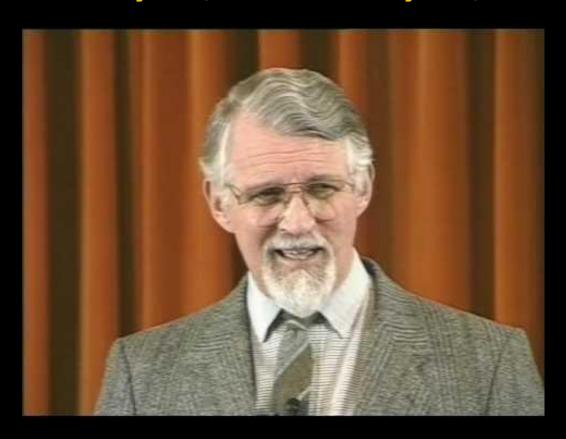
HAT THE

Ravi Zacharias May 26, 1946 – May 19, 2020



It's fitting as we commence a study of the great book of Zechariah that the surname of this great Christian apologist and evangelist is the Greek version of the Hebrew name Zechariah, which means "Yah remembers." God remembered, as will we.

David Pawson February 25, 1930 –May 21, 2020

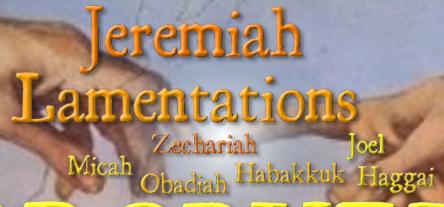


David went to continue in the Lord's service on Ascension Day, 2020, when Christians commemorate the ascension of the resurrected Christ to heaven. David's insights and humour will live on with the many of us who owe him tremendously for his wisdom.



BWHAT THE IS ABOUT

The book of Zechaniah



Ezekiel

Nahum Zephaniah

Isaiah Hosea

Amos

Jonah Malachi

Daniel

- Prophets are distinct from other biblical authors in that their writing includes and may centre around oracles, dreams, visions, laments, proclamations, and warnings that convey God's direct message.
- In ancient days, prophets were highly respected religious figures who acted as the mouthpiece of God to the tribes of Israel and neighbouring countries.
- Prophets were frequent visitors to both the courts of Kings and to the streets of villagers.



"Elijah rebukes king Ahab", c. 1850.

Promises of hope, judgement of sin, future restoration, God's sovereignty, and the End Times are common themes.

Typical Roles of a Biblical Prophet

God calls a person to be a prophet. (\aleph) \square (navi) means "called person")

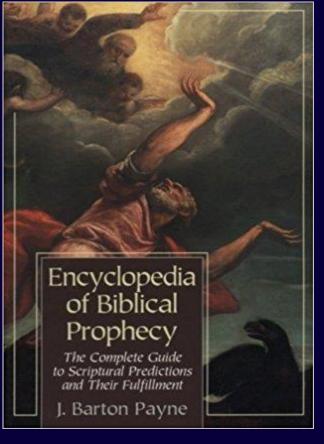
- Communicate God's message to His people.
 - Represent the throne of heaven at royal courts
 - Seer (look into and describe heavenly goings on) (2 Chron 18:18)
 - To speak forth (Haggai 1:13)
 - Call people back to obedience to God.
 - Denounce injustice, idolatry, and empty rituals.
- Sometimes to intercede on behalf of His people.
- Speak beforehand.
 - Watchman, advise of what's on the horizon (Ezekiel 3:17)
 - Predict the future (short term)
 - Foretell the future (long term)

God used two methods to validate His prophets and His messages (2 Kings 1:12):

- Miracles including fulfilled prophecy validated the prophet.
- They also marked as yet unfulfilled prophecy as genuine.

"But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

(Deuteronomy 18:20)



- 8,352 verses (27%) out of 31,124 in the Bible are predictive.
 - The Old Testament is 28.5% predictive.
 - The New Testament is 21.5% predictive.
- The Bible has 1,817 separate predictions covering 737 topics.

Per J. Barton Payne, Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy, 1973.



of the predictions have come true; every single one except those of Christ's Second Coming and the End Times.

True Prophets in Scripture

- Seventy-two godly prophets (navi) are identified in the Old Testament including twelve women (neviah)¹.
- Sixteen of these prophets are accorded large sections (books):



Four have longer books (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel and Ezekiel). They are called "major prophets".



Twelve with smaller books are called "minor prophets". In no way are their prophecies "minor" or second tier.



The Hebrew Bible treats the minor prophets as a single book called "The Book of the Twelve Prophets".

- John the Baptist was the last prophet of the Old Testament era. Jesus Christ brought in a new age of prophetic truth.
- 1. Virgin Mary and her relative Elizabeth, omitted here, are sometimes included.

True Prophets of God in the Bible

Aaron (Exodus 4:10-17; 7:1) Abraham (Hebrews 11:8-19) Ahijah HaShiloni (1 Kings 11:29) Asaph (1 Chronicles 15:16-19; Psalms) Daniel (Matthew 24:15) Elijah (1 Kings 18:36) Eukhidia bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9) Gad (1 Samuel 22:5) Hadassah/Esther (Esther 2:7) Hannah (1 Samuel 2:1) Huldah (2 Kings 22:14) Isaac (Genesis 26:2-7) Jacob (Genesis 28:11-16) Jesus Christ (John 4:19; et al.) John of Patmos (Revelation 1:1-3) Joshua (Joshua 1:1) Lucius of Cyrene (Acts 13:1) Micah (Micah 1:1) Moses (Deuteronomy 34:10) Noah (Genesis 7:1) Oded, father of Azariah (2 Chr 15:8) Samuel (1 Samuel 3:20) Simeon Niger (Acts 13:1) Zechariah ben Jehoiada (2 Chr 24:20)

Abel (Hebrews 11:4) Agabus (Luke 10:1-24) Amas (Amas 1:1) Azariah (2 Chronicles 15:1) David (Hebrews 11:32) Elisha (2 Kings 9:1) Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:3) Gideon (Judges 6 through 8) Haggai (Haggai 1:1) Hermione bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9) Iddo (2 Chronicles 13:22) Isaiah (2 Kings 19:2) Jehu (1 Kings 16:7) Job (Job 1:1) John the Baptist (Luke 7:28) Judas Barsabbas (Acts 3:15) Malachi (Malachi 1:1) Micaiah (1 Kings 22:9) Nahum (Nahum 1:1) Obadiah (Obadiah 1:1) Paul the Apostle (Acts 9:20) Shemaiah (1 Kings 12:22) Uriah (Jeremiah 26:20) Zechariah (Luke 1:36; 67-79)

Abigail (1 Samuel 25) Agur (Proverbs 30) Anna (Luke 2:36-38) Chariline bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9) Deborah (Judges 4:4) Enoch (Jude 1:14) Ezra (Ezra 7ff) Habakkuk (Habakkuk 1:1) Hanani (2 Chronicles 16:7) Hosea (Hosea 1:1) Irias bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9) Isaiah's wife (Isaiah 8:3) Jeremiah (Jeremiah 20:2) Joel (Acts 2:16) Jonah (2 Kings 14:25) Lamech (Genesis 5:28-29) Manahen (Acts 13:1) Miriam (Exodus 15:20) Nathan (2 Samuel 7:2) Oded (2 Chronicles 28:9) Philip the Evangelist (Acts 8:26) Silas (Acts 15:32) Zechariah ben Berechiah (Zech 1:1) Zephaniah (Zephaniah 1:1)

True Biblical Prophets (Women)

Abigail (1 Samuel 25)

Deborah (Judges 4:4)

Hannah (1 Samuel 2:1)

Irias bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9)

Anna (Luke 2:36-38)

Eukhidia bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9)

Hermione bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9)

lsaiah's wife (Isaiah 8:3)

Chariline bath Philip (Acts 21:8-9)

Hadassah/Esther (Esther 2:7)

Huldah (2 Kings 22:14)

Miriam (Exodus 15:20)



"Now this man (Philip the Evangelist in Caesarea Maritima) had four virgin daughters who prophesied." (Acts 21:8-13)

True Biblical Prophets (Men)

Aaron	Abel	Abraham
Agabus	Agur	Ahijah HaShiloni
Amos	Asaph	Azariah
Daniel (Matthew 24:15)	David (Hebrews 11:32)	Elijah (1 Kings 18:36)
Elisha (2 Kings 9:1)	Enoch (Jude 1:14)	Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:3)
Ezra (Ezra 7ff)	Gad (1 Samuel 22:5)	Gideon (Judges 6 through 8)
Habakkuk (Habakkuk 1:1)	Haggai (Haggai 1:1)	Hanani (2 Chronicles 16:7)
Hosea (Hosea 1:1)	lddo (2 Chronicles 13:22)	Isaac (Genesis 26:2-7)
Isaiah (2 Kings 19:2)	Jacob (Genesis 28:11–16)	Jehu (1 Kings 16:7)
<mark>Jeremiah</mark> (Jeremiah 20:2)	Jesus Christ	Job (Job 1:1)
Joel (Acts 2:16)	John of Patmos (Revelation 1:1-3)	John the Baptist (Luke 7:28)
Jonah (2 Kings 14:25)	Joshua (Joshua 1:1)	Judas Barsabbas (Acts 3:15)
Lamech (Genesis 5:28–29)	Lucius of Cyrene (Acts 13:1)	Malachi (Malachi 1:1)
Manahen (Acts 13:1)	Micah (Micah 1:1)	Micaiah (1 Kings 22:9)
Moses (Deuteronomy 34:10)	Nahum (Nahum 1:1)	Nathan (2 Samuel 7:2)
Noah (Genesis 7:1)	Obadiah (Obadiah 1:1)	Oded (2 Chronicles 28:9)
Oded, father of Azariah (2 Chr 15:8)	Paul the Apostle (Acts 9:20)	Philip the Evangelist (Acts 8:26)
Samuel (1 Samuel 3:20)	Shemaiah (1 Kings 12:22)	Silas (Acts 15:32)
Simeon Niger (Acts 13:1)	Uriah (Jeremiah 26:20)	Zechariah ben Berechiah (Zech 1:1)
Zechariah ben Jehoiada (2 Chr 24:20)	Zechariah (Luke 1:36; 67-79)	Zephaniah (Zephaniah 1:1)







for being the most quoted of the prophets in the New Testament . Many passages are messianic in nature, even predicting events in the life of Christ such as the Virgin birth Isaiah 7: 14. His writings cover a long period of time in a wide variety of topics.

Jeremiah was

heavily persecuted for his prophecies during the Babylonian siege. He often used metaphors such as the potter and clay (Jeremiah 18: 1-7) to illustrate God's message to the people. Known as the weeping prophet, he is also believed to be the author of Lamentations.

Ezekiel prophesied

during Israel's captivity in Babylon. He often received elaborate visions from God such as the "vision of dry bones" where skeletons came to life to form a great army. Almost every aspect of his life served a symbolic purpose, from how he cooked his food to the way he slept at night.

Daniel was taken captive

to Babylon as a hostage at Nebuchadnezzar's first siege. His gift to translate dreams gave him favour with kings, and he rose to become Prime Minister. God often sent him prophetic dreams about the near and distant futures. On one occasion he was thrown into a den of Lions for serving God exclusively, but the Lord rescued him.

Example



Hosea was chosen as an example to the people of Israel. His wife was unfaithful, but just like God he did not stop loving her and always looked for her whenever she left him.





Amos was a sheep breeder and a tender of fig trees by trade, but God used him to bring a powerful word of correction to Israel and the surrounding nations.



Obadiah is the shortest Old Testament book with 21 verses. It proclaims judgement against Edom for aiding the Babylonians in their siege against Jerusalem



Jonah is the best known because a giant sea animal set him back on course after he went astray. His job was to tell the people of Nineveh to repent. They did and he sulked. Micah stripped off to demonstrate severity of the destitution in the coming captivity. This popular method was also used by Isaiah at times (Isaiah 20:2-3).



Nahum predicted Nineveh's destruction 100 years after Jonah, and ten years later, Nineveh burned down and the Assyrian Empire collapsed.



Habakkuk was a psalmist and musician who ended his book with a hymn of grace and redemption to be played on stringed instruments by the temple worship leaders.



Zephaniah issued stern judgements directed against Israel, Judah, and their neighbours for permitting idolatry and other sins in the land.



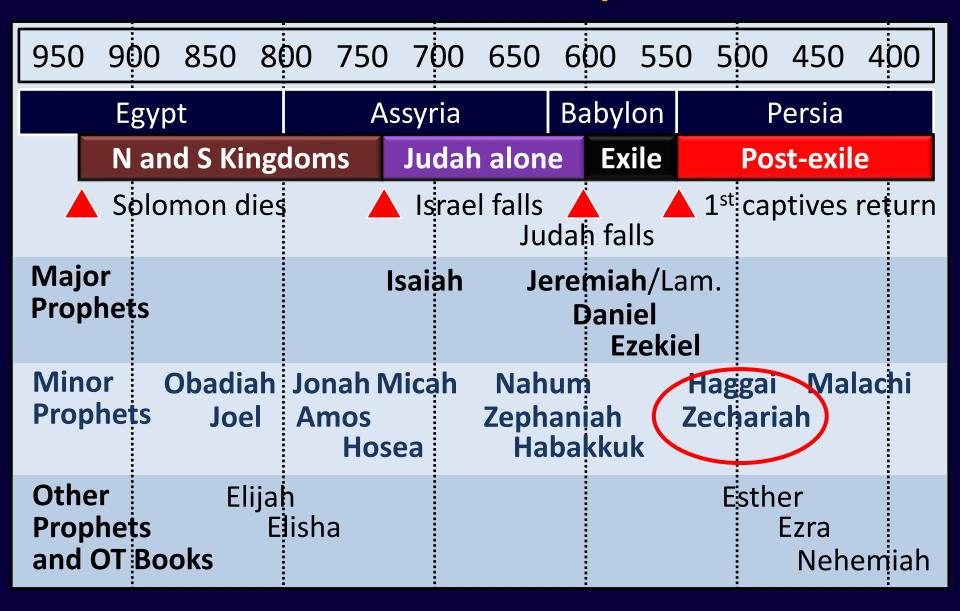
Haggal makes his chief concern restoring the temple of the Lord. Despite the Hebrews return from captivity, the temple had not yet been fully rebuilt.



Zechariah like Ezekiel received vivid prophecy in symbolic visions. His visions included flying scrolls, olive trees, and angels. He predicted the First and Second Comings of the Messiah.

Malachi was a reformer who directed his message toward corrupt priests and those who withhold their offerings from the Lord. Malachi is the last book before the New Testament.

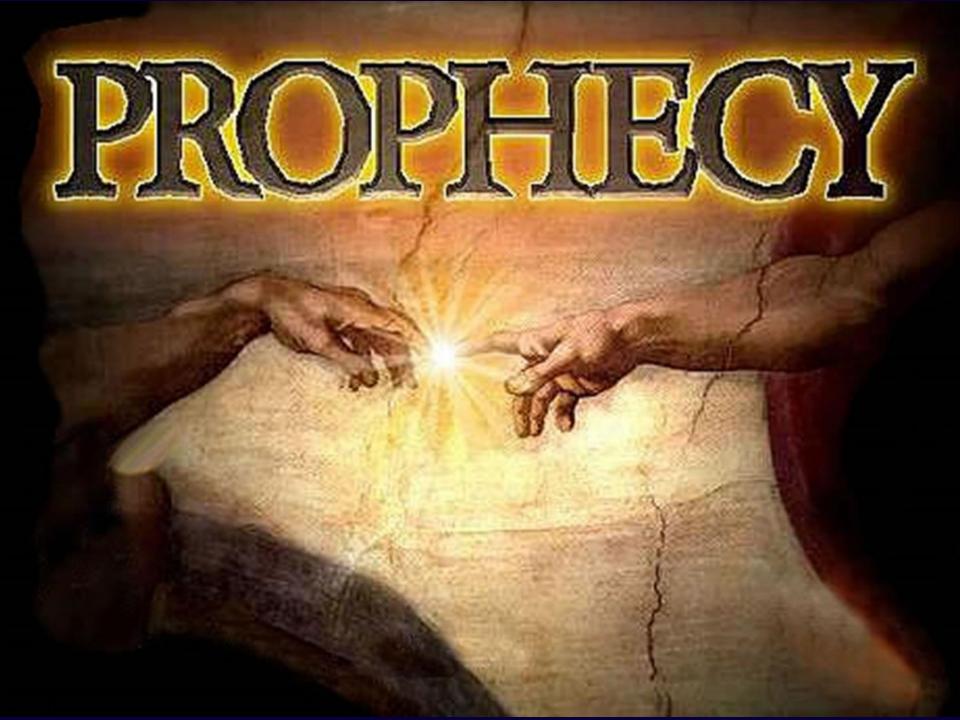
Timeline of the Prophets



Chronological Order of the Prophets

Sill Sill Silvan				
Before the Exile –	(before 606 BC)			
Obadiah	to Edom	887 B.C.		
Jonah	to Nineveh	862 B.C.		
Joel	to Judah	800 B.C. (835-756?)		
Amos	to Northern Kingdom			
Hosea	to Northern Kingdom	785 - 725 B.C.		
Isaiah	to Judah	760 - 698 B.C.		
Micah	to Judah	750 – 710 B.C.		
Nahum	to Nineveh	713 B.C.		
Zephaniah	to Judah	630 B.C.		
# Habakkuk	to Judah	626 B.C.		
Jeremiah	to Judah	629 – 588 B.C.		
During the Exile (606 – 538 BC)				
		629 – 588 B.C.		
Ezekiel		595 – 574 B.C.		
Daniel		607 – 534 B.C.		
After the Exile (after 538 BC)				
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		520 B.C.		
* Zochariah		E20 $E10$ D C		
- Ball:		397 B.C.		
- Widiaciii		"337 D.C.		

(All dates approximate)



A Hebraic view of prophecy

- As Westerners when we think "prophecy" our minds seek prediction/fulfilment.
- Eastern (Hebraic) thought ALSO looks for patterns and then multiple fulfilment as the patterns repeat.

The Bible is a book of patterns and models:

^{11"}Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come."

(1 Corinthians 10:11)



GREEK CULTURE

HEBREW CULTURE

Prediction

- προφητεία, prophēteia, G4394,
 "the gift of communicating and enforcing revealed truth"
- prophétes, G4396 "an interpreter or forth-teller (predictor) of the divine will"

Prediction & Pattern

- יְבוּאָה, nevuah, H5016, "a pattern or prediction (spoken or written)"
- גביא, navi, H5030, literally means "spokesperson"; he speaks to the people as a mouthpiece of God, and to God on behalf of the people.

Two different views of prophecy

The Greek (Western) View The Hebrew (Eastern) View

Prediction ⇒ Fulfilment

Pattern(s) ⇒ Repeated

PROPHECY (x2):

- 1. Zechariah 9:9. Messiah ("the King") will ride into Jerusalem on a donkey.
- 2. Daniel 9:25: Gabriel tells Daniel that the Messiah will enter Jerusalem 173,880 days after the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem. (N.B. Calculation omitted)

FULFILMENT:

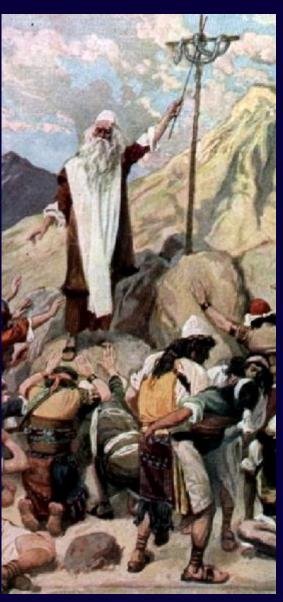
A. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey on 6 April 32 AD exactly 173,880 days after Artaxerxes Longimanus so ordered on 14 March 445 B.C.

How Joseph's life prefigures Jesus

- 1. Despised for his prophetic gift.
- 2. Betrayed by Jews into Gentile hands.
- 3. God turns the betrayal into salvation.
- 4. Betrayed by brother Judah(s) for silver.
- 5. Cloak taken as proof he was not in the pit.
- 6. Falsely accused at an unfair trial.
- 7. Condemned with two criminals, one who lives and one who dies.
- 8. Condemnation to exaltation in three days.
- 9. Upon exaltation, every knee bowed.
- 10. Upon exaltation married a Gentile bride.
- 11. Not recognised at first coming, at second coming Joseph's brothers wept.
- 12. Joseph beloved of his father.

The richness and understanding that accompanies discovery of the Midrashic hermeneutic is one of the most exciting aspects of studying the Old Testament.

Typical Hebrew Prophecy: Numbers 21:5-10



- 5. And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For *there is* no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread."
- 6. So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.
- 7. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.
- 8. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery [brazen, bronze] serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live."
- 9. So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

NOTE: 1. Throughout the Bible, bronze symbolises "judgement".

Typical Hebrew Prophecy: Numbers 21:5-10

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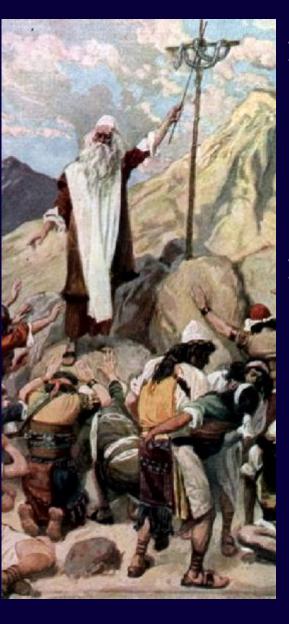
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RDerips 155 16 Ell live."

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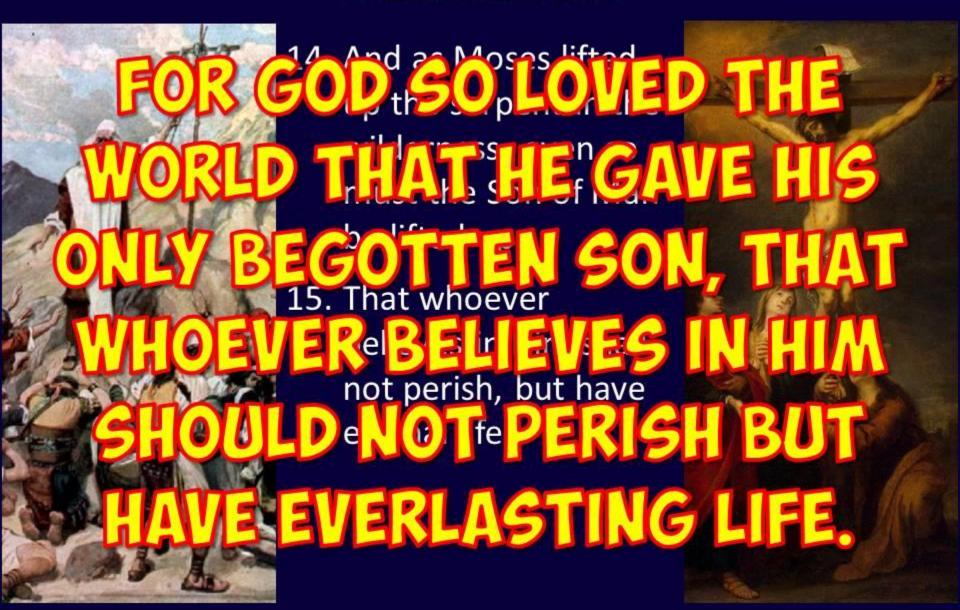
Until Jesus explained in John 3:14-15...



- 14. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up:
- 15. That whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.



... and John 3:16



Genesis 5 The Family of Adam

5 This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. ² He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created. ³ And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot *a son* in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. ⁴ After he begot Seth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years; and he had sons and daughters. ⁵ So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.

⁶ Seth lived one hundred and five years, and begot Enosh.

⁷ After he begot Enosh, Seth lived eight hundred and seven years, and had sons and daughters. ⁸ So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died.

⁹ Enosh lived ninety years, and begot Cainan. ¹⁰ After he begot Cainan, Enosh lived eight hundred and fifteen years, and had sons and daughters. ¹¹ So all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died.

¹² Cainan lived seventy years, and begot Mahalalel. ¹³ After he begot Mahalalel, Cainan lived eight hundred and forty years, and had sons and daughters. ¹⁴ So all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died.

¹⁵ Mahalalel lived sixty-five years, and begot Jared. ¹⁶ After he begot Jared, Mahalalel lived eight hundred and thirty years, and had sons and daughters.

¹⁷ So all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five years; and he died.

¹⁸ Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and begot Enoch.

¹⁹ After he begot Enoch, Jared lived eight hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²⁰ So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died.

²¹ Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. ²² After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²³ So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. ²⁴ And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

²⁵ Methuselah lived one hundred and eighty-seven years, and begot Lamech. ²⁶ After he begot Lamech, Methuselah lived seven hundred and eighty-two years, and had sons and daughters. ²⁷ So all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years; and he died.

²⁸ Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and had a son.
²⁹ And he called his name Noah, saying, "This *one* will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the

ground which the LORD has cursed." ³⁰ After he begot Noah, Lamech lived five hundred and ninety-five years, and had sons and daughters. ³¹ So all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years; and he died.

³² And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

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- ¹⁵ Mahalalel lived sixty-five years, and beg of Jared. ¹ After he begot Jared, Mahalalel lived eight hundred and unity years, and had sons and daughters.

- ¹⁷ So all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five years; and he died.
- ¹⁸ Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and beget Enoch.
- ¹⁹ After he begot Enoch, Jared lived eight hundred years, and had sons and daughters. ²⁰ So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died.
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- ²⁸ Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and had a son.
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- ³² And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Transliterate Hebrew to English אדם Adam שת Seth אנוש Enosh קינן Cainan מהללאל Mahalalel ירד Jared חנוך Enoch מתושלח Methuselah Lamech נח Noah

Hebrew	Transliterate to English	Meaning
אדם	Adam	Man (is)
שת	Seth	Appointed
אנוש	Enosh	Mortal
קינן	Cainan	Sorrow (but)
מהללאל	Mahalalel	The Blessed God
	Jared	Shall come down
תנוך	Enoch	Teaching ¹
		His death shall bring
למך	Lamech	
נח	Noah	Comfort, Rest

A prophecy in Genesis 5?

Man is appointed to mortal sorrow, but the Blessed God shall come down teaching that His death shall bring the despairing comfort and rest.

A prophecy in Genesis 5?

Man is appointed to mortal sorrow, but the Blessed God shall come down teaching that His death shall bring the despairing comfort and rest.

ALTERNATE RENDERING THAT INCLUDES YHWH

God has appointed man to mortal sorrow, but the Blessed God shall come down teaching that His death shall bring the despairing comfort and rest.

¹⁶ " Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you.

They make you worthless;
They speak a vision of their own heart,
Not from the mouth of the LORD.'"

(Jeremiah 23:16 NIV)

CAUTION

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Matthew 7:15

"Jeremiah Lamenting the Destruction of Jerusalem" Rembrandt van Rijn, 1630

How can God prophesy?

- "I am God and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning." (Isaiah 46:10)
- "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." (Proverb 15:3)

Per the Bible, God is eternal. He is not constrained by time. He created time.

False Prophets

1 John 4:1 - Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

2 Peter 2:1 - But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.

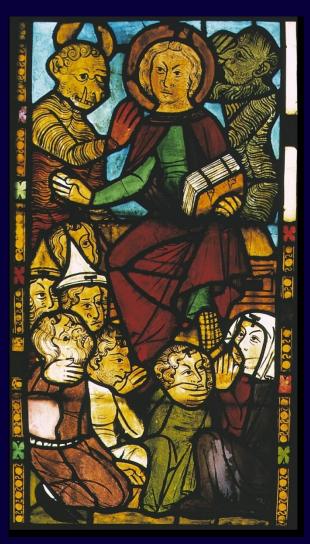
Matthew 24:24 - For false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

"Sermons and Deeds of the Antichrist"
Luca Signorelli, 1501



The Antichrist in the book of Zechariah

Zechariah 11 gives a physical description of the Antichrist:



- And the LORD said to me, "Next, take for yourself the implements of a foolish shepherd. ¹⁶ For indeed I will raise up a shepherd in the land *who* will not care for those who are cut off, nor seek the young, nor heal those that are broken, nor feed those that still stand. But he will eat the flesh of the fat and tear their hooves in pieces.
- 17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm and against his right eye; his arm shall completely wither, and his right eye shall be totally blinded."

A Word of CAUTION

In these strange times, many call themselves apostles and prophets of God.

"For false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." (Matthew 24:24)

"For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple." (Romans 16:18)

This is not only dangerous for us, but for them as well.

"But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die." (Deuteronomy 18:2)

Now as then, the great challenge is to properly discern those who are genuine from those who are false.

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Zechariah

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decidence the Lones Almighty of the land areas are decided to the

ASSESSED THE PROPERTY.

The longest and most frequently quoted of the Minor Prophets.

(71 quotes or allusions in the NT; 31 in Revelation)

The Apocalypse of the Old Testament

The Most Messianic book in the Old Testament

Key Messianic Prophecies in Zechariah

The Messiah will enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey.

Zechariah 9:9 (fulfilled in Matt. 21:1-5)

He will be sold for 30 pieces of silver, that later buy a potter's field.

Zech. 11:12-13 (fulfilled in Matt. 26:16; 27:7)

The Messiah will be pierced.

Zech. 12:10 (fulfilled in John 19:34-37)

His disciples will forsake Him.

Zechariah 13:7 (fulfilled in Matt. 26:31, 56)

The Messiah in the book of Zechariah

- 1. The Branch who will remove iniquity
- 2. The Stone
- 3. His Throne
- 4. His Temple
- 5. The Coming King
- 6. The Shepherd
- 7. The Triumphal Entry, on a donkey
- 8. His Betrayal for 30 pieces of silver
- 9. His Crucifixion, and
- 10. His Second Coming: "looking upon me whom they pierced."



Theme:

God's jealous concern for Jerusalem and the Jew

Key verse:

¹⁴ So the angel who spoke with me said to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I am zealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with great zeal." ' "

Zechariah 1:14

Zion

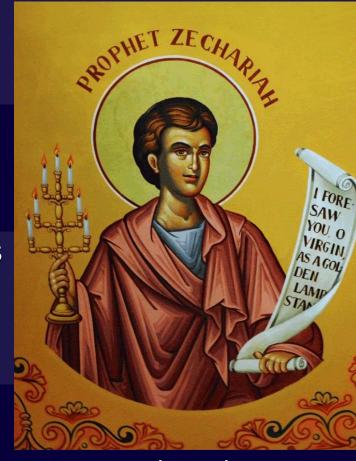
Site of the Jebusite fortress captured by David
The hill of Jerusalem upon which the city of David was built
A land of future promise for exiled Jewish people

Zion means "highest place"



Zechariah, Priest and Prophet

- Zechariah ("Whom YHWH Remembers"), was a postexilic Levite priest and prophet born in Babylon (Neh. 12:1, 16).
- Zechariah was son of Berechiah ("YHWH Blesses") and (grand) son of Iddo ("The Appointed Time").
- In 538 BC he accompanied contemporaries Haggai the prophet, Zerubbabel the governor, and Joshua the high priest to Jerusalem (Ezra 5:1-2; Zech 3:1; 4:6; 6:11).
- Zechariah was murdered in the sanctuary (Neh. 12:4; Matthew 23:35, Josephus' Wars of the Jews, iv. 5, 34).
- Per Jewish tradition, he was a member of the Great Synagogue, a 120-member council originated by Nehemiah.



Zechariah, son of Berechiah, Son of Iddo (Priest and Prophet)

Zechariah highlights three major developments



Priests would replace prophets as the spiritual leaders of the community. For 400 years following Malachi, there would be no prophets, only priests.



Priests will takeover from kings as leaders. Zechariah was directed to make a crown of silver and gold to put on the head of Joshua the priest, not Zerubbabel the political leader. For the first time in Israel's history the office of priest and king would be united.



Zechariah marks a fusing of three positions of leadership: priest, king, and prophet that will find its fulfilment in Jesus Christ.



Antique Jewish silver crown decorated with Hebrew inscriptions and the Star of David, recovered by Egyptian authorities

O.T. Israel's National Leadership

Israel's history from Abraham to Jesus divide neatly into four period of

around 500 years each.

From 2000 to 1500 BC, the Israelites were led by the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

- From 1500 to 1000 BC, they were led by prophets, from Moses to Samuel.
- From 1000 to 500 BC they were led by kings or princes (David to Zedekiah).
- But from 500 BC to the coming of Jesus, they were led by priests.



Outline

- Messages given during building of the Temple
- God calls His people to repent (Zech. 1:1–6)
- God encourages His people to trust Him (Zech. 1:7—6:15)
 - Eight night visions (Zech. 1:7—6:15)
 - The crowning of Joshua: Messiah will reign (Zech. 6:9–15)
- God instructs His people (Zech. 7:1—8:23)
 - About true fasting (Zech. 7:1–7)
 - About obedience to the word (Zech. 7:8–14)
 - About Jerusalem's future (Zech. 8:1–23)
- After
 Temple
 was
 built
- God redeems His people (Zech. 9:1—14:21) two oracles
 - The rejection of Messiah (Zech. 9:1—11:17)
 - The return and reign of Messiah (Zech. 12:1—14:21)

The Zechariah Puzzle Measuring line Peaceful Vanquished enemies

General Organisation

- Chapter 1. The Riding One
- Chapter 2. The Measuring One
- Chapter 3. The Cleansing One
- Chapter 4. The Empowering One
- Chapter 5. The Judging One
- Chapter 6. The Crowned One
- Chapter 7. The Rebuking One
- Chapter 8. The Restoring One
- Chapter 9. The Kingly One
- Chapter 10. The Blessing One
- Chapter 11. The Shepherding One
- Chapter 12. The Returning One
- Chapter 13. The Smitten One
- Chapter 14. The Reigning One

Night Visions 📀

Historical Interlude

First Burden (Advent)

Second Burden (Coming)

Outline

Zechariah's Night Visions (in one night)

Historic Interlude First Burden: First Advent of Christ Second Burden: Second Coming of Christ

The Riding One
The Measuring One
The Cleansing One
The Empowering One
The Judging One
The Crowned One

The Rebuking One

The Restoring One

The Kingly One

The Blessing One

The Shepherding One

The Returning One

The Smitten One

The Reigning One

Chapters

1-6

Chapters

7-8

Chapters **9-11**

11

Chapters 12-14

Zechariah's 8 Night Visions



Chapters 1-6 – Visions

- A 1 The horseman among the myrtle trees (1:7-17) Peace to build temple
- B 2 The four horns and the four smiths (1:18-21) Enemies Removed
- B 3 The surveyor (Ch.2) Enemies Removed
- C 4 The cleansing and restoration of Joshua (Ch.3) Priest-Messiah
- C' 5 The gold lampstand and the two olive trees (Ch.4) King-Messiah
 - Climax > Physical Temple Built by God's Spirit (4:6-7)
- B' 6 The flying scroll (5:1-4) Sin Removed
- B' (7) The woman in the basket (5:5-11) Sin Removed
- A' 8 The four chariots (6:1-8) Judgment on enemies

Climax > Spiritual Temple Built by Priest-King (6:9-15)

Interchange: Judgment for the nations (1:18-21)

Blessing and glory for Israel (2:1-5)

Judgment for the nations (2:6-9)

Blessing for Israel and the nations (2:10-13)

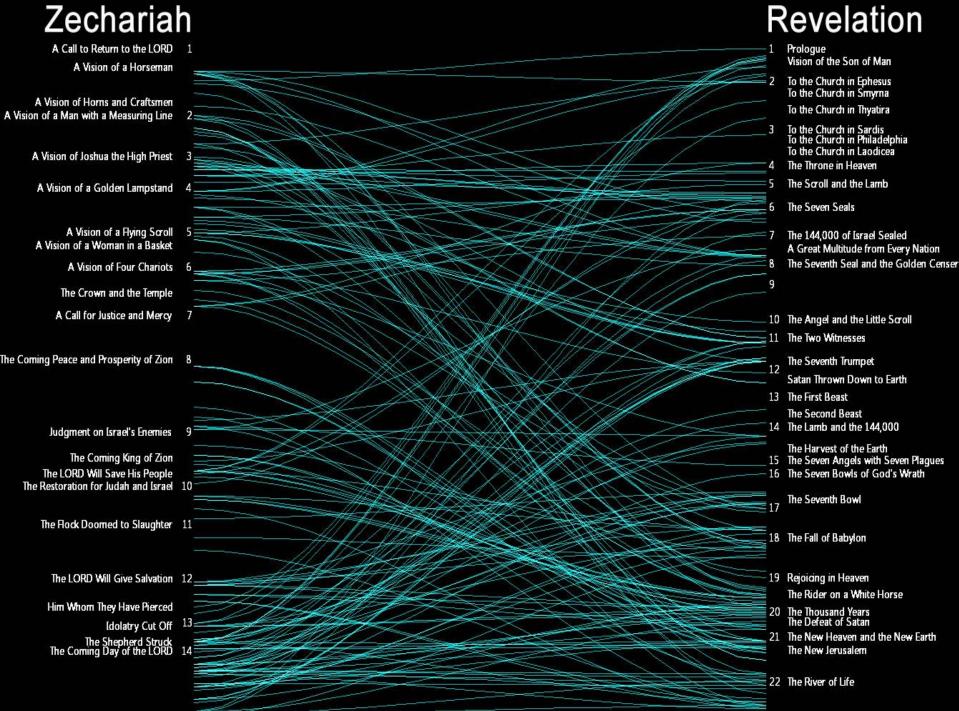
Chapters 7-8: Hypocritical Fasting to Feasting

- A Bethel entreats favour of the Lord (7:1-3)
 - B Fasting as lamentation (7:4-7)
 - C No social injustice: learn lesson of ancestors (7:8-14)
 - **D** Return of Blessing ⇒ New Jerusalem (8:1-13)
 - C' No social injustice: learn lesson of ancestors (8:14-17)
 - B' Fasting turned to feasting (8:18-19)
- A' Nations entreat favor of the Lord (8:20-23)

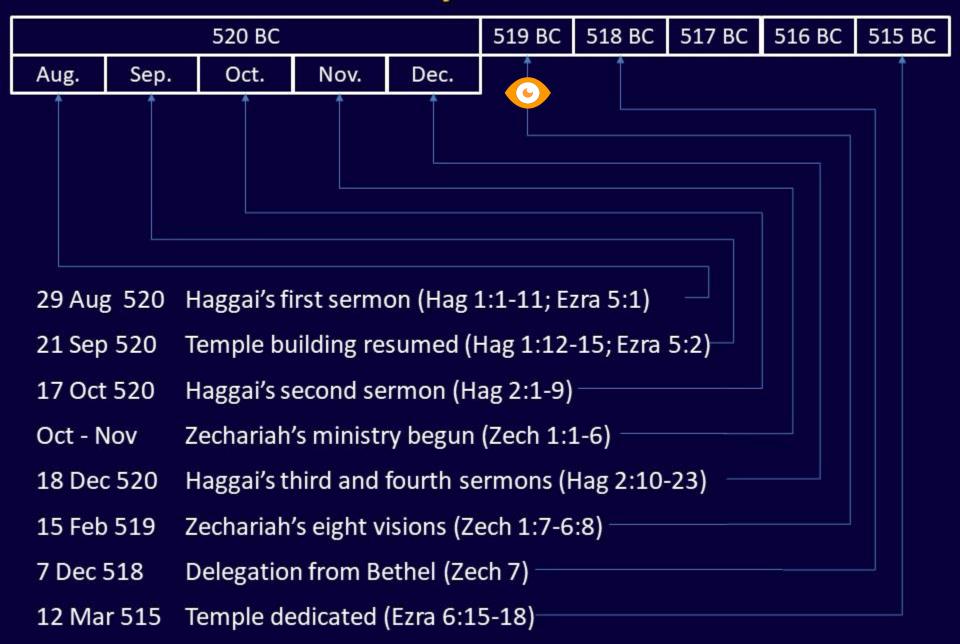
Chapters 9-14: The Messiah and Israel's Future

- A God comes to protect and bless (9-10)
 - B The people reject God's shepherd (11:1-14) First Advent
 - C The worthless shepherd hurts the flock (11:15-17) of Christ
 - C' The nations come to destroy Jerusalem (12:1-9) Second
 - B' The people repent and turn to God (12:10-13:6) Coming
- A' God comes to protect and bless (13:7-14:21)

Zechariah A Call to Return to the LORD A Vision of a Horseman



Key Dates



ZECHARIAH

God calls His people
To repent
(Zechariah 1:1-6)

In the eighth month of the second year of Darius [29/8/520 BC],



King of Persia r. c.521-486 BC

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- "The LORD has been very angry with your fathers. ³ Therefore say to them,





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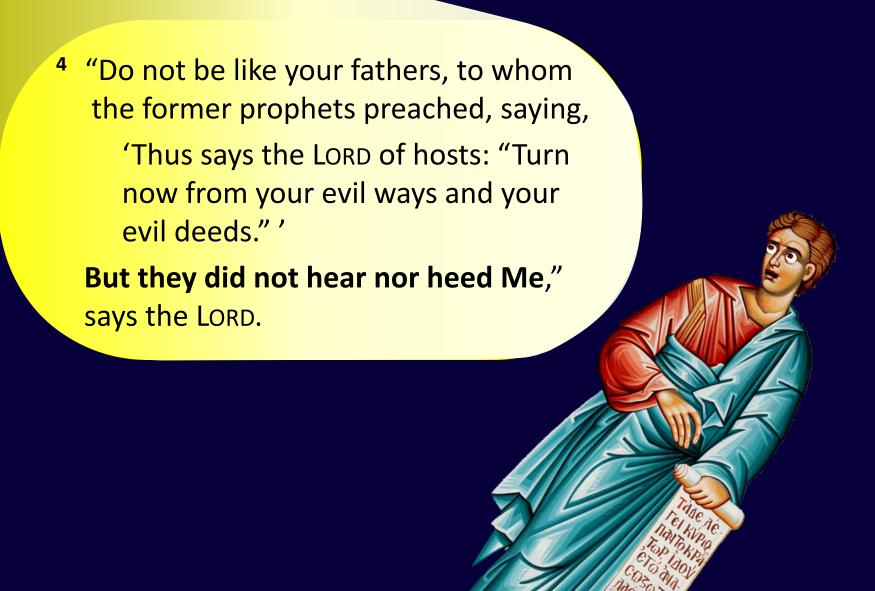
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'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Return to Me," says the LORD of hosts, "and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts.





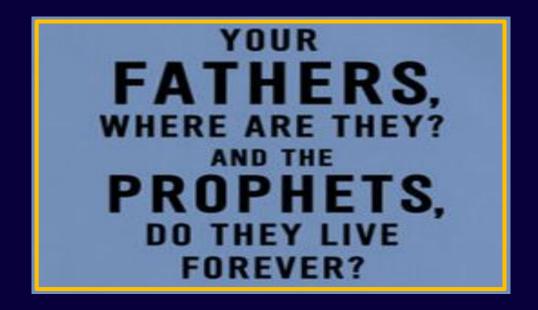
Darius I (Darius the Great)
King of Persia
r. c.521-486 BC



- "Your fathers, where *are* they?
 And the prophets, do they live forever?
- Yet surely My words and My statutes,
 Which I commanded My servants the prophets,
 Did they not overtake your fathers?

"So they returned and said:

'Just as the LORD of hosts determined to do to us, According to our ways and according to our deeds, So He has dealt with us.' "'







ZECHARIAH

God encourages His people to trust Him (Zechariah 1:7-6:15)

ZECHARIAH



Eight Night Visions

(Zechariah 1:7-6:8)

- On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo the prophet:
- I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white.

"THE VISION OF ZECHARIAH" (UNK.). ITALY, c. 1300. J PAUL GETTY MUSEUM.



"These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth."

- ⁹ Then I said, "My lord, what *are* these?" So the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what they *are*."
- And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the LORD has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth."



- So they answered the Angel of the LORD, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."
- Then the Angel of the LORD answered and said, "O LORD of hosts, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?"

The LORD Will Comfort Zion

And the LORD answered the angel who talked to me, with good and comforting words. ¹⁴ So the angel who spoke with me said to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts:



'Thus says the LORD of hosts:

"I am zealous for Jerusalem And for Zion with great zeal.

¹⁵ I am exceedingly angry with the nations at ease;

For I was a little angry,

And they helped—but with evil intent."

ZEALOUS
FOR
ZION
WITH GREAT ZEAL

'Therefore thus says the LORD:

"I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it," says the LORD of hosts, "And a *surveyor's* line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem." '

¹⁷ "Again proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts:

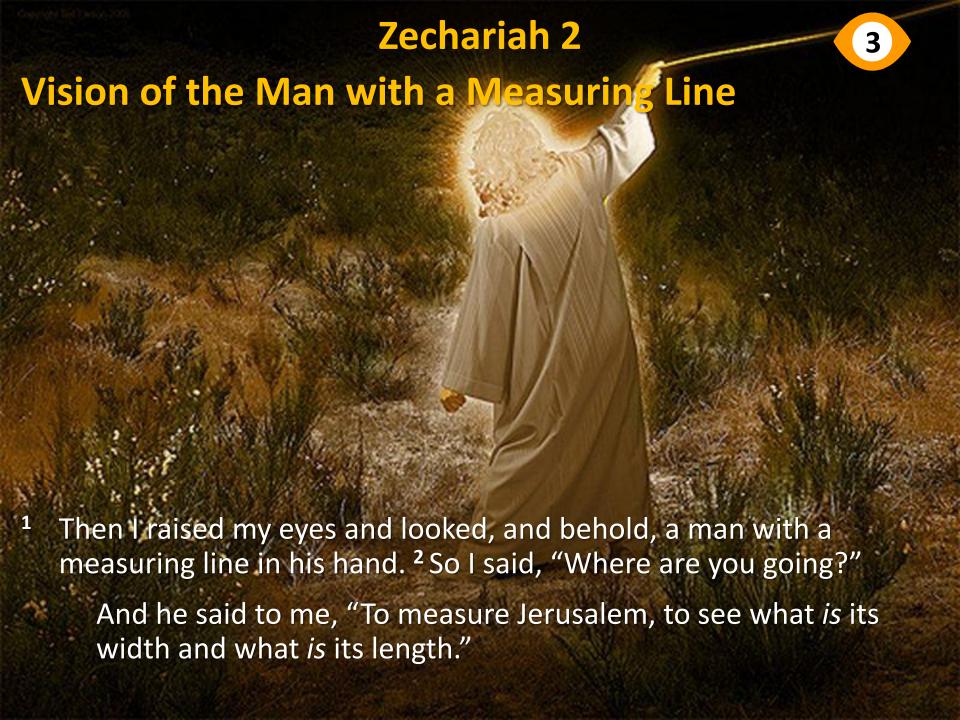
"My cities shall again spread out through prosperity;
The LORD will again comfort Zion,
And will again choose Jerusalem." '"

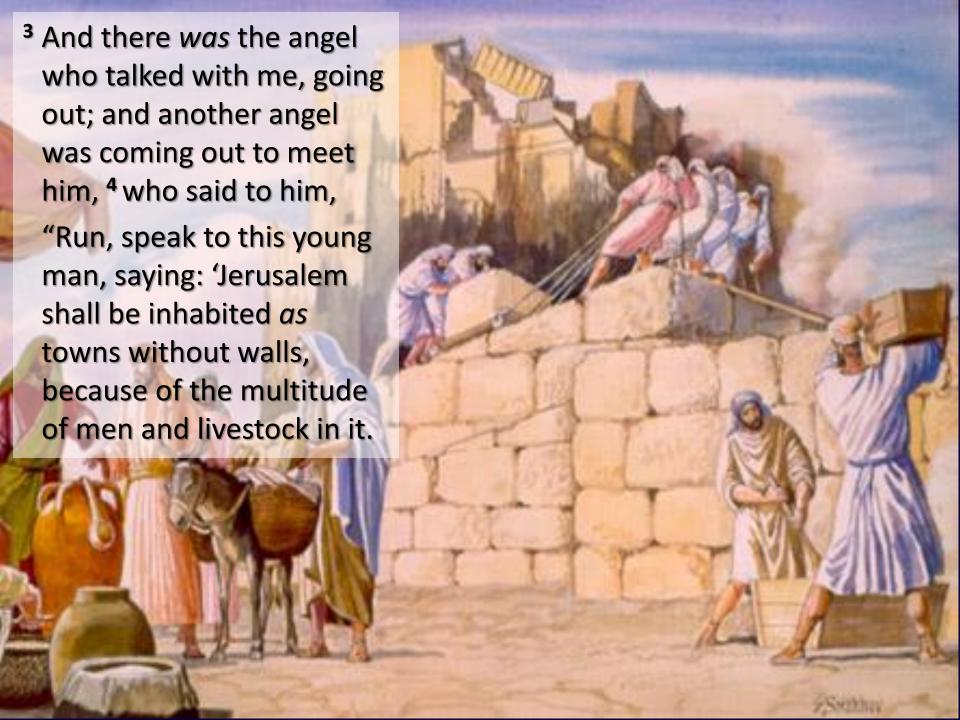
Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were four horns.

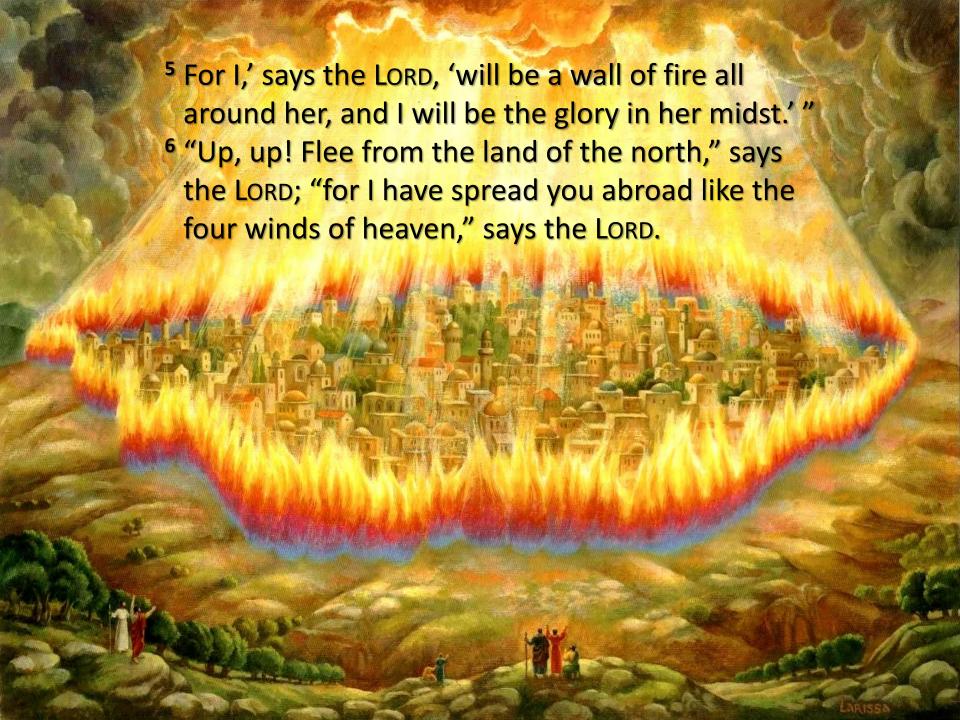
19 And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?"

So he answered me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."









Future Joy of Zion and Many Nations



- "Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon."
- For thus says the LORD of hosts: "He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye.



9 For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become spoil for their servants.

Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me.

- "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," says the LORD.
- "Many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst.

Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you.

- And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem.
- Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!"

