

A cut-and-assemble book about

# **The Book of Zechariah**

(designed for ages 7-11)

by Ellen Johnston McHenry

I give permission for this booklet to be copied and distributed in the public domain as long as it is not used, in part or in whole, in any publication that will be sold for profit.

*This booklet is a study of the book of Zechariah from a traditional, non-denominational Christian viewpoint.*

You will need:

- copies of the pattern pages (most of them printed on card stock if possible)
- binding of some sort (plastic comb binding is best, if possible)
- colored pencils or crayons
- thin string (about a yard [1 meter] per booklet)
- one small washer per booklet (max. 3/8 inch [1 cm.] outside diameter)
- two paper fasteners per booklet (small ones, less than an inch long, if possible)
- an X-Acto knife (could substitute razor blade)
- scissors
- glue sticks (I recommend Elmer's extra strong glue sticks, not "school glue")
- stick-on jewels or craft jewels (and craft glue) for crown on last page

## **GENERAL DIRECTIONS:**

To make the booklet:

1) Copy the pages. Preferably, print them out using your printer, putting card stock into the paper tray. (Most printers will accept card stock, but you may want to check your owner's manual first if you have any doubts.) You could also use a photocopier if this is more convenient for you. The colored pictures will come out black and white, but if this method works better for you, then it is the best choice.

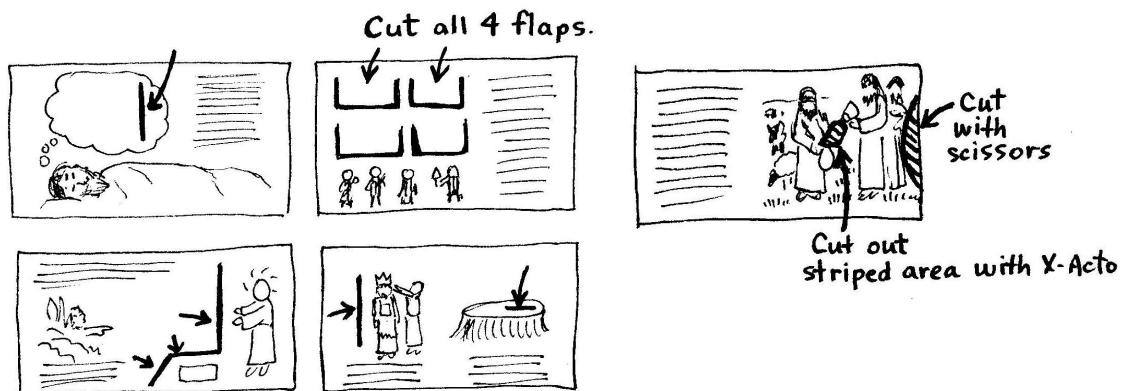
NOTE: There is one page that can be printed onto regular paper. It is labeled as such right at the top. (It is the one with the world map on it.) All the others will be better on card stock. However, if you cannot get card stock or cannot print onto card stock, go ahead and use regular paper. Card stock will just make everything a little bit more durable so the booklets will survive on your shelf longer.

ANOTHER NOTE: You could also use the type of paper called "vellum" or "bristol." This is thinner than card stock but thicker than paper. If you are afraid of issues with your printer, try vellum bristol. It is available at any office supply store right near the reams of card stock.

2) Use an X-Acto® knife or razor blade to pre-cut the following lines before you assemble book.

Pages:

2, 3, 5, 9, 13



3) Fold all the booklet pages in half.

4) Put the pages in order.

5) Bind the pages at the top. The very best option is to have them bound with plastic comb binding. Most office supply stores can do this for you. If comb binding is unavailable, you can improvise in one of the following ways:

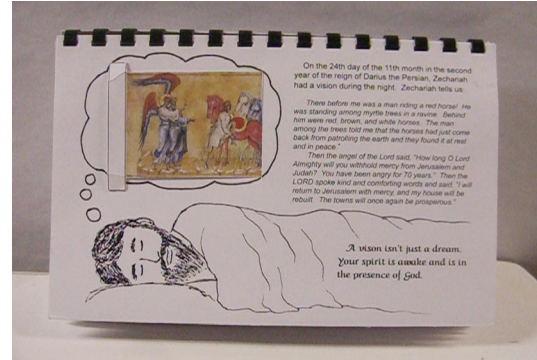
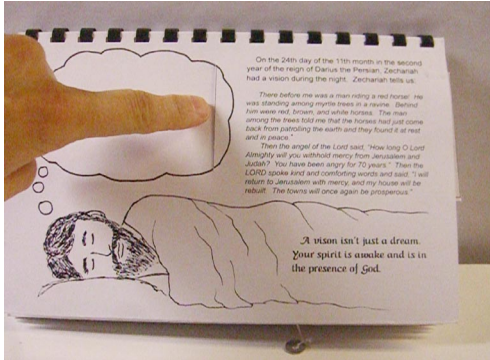
- Use a paper punch and put at least five holes along the top edge. Secure with paper fasteners or string or yarn.
- Use a very large needle threaded with string or heavy thread and gently sew the pages at the top, keeping the stitches about half an inch apart. (You may want to drill or punch small holes for the needle.)
- Staple along the top.

## **DIRECTIONS FOR EACH PAGE:**

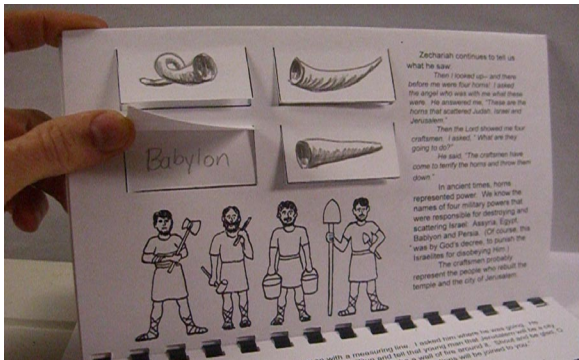
**COVER:** Color using colored pencils or crayons. In my class, I did not provide time specifically for this but used it as a "time fill" for students who finished other projects early.

**PAGE 1:** Nothing special needed.

**PAGE 2:** Cut out the slider tab that shows the old painting of the vision of Zechariah (with the colored horses) and tuck it into the slot so that it pulls in and out. (You must temporarily fold the edges of the tab that goes behind the picture, in order to put it through the slot. After it is through, unfold the tabs.)



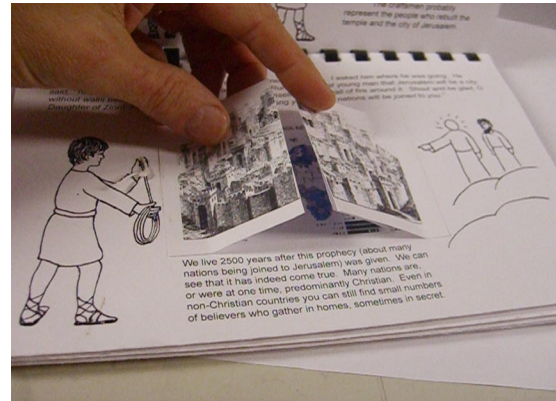
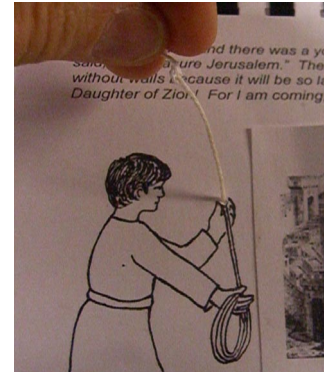
**PAGE 3:** Draw a horn on top of each of the four flaps. Then write one of these words under each flap: BABYLON, ASSYRIA, EGYPT, PERSIA.



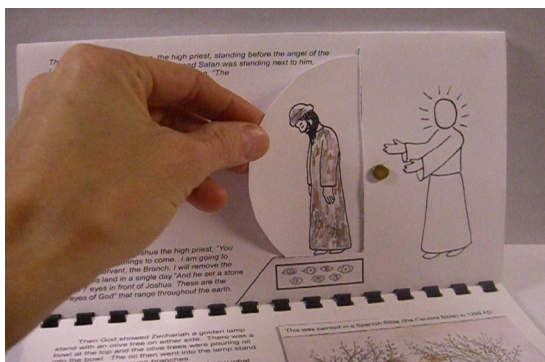
**PAGE 4:** For the man with the measuring line: Punch a tiny hole (use needle, pin, small nail, or head of ball point pen) right at the top of his hand where the string stops. Cut a length of thin string about 15 inches (or more or less- it doesn't matter how long). Push the end of the string through the hole and pull the string until half of it is on either side of the hole. Tie a knot in both ends of the string. To bring the string to its normal starting point, pull the string from behind until it disappears from view. Then, as you read the text, you can pull the string out of the

man's hand and pretend to measure Jerusalem. Then return the string again by putting your hand inside the folded page and making a stroking motion--- down, down, down. The string will be pulled back behind the picture again.

Now cut out the world map and fold in thirds along indicated lines. Then glue to square on page. Now cut out the picture of Jerusalem, and cut it in half. Glue the edges of the halves on either side of the folded map, to create flaps that will open and close. Thus, you open the picture of Jerusalem to reveal the world map.

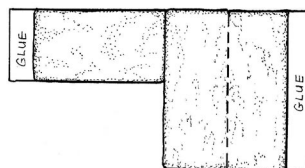
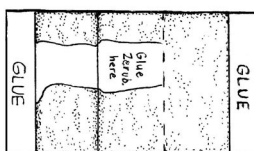


**PAGE 5:** Cut out the circle that has two images of Joshua the high priest. Use colored pencil or crayons to put some dirty brown smudges on the image that shows Joshua looking sad. Punch a small "starter" hole on both center dots-- the one at the center of the circle and the one on the page (near the slit). Use a paper fastener to put the circle in its place. When reading the page, make sure the dirty Joshua is showing. Then, at the proper point in the text, turn the wheel to see Joshua made clean.



Also, you will need to draw 7 eyes on the the rectangle (the stone) under Joshua.

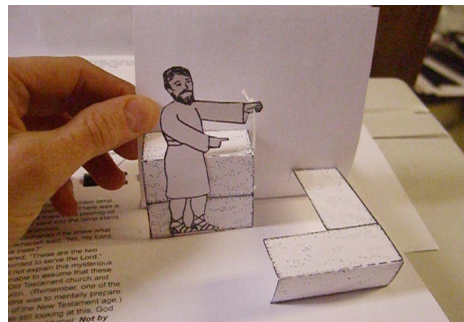
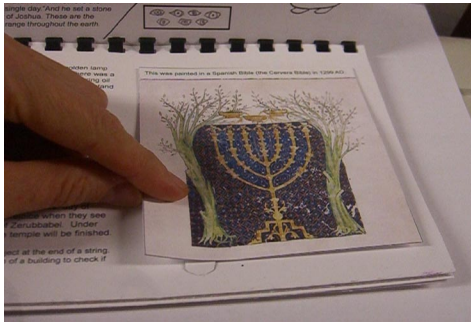
**PAGE 6:** Cut out these four pieces:





Fold the stone pieces on the dotted lines. (To get them to fold easily, score them first. You could use the tip of a scissor or nail. (A compass point works very well.) Don't scratch too hard--- just hard enough so that the paper folds easily.)

Glue the flap on the lampstand picture to the place indicated on the page. Press firmly.

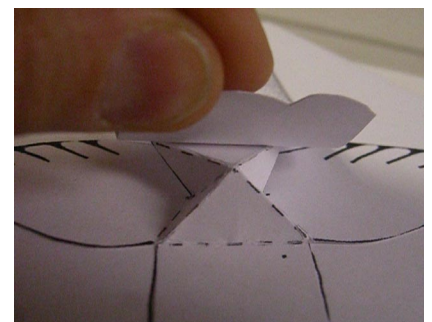
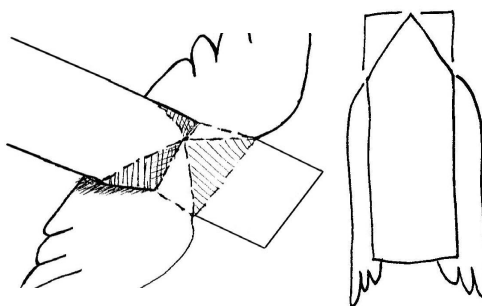


Glue the stone pieces in place as shown in the picture. Then glue Zerubbabel on the left stone. Before the glue sets, fold the flap down and make sure the picture flattens easily. If not, make adjustments and re-glue. I have found that it works well if you glue the flaps onto the base, then fold the pieces down the way they will be folded, rub some glue on the remaining flaps, then close the "lid" down on top of them and press firmly for about ten seconds. Then lift gently and see if your pieces pop up correctly. They usually do with this method.)

Poke a tiny hole (use a needle or small nail or the point of a pen) in Zerubbabel's hand. Cut a small length of string (6 inches or so). Tie a very small washer to one end. A tiny washer is recommended because it has some weight and will pull the string down. If you don't have a washer, you could substitute as necessary. Perhaps you might even use a small triangle of black paper glued to the end.

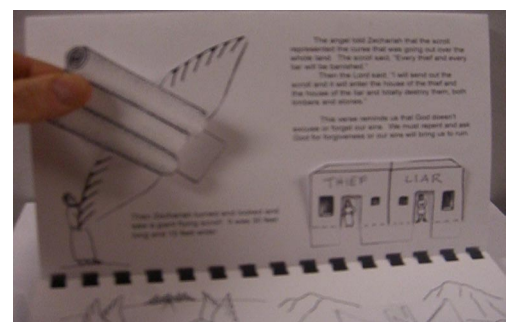
NOTE: Before you assemble this picture you might want to demonstrate how a plumb line works. Take a long piece of string or yard and tie something heavy to the end. Hold it against the wall and see if it is straight. You could also use your plumb line to accurately drop a small object into a bottle.

**PAGE 7:** Cut out the two pieces for the scroll-- the wing piece and the scroll itself. (For the wing piece, cut on the solid lines only. But make sure to cut the solid line that goes up into the wing area.)

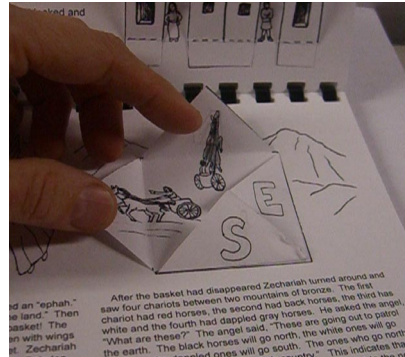
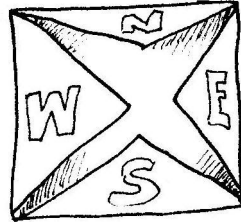
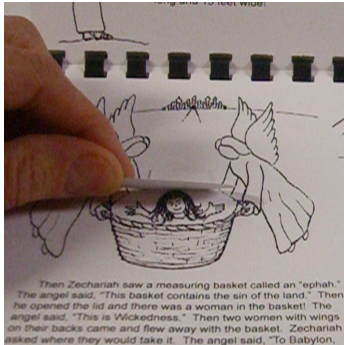


Fold all dotted lines on the wing piece, so they are creased well. Then fold the "X" to make "valleys" as shown in the first diagram. Notice how the wings begin to tuck under. Then fold those valleys completely in, making the wings go completely under so that (from above) it looks like the second diagram. Then glue the scroll on top. Finally, glue the end glue tab to the square on the page. After dry, you should be able to pull gently back and forth on the scroll, causing the wings to go up and down.

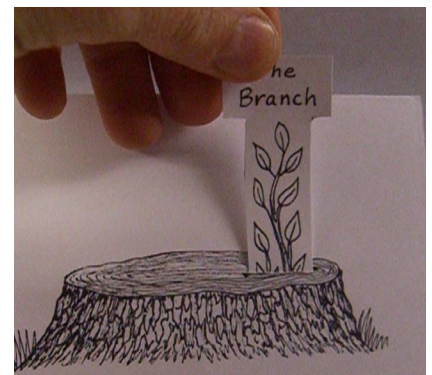
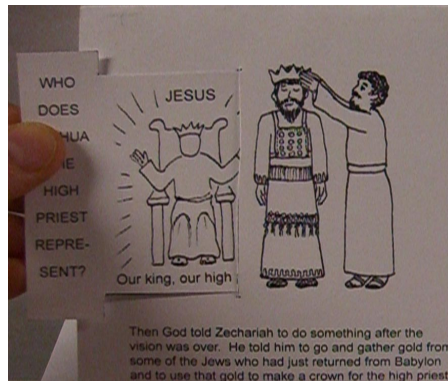
Cut out the flap with the two houses on it and glue in place, along the bottom glue flap. Write "THIEF" on one house and "LIAR" on the other.



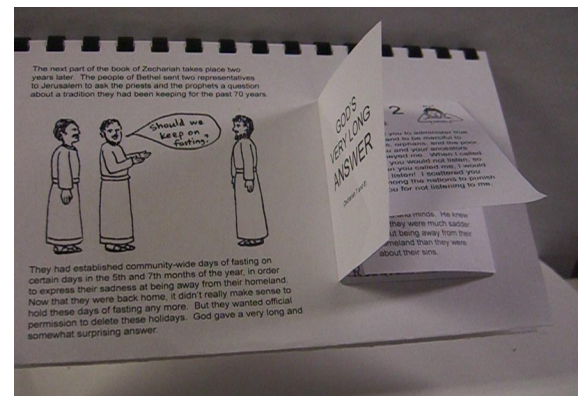
**PAGE 8:** Cut out the basket lid and glue flap onto picture so that the lid covers the woman. Then cut out the square with the four chariots. Fold in the corners of the chariot square so that the horse are hidden (and you have formed another square). Draw N, S, E and W on the outside of the appropriate flaps, as shown. (Make sure the square is oriented the right way and your horse are all right side up when you open the flaps!) Glue this square into place.



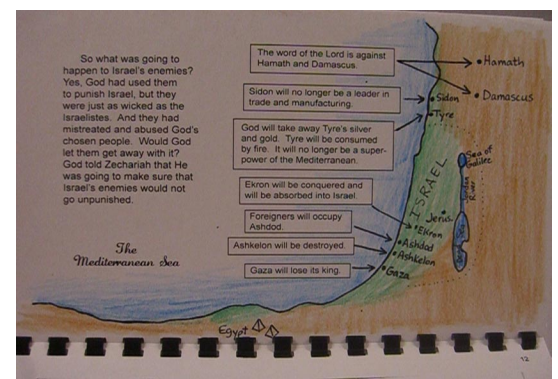
**PAGE 9:** Cut out the picture of Christ on his eternal throne. Place it inside the slot next to Joshua the High Priest. Cut out "The Branch" and place it inside the slot on the tree stump. (You must temporarily fold the edges of the tabs that go behind the pictures. Once they have passed through the slot, unfold and straighten them.)



**PAGE 10:** Cut out the large piece that has "God's very long answer" on it. Fold in the pages so that when you open them, they go in numerical order-- 1, 2, 3 4 (with the cover on the front, of course). Then glue it onto the rectangle on the page.



**PAGE 11:** This page just needs some color. Use colored pencils or crayons to add some light shades, as shown here. Make sure to color lightly so that you can still read all the words.





**PAGE 12:** First, cut out the top flap that has the picture of Zechariah prophesying and begins “God gave many prophecies through Zechariah.” Fold on the fold line at the top and glue that flap onto the page where indicated.

Next, cut out the crowd scene and glue it to the underside of the flap. Make sure the flap opens and closes easily. The bottom of the crowd scene could possibly stick at bit when the flap closes. (To prevent sticking, glue the crowd scene up a bit, about 1/16 inch from the base.)

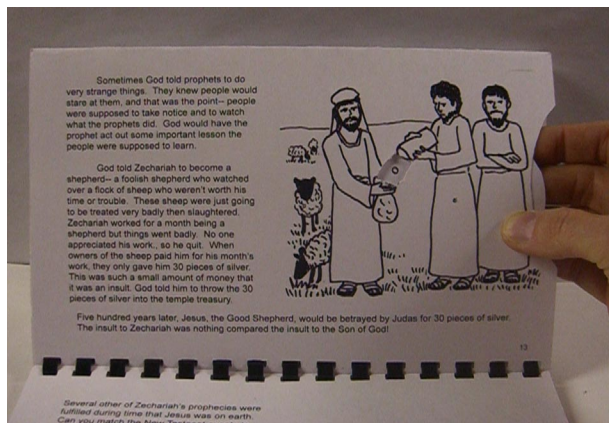
Then cut out the figure of Jesus on the donkey. Fold the flap at the bottom of the donkey and glue into place where indicated on the page. Then cut out the tab that is labeled “STAND-UP TAB FOR BACK OF DONKEY” fold on fold lines. Glue one side of the tab to the back of the donkey and the other to the crowd scene. Make sure the tab is parallel to the “floor.” Before the glue dries completely, fold down and make any adjustments necessary so the scene will pop up and down easily.

Finally, draw palm leaves and coats on the ground along the donkey’s path.



**PAGE 13:** Cut out the wheel with the dots on it. The dots represent silver coins. Punch a small hole in the center of the wheel and also on the dot on page 13 (it’s on the “skirt” of the central figure). Insert the wheel behind the picture, and secure with a paper fastener. When the wheel is turned, it should look like the coins are dropping into Zechariah’s bag. (You can count 30 coins into the bag if you want to!)

(NOTE: The striped areas should have been cut out before the pages were assembled. If this hasn’t been done, you will need to cut these out before fastening in the coin circle.)



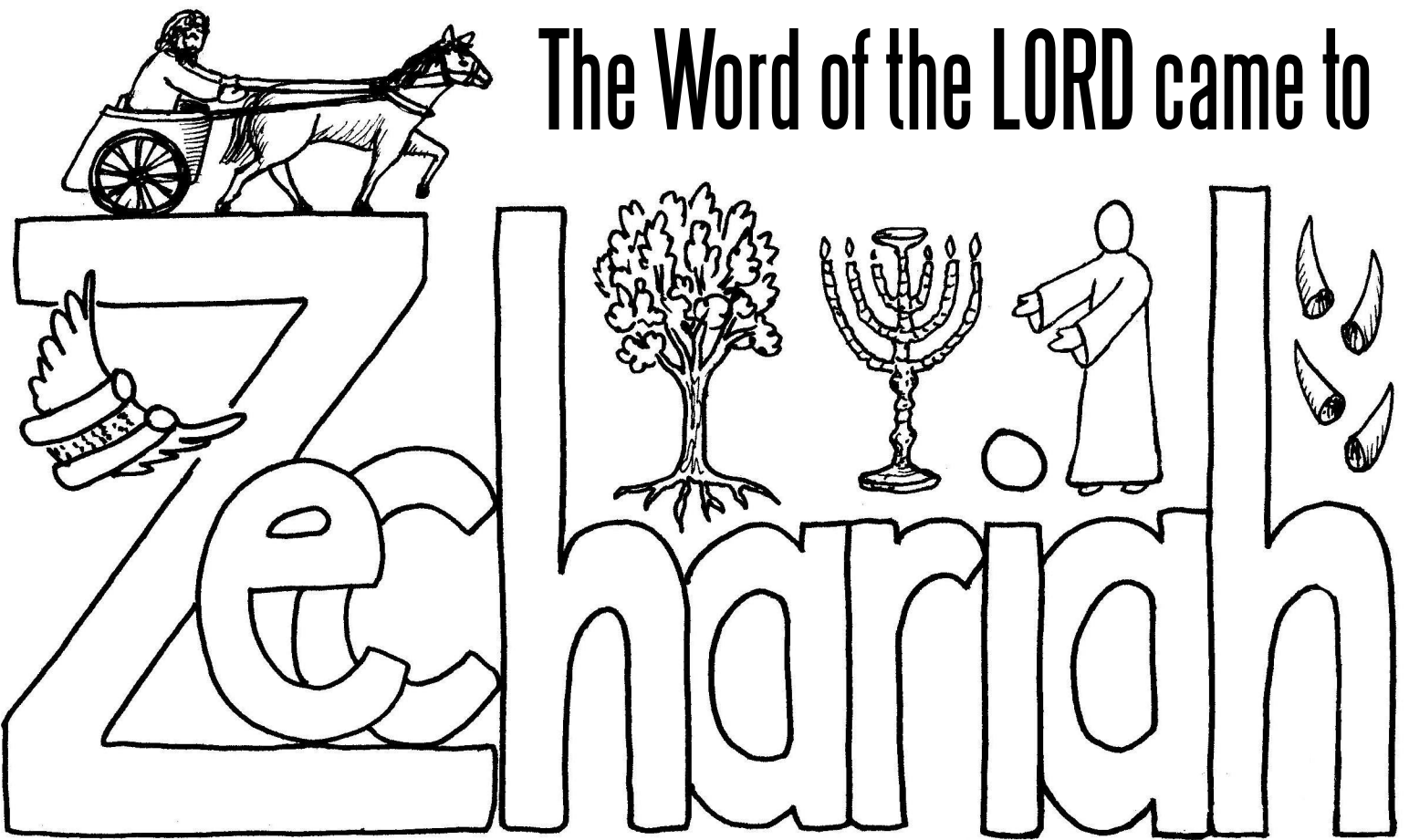
**PAGE 14:** This page doesn’t need anything except possibly a little color on the tiny pictures. The students can draw lines matching up the prophecies, or let it be a “finger activity” they can do each time they read the book.

**PAGE 15:** On this page, the students are to draw a their own picture. They read (or listen to) the verse very carefully, then choose something from the verse that they would like to draw. Perhaps they might draw a picture of a man standing on a mountain split in two, or a battle scene, or a sun shining in the sky and a river flowing from a city? They can draw whatever they want to from this verse.

**PAGE 16:** This page needs a crown with jewels on it. I suggest finding some pictures of crowns to use as inspiration (easily found with an Internet image search engine). You can simply draw a crown using colored pencils or crayons, or you can do something more ambitious and use sparkly glitter paint and stick-on plastic jewels. Use whatever craft materials you have available.

# The Word of the LORD came to

# Zechariah



## **Who was Zechariah?**

We know that his father's name was Berekiah and his grandfather's name was Iddo. Zechariah's family was part of the priesthood. Zechariah is called the son of Iddo several other places in the Bible, so this might mean his father died when he was young and he was raised by his grandfather. But we don't know for sure.

## **When did he live?**

We don't know when he was born or when he died, but we know his first vision was in the year 520 B.C.

## **What was going on in Israel at this time?**

The first group of captives had just returned from Babylon to Israel 16 years before Zechariah's first vision. The temple was being rebuilt by Zerubbabel and Nehemiah. Other prophets, such as Haggai, were also prophesying at this time. A man named Joshua (or Jeshua--the Hebrew form of Jesus) was the high priest at this time.

## **Who was ruling Israel at this time?**

King Darius of Persia ruled Israel at this time. Darius gave permission for the Jews to return and to rebuild Jerusalem. (This is probably not the same Darius that is in the lion's den story.)



Michelangelo painted Zechariah onto the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. We don't know what Zechariah really looked like, though. (Michelangelo guessed.)



On the 24th day of the 11th month in the second year of the reign of Darius the Persian, Zechariah had a vision during the night. Zechariah tells us:

*There before me was a man riding a red horse! He was standing among myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind him were red, brown, and white horses. The man among the trees told me that the horses had just come back from patrolling the earth and they found it at rest and in peace.*

*Then the angel of the Lord said, "How long O Lord Almighty will you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and Judah? You have been angry for 70 years." Then the LORD spoke kind and comforting words and said, "I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and my house will be rebuilt. The towns will once again be prosperous."*

**A vision isn't just a dream.  
Your spirit is awake and is in  
the presence of God.**

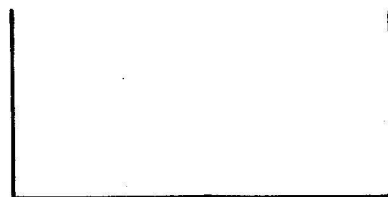


Zechariah continues to tell us what he saw:

*Then I looked up-- and there before me were four horns! I asked the angel who was with me what these were. He answered me, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, Israel and Jerusalem."*

*Then the Lord showed me four craftsmen. I asked, "What are they going to do?"*

*He said, "The craftsmen have come to terrify the horns and throw them down."*



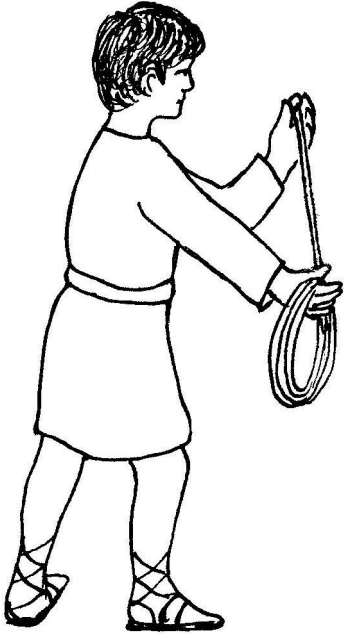
In ancient times, horns represented power. We know the names of four military powers that were responsible for destroying and scattering Israel: Assyria, Egypt, Bablyon and Persia. (Of course, this was by God's decree, to punish the Israelites for disobeying Him.)

The craftsmen probably represent the people who rebuilt the temple and the city of Jerusalem.



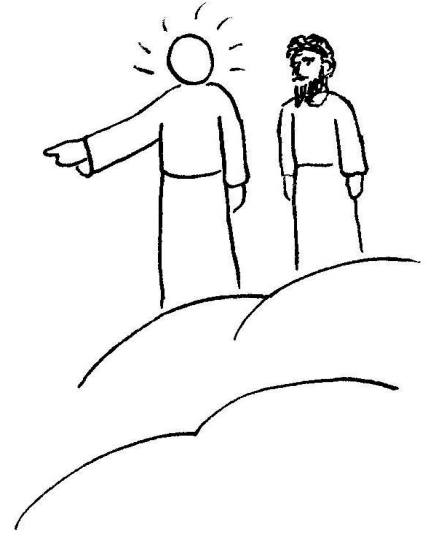
*Then I looked up and there was a young man with a measuring line. I asked him where he was going. He said, "To measure Jerusalem." Then an angel said, "Run and tell that young man that Jerusalem will be a city without walls because it will be so large. And God himself will be a wall of fire around it. Shout and be glad, O Daughter of Zion! For I am coming, and I will live among you. Many nations will be joined to you."*

Like this young man, the Israelites thought of Jerusalem as a physical place-- an actual city that could be measured. God is trying to prepare them for the huge shift that will occur when the Messiah comes. "Jerusalem" will become a spiritual, symbolic place because God's kingdom will be everywhere, in every nation. You can't measure spiritual things.



Glue world map here, then cut Jerusalem in half, place the two halves on top of the map, then glue the sides down so that Jerusalem opens to reveal the map.

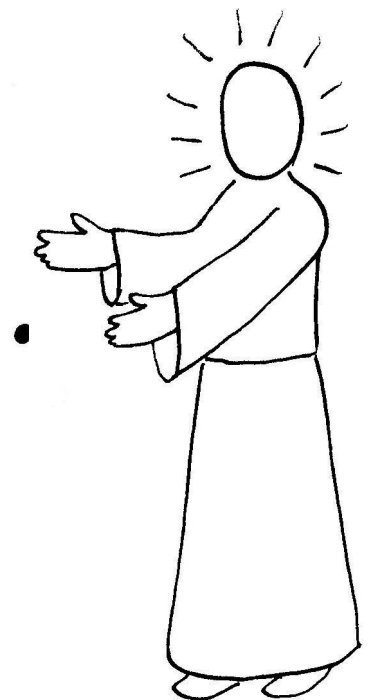
We live 2500 years after this prophecy (about many nations being joined to Jerusalem) was given. We can see that it has indeed come true. Many nations are, or were at one time, predominantly Christian. Even in non-Christian countries you can still find small numbers of believers who gather in homes, sometimes in secret.



*Then he showed me Joshua, the high priest, standing before the angel of the Lord. He was wearing filthy clothes and Satan was standing next to him, accusing him. Then the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan!" Then the angel commanded that clean clothes be brought for Joshua, and he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin."*



*Then the Lord told Joshua the high priest, "You are symbolic of things to come. I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. I will remove the sin of this land in a single day." And he set a stone with 7 eyes in front of Joshua. These are the "eyes of God" that range throughout the earth.*



Then God showed Zechariah a golden lampstand with an olive tree on either side. There was a bowl at the top and the olive trees were pouring oil into the bowl. The oil flowed into the seven branches of the lampstand. (The oil was the fuel that keep the wicks on the lamp burning.)

The angel asked Zechariah if he knew what these represented. Zechariah said, "No, my Lord. What are the two olive trees?"

The angel answered, "These are the two witnesses who are anointed to serve the Lord."

Although God did not explain this mysterious saying, it is very reasonable to assume that these two witnesses are the Old Testament church and the New Testament church. (Remember, one of the main goals of these visions was to mentally prepare the Jews for the coming of the New Testament age.)

While Zechariah was still looking at this, God told him, "This is my word to Zerubbabel: **Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty.** Don't despise this "day of small things." Everyone will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. Under Zerubbabel's leadership, the temple will be finished.

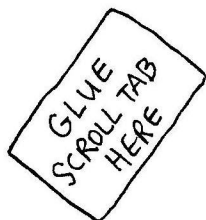
A plumb line is a heavy object at the end of a string. It is used during the construction of a building to check if the walls are straight.

GLUE LAMPSTAND/OLIVE TREE TAB HERE

Glue tab for stone/Zerub here (match stars)



Glue tab for other stones here (match triangles)



Then Zechariah turned and looked and saw a giant flying scroll! It was 30 feet long and 15 feet wide!

The angel told Zechariah that the scroll represented the curse that was going out over the whole land. The scroll said, "Every thief and every liar will be banished."

Then the Lord said, "I will send out the scroll and it will enter the house of the thief and the house of the liar and totally destroy them, both timbers and stones." (This curse was simply the punishment they deserved for their sins.)

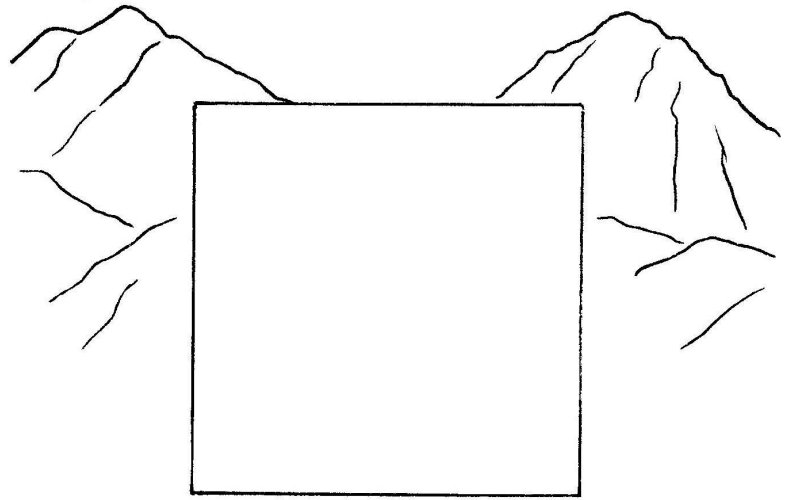
This verse reminds us that God doesn't excuse or forget our sins. We must repent and ask God for forgiveness or our sins will bring us to ruin.



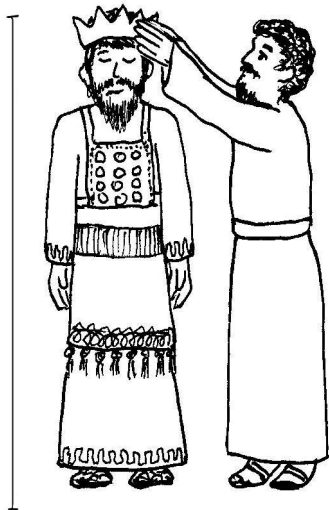




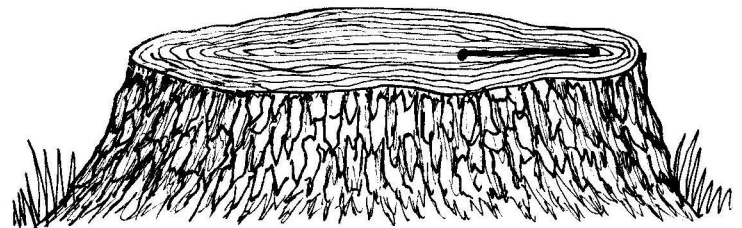
Then Zechariah saw a measuring basket called an “ephah.” The angel said, “This basket contains the sin of the land.” Then he opened the lid and there was a woman in the basket! The angel said, “This is Wickedness.” Then two women with wings on their backs came and flew away with the basket. Zechariah asked where they would take it. The angel said, “To Babylon, to put it in a place that has been built for it.” This shows us that God is preparing to rid the world of sin once and for all. First, Jesus came and removed the sin of God’s people. Then, on Judgement Day, God will banish all sin and evil to a place he is preparing for it-- a place we call Hell.



After the basket had disappeared Zechariah turned around and saw four chariots between two mountains of bronze. The first chariot had red horses, the second had black horses, the third had white and the fourth had dappled gray horses. He asked the angel, “What are these?” The angel said, “These are going out to patrol the earth. The black horses will go north, the white ones will go west and the dappled ones will go south. The ones who go north will set my Spirit at rest in the north country.” This indicates that God’s plan involving punishment of Israel by countries to the north (notably Assyria and Persia) had finally come to an end, and God was going to bring a time of peace for the Jews.



Then God told Zechariah to do something after the vision was over. He told him to go and gather gold from some of the Jews who had just returned from Babylon and to use that gold to make a crown for the high priest, whose name was Joshua (Yeshua). Zechariah was then to proclaim, “Here is the man whose name is The Branch. And this Branch will sit on his throne, clothed in majesty. He will be a priest upon his throne.”



One of God’s symbolic names for the Messiah was “The Branch” because he would be like a fresh new branch growing out of the old dead stump that represented Israel. The Old Covenant was going to end and the New Covenant would begin with a man named Joshua (Yeshua). The Greek form of this Hebrew word is “Jesus.”

The next part of the book of Zechariah takes place two years later. The people of Bethel sent two representatives to Jerusalem to ask the priests and the prophets a question about a tradition they had been keeping for the past 70 years.

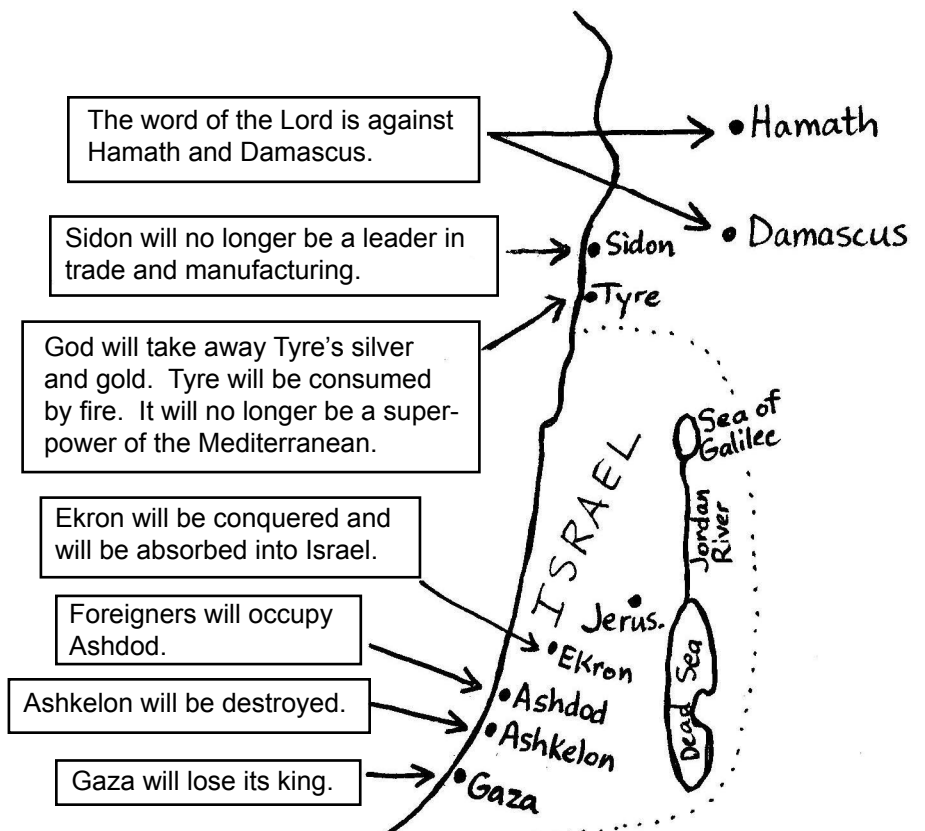


GLUE  
ANSWER  
BOOKLET  
HERE

They had established community-wide days of fasting on certain days in the 5th and 7th months of the year, in order to express their sadness at being away from their homeland. Now that they were back home, it didn't really make sense to hold these days of fasting any more. But they wanted official permission to delete these holidays. God gave a very long and somewhat surprising answer.

So what was going to happen to Israel's enemies? Yes, God had used them to punish Israel, but they were just as wicked as the Israelites. And they had mistreated and abused God's chosen people. Would God let them get away with it? God told Zechariah that He was going to make sure that Israel's enemies would not go unpunished.

*The  
Mediterranean Sea*



Glue “Zechariah prophecying” flap here

Glue donkey tab here

Sometimes God told prophets to do very strange things. They knew people would stare at them, and that was the point-- people were supposed to take notice and to watch what the prophets did. God would have the prophet act out some important lesson the people were supposed to learn.

God told Zechariah to become a shepherd-- a foolish shepherd who watched over a flock of sheep who weren't worth his time or trouble. These sheep were just going to be treated very badly then slaughtered. Zechariah worked for a month being a shepherd but things did not go well. No one appreciated his work, so he quit. When owners of the sheep paid him for his month's work, they only gave him 30 pieces of silver. This was such a small amount of money that it was an insult. God told him to throw the 30 pieces of silver into the temple treasury.



Five hundred years later, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, would be betrayed by Judas for 30 pieces of silver. The insult to Zechariah was nothing compared to the insult to the Son of God!

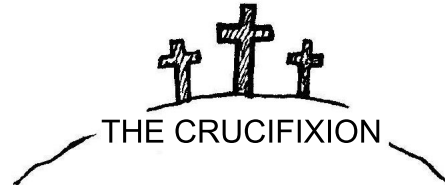


Several other of Zechariah's prophecies were fulfilled during the time that Jesus was on earth. Can you match the New Testament events to these prophecies?

*"I will pour out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of compassion and supplication so that when they look on him whom they have pierced they will mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child."*

*"On that day there shall be a fountain opened up for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness."*

*"Strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered."*



Some of Zechariah's prophecies are yet to be fulfilled.

*"Behold a day is coming when I will gather all nations to fight against Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be plundered. But then the Lord will go forth to do battle against those nations. His feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives and the mount shall be split in two making a wide valley and everyone shall flee. And then the Lord your God will come, and his holy ones with him. That day shall never end, for when evening comes it will be light. And on that day, living waters shall flow forth from Jerusalem, and the Lord will become King over the whole earth."*

Draw a picture using one or more images from this passage:

The book of Zechariah ends with a feeling of “and they all lived happily ever after.” God’s enemies are gone and His people live in complete happiness for ever and ever. Everyone will be holy. Even the bells on the horses will be inscribed with the words “Holy to the Lord.” There will no longer be a need to distinguish between things that holy and things that are not holy, because everyone and everything will have been made holy by the Lord.

The best verse to end with is in chapter 9, verse 16:

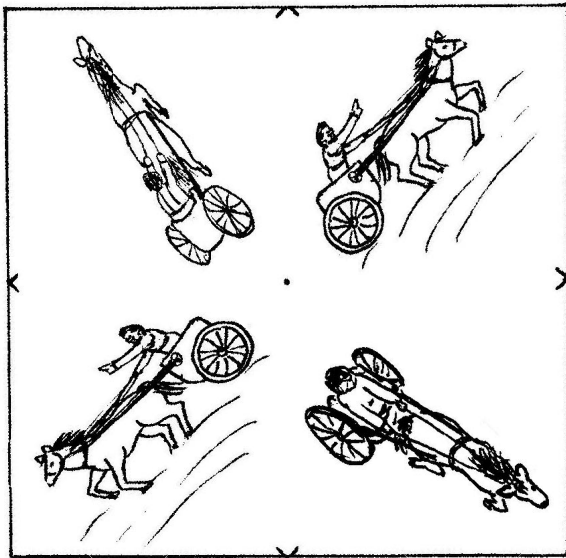
*“The Lord their God will save them on that day, for they the people of his flock.*

*They will sparkle in the land like jewels in a crown. How attractive and beautiful they will be!”*

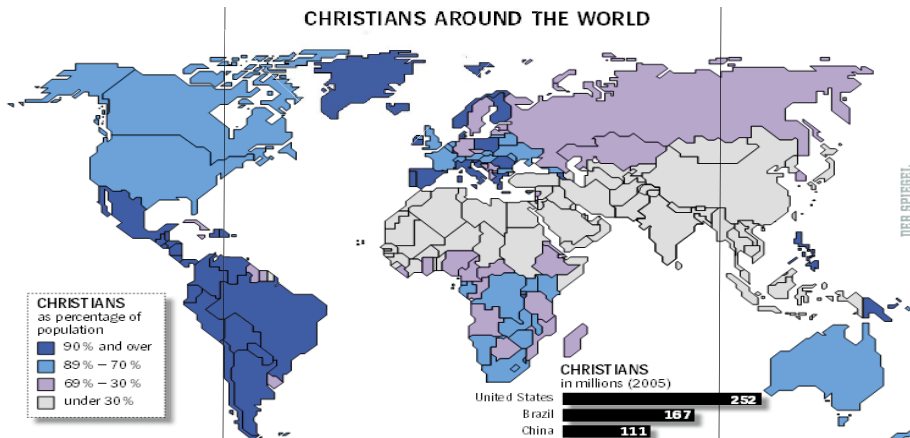
---

This book belongs to

**COPY THIS PAGE ONTO  
REGULAR PAPER**



Fold on the vertical lines so the ends fold in.

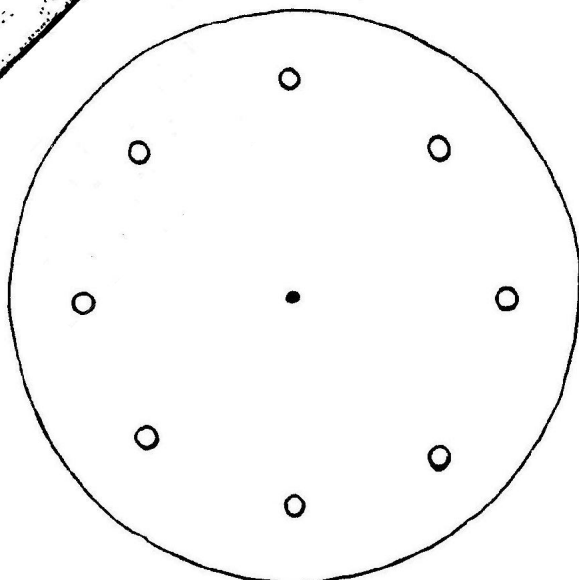
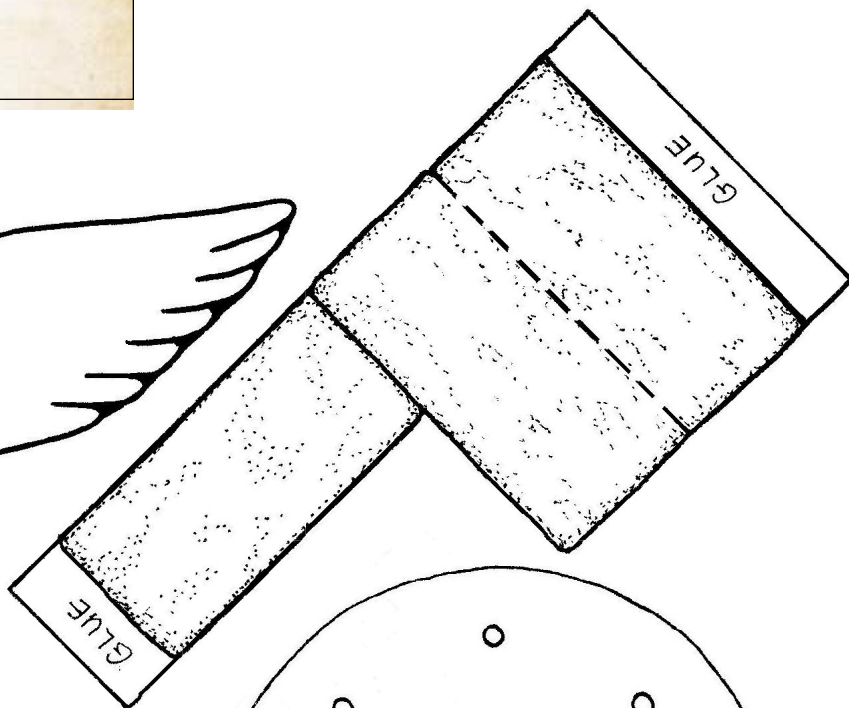
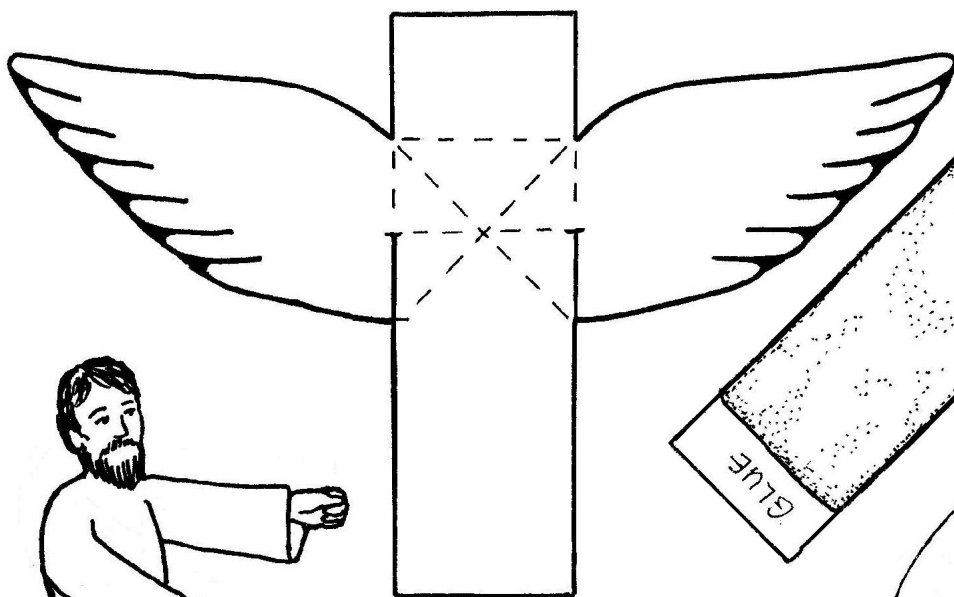
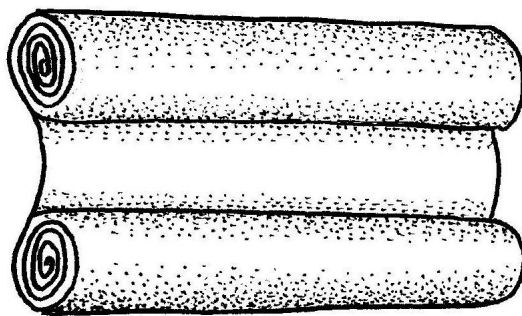
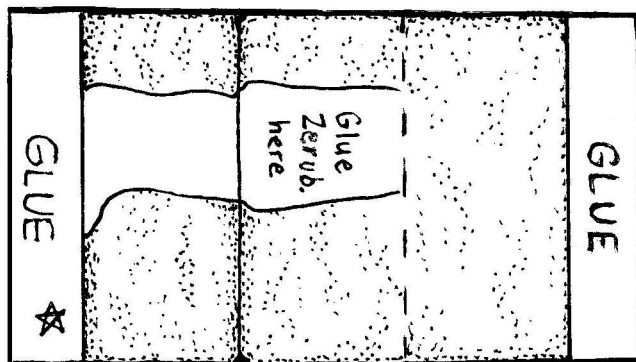


All the blue and purple areas are places where Christianity is the dominant religion. (Zechariah would have been amazed!) Even in the gray areas, you will still find believers scattered here and there. There are very few countries that have no believers at all.

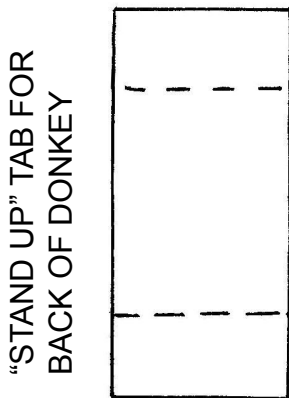
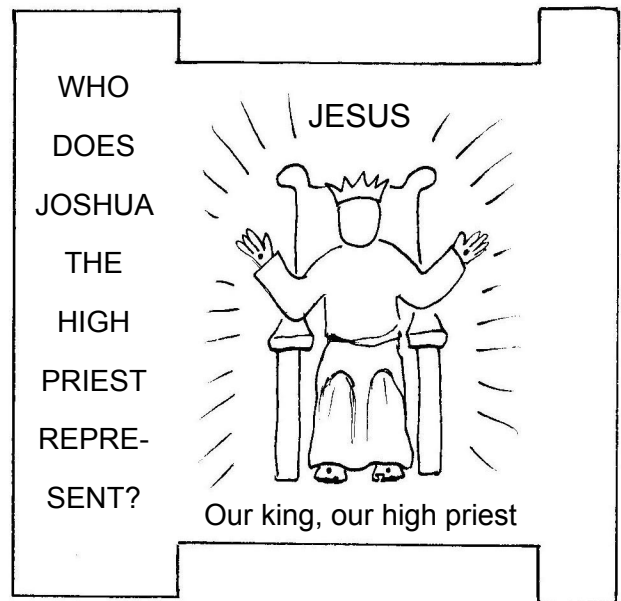
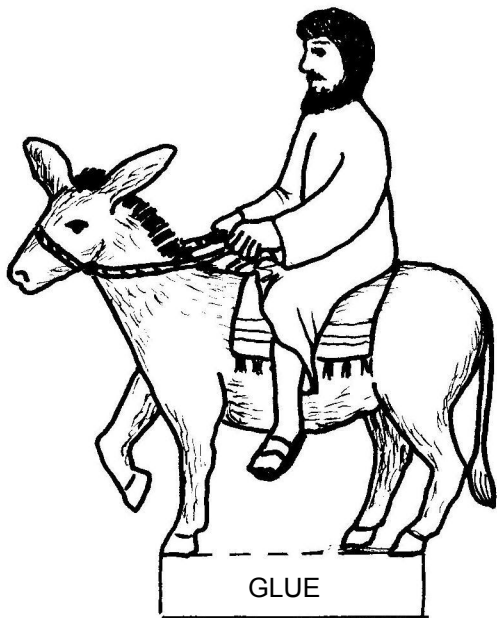




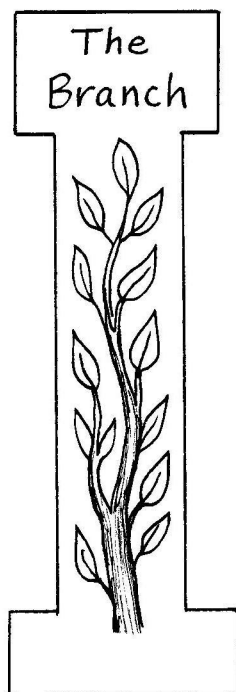
This was painted in a Spanish Bible (the Cervera Bible) in 1299 AD.



COPY THIS PAGE ONTO "CARD STOCK" PAPER (VERY THICK PAPER)



You don't have to cut around every arm and palm branch! You can just cut around the whole group if you want to.



**COPY THIS PAGE ONTO  
"CARD STOCK" PAPER  
(VERY THICK PAPER)**

This is a painting from the Middle Ages.



This is a very old painting of Zechariah's vision. It was painted during the Middle Ages.

Glue this tab to the top of page 12

God gave many prophecies through Zechariah. Some of these were fulfilled by Jesus. Some were fulfilled when the temple was destroyed for the last time in 70 AD. Other prophecies have not been fulfilled yet, and seem to be predictions concerning the return of Jesus. Some of Zechariah's prophecies are easy to understand. Others are very mysterious and no one really knows exactly what they mean.

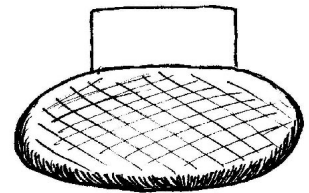
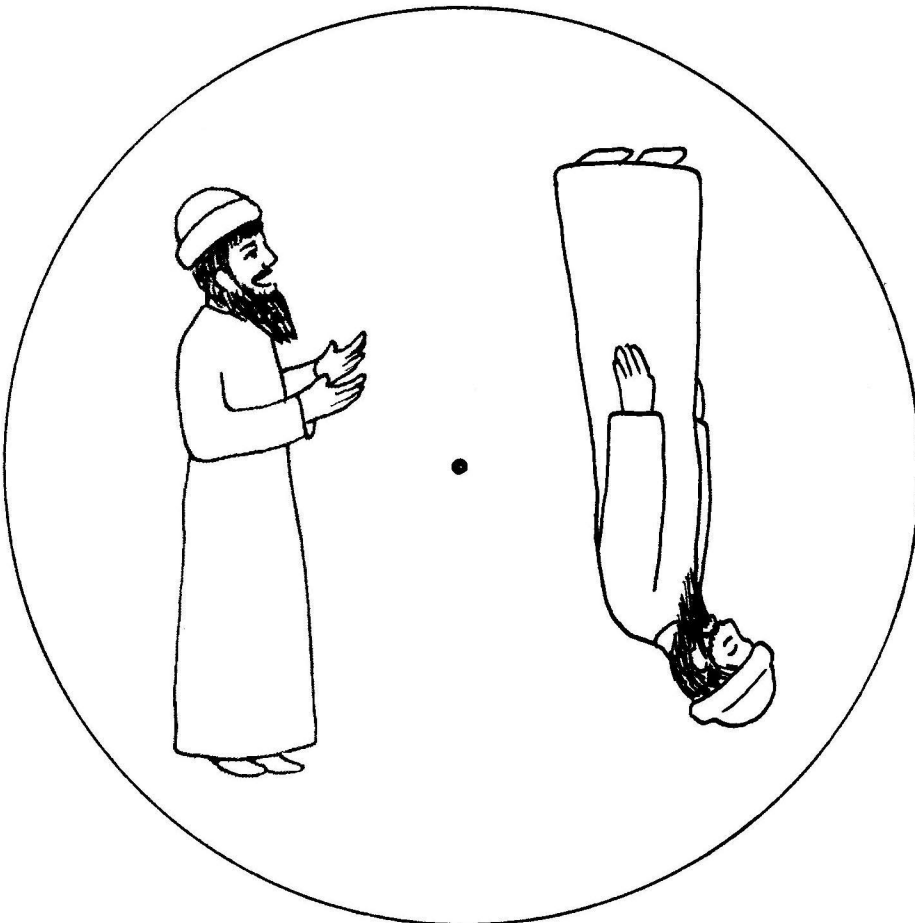
Here's one of the easy-to-understand prophecies.  
How it was fulfilled?

Chapter 9, verse 9:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey.



**COPY THIS PAGE ONTO  
"CARD STOCK" PAPER  
(VERY THICK PAPER)**



NOTICE that number 4 is separate from the main cross-shaped section. Number 4 gets cut out separately then glued in place inside the booklet, under all the other pages.

4



Finally, God said:

*The fasts of the 5th and 7th months will now be times of joy and gladness. Make them into happy festivals!*

**BUT**...don't forget to always speak the truth, administer true justice in your courts, and to never plot evil against your neighbor.

*I told you to administer true justice and to be merciful to widows, orphans, and the poor. You and your ancestors disobeyed me. When I called you, you would not listen, so when you called me, I would not listen! I scattered you among the nations to punish you for not listening to me.*



God said:

2

1



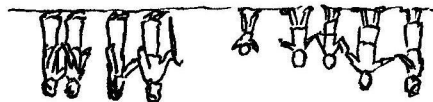
God said:

*Was it really for me that you fasted? And when you feasted, wasn't it for yourselves?*

God could see into their hearts and minds. He knew that they were much sadder about being away from their homeland than they were about their sins.

## GOD'S VERY LONG ANSWER

(Zechariah 7 and 8)



*I will return to Jerusalem and dwell in it. Once again, the streets will be full of old people and young children. I will bring my people from far countries to live in Jerusalem, and I will be their God.*

Then God said something very encouraging:

3

**COPY THIS PAGE ONTO  
REGULAR PAPER**