

Zechariah 9

Scriptures:

Notes:

Chapter 9 begins a new section. The last six chapters are divided into two basic divisions: Burden #1 – chapters 9 to 11 and Burden #2 – chapters 12-14. Burden #1 is focused primarily on the First Coming of the Messiah and Burden #2 is generally about the Second Coming. Though this is not an absolute division.

Chapters 1 to 8 made some references to future events. From Zechariah's time, all of chapters 9 to 14 are eschatological, pointing to the future. For us, some of it is history – First Coming, and some is future still – Second Coming.

Title ideas:
The Glory of God's Plan for the Future!

Zechariah 9:1-17 – The Glory of God's Plan for the Future!

Scriptures:
Isaiah 17:1 -
The burden against
Damascus.
"Behold, Damascus will
cease from being a city,
And it will be a ruinous
heap.

Amos 1:3-5 -
Thus says the LORD:
"For three transgressions
of Damascus, and for four,
I will not turn away its
punishment,
Because they have
threshed Gilead with
implements of iron.
4 But I will send a fire
into the house of Hazael,
Which shall devour the
palaces of Ben-Hadad.
5 I will also break the
gate bar of Damascus,
And cut off the
inhabitant from the Valley
of Aven,
And the one who holds
the scepter from Beth
Eden.
The people of Syria shall
go captive to Kir,"
Says the LORD.

¹ The burden of the word of the LORD—against

H4853 – oracle,
utterance (often
of doom)

Notes:
'burden' – "In prophecy, however, a
'burden' is a declaration of judgment
involving a catastrophic event that is
to come." (Kaiser, 1992) page 381

'Damascus' is in Syria, north of
Israel. In the future it will be
destroyed (Isa. 17:1). Amos also
speaks about its destruction (Amos
1:3-5).

In his attempt to conquer world in
333 B.C., Alexander the great swept
through these areas on his way to
Egypt. Passing through Israel he
refused to destroy Jerusalem.

'eyes of men...on the Lord...' might
refer to the awe people will feel
when they see God's judgment on
these powerful cities.

the land of Hadrach, and Damascus its

resting place (for the eyes of men and all the

H4496 -

tribes of Israel are on the LORD);

Scriptures:

² Also *against* Hamath, *which* borders on it, and

Notes:

against Tyre and Sidon, though

^{T & S}
they are very wise.

H2449 -

Scriptures:

³ For Tyre built herself a tower, heaped up silver

Notes:
Alexander the Great conquered Tyre
and destroyed it.

like the dust, and gold like the mire of the streets.

Scriptures:

⁴ Behold, the LORD will cast her out; He will

destroy her power in the sea, and she will be

devoured by fire.

Notes:

It is possible God is casting these nations out to give their land to Israel. The Jews never occupied all the land that God promised them. This is a promise of an expanding territory.

They withstood a five-year siege by the Assyrians and a 13-year siege by the Babylonians. Alexander the Great finally conquered it by building a half mile long causeway from the mainland to the island fortress.

Scriptures:

⁵ Ashkelon shall see it and fear; Gaza also shall be

Notes:

Four out of the five main Philistine cities are mentioned. Gath may have ceased to be significant.

very sorrowful; and Ekron, for He dried up her

expectation. The king shall perish from Gaza, and

H4007 -

Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

Scriptures:

Ezekiel 25:15-17 - 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because the Philistines dealt vengefully and took vengeance with a spiteful heart, to destroy because of the old hatred," 16 therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "I will stretch out My hand against the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethites and destroy the remnant of the seacoast. 17 I will execute great vengeance on them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I lay My vengeance upon them."'

⁶ "A mixed race shall settle in Ashdod, and I will

H4464 - mongrel

Notes:

'mixed race' – literally – an illegitimate one. This was common of most people in Palestine after the exile.

The Philistines had been enemies of Israel since they entered the Promised Land. God wouldn't let them get away with the they had treated Israel (Ezek. 25:15-17).

cut off the pride of the Philistines.

Scriptures:

7[△] I will take away the blood from his mouth, and

Notes:
'blood...abominations' refers to the idolatrous practices of the Philistines.

the abominations from between his teeth. But he

'Jebusites' – the inhabitants of Jerusalem before David conquered it. They were not destroyed but ended up being absorbed into the people of Israel. This suggests the same thing would happen to the Philistines. May not be until the Second Coming.

H8251 –
disgusting, filthy,
detestable,

who remains, even he *shall be* for our God[△], and

shall be like a leader in Judah, and Ekron like a

Jebusite.

Scriptures:
Psalm 34:7 - The angel of
the LORD encamps all
around those who fear
Him,
And delivers them.

8 I will camp around My house because of the

army, because of him who passes by and him

who returns. No more shall an oppressor pass

H5065 - tyrant

through them, for now I have seen with My eyes.

Notes:

'I will camp around' – God will protect them from their enemies (Psa. 34:7). God will deliver His people. He expects them to believe Him and place their trust in Him.

As Alexander the Great was making his way through Palestine he planned to take Jerusalem also. Josephus, the history relates a story of how God spoke to Alexander in a vision while he was still in Macedonia encouraging Alexander to go forth and conquer with God's promise of success. As he approached Jerusalem, the high priest, dressed in his priestly garments came out to meet him after being told to do so in a vision. When Alexander saw him, he prostrated himself on the ground because the high priest was wearing the same garments as the man in his vision. Alexander left Jerusalem untouched and continued his conquests elsewhere.

Alexander's conquests were a partial fulfillment of these prophecies. They will ultimately be filled when Christ returns.

This is a foreshadowing of God's ultimate protection of the city of Jerusalem and her people.

Scriptures:
Zechariah 2:10 - "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," says the LORD.

Isaiah 9:6-7 -
For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the increase of His government and peace
There will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,
To order it and establish it with judgment and justice
From that time forward, even forever.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Zechariah 3:8 -
Hear, O Joshua, the high priest,
You and your companions who sit before you,
For they are a wondrous sign;
For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.

Zechariah 6:12-13 -
Then speak to him, saying,
"Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying:

"Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH!
From His place He shall branch out,
And He shall build the temple of the LORD;
13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD.
He shall bear the glory,
And shall sit and rule on His throne;
So He shall be a priest on His throne,
And the counsel of peace shall be between them both."

Isaiah 53:4-6 - Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten by God, and afflicted.
5 But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,

9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O

daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is

coming to you; He is just and having salvation,

lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a

donkey.

H6041 - humble

And by His stripes we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
We have turned, every one, to his own way;
And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Micah 5:1a - And this One shall be peace.

Revelation 19:11-16 -
Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse.
And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.
12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns.

He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.
14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

Genesis 49:10-11a - The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
Nor a lawgiver from between his feet,
Until Shiloh comes;

And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.
11 Binding his donkey to the vine,
And his donkey's colt to the choice vine,

H6662 - righteous, lawful

H3467 -

Notes:
'Rejoice greatly...' - Zechariah had told them this same thing previously (Zech. 2:10). The very thought of being in the presence of God should fill God's people with great joy.

'your King' - the Messiah, the Savior. This is what the Jews have been waiting for (Isa. 9:6-7). Earlier, Zechariah referred to the Messiah as God's servant, the BRANCH (Zech. 3:8). And then he referred to the Messiah as a priest (Zech. 6:12-13).

All four of the gospels refer to this verse and connect it to Jesus at the Triumphal Entry. Matthew and John quote them.

'daughter' = people of Zion/Jerusalem.

'He is just...' - The Messiah is right. It also means to be in the right and to be in a right standing with God. The character of the Messiah is that He will be righteous.

'...having salvation...' - In the passive form. Suggests that He has been victorious. Coming as a Deliverer.

'...lowly...' - One who has experienced humility, affliction, or the trial of one being stricken (Isa. 53:4-6). The Messiah was afflicted on our behalf through the crucifixion.

'...riding on a donkey...' - At that time in history the donkey was not only regarded as a beast of burden. It was the preferred animal to be ridden by princes and royalty in times of peace. The horse was associated with chariots and war. The Messiah coming on a donkey suggests that His mission was one of peace, not war (Mic. 5:1a).

If we compare that to the Second Coming, the Christ comes on a white horse (Rev. 19:11-16).

'...donkey...colt...' reminds us of Jacob's prophecy over the descendants of Judah, through whom the Messiah would come (Gen. 49:10-11).

Scriptures:
Isaiah 31:1 -

Woe to those who go
down to Egypt for help,
And rely on horses,
Who trust in chariots
because they are many,
And in horsemen
because they are very
strong,

But who do not look to
the Holy One of Israel,
Nor seek the LORD!

Psalms 46:9 - He makes
wars cease to the end of
the earth;

He breaks the bow and
cuts the spear in two;
He burns the chariot in
the fire.

Micah 4:3 - He shall judge
between many peoples,
And rebuke strong
nations afar off;

They shall beat their
swords into plowshares,
And their spears into
pruning hooks;

Nation shall not lift up
sword against nation,
Neither shall they learn
war anymore.

10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the

H3772 - destroy,
consume

horse from Jerusalem; the battle bow shall be cut

off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His

H1696 -

H7965 - 'shalom'

dominion *shall be* 'from sea to sea, and from the

H4915 - dominion
n. — dominance,
power, or
sovereignty
through legal
authority.

River to the ends of the earth.'

H657 -

Notes:

Verse 9 refers to the first coming of Christ while verse 10 points to the Second Coming and the Millennium.

Chariots were symbols of power. God warned them not to put their trust in these kinds of things rather than Him (Isa. 31:1).

The Messiah would bring peace to the world and tools of war would no longer be needed (Psa. 46:9; Mic. 4:3).

'dominion...ends of the earth' - The Messiah will reign over the entire earth. Millennial Kingdom.

Referring to Ephraim and Jerusalem points to the reunification of the nation of Israel.

With a ruler who is 'just' nations will not need to wage war to settle disputes.

Scriptures:

Isaiah 42:6-7 - I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness,
 And will hold Your hand;
 I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people,
 As a light to the Gentiles,
 To open blind eyes,
 To bring out prisoners from the prison,
 Those who sit in darkness from the prison house.

Mark 14:24 - And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many."

11 "As for you also, because of the blood of your

covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the

H1285 -

waterless pit.

Notes:

The Messiah has come to set us free (Isa. 42:6-7).

'blood of your covenant...' refers to the blood of the sacrificial animals. This covenant resulted in God committing to freeing God's people from the bondage they were in. Jesus used similar words during the last supper (Mark 14:24). In that verse Jesus was referring to His own shed blood so that any who believe would be freed from the bondage and penalty of sin.

'your prisoners' probably refers to the regathering of the Jews in the end-times.

'waterless pit' probably refers to cisterns that might be used during the summer as jail cells. Both Joshua and Jeremiah were thrown into pits.

Scriptures:

Isaiah 61:7 - Instead of your shame you shall have double honor,
 And instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion.
 Therefore in their land they shall possess double;
 Everlasting joy shall be theirs.

12 Return to the stronghold, you prisoners of

hope. Even today I declare that I will restore

H8615 -

H7725 -

double to you.

H4932 -

Notes:

'prisoners of hope' - Though they were still prisoners they had the promise of God's deliverance.

'restore double' - The future of God's people include a double restoration of what they have lost (Isa. 61:7). Probably referring to the blessing of the Millennium.

Scriptures:

13 For I have bent Judah, My bow, fitted the bow

Notes:

with Ephraim, and raised up your sons, O Zion,

against your sons, O Greece, and made you like

the sword of a mighty man.”

Scriptures:

Psalm 18:14 - He sent out
His arrows and scattered
the foe,

Lightnings in abundance,
and He vanquished them.

14 Then the LORD will be seen over them, and His

Notes:

'arrows will go...' - to scatter God's
enemies (Psa. 18:14).

arrow will go forth like lightning. The Lord GOD

will blow the trumpet, and go with whirlwinds

from the south.

Scriptures:

Zechariah 12:8-9 - In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. 9 It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

15 The LORD of hosts will defend them; they shall

Notes:

God's people can trust in God to defend them (Zech. 12:8-9).

This speaks of a great celebration.

devour and subdue with slingstones. They shall

drink *and* roar as if with wine; they shall be filled

with blood like basins, like the corners of the

altar.

Scriptures:

Jeremiah 31:10-11 -

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,

And declare it in the isles afar off, and say,

'He who scattered Israel will gather him,

And keep him as a shepherd does his flock.'

11 For the LORD has redeemed Jacob,

And ransomed him from the hand of one stronger than he.

Malachi 3:17 -

"They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts,

"On the day that I make them My jewels.

And I will spare them

As a man spares his own son who serves him."

16 The LORD their God will save them in that day,

H3467 -

Notes:

God cares for the His people like a shepherd cares for His flock (Jer. 31:10-11).

God's people are precious to Him (Mal. 3:17).

as the flock of His people. For they *shall be like*

the jewels of a crown, lifted like a banner over

His land—

Scriptures:

17 For how great is its <sup>L
HIS
LAND</sup> goodness and how great its ^L

H2898 –
loveliness,

Notes:
This is pointing to a time of great prosperity. After the Messiah returns, all the captives will be freed, all the enemies will be vanquished, and celebration and prosperity will be the state of the world.

beauty! Grain shall make the young men thrive,

H3308 -

H5107 – to cause
to flourish

and new wine the young women [♀].

[Top of Chapter](#)