

Summary of Sermon from Zechariah 9 given by Rev. Angelee Frederick on 10.05.2026

The oracle of Zechariah 9 was used to speak hope and encouragement to the dispirited Jewish remnant who gave little priority to rebuilding the Lord's house.

Although they faced fear, hardship, and threats from hostile nations, yet, God's word to them was such that they were to rejoice, grow and rebuild. They were given comfort that they would have a Messianic King who would be humble, righteous and would bring them salvation and peace, which would extend to the nations of the world.

The hope that was given to the Jewish remnant can be appropriated to us because of our similar challenges and experiences of war, rumours of war and our Messiah's call to build his kingdom. So, let's take a deeper dive into Zechariah 9, focusing on verses 9-11.

1. Zechariah's first oracle in Chapter 9

Zechariah, now older in age than when he gave his eight visions, delivers a major oracle; a message that came directly from God, and contained:

- **Judgment on the foreign nations** of Hadrach, Hamath Damascus, Aram, Sidon, Tyre, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, Ashdod (Zech 9:1-6). This was [later] fulfilled [...] through Alexander the Great's conquests as he marched to Egypt during 333-332BCE.¹
- **A prophecy of a coming Messianic King**, humble and peaceful,² in verses 9-11.

This oracle highlights the accuracy of Zechariah's prophecy and the comfort to us from God that, *"I have seen with my own eye."*³ He sees everything that we are facing and has his eye on us for good. In addition, there are several observations that can be explored in verses 9-11 of the chapter.

2. Joy as Strength and Hope

¹ Frank W. Walbank, 'Alexander the Great: King of Macedonia: Conquest of the Mediterranean coast and Egypt', *Britannica*, May 6, 2026, < [<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Alexander-the-Great>] > [accessed 11 May 2026].

² Zech. 9:9-10.

³ Zech. 9:8.

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Zechariah 9:9 calls the Jewish remnant to rejoice: “*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!*”⁴

Key points:

- Joy is presented as a **spiritual weapon** in hardship because it is linked to resilience, healing, and spiritual strength as is similarly narrated by King Solomon when he said, “A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones”.⁵
- They should also engage in joyful worship, because it would be their strength as they rebuild the temple/God’s house.
- They will also be joyous when their Messiah is revealed.
- We can remain confident in God despite bleak circumstances.
- God’s plan for Israel is for them to have a joyful hope as they look to the future.
- As one remains joyful in the Lord, it will improve their wellbeing and is likely to spread to others. Today, many of us use skin cream to fight the fine lines of aging, but if we remain joyful in our difficult situations, it could replace our need for anti-aging creams!

The people were encouraged to become “*prisoners of hope*”.⁶ The late Derek Prince describes a *prisoner of hope* as a person who is held captive by their belief that God will remain faithful to what he has promised, particularly to the Jewish people and to Jerusalem.⁷

3. “**Daughter of Zion**”: A Promise of Growth

The repeated use of “*daughter*” signals fruitfulness, relationship with the Father, and future flourishing.

Key points:

- God promises growth to a small remnant, echoing Jeremiah 31:4: “*I will build you and you will be built.*”⁸

⁴ Zech. 9:9.

⁵ Prov. 17:22.

⁶ Zech. 9:12.

⁷ Derek Prince, ‘A Prisoner of Hope’ [Transcript of Radio Program], <<https://www.derekprince.com/radio/6611>>, [accessed 09 May 2026].

⁸ Jer. 31:4.

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- The feminine metaphor suggests fertility and growth. They would no longer be a small remnant, but they would multiply and grow into a nation.
- The Lord is interested in our personal circumstances and sees our struggles.
- We could consider the Lord's interest in us as we aim to build his kingdom. Yes, we desire numerical growth as a congregation. His challenge to us, therefore is that **“Each one brings one.” Each of us can invite one person to church or share the gospel with one person.**

4. The Coming King — Humble, Righteous, Saving

Zechariah 9:9 saying: *“Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey.”*⁹

Characteristics of the King:

1. **Righteous** — unlike many kings of Israel's past who led the people astray.
2. **Bringing salvation** — the suffering servant does not bring political liberation but freedom from sin.
3. **Humble** — entering Jerusalem on a donkey, not a war horse.
4. **Peace-bringing** — fulfilling Zechariah 9:10 by speaking peace to the nations.

Jesus' kingship is different from the failures of Israel's kings (e.g., Ahab, David's sin with Bathsheba).

5. Fulfilment in Jesus Christ

The prophecy is shown by the synoptic gospels to be fulfilled in Jesus on his Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem with crowds shouting *“Hosanna to the Son of David!”*¹⁰ Which we celebrate on Palm Sunday.

Jesus' mission is described through:

- His suffering and resurrection (Luke 23-24).
- His ministry of healing and freedom (Luke 4:18).
- His peaceful, non-violent approach to a changed life (Luke 4:18).
- His global commission (Matthew 28:19–20).

⁹ Zech. 9:9.

¹⁰ Matt. 21: 9, Mark 11:9-10, Luke 19:38, John 12:13.

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- His eternal rule (Luke 1:33).

True world peace comes through the spread of the gospel that changes hearts towards peace.

5. Application: A Call to Hope, Mission and Multiplication

In conclusion, as God gave his message of joy and hope to the Jewish remnant in his day, this message is for Israel today as well as to his church. His eye is on His people for good and we are encouraged to be “prisoners of hope.” God’s eye is also on Israel and the nations for peace. I believe that peace can be received when Jesus’ salvation is accepted by all. We are therefore urged to:

- Pray for global evangelisation.
- Support missionaries.
- Encourage young people to pursue ministry.
- Embrace your own role in sharing the gospel.

The challenge: **each believer brings one person to Christ.**

All Biblical references are from
New Revised Standard Version: *The Pink Ribbon Bible* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2009)