

GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME FOUR
AN INVITATION TO RETURN—A SURVEY OF HOSEA—MALACHI
ZECHARIAH: MAN OF VISION AND FAITH
A SURVEY OF ZECHARIAH



The Heart of the Matter

As one of the largest books of the Minor Prophets, Zechariah sets forth an encouraging word of assurance to a demoralized people. The prophet Haggai had led the way in rebuilding the temple . . . but the people lost focus during the process. Crop failures caused financial distress at home, and the work grew tedious at the construction site. The prophet Zechariah rolled up his sleeves and plunged with reckless abandon into the work of helping his great friend, Haggai. But Zechariah's style was very different. Rather than rebuking the workmen, he relied on words of inspiration and positive encouragement to motivate the people. The book of Zechariah is a refreshing change from the reproving style of other prophets. Both styles are needed, however, to get a job done.



Discovering the Way

1. Contrastive Styles of Motivation

Leaders come in two basic molds—especially when it comes to motivation: “extrinsic” types, who are like drill sergeants, and “intrinsic” types, who are like shepherds, gently and quietly inspiring.

2. Analysis of Zechariah

Zechariah was a friend of Haggai and ministered during the difficult days of rebuilding the temple. Zechariah's book, unlike Haggai's, is filled with gentle inspiration and prophecies of the coming Lamb of God.



Starting Your Journey

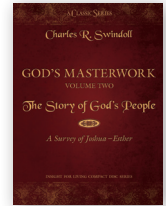
Three enduring lessons from Zechariah's life are revealed in his book. First, motivation can result from being *inspired* just as much from being rebuked . . . sometimes more. So, use inspiration! Second, to accomplish something God's way for God's glory, God's Spirit *must* be in control. Let Him be! Third, God's ultimate plan *cannot* be frustrated. Lean hard on it!



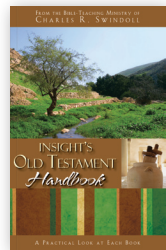
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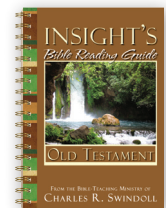
Tools for Digging Deeper



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ZECHARIAH

	Call to Repentance <i>CHAPTER 1:1–6</i>	Encouragement and Motivation Visions <u>Horses and riders</u> <u>Horns and craftsmen</u> <u>Surveyor and measuring line</u> <u>Joshua (the priest) and Satan</u> <u>Lampstand and seven lights</u> <u>Flying scroll and warning</u> <u>Woman and a basket</u> <u>Chariots and judgment</u> <i>CHAPTERS 1:7–6:15</i>	Questions <u>Fasting</u> <u>Failure</u> <u>Future of Zion</u> <i>CHAPTERS 7–8</i>	Encouragement and Hope Predictions First “Oracle”: Rejection of Messiah Preservation of Israel Deception of false prophets Second “Oracle”: Israel’s final victory Messiah’s final victory <i>CHAPTERS 9–14</i>
Time	Written during the building of the temple		Written after completion of the temple	
Purpose	To motivate those working on the temple to continue in spite of their own crop failures and financial distress. Rather than rebuking or condemning, Zechariah inspired the people to work.		To give the workers hope that there was a better day, a far more glorious day yet to come. Vivid scenes of Messiah are included. He is revealed as coming, rejected, returning, and conquering.	
Theme	Build the temple; build your future			
Key Verses	4:6; 8:3; 9:9–10			
Christ in Zechariah	Zechariah is second only to Isaiah in its number of messianic passages. Among Zechariah’s explicit references to Christ are the angel of the Lord (3:1–2); the righteous Branch (3:8; 6:12–13); the King-Priest (6:13); the cornerstone, tent peg, and bow of battle (10:4); the good shepherd who is sold for thirty pieces of silver (11:4–13); the pierced One (12:10); and the coming Judge and righteous King (14).			

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