

Zechariah 1:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

Analysis

The vision's introduction: 'Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD unto Zechariah.' This occurs three months after the initial message (v. 1), marking February 519 BC. The precise dating emphasizes God's timing—during temple rebuilding, God provides encouraging visions. The formula 'came the word of the LORD' asserts divine initiative in revelation. Prophets don't generate messages but receive them from God. True prophecy is passive reception of divine communication.

Historical Context

Sebat (eleventh month, January-February) was winter in Palestine, typically a slow agricultural season allowing focus on temple construction. Three months of work had passed since Haggai and Zechariah's initial messages stirred the people (Haggai 1:15-2:1). The timing suggests God encouraged workers with visions during the difficult construction period. Darius's second year continued the Persian authorization for temple rebuilding.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does God's timing of encouraging visions during difficult work demonstrate His pastoral care for His people?
2. What does the formula 'came the word' teach us about true prophecy being divine initiative, not human invention?

Interlinear Text

הוּא	חַדֵּשׁ	עַשְׁרֵנִים	בַּיּוֹם	וְאֶרְבָּעַת הַ	לְעַשְׁתִּי	רַ	הַ	חַדֵּשׁ	עַשְׁרֵנִים	בַּיּוֹם
day	and twentieth	Upon the four	of the eleventh					month		month
H3117	H6242	H702	H6249					H1931		H2320
month	Sebat	year	in the second	of Darius				came the word		
H2320	H7627	H8141	H8147	H1867				H1697		
עַד	וְאֵלֶּה	יְהִי הַ	בְּנֵי זְכַרְיָה	בְּנֵי בְּרֶכְיָה	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	עַד	וְאֵלֶּה	יְהִי הַ
of the LORD	H413	unto Zechariah	the son	of Berechiah	the son	of	the son	of	of	of Iddo
H3068		H2148	H1121	H1296	H1121					H5714
לְאָמָרָה:	פֶּגֶג יְהִי									
the prophet	saying									
H5030	H559									