

The Gospel of Zechariah

Introduction to Zechariah (Part 2)





Redemptive History





Zechariah 1:1-6 (ESV)

¹ In the eighth month, in the second year of **Darius**, the word of the LORD came to the prophet **Zechariah**, the son of **Berechiah**, son of **Iddo**, saying, ² “The LORD was very angry with your fathers. ³ Therefore say to them, Thus declares the LORD of hosts: Return to me, says the LORD of hosts, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. ⁴ Do not be like your fathers, it whom the former prophets cried out, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.’ But they did not hear or pay attention to me, declares the LORD. ⁵ Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? ⁶ But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your fathers? So they repented and said, ‘As the LORD of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us.’”



Darius: Chronology of the Persian Period¹

Persian King	Dates	Biblical Correlation	Context
Cyrus	539-530	Declaration of Cyrus (539) Return of Zerubbabel and Jeshua (Ezra 1-3)	Stirred up to rebuild the temple
Cambyses	530-522	Rebuilding at Jerusalem stopped (Ezra 4)	Discouraged and afraid to rebuild
Darius I	522-486	Haggai and Zechariah prophesy (520) Temple completed (516) (Ezra 5-6)	Rebuilding of the Temple begins again
Xerxes	486-464	Story of Esther (Esther 1-9)	
Artaxerxes I	464-423	Return of Ezra (458) (Ezra 7-10) Return of Nehemiah (445) (Nehemiah 1-2) Prophecy of Malachi (433)	

1. Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament, John H. Walton, 1994, p. 70



Zechariah

Identified as:

- prophet
- the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo
 - son of Iddo (Ezra 5:1 and 6:14)
 - priest? (Neh 12:4, 16)
- priest
 - temple
 - high priest (Zech 3)
- foreshadow



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LORD vs YHWH

- translated to LORD according to Jewish tradition
 - not Jehovah
- YHWH (Yahweh)
 - to be
 - self-existent
 - eternal and unchanging
 - personal



YHWH was angry

- why?
 - idolatry - breaking of the covenant
 - broke the whole of the law
 - but, idolatry at the center