

## The Minor Prophets “The Twelve”

Hosea	Nahum
Joel	Habakkuk
Amos	Zephaniah
Obadiah	Haggai
Jonah	Zechariah
Micah	Malachi

Prophetic Ministry: 800 – 430 B.C.

## Zechariah

*“Do Not Despise the Day of Small Things”*

### Setting:

- 520 B.C.; a small, poor, discouraged remnant has returned from exile to Judah; they have neglected building the temple for 16 years

### Purpose:

- to encourage them to finish the temple; he focuses on the glorious future God has in store for them

## Zechariah

*“Do Not Despise the Day of Small Things”*

### Structure:

#### 1. Chapters 1-8

- Focuses on the immediate situation of building the temple in view of the glorious future

#### 2. Chapters 9-14

- Very different; no mention of building the temple
- Focuses entirely on the future
- Composed of two “burdens” (9:1; 12:1)
- Unparalleled description of the Messiah

## Chapters 9-14: *Images of Messiah*

### 1. A Humble King

#### A. Context

- chpt. 9 – Judgment on the enemy nations of Israel
- chpt. 10 – removal of false leaders and complete restoration of Israel

#### B. Image of Messiah

- Israel’s coming king – unexpected emphasis on lowliness and humility
- Establishes world-wide peace – key to Israel’s salvation

## Chapters 9-14: *Images of Messiah*

### 2. A Rejected Good Shepherd

#### A. Context (chpt. 11)

- The devastating judgment upon Israel – they are a helpless flock under ruthless shepherds
- Zechariah portrays a good shepherd who is rejected; portrays a worthless, cruel shepherd

#### B. Image of Messiah

- The Good Shepherd rejected and despised by His own people
- Signals God’s rejection of His people and giving them over to be devoured by cruel leaders

## Chapters 9-14: *Images of Messiah*

### 3. A Pierced Redeemer

#### A. Context

- Judgment on the nations and Judah’s deliverance
- *Key* – the Lord will pour out His Spirit on them, causing mourning and repentance
- Brings cleansing, removal of idolatry/prophesy

#### B. Image of Messiah

- God who has been pierced by His own people
- A stricken shepherd which leads to a purging of God’s people

## **Chapters 9-14: *Images of Messiah***

### **4. A Warrior-King**

#### **A. Context**

- The Lord comes in power to deliver Jerusalem and destroy her enemies
- Ushers in a “unique day” – complete, all-pervasive state of holiness

#### **B. Image of Messiah**

- A victorious warrior who fights for His people
- Reigns as king over all the earth

## **Application**

➤ While these promises certainly apply to Israel, they are nonetheless for us!

➤ 13:1 – the piercing of Messiah has opened a fountain of forgiveness for us today