

ZECHARIAH

OUTLINE

I. Introduction (1:1-6)

- A. Date and author (1:1)
- B. Zechariah called the people to repentance (1:2-6)

II. Israel's Future Is Symbolized by Eight Visions (1:7-6:16)

A. Vision One: Assurance is given by the horsemen among the myrtle trees (1:8-17)

- (Watchers assure that the temple will be rebuilt)
(see chapter 6 for the significance of the colored horses)
1. The Lord's watchers are dispatched for an inspection (8-10)
 2. The Lord's watchers report that the earth is at rest (11)
 3. The 70 year indignation will now cease (12)
 4. Assurance is given that the Temple will be rebuilt (13-17)

B. Vision Two: Avengers are symbolized by four horns and four smiths (1:18-21)

- (God will avenge Israel's enemies)
1. The four horns are four nations that scatter Israel, Judah, Jerusalem
 - a. Babylon
 - b. Medo-Persia
 - c. Greece
 - d. Rome
 2. The four smiths are God's avengers who will punish the horns

C. Vision Three: Anticipation of Israel's reconstruction is symbolized by the man with a measuring line (2:1-13)

- (God's glorious future Kingdom is anticipated)
(The glory of the Millennial Jerusalem is described)
1. Jerusalem will have no walls (4)
 2. The Shekinah glory will be there (5)
 3. The Lord will be a wall of protection (6-9)
(Note: Israel is "the apple of His eye" (8))
 4. The Lord will dwell in Jerusalem (10-11)
(Note: Messiah's deity--"The Lord of Hosts has sent Me" vs. 11)
 5. Judah will be the Lord's inheritance (12-13)

D. Vision Four: Access is symbolized by the Cleansing of Joshua (3:1-7)
(The priesthood is restored, Joshua is a type of Messiah the Branch)

1. The Angel of the Lord and Satan contend over Joshua (1-2)
 - a. The Lord rebuked Satan in the name of the Lord (2)
 - b. Compare Amos 4:11
2. Joshua's garments are changed (4-5)
3. Joshua's iniquity passed away (4)
4. Joshua received a covenant from the Lord (6-7)
5. The Messiah is promised (8-10)
 - a. He is the Lord's Servant, the Branch (8)
 - b. He is symbolized by the stone with 7 eyes (9)
(see also 4:10; Isa. 11:2; Rev. 1:4; 5:6, 11)
 - c. His day will bring Millennial blessing (10)

E. Vision Five: Anointing Power is symbolized by Lamp stands and Olive Trees
(4:1-14)

- (An unlimited supply of Holy Spirit Power is available to do God's work)
1. Zechariah saw a lamp stand with a feeder bowl and pipes (2)
 2. He saw two olive trees on each side of the lamp stand (3, 11-12)
 3. The angel applied the vision to Zerubbabel (4-10)
 - a. God's work is done in the power of the Holy Spirit (6-7)
 - b. The principle is illustrated in Zerubbabel's building the temple (8-10)
 - Zerubbabel will finish the temple
 - note the day of small things
 - note the plumbline in Zerubbabel's hand
 - note the seven eyes
 4. The angel further interprets the two olive trees (11-14)
 - a. The trees are the two anointed ones
 - literally "sons of the anointing oil" [בְּנֵי הַיִּצְהָרִים]
 - Keil and Delitzsch--Zerubbabel and Joshua were the two who were anointed as governor and high priest
 - (see Revelation 11:3-4--the two witnesses)
 - b. They stand by the Lord of the whole earth

F. Vision Six: Abolishment of Lawlessness is symbolized by a Flying Scroll (5:1-3)

(The earth will be purged of theft and perjury)

G. Vision Seven: Abolishment of wickedness is symbolized by a woman in a basket (5:5-11)

1. Wickedness is removed from Israel to abide in Shinar

2. Wickedness will have a house in Shinar (Babylon) in the last days

H. Vision Eight: Appointed Judgment is symbolized by Four Chariots (6:1-8) (Tribulation is foretold)

1. The four chariots are described (1-3)

a. They come from between two mountains of brass (judgment) (cf. Rev. 6:1-8)

b. The red horses symbolize bloodshed (cf. Rev 6:4)

c. The black horses symbolize famine (cf. Rev 6:5)

d. The white horses symbolize conquest (cf. Rev 6:2)

e. The speckled horses symbolize death and hell (cf. Rev 6:8)

2. The four chariots are interpreted (4-8)

a. The four spirits go forth from the Lord to bring judgment

b. The black goes to the North (Assyria & Babylon) followed by the white

c. The speckled goes to the South (Edom & Egypt)

I. The symbolic crowning of Joshua brings the visions to a conclusion (6:9-15)

1. Gifts were brought from the exiles (9-10)

2. A crown was placed on the High Priest Joshua (11)

3. Messiah the Branch will be both King and Priest (12-13)

4. Thus the office of King and Priest will be at peace (13b)

5. The crown will be a memorial of this (14-15)

a. חֵן = "kindness"

b. "Kindness of the son of Zephaniah"

III. The Problem of Exilic Feasts is Resolved (chs. 7-8)

A. Date: 9th month, 4th day, 4th year of Darius (518 B.C.) (7:1)

B. The question about exilic feasts was asked (7:2-3)

1. Should the 5th month fast be continued?
2. The 5th month fast was instituted to mourn the destruction of Solomon's Temple (see 2 Kings 25:8)
(It was held of the 5th month, the 7th day)
3. The question was asked because the 2nd Temple was soon to be finished. It was finished on 3rd day of Adar in the 6th year of Darius Hystaspes. (See Ezra 6:15)

C. Two replies regarding the feasts were given (7:4-8:23)

1. One reply was negative:

The feasts were never required by the Lord (7:4-14)

a. Three rhetorical questions furnish the reply (4-7)

(1) Did you fast and mourn unto the LORD? (4-5)

-The expected reply is NO.

-The question applies to the 5th month fast for the Temple
(see 2 Kings 25:8)

-It also applies to the 7th month fast for the murder of
Gedeliah (see 2 Kings 25:25)

(2) Did you not eat and drink to yourselves? (6)

-expected answer is YES.

(3) Should you not obey the messages of the former prophets? (7)

-expected answer is YES, we haven't obeyed them,
but we should.

-what was the message? See Isa. 1:10-18.

2. The second reply was positive: Fasts should become feasts (ch. 8)

a. The future holds blessings for Israel (1-8)

b. The former curses are now removed (9-15)

c. The present conduct should be righteousness (16-17)

d. The fasts should be made feasts (18-19)

-4th month (fall of Jerusalem)

-5th month (destruction of the Temple)

-7th month (murder of Gedeliah)

-10th month (first siege of Jerusalem; see 2 Kings 25:1)

e. Jerusalem will become center of world religion (20-23)

IV. Two Prophecies of Future Blessing for Israel Are Given (chs. 9-14)

A. The first prophecy deals with Israel's relatively near future
(including the first advent of Messiah)

1. Israel's enemies will be judged, but Israel will be protected (9:1-8)
(near fulfillment was in the days of Alexander)
2. Israel's king will enter Jerusalem triumphantly (9:9)
(The view of Messiah's first advent; see Matt. 21:11)
3. Judah will be delivered in the future (9:10-17)
4. Judah and Ephraim will be blessed (10:1-8)
 - a. The blessings will be from the LORD, not idols (1-3)
-ask Him for rain
 - b. Messiah will come from the tribe of Judah (4)
-He is the cornerstone
-He is the peg (nail)
-He is the battle bow
-"every oppressor"
--some say "rulers"
--may apply to those referred to in vs. 5
i.e., the oppressors of Israel's enemies
5. There will be a future dispersion and regathering (10:9-12)
(i.e., A.D. 70 dispersion, and future regathering)
6. Messiah, the Good Shepherd, will be rejected (11:1-17)
 - a. Israel will be dispersed because of rejecting Messiah (1-6)
 - b. The Good Shepherd will be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (7-14)
-Two staves
--beauty = grace
--bands = unity
-both will be broken because of rejecting Messiah
 - c. The Foolish Shepherd will persecute Israel (15-17)
(The future Anti-Christ will persecute Israel during the Tribulation)
-NASB reads "worthless shepherd"
-lylia>h; y[ir;--the word lyliat>h; sometimes refers to idols,
but not necessary

- B. The second prophecy deals with Israel's more distant future (chs. 12-14)
1. The great tribulation is foreseen (12:1-9)
 - a. The Gentiles will siege Jerusalem (1-3)
 - b. The LORD will protect Judah and Jerusalem (4-9)

 2. Messiah will come the second time (12:10-14)
 - a. The Holy Spirit will be outpoured (10)
 - b. Israel will look upon their pierced Messiah (10)
 - "Me" = the LORD
 - cf. John 19:37
 - c. Israel will mourn over their Messiah (10-14)

 3. Israel will be cleansed (13:1-7)
 - a. They will receive forgiveness of sin (1)
 - b. They will be cleansed from idolatry and false prophets (2-6)
 - things shaped or fashioned, thus always "idols" (vs. 2)
 - "wounds" (vs. 6) = self inflicted wounds associated with false prophets
 - "friends" = illicit lovers

 4. Israel will be punished for smiting the Good Shepherd (13:7-9)

 5. The events of the Day of the LORD are summarized (ch. 14)
 - a. Jerusalem will be besieged by the Gentiles (1-3)
(Armageddon)

 - b. Messiah will come the second time (4-7)
 - He will stand on the Mount of Olives (4, 5b)
 - The Mount of Olives will be divided by an earthquake (5a)
 - The people will flee (5)
 - There will be a very strange day (6-7)
(cf. Rev 18:11-16; Jude 14)

 - c. Living waters will flow from Jerusalem (8)

 - d. The Millennial Kingdom will be set up (9-11)

 - e. The LORD will destroy Israel's enemies with a plague (12-15)

 - f. Millennial worship will be established (16-21)