

Zechariah 7:1-14
Minor Prophets, Major Voices (Message 11):
“The Temptation of Religion”
02 - 15 - 09

How is the North American Church today sometimes guilty of “false advertising?”

What are two examples of the book of Zechariah’s importance in the New Testament?

1) Most cited portion of the Old Testament in the Gospel’s

_____.

2) Along with Ezekiel, most influential book in terms of influencing the author of _____.

What is the difference between the two halves of Zechariah?

- Chapters 1-8:
- Chapters 9-14:

What is the significance of the references to the *fifth* and *seventh* months (vv. 3, 5) as times of fasting?

Year	Month	Tragedy Remembered
588 BC	10th	Start of Jerusalem siege by Babylonian army
587 BC	4th	Jerusalem’s walls breached and leadership flees
587 BC	5th	Jerusalem and the Temple destroyed
587 BC	7th	Gadaliah (governor) assassinated

What was fasting primarily used for in the Old Testament?

Why is it mentioned that this delegation has been fasting specifically for *seventy* years (cf. Jeremiah 29:10)?

How does Zechariah demonstrate to the Bethel delegation that he knows the prophecy of Jeremiah better than they do?

What does Zechariah (and Jeremiah) tell the people would be the evidence of their genuine repentance?

In Zech. 7:5, what is God really asking when he says, “Was it really for *me* that you fasted?”

How is it that we too are tempted by self-focused *religion* over true transformation? (How do we “fast” for ourselves?)