

CODE TALKER
ZECHARIAH 1:3 / 1-20-19 / PM

INTRODUCTION

- A. Zechariah is the eleventh of the Twelve Minor Prophets we have been examining.
- B. The Man.
 - 1. His name means: “God Remembers”.
 - 2. Like Ezekiel, he was a priest and prophet.
- C. The Message.
 - 1. The date: 520 to 518 b.c.—1:1, 7; 7:1.
 - 2. The date makes this a sequel to Haggai’s book.
 - 3. This book is among the most difficult to understand in the O.T. because of the apocalyptic language it uses.
 - 4. The basic message, however, is found in 1:14.

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF APOCALYPTIC LANGUAGE.

- A. “Code Talkers’ was a term used to describe people who talk using a coded language.
- B. The Bible had its own “Code Talker’s”. They didn’t use the Navajo language, but instead wrote in “Apocalyptic” language.
 - 1. The word in Greek means “unveiling” or “disclosing”.
 - 2. It refers to making use of symbolic language to convey a message.
- C. Apocalyptic language was used during times of political stress due to Israel’s captivity or persecution.
 - 1. The secret code was understood by the Hebrews but not by their enemies.
 - 2. Old Testament books using this language include Ezekiel, Daniel and Zechariah.

3. The New Testament example is Revelations.
 4. Jesus used this kind of language too—Matt. 24:29-31; Mark 13:24-27 and Luke 21:25-28.
- D. Characteristics of Apocalyptic Language.
1. The Kingship of God.
 2. Conflict between good and evil.
 3. Divine judgment on evil.
 4. God works through history to accomplish His will.
 5. Historical background necessary to understand.
 6. The historical background of Zechariah is Babylonian Captivity.

II. **ZECHARIAH'S FIRST MESSAGE: A CALL TO REPENTANCE.**

- A. Date of his first message.
1. Date: 1:1.
 2. Historically this places his message between Haggai's second and third message.
 3. Both prophets called on Israel to repent and rebuild the Temple.
- B. Outline of his first message.
1. God has been angry with Israel—1:2.
 2. Israel needs to return to God—1:3.
 3. Don't follow in your rebellious ancestor's steps—1:4.
 4. Learn from their bad example—1:5-6.

III. MESSIANIC PROPHECIES IN ZECHARIAH.

1. The Triumphal Entry--9:9.
2. Jesus betrayed for thirty pieces of silver which was used to buy a potter's field--11:12-13.
3. Jesus pierced--12:10.