

Major Lessons From Minor Prophets

Lesson 11 – Visions of Hope (Zechariah 1-7)

Zechariah 3:10 (NKJV) *In that day,' says the Lord of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor Under his vine and under his fig tree.'* ”

Comforting Words of Life

What is the essential message here?

Zechariah 1:3 (NKJV) *Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Return to Me," says the Lord of hosts, "and I will return to you," says the Lord of hosts.*

***James 4:8** (NKJV) *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

Luke 15:20 (NKJV) *“And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.*

How Long?

Zechariah 1:12 (NKJV) *Then the Angel of the Lord answered and said, “O Lord of hosts, how long will You not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which You were angry these seventy years?”*

Psalms 74:10 (NKJV) *O God, how long will the adversary reproach? Will the enemy blaspheme Your name forever?*

Isaiah 6:11 (NKJV) ¹¹ *Then I said, “Lord, how long?” And He answered: “Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant, The houses are without a man, The land is utterly desolate,*

Zec 1:8 *I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white.*

Rev 6:4 *And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.*

2 Kings 2:11 (NKJV) *Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with **horses of fire**, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.*

The Lord Is Coming Chapter 2:10

***Zechariah 2:6–7** (NKJV) *“Up, up! Flee from the land of the north,” says the Lord; “for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven,” says the Lord. ⁷ “Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.”*

Revelation 18:1–4 (NKJV) *After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ² And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³ For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” ⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.*

Genesis 12:1–3 (NKJV) *Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

Zechariah 2:10–11 (NKJV) *“Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst,” says the Lord. ¹¹ “Many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent Me to you. **Both Comings***

Romans 15:9–12 (NKJV) ⁹ *and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: “For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name.” ¹⁰ And again he says: “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!” ¹¹ And again: “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!” ¹² And again, Isaiah says: “There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope.”*

God’s Readiness to Forgive Chapter 3

Amos 4:11 (NKJV) ¹¹ *“I overthrew some of you, As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand plucked from the burning; Yet you have not returned to Me,” Says the Lord.*

“The high priest cannot defend himself or his people from Satan’s accusations. He does not claim that Israel is free from fault. In filthy garments, symbolizing the sins of the people, which he bears as their representative, he stands before the Angel, confessing their guilt, yet pointing to their repentance and humiliation, and relying upon the mercy of a sin-pardoning Redeemer. In faith he claims the promises of God.”—Ellen G. White, *Prophets and Kings*, pp. 583, 584.

Not by Human Power Chapter 4

Zechariah 4:6 (NKJV) ⁶ So he answered and said to me: “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the Lord of hosts.

Isaiah 30:1 (NKJV) “Woe to the rebellious children,” says the Lord, “Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise plans, **but not of My Spirit**, That they may add sin to sin;

***Hosea 1:7** (NKJV) ⁷ Yet I will have mercy on the house of Judah, Will save them by the Lord their God, And **will not save them by bow, Nor by sword or battle, By horses or horsemen.**”

Jeremiah 9:23–24 (NKJV)²³ Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; ²⁴ But let him who glories glory in this, That **he understands and knows Me**, That I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the Lord.

Philippians 2:13 (NKJV) for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Lamps and Trees

Zechariah 4:2–4 (NKJV) ² And he said to me, “What do you see?” So I said, “I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. ³ Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.” ⁴ So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, “What are these, my lord?”

Revelation 11:3–6 (NKJV) ³ And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” ⁴ These are **the two olive trees and the two lampstands** standing before the God of the earth. ⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this

manner. ⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

*** Revelation 1:12–13** (NKJV) Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.

The Eyes Of God

Zechariah 4:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ For who has despised the day of small things? For **these seven** rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are **the eyes of the Lord**, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth.”

Zechariah 3:9 (NKJV) ⁹ For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are **seven eyes**. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,’ Says the Lord of hosts, ‘And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

***Revelation 5:6** (NKJV) And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and **seven eyes**, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Proverbs 15:3 (NKJV) ³ The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.

Beyond Fasting

When they were in exile in Babylon, the people fasted during the fifth month to mourn the destruction of the temple (2 Kings 25:8-9). Because the exile was now over and the temple reconstruction almost was complete, the people wondered if it still was necessary to fast in the fifth month.

Zechariah 7:8–10 (NKJV) ⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, saying, ⁹ “Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Execute true justice, Show mercy and compassion Everyone to his brother. ¹⁰ Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, The alien or the poor. Let none of you plan evil in his heart Against his brother.’

Isaiah 58:6–7 (NKJV) ⁶ “Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?”