

# The 8 Cryptic Visions of Zechariah, I

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1. Why study the book of Zechariah? To begin with, this is where we find the vision of Joshua and the angel, the vision that explains the mechanics of the final atonement of Jesus in the heavenly sanctuary

Zechariah's vision of Joshua and the Angel applies with peculiar force to the experience of God's people in the closing scenes of the great day of atonement. . .PK 587.

2. Also, understanding the message of the visions found in the book of Zechariah sheds tremendous light on the over-all message of the book of Revelation; it creates a vantage point from which the message of the book of Revelation can be viewed
3. The book of Zechariah serves as thematic framework for the book of Revelation
4. There are 8 visions of Zechariah and these have counterparts in the 8 visions of Revelation

## The 8 visions of Zechariah

1. the vision of a man among the myrtle trees (**Zech 1:8-17**)
2. the vision of the four horns and the four carpenters (**Zech 1:18-21**)
3. the vision of the man with a measuring line (**Zech 2**)
4. the vision of Joshua and the angel (**Zech 3**)
5. the vision of the two olive trees and the golden lamp stand (**Zech 4**)
6. the vision of the flying roll (**Zech 5:1-4**)
7. the vision of the woman and the ephod (**Zech 5:6-11**)
8. the vision of the four horsemen (**Zech 6:1-8**)

## The 8 visions of Revelation

1. the 7 churches (**Rev 1-3**)
2. the 7 seals (**Rev 4-7**)
3. the 7 trumpets (**Rev 8-11**)
4. the final conflict (**Rev 12-14**)
5. the 7 last plagues (**Rev 15-16**)
6. the fall of Babylon (**Rev 17-18**)
7. the second coming of Christ to deliver God's people and bind Satan for a thousand years (**Rev 19-20**)

8. the establishment of the new heavens and the new earth after the wicked are annihilated (**Rev 21-22**)
5. One immediately suspects that there is a connection between these 2 sets of visions because the visual images used by Zechariah reappear in the book of Revelation; two most obvious examples are listed below:
  - a. man with a measuring line (**Zech 2**) —appears in **Rev 11:1-2**
  - b. two olive trees and golden lamp stand (**Zech 4**)—appears in **Rev 11:3-4**
6. Moreover, both sets of visions were given one after the other in a single instance; there is no break in the giving of the visions that span days or weeks or months
7. Both Zechariah and Revelation are books on eschatology (study of last days events); Zechariah deals with Jewish eschatology, whereas Revelation deals with the final years of Christian dispensation
8. The visions of Zechariah begins from the time when the temple in Jerusalem is restored and focuses on the final years of Jewish probation, i.e. the final week of the 70 prophetic weeks of years recorded in Daniel 9:24-27; local application of the visions of Zechariah—the final week of the 70 prophetic weeks of Jewish probation (490 years) the final events of Jewish history highlighted in Zechariah
  - a. Jesus’ triumphant entry in Jerusalem (**Zech 9:9**)
  - b. betrayal of Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (**Zech 11:12-13**)
  - c. the crucifixion of Christ (**Zech 12:10; Zech 13:6-7**)
  - d. the destruction of the city of Jerusalem (**Zech 14:1-2**)
9. By studying the final events of Jewish history as portrayed in the visions of Zechariah, we are better able to understand the nature of the final events of earth’s history and are better prepared to face them

### **The Visions of Zechariah: Preliminary Observations**

10. The visions of Zechariah are found in Zechariah 1-6 and the remaining chapters enlarge on the meaning of the visions
11. “What are these”? runs through all the visions of Zechariah except the vision of Joshua and the angel; probably Because Zechariah, being the high priest already understood the meaning and implications of the vision which has to do with cleansing the sanctuary
12. Amazingly, all the visual images and themes of the 8 visions of Zechariah re-emerge in Revelation

<b>The 8 visions of Zechariah</b>	<b>The 8 visions of Revelation</b>
The vision of the man among the myrtle trees	Jesus among the 7 golden candlesticks (Rev 1) in connection with the 7 churches
The vision of the 4 horns and the 4 carpenter	the 4 living creatures (Rev 4-5) in connection with

	the 7 seals
The vision of the man with the measuring line	measure the temple, the altar . . .(Rev 11) in connection with the 7 trumpets
the vision of Joshua and the angel	Giving of the white robes (Rev 6:9-10; Rev 7:9; Rev 14:1-5) in connection with the vision of the final conflict
Vision of the two olive trees and the golden lamp stand	the vision of the two olive trees two olive trees of (Rev 11)
the vision of the flying roll	ark of the testament revealed after the close of probation (7 last plagues, <b>Rev 15-16</b> )
the vision of the woman and the ephah	The woman in the wilderness; fall of Babylon (Rev 17)
the vision of the four horsemen	Jesus and the armies of heaven on white horses at His second coming ( <b>Rev 19</b> ) and the third coming (Rev 21-22)

13. The question is, why does John make a serious attempt to link the visions of Zechariah with the visions he wrote in the book of Revelation? Why did he make the visions of Zechariah literally as the thematic framework with which to base Revelation on?

- a. The answer is obvious: John wants the people of God living in the time of the end to know that the events prophesied in the book of Zechariah will have a reapplication during their time
  - (1) the whole issue surrounding the events in the time of the end will be the same as in the time of Zechariah—the restoration of the sanctuary truth
  - (2) the restoration of the sanctuary message in the time of the end will happen in troublous times as in Zechariah’s time (**Dan 9:25**)
  - (3) there are 3 agencies combined to oppose the people of God in their work of restoring knowledge and faith in the work of Christ in His final ministration in the heavenly sanctuary—the beast, the dragon and the false prophet, just as there were three personages opposed to the rebuilding of the sanctuary in the time of Zechariah—Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem

## Conclusion

14. The book of Revelation must be viewed in the light of God’s program to restore and rebuild the sanctuary truth in the time of the end and to prepare a people who will have their filthy garments taken away and become fully indwelt by His Spirit, prepared for the tumultuous final moments associated with the coming of Jesus

15. The visions of Zechariah find reapplication in the final events of earth’s history which includes the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary, the outpouring of the Latter Rain and the final conflict