

THE PROPHET ZECHARIAH / *Zechariah 1*

Served as a prophet to Judah about 520 B.C., after the return from exile.

Climate of the times The exiles had returned from captivity to rebuild their Temple. But work on the Temple had stalled, and the people were ignoring their service to God.

Main message Zechariah, like Haggai, encouraged the people to finish rebuilding the Temple. His visions gave the people hope. He told the people of a future king who would one day establish an eternal kingdom.

Importance of message Even in times of discouragement and despair, God is working out his plan. God protects and guides us; we must trust and follow him.

Contemporary prophet. Haggai (approximately 520 B.C.)