

# The Gospel of Zechariah

Zechariah 9:1-8





# Redemptive History





# Darius: Chronology of the Persian Period<sup>1</sup>

Persian King	Dates	Biblical Correlation	Context
Cyrus	539-530	<b>Declaration of Cyrus</b> (539) Return of Zerubbabel and Jeshua (Ezra 1-3)	Stirred up to rebuild the temple
Cambyses	530-522	Rebuilding at Jerusalem stopped (Ezra 4)	Discouraged and afraid to rebuild
<b>Darius I</b>	522-486	Haggai and <b>Zechariah</b> prophecy (520) <b>Zechariah</b> prophecy (518) Temple completed (516) (Ezra 5-6)	Rebuilding of the Temple begins again
Xerxes	486-464	Story of Esther (Esther 1-9)	
Artaxerxes I	464-423	Return of Ezra (458) (Ezra 7-10) Return of Nehemiah (445) (Nehemiah 1-2) Prophecy of Malachi (433)	

1. Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament, John H. Walton, 1994, p. 70



# Gospel of Zechariah (Themes)

Call to repentance

**Return of YHWH**

Restoration of the temple

The coming of the branch

**Coming judgement on the nations**

**Day of the Lord**



# Zechariah 9:1-8 (ESV)

**9:1**

The oracle of the word of the LORD is  
against the land of Hadrach  
and Damascus is its resting place.  
For the LORD has an eye on mankind  
and on all the tribes of Israel,

**2**

and on Hamath also, which borders on it,  
Tyre and Sidon, though they are very  
wise.

**3**

Tyre has built herself a rampart  
and heaped up silver like dust,  
and fine gold like the mud of the streets.

**4**

But behold, the Lord will strip her of her  
possessions  
and strike down her power on the sea,  
and she shall be devoured by fire.

**5**

Ashkelon shall see it, and be afraid;  
Gaza too, and shall writhe in anguish;  
Ekron also, because its hopes are  
confounded.

The king shall perish from Gaza;  
Ashkelon shall be uninhabited;

**6**

a mixed people shall dwell in Ashdod,  
and I will cut off the pride of Philistia.

**7**

I will take away its blood from its  
mouth,  
and its abominations from between its  
teeth;  
it too shall be a remnant for our God;  
it shall be like a clan in Judah,  
and Ekron shall be like the Jebusites.

**8**

Then I will encamp at my house as a  
guard,  
so that none shall march to and fro;  
no oppressor shall again march over  
them,  
for now I see with my own eyes.



# judgment on the nations

- context of suffering
  - siege(s) of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar
  - exile to Babylon
  - opposition to the temple rebuilding
- period of time
  - portrait of opposition, threat, and suffering
- end to suffering
- end to judgment



# Yahweh has an eye ...

- oracle
  - a burden
- against (Syria)
  - Hadrach - northernmost region in oracle
  - Damascus - capital of Syria, enemy of Israel
- **eye**
  - watching mankind
  - watching over the covenant people
- tribes
  - all of God's people
- borders
  - Hamath
- wise
  - Tyre and Sidon
  - known for worldly shrewdness

The oracle of the word of the LORD is against the land of Hadrach and Damascus is its resting place. For the LORD has an eye on mankind and on all the tribes of Israel, and on Hamath also, which borders on it, Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise. (Zechariah 9:1-2 ESV)



# rampart ... silver ... gold

- power and success
  - protection - rampart
  - prosperity - silver and gold
- but ... the Lord
  - take prosperity - strip possessions
  - take protection - strike down sea power and devoured by fire

Tyre has built herself a rampart and heaped up silver like dust, and fine gold like the mud of the streets. But behold, the Lord will strip her of her possessions and strike down her power on the sea, and she shall be devoured by fire. (Zechariah 9:3-4 ESV)





# four cities

- four cities (Philistine) - chiastic
  - afraid
    - Ashkelon see Tyre's destruction
  - writhe
    - Gaza
  - hopes confounded
    - Erkon - northernmost
  - king perish
    - Gaza
  - uninhabited
    - back to Ashkelon

Ashkelon shall see it, and be afraid; Gaza too, and shall writhe in anguish; Ekron also, because its hopes are confounded. The king shall perish from Gaza; Ashkelon shall be uninhabited; (Zechariah 9:5 ESV)



# cut off the pride

- change to first person
- cut off the pride (Philistine)
  - mixed people - different people groups together
  - take away blood - eat as the covenant people
- become part of the remnant
  - clan in Judah
  - like the Jebusites - absorbed

a mixed people shall dwell in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of Philistia. I will take away its blood from its mouth, and its abominations from between its teeth; it too shall be a remnant for our God; it shall be like a clan in Judah, and Ekron shall be like the Jebusites. (Zechariah 9:6-7 ESV)



# with my own eyes

- **eyes**
  - my own eyes
  - bookend this section
- **protected**
  - encamp
  - my house - probably nation of Israel
  - none shall march

Then I will encamp at my house as a guard, so that none shall march to and fro; no oppressor shall again march over them, for now I see with my own eyes. (Zechariah 9:8 ESV)