

Zechariah: Looking Ahead

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Note: Woven into Zechariah's prophecy are ten distinct visions and symbols. Bold numerals (❶–❷) indicate where they occur in the outline.



- I. REVELATIONS CONCERNING ISRAEL'S FUTURE (1:1–6:15)
 - A. Voice of the Prophet (1:1–6)
 - 1. The Man (1:1)
 - 2. The Message (1:2–6)
 - a. The Lord's Wrath (1:2)
 - b. The Lord's Will (1:3–5)
 - c. The Lord's Word (1:6)
 - B. Visions of the Prophet (1:7–6:15)
 - 1. God Sees (1:7–21)
 - a. The Four Horses (1:7–17) ❶
 - (1) The Imperialist Powers (1:7–11)
 - (a) Their Coming (1:7–8a)
 - (b) Their Character (1:8b)
 - (c) Their Commission (1:9–10)
 - (d) Their Complacency (1:11)
 - (2) The Impassioned Plea (1:12–17)
 - (a) The Plight of Jerusalem (1:12)
 - (b) The Pledge of Jehovah (1:13–17)
 - i. The Lord's Command Exceeded (1:13–15)
 - ii. The Lord's Coming Explained (1:16–17)
 - b. The Four Horns (1:18–21)
 - (1) Gentile Power Displayed—Their Conquest (1:18–19) ❷
 - (2) Gentile Power Destroyed—The Carpenters (1:20–21) ❸
 - 2. God Speaks (2:1–4:14)
 - a. The Matter of Israel's Restoration (2:1–13) ❹
 - (1) A Question of Perspective (2:1–5)
 - (a) Jerusalem—About to Be Measured (2:1–2)
 - (b) Jerusalem—About to Be Magnified (2:3–5)
 - i. Her Dimensions (2:3–4)
 - ii. Her Defenses (2:5)
 - (2) A Question of Priorities (2:6–7)
 - (a) The Jews and Their Past Captivity (2:6)

- (b) The Jews and Their Present Complacency (2:7)
- (3) A Question of Punishment (2:8–9)
 - (a) The Lord’s Heart (2:8)
 - (b) The Lord’s Hand (2:9)
- (4) A Question of Privilege (2:10–13)
 - (a) A Call to Sing (2:10–12)
 - i. The Lord’s Presence with His People (2:10–11)
 - ii. The Lord’s Portion in His People (2:12)
 - (b) A Call to Silence (2:13)
- b. The Matter of Israel’s Righteousness (3:1–10)
 - (1) The Converted Priest (3:1–7) ⑤
 - (a) The Adversary (3:1)
 - (b) The Advocate (3:2–7)
 - i. Joshua Changed to a New Man (3:2–5)
 - ii. Joshua Challenged with a New Ministry (3:6–7)
 - (2) The Coming Prince (3:8–10) ⑥
 - (a) Coming as the Servant (3:8)
 - (b) Coming as the Stone (3:9–10)
 - i. A Vision of Holiness (3:9)
 - ii. A Vision of Happiness (3:10)
- c. The Matter of Israel’s Revival (4:1–14)
 - (1) The Testimony Restored to Israel (4:1–7) ⑦
 - (a) Why the Prophet Could See (4:1)
 - (b) What the Prophet Could See (4:2–7)
 - i. The Lampstand (4:2–3)
 - ii. The Lesson (4:4–7)
 - (2) The Temple Rebuilt in Israel (4:8–10)
 - (a) The Lord’s Servant Commended (4:8–9)
 - (b) The Lord’s Servant Criticized (4:10a)
 - (c) The Lord’s Servant Cautioned (4:10b–c)
 - i. The Builder (4:10b)
 - ii. The Beholder (4:10c)
 - (3) The Tribulation Reviewed for Israel (4:11–14) ⑧
 - (a) Why the Prophet Was Troubled (4:11–12)
 - (b) What the Prophet Was Told (4:13–14)
 - i. The Angel’s Astonishment (4:13)
 - ii. The Angel’s Answer (4:14)
- 3. God Stirs (5:1–6:15)
 - a. Implicitly to Convict (5:1–4) ⑧

- (1) The Mystery of the Flying Roll (5:1–2)
 - (a) Discerned by the Prophet (5:1)
 - (b) Described by the Prophet (5:2)
- (2) The Ministry of the Flying Roll (5:3–4)
 - (a) Its Curse (5:3)
 - i. Against Those Who Steal (A Sin against Man) (5:3a)
 - ii. Against Those Who Swear (A Sin against God) (5:3b)
 - (b) Its Commission (5:4)
 - i. To Detect the Houses of Those Who Sin (5:4a)
 - ii. To Destroy the Houses of Those Who Sin (5:4b)
- b. Impartially to Condemn (5:5–11) 9
 - (1) The Container (5:5–6)
 - (a) A Familiar Symbol (5:5–6a)
 - (b) A Further Statement (5:6b)
 - (2) The Cover (5:7a)
 - (3) The Contents (5:7b–8)
 - (a) Revealed (5:7b–8a)
 - (b) Concealed (5:8b)
 - (4) The Carriers (5:9–11)
 - (a) Their Form Revealed (5:9a)
 - (b) Their Function Revealed (5:9b–11)
- c. Imperially to Conquer (6:1–15)
 - (1) The Timely Coming of the Chariots (6:1–8) 10
 - (a) Description (6:1–3)
 - i. A Vision of the Heights (6:1)
 - ii. A Vision of the Horses (6:2–3)
 - (b) Delineation (6:4–5)
 - i. Prophet's Ignorance Displayed (6:4)
 - ii. The Prophet's Ignorance Dissolved (6:5)
 - (c) Destination (6:6–7)
 - i. Those with Marked Geographic Aims (6:6)
 - ii. Those with More General Aims (6:7)
 - (d) Determination (6:8)
 - (2) The Typical Crowning of the Christ (6:9–15)
 - (a) The Delegation (6:9–10)
 - (b) The Demonstration (6:11)
 - (c) The Declaration (6:12–15)
 - i. The Messiah (6:12a)
 - ii. The Mission (6:12b–13a)
 - iii. The Monarch (6:13b)

- iv. The Memorial (6:14)
- v. The Movement (6:15a)
- vi. The Message (6:15b)

II. REVELATIONS CONCERNING ISRAEL'S FASTS (7:1–8:23)

A. The Question Asked (7:1–3)

- 1. The Month (7:1)
- 2. The Men (7:2a)
- 3. The Mission (7:2b–3)

B. The Question Argued (7:4–14)

- 1. Their Hearts Exposed (7:4–7)
 - a. Their Fasting Examined (7:4–5)
 - b. Their Feasting Examined (7:6)
 - c. Their Failure Examined (7:7)
- 2. Their History Explained (7:8–14)
 - a. The Simple Requirement (7:8–10)
 - (1) Simple *Dos* (7:8–9)
 - (2) Simple *Don'ts* (7:10)
 - b. The Stubborn Refusal (7:11–12)
 - c. The Solemn Request (7:13–14)

C. The Question Answered (8:1–23)

- 1. Israel and Her Needs (8:1–19)
 - a. The Prologue to the Answer (8:1–17)
 - (1) No More Fury (8:1–2)
 - (2) No More Falsehood (8:3)
 - (3) No More Fear (8:4–6)
 - (4) No More Flight (8:7–8)
 - (5) No More Faltering (8:9)
 - (6) No More Famine (8:10–12)
 - (7) No More Foreboding (8:13)
 - (8) No More Forgetting (8:14–17)
 - b. The Proclamation of the Answer (8:18–19)
- 2. Israel and Her Neighbors (8:20–23)
 - a. The International Pilgrimage to Jerusalem (8:20–22)
 - (1) Whole Communities Will Come (8:20–21)
 - (2) Whole Countries Will Come (8:22)
 - b. The International Prestige of Jews (8:23)
 - (1) The Reality of It (8:23a)
 - (2) The Reason of It (8:23b)

III. REVELATIONS CONCERNING ISRAEL'S FOLLY (9:1–14:21)

A. The Coming of the King (9:1–17)

1. The Grecian Age (9:1–8)
 - a. Greece Devours the Land (9:1–6)
 - (1) News from the North (9:1–2)
 - (2) Wars in the West (9:3–6)
 - (a) Phoenicia (9:3–4)
 - (b) Philistia (9:5–6)
 - b. Draws the Line (9:7–8)
 - (1) God's Power to Change Hearts (9:7)
 - (2) God's Power to Change History (9:8)
 - (a) The Immediate (9:8a)
 - (b) The Ultimate (9:8b)
2. The Gospel Age (9:9)
3. The Golden Age (9:10)
 - a. World Disarmament (9:10a)
 - b. World Dominion (9:10b)
4. The Godless Age (9:11–17)
 - a. The Blood (9:11–12)
 - b. The Battle (9:13–16)
 - (1) Israel Confronting the Foe (9:13)
 - (2) Israel Conquering the Foe (9:14–16)
 - (a) The Lord Descends in Power (9:14)
 - (b) The Lord Delivers His People (9:15–16)
 - i. Shattering the Foe (9:15a)
 - ii. Shepherding the Flock (9:15b–16)
 - c. Blessing (9:17)

B. The Call of the King (10:1–12)

1. To a Concerned People (10:1–2)
 - a. Their Future Prayer (10:1)
 - b. Their False Prophets (10:2)
2. To a Conquering People (10:3–8)
 - a. Visitation (10:3–4)
 - (1) The Prophet Sees Judgment Coming (10:3)
 - (2) The Prophet Sees Jesus Coming (10:4)
 - b. Victory (10:5–8)
 - (1) No More Defeat (10:5)
 - (2) No More Division (10:6a)
 - (3) No More Dispersion (10:6b–8)
 - (a) How the Lord Regathers Them (10:6b)

- (b) How the Lord Rejoices Them (10:7)
 - (c) How the Lord Redeems Them (10:8)
 - 3. To a Converted People (10:9–12)
 - a. A Ministering People (10:9)
 - b. A Mighty People (10:10–11)
 - c. A Mindful People (10:12)
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 - 1. The Coming Invasion (11:1–3)
 - a. Its Scope
 - b. Its Severity
 - 2. The Crowning Insult (11:4–14)
 - a. The Messiah’s Ministry Declared (11:4–6)
 - (1) The Flock Fed (11:4–5)
 - (a) The Nature of the Flock (11:4)
 - (b) The Nature of the Foe (11:5)
 - (2) The Flock Forsaken (11:6)
 - b. The Messiah’s Ministry Depicted (11:7–14)
 - (1) The Taking of the Staves (11:7)
 - (2) The Breaking of the Staves (11:8–14)
 - (a) The Resolve (11:8–9)
 - (b) The Result (11:10–11)
 - (c) The Reason (11:12–13)
 - (d) The Rift (11:14)
 - 3. The Cursed Idolater (11:15–17)
 - a. The Coming of the Antichrist (11:15)
 - b. The Career of the Antichrist (11:16)
 - c. The Collapse of the Antichrist (11:17)
- D. The Curse of the King (12:1–14)
 - 1. A Time of War (12:1–9)
 - a. What the Nations Forget (12:1)
 - (1) To Look Up at the Heavens (12:1a)
 - (2) To Look Around at the Hills (12:1b)
 - (3) To Look Within at the Heart (12:1c)
 - b. What the Nations Find (12:2–3)
 - (1) Something That Makes Them Tremble (12:2)
 - (2) Something That Gives Them Trouble (12:3)
 - c. What the Nations Face (12:4–9)
 - (1) Their Forces Are Incapacitated (12:4–5)
 - (2) Their Foes Are Invincible (12:6–8)
 - (a) Judah (12:6–7)

- (b) Jerusalem (12:8)
 - (3) Their Fate Is Inescapable (12:9)
 - 2. A Time of Woe (12:10–14)
 - a. Israel Convicted by the Spirit (12:10)
 - (1) Salvation (12:10a)
 - (2) Supplication (12:10b)
 - (3) Sorrow (12:10c)
 - b. Israel Confessing to the Savior (12:11–14)
 - (1) The Example of Israel’s Sorrow (12:11)
 - (2) The Extent of Israel’s Sorrow (12:12–14)
 - (a) The Highest (12:12)
 - (b) The Holiest (12:13)
 - (c) The Humblest (12:14)
- E. The Compassion of the King (13:1–9)
 - 1. Causes Removed (13:1–5)
 - a. The Removal of Personal Defilement (13:1)
 - b. The Removal of Prophetic Deception (13:2–5)
 - (1) No More False Worship (13:2a)
 - (2) No More False Witness (13:2b–5)
 - (a) Parental Conviction (12:2b–3)
 - (b) Personal Confession (13:4–5)
 - 2. Calvary Remembered (13:6–7)
 - a. The Scars of the Shepherd (13:6)
 - b. The Scattering of the Sheep (13:7)
 - 3. Crisis Rementioned (13:8–9)
 - a. Those Slain in the Endtimes (13:8)
 - b. Those Saved in the Endtimes (13:9)
- F. The Coronation of the King (14:1–21)
 - 1. Jerusalem Ravished (14:1–3)
 - a. The Siege of the City (14:1–2a)
 - b. The Sorrows of the City (14:2b)
 - c. The Salvation of the City (14:3)
 - 2. Jerusalem Rebuilt (14:4–8)
 - a. A New Valley in the Vicinity (14:4–5)
 - (1) The Return of the Lord in His Power (14:4–5a)
 - (a) The Feet of the Returning Jesus (14:4)
 - (b) The Flight of the Remaining Jews (14:5a)
 - (2) The Return of the Lord with His People (14:5b)
 - b. A New Day in the Darkness (14:6–7)
 - c. A New River in the Region (14:8)

- (1) Living Water Supplied (14:8a)
- (2) Lasting Water Supplied (14:8b)
- 3. Jerusalem Rescued (14:9–15)
 - a. The Lord’s Enthronement Reviewed (14:9–11)
 - (1) The Lord (14:9)
 - (2) The Land (14:10–11)
 - (a) Renovated (14:10)
 - (b) Repopulated (14:11)
 - b. The Lord’s Enemies Removed (14:12–15)
 - (1) The Scourge (14:12)
 - (2) The Slaughter (14:13)
 - (3) The Spoil (14:14–15)
 - (a) The Booty Deposited in Piles (14:14)
 - (b) The Beasts Destroyed by Plague (14:15)
- 4. Jerusalem Restored (14:16–21)
 - a. God and the Heathen Nations (14:16–19)
 - (1) The Remnant of the Nations (14:16)
 - (2) The Rebellions of the Nations (14:17–19)
 - b. God and the Hebrew Nation (14:20–21)
 - (1) Holiness in the House of the Lord (14:20)
 - (2) Holiness in the Houses of the Land (14:21)¹

¹ Phillips, J. (1998). *Exploring the Minor Prophets: The Book of the Twelve* (pp. 263-271). Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Brothers.