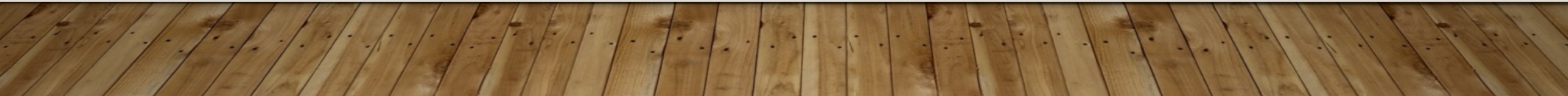


ZECHARIAH: GOD AMONG HIS PEOPLE AGAIN!

ZECHARIAH I

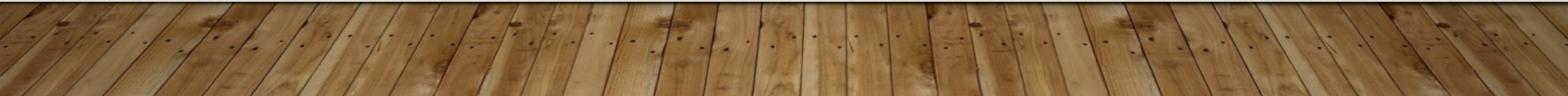
BEREANS / FAITH BUILDERS

JULY 4, 2021



INTRODUCTION TO ZECHARIAH

- Book: One of 3, post-exilic minor prophets (with Haggai and Malachi)
- Author: Zechariah - Father: Berechiah – Grandfather: Iddo
- Date of writing:
 - Chapters 1-6 – 520 BC
 - Chapters 7-8 – 518 BC
 - Chapters 9-14 – Unknown, but probably some time later.



INTRODUCTION TO ZECHARIAH

- Historical Context – brief history of Israel
 - 1446 BC – Exodus
 - 1050 BC – Jewish Monarchy began – Saul as the first king
 - 1010 BC – David's reign begins
 - 970 BC - Solomon's reign begins
 - 931 BC – Divided Kingdom
 - 722 BC – The Northern Kingdom Falls to Assyria
 - 605 BC – Nebuchadnezzar conquers Jerusalem – 1st Deportation (Daniel)
 - 597 BC – Israel revolted – 2nd defeat and larger deportation (Ezekiel)
 - 586 BC – Jerusalem and the Temple destroyed – Most inhabitants carried into exile.
 - 539 BC – Babylonian Empire overthrown by Cyrus the Great (Daniel 5)
 - 538 BC – Cyrus Issues a decree to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple – 50,000 people return with Zerubbabel.
 - 536 BC – Foundation of the Temple completed – construction halted.
 - 520 BC – Haggai and Zechariah exhort the people to resume construction

INTRODUCTION TO ZECHARIAH

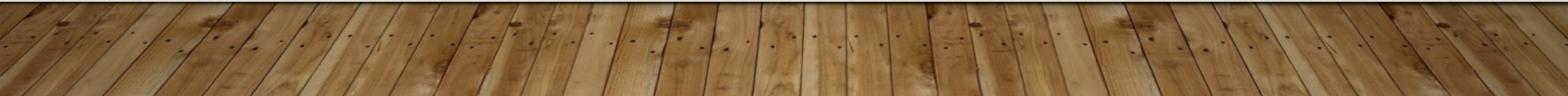
- Key Themes in Zechariah:
 - God's compassionate and sovereign care for His people
 - The coming Messiah, Messianic Kingdom, and Israel's future
 - Obey God and trust Him!
- Book Outline
 1. Introduction and Call to Repentance (1:1-6)
 2. Eight Encouraging Night Visions (1:7-6:8)
 3. Foreshadowing of the Messiah as Priest and King (6:9-15)
 4. Question about Fasting and 4 Revealing Answers (7:1-8:23)
 5. Future Prophecies of Judgement and Salvation (Chapters 9-14)

ZECHARIAH I: GOD IS WITH ISRAEL!

- I. A Call to Repentance (1:2-6)
 - A. The Divine Plea: Return to the LORD! (2-3)
 - B. The Sobering Warning: Don't fail to heed God's words! (4-6)
- II. The Man among the Myrtle Trees: God is among His people again! (1:7-17)
 - A. The Vision setup (7-8)
 - 1. Man in the Myrtle Trees – The Angel of LORD
 - 2. Myrtle Trees – A representation of Israel
 - B. The Patrol Report: the world is resting in ease (9-11)
 - C. The Divine Intercessory prayer (12)

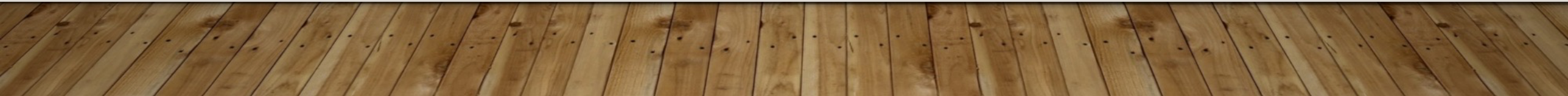
ZECHARIAH I: GOD IS WITH ISRAEL!

- I. A Call to Repentance (1:2-6)
- II. The Man among the Myrtle Trees: God is among His people again! (1:7-17)
 - A. The Vision setup (7-8)
 - B. The Patrol Report: the world is resting in ease (9-11)
 - C. The Divine Intercessory prayer (12)
 - D. God's Answer (13-17)
 - 1. God is deeply concerned about the welfare of Jerusalem (14)
 - 2. God is also angered by the way that the nations treated His people (15)
 - 3. God motivated by His compassion would return to Jerusalem to bless it (16a)
 - 4. The Temple construction would be completed (16b)
 - 5. Jerusalem would be rebuilt (16c)
 - 6. The cities of Judah would once again enjoy prosperity, comfort, and favor (17)



ZECHARIAH I: GOD IS WITH ISRAEL!

III. The Four Horns: God's coming judgment upon Israel's oppressors (1:18-21)



ZECHARIAH 1: GOD IS WITH ISRAEL!

- Broader Perspective - How does the message of Zechariah encourage us today as Christians?
 - It reminds us that Jesus Christ is at work in and among His people, that He is interceding for us, that He keeps His word, that He is sovereign over the affairs and actions of all nations, that He is building His church, that the very gates of hell will not overcome it, that He is coming again, and all will be set right!
 - Stay the course! Continue by faith to walk in obedience to our Lord.
- Personal Perspective: Can we as Christians be like the Israelites? Can we become distracted by the challenges and stuff of life such that we neglect the things God asks of us?

