

# Zechariah 2-3

Bible Study

## Review

Zechariah means: The Lord remembers

He is called a prophet **of hope**

Constant references to Christ

Eight visions—first six chapters

The first vision is the key to the rest of the visions:



**God's care for (he remembers) his people (Ch. 1: 7-17)**

Second vision (Ch. 1:18-20)

Four Horns and Four Craftsmen

Meaning: Israel's foes are defeated

## Chapter Two

Verse 1-5

### Third Vision: Measuring Line...

Meaning:

Jerusalem measured for future rebuilding and resettlement

Rebuilding and resettlement:

1. Captives returned from Babylon in Zechariah's day
2. Greater fulfillment when Christ returns

The **third vision** is an amplification of the promise in Chapter 1: 16...  
"My house shall be built" ... "surveyor's line stretched" ... "over Jerusalem"

- Temple was reconstructed and Jerusalem restored in Zechariah's day
- But this is primarily a **Millennial prophecy** concerning future reconstruction and expansion of the city

(Chapter 1: 16) "I am returning"

v. 17 "The Lord...will again choose Jerusalem"

Prophecy of the establishment of Jerusalem on earth as the city of God's dwelling

### Verse 1

“a **man** with a measuring line in his hand”

An angel in human form...(not the Angel of the Lord)—no other statement or added information

### Verse 2

Zechariah asks: “Where are you going?”

Angel answers: “To measure Jerusalem”—to ascertain its dimensions

Jerusalem of Zechariah’s day was measured...but  
In view of **it’s future** restoration (as verse 4-5 will show)

### Verse 3

The **angel** (from v.1 ) --“who talked with me (Zechariah) , going out” ... ..goes to meet another angel to confer with

“ angel who talked with me”—(how we know “the man” of v. 1 is an angel)

### Verse 4

The other angel gives his report:

Jerusalem shall be a “town without walls”-- (no need for defense)

The populace will overflow the cities walls

### Verse 5

“For I”...God will be Jerusalem’s defense  
“wall of fire”—like the pillar of fire in Exodus (Ex. 14: 24)

“I will be the glory”—God’s glory in her midst...definite prophecy of the millennium  
(End of 3<sup>rd</sup> vision)

### Verse 6

Timely warning by Zechariah

“**Flee** from the land of the North”—out of **Babylon**

This has several meanings:

1. Babylon would be subject to invasions in Zechariah’s time...so the Jews need to get out

2. “I have spread you abroad”—Jews who have been dispersed around the nations...should come out of a Babylon—rooted society  
(From Zechariah’s time to today)

3. Spiritual Zion (the Church) to come out of Babylon’s false ideology and values

4. End time warning to escape Babylon’s influence (Rev. 18: 4)

Verse 7

Second warning: “Escape” ...

“Daughter of Babylon”

End time application (Rev. 17: 1-5) (Jer. 51: 6-7)

Verse 8

“Lord of hosts” (The creator of all...comprehensive name for God)

“He sent **Me**” —(Christ)... “to the nations” ...to bring judgment

“which plunder **you**” ---God’s people

Harming God’s people (the apple of his eye)...brings judgment on those nations

Verse 9

“Shaking his hand” (in judgment) over the **nations** who harm his people

A threatening gesture (Isa. 11: 15)

“they shall become spoil for their servants” ---make servants of their former masters

When this happens then they will know that God (Lord of Hosts) has sent the Messiah (Me) to fulfill his purpose

### Verse 10

Christ (the Messiah) will dwell in Jerusalem  
(remember: Zechariah is a prophet of hope)

### Verse 11

There is hope for *the nations* too... “in that day”  
“and **they** shall become My people too” ... “and I will **dwell** in your midst”: (3<sup>rd</sup> time repeated-- v. 5, 10)

➤ Did not happen with his first coming...

“*dwell*” (shekinah)= dwelling presence of the Lord on earth...the **nations** will eventually experience a spiritual restoration and conversion

### Verse 12

However he does not forget his promise to Jerusalem ... “as His inheritance” ... “will again choose Jerusalem”

“Holy Land”—only place in scripture used...and used to refer to the time of the kingdom

### Verse 13

All men to be silent...in anticipation of God’s intervention (for Israel) and judgment (on the nations)

(Repeated from Habakkuk 2: 20)

To bring about the full counsel of his will

## Chapter 3

Fourth vision: Joshua—High Priest

Meaning: **Cleansing** of the priesthood...and a **type** of the entire nation

The previous visions have dealt with the fact that **God remembers his people** and will bless and restore them

But before God can restore and bless them there must be a spiritual transformation (**cleansing**) in his people

This fourth vision concerns the high priest of Zechariah's day, Joshua...as a type of the whole nation

Joshua and Zerubbabel (governor) led the people to a renewed effort to continue building the temple after the preaching of Haggai and Zechariah



### Verse 1

“He” most likely God himself...

- Shows Zechariah the current scene (a court scene)

Joshua the high priest **stands** before the Angel of the Lord (Christ)  
(v.4 Christ removes iniquity)

Satan (means “the accuser”) opposes Joshua...accuses as in a legal setting

- Standing at the right side was a place of accusation (Ps. 109: 6)

In this judicial setting there is one who defends—Christ

And one who opposes--Satan

### Verse 2

The “Lord” calls a rebuke down from the “Lord”—Christ calling a rebuke down from God the father

“Chosen **Jerusalem**”—national identification of who is being accused...not so much Joshua

(Satan always opposes the Church of God)

Verse 2 continued

“brand plucked from a fire”—(burning stick)...which is spared

Amos 4: 11— “I **overthrew** some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, **and** you were like a *firebrand **plucked** from the burning.*” (spared)

Dual prophecy:

1. Judah delivered from Babylonian captivity
2. Remnant saved from the great tribulation (future)

Verse 3

Joshua (**representing Israel**) clothed with filthy garments—symbolism of sins

“was standing” in this filthy condition before the Angel (Christ)

Verse 4

“He” (Angel of the Lord)—(Christ)

“those who stood before him”—God’s representatives

“Take away the filthy garments”...by Christ’s sacrifice

“I have removed your iniquity”—what Christ has done

“clothe you with rich robes”—white clothing (Rev. 3: 18)...righteousness...

➤ Israel’s future glory

### Verse 5

Zechariah, viewing the ceremony, calls for a complete cleansing and clothing of the priesthood: “put a clean turban on his head”

The turban of the high priest had the inscription: “Holiness to the Lord” fastened to it (Ex. 28: 36-38)

Clean garments put on him (Cleansed high priest)--symbolize the restoration of Israel...while the Angel of the Lord witnessed the proceedings

### Verse 6-7

The cleansed high priest needs a **renewed commission**

(v. 6) “Angel of the Lord admonished Joshua”

### Verse 7

God tells Joshua (type of Israel) that **walking in his ways** and **commands** will result in **responsibility** ... (judging/charge) in God’s house and courts

Responsibility in the rebuilt temple of Zechariah’s day

➤ Greater fulfillment in the Kingdom

“places to walk among those who stand here” = angels or the saints who inherit the kingdom

## Verse 8

God's restoration of Joshua and the priesthood... serves as a **sign** (an example) of how God would restore the nation

“wondrous sign”= men of sign  
(Companion Bible) “men to serve as signs [of one greater]”

- Joshua and his companions (fellow priests) to serve as signs of one greater:

“My servant the BRANCH”—the Messiah...Jesus Christ

(Isa. 11: 1-5, 10; Jer. 23:5; 33: 15)

What will the Branch do?

(Zech. 6: 12-14)—build the temple of God...the spiritual one  
(Mat. 16: 18) “I will build my Church”---sets up the next verse

## Verse 9

“the stone”

(Eph. 2:20) Christ is the chief corner stone and foundation stone of the Church  
(Isa. 28: 16) “I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation...”

“That I have **laid** before Joshua” (Joshua represents both physical and **spiritual** Israel)

The ultimate fulfillment of building the temple is Christ (stone)  
(Heb. 12: 2) “The author and finisher of our faith”

“Upon the stone are **seven** eyes”—the stone has help  
(Zechariah 4: 10) “the eyes of the Lord” ..which scan the earth

**Seven** eyes can represent full or complete vision

(Rev. 1: 12-16)

v.12 **seven** golden lamp stands    v. 16 **seven** stars

v. 20 (interpretation): **seven** stars—angels of the seven Churches

**Seven** lamp stands— the seven Churches...God’s watchful eyes

(Eph. 2: 19-21)

As the Church is the Body of Christ, the lamps of his body would be his eyes

➤ A vision of the Church

“I will engrave it inscription” —possible meanings:

1. Christ’s sacrificial offering
2. (Heb. 1:2) Christ is “express image” of the father (Gr. Word karakter= engraving)
3. (Rev. 2: 17) “white stone” – “a new name” ...to believers who overcome

“I will remove iniquity” ...Christ will

At his first coming...died for our sins

At his second coming he will “**remove iniquity**”

“One day” —Atonement...when Satan bound and iniquity is removed

Verse 10 (gives us the time frame)

“In that day”

--beginning of the millennium

Repetition of Micah 4:4—time peace and prosperity

Summary 4<sup>th</sup> vision: Cleansing of the priesthood— **removing iniquity**

➤ From the people (by Christ)

➤ Future: when Christ removes Satan