3. (V4) SAFETY – Young and old will enjoy Jerusalem again
 4. (V6) PERSPECTIVE – God’s concept of marvelous things differs from our perception
 5. (V7) RE-GATHERING – The people of Israel will be re-gathered to Jerusalem and God will be there God
 6. (V9-13) ENCOURAGEMENT – Have courage, ye that hear and build, because the LORD has changed His way towards Jerusalem to one of blessing
 7. (V14) CONSISTENCY – I will bless as vigorously as I have punished and will not repent
 8. (V19) REVERSAL – Fasts will become cheerful feasts
 9. (V20) ATTENTION – Jerusalem will be a city sought by many who come to pray before the LORD
 10. (V23) REVERENCE – The inhabitants of Jerusalem will be revered for God’s presence with them.
- J. Prophesy of the Coming King and Future Events (Zech 9)
1. The campaigns of Alexander begin in the North 333 BC (1-2)
 2. The fortification and burning of Tyre (verse 3-4)
 3. The siege and destruction of Gaza and Ashkelon (5-7)
 4. The salvation of Jerusalem from Alexander the Great (8)
 5. The coming of Christ on palm Sunday (9)
 6. Destruction of Greece occupation by Judah and Ephraim – the revolt during the time of the Macabees (10-13)
 7. The involvement of the Egyptians in the expulsion of the Greeks from Jerusalem (14) - whirlwind of the South
- K. Israel’s Future Restoration (Zech 10)
1. Except for chapter 11, the remainder of Zechariah deals with Israel’s conversion and cleansing during and after the tribulation
 2. Chapter 10 is a continuation of chapter 9, without any division
- L. The Condition of Israel at the time of the Messiah (Zech 11)
1. The Flock is destined to destruction (1-6)
 2. The Shepherd is rejected (7-13)
 - a. Tremendous prophesy of the crucifixion
 - b. Betrayal for 30 pieces of silver
 3. A Wicked Shepherd is Foreseen - Anti-christ (15-17)

- M. Judgment of the Nations and Deliverance of Jerusalem (Zech 12)
- N. The Purifying of Israel (Zech 13)
 - 1. Their cleansing (1-5)
 - 2. Their Christ (6-8)
 - 3. Their convocation (gathering) (9)
- O. The Day of the Lord and the Last Battle (Zech 14:1-11)
- P. The End of the Story of the World (Zech 14:12-21)
 - 1. "No more destruction" (14:11)
 - 2. Total victory for Israel (12)
 - 3. Submission to Israel by all the nations (16)
 - 4. Holiness forever (20-21)

III. COMMENTS AND THOUGHTS

- A. It is important to remember that Zechariah is written to, and about, Israel (literal Israel).
- B. Even when the returned exiles were not obeying God, there was still an eternal plan that was foretold by the Lord. Israel's disobedience was part of God's plan, not something that changed God's plan.
- C. Only Daniel talks more about Israel's future (than Zechariah)
 - 1. The City of Jerusalem is mentioned over 40 times
 - 2. The deliverance from the heathen is given in detail
 - 3. Restoration is evident
- D. There are principles in this book that are useful in our day (i.e. "Why do we worship?") but you cannot allegorize Zechariah into a message to "the church." It is WRONG to call Israel "the church."
- E. Christ is the central theme of Zechariah. Zech 6:12-13 may be the "key verses."
 - 1. Zech 6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: 13 Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.
 - 2. Christ is . . .
 - a. The branch & servant (3:8)
 - b. The good shepherd (9:16, 11:11)
 - c. Betrayed and pierced (11:12, 12:10)
 - d. The Saviour of Israel (13:1)
 - e. The returning King (14:3-8)

H O M E W O R K

Name: _____

1. When was Zechariah written (i.e. year)?

2. What does the combination of Zechariah's name, his father's name, and his grandfather's name say about God?

3. What other prophet was writing at the same time as Zechariah?

4. What office (role) did Zechariah hold?

5. What did Hailey say about interpreting Zechariah?

6. In what ways is Zechariah different from all the other minor prophets? List three.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

7. List four ways that Zechariah portray's Christ, and give references for each.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

8. List three specific prophecies, found in Zechariah, that came true in the Life of Christ.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

9. List three parallel passages between Zechariah and The Revelation.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
10. What historic events were prophesied by Zechariah in chapter 9, and came to pass? Name three.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
11. Fill in the blank: It is wrong to call _____ the _____.
12. In Zechariah 11, what happens to the first shepherd?
13. Zechariah talks more about Israel's future than any prophet except who?
14. Only Isaiah prophesied more about what topic, than Zechariah?
15. If Matthew 23:35 is about the Zechariah who wrote this prophesy, how did he die?