

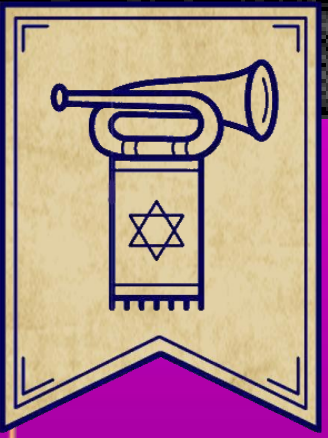


Ezra 1:1-4

Under the order of the Persian King (Cyrus) the Jewish people are permitted to physically return to Jerusalem

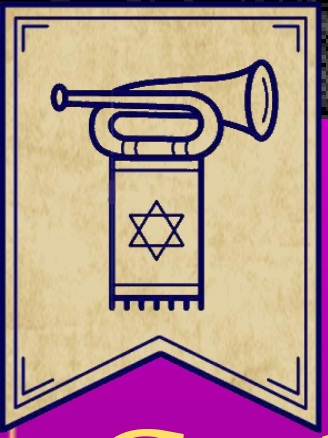






Another significant aside to understand is all the prophecy which this extraordinary command from King Cyrus fulfills





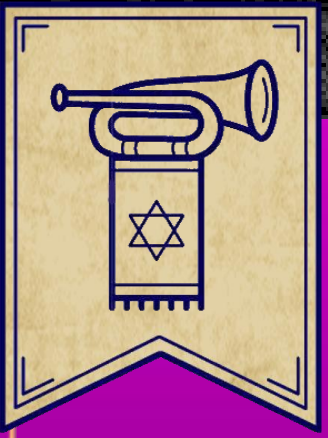
God wanted more than their presence
back in Jerusalem, God wanted their
hearts back in fellowship with Himself





Messengers: Zechariah





Zechariah 1:3



Zechariah: Return To Me

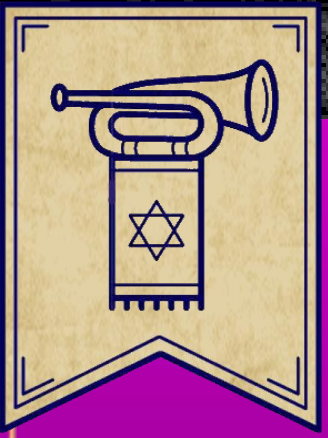




Soon after this message from God is delivered through Haggai, God also sends another messenger, Zechariah

Zechariah 1:1-2

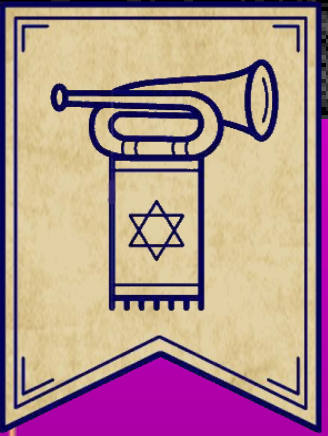




Zechariah urged the people
to learn from the past and to walk
faithfully in step with God keeping
Him as top priority

Zechariah 1:3





“Return” = to come back; to turn away
from sin and toward God

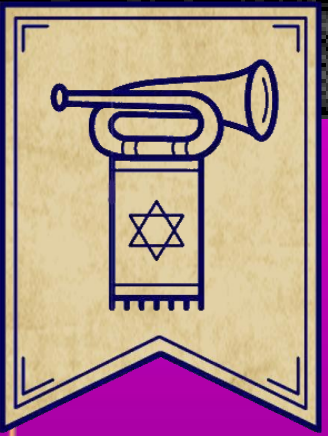
James 4:8





God had brought the people out of exile and now God wanted to bring those people out of apathy

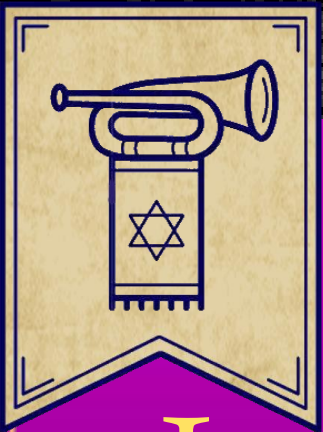




The heart of true repentance
is seeing our desperate need and
realizing we can't fix it and then
relying on God to do what we can't

Zechariah 1:4-5

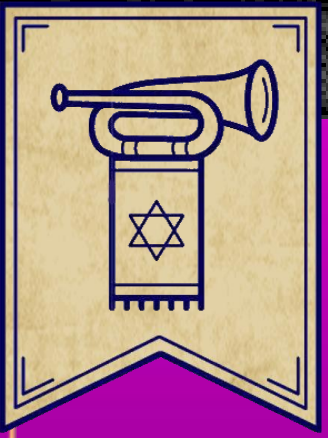




In the past, God sent prophets with similar calls to repent and return, but the people refused to listen to them

Zechariah 1:6





Repentance is always possible,
but it must be sincere

