

Zechariah Outline

Introduction: Zechariah writes at the same time as Haggai, during the restoration of the people after the Exile, but the styles could not be more different. While Haggai writes in a historical and straightforward style, focusing on the rebuilding of the temple, Zechariah is a fully apocalyptic work- filled with strange visions, and Messianic hope. As discussed with Daniel, this kind of writing became very popular towards the close of the Biblical period, possibly due to the multiple stresses facing the people. It is helpful to read Haggai and Zechariah side by side, acknowledging both voices, while extremely different, serve different purposes and are each helpful.

First Zechariah

Chapter 1: Don't be like your parents- listen to me; God's horsemen; four horns and
Four smiths

Chapter 2: Vision of wall of fire; hopeful future vision

Chapter 3: Vision of Joshua and the Satan; Joshua receiving clean robes

Chapter 4: Vision of the lampstand and the olive trees; vision explained

Chapter 5: The flying scroll; the woman in the basket

Chapter 6: The four chariots; crowning Joshua, the "branch"

Chapter 7: Don't fast- do justice

Chapter 8: God's promises and future blessing

Second Zechariah

Chapter 9: Judgment against nations; the king is coming- humble and riding on a donkey;
God will come like a Divine warrior

Chapter 10: God of the rain; though God scattered the people God will yet gather them in

Chapter 11: Judgment against Lebanon; shepherding a flock doomed to slaughter

Chapter 12: The day of the Lord

Chapter 13: Striking the shepherd

Chapter 14: The apocalypse of Zechariah

Stories to know: Joshua receiving clean robes (Chapter 3); Joshua as the "branch", the Davidic Messiah (Chapter 6); the apocalyptic vision of Zechariah (Chapter 14) (Note the image of the king coming riding on a donkey- language we use on Palm Sunday in Chapter 9)