

"The Man Who Talked With Angels"  
(ZECHARIAH - He whom God Remembers)

It's always encouraging to have someone you can feel secure with. Zechariah had such a friend in Haggai.

I. THE TIMES:

1. The Jews were back in their homeland after years of exile.
2. Under the pressure of discouragement and need, they were beginning to fall out of rebuilding the temple.
3. Haggai had begun to stir them into new activity and Zechariah helped keep their interest up.

II. THE MAN:

1. Zechariah was young and probably born in exile.
2. He became very concerned that God's house was still in ruins.
3. He joined Haggai in the effort of rebuilding the temple.
4. Zechariah never rebukes or condemns the people, always he encourages them.
5. He paints glowing pictures in vivid, striking colors of God's presence who will strengthen and help.

III. THE BOOK:

1. 1 - 6 - Visions of cheer.
  - 1:1 - 6 - Call to obey.
  - 1:7 - 6:8 - Visions of assurance:
    - The Horsemen (1:7-17)
    - The Four Horns and the Four Smiths (1:18-21)
    - The Man With the Measuring Line (2:1-13)
    - Joshua Accused By the Adversary (3:1-10)
    - The Golden Chandelier and the Two Olive Trees (4:1-14)
    - The Flying Roll (5:1-4)
    - The Woman in the Ephah (5:5-11)
    - The Four Chariots (6:1-8)
2. 6:8 - 15 - The Coronation Scene.

IV. TEACHING LESSONS:

1. A high regard for God's purpose in the world.
2. The world-wide reach of God's kingdom. (2:11; 6:15; 8:23; 14:16)
3. The coming Messiah as vindicated, victorious, and lovely. (2:10; 3:8; 6:12; 9:9-17; 11:4-14; 12:10; 13:7-9; 14:8)
4. The divine sovereignty of God. (14:7-11)

V. LESSONS OF VALUE:

1. Dynamic preaching often restores drooping faith.
2. The true worth of a nation, or individual, is to be found in their devotion to God.
3. The pastor still hears the challenge of God to feed, guide, and guard the flock.
4. There is joy in knowing that at the close of day, there will be light in the morning.
5. A house of worship is necessary for the proper development of the believer.
6. It is important that God's children maintain a hopeful, optimistic outlook - knowing that He cannot fail.
7. Outward signs of repentance are useless unless the heart has been changed.