

The Gospel of Zechariah

Zechariah 9:9-13



Redemptive History





Darius: Chronology of the Persian Period¹

Persian King	Dates	Biblical Correlation	Context
Cyrus	539-530	Declaration of Cyrus (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
Darius I	522-486	Haggai and Zechariah prophecy (520) Zechariah 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 9:9-13

9:9	Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.	9:11	As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.	9:13	For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior's sword.
9:10	I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.	9:12	Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.		



your king is coming

- daughter
 - daughter Zion
 - daughter Jerusalem
 - personal relationship
- your king
 - davidic kingship restored
 - righteous - faithful king
 - having salvation - from enemies; from the greatest enemy
 - donkey
 - humble (not a horse)
 - foal (royal)
- triumphal entry
 - Matthew 21:1–11, Mark 11:1–11, Luke 19:28–44, and John 12:12–19
 - the already - vs 9
 - the not yet - vs 10

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

(Zechariah 9:9 ESV)



speaking peace

- Ephraim and Jerusalem
 - northern kingdom - Ephraim
 - southern kingdom - Jerusalem
- war horse and battle bow
 - instruments of war
 - no longer needed
- speak peace to the nations
 - king will not bring war but peace
- rule
 - Psalm 72:8 - May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth! (ESV)
 - sea to sea
 - river to the ends of the earth
 - echoes global rule

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

(Zechariah 9:10 ESV)

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant
with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

(Zechariah 9:11 ESV)



blood of my covenant

- blood of my covenant
 - Genesis 15 - covenant with Abraham
 - Luke 22 - new covenant in my blood
 - fulfilling the old
 - surpassing the old
- waterless pit
 - Genesis 37:24 - And they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. (ESV)
 - Joseph
 - foreshadows Christ
 - suffered at the hands of his people
 - became the deliverer of his people
 - Christ sets us free by his blood

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

(Zechariah 9:12 ESV)



prisoners of hope

- **stronghold**
 - Jerusalem
 - the new Jerusalem
- **prisoners of hope**
 - rescued from the pit
 - hope of redemption - expectant
- **restore to you double**
 - firstborn son (adoption) - double share of the inheritance
 - reward is greater than the suffering
 - righteousness of Christ



wield you

For I have bent Judah as my bow;
I have made Ephraim its arrow.
I will stir up your sons, O Zion,
against your sons, O Greece,
and wield you like a warrior's sword.

(Zechariah 9:13 ESV)

- bow and arrow
 - eschatological language
 - powerful kingdom restored
 - nation secure with God as king
- Greece
 - a contemporary kingdom for Zechariah's people
 - future threat
 - prophetic
- wield you
 - sword
 - Ephesians 6:17 - ...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God... (ESV)
 - going out of the Gospel