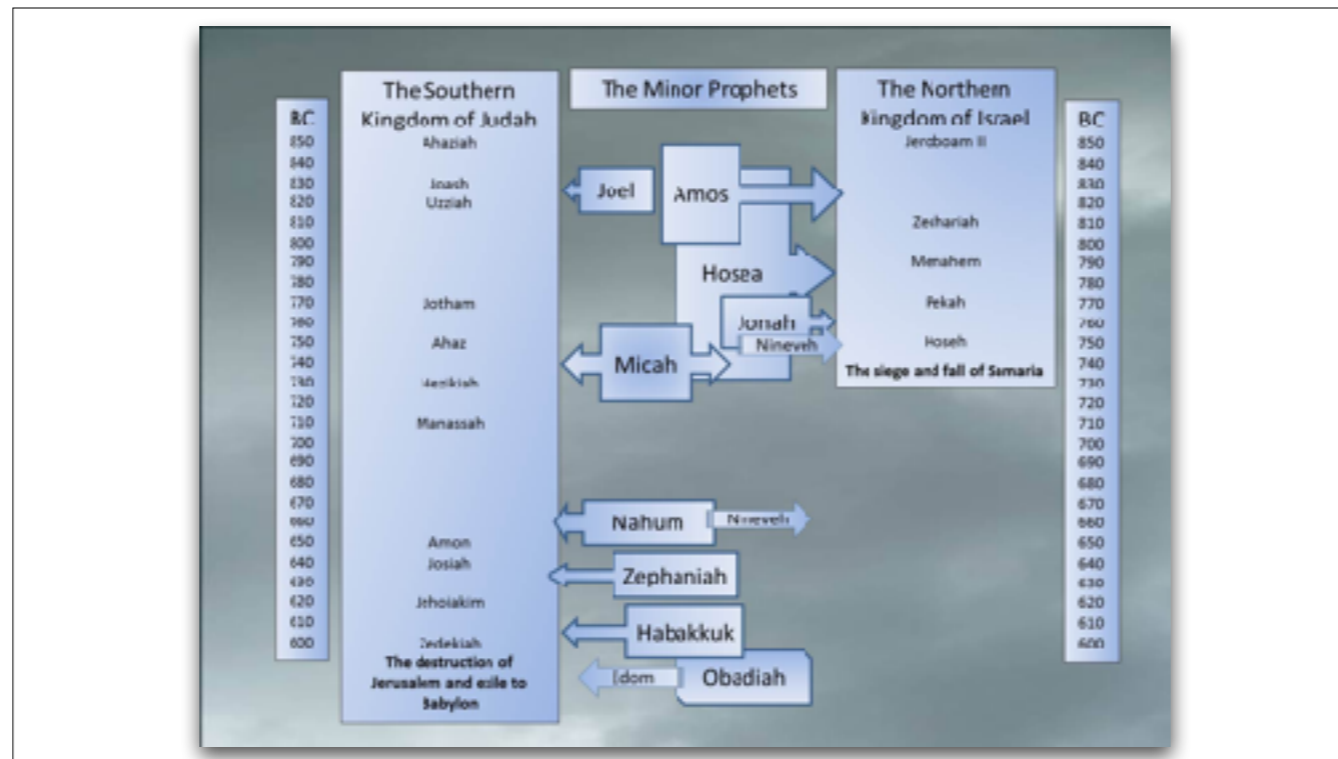




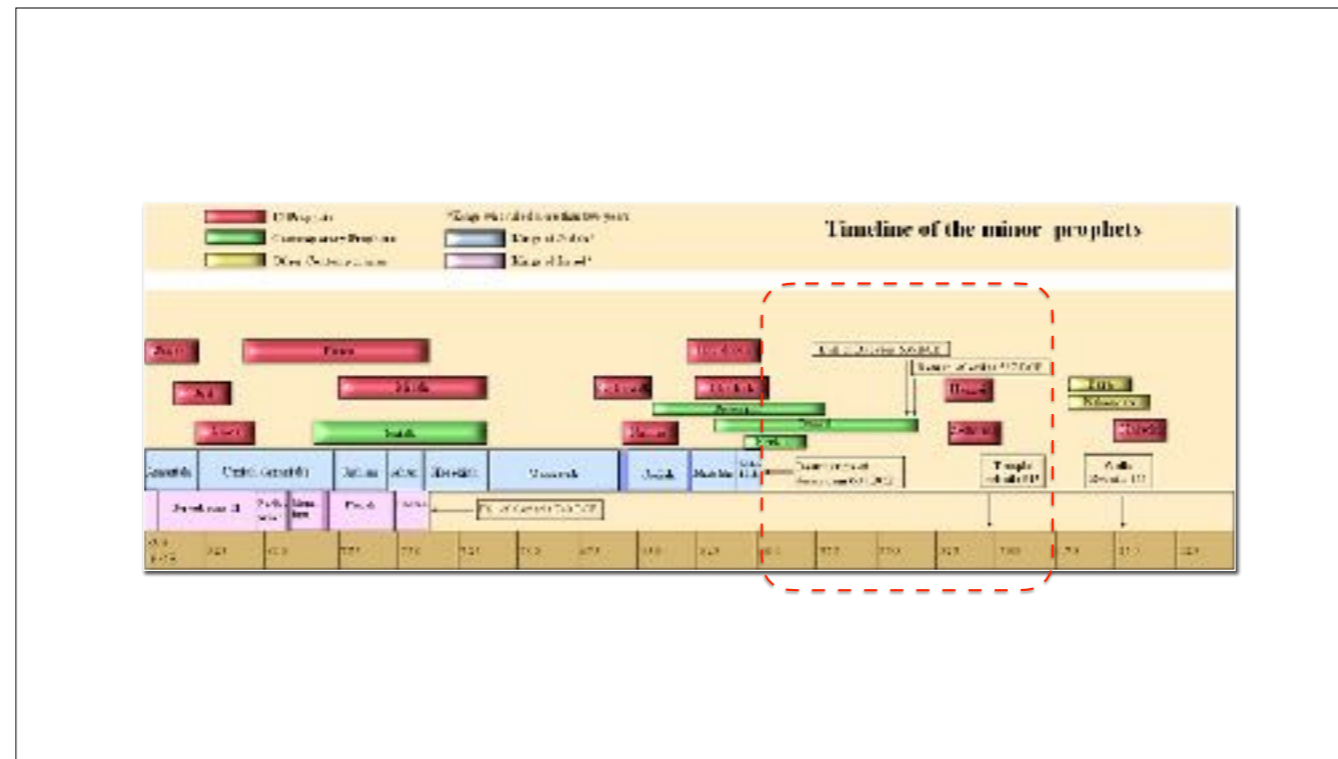
Z E C H A R I A H

“The Lord Remembers”

HOW CAN I REACH
MY NEIGHBOR?



It helps me when I can understand when things happened and in what order. See separate page.



Zechariah's prophecies took place during the reign of Darius the Great (Zechariah 1:1), and was contemporary with Haggai in a post-exilic world after the fall of Jerusalem in 587/6 BC.[1] Ezekiel and Jeremiah wrote prior to the fall of Jerusalem, while continuing to prophesy in the early exile period. Scholars believe Ezekiel, with his blending of ceremony and vision, heavily influenced the visionary works of Zechariah 1–8.[2] Zechariah is specific about dating his writing (520–518 BC). During the Exile many Judahites and Benjaminites[3] were taken to Babylon, where the prophets told them to make their homes (Jeremiah 29), suggesting they would spend a long period of time there. Eventually freedom did come to many Israelites, when Cyrus the Great overtook the Babylonians in 539 BC. In 538 BC, the famous Edict of Cyrus was released, and the first return took place under Sheshbazzar. After the death of Cyrus in 530 BC, Darius consolidated power and took office in 522 BC. His system divided the different colonies of the empire into easily manageable districts overseen by governors. Zerubbabel comes into the story, appointed by Darius as governor over the district of Yehud Medinata. Under the reign of Darius, Zechariah also emerged, centering on the rebuilding of the Temple. Unlike the Babylonians, the Persian Empire went to great lengths to keep "cordial relations" between vassal and lord. The rebuilding of the Temple was encouraged by the leaders of the empire in hopes that it would strengthen the authorities in local contexts. This policy was good politics on the part of the Persians, and the Jews viewed it as a blessing from God.[4]

Zechariah

- Grandson of priest Iddo
 - Knew temple worship practices
 - Was both a priest and prophet
- Prophesied after return from 70 year exile in Babylon
- Prophecies with a tone of encouragement
 - God will remember his promises
- Contains most & clearest references to the Messiah of any of the Minor Prophets



Messianic Prophecies in Zechariah



1	I am going to bring my servant, the Branch.	3:8
2	See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey	9:9
3	I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the Lord	11:12-13
4	They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child	12:10
5	“On that day a fountain will be opened...to cleanse them from sin and impurity	13:1
6	“Awake, sword, against my shepherd	13:7

1. The prophet Isaiah had spoken of a “branch” that would come out of the stock of Jesse, father of David (Isaiah 11:1-5),
2. Matt 21:1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me.
3. Matt 27. Judas took 30 pieces of silver to betray Jesus.
4. Acts 2:37. When Peter preached to the people in Jerusalem, their hearts were pricked because they knew they had crucified the savior.
5. Hebrews 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!
6. Matthew 26:31 Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:
7. “I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

The 8 Visions of Zechariah

1	The Horseman among the myrtle trees	1:1-17
2	The four horns and four craftsmen	1:18-21
3	The surveyor	2:1-13
4	Vision of Joshua the high priest	3:1-10
5	Golden Lampstand and two olive trees	4:1-14
6	Flying scroll	5:1-4
7	Woman in the basket	5:5-11
8	Four Chariots	6:1-8

1. Man had gone throughout the earth and found peace. Angel tells the prophet God still loved Israel and would restore Jerusalem
2. Horns: four kingdoms who opposed Israel (assyria, egypt, babylon, medo-persia) Craftsmen comment to throw down these horns (defeat them)
3. Surveyor measuring Jerusalem - to be expanded and its people will one day live in safety as the Lord judges Israels' enemies
4. Sees high priest in filthy clothes. Satan is rebuked, Joshua given rich, clean clothes. Symbolic of Israel's restoration as God's priestly nation. Ends with prediction of the ultimate high priest - the messiah
5. Olive trees symbolic of Zerubbabel, governor of Judah and Joshua High priest. Lampstand represents temple and temple worshipping community. God's people would one day lay the foundation of the temple and finish the work
6. flying scroll flying over the land. Speaks of God's judgement against those who disobeyed His law.
7. Basket with a lead cover. Angel opened it and a woman was inside. The woman symbolizes iniquity of the people. Two other women appear with wings and carry the basket to Babylon. Pictures suppressed wickedness to be banished to Babylon where it would eventually be freed. Rev 17
8. 4 chariots with horses of different colors. Represents God's judgement on the enemies of Israel, and after God's wrath is appeased, rest ensues. The horse imagery is also used in Rev 6:1-8

What Draws People to God and His People?

- Ch 8:1-3 Who is living among them?
- Ch 8:4-5 Who can sit and play safely?
- Ch 8:6-8 What does God promise?
- Ch 8:11-13 What sort of existence will the Jews enjoy?
- Ch 8:16-17 How do the people treat each other?
- Ch 8:18-19 How will strangers see the Jews relating to God?

1-3 A people with God among us

4-5 Old and young

6-8 The people trust the God who gathers

11-13 Prosperous

16-17 people of honest and justice

18-19 a people of praise



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Zechariah 8:20-23

20 This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Many peoples and the inhabitants of many cities will yet come, 21 and the inhabitants of one city will go to another and say, ‘Let us go at once to entreat the Lord and seek the Lord Almighty. I myself am going.’ 22 And many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the Lord Almighty and to entreat him.”

23 This is what the Lord Almighty says: “In those days ten people from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, ‘Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.’”