

## **Zechariah**

(name means, "The Lord Remembers")

### **Summary**

Zechariah is the most apocalyptic and messianic of all the minor prophets. Zechariah, son of Berechiah and grandson of Iddo, was a prophet to the Jewish people who returned home from Babylonian captivity. He was also a priest. Zechariah teaches that while God's promises are sure, the implementation of His kingdom program requires our involvement through repentance and obedience. Zechariah is also important for its prophetic accuracy, foretelling Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem hundreds of years before it occurred.

### **Author and Date:**

Zechariah. 518 BC.

### **Audience/ Setting:**

Israelites, especially their leaders (Zerubbabel and Joshua). Jerusalem (after returning from Babylonian captivity). The exiles had returned from Babylon to rebuild the temple, but the work had been thwarted and stalled. Haggai and Zechariah confronted the people with their task and encouraged them to complete it. Cyrus the Persian king issued a decree for the Jewish people to rebuild their temple. Though their homeland and capital city had been devastated, they began reconstructing the temple in earnest. But opposition from surrounding enemies caused the project to come to a halt. Zechariah called God's discouraged people to continue the task of rebuilding the temple.

### **Purpose:**

To tell the promise that Jerusalem would one day be glorious again. Through visions and oracles, Zechariah revealed that a servant was coming and the city of Jerusalem would be blessed by His presence. Give hope to God's people by revealing God's future deliverance through the Messiah.

### **Key People:**

Zechariah, Zerubbabel, and Joshua

### **Key Places:**

Jerusalem

### **References**

NLT Life Application Study Bible  
Tony Evans Study Bible