Week 12: Zechariah - 2

Zechariah 9-14

Objective:

- The Coming King
- Restoration of Judah and Israel
- Desolation of Israel
- Prophecy of the Shepherds
- Mourning for the Pierced One
- The Shepherd Savior
- The Day of the Lord
- The Nations Worship the King

Resources:

- Fr Tadros Y Malaty Commentary
- Catena Bible Commentary
- Fr Dawoud Lamie Bible study (Arabic)
- Minor Prophets SUSCOPTS

Activity for every week: Can you recite the 12 minor prophets?

Reading:

- Zechariah 9:9-10
- Zechariah 10:4
- Zechariah 11:4-13
- Zechariah 12:9-14
- Zechariah 13:6-9
- Zechariah 14:1-9

Key verse(s):

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you” Zechariah 9:9

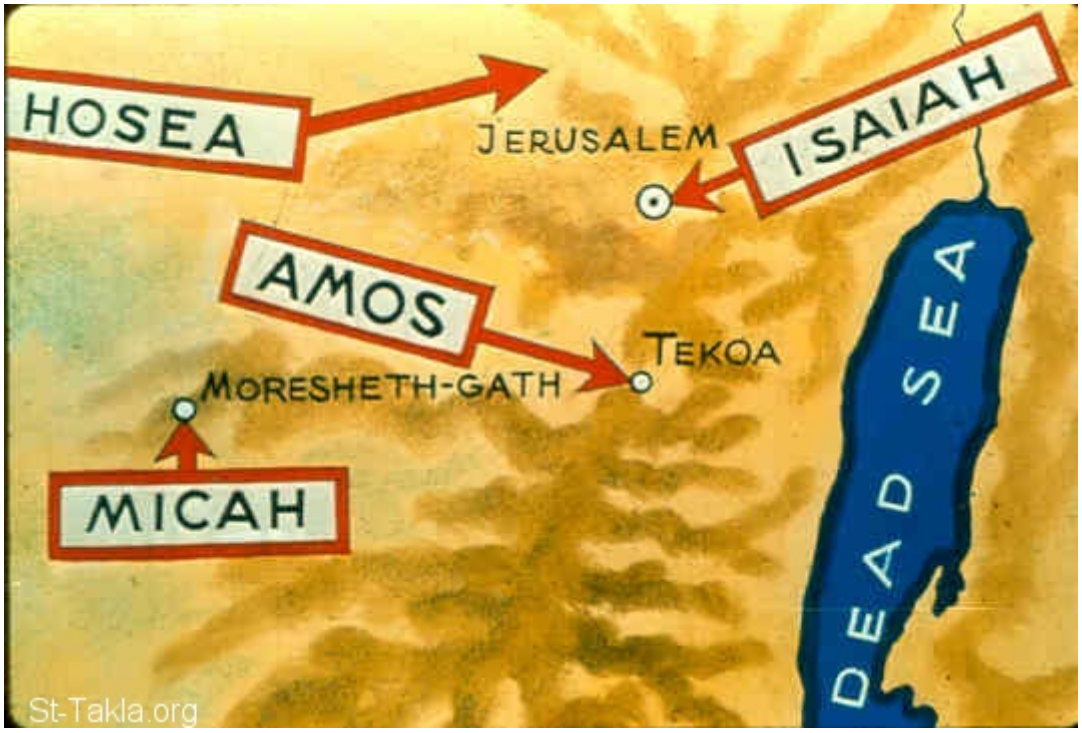
NOTE TO SERVANT:

- Please plan to ask and review these questions every week:

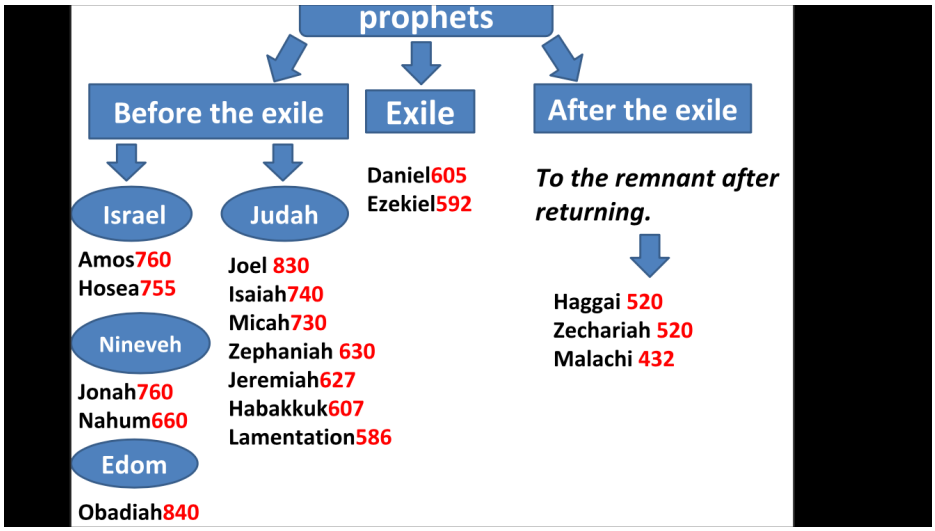
- Who are the minor prophets? Can you recite them?
- The theme for last week's minor prophet
- Highlight Messianic prophecy

Minor Prophets introduction:

- The Major and Minor Prophet division of the Holy Bible does not denote the importance or rank of the writing prophets, but the length of the Holy Books which bear their prophecies.
  - Ex: Jonah 4 chapters - Isaiah 66 chapters
- There are 12 minor prophets and 4 major prophets (5 books including Lamentations)
- In the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible), all these books were listed under "prophets". In the Septuagint and Vulgate translations, this classification of major and minor was mentioned.
- The prophet in the OT was someone who passed God's message to the people. A prophet in the NT is also someone who passes God's message or news (God's love and salvation for all mankind).
- In the OT, there were many prophets (Moses, David, Elijah, Elisha, etc.), but when we refer to the "Prophets", we refer to the ones who recorded their prophecy.
- All prophecies had one goal: Repentance!
- Recorded prophecies were split into three groups: Before, during, and after the exile.
  - Before: Repent so God doesn't bring the exile
  - During: Repent so God can end the exile and take us back to our land
  - After: Repent because the Messiah is coming
- The books of the prophets are rich with Messianic prophecies. Our Lord fulfilled all.
- The meaning of the names of the prophets is usually the message of their writings.
- The prophetic books always start with a strong tough message and then end with a joyful promising message.
- All books have different themes. All books have the same message (repentance).
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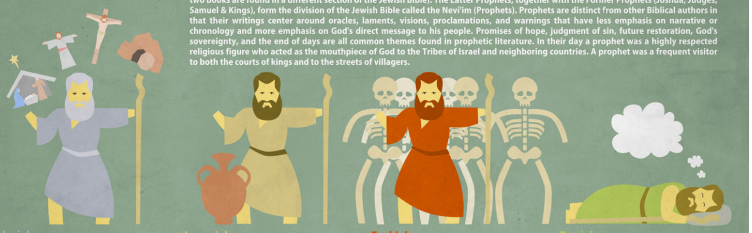


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prophets
Before the exile
Exile
After the exile
Israel
Judah
Amos760
Hosea755
Nineveh
Jonah760
Nahum660
Edom
Obadiah840
Joel 830
Isaiah740
Micah730
Zephaniah 630
Jeremiah627
Habakkuk607
Lamentation586
Daniel605
Ezekiel592
To the remnant after returning.
Haggai 520
Zechariah 520
Malachi 432

Introducing THE MAJOR & minor PROPHETS

The Major and Minor Prophets is a collection of books within the Christian Old Testament compiled from the writings of notable ancient Hebrew authors known as prophets. This section of the Christian Bible follows the section of the Jewish Bible known as the Latter Prophets which features a nearly identical list of books with the exception of Daniel and Lamentations (these two books are found in a different section of the Jewish Bible). The Latter Prophets, together with the Former Prophets (Joshua, Judges, Samuel & Kings), form the division of the Jewish Bible called the Nevi'im (Prophets). Prophets are distinct from other Biblical authors in that their writings center around oracles, laments, visions, proclamations, and warnings that have less emphasis on narrative or chronology and more emphasis on God's direct message to his people. Promises of hope, judgment of sin, future restoration, God's sovereignty, and the end of days are all common themes found in prophetic literature. In their day a prophet was a highly respected religious figure who acted as the mouthpiece of God to the Tribes of Israel and neighboring countries. A prophet was a frequent visitor to both the courts of kings and to the streets of villagers.



Isaiah is noteworthy for being the most quoted of the prophets in the New Testament. Many passages are Messianic in nature, even predicting events in the life of Christ such as the virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14). His writings cover a long period of time and a wide variety of topics.

Jeremiah was heavily persecuted for his prophesies during the Babylonian Siege. He often used metaphors such as the potter and clay (Jeremiah 18:1-7) to illustrate God's message to the people. Known as the weeping prophet, he is also believed to be the author of Lamentations.

Ezekiel prophesied during Israel's captivity in Babylon. He often received elaborate visions from God such as the *Vision of Dry Bones* where skeletons come to life to form a great army. Almost every aspect of his life served a symbolic purpose, from how he cooked his food to the way he slept at night.

Daniel was taken captive to Babylon at a young age. His gift to translate dreams gave him favor with kings. He often received prophetic visions of his own about the distant future. On one occasion he was thrown into a den of lions for serving God exclusively, but the Lord rescued him.



Hosea was chosen by God to be an example to the people of Israel. His wife was unfaithful, but just like God he never stopped loving her and always looked for her whenever she left him.

Joel prophesied during a time when the land of Israel had suffered from a great plague of locust. Joel proclaims this as a sign from God and a precursor to the Day of the Lord.

Amos was a sheep breeder and a tender of fig trees 'y trade, but God used him to bring a powerful word of correction to Israel and the surrounding nations.

Obadiah is the shortest book in the old testament with only 21 verses. The book is a proclamation of judgment against Edom for aiding the Babylonians in their siege against Jerusalem.

Jonah is the most famous of the minor prophets because a giant sea animal was used to set him back on course after going astray. His mission was to tell the people of Nineveh to repent of their wrongdoings.

Micah in 1:8 lamented without wearing clothes in order to illustrate the severity of the destitution and captivity that was coming. This method was also used by Isaiah at times (Isaiah 20:2-3).



Nahum predicts the destruction of Nineveh the great capital of the Assyrian empire. Evidently the reforms introduced by Jonah did not last long.

Habakkuk identifies himself as a psalmist and musician by ending his book with a hymn of redemption and grace to be played on stringed instruments by the temple worship leaders.

Zephaniah contains a series of stern judgments directed toward Israel, Judah, and her neighbors for permitting idolatry and other sins in the land.

Haggai makes his chief concern restoring the temple of the Lord. Despite the Hebrew's return from captivity, the temple had not yet been fully rebuilt.

Zechariah like Ezekiel received vivid prophesies in the form of highly symbolic visions. Some revelations include things like a flying scroll, olive trees, and women with wings. Several of the passages are Messianic in nature.

Malachi is a reformer who directs his message toward corrupt priests and those who withhold their offerings from the Lord. Malachi is the last book before the New Testament.

Major or Minor?

The designation of Major or Minor prophet is not determined by the greatness of a prophet's ministry, but simply by the amount of surviving writings. *Comparison by number of words in the 1611 King James Bible*

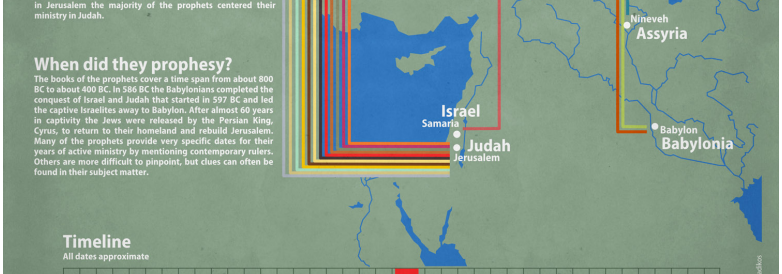


Where did they prophesy?

Following the reign of Solomon the nation of Israel divided into two kingdoms. The Northern Kingdom retained the name Israel and made Samaria the capital. The Southern Kingdom came to be be known as Judah and possessed the city of Jerusalem as its capital. Because the temple remained in Jerusalem the majority of the prophets centered their ministry in Judah.

When did they prophesy?

The books of the prophets cover a time span from about 800 BC to about 400 BC. In 586 BC the Babylonians completed the conquest of Israel and Judah that started in 597 BC and led the captive Israelites away to Babylon. After almost 60 years in captivity the Jews were released by the Persian King, Cyrus, to return to their homeland and rebuild Jerusalem. Many of the prophets provide very specific dates for their years of active ministry by mentioning contemporary rulers. Others are more difficult to pinpoint, but clues can often be found in their subject matter.



Timeline

All dates approximate



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Minor Prophets (in biblical order)	*Main Themes of their Writings*
Hosea	Salvation
Joel	**The Day of the Lord**
Amos	God's Judgment, **The Day of the Lord**, Israel's redemption
Obadiah	The destruction of Edom, **The Day of the Lord**
Jonah	Serving the Lord, His mercy
Micah	Injustice, oppression
Nahum	Judgement on Nineveh, comfort to Israel
Habakkuk	God embracing Judah, the destruction of Chaldea
Zephaniah	God's anger, **The Day of the Lord**, Israel repents and is spared
Haggai	Restoraton of the Temple
Zechariah	The building of the Temple, the coming of God's Kingdom
Malachi	The messenger to come, **The Day of the Lord**

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Minor Prophets		
Before Assyrian Captivity Directed to the North Kingdom	After Assyrian and before Babylonian captivities Directed to the South Kingdom	After Captivity
1. Hosea 2. Joel 3. Amos 4. Obadiah (Edom) 5. Jonah	6. Micah 7. Nahum (Nineveh) 8. Habakkuk 9. Zephaniah	10. Haggai 11. Zechariah 12. Malachi

NOTE TO SERVANT:

- **Zechariah will be divided into two parts to be covered over two weeks:**
  - Week 1: Ch.1-7 --> Zechariah's visions
  - Week 2: Ch.9-14 --> Zechariah's prophecies

Comments:

Theme of Zechariah: The coming of God's kingdom
Messianic Prophecy: Entering Jerusalem (9:9), Thirty pieces of silver (11:12), His wounds (13:6), The piercing (12:10), The suffering shepherd (13:7)

- Zechariah means "Jehovah remembers"
- Zechariah was one of the three minor prophets who appeared after the return from exile
- Zechariah started his prophecy before Haggai the prophet by only a few months
- As the son of Berechiah and grandson of Iddo, he came from one of the priestly families of the tribe of Levi
- He was born in Babylon and was brought by his grandfather to Palestine when the Jewish exiles returned under Zerubbabel
- Zechariah uses a series of eight visions, four messages, and two burdens to portray God's plans for His people
- The book is second to Isaiah in prophecies
- The book is second to Ezekiel in visions
- The book can be broken down into three parts:
  - Part 1: Ch. 1-6: Visions
  - Part 2: Ch. 7-8: Fasting
  - Part 3: Ch. 9-14: Messianic Prophecies
- The book has some clear prophecies about Christ:
  - Entering Jerusalem (9:9)
  - Thirty pieces of silver (11:12)
  - His wounds (13:6)
  - The piercing (12:10)
  - The suffering shepherd (13:7)
- Zechariah 9
  - V.9-10: A prophecy on Palm Sunday when the Lord entered Jerusalem as a king
- Zechariah 10
  - V. 4: Christ is the Chief cornerstone (Acts 4:11 - Ephesians 2:19-22 - Matthew 21:42)
- Zechariah 11
  - V.4 The shepherds are not taking care of the people. The shepherds mislead the people
  - V.7 God took two staffs (The Cross). Beauty and Bonds are God's two characteristics of Mercy and Judgment.
  - v.8 the "three shepherding" are thought by the Fathers to be the Pharisees, Scribes, and Chief Priests who were dismissed by the "Two staffs - the Cross"
  - V.10-12 They rejected Christ and did not accept His mission. The staff is broken because they rejected Him. God respected their wishes of denying them and asked them to give him His wages for all the years that he cared for them and guided them. So they calculated His wages and it was 30 pieces of silver.

    - V.13: After Judas gave them the money back, they took it and bought a potter's field (Matt. 27:1-8)
- Zechariah 12
    - V.10- God will fill them with His Spirit of grace and supplication, but they will pierce Him
        - A prophecy that they will pierce Him
- Zechariah 13
    - V.6 A prophecy on His wounds and the nails in His hands
    - V.7-8 When the Lord was on the Cross "Strike the Shephard", the disciples ran away "Sheep will be scattered"
        - This was mentioned in Matthew 26:31
- Zechariah 14
    - V.4 The Ascension from the Mountain of Olives
        - A symbolic meaning that God's Glory will split the mountain in two - shows the power of God
    - V.5 The Lord will come back with His saints - The second coming
    - V.6 Prophecy on Darkness on Good Friday
    - V.6-9 The Day of the Cross - Good Friday
    - V.8 God will extend His love and mercy to bring people together from east and west

Review/recap questions:
***Servant may add more questions*

1. CH.9
    1. Find a prophecy in this chapter that was fulfilled in the New Testament. Give verse.
2. CH.10
    1. What does the Lord promise His flock the House of Judah?
3. CH. 11
    1. What do the 30 pieces of silver represent? And what do they remind you of?
    2. Who are the three shepherds that were dismissed?
4. CH.12
    1. Find a prophecy in this chapter fulfilled in the New Testament. Give verse.
5. CH.13
    1. Strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered. Who quoted this verse and on what occasion
6. CH. 14
    1. Who are the saints that will come with the Lord?

Homework:
***Servant may add more questions*

1. The king of Israel will come riding on:
   a) a horse b) a mule c) a colt d) a car
2. The LORD their God will _____ them in that day, as the _____ of His people. For they shall be like the _____ of a crown, lifted like a _____ over His _____.
3. The people were in trouble because there is no:
   a) king b) prophet c) priest d) shepherd

4. "So I will _____ them in the LORD, and they shall _____ up and down in His _____," Says the LORD."
5. The names of Zechariah’s staffs were _____ and _____.
6. How much was the wage given to Zechariah?
   a) 30 pieces of silver b) 30 pieces of gold c) 10 pieces of silver d) a crown
7. "Strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; then I will turn My hand against the little ones." Who were the sheep?
8. They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; and each one will say, 'The LORD is my God." Who will call God's Name?

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