### Zechariah

## Chapter 1

1It was in the 8th month in the 2nd year [of the reign] of Darius that the Word of Jehovah came to ZechariAh (son of BarachiAh and grandson of IdDo) the prophet and said:  
  
 2‘Jehovah was provoked by your fathers  
 And [driven] into great rage;  
 3So, tell them that Jehovah of Armies now says:  
  
 ‘Return to Me’, says Jehovah of Armies,  
 ‘And then, I’ll turn back to you!  
  
 4‘Don’t be like your fathers  
 Whom the prophets accused.  
 For they came beforehand and warned them…  
 They said that Jehovah of Armies  
 Had warned them to turn from their wicked ways  
 And from the bad things they were doing.  
 But they just paid no attention,  
 And chose not to listen to Me,’ says Jehovah.  
  
 5‘Now, where are your fathers and where are those prophets…  
 Have they lived into this age?  
  
 6‘You have My words and My Laws;  
 Yes, all that I sent by My Breath  
 Through My servants the prophets…  
 Those whom were seized by your fathers.  
  
 ‘For [your fathers] gave this reply to [the prophets]:  
  
 ‘Whatever Jehovah of Armies had planned  
 Because of our sins and our evil ways  
 Has already been fulfilled upon us!’  
  
  
7Well, it was on the 24th day of the 11th month (the month of Shebat), in the 2nd year [of the reign] of Darius, that the Word of Jehovah came to me (ZechariAh the prophet, son of BarachiAh and grandson of IdDo).  
  
8For during the night, I looked up and saw a man who was riding a red horse. He was standing in the shade between the mountains, and behind him were red horses with white spots.  
  
9So I asked:  
  
 ‘What is this, O Lord?’  
  
And [God’s] messenger (the person who was speaking to me) replied:  
  
 ‘I’ll show you what all these things mean.’  
  
10Then the man who was standing between the mountains spoke to me and said:  
  
 ‘These [men] were sent by Jehovah  
 To travel throughout the whole land.’  
  
11And thereafter, the men who were standing between the mountains said to the messenger of Jehovah:  
  
 ‘We’ve finished our travels throughout the whole land,  
 And Look! It’s all tranquil and filled.’  
  
12So the messenger of Jehovah said this:  
  
 ‘O Jehovah of Armies,  
  
 ‘How long will you fail to show mercy  
 On JeruSalem and the cities of Judah?  
 For, this is the 70th year of Your rage.’  
  
13And Jehovah replied to the messenger:  
  
 ‘You, the one who’s speaking for Me,  
 Must send him good words that bring comfort.’  
  
14So then the messenger spoke to me and told me that I should start shouting [in joy], because Jehovah the Almighty had said this:  
  
 ‘I have a great zeal for JeruSalem…  
 Over Zion, I’m very zealous!  
 15And I’ve been provoked by the nations,  
 Because they had joined to attack you.  
  
 ‘But, although you people provoked Me,  
 They planned their attack for bad [reasons].  
 16And because of this,’ said Jehovah,  
 ‘On JeruSalem, I’ll show mercy,  
 And My Temple will soon be rebuilt there.’  
  
Then Jehovah added:  
  
 ‘So, I’m stretching a line over JeruSalem.’  
  
17‘[And the messenger said]:  
  
 ‘Therefore, shout aloud [in joy] once again!  
 For Jehovah of Armies said this:  
  
 ‘To your cities, I’ll be sending good things;  
 For, I’ll show mercy on Zion,  
 Since Since <span class="placename">JeruSalemSince <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> is the place that I chose!’  
  
18Then, when I raised my eyes and looked, I saw four trumpets... 19So I asked the messenger (the one who was speaking to me):  
  
 ‘What are these, O Lord?’  
  
And he replied:  
  
 ‘These are the trumpets…  
 The ones who brought scattering to Judah,  
 As well as to IsraEl and JeruSalem.’  
  
20Then the Lord [messenger] showed me four workers. 21So I asked him:  
  
 ‘What have these come to do?’  
  
And he replied to Me, saying:  
  
 ‘They’ve come to cut down the trumpets  
 That brought scattering [to the people of] That brought scattering [to the people of] <span class="placename">Judah That brought scattering [to the people of] <span class="placename">Judah</span>,  
 And so much destruction upon And so much destruction upon <span class="placename">IsraEl And so much destruction upon <span class="placename">IsraEl</span>  
 That those who lived there could not raise their heads…  
 They’re the horns that the nations had raised  
 To scatter the land of Jehovah.’