

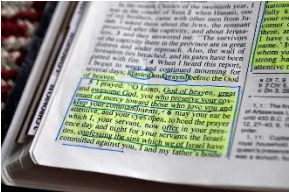
Zechariah Redux: A Message for Last-Days Saints

The Book of Zechariah

Zechariah's prophecies are in a rarely-read part of the Old Testament, forgotten to most Christians. After all, what could a prophet from 2500 years ago have to say to us today? As it turns out, a lot!

- Hope for Discouraged Saints
God is involved in your life; take your cares to Him in prayer.
- You're in a Spiritual Battle
Satan is your accuser (3.1); God is your Defender.
- God Keeps His Promises
God is faithful, even when we are not.
- Keep in Step with the Spirit
You can't do it on your own (4.6); be in prayer and the Word.
- Keep Your Eye on the Finish Line!
One day Jesus will reign; live today for that day.



1. There's an old saying: "No pain, no gain." That axiom is especially true when it comes to Scripture. After almost 40 years teaching and preaching the Bible, there is still nothing more helpful than reading it for myself. If you want to get the overall 'flavor' of this book, sit down with a cup of coffee (or two), and read straight through all 14 chapters at one sitting. *Don't get frustrated or give up because you don't understand a section!* Keep a pen and highlighter handy, and mark particularly meaningful words or verses. You may even want to list verses you'd like to memorize on a 3x5 card.
 
2. When you're done, read an introduction to the Book of Zechariah. If you have a study Bible, there may be one at the beginning of the text. If not, you can read Dr. Tom Constable's introduction on the *Sonic Light* website (<https://planobiblechapel.org/soniclight/>). How does knowing the historical context help your understanding?
3. Zechariah 1.1-6 introduces the whole book – what God wants from His people, and the judgments they will experience till they submit to Him. What *was* God looking for (1.4; 3.7; 7.9-10; 8.16-17)? In a word, God was looking – and *is* looking – for *authenticity*. Is this still a need among God's people today?
4. Zechariah's visions and sermons (chapters 1-8) recognize enemies God's people face – both outside persecution and internal sin. How do we overcome these forces of evil? What motivation lies behind the exhortation of Zech. 1.4? What does Zech. 4.6 imply about our dependency? What does relying on the Spirit entail?
5. Zechariah prophesied more about Christ than all the other Minor Prophets combined. In chapters 9-11, what 'glimpses' of Christ in His first coming do you see? How is the crucifixion foreseen, and what are the results of it? Through it all, God's promises to Israel never waver. Note how many times it says 'in that day' and 'I will' in chapters 12-14! How sure are God's promises to us today?