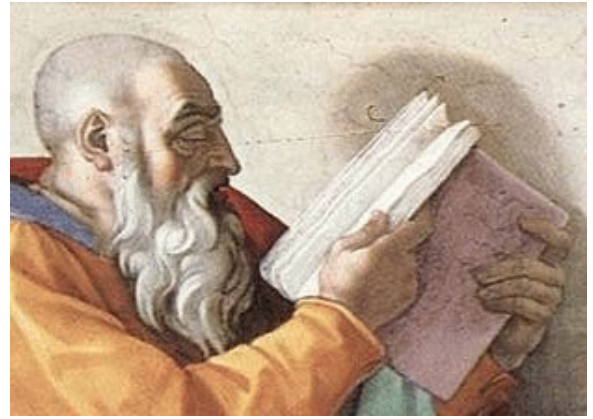


# Zechariah

“Jesus Christ, our Righteous Branch”

“Jesus Christ, the Soon Coming King”

“You know our King won't be riding on a donkey next time” – Ron Kenoly



The Prophet Zechariah is usually portrayed as he was when he delivered his messages – a young visionary. Michaelangelo in the Sistine Chapel depicts him as a venerable old statesman of the Word of God.

## Author: Zechariah “Whom YHWH Remembers”

Zechariah, sometimes called, “the prophet of hope,” was born in Babylon during the Captivity (Nehemiah 12:4, 16) and returned to *Eretz Y'israel* (the land of Israel) with his grandfather, Iddo, when the 50,000 returned in 536 BC. He was a contemporary with Haggai (Ezra 5:1; 6:14), but younger (Zechariah 2:4). He was both a prophet and a Levitical priest coming from a rich priestly heritage (Zechariah 1:1). Iddo, his grandfather, is listed in Nehemiah 12:4 as one of the heads of a priestly family of the Tribe of Levi. Jewish tradition credits him as being part of the Great Synagogue as an older man, helping collect and preserve the Scriptures. The Jewish Targum states that Zechariah was assassinated at an extremely old age in the Sanctuary of the Temple, and the Jewish historian Josephus corroborates, saying Zechariah son of Baruchus was killed at the Temple. The Lord Jesus even identified “Zechariah son of Berechiah” as a martyr, being killed between the portico and the altar (Matthew 23:35). Zechariah is a visionary prophet more than any of the other Minor Prophets. His writings take on an apocalyptic character similar to Daniel or the Revelation. He has more Messianic prophecies than any other Minor Prophet. Only Isaiah talks more about the Messiah.

## Location & Date: c. 520 BC & c. 475 BC

Once a powerful nation, the people of Israel were now a pitiful, insignificant remnant living in their own land only by the pleasure of their foreign ruler. A poor economy and successive crop failures had all but broken the backs of these discouraged Jews in the rubble of their homeland. But Zechariah encourages them from Governor Zerubbabel on down, “Not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord” (Zechariah 4:6-10)

Zechariah's ministry began two months after Haggai's first message and continued for over forty years. Dates For **Chapters 1-8: 520-518 BC:** (Zech 1:1-6 – October 520 BC; Zech 1:7-6:16 – February 15, 519 BC; Zech 7-8 – December 7, 518 BC) The Temple remained half built and forgotten. Zechariah doesn't rebuke them. He offers incredible positive vision (intrinsic motivation) of what God wants to do with this rebuilt Temple – Bring the Messiah there! The historical setting is the same situation as what Haggai faced. The rebuilding of the post-Exilic Temple was not being given a high enough priority.

Dates For **Chapters 9-14:** References to Greece and stylistic differences indicate a date **480-470 BC.** This would mean that Darius I (521-486 BC) had died and Xerxes was now king (486-464 BC), the same Xerxes who made Esther queen of Persia.

The Charge that Zechariah is merely a disorganized composite of ancient prophetic texts strung together on one scroll has been shown false. The last section of Zechariah is written in a sophisticated literary form called *chiasmas* (see below). This complicated form shows how it was masterfully woven and reveals Hebrew thinking processes.

### APOCALYPSE MEANS

#### “UNVEILING”

ZECHARIAH IS AN O.T. BOOK OF REVELATION

**Daniel** - born in Israel, Wrote his apocalypse outside Israel

**Zechariah** - born outside Israel, Wrote his in Israel

**Daniel, Ezekiel, John** wrote outside Israel

Only **Zechariah** wrote on this subject in Israel

Some try to keep Him wrapped up in a manger.  
Some try to keep Him nailed up on a cross.  
Some try to keep Him held down in the cold dark grave  
But He's coming on a white horse!

The King of kings is coming with fire in His eyes.  
The King of kings is coming.  
He's coming back to your world.  
He's gonna rule it with a rod of iron.

He's coming back without a warning.

He's coming with wrath and force.  
He's coming with power and judgement.

And He's coming on a white horse!

— “The King of Kings is Coming” Bob Ayala & Ron Kenoly © 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/ASCAP



ρόημα – Chestnut Ridge Baptist Church, Laurens, SC; Hebrews 4:11-12:  
“living and active” – Copyright ©2005 Gene Brooks

## **Key Message:** KEY VERSES: ZECHARIAH 4:6 ; 8:9

\*The Holy Spirit must be in control to accomplish anything lasting.

\*The Temple must be rebuilt, for someday the Glory of Israel, the Messiah will inhabit it.

\*A BOOK OF REVELATION IN THE O.T. One must use two lights to understand Zechariah – The light of the Cross and the light of the Crown.

## **Outline:**

*Zechariah 1-8 During the Building of the Temple (520-518 BC)*

*Zechariah 9-14 After Building the Temple (480-470 BC)*

1. **CALL TO REPENTANCE (Zechariah 1:1-6)**
2. **EIGHT VISIONS IN ONE NIGHT (MESSIANIC & MILLENIAL) (Zechariah 1:7-6:8)**
  - a. Riders Under the Myrtle Trees (1:7-17) *“The LORD will again be merciful to Jerusalem” (1:14, 16-17)* Rev 6:4
  - b. Four Horns & Four Smiths (1:18-21) *“Those who scattered Judah are cast out” (1:21)*
  - c. Man with a Measuring Line (Chapter 2) *“God will be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem (2:3-5)* Rev 19:8; 21:23
  - d. Joshua and Satan (3:1-10) *“The Servant the Branch comes to save” (3:8-9)* First prophet to mention Satan
  - e. Lampstand and Two Olive Trees (Chapter 4) *“The LORD empowers Israel by His Spirit” (4:6)* Rev. 1:12; 4:5; 5:6; 11:4
  - f. Flying Scroll (5:1-4) *Wicked governments are cursed (5:3)*
  - g. Woman in the Basket (5:5-11) *Wickedness will be removed (5:9)*
  - h. Four Chariots (Chapter 6) *“Administrative forces of righteousness” (G. Campbell Morgan) (6:5, 7)* Rev. 6:2, 5
3. **CROWNING OF JOSHUA THE HIGH PRIEST (Zechariah 6:9-15)**
4. **RITUAL FASTING AND THE FUTURE (Zechariah 7-8)**
  - a. When the Heart is Right, the Ritual is Right (7:4-7)
  - b. When the Heart is Wrong, the Ritual is Wrong (7:8-14)
  - c. God’s Purpose Concerning Jerusalem Unchanged by any Ritual (Chapter 8)
5. **REJECTION OF THE COMING MESSIAH (Zechariah 9-11)** Jesus returns the favor in prophesying judgement for Zechariah’s martyrdom (Matthew 23:35)
6. **MILLENIAL REIGN OF THE COMING MESSIAH (Zechariah 12-14)**
  - a. Siege of Jerusalem by Anti-Christ and his Armies (Chapter 12)
  - b. Repentance of Israel and Reception of their true Messiah (Chapter 13) Romans 11:26
  - c. Coming of the Great King to split Mount of Olives in two (Chapter 14)

### **Post-Exilic Biblical Books** Books written after the Exile:

Haggai	Prophetic
Zechariah	Prophetic
Esther	Historical
Ezra	Historical
Nehemiah	Historical
Malachi	Prophetic

**Sources:** FF Bruce, *International Bible Commentary*; Alfred Edersheim, *Bible History Old Testament*; J. Vernon McGee, *Briefing the Bible: Life & Times Historical Reference Bible*; Matthew Henry’s Commentary at [www.ccel.org/h/henry/](http://www.ccel.org/h/henry/); Herbert Lockyer, *All the Men of the Bible*; Henrietta Mears, *What the Bible is All About*; *Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts*; *NIV Compact Reference Bible (1989)*; *The Reese Chronological Bible*; Larry Richards, *The Bible Readers Companion*; Ryken, Wilhoit, Longman, eds., *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*; Charles Swindoll, *Living Insights Study Bible*; *Wycliffe Bible Dictionary*. Pictures can come from [www.christusrex.org](http://www.christusrex.org/); [www.artchive.com](http://www.artchive.com/); <http://cedar.evansville.edu/~ecoleweb/>; [www.christcenteredmall.com](http://www.christcenteredmall.com/); [viewimages.com](http://viewimages.com/); [www.geocities.com/gileadintl](http://www.geocities.com/gileadintl). Modified map from <http://www.emulateme.com/israel.htm>.



*ρήμα* – Chestnut Ridge Baptist Church, Laurens, SC; Hebrews 4:11-12:  
“living and active” – Copyright ©2005 Gene Brooks

### **MESSIANIC ZECHARIAH**

*Only Isaiah talks about the Messiah more*

Christ's Deity – 3:4; 13:7

Christ's Humanity – 6:12; 13:7

Christ's humility – 6:12

Christ's priesthood – 6:13

Christ's kingship – 6:13; 9:9; 14:9, 16

Christ's glorious reign – 9:10, 14

Christ's world peace – 9:9-10; cf. 3:10

Christ the Branch – 3:8

Christ my Servant – 3:8

Christ the Good Shepherd – 9:16; 11:11

Christ the smitten Shepherd – 13:7; Matthew 26:31; Mark 14:27

Christ's entrance to Jerusalem on a colt – 9:9; cf. Matthew 21:5; John 12:13

Christ betrayed for thirty pieces of silver – 11:12-13; Matthew 14:27

Christ's hands pierced – 12:10

Christ's people saved – 12:10; 13:1

Christ wounded in the house of His friends – 13:6

Christ's coming on the Mount of Olives – 14:3-8; Acts 1:11

Christ's coming in glory – 14:4

Christ's coronation – Zechariah 14:9

Christ's building of the Lord's Temple – 6:12-13

### **BLESSINGS OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM:**

\* Extent of His Kingdom worldwide – 14:9

\* Abundant rain – 10:1

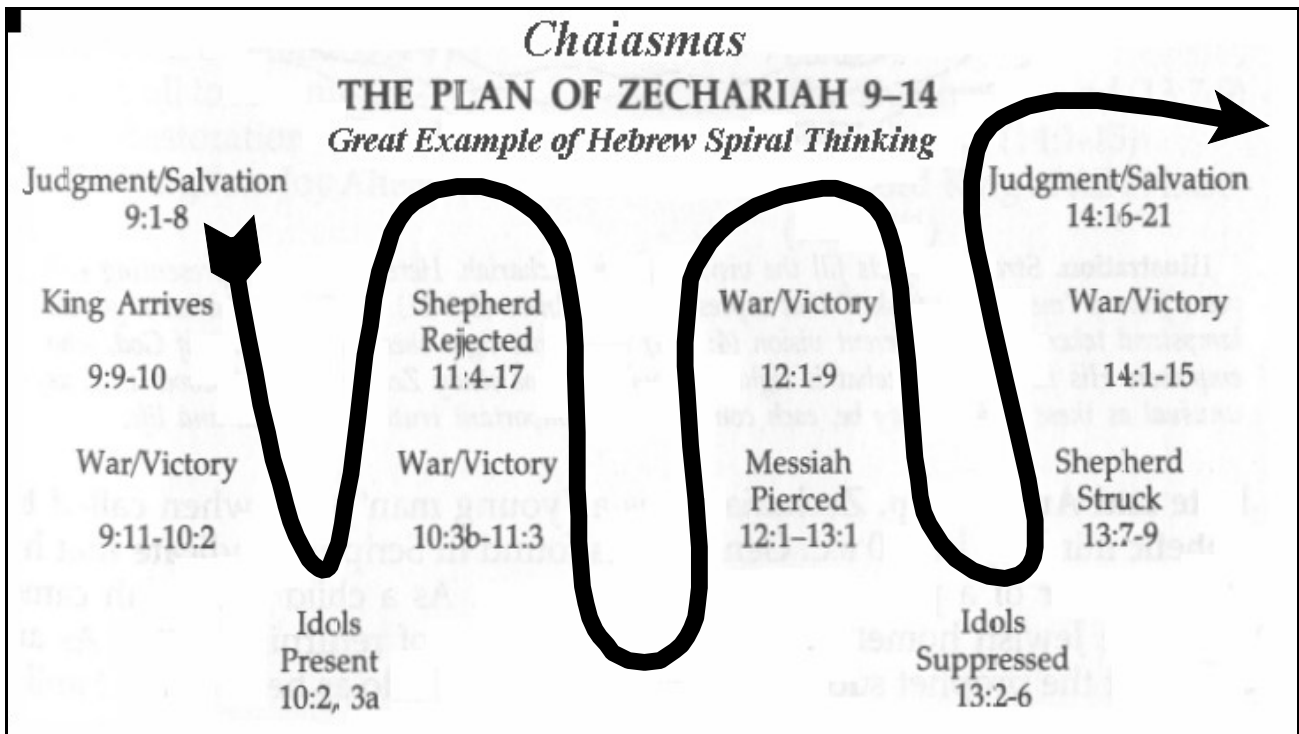
\* Outpouring of Spirit on Israel – 12:10

\* Revelation of the "pierced" Messiah – 12:10

\* Changes in Eretz Y'israel – 14:4-5, 10-11

\* Kingdom set up on earth – 14:9-15

\* Jerusalem the center of worship – 14:16-17



From Larry Richards' Bible Readers Handbook



This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.