



Series: The Minor Prophets

**Lesson: 45. Zechariah, pt. 1 – Turning
the Page**

Passage: Zech. 1:1–6

- **Introduction to Zechariah**

- Author: Zechariah the prophet, son of Berechiah, son of Iddo (cf. Neh. 12:4)
- Dates: 520–518 BC and beyond(...?) (cf. Ezra 5:1; 6:14)
- Theme: _____ future

- **The Exhortation from God: _____ to Me (vv1–3)**

- This was given shortly after Haggai's second prophecy (cf. Hag. 2:1–9).
- Attributing the Exile to God's anger is an important reminder that EVERY circumstance in our lives is an outworking of _____.

- The command is to _____ to God.
 - This is the word for 'repent' in the Old Testament.

- It's important to remember that God is speaking to them in the context of the _____.

- It's also worth noting that they are told to return to YHWH Himself, not Judaism *per se*.
 - All of God's commands are meant to draw us closer to Him, not to fulfill some external standard of morality.

- **The Warning: Learn from the _____ (vv4–6)**
 - Their fathers' punishment came with LOTS of warnings!
 - This is both an illustration of God's mercy, as well as a severe warning about the danger of ignoring _____.

 - He uses those questions to point out that only His Word is undefeated!

 - Once they were judged, those people couldn't help but acknowledge God's _____.
 - They repented ('returned') after suffering physical consequences, but there is no second chance for spiritual consequences!

What Do We Do with This Text?

1. Past punishments are meant to prevent present _____.

1 Cor. 10:11–12 – Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

2. No amount of religious background or behavior can substitute for our need to _____ . (cf. Zeph. 1:4–6)

Blanks: Israel's, Return, God's purposes, Return, Old Covenant, Past, God's Word, justice, pride, repent