

Zechariah

(1) Overview of the book

The setting of the book of Zechariah

The Jews had rebelled against Jehovah for centuries. He sent prophets, warned, rebuked, then... The Jews have been carried into exile in Babylon by Gentiles, Nebuchadnezzar. Zechariah was a contemporary of Daniel, Haggai, Zerubbabel, Joshua (high priest). Chapters 1-8 are given while the temple is being rebuilt. Chapters 9-14 after temple completed. Key verse: Zech.1:14 "Thus says the Lord Almighty, 'I am very jealous for Jerusalem and Zion'" Key thought: God always has a Godly remnant! In a nation of rebellion, His chosen ones. From 1:7-6:15 Zechariah records (8) visions of how the Lord is working for Jerusalem/Zion.

Zechariah introduced....1:1

What is revealing about the date in Zechariah 1:1?

It's all referenced to the Gentile rulers. Israel in exile, the 'times of the Gentiles' begun.

What was the lineage of Zechariah ("the LORD remembers)? 1:1 see Neh.12:1, 16

He was the son of Berekiah, the grandson of Iddo, the priest. He was a Levite.

Accordingly, what (2) offices did Zechariah hold?

He was both a prophet and a priest. Only Christ is Prophet, Priest, and King.

What had happened to the Jews prior to Zechariah's ministry? Jer.25:11, 29:15-19; Dan.1:1-7

God had delivered the Jews/Jerusalem/temple to Nebuchadnezzar, gentile king of Babylon

Why had God done this to His chosen people? IIChron.36:15-21 see Mt.23:37; Heb.11:32-38

The Jews had rejected God for hundreds of years, until there was no remedy. God judges.

What's important for believer's today to remember? ICor.10:1-13; Rev.2:5, 16, 3:3, 3:19

That God judges His people for unrepentant sin. The nation of Israel is living testimony...

However, what was true then, as always? Hag.1:12-14

There was a spiritually-minded remnant that 'obeyed the voice of the Lord their God...'

How long was the Jewish exile to be? Jer.25:11 What's the promise for Israel? Jer.25:10-14

It was 70 years. But God forgives, restores. "...plans for welfare, future, and a hope..."

Comment on Daniel's prayer of Dan.9:1-19

By study (Jer.'s 70 yr. prophecy) he understood / confessed for his people. Godly prayer

What vision does Daniel immediately receive after the 70 years/Jeremiah? Dan.9:24-27

The key 70 "week" prophecy. The Messiah is timed (69 'sevens') from decree/Jerusalem.

What is the stunning prophecy re the Messiah? vs.26 (note after 69th week, not during 70th; gap)

The promised Messiah will be 'cut off' after the 69th 'week', after the Triumphal Entry.

And how can the Messiah be 'cut off' (sacrificed) and still reign over the whole earth?

This is all fulfilled by (2) comings. One to die for sins. The second, King of Kings...