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“Jesus our Messiah-King”

Zechariah 1 – 14

Pastor Gary Hamrick

The prophet Zechariah had more things to say about the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ than all of the other Minor Prophets combined. The main theme of the book of Zechariah is the hope and encouragement we can have in knowing that our Messiah is coming again. The first time Jesus came was as a Meek Messiah and a Suffering Savior, and he is returning at some future time, which makes him the Coming King. Pastor Gary’s message today is about the fact that Jesus is the hope of the Church!

Historical Background

1. In Hebrew Zechariah is Zkaryah.
 - a. Zechariah’s name means the Lord remembers.
 - b. Berechiah’s name means the Lord blesses.
 - c. Iddo’s name means timely.
 - d. Pastor Gary said, “When you string together [these names], it translates, the Lord remembers and blesses in his time. [This] is really a wonderful introduction to the book of Zechariah. [Zechariah] was ministering to people that probably thought God had forgotten them because they had spent 70 years in captivity in Babylon. [Then] God moved the heart of King Cyrus... to allow the Jews to go back to their homeland. [They] needed encouragement, so Zechariah [started] his book [with a reminder that the Lord remembers and blesses in his time].”
2. Zechariah prophesied in 520 B.C., at the same time as the prophet Haggai, to the remnant of Jews who left Babylon to return to their homeland.
 - a. The events of this book, like the book of Haggai, fit within the timeframe of the book of Ezra.
 - b. The book of Zechariah is the longest book of the minor prophets.

- c. The book of Zechariah is considered to be the most prophetic of the minor prophets concerning End Times.
- d. Zechariah prophesied more about the First and Second Coming of the Messiah than all of the other minor prophets combined.
- e. The book of Zechariah is quoted more than 40 times in the New Testament, particularly in the Gospels, which is more than any of the other minor prophets.
- f. Most Bible scholars believe Zechariah was about 17 years old when God called him.
 - i. **Zechariah 2:4** - “[An angel] said to him, ‘Run, speak to this young man...’”
- g. We learn from Jesus that Zechariah was murdered for being a prophet.
 - i. **Matthew 23:33-35** - “Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.”
 - ii. Pastor Gary said, “[In] the book of Zechariah, [he didn’t] say anything harsh, confrontational, [nor did he rebuke the people concerning sin] like the other prophets did. Zechariah [brought] words of encouragement, so maybe at some other point he said some things that ticked some people off, but we don’t [know] the cause or reason why he was murdered as brutally as he was.”

The First Coming Of Jesus Christ

- 3. There are two universal human needs that can only be met by Jesus, the Messiah King: (1) The need to be right with God.; (2) The need to be prepared to die.
 - a. Life is more than just about the here and now.
- 4. There are more than 300 prophecies in the Old Testament concerning the First Coming of Jesus.
 - a. The statistical improbability of one man fulfilling the 300+ biblical prophecies in the Old Testament about the Messiah is mind-boggling to say the least. Dr. Peter Stoner¹, Professor Emeritus of Science at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, calculated that the likelihood of one person fulfilling 48

¹ Peter Stoner (Born June 16, 1888 – Died March 21, 1980) was Chairman of the Departments of Mathematics and Astronomy at Pasadena City College until 1953; Chairman of the science division, Westmont College, 1953-57; Professor Emeritus of Science, Westmont College; Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Astronomy, Pasadena City College.

of the 300+ prophecies would be 1:10¹⁵⁷ (that's an additional 157 zeros!).² Well, how many people have lived on earth? The numbers vary widely; however, some have estimated that a good number would be 100 billion people. If you used this number for the prophecy fulfillment calculation, it would read 1:10¹¹ (that's only 11 zeros). Practically speaking, mathematicians and scientists aren't that concerned about a number that goes beyond 1:10⁵⁰, so statistically, it's not possible that anyone other than Jesus could be the Messiah, and that would just be the fulfillment of 48 of the 300+ Old Testament prophecies. Dr. Stoner said, "Any man who rejects Christ as the Son of God is rejecting a fact proved perhaps more absolutely than any other fact in the world."

- b. There are more than three times as many prophecies about Jesus' Second Coming than his First Coming!

The Meek Messiah

5. Jesus came as a Meek Messiah.
 - a. **Zechariah 9:9** - *"Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, **lowly** and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey."* (Emphasis added)
 - b. According to **Matthew 21:1-9**, this prophecy was fulfilled in 32 A.D. when, on what we call Palm Sunday, Jesus came riding into Jerusalem on a donkey.
 - c. The people along the route Jesus took shouted Messianic passages because they recognized him as the Messiah King, but they had no real idea about what he had come to do for them.
 - i. **Psalms 118:26a** - *"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!"*
 - d. The people thought that Jesus had come to set the Jews free from the oppression of the Roman government, but what Jesus came to do was to set mankind free from the oppression of sin.
 - e. Jesus came so that we might, by faith in his finished work on the cross, be made right with God.
 - f. **1 John 4:10** - *"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*

The Suffering Savior

6. More than 520 years before Judas betrayed Jesus, Zechariah prophesied about the exact amount of money he would receive!
 - a. **Zechariah 11:12-13** - *"Then I said to them, 'If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain.' So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces*

² For more information, check out the link for the entire book, *Science Speaks* by Dr. Peter Stoner. The specific information is found in the last part of chapter three. <http://sciencespeaks.dstoner.net>

of silver. And the LORD said to me, 'Throw it to the potter' – that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter."

- b. **Matthew 27:3-10** – *"Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.' And they said, 'What is that to us? You see to it!' Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, 'It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood.' And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field as the LORD directed me.' "*

- i. It's important to note that there is a major difference between being remorseful and repentance.

7. Pastor Gary said, "[Judas betrayed Jesus, who was crucified on a cross, buried in a tomb for three days, and raised from the dead. Jesus then appeared to people in his resurrected body for forty days before ascending into heaven from the Mount of Olives. Jesus now sits at the right hand of God interceding for all believers.] He is our suffering Savior, and Zechariah [wrote] about how when Jesus comes again, he will still bear the marks of his suffering. He will still bear the marks of his crucifixion."

- a. **Zechariah 12:10-11** – *"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then **they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a first-born. In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.**" (Emphasis added)*
- b. One day the Jews will see Jesus and realize that everything that was said about Jesus was true, and there will be a great awakening among the Jews because they will see Jesus as Messiah.
- c. Hadad Rimmon was a staging city in which the Assyrians, after conquering northern Israel, separated children from their parents, and Zechariah prophesied that there would be a time similar to that when Jesus returns.
- d. **Zechariah 13:6** – *"And one will say to him, 'What are these wounds between your arms?' Then he will answer, 'Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.' "*

- i. Pastor Gary said some Bible scholars interpret *"wounds between your*

arms” as the scourging marks on Jesus’ back, and others interpret this to mean the nail marks in Jesus’ hands.

- ii. [John 15:13](#) – *“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”*
- iii. Jesus sees every human being as his friend, even though every single human being, in a manner of speaking, nailed him to the cross.
- iv. [Luke 9:22](#) – *“[The] Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.”*

The Coming King

8. [Zechariah 14:1-4](#) – *“Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem [a reference to the Battle of Armageddon]’ the city taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then **the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations**, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. **And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.**”*

(Emphasis added)

- a. [Revelation 16](#) provides the account of the day when The Battle of Armageddon will take place.
- b. In the shadow of Megiddo is the Jezreel Valley, the place where this battle will be fought.
- c. When Jesus is victorious over his enemies, he will return to the Mount of Olives, just east of Jerusalem, the exact place from which he ascended into heaven.
 - i. [Acts 1:9-11](#) – *“Now when [Jesus] had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.’ ”*
- d. Zechariah prophesied about a great earthquake.
 - i. The Mount of Olives will split in two, and according to [Ezekiel 47:1-12](#), **fresh water will flow**, half toward the Mediterranean Sea and half **from under the Temple Mount in Jerusalem to the Dead Sea**. (Emphasis added)
 1. The Dead Sea has 37% salinity.

2. By way of comparison, the Atlantic Ocean has 3% salinity.
9. [Zechariah 14:8-9](#) - *“And in that day it shall be that living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea; in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be - ‘The LORD is one,’ and His name one.”*
10. When Jesus comes again, he will be riding on a white horse, according to [Revelation 19:11-16](#), and he will come with justice and make war on his enemies.
11. Jesus will establish his Kingdom on earth for 1,000 years ³ [Millennial Reign].
12. Then there will be a new heaven and a new earth. ⁴
13. All who have trusted in Jesus as their Savior will be with him forever!

Discussion Questions

1. Read [Zechariah 1:1-4](#) to provide a foundation for your Bible study time.
2. Provide an overview of the life of Zechariah. (See #1 and #2 above)
3. Spend time talking about Pastor Gary’s statement about two universal human needs. (See #3 above)
4. Read and discuss Dr. Peter Stoner’s remarks about the certainty that Jesus is the Christ/Messiah. (See #4 above)
5. Read and discuss [Zechariah 9:9](#), [Matthew 21:1-9](#), [Psalm 118:26a](#), and [1 John 4:10](#). (See #5 above)
6. Read and discuss Matthew 27:3-10. (See #6 above)
7. Spend time talking about Pastor Gary’s remarks about Jesus, the suffering Savior. (See #7 above)
8. Read and discuss [Zechariah 14:1-4](#) and [Acts 1:9-11](#). (See #8 above)
9. Close your meeting by allowing the Holy Spirit to lead your time of prayer.

* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version (NKJV)

³ [Revelation 20:4-6](#)

⁴ [Revelation 21:1-8](#)