

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

Lesson 2

The 1st Vision:

The Four Horsemen & the Myrtle Trees

Today's Agenda:

Housekeeping

Handouts

Class Schedule

Today's Lesson Plan

Housekeeping

Bathrooms

Exit Plan

PLEASE do your Name Plate



Handouts

Lesson 1:

1. Class Schedule
2. Word Search*
3. Lesson 1 Class Notes
4. Biblical Chronology
5. Spiritual and Relational Context

Not used last week:

6. *Eight Visions* ->
7. *First Vision* ->
8. *Outline of the Book* ->

For Today's Class:

Lesson 2 Class Notes

Lesson 1 Review

*Eight Visions**

First Vision

Outline of the Book

Proposed Class Schedule

FINISHED: 5/31 C1:1-6

TODAY: 6/7 C1:7-17

6/14 C1:18-21, C2, C3

6/21 C4, C5:1-4

6/28 C5:5-11, C6, C7:1-7

7/5 C7:8-14, 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

Today's Lesson Plan

C1:18-21, C2

Lesson 1 Review

Intro to the Visions

Zechariah's 1st Vision

Our Takeaways

Zechariah Lesson 1 Review

- 1. What is so awesome about studying this book?*
 - 2. What does his name mean?*
 - 3. What was Caleb Pearson's summary of the Bible?*
 - 4. What does God's appeal to return presuppose?*
 - 5. What are the two signs of a failure to repent?*
1. The Book of Revelation of the OT
The Character of God revealed
The Great Emotional Uplift
 2. "YHWH Remembers"
 3. "Man **fails**; God **prevails**"
 4. A relationship from which they departed.
 5. Not listening = not paying attention
Not harkening = not doing

Lesson 1 Review

6. What was your takeaway?



Our Hope comes from God not having deserted us.

We are given the Direction to listen (hear) and harken (do).

God's Relationship goal and promise = Restoration! He can and will restore Israel and each of us!

We need to guard against false theologies regarding Israel's future.



**The Visions
Begin**
Verse 7

- ~3 months later...
- Same King: *Who?*
- Words from the Same God
- To the Same Prophet
- Same father & grandfather
- *And then Zechariah's Eight Visions begin.*
- NOTE: The literary genres...
Visions/Prose, Oracles/Poetry,
Both/Prophetic and Apocalyptic

The Chiastic Structure

(Same handout, backside)

The fun part is finding the similarities or associations between the two matching “bookends”...

and then tying them all together.

- A C1:8-11 #1 Horsemen and Myrtle Trees
- B C1:18-21 #2 Four Horns and Smiths
- C C2:1-5 #3 The Surveyor
- D C3:1-5 #4 Cleansing of Joshua
- D' C4:1-3 #5 Lampstand and Trees
- C' C5:1+2 #6 The Flying Scroll
- B' C5:5-11 #7 Woman in a Basket
- A' C6:1-3 #8 Four Chariots

Zechariah's First Vision

C1:7-17 The Four Horsemen

&

The Myrtle Trees

The First Vision Verses 8-11



The Horsemen among the Myrtle Trees

The Characters?

- A man and his horse
- Three more horses (w/riders, V11)
- The angel speaking
- The LORD
- The angel of the LORD
- The LORD of Armies (Hosts)
- The nations

The Setting?

- Nighttime in a ravine with myrtle trees

The Clarification?

- Those sent to patrol the earth

The Findings?

- All the earth is peaceful & quiet = at ease, *but that's not a good thing!*
See V15.

The First Vision Verses 8-11



The Interpretation

V8 Nighttime?

They are feeling gloom and foreboding

V8 Man riding a red horse?

V8 a “man” in appearance =

V10 the man standing among the Myrtle trees =

V11 “the angel of the LORD” =
a Christophany = Christ

V8+10 Myrtle trees?

Fire Resistant, Used in the Feast of Tabernacles, Represent safety, longevity, and blessings of God upon the people of Judah & Jerusalem

V8 Ravine?

Judah’s state of deep humiliation and hopelessness (guilt and shame?)

V8 Other riders on horses?

Angels sent to investigate and report back status

The First Vision Verses 8-11



The Interpretation

V8 Different colored horses?

Red = blood

Sorrel = judgment and blessing

White = victory over sin = purity

V10 Riders patrolling?

Angels who answer to God

V11 Message from the Riders?

“We have been everywhere,
seen it all, God knows it already,
there is nothing He does not
already know”

THE FOLLOW ON: A Request for Compassion...

- V12+13 “Angel of the LORD” =
 - Christ, God the Son
- “Lord of Hosts/Armies” =
 - God the Father
- “How much longer?” =
 - Subjugation to foreigners = exile
- *Christ is acting in what capacity?*
 - As the intercessor for His people
- *What was the response?*
 - Gracious & comforting = compassion

*Are not those
the kinds of
words we like
to hear?*

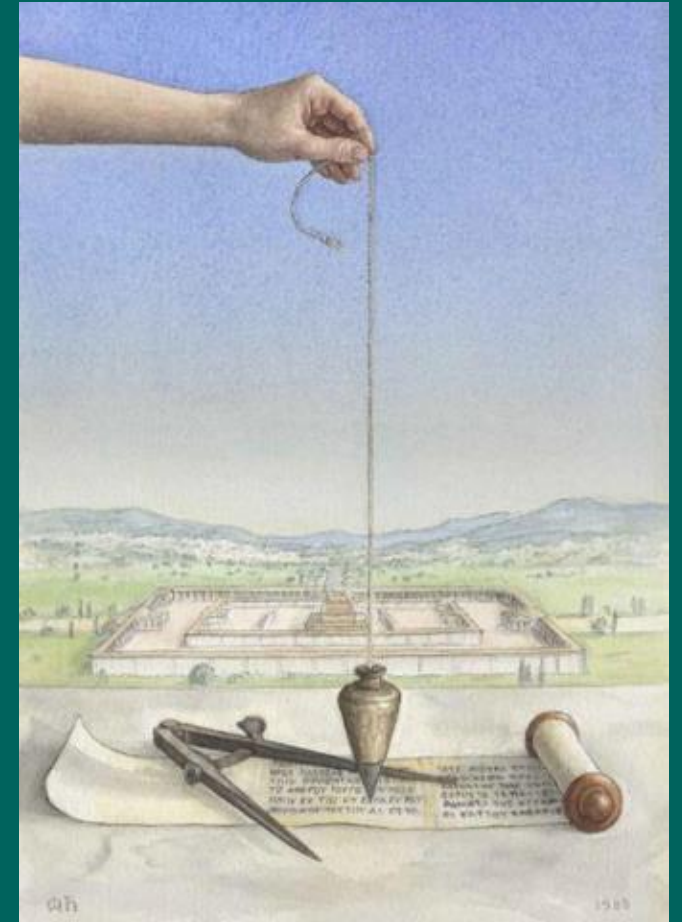


Clarifications

- V14 *Why were these words comforting?*
- “Exceedingly jealous” = zealous
 - God’s jealousy vs. Judah’s (human) jealousy
 - *What about our jealousy? Which is that like?*
 - Note: “Jerusalem and Zion” = poetic parallelism and/or telescoping vision of their future [See V17]
- V15 “BUT!”... “angry” = *furious! With whom and why?*
 - The Gentile Nations – relentlessly oppressive, they never let up
 - “disaster” = *malignant evil, vicious wickedness, causing misery*

Clarifications

- V16 How is this good news?
 - The LORD is coming back!
 - With compassion!
 - The LORD will rebuild His house! = ?
 - The LORD will take up residence in their midst!
- “LORD of Armies” =
 - Unlimited, divine power
- “Measuring line”: a construction tool =
 - Rebuilding = Expansive Restoration



Clarifications

- **V17 “Again” 4X, substantive, accusative adverb = continuous action = God has never stopped and will never stop choosing Jerusalem, choosing to comfort and bless them greatly!**
- **“Proclaim” = Never stop shouting joyously! [See V14]**
- **Non-stop: “Overflow w/Prosperity” + “Comfort” + “Choose”**
- **“Zion and Jerusalem” = Poetic Parallelism and/or Telescoping Vision (present and future) [See V14]**
- **“Comfort” = Compassion = God loves them deeply**
Love this deep never abandons!

Clarifications

What was their primary emotion that God was addressing?

Their fear that they had been abandoned = hopelessness

How was this new information intended to make them feel?

Hopeful

How would you like to have that feeling? Can we?

Yes, and Yes!

On what basis?

Everything the NT promises us





My Trampoline Story: As a young boy...

Rebellion/Disobedience – Not coming home in time for dinner, staying out until dark.

Retribution/Discipline – The house was locked up tight = my exile.

Repentance - Crawling up into his lap crying.

Restoration – Dad’s arms were outstretched to receive me with compassion, providing hope for a better future = direction for next time = Listen (hear) and Harken (do).

Dad = ? Me = ?

Takeaways: 5 Critical Items

1. What Hope was given?

The Abrahamic Covenant is still in force! God will never be done with blessing Israel.

2. What Direction was given?

Listen & Harken = Trust & Obey

3. What does the first vision reveal about God's Power?

Perpetual Presence and Protection

4. Which Characteristic of God did you see emphasized in this passage?

Compassion

Takeaways

5 Critical Items

5. Which part of the Relationship Cycle did this vision represent?

Their Restoration – *Wait for it! It is coming!*

We need to watch out for false theologies that dismiss the nation of Israel and God's promises to them.

Homework:

Review your Class Notes

Come prepared for C2 + C3

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

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