

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: July 16, 2023

Spring/Summer Series: The Minor Prophets

Text: Zechariah: "Yahweh has remembered" (ze-kar-yah; זָכַרְיָהּ)

This theme dominates the whole book: Israel will be blessed because Yahweh remembers the covenants He made with their forefathers (Abraham & David).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

1. The fall of Jerusalem to the armies of the Babylonians (586 B.C.)
2. Deportation to Babylon for a period of about 70 years.
3. During the exile, Daniel prophesied "the times of the Gentiles".
4. The Babylonian Empire fell to Persians in 539 B.C. Only a small minority of about 50,000 Jews returned (Ezra 2).
5. They rebuilt altar (Ezra 3:1-6) & laid the foundation of the second temple (Ezra 3:8-13; 5:16).
6. Due to opposition & discouragement, work came to a grinding halt for sixteen years.
7. God raised up Haggai & Zechariah to challenge and encourage the people (520 B.C.). The work was completed & temple dedicated on March 12, 516 B.C. See Ezra 6:14-18.

OVERVIEW

Bruce Wilkinson and Kenneth Boa in *Talk Through the Old Testament* (Volume I of *Talk Through the Bible*).

Chart of the Book of Zechariah produced by Dr. Kenneth Hanna, *From Moses to Malachi: Surveying the Old Testament* (2012).

DISTINCTIVE FEATURE: A _____ Emphasis!

"The Book of Zechariah is the most messianic, the most truly apocalyptic & eschatological of all the writings of the Old Testament" - George L. Robinson in *ISBE*, 1956 [5:3136].

"Zechariah speaks out of the context of the occupation of Jerusalem by Gentiles & the domination of Israel by Gentile nations (cp. with Ezra 4-6; 9:7-9). The present situation of Zion (Jerusalem) and Israel is in stark contrast to the future God has planned for the city and the na-

tion. The key to their future restoration & glory is the coming of the Messiah. Both the first and the second advents of the Messiah are announced and explained. This twofold coming of the Messiah is the primary theme of Zechariah's prophecy. To capture both advents it's necessary to select two passages. The first advent is announced in 9:9 & the second in 14:3-4, 9." - Ken Hanna, From Moses to Malachi (2012).

INTRODUCTION (1:1-6)

Zechariah introduces his prophecy with an _____ and a _____ from the LORD Almighty to His people (vs. 3).

EIGHT NIGHT VISIONS (1:7-6:8)

Zech. has a series of 8 visions that occur all on the same night. These give a panoramic view of Israel's present and future under Gentile rule.

Jerusalem's Future Glory (2:1-13)

1. _____ Jerusalem (2:1-2)

2. _____ Jerusalem (2:3-9)

God gave Zechariah four promises in this third vision:

A. _____ (vs. 4)

B. _____ (vs. 5)

C. _____ (vss. 6-7)

D. _____ (vss. 8-9)

3. _____ in Jerusalem (2:10-13)

The inhabitants of Jerusalem are told to praise God & rejoice over their future for three reasons:

A. God's _____ (vs. 10)

B. _____ Position (vs. 11)

C. Judah's _____ (vs. 12)

Zech. 2:12 is the only place where the phrase "Holy Land" appears in the Bible. It's _____ to designate the land as holy today.

4. _____ Before the LORD (2:13)