



Logos Class

Book of *Zechariah* *Introduction & Ch 1 A*

Class for Jan 11, 2026

Rooms 123/124 Adult Ed Building

Before we begin

- *I hope you each had a wonderful Joyous Christmas time*
- *We came to the Christmas Eve service with some of our Family*
- *I know this time of year is hard for many people. We think about those past Christmases, and the Ones who are not with us any longer*
 - *I would encourage you to focus on great memories, and the certainty that we will join them again at the **Last Noël***
 - ***Make positive memories today for our children and grandchildren to reflect back on in the future***
 - ***Be an encourager despite conditions, relationship issues, and personal hurt***
- ***Christmas is a time of renewed Hope and confirmation that we are in the time that Christ intended for us at this time.***
- ***Make the most of it***

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Dec 14, 2025 – Christmas Story 2025 - Pt 1 – A New Day Dawns*
- ✓ *Dec 21, 2025 – Christmas Story 2025 - Pt 2 – The Redeemer Comes*
- ✓ *Dec 28, 2024 – Christmas Story Summary & Deeper Study III*
- ✓ *Jan 4, 2026 – Carroll Springer*
- ✓ *Jan 11, 2026 – Book of Zechariah – Intro & Ch 1A*
- *Jan 18, 2026 – Book of Zechariah – Ch 1B and 2A*

In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)

Many things are happening in the world, some of which are very visible, and some are hidden beneath the surface. I will talk about a few of them as they appear important from a Biblical standpoint

Middle East – Israel is facing lawlessness in its Arab areas, Iran is being rocked by the people against the regime, Hamas/Hezbollah are still around and being dealt with. Turkey is trying to become a player

I believe Israel will attack Iran in the not-too-distant future because of their war capability, and belligerence. The US may join in because of the murder of freedom-seekers and government protestors. Too soon to know

US – Domestic violence in Minneapolis, Oregon, Washington State, and Illinois is increasing against ICE and CBP. A time of chaos is coming, all planned to change the mid-term election cycle. Don't be surprised at it.

Antisemitism and hate for Israel and the Jews are dramatically increasing and infiltrating some conservative organizations and thought leaders. The wall of support for Israel is fracturing

Venezuela situation- Not sure where this is going ultimately, but it seems like a very strategic move to blunt the drug issues, and the threat of China, Iran, Russia, and terrorists to gain a foothold in the Americas. Some celebrate; others decry it.

World – There seems to be a divide happening between freedom movements and more authoritarian movements, and the abandonment of basic Western beliefs and the acceptance of Sharia Law and policies.

Prophetic Implications – Chaos is becoming normal across the Globe. There is a backing away from support of Israel, even in the US. Israel has recognized this trend and is addressing it by creating industries in Israel for their basic needs. They understand they will be on their own in the future. All of this is discussed in the future, before the Tribulation period.

It is even more important for Christians to stand firm, resist the decay of society, and speak up for Biblical values and the Biblical World View

Let's have a short prayer asking God for Guidance, direction, and courage for us, our leaders, our government, and our church

Special Treat for us...

- His Eye is on the Sparrow

➤ And I know He watches me. **Play** 

- *Oh, What Love* **Play** 

Today's agenda

New lesson series today – Book of Zechariah (not the Zech in Luke Ch 1) but the OT prophet

Why did I choose this Study? *Probably several reasons, but:*

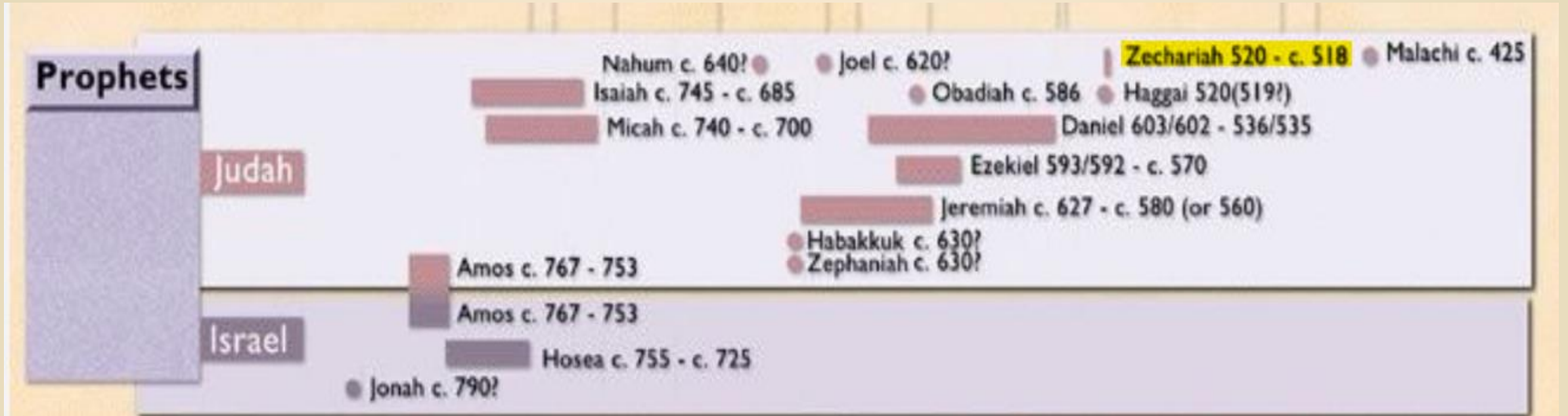
- The deeper meaning in this book fits our situation today in the world*
- It is the last of the Apocalyptic books of prophecy for us to study – Daniel, Zechariah, Ezekiel, and Revelation*
- After this, we will spend some time in the New Testament*

Q: *What do we need to understand about this book before we dive into the scripture?*

Facts about Zechariah (Logos fact book)

- Zechariah stands out as a significant **postexilic** prophet whose ministry centered on encouraging the Jewish community during their return from Babylonian exile. His name means “**Yahweh has remembered,**” a fitting description given his prophetic focus on God’s faithfulness to the returning exiles.
- Zechariah held the **dual role of priest and prophet**, and genealogical records identify him as the son of Berekiah, and grandson of Iddo, though some biblical sources list him as the son of Iddo, since “son” can mean “descendant.” **He was among the first wave of approximately fifty thousand Jewish exiles who returned from Babylon to Jerusalem.**
- Zechariah served as a contemporary of the prophet Haggai, the governor Zerubbabel, and the high priest Joshua. Together with Haggai, he motivated the postexilic community to complete the temple’s reconstruction, which had stalled due to local opposition. His ministry began in October or November 520 BC, and by February 519 BC, **he had received and recorded eight significant visions.**
- Zechariah called the returned exiles toward repentance and spiritual renewal during a period when they faced despair, spiritual indifference, and temptation to repeat their ancestors’ sins. Though his recorded prophecies span approximately two years, he likely continued ministering among the people through the temple’s completion, even if no additional prophecies were documented from that period. The dated portions of his prophecy relate to the temple’s rebuilding, completed in 515 BC, while undated sections like chapters 9–14 may have been composed later.

Zechariah – A timeline



- You can see the cluster of God's Prophets that came after the return to Jerusalem and before. Many of the messages were targeted to Judah (SK), and earlier to Israel (NK)
- You can also see where Malachi, the last prophet to speak before the 400+ years of silence was in the timeline
- God always sent one of more prophets in advance of judgment to warn the Jews and call them to return to Him

How does Zechariah point to the Messiah?

Zechariah contains more messianic prophecy than any Old Testament book except Isaiah, and these predictions operate on multiple levels to reveal Jesus's identity and mission.

*The most direct connections involve **specific events in Jesus's life.***

- *Zechariah 9:9 depicts a humble king arriving on a donkey's colt, a portrait fulfilled when Jesus rode into Jerusalem before his crucifixion.*
- *Beyond this triumphal entry, the prophet foretold betrayal for thirty pieces of silver, piercing by a spear,*
- *and the scattering of the shepherd's flock—all realized in Jesus's passion narrative.*

*Yet Zechariah's witness **extends beyond biographical detail to theological significance.***

- *The prophet envisioned a Messiah functioning simultaneously as a warrior defeating God's enemies and as a shepherd struck on behalf of his people—roles that pointed to Jesus Christ as both Savior and Judge.*
- *This dual portrait resolved a conflict in Jewish expectation by showing how the coming king would embody both redemptive suffering and ultimate conquest.*

Merging of God and Messiah

- *In Zechariah, God and the Messiah remain distinct; in the New Testament, they become unified in Jesus Christ.*
- *This “Word became flesh” allowed New Testament writers to apply passages originally describing God—such as Israel valuing him at thirty pieces of silver—directly to Jesus.*
- *The incarnation transforms how we read Zechariah: **what the prophet presented as God’s future actions becomes Jesus’s present accomplishment. We see fulfillment directly in these verses***
- *Zechariah also anticipated a **multi-ethnic worship gathering** where people from **all nations** would praise Israel’s God, foreshadowing the universal scope of Christ’s redemptive work. **A serious departure for Israel’s ideas***
- *The New Testament writers consistently return to Zechariah as a resource for understanding Christ’s significance, with **eleven direct quotations and many allusions scattered throughout the Gospels and Revelation.***

What is the Book of Zechariah about?

- *The book of Zechariah **centers on resilient hope** as God's people work to reestablish their identity following exile. The book is divided into **two distinct sections** that address different historical moments and concerns. The book exhibits characteristics of **apocalyptic literature**, including **end-time visions, symbolic language, and angelic interpreters**, making it a complex yet theologically rich text that bridges the exile period with future hope. Some of it we will understand, and some will still be murky and left to a later time to be understood.*
- *The first eight chapters present a series of visions and speeches delivered over roughly two-and-a-half years. Like the prophet Haggai, Zechariah emphasizes temple reconstruction as essential to **inaugurating a new era of blessing**, though Zechariah situates this immediate concern within God's broader historical narrative of grace and judgment. These night visions employ symbolic imagery and object lessons to encourage the people toward temple completion and to validate their leadership. (Faith-Obedience->Blessing)*
- *The final six chapters lack the "vision" accounts of the earlier section and consist of prophetic speeches from multiple authors, focusing on end-times themes and **reflecting growing disillusionment within the faith community**. These chapters blend messianic traditions from earlier scriptures, depicting both a divine warrior advocating for God's people and a humble king whose peaceful dominion extends to the earth's ends.*
- *The book's significance extends well beyond its original context. Zechariah is particularly important for Christians because of its extensive use in the New Testament—the later chapters appear frequently in Gospel passion narratives. The book has influenced Revelation more than any other Old Testament work besides Ezekiel.*

The book of Zechariah centers on resilient hope as God's people work to reestablish their identity following exile. For us, it guides us as we navigate the discouraging time we live in, and assures us that blessings are coming if we are faithful to the task He has called us to do

Zechariah 1:1-2. A Call to Return to the Lord

1 In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo, saying, ² “The Lord was very angry with your fathers.”

- *As I mentioned in the Introduction, these specifics of the prophecy date this book as being written as the Jews who were in captivity in Babylon, came back to rebuild the city and the Temple, which had been destroyed. Perhaps you remember that it was given in Jeremiah that the exile would last 70 years, and the Prophet Daniel, who was in Babylon in Exile, prepared the people to return to Jerusalem. Daniel prayed epoch prayers asking for forgiveness for His People.*
- *Iddo was one of the returning priests, and therefore Zechariah’s writing is easily dated.*
- *Of course, the Lord exiled the Jews to Babylon for their failures to follow Him, and their inclinations to pursue Pagan Gods and practices. This is why God was “very angry with your fathers.”*

Zechariah 1:3-4 Return to Me

³ Therefore, say to them, “Thus declares the Lord of hosts: Return to me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.”

⁴ Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets cried out, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.’ But they did not hear or pay attention to me, declares the Lord.

*The fact that the term “**Lord of Hosts**” is used 3 times in verse 3, gives us some special insight.*

*“The LORD of hosts” refers to God as the **leader of heavenly armies**, emphasizing **His power and authority over all creation**.*

This title highlights His ability to command both spiritual and physical forces, symbolizing His role as a protector and warrior for His people.

Zechariah 1:4 Did not Hear or Pay Attention to me

- *What an indictment of the Jews. Interestingly, while we can criticize them, it is a common lot for men and women to “**not hear or pay attention to me.**”*
- *Sadly, each of us can probably name a few people we know, and most likely family, who ignore God, and do not hear Him when He talks to them or **have tuned him out as a low /no priority.***

Zechariah speaks to them for God and tells them what he tells us...

”Return to me, and I will return to you.”

Zechariah Ch 1:5-6 Where are your Fathers who did not follow me?

⁵ Your fathers, **where are they?** And the prophets, **do they live forever?**

⁶ **But** my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, **did they not overtake your fathers?** So, **they repented** and said, ‘**As the Lord of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us.**’”

You can run, but you can't hide from me.

- God shows His mercy, patience, and grace by giving the Jews another chance to return to Him. He makes sure Zechariah reminds them of their father's failures, stubbornness, and refusal to change. They all died in exile, **but finally they repented**, and **God relented and provided another chance**. Notice that this new chance requires them to return to the Lord again, and He would return to them.

God's message to them and us is consistent and always shows His love to pull us back to Him.

Zechariah Ch 1:7-8. A Vision of a Horseman (Vision 1)

⁷ *On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, **the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, son of Iddo, saying,***

⁸ *“I saw in the **night**, and behold, a man riding on a red horse! He was standing among the **myrtle trees** in the **glen**, and behind him were red, sorrel, and white horses.*

Zechariah records his first vision. He is talked to by an Angel and shown in the dark, a man riding a red horse, with other specific horses behind him in the Myrtle Trees.

Man in the Myrtle Trees



- *What is a Myrtle Tree, and why was it called out specifically?*
- *An evergreen shrub native to the eastern Mediterranean. It reaches 6-10 ft in height, bears glossy evergreen leaves rich in aromatic oils, and produces white star-shaped flowers followed by purplish berries. Its hardiness in rocky ravines and ability to flourish after pruning made it an apt emblem of survival and renewal.*

Myrtle Trees – What do they mean here?

Old Testament Usage and Symbolism

- *1. Restoration and blessing: “Instead of the brier, the myrtle will grow” ([Isaiah 55:13](#)).*
- *2. Divine planting: “I will plant ... the myrtle in the wasteland” ([Isaiah 41:19](#)).*
- *3. Bridal fragrance and joy: Song of Songs rabbinic glosses link myrtle scent with covenantal love.*

*Because it is evergreen, aromatic, and used in festive worship, myrtle became a **picture of settled peace and covenant prosperity**.*

*So, before we talk about what comes next, understand that the Myrtle trees were also a symbol of **God’s renewal, survival, and blessing***

If you don’t take the time to understand the symbols of Apocalyptic writings, you will miss the deeper points of the intent

Zechariah Ch 1:9-12 The Angel Explains...

⁹ Then I said, **‘What are these, my lord?’** The angel who talked with me said to me, **‘I will show you what they are.’**

¹⁰ So, **the man who was standing** among the myrtle trees answered, **‘These are they whom the Lord has sent to patrol the earth.’** (patrol=search to and fro)

¹¹ And **they answered the angel of the Lord** who was standing among the myrtle trees, and said, **‘We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the earth remains at rest.’**

¹² Then the angel of the Lord said, **‘O Lord of hosts, how long will you have no mercy on Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, against which you have been angry these seventy years?’**

Zech Ch 1:9-12

A Deeper Look

Remember, a vision is something that you see in your mind as God plays out what we might call a video in our mind of what He wants to know.

Picture this, Zechariah is taken to a valley outside Jerusalem in the dark and he sees

- ***a stand of myrtle trees**, symbolizing the Lord's renewal of the Land and blessing for the people, and*
- ***sees a rider on a red horse**, other horses (with riders), and a man standing in the trees, and an angel guide that is leading him and explaining it all to him,*
- ***Zechariah does not understand** and asks the angel to tell him the meaning of it all. The angel lets the man standing in the trees explain that the Lord has sent them **all** throughout the earth to patrol and report back what they see.*
- *What they see is that all the earth (read that all the other nations, not Jewish, but pagan) is at rest. This word "rest" here can also be read "at ease" or taking it easy, undisturbed. **Is this good or bad?***

Zechariah Ch 1:13-15 The Lord Answers

¹³ And the Lord answered **gracious and comforting words to the angel** who talked with me.

¹⁴ So, the angel who talked with me said to me, **‘Cry out, Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion.**

¹⁵ **And I am exceedingly angry with the nations that are at ease; for while I was angry but a little, they furthered the disaster.**

- The Lord answers the angel’s question with both gracious and comforting words. Then the angel turned to Zechariah and told **him** to **“Cry Out to the People that the Lord is very jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion.”** This expresses the deep love that the Lord has for his people, the city of Jerusalem, and for Israel (Zion). A fierce protective spirit FOR them. **Another translation is “Zealous”.**
- Then, the Lord says he was angry with the nations at first **“a little”** but now is furious with them because they do not care about Him, His city in ruins, or the land of Israel and the people who have just returned. The Nations are perfectly comfortable and unconcerned...and God is exceedingly angry with them.

So, what is He going to do??

Zechariah Ch 1:16-17 Therefore, God will..

16 Therefore, thus says the Lord, I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy; my house shall be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem.

17 Cry out again, Thus says the Lord of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.”

- *The Lord will return to His people and His Holy City with **mercy** and declares that HIS House **SHALL** be built in it, and the size will “stretch out” over Jerusalem (City of David) versus the present city limits.*
- *He also declares that they **SHALL** AGAIN overflow with prosperity, comfort Israel, and “**choose Jerusalem** “ as His Holy City.*
- *The Myrtle trees gave the sense that God would return and restore His People and City to prosperity and enlarge their territory. **And He did.***

My Prayer for each of us...

That God and His Spirit will comfort and guide us through the period to come, whatever happens

- *He will increase a hunger in us to study and reflect on the Word of God, and that*
- *the Spirit will embolden us not to fly alone, but in a group to lessen the load, and increase our effectiveness*
- *He will increase our wisdom, power, and provision in a new way that moves us to where He wants us to be.*
- *Finally, that God would open our eyes and hearts to the wonders of His Word and transform our lives so we can be used in a wonderful, powerful, miraculous way for the sake of the Kingdom.*

We are part of God's intentional Story, and we need to get involved to make His Word and Will ...come to pass as long as we are here on the Earth.