

Zechariah (Yahweh Remembers)

Date of Zechariah

Prophecy begins in the 8th month of the second year of Darius (**520 BC**)

Darius I Hystapsis (522-486)

The work on the Temple began with decree of Cyrus (536 BC)

Work on the Temple stopped following opposition.

Through the prophesying of Haggai and Zechariah, and the leadership of Zerrubabel the work began again in 520 BC

Temple completed 516 BC

The Message of Zechariah

The call to return to the Lord (1:1-6)

Eight visions (1:7 –6:8)

1. Horses among the Myrtle Trees (1:7-17)
2. Four Horns and Four Carpenters (1:18-21)
3. Man with the Measuring Line (2:1-13)
4. High Priest garments (3:1-10)
5. The Golden Candlestick (4:1-14)
6. The Flying Roll (5:1-4)
7. The Woman in the Ephah (5:5-11)
8. The Four Chariots (6:1-8)

The High Priest is crowned (6:9-15)

Question concerning fasting (7:1-14)

The Fast of the Fifth Month (7:3)

Ab – Fast kept on 10th day. Temple burnt by Chaldeans on 9th day of the month 2 Kings 25:8,9.

The Fasts of the Fifth and Seventh Month (7:5)

Seventy Years (7:5)

Reasons Israel was scattered among the nations.

They did not exercise (a) True judgment (b) Shew Mercy (c) Compassion

They oppressed the Widow, Fatherless, Stranger, the Poor.

Thought evil concerning brother.

Would not listen to (a) the law (b) the Holy Spirit (c) the former prophets

Therefore the Lord did not listen to their prayer when they cried.

Restoration of Zion (8:1-17)

Fasting turned to joy (8:18-19)

- 1. Fast of the fourth month** (Tammuz) – kept on the 9th day remembering when Jerusalem was broken up (2 Kings 25:3; Jeremiah 52:6-7)
- 2. Fast of the Fifth month** (Ab) - kept on the 9th day – the temple was destroyed on the 10th Ab in 586 BC (Jeremiah 52:12-13). Fast kept day before on the 9th. It is believed the Second Temple was also destroyed on 9th day of Ab in AD 70.
- 3. Fast of the Seventh month** (Tishri) - Day of Atonement on the 10th. The Jews also fasted on the 3rd day remembering the murder of Gedaliah (2 Kings 25:25).
- 4. Fast of the Tenth month** – 10th day when Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerusalem (Jeremiah 52:4).

Nations drawn to Jerusalem (8:20-23)

First burden of the word of the Lord (chs.9-11)

Judgment on the nations surrounding Israel (9:1-8). Syria, Lebanon, Philistia.

Coming of the Messiah (9:9-17)

Latter Rain (ch.10)

Judgment – led by false shepherds (ch.11)

Second burden of the word of the Lord (chs.12-14)

The Lord defends Judah

Fountain for sin and uncleanness

Prophets – like Amos come from the ordinary work force.

Day of the Lord (14:1-5) Earthquake in the days of Uzziah (cf. Amos 1:1)

Living Waters flow from Jerusalem (14:8)

Judgment on the nations (14:12-15)

The nations will go up to Jerusalem and keep the Feast of Tabernacles (14:16-21)

Zechariah's Feast of Tabernacles (14:16-21)

1. Judgment for not keeping the Feast of Tabernacles – no rain.
2. Holiness to the Lord written on the bells of the horses.
3. Pots in the Lord's house like the the bowls before the altar.

Every pot – holiness to the Lord. Everyone who sacrifices will cook with holy vessels.

4. No Canaanite (Ephesians 2:19)