

THE MINISTRY OF ZECHARIAH
INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW
(Zechariah 1:1)

I. The MAN

A. He was “the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo” (cf. Ezra 5:1; 6:14; Neh. 12:1-4)

1. His GRANDFATHER had returned with Zerubbabel
2. We do not know his AGE at his DEATH or the DATE it occurred
3. We do know he was MURDERED (cf. Matt. 23:35-37)
4. He was killed by the JEWS in the TEMPLE

B. His ministry lasted at least TWO YEARS and perhaps as long as FIFTY YEARS

1. First series of messages (chapters 1-6) began during the EIGHTH month of the SECOND year of Darius (1:1)
2. Second series of messages (chapters 7-8) began during the FOURTH year of Darius (7:1)
3. Third series of messages (chapters 9-14) is not DATED

II. The MESSAGE

A. With a name that means “the Lord REMEMBERS,” Zechariah is the great prophet of HOPE

B. His first messages CHARGED the people to RESUME the work

- C. His primary theme was hope in God's UNFAILING PURPOSE
- D. His emphasis was a call to FAITH
- E. His book may be the most explicitly MESSIANIC in the Old Testament
 - 1. He predicts some important details concerning Christ's person as the GOD-MAN
 - 2. He reveals aspects of Christ's mediatorial work as PROPHET, PRIEST, and KING
- F. He insisted God's purpose for His people is EVEN GREATER than their EXPECTATIONS

III. The METHOD (cf. Heb. 1:1)

- A. Frequently by direct, AUDIBLE communication (1:1; 6:9; 7:1, 2, 8; 8:1, 18)
- B. Occasionally through VISIONS (1:7-6:8)
 - 1. Visions were PERSONAL and INTERNAL
 - 2. The recipient was usually an ACTIVE PARTICIPANT in what he was seeing
 - 3. Visions tended to be highly SYMBOLIC
 - 4. Visions were AUTHORITATIVE messages directly from GOD
- C. With a strong emphasis on END-TIMES