

The Visions of Zechariah: Part One

Zechariah 1/Revelation 6

Intro

Question 1: A Show of Hands-Who has ever heard of the books Tobit, Judith, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon, or 1st or 2nd Esdras?

Question 2: Where would I need to go to find these books?

Apocrypha means “Hidden”

Many books in our Bible have become “hidden” and most church people find this okay. (Song of Solomon, the Minor Prophets, Jude, 2 John, 3 John)

This is very concerning to me.

Question 3: Why Zechariah?

- a) Sunset courses required reading
- b) Many things I discovered which people ought to know
- c) Tells more about Jesus than any other O.T. Books except Isaiah

Zechariah 1: 1

-Who was Zechariah?

- a) Grandfather Iddo-Listed in the names of the Israelite exiles who returned to Jerusalem with Zerubbabel. (Nehemiah 12: 4)
- b) Iddo is also listed as a priest, therefore Zechariah may also have been a priest
- c) Father Berekiah-Used to identify this prophet by Jesus as Jesus spoke the woes unto the Pharisees (Matthew 23:35)
- d) Was a contemporary of the prophet Haggai. Haggai had seen Solomon’s temple prior to the exile. Therefore Haggai was probably an old man and his ministry was short. Zechariah was a young man whose prophetic ministry lasted about 40 years.
- e) Zechariah’s ministry began about a year and a half after the exiles return.

Zechariah 1:2-6

- A) A reminder of the past-what caused Judah to be taken away
- B) It’s now time for Transition-to make the decision to learn from the past, repent and follow God

There are two types of transitions: There are transitions as a group and as individuals

Group transitions: Sports-Defense to Offense, Company's-Transition from where they are as a company to what they are trying to achieve

Right now we at Cedarloo are in transition.

Transition as individuals:

- A) We make transitions every day
- B) We make transitions in our walk with God
- C) We need to remember how we got where we are-some people don't like remembering the past
- D) Scars make us remember

The First Vision of Zechariah (1:9-17)

- A) This is the first of eight visions that Zechariah had in a single night
- B) This was a vision/not a dream
- C) The first vision is about a man at a myrtle tree. It begins with seeing a man on a red horse. Behind him is another red horse, a brown and a white one.
- D) There are similarities with John's vision in Revelation 6

Read Revelation 6

- A) John sees horses of white, red, black and pale. On the pale horse is Death and Hell and the killing of God's people follows.
- B) How long? This question is asked by the angel in Zechariah's Vision (Vs. 12)
- C) God's people were not at peace. They were still being persecuted. Their enemies were at ease, God's people were not (Just like John's Vision)
- D) **Revelation 6:15-17**. This would last until the numbers of martyrs were reached, and then God's judgment would come on the oppressors.
- E) **Zechariah 1:14-17**. God is jealous of His people.
- F) God will deal with the adversaries of His people.

Zechariah's Second Vision: (1: 18-21)

- A) God promises His people that those who scattered Judah would now be scattered

- B) The four horns are thought to be Egypt, Assyria, Babylon and Persia, who all were destroyed.
- C) These nations felt secure in their own power, wealth, and status.

Invitation

Question 1: What are placing your security in?

Question 2: Is it time for a transition for us?