December 7–13
Haggai; Zechariah 1–4; 7–14
“Holiness Unto the Lord”



Commandment to Rebuild the Temple

Hag 1:3-7

What was missing from the people's lives that kept them from finding satisfaction despite their efforts to prosper?

Terence M. Vinson

“Somewhat hidden in the Old Testament book of Haggai is a description of a group of people who... got it wrong by not placing Christ at the center of their lives and their service. Haggai paints some thought-provoking word pictures as he reprimands these people for staying in their comfortable houses instead of building the Lord’s temple....

“Don’t you love those descriptions of the futility of prioritizing things of no eternal consequence above the things of God?” (CR, Oct. 2019)

Commandment to Rebuild the Temple

Hag 2:6-7,18-19,22

How will the Lord bless His people for making the temple a priority?

Commandment to Rebuild the Temple

Zech 6:15

Jerusalem in the Last Days

D&C 45:47-53

47) Then shall the arm of the Lord fall upon the nations.

48) And then shall the Lord set his foot upon this mount, and it shall cleave in twain, and the earth shall tremble, and reel to and fro, and the heavens also shall shake.

49) And the Lord shall utter his voice, and all the ends of the earth shall hear it; and the nations of the earth shall mourn, and they that have laughed shall see their folly.

50) And calamity shall cover the mocker, and the scorner shall be consumed; and they that have watched for iniquity shall be hewn down and cast into the fire.

51) And then shall the Jews look upon me and say: What are these wounds in thine hands and in thy feet?

52) Then shall they know that I am the Lord; for I will say unto them: These wounds are the wounds with which I was wounded in the house of my friends. I am he who was lifted up. I am Jesus that was crucified. I am the Son of God.

53) And then shall they weep because of their iniquities; then shall they lament because they persecuted their king.

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 2:10-12

Could you make a case that this prophecy has been or is being fulfilled in our day?

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 12:2-3

How will Jerusalem become a source of trouble and conflict for the nations of the world?

Could you make a case that this prophecy has been or is being fulfilled in our day?

Neal A. Maxwell

“The Middle East has been at the intersection of human history so many times! Yet in our time the words of Zechariah are especially descriptive, saying that Jerusalem is to be ‘a cup of trembling’ for ‘all the people round about” and “a burdensome stone for all people’” (CR, April 1988)

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 9:13-17

Could you make a case that this prophecy has been or is being fulfilled in our day?

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 4:11-14

What do we learn about these two prophets from the Lord's description in verse 14?

Orson Pratt

“By means of their prophecies and the power of God attending them, the nations who are gathered together against Jerusalem will be kept at bay, these Prophets will hold them in check by their faith and power. By and by these nations overcome the two witnesses and, having finished their mission, they are slain, and their bodies will lie three days and a half in the streets of the city. Then a great earthquake will take place, and these two witnesses will be caught up to heaven.” (JD, 16:326)

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 14:2

Bruce R. McConkie

“All the desolation and waste which attended the former destruction of Jerusalem is but prelude to the coming siege.... In the coming reenactment of this "abomination of desolation," the whole world will be at war, Jerusalem will be the center of the conflict.… In the midst of the siege the Son of Man shall come, setting his foot upon the mount of Olives and fighting the battle of his saints.” (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 1: 659)

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 4:4-5

How will the Lord's appearance on the Mount of Olives change the outcome of the battle for Jerusalem?

Orson Pratt

"While they are in the very act of destroying Jerusalem, behold the heavens are rent, and the Son of God with all the heavenly hosts appears, and he descends and rests upon the summit of the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east. And so great will be the power of God that will then be made manifest, that the mountain will divide asunder, half going towards the south, and half towards the north, producing a great valley going east and west, from the walls of Jerusalem eastward.

"What next? The Jews that are not taken captive by these nations, will flee to the valleys of the mountains.... The personage they have been looking for some eighteen hundred years is the true Messiah, and now, say they-'He has come to deliver us.'" (JD, 18:65)

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 13:6
Zech 12:10-12

What will the Lord give the Jews that will bring them to a sure knowledge that Jesus Christ is their promised Messiah?

Why do you think the Jews mourn so deeply when they recognize that Jesus Christ is the Messiah they had rejected and crucified?

Ezekiel 36:26-28

26) A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27) And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

28) And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Joseph Fielding Smith

“Then they will accept Him as their Redeemer, which they have never been willing to do. Then is the time as spoken of in this passage from Zechariah when… they will mourn and they will weep because they were not willing to accept the Son of God but accepted the teachings of their fathers and rejected their Redeemer and Messiah. Then they will fall down at His feet and worship Him. After these days will come their redemption and the building of Jerusalem.” (Signs of the Times, pg. 171–72)

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 13:1

Orson Pratt

“A stream will break out from under the threshold of the Temple, says the Prophet, and it will run eastward, and will probably pass directly through the deep valley made by the parting of the Mount of Olives….

“This is the fountain that Zechariah says is open to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of David for sin and uncleanness…. Then the Jews will receive the Gospel and they will be cleansed from all their sins by being baptized in water for their remission.” (JD, 18:66)

Jerusalem in the Last Days

Zech 8:3,23
Zech 14:9,11

What will change in the world when Jesus Christ reigns as King over all the earth?

John Taylor

“The Lord will be king over all the earth, and all mankind literally under his sovereignty, and every nation under the heavens will have to acknowledge his authority, and bow to his scepter. He will enforce his laws, and command that obedience from the nations of the world which is legitimately his right. Satan will not then be permitted to control its inhabitants, for the Lord God will be king over all the earth.” (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: John Taylor, pg. 225)

Next Week:

December 14–20

Malachi

“I Have Loved You, Saith the Lord”

