

Go Home!

Zechariah 1:1-6

“Return to me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will return to you.”!

- Zechariah 1:3

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. 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.
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.'"

- Zechariah 1:1-6



Main Point: If we return to the Lord in repentance and faith, He will come close to us.

vs. 1: Who is this Zechariah?

vs 2-4a: A command and a promise: Return and I will return.

vss 4b-6: Two pieces of evidence that we can trust

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,

- Zechariah 1:1

Timeline of Zechariah

Nebuchadnezzar of
Babylon conquers
Judah

586

Cyrus decrees
return of the Jews

539

538

535

Temple
construction
halted

530

521

Haggai and
Zechariah begin
prophetic ministry

520

515

Ezra goes to
Jerusalem

458

Walls of
Jerusalem rebuilt

444

443

Cyrus of Persia
conquers
Babylon

Temple
construction
begins

Darius I becomes
king of Persia

Temple
Completed

Nehemiah goes
to Jerusalem

Ryrie Study Bible
by Charles Caldwell Ryrie

Zechariah's Main Concern:

What are we building on spiritually?

Who was Zechariah?

- **Prophet**
- **Lineage**
- **His name**
- **Themes:**
 - *Repentance*
 - *The city of God*
 - *The “now” and “not yet” of the Kingdom*
 - *The Messiah*

Who was Zechariah (cont)?

- ***The gospel in Zechariah:***

- *Messiah would be the “branch of David” and will purify his people and remove their sin in one day (Zech. 3:9).*
- *Messiah would be Priest and King (Zech 6:12-13)*
- *Messiah would ride in on a donkey (Zech 9:9)*
- *Messiah would be God himself and betrayed for 30 pieces of silver! (Zech 11:12-13)*
- *Messiah would be pierced (Zech 12:10)*

Who was Zechariah (cont)?

- **Message:** The righteous King was coming to bring salvation and cleansing to God's people.
- **Death:** see Matthew 23:29-35

29 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, 30 saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ . . . 34 Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, 35 so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.

- Matthew 23:29-35

2 “The Lord was very angry with your fathers. 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.’

- Zechariah 1:2-4a

Then the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, 4 “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? 5 Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. 6 You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes. 7 “Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways.

— Haggai 1:3-7

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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.'

- Zechariah 1:2-4a

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- Zechariah 1:2-4a

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. - Psalm 84:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.- Proverbs 3:5-6

The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. - Proverbs 16:9

So how do we hit the spiritual Go Home on our heart's GPS?

- **From —> To:**
 - Turning implies turning from things to something else, from self-reliance to trusting in God's ways.
- **Consider our Ways and Deeds:**
 - Consider your evil actions and the motives of your heart.

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 - Turning implies turning from things to something else, from self-reliance to trusting in God's ways.
- **Consider our Ways and Deeds:**
 - Consider your evil actions and the motives of your heart.
- **Trust in this promise:** God will turn to you!

God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance.

- Romans 2:4

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. 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.'"

- Zechariah 1:-46

15 The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent persistently to them by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place. 16 But they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord rose against his people, until there was no remedy.

- 2 Chronicles 36:15-16

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?

- Zechariah 1:5-6

When you are saying that the book of Isaiah was the same book was exactly the same (as the dead sea scrolls) . . . that's a **miracle**! That's pretty crazy! If you just imagine the sheer number of illiterate people, the sheer number of days that have to go by where people are telling the story exactly the same and that it's entrusted into the hands of these very few people that are so dedicated to it that they get the exact word right a thousand years later. . . pretty bananas!

- Joe Rogan

Return to me and I will return to you!