

# BIBLICAL TRAINING CENTER

## STARTING POINTS →

Bible Study Methods

Walking through the Word

## BUILDING FOUNDATIONS →

Discipleship Foundations

New Man in Christ

Supremacy of Grace

Ephesians

Romans

Intro to Biblical Leadership

John

Theology for Life I

Theology for Life II

## DIGGING DEEPER →

Training

Invitational Classes

Deeper Studies

*Digging Deeper*

# Zechariah

**1 Plan, 8 Visions, 2 Oracles**

*Finding Hope & Direction in a Broken World*

Tim Oakleaf and Bo Spires  
Summer 2026

# Today's Agenda

Housekeeping  
Class Schedule  
Study Resources  
Today's Lesson

# Housekeeping

**Bathrooms**

**Exit Plan**

**Name Plates**

**Expectations**

**Handouts**

# Proposed Class Schedule

[Handout]

Today: 5/31 C1:1-6

6/7 C17-21, C2

6/14 C3, C4 \*Note the Change\*

6/21 C5, C6:1-8

6/28 C6:6-15, C7

7/5 C8

7/12 C9

7/19 C10

7/26 C11

8/2 C12

8/9 C13

8/16 C14

8/23 Fellowship Breakfast, Evals, Q+A

# Resources

[Same Handout]

1. **New American Standard Bible, The Cambridge Study Edition.**
2. **The Blue Letter Bible app.**
3. **Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament.**
4. **Notes on Zechariah, Dr. Thomas L. Constable, Sonic Light website.**
5. **The Bible Knowledge Commentary, Old Testament.**
6. **Bible Project YouTube channel**

# Today's Lesson Plan C1:1-6

## Intro to Zechariah

The Biblical Context

The Historical Context

The Biographical Context

The Spiritual Context

The Relational Context

Special Guest Speaker

*Zechariah!*

# Introduction to Lesson 1

**George L. Robinson: “the most Messianic, the most truly apocalyptic and eschatological, of all the writings of the OT.” (ISBE, p. 3136)**

**“Zechariah had more to say on the person, work, and future glory of Christ, all couched in symbolic and figurative language, than all the other minor prophets combined.” Unger’s Commentary on the Old Testament Vol. 2, by Merrill F. Unger, Moody Press, 1981, p.1957**

# This is going to be AWESOME!

- A summation of the person, work, and future glory of Christ.
- Some like to call it the OT Book of Revelation.
- Handout *Character of God Word Search.*
- *Purpose, Theme, & Key Verse?*
  - First hint: If the OT seems like a cyclical beat down, then Zechariah reveals their one true Hope!
- *Anyone not have the Class Schedule and Lesson 1 Class Notes w/Cross References?*



# The Biblical Context

1. “The Big Picture” = The Meta-Narrative
2. Their Relationship Cycle as a response to freedom from slavery in Egypt... *Say what?*
3. *How do we break this Relationship Cycle?*

1. From the Walking Through the Word class: What can you tell me about the Relationship Cycle between God and His chosen people in the OT?
2. Rebellion-Retribution-Repentance-Restoration. *Who me?*
3. *We don't! God does! By giving us new hearts!*

“**Mankind** fails; **God** prevails” from Caleb Pearson

# The Biblical Context

1. Zechariah tells His-Story
  2. *In the NT?*
  3. *In the Gospel Passion Narratives?*
  4. *In the Book of Revelation?*
1. “The Word of the LORD” is a technical term for a prophetic revelation from God.
  2. Quoted or alluded to about 41 times.
  3. Cited C9-14 more frequently than any other portion of the OT!
  4. Refers to Zechariah more than any OT book other than Ezekiel.

# Verse 1: The Historical Context

- 8<sup>th</sup> month, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, King Darius of the M\_\_\_\_\_ & P\_\_\_\_\_ (~520 BC, Oct-Nov)
- “Times of the G\_\_\_\_\_” **What’s that?**
- From Nebuchadnezzar until C\_\_\_\_\_ 1,000-year reign  
(The Millennium)



# The Historical Context

- The Biblical Chronology Handout
  - 931 BC - Israel divides into two kingdoms
  - 722 BC - Northern Kingdom (Israel) exiled
  - 586 BC – Southern Kingdom (Judah) exiled to Babylon
  - 539 BC – Babylon falls to Persia
  - 538 BC – Cyrus, King of Persia, allows the Jews to return
  - 536 BC – Rebuilding the temple begins but stops
  - 520 BC – Darius encourages the Jews to continue their work
    - Haggai and Zechariah begin their ministries

# The Historical Context

- 518 BC – Zechariah C7+8
- 516-15 BC – Temple finished and dedicated
- 478 BC – Esther saves the Jews from Haman
- 465-424 BC – Zechariah C9-14, during reign of Artaxerxes
- 445 BC – Artaxerxes authorizes Nehemiah to rebuild the walls
- 444 BC – Walls completed
- 423-31 BC - Malachi ministers

Then what???

What happens to our faith when we cannot see God working in our lives?



The  
Biographical  
Context  
Verse 1

- Zechariah = “God remembers”
- Beh-rek-YAW’ = his father
- Id-DOH’ = his grandfather, and a priest
- Zechariah was both a prophet (calling) and a priest (birth)
- Born in Babylonian captivity
- Returned under Zerubbabel the Governor and Joshua the High Priest (536 BC)



**The  
Biographical  
Context  
Verse 1**

- *His ministry began when?*
  - ~520 BC (How years after his return?)
- *How many visions?*
  - Eight, w/explanations & two oracles
- *What controversy has there been over its authorship?*
  - C9-14, as 9:13 mentions Greece
- *What do we know about the events and length of his life?*
  - Very little with precision
- *What do we know about his death?*
  - Matt. 23:35

- **1. How was God feeling?**
  - **Angry**
- **2. Why was He feeling that way?**
  - **Their rebellion**
- **3. What does the word “repent” mean to you?**
  - **Admit error and turn back**
- **4. What does it mean to God?**
  - **Return to a healthy relationship with God**
- **5. Which bible study method might one use to find out for sure?**
  - **A Word Study [Board BLB Users List]**



**The  
Spiritual  
Context  
Verse 2  
Handout**

## 1. Appeal from whom?

- LORD of Hosts/Armies = sovereignty in action, ruler over all = God
- 3x in one verse, at least 35x total

## 2. To do what?

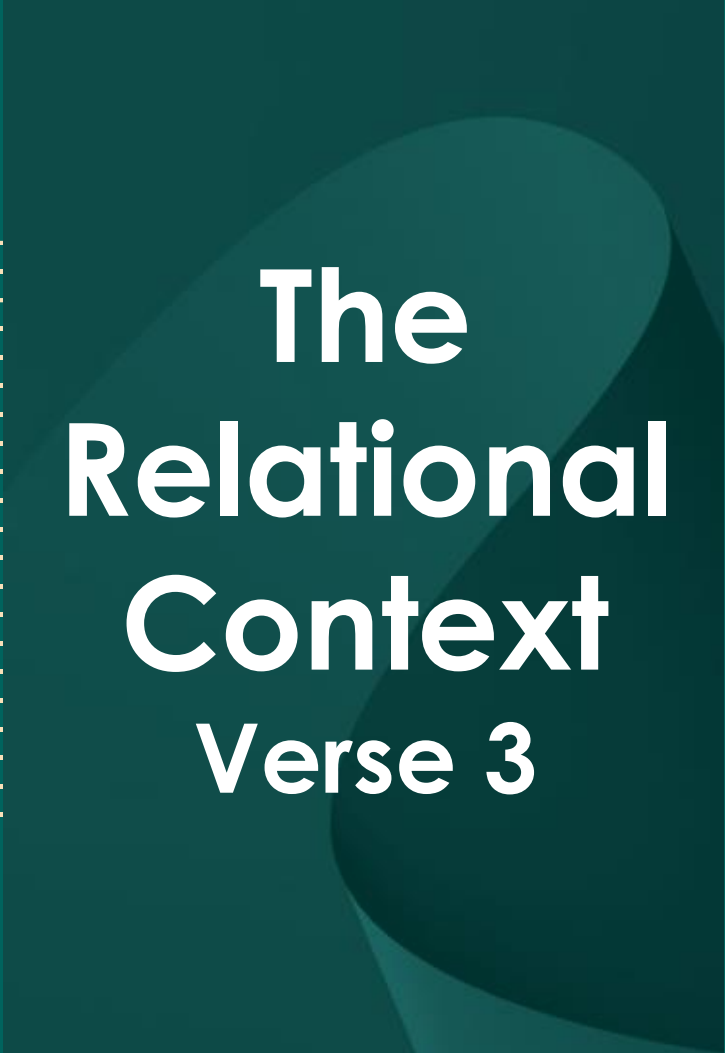
- Return = turn back (to God) = repent!
- = to repair or restore

## 3. Presupposes what?

- A previous relationship from which they departed!

The  
Relational  
Context:  
Verse 3:  
The Appeal

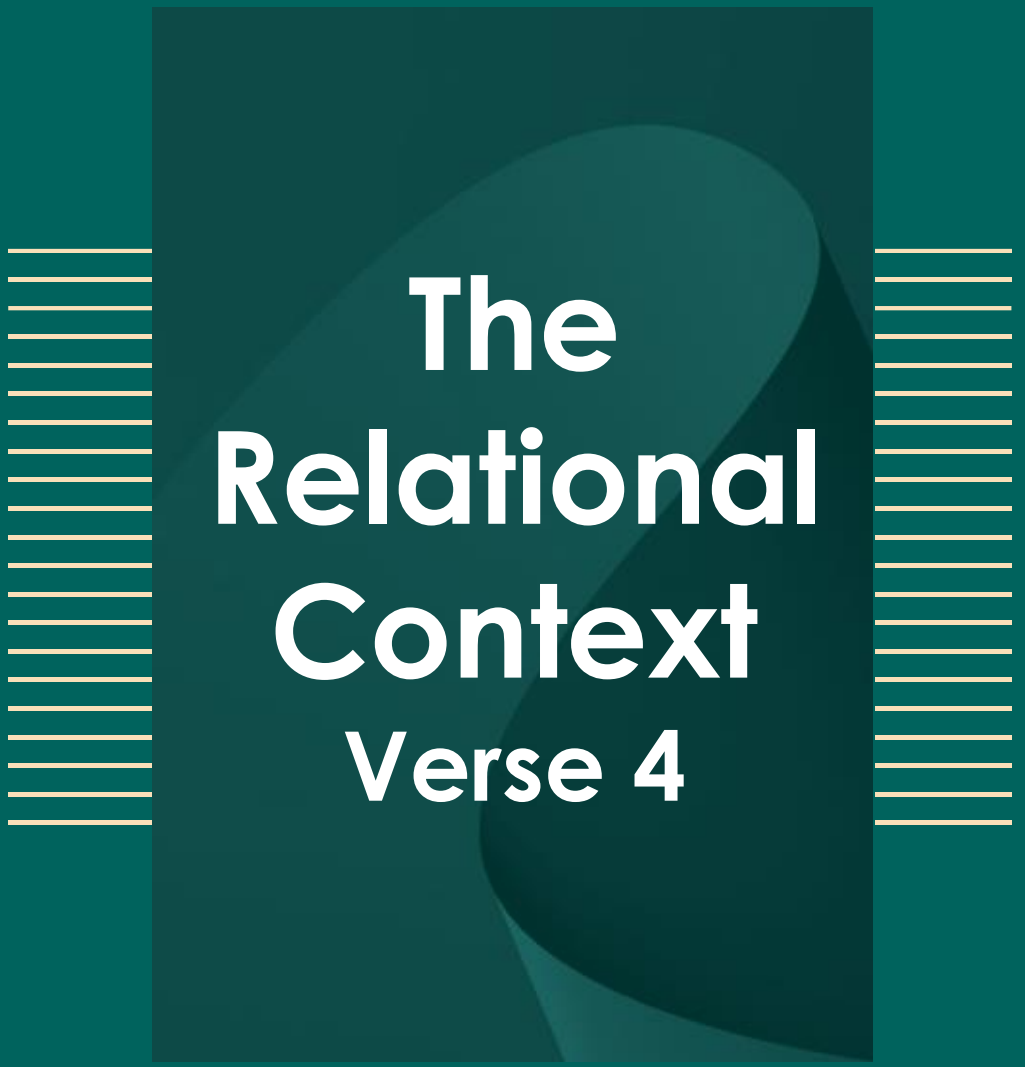
- **4. Returning is**  
R\_\_\_\_\_
  - Inter\_\_\_\_\_
  - Involves Two P\_\_\_\_\_
- **5. Returning is**  
R\_\_\_\_\_, is a
  - Two-way S\_\_\_\_\_ - a
  - B\_\_\_\_\_ and F\_\_\_\_\_
- **6. This is significant in two ways:**
  - A P\_\_\_\_\_
  - A R\_\_\_\_\_



**The  
Relational  
Context  
Verse 3**

- ***7. What are the signs of a failure to repent?***
- **Not listening = not hearing, obeying, or caring, lacking interest**
- **Not heeding = not hearkening or paying attention, not doing**

***Are we paying the kind of attention to God and His word we should be?***



**The  
Relational  
Context  
Verse 4**

## On the Class Notes Handout:

- **13. Where are the prophets and ancestors?**
  - **Dead**
- **14. In contrast to whom?**
  - **The eternal God and His everlasting promises**
- **15. What were the consequences of their failure to repent?**
  - **Being overtaken = exile**
- **16. When were His purposes in this communicated?**

**Blessings and Curses = The Mosaic Covenant**

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)



# The Relational Context Verses 5+6

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)



- *What other consequences were there?...*

- Further brokenness
- Discipline/punishment
- Hardening

- *What part of their Relationship Cycle was this?...*

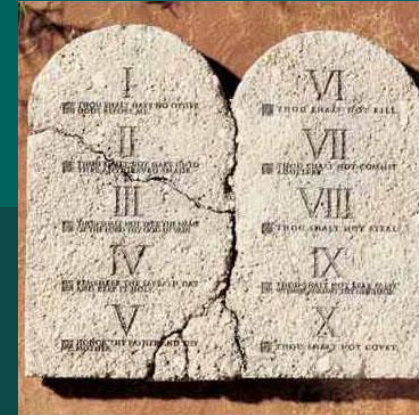
- Exile = Retribution

- *What should be the results from this?*

- Repentance = turn back, return
- Eventually, Restoration = Hope and Direction in a hopeless world!
- Restoration = Salvation as a nation!
- Our Salvation = Our Restoration!



# The Relational Context Verses 5+6



# The Relational Context Verses 5+6



17. What does a healthy relationship with God look and feel like?

- Is it all about obedience to the law and covenants?
- No, Personal Closeness and Faithful Allegiance that comes from being given a new heart.
- What would be the benefits to Judah?
  - Blessings of the covenants.
- What does that look like in a NT church? 1 Cor. 10:11, For whose instruction?

**Homework: Review your Class Notes, Come prepared for next week's lesson, Work on the Character of God Word Search, Pray for your teachers, yourself, and your fellow students**

**Thank You!**

*Hope to see you next week*

Tim Oakleaf

[teelow22@hotmail.com](mailto:teelow22@hotmail.com)

315-706-1428

