

My teaching on Zechariah will primarily use Leeser's Jewish Bible (LJB) as it's scriptural source.

When I started preparing this teaching, I felt it would be a "one and done". Was I mistaken. The more I researched the Book of Zechariah, the deeper it became. As you hear this teaching unfold, hopefully you will also appreciate the fullness of what this prophet said.

ZECHARIAH (7777))

Is He A Minor Prophet?

Part One:

Who Was Zechariah?

The Book of Zechariah describes eight heavenly visions given to Zechariah, all dealing with Yahovah's past, present, and future relationships with Israel.

These visions include the Four Horses & Four Horns, Four **Craftsmen, Man With a Measuring** Line, Joshua The High Priest, Gold Lampstand and Two Olive Trees, Flying Scroll, A Woman In a Basket, and the Four Chariots.

The Book also includes a series of specific prophecies in reference to the first and second coming of the Messiah.

This book, for its size, gives more Messiahcentered prophecies than any other in the **Old Testament.**

Zechariah, also received the greatest number of visions in the shortest time (eight in one night) of any **Old Testament prophet.**

The language of the prophets can at times be quite enigmatic. It is often difficult to decipher just exactly what is being communicated or what the imagery being described is meant to symbolize.

Hopefully, by the end of these teachings on the Book of Zechariah, you will never look on him again as a "Minor Prophet".

Who were the **Old Testament** prophets?

Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel are considered to be the major **Old Testament prophets.**

Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai and Malachi, and Zechariah are considered to be the "Minor" **Old Testament prophets.**

Who was Zechariah?

The name 'Zechariah' in Hebrew means "Yahovah Remembered".

There is another Old **Testament Zechariah in** the Book of Chronicles. This is not him.

This Zechariah is the son of Berekiah and grandson of Iddo, prophet.

Zechariah was a contemporary of Haggai who ministered to the first group of returning Jews to Jerusalem following the **Babylonian captivity.**

In 520-518 B.C, during the reign of Darius The Great, he made his Prophecies to comfort Jerusalem to the returning Jewish remnant.

Jewish tradition says Zechariah was a member of the great synagogue that collected and preserved the Old Testament books.

Yeshua said in Matthew 23:35 that he was murdered by his own wicked countrymen.

Matthew 23:35 ³⁵that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

Zechariah the prophet ministered to the Jewish people, supporting their task of rebuilding the temple and challenging their spiritual condition until the temple was completed. Some time after Zerubbabel's temple was finished, Zechariah continued to irritate religious leaders until some could no longer take it and killed him in the very temple that he had urged the people to complete.

The Book of Zechariah is the longest of the minor prophets.

Zechariah is the only biblical book referring to Canaan as the Holy Land (Zechariah 2:12). ¹²And the Lord will take Judah as his inheritance upon the holy land; and he will again make choice of Jerusalem.

Zechariah is the only biblical book issuing a divine warning to the nations in the Millennium

(Zechariah 14:16-19) ¹⁶And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left out of all the nations who will have come against Jerusalem, yea, these shall go up year by year to bow down before the King, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the feast of tabernacles.

¹⁷And it shall happen, that who so will not come up out of the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to bow down before the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon these there shall be no rain. ¹⁸And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, then shall not [any rain fall] upon them also: this shall be the plague,

wherewith the Lord will afflict the nations that will not come up to celebrate the feast of tabernacles. ¹⁹This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations that will not come up to celebrate the feast of tabernacles.

Zechariah states that the land of Shinar will become Satan's future headquarters. (Zechariah 5:11) ¹¹And he said unto me, To build for it a house in the land of Shin'ar: and when this is erected, then will the other [Satan] be set there upon its own base.

For its size, Zechariah is said to be quoted from or alluded to more than any other **Old Testament book.**

Zechariah's writings resemble those of Daniel. Daniel was born in Palestine, but wrote his prophecies in Babylon. Zechariah was born in Babylon, but wrote his prophecies in Palestine.

Zechariah was probably a priest as well as a prophet.

Zechariah has often been called the 'Apocalypse of the **Old Testament'.**

Zechariah is the only biblical book describing angels in the feminine gender (Zechariah 5:9) ⁹Then did I lift up my eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, having the wind in their wings, and they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven.

Most modern scholars believe the **Book of Zechariah was written by** at least two different people. Zechariah 1–8, sometimes referred to as First Zechariah, was written in the 6th century BC and contains oracles from the historical prophet Zechariah.

Zechariah 9–14, often called Second Zechariah, contains within the text no datable references to specific events or individuals, but most scholars give the text a date in the **5th century BC.**

So what does the **Book of Zechariah** actually say?

Zechariah's book is, in essence, a summary of Yeshua and Jerusalem, the Son of God, and the City of God.

His prophecies include the: Prediction of the building of the millennial temple. **Prediction of the Messiah's** triumphal entry. **Prediction of the Messiah's** betrayal for 30 pieces of silver.

Prediction of the Messiah's crucifixion and of Israel's eventual repentance. **Prediction of Armageddon and of** Messiah's triumphal second coming and subsequent blessings. Prediction of a flying roll that delivers fire and the invasion of Israel.

Although his name is never mentioned, the **Book of Zechariah is** often considered to be all about Yeshua.

The Book of Zechariah deals with a global invasion of Israel in the future. It tells of how this global invasion will be dispensed with and how Israel wins.

The Book of Zechariah relies on two keywords

Vision

Purpose

Zechariah's Goal

People need to repent and return to Yahovah

Zechariah would encourage people who were crushed and demoralized by years of captivity, persecution, and occupation.

He made it clear that the Word of Yahovah is more important than anything else.

Zechariah will respond to queries concerning fasting. -He reproaches people for engaging in meaningless rites and reminds people of their previous behavior. -He then speaks of Israel's redemption and emphasizes the restoration of joy inside God's rule.

Yahovah has two roles for Zechariah:

1. Exhort the people for repentance and obedience.

He is to challenge and urge the people to keep the commitment they made to Yahovah (the same commitment they expected Yahovah to keep).

2. Zechariah is to prophesize the future **Messiah as the Righteous** Branch, humble king, priest, cornerstone, good shepherd, and pierced one.

At end of Book of Zechariah, Yahovah pledges to return to His people, and to reside in the midst of Zion.

