

# Correspondence Bible Study

## Lesson #32 – Zechariah & Malachi

### PRAYER:

Lord, as I come to the end of the Old Testament, help me to see Your patience with Your chosen people. I know You have been patient with me also. Just as the prophets prepared the way for Christ, use me to show others their need for Jesus Christ. Keep me in the faith. Help me to share my faith with others in my life. I pray in the name of the Anointed and Promised One, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Notes on Zechariah:

The history and circumstances for Zechariah are the same as Haggai. (See last lesson) Where Haggai's prophecy covered a very short period of time (August – December of 520 B.C.), Zechariah prophecies begin in 520 B.C. and were not complete until 480 B.C. His main purpose is to encourage the rebuilding of the Temple.

Chapters 1:7-6:8 are written in the symbolic language called apocalyptic literature. It is similar in style to sections of Daniel and Revelation. The imagery makes it difficult to know exactly the meaning intended. The general theme is that the good of God will win out over the evil of the world and Satan.

The threats and promises Zechariah mentions are similar to the other prophets. I will emphasize the points he makes about Jesus the Messiah.

### Questions on Zechariah:

1. What information is told us about Jesus in the prophecies in:
  - a. 3:10
  - b. 6:12-14
  - c. 9:9-10
  - d. 11:12-13
  - e. 12:10
  - f. 13:7
  - g. 14:4
  
2. How do the above passages help explain Luke 24:25-27, 44?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Chapter 9:9 – What New Testament event is specifically prophesied here?

Your Questions on Zachariah...

## Notes on Malachi:

Malachi means “my messenger.” As this is the last book in the Old Testament, Malachi was the last prophet until the one he prophesied would come – John the Baptist.

Malachi and Nehemiah would be contemporaries. The word of the Lord through Malachi was spoken close to 430 B.C. Zerubbabel’s temple had long been built (516 B.C.), but once again the Lord’s Temple and Word had been taken for granted and people were doubting the Lord’s presence with them. Malachi tries, like all the prophets before him, to rekindle the faith and worship of the people.

## Questions on Malachi:

1. Chapters 1:6-14 – When the people offered imperfect sacrifices, what were they saying about the faith?
2. How can the same happen when we give our offerings of our time, talents, and treasures to the Lord?
3. Chapter 3:6 – What comfort do you find in these words?
4. Chapter 3:8-12 – How does the Lord still challenge us with these words today?
5. Chapter 3:1 & 4:5-6 – The Old Testament ends with a prophecy of the one who would come to prepare the way for Jesus. He is called Elijah. Read Matthew 11:1-15. Who is the Elijah and how did he fulfill the prophecies?

Your questions on Malachi...

You have finished studying the Old Testament. Congratulations! You will see how much more you will be able to understand the New Testament against the backdrop of the Old Testament.

Take a deep breath and dive into the New Testament by reading Matthew’s Gospel.