

Zechariah: Prophet of Messiah's Temple

"encouragements to rebuild and exhortations to righteousness"

Messages in THE VISIONS, Chapters 1-6

- The Rider and His Horsemen, 1:7-13
Divine wrath is past, better days lie ahead
 The Four Horns and the Four Carpenters, 1:14-21
A period of peace and protection from enemies
 The Man with the Measuring Line, 2:1-5
The new Temple must and will be built
 INTERLUDE: *The glory of the rebuilt Jerusalem*, 2:6-13
- Joshua the Priest and His Change of Raiment, 3
His cleansing; the Branch: the first Messianic prophecy (vv. 8-10)
- The Candlestick and the Two Olive Trees, 4
Temple building is the Spirit's work to prepare for Messiah
 The Flying Scroll, 5:1-4
A warning to Judah and all nations of God's judgments for sin
 The Ephah Lifted Up by Two Strong Women, 5:5-11
The severity of sin's punishment, as in the Babylonian Captivity
 The Four Chariots Drawn by Horses of Different Colors, 6:1-8
The power of God over earth to accomplish his purposes
 INTERLUDE, 6:9-15 (this comes as a "word of the Lord")
Messiah will build a Temple and be its Prophet, Priest, and King

PROPHECIES OF CHRIST

The high priest's witness of the appearance of the Branch, 3:8-10
 The Branch as the exalted Author and God of a new temple, 6:12-13
 The honor of his humility and hegemony of his kingdom, 9:9-10
 The price of his betrayal, 11:12-13
 The One whose piercing is mourned, 12:10
 The Shepherd of God's sheep, 13:7

THE ROLES OF ANGELS

- To guide, e.g., 1:9
- To reveal, e.g., 1:12
- To interpret, e.g., 1:19
(the same angel as in 1:9)
- To strengthen, e.g., 12:8

The WORD OF THE LORD messages, Chapters 7-14

Chapter 7. *Exhortations to practice righteousness in the course of rebuilding*
 (The "word of the Lord" comes three times to Zechariah in this chapter, focusing on the near future)
 The first two exhortations concern renewed repentance; the third, lessons learned from the past

Chapter 8. *Encouragements to rebuild for a glorious future*
 (The "word of the Lord" comes twice; emphasized by a repeated phrase, "Thus saith the Lord of hosts")
 The exhortations concern the glorious days of Messiah and the blessings they hold for believers

Chapters 9-11. Extended single "word of the Lord" expressed as a "burden" (a weighty thing)
 The mission of Messiah requires God to weaken enemy nations and preserve the Jewish state
 True believers are assured of good things, warned not to fear, and told how great this work will be
 Though false shepherds will appear again, God in Christ will faithfully feed and lead his believing flock

Chapters 12-14. Expansion and elevation of previous themes in a seventh and last "word of the Lord"
 (The recurring phrase "in that day" refers to Christ's life and ministry, and the era of the early church)
 The burgeoning of the church; the death of Messiah brings widespread awareness and sorrow for sin
 The refining of the church; this begins with the sufferings of Messiah and the scattering of his sheep
 The preserving of the true church; the absolute reign of Messiah over men's hearts and lives assures it

