



Adult Sunday School

Fall 2008

Portland, Maine

Old Testament Survey

Date	Topic	Teacher
9/14/2008	Making Sense Out of Scripture	<i>(Rev. Doug Warren)</i>
9/21/2008	Genesis	<i>(Rev David Stewart)</i>
9/28/2008	Tools of Interpretation, Exodus and Leviticus	<i>Rev. Doug Warren</i>
10/05/2008	Numbers and Deuteronomy	<i>(Rev David Stewart)</i>
10/12/2008	Joshua, Judges and Ruth	<i>(Rev David Stewart)</i>
10/19/2008	Samuel, Kings and Chronicles	<i>(Rev David Stewart)</i>
10/26/2008	Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther	<i>(Rev Per Almquist)</i>
11/02/2008	Job and Psalms	<i>(Rev. David Stewart)</i>
11/09/2008	Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs	<i>(Rev. Doug Warren)</i>
11/16/2008	Intro to the Prophets, Isaiah	<i>(Rev David Stewart)</i>
11/23/2008	Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel	<i>(Rev David Stewart)</i>
11/30/2008	The Minor Prophets , Hosea, Joel, Amos	<i>(Rev. Doug Warren)</i>
12/07/2008	Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk	<i>(Rev. Doug Warren)</i>
12/14/2008	Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi	<i>(Rev. Doug Warren)</i>
12/21/2008	Daniel	<i>(Rev. Doug Warren)</i>

I. Understanding the Old Testament

A. Original Meaning

B. Genre Considerations

C. Application

II. Understanding Biblical Narrative

A. The Genre

B. The Sections of Narrative

III. Understanding Biblical Poetry

A. The Genre.

B. The Sections of Poetry.

IV. Understanding Biblical Prophecy

A. The Genre.

B. Prophecy in Four periods.

C. The Sections.

V. Application

I. Outline

- A. Creation (1:1-2:3)
- Before the patriarchs (2:4-11:26)
- The patriarchs in Palestine (11:27-37:1)
- The patriarchs in Egypt (37:2-50:26)

II. Significant Passages

- Gen. 1 (Creation); Gen. 3 (Fall)
- Protoevangelion (Gen. 3:15)
- Gen. 6-9 (Noah and the Flood)
- Gen. 11 (Tower of Babel)
- Gen. 12 (Call of Abram)
- Gen. 14 (Melchizedek)
- Gen. 15, 17, 22 (Covenant Promises)
- Gen. 25 (Esau sells his birthright)
- Gen. 37 (Joseph sold into slavery)
- Gen. 46 (Joseph brings his family to Egypt)

III. Important Themes

- Where do we get the word *Genesis*?
- Toledot structure
- The purpose of the book—Why Abram?
- Creation Narrative
- The Fall
- The Flood
- The Nature of Covenants
- The Sojourn to Egypt

I. The Calvary of the Hebrew Scriptures (OT)

- A. *The Redemptive Event*
- B. Parallel with the Gospels
- C. Narrative and Legislation

II. Understanding Exodus-Slavery to Tabernacle

- A. Summary of Exodus from major perspectives

Systematic Theology (ST) -God as the covenant making King (*Law, Holiness, Sovereignty, Transcendence, etc.*)

Biblical Theology (BT)-The defining old covenant act of redemption

Literary (Lit)-Authorization of Moses' covenant order

Psychological (Psych)-Rediscovering lost language of salvation (*Moses as paradigm for spiritual encounter*)

B. Major Events/Themes in Exodus

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Israel in Slavery (1-2) | 9. Division of Labor (18) |
| 2. Call of Moses (3-4) | 10. Gathered at Sinai (19) |
| 3. Confrontation with Pharaoh (5-7) | 11. Covenant Made (20-4) |
| 4. Plagues (7:14-11:10) | 12. Tabernacle Outline (25-31) |
| 5. Passover (12) | 13. Golden Calf (32) |
| 6. Deliverance, destruction (13-4) | 14. Moses' Intercession (33-4) |
| 7. Song of Moses (15) | 15. Construction of Tabernacle (35-40) |
| 8. Grumbling and complaining (16-7) | 16. God with us (40) |

C. Going Deeper

III. Understanding Leviticus – Tabernacle Regulations

A. Summary of Leviticus from major perspectives

ST --God as **the Holy One**

BT--The covenant stipulations for holiness and foundation for atonement

Lit --guide to holiness for a nation of priests

Psych--**Calling** for holiness separated from the profane

B. Major Legislation in Leviticus

1. Sacrifices and offerings (1-7)
2. Ordination of the priesdlood (8-10)
3. Identification and handling of ritual uncleanness (11-16)
4. Day of Atonement (16)
5. Instructions for Daily holy living (17-27)
6. Year of Jubilee (25)

C. Going Deeper

IV. A Word about Application

A. Understanding Original Meaning

B. Making Appropriate Adjustments

1. Epochal Adjustments
2. Cultural Adjustments
3. Personal Adjustments

I. Outline

- A. The First Generation Out of Egypt (1:1-25:18)
 - 1. Preparation and Inauguration (1:1-10:36)
 - 2. Rebellion, Death, and Deliverance (11:1-25:18)
- B. The Second Generation Preparing to Enter the Promised Land (26:1-36:13)
 - 1. Preparation and Inauguration (26:1-36:13)
 - 2. Promise and Warning

II. Significant Passages

- A. Num. 1; 26 (Census)
- B. Num. 3 (Redemption of the Firstborn)
- C. Num. 6 (Aaronic Blessing)
- D. Num. 10 (Leaving Sinai)
- E. Num. 13 (Spies into Canaan)
- F. Num. 15 (Korah's Rebellion)
- G. Num. 17 (Aaron's Staff)
- H. Num. 20 (Moses strikes the rock)
- I. Num. 21 (The Bronze Serpent)
- J. Num. 22-24 (Balak and Balaam)
- K. Num. 27 (The Daughters of Zelophehad)
- L. Num. 35 (Cities of Refuge)

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Consequences of Covenant Unfaithfulness
- C. God's Covenant Faithfulness

I. Outline

- A. Preamble (1:1-5)
- B. Historical Prologue (1:6-3:29)
- C. Stipulations (4-26)
- D. Curses and Blessings, Ratification (27-30)
- E. Succession (31-34)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Deut. 1 (First Generation forbidden to enter land)
- B. Deut. 5 (Ten Commandments)
- C. Deut. 6:4 (Shema)
- D. Deut. 10 (Circumcision of the heart)
- E. Deut. 15 (Sabbatical Year)
- F. Deut. 17 (Laws concerning kings)
- G. Deut. 18 (A New Prophet)
- H. Deut. 21:23 (Hanging on a tree)
- I. Deut. 27 (Curses for Covenant Disobedience)
- J. Deut. 28 (Covenant Blessings)
- K. Deut. 29 (Covenant Renewal)
- L. Deut. 32 (Song of Moses)
- M. Deut. 34 (Death of Moses)

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Israel's as God's covenant people
- C. Law and Grace
- D. Central Sanctuary
- E. Christ in Deuteronomy

I. Outline

- A. Entrance into the Land (1-5)
- B. Conquest Narratives (6-12)
- C. Allotment of the Land (13-21)
- D. Covenant Matters (22-24)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Josh. 1—The Commissioning of Joshua
- B. Josh. 2—Rahab and the Spies
- C. Josh. 5—Second Generation Circumcised
- D. Josh. 6—Fall of Jericho
- E. Josh. 9—The Gibeonite Deception
- F. Josh. 10—The sun stands still
- G. Josh. 20—Cities of Refuge
- H. Josh. 24—Covenant Renewal

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Holy War
- C. The Role of Joshua
- D. Christ in Joshua

Judges

I. Outline

- A. Failure to drive out the Canaanites (1:1-2:5)
- B. Cycle of apostasy (2:6-3:6)
- C. Cycles of judges (3:7—16)
- D. Tribal Depravity

II. Significant Passages

- A. Judges 2—The Lord raises up Judges
- B. Judges 4—Deborah
- C. Judges 6—Gideon's fleece
- D. Judges 13-16—Samson
- E. Judges 21—"Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Apostasy
- C. The Role of the Holy Spirit

Ruth

I. Outline

- A. Naomi and Ruth (1)
- B. Ruth meets Boaz (2)
- C. Naomi's plan (3)
- D. The marriage of Ruth and Boaz (4:1-17)
- E. The genealogy of Perez (4:18-22)

II. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Kinsman-redeemer

I. Outline

- A. Foundation of the Kingdom (1 Sam. 1:1—7:17)
- B. Saul's Kingdom (1 Sam. 8:1—15:35)
- C. David's Kingdom (1 Sam. 16:1—2 Sam. 20:26)
- D. Future of the Kingdom (2 Sam. 21:1—24:25)

II. Significant Passages

- A. 1 Samuel 2—Hannah's Prayer
- B. 1 Samuel 5—The ark and the Philistines
- C. 1 Samuel 9—Saul chosen king
- D. 1 Samuel 15—The LORD rejects Saul
- E. 1 Samuel 16—David anointed king
- F. 1 Samuel 17—David and Goliath
- G. 2 Samuel 6—Uzzah and the Ark
- H. 2 Samuel 7—God's covenant with David
- I. 2 Samuel 11—David and Bathsheba
- J. 2 Samuel 22—Song of David
- K. 2 Samuel 23—The Last Words of David

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. The significance of the Ark
- C. David's role toward Saul
- D. The Davidic Covenant

I. Outline

- A. Failure and Hope in Solomon's Years (1 Kings 1:1-12:24)
- B. Failure and Hope in the Divided Years (1 Kings 12:25-2 Kings 17:41)
- C. Failure and Hope in Judah's Final Years (2 Kings 18:1-25:30)

II. Significant Passages

- A. 1 Kings 1—Solomon anointed king
- B. 1 Kings 3—Solomon's prayer for wisdom
- C. 1 Kings 6—Solomon builds the temple
- D. 1 Kings 11—Solomon follows other gods
- E. 1 Kings 18—Elijah and the prophets of Baal
- F. 2 Kings 2—Elisha succeeds Elijah
- G. 2 Kings 17—The fall of Israel
- H. 2 Kings 23—Josiah's reforms
- I. 2 Kings 25—The fall of Judah

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. The Centralization of Worship
- C. The Prophetic Word
- D. Curses for Covenant Breaking

I. Outline

- A. Genealogies of God's People (1 Chron. 1:1-9:44)
- B. United Kingdom (1 Chron. 10:1—2 Chron. 9:31)
- C. Divided Kingdom (2 Chron. 10:1—28:26)
- D. Reunited Kingdom (2 Chron. 29:1—36:23)

II. Significant Passages

- A. 1 Chron. 11—David anointed king
- B. 1 Chron. 17—God's covenant with David
- C. 1 Chron. 28—David's charge to Solomon
- D. 2 Chron. 6—Solomon's prayer of dedication
- E. 2 Chron. 18—Jehoshaphat and Ahab
- F. 2 Chron. 32—Sennacherib
- G. 2 Chron. 34—Josiah finds the Book of the Law
- H. 2 Chron. 36—The Edict of Cyrus

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. The Image of the United Kingdom
- C. The Theology of Immediate Retribution

Kings of Israel (Northern Kingdom)

Jereboam	927-906	Jehoahaz	821-805
Nadab	905-904	Jehoash	804-789
		(Joash)	
Baasha	903-882	Jeroboam	788-748
		II	
Elah	881-880	Zechariah	6 months
Zimri	7 days	Shallum	1 month
Omri	879-869	Menahem	746-737
Ahab	868-854	Pekahiah	737-735
Ahaziah	853-852	Pekah	734-731
Jehoram (Joram)	851-840	Hoshea	730-722
Jehu	839-822		

Kings of Judah (Southern Kingdom)

Rehoboam	926-910	*Jotham	759-744
Abijah	909-907	Ahaz	743-728
*Asa	906-878	*Hezekiah	727-699
*Jehoshaphat	877-853	Manasseh	698-644
Jehoram	852-841	Amon	643-642
Ahaziah	840	*Josiah	641-610
Athaliah	839-833	Jehoahaz	3 months
*Joash (Jehoash)	832-803	Jehoiakim	608-598
*Amaziah	802-786	Jehoiachin	3 months
*Azariah (Uzziah)	785-760	Zedekiah	596-586

*Good kings of Judah who followed the example of David and obeyed Yahweh.

I. Outline

- A. Rebuilding the Temple (Ez 1-6)
- B. Rebuilding the Community (Ez 7-10)
- C. Rebuilding the Walls (Neh 1-6)
- D. Rebuilding the Community (Neh 7-13)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Ezra 1 - The decree of Cyrus
- B. Ezra 6 - The decree of Darius
- C. Ezra 9-10 - Pagan wives divorced
- D. Nehemiah 8 - Ezra reads the law
- E. Nehemiah 10 - The covenant sealed

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. The hand of God
- C. The people of God
- D. The written word

<h3>Persian Kings of the Restoration (559 - 404 BC)</h3>
Xerxes I
Cyrus II Cambyses Darius I (Ahasuerus) Artaxerxes I Xerxes II Darius II
559-530 530-522 522-486 486-465 465-424 424 423-404

I. Outline

- A. The Rise of Esther (Es 1-2)
- B. The Plot to Destroy the Jews (Es 3-4)
- C. Salvation (Es 5-9:15)
- D. Establishment of Purim (Es 9:16-32)
- E. Epilogue (Es 10)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Esther becomes queen (Es 2)
- B. Haman's plot (Es 3)
- C. Victory (Es 7-8)
- D. Establishment of Purim (Es 9)

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Explanation of Purim
- C. Jews relationship to foreign power
- D. God's hiddenness
- E. Providence of God

I. Outline

- A. Prologue (1-2)
- B. Dialogues (3-27)
- C. Interlude: Hymn to Wisdom ? (28)
- D. Discourses (29-42:6)
- E. Epilogue (42:7-17)

II. Significant Passages

- A. 1:21—"The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."
- B. 10:12-13—"You have granted me life and steadfast love..."
- C. 13:15—"Though he slay me, I will hope in him."
- D. 19:25—"For I know that my Redeemer lives..."
- E. 28—Hymn to Wisdom
- F. 38:2—"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?"
- G. 40:4—"Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth."

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Divine Retribution
- C. Divine Wisdom
- D. Human Suffering
- E. Job and the New Testament

I. Outline

- A. Book I (1-41)
- B. Book II (42-72)
- C. Book III (73-89)
- D. Book IV (90-106)
- E. Book V (107-150)

II. Significant Passages

- A. 1—The Way of the Righteous and the Wicked
- B. 8—What is man?
- C. 14—The fool says, “There is no God.”
- D. 19—The Law of the Lord is perfect
- E. 23—The Lord is my Shepherd
- F. 24—The King of Glory
- G. 51—Have mercy on me, O God.
- H. 68—God will scatter His enemies
- I. 100—Make a joyful noise to the Lord...
- J. 119—The Word
- K. 120-134—Songs of Ascents
- L. 146-150—Hallels

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. The titles
- C. Seven types of Psalms
- D. Psalms and the New Testament

Proverbs

The Way of Wisdom Contrasted with the Way of Folly

I. Structure

A. Outline

1. Discourse on wisdom (1-9)
2. Solomon's Sayings (10-22)
3. Wise words (23-24)
4. Royal wisdom (25-30)
5. Poem to the virtuous woman (31)

B. Wisdom Literature

II. Significant Passages

- A. Purpose of wisdom—fear of the Lord (1:1-7)
- B. Sound judgment (3:21-35)
- C. The calls of wisdom and folly (8:1-9:18)
- D.

III. Important Themes

- A. Guard your heart (4:20-27; 16:1-33; 25: 25-28)
- B. Marriage (12:4; 31:10-31)
- C. Stewardship (3:9-10; 27:23-27; 28:11-19)
- D. Discipline (3:11-12)

IV. A Word about Application

- A. Understanding Original Meaning
- B. Making Appropriate Adjustments
 1. Epochal Adjustments
 2. Cultural Adjustments
 3. Personal Adjustments

Ecclesiastes

The Meaning of Life “under the Sun” instead of focused on God

I. Structure

A. Outline—follows three cycles with a conclusion

1. Limitations of Work and Wisdom (1-3)
2. Human vs. Divine Labors (3-6)
3. Human vs. Divine Wisdom (6-12)
4. The Conclusion of Wisdom (12:9-14)

B. The Difficulties of Ecclesiastes

II. Significant Passages

- A. Meaninglessness (1:1-11)
- B. Everything has a season (3:1-8)
- C. A cord of three strands (4:9-12)
- D. Eat your food with gladness (9:7-10)
- E.

III. Important Themes

- A. Everything is “fleeting as vapor.”
- B. Fear God.
- C. Enjoy what God provides.

IV. A Word about Application

- A. Understanding Original Meaning
- B. Making Appropriate Adjustments

Song of Songs

Celebration of Passionate Sex between Husband and Wife

I. Structure

- A. *Outline*
 - 1. Love Desired (1-2)
 - 2. The Bride’s Reverie (3-6)
 - 3. Mutual Love and Longing (6-8)
 - 4. Yearning for Love in Union (8)
- B. Erotic Literature and Scripture

II. Significant Passages

- A. The Refrain (2:7; 3:5; 8:4)
 - “Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires.”
- B. Yearning to be one (2:16-17)
- C. Ancient-Near-Eastern Compliments (4:1-15)
- D. Hymn to love (8:6-7)

III. Important Themes

- A. The Self-giving Nature of True Love
- B. Holy Desire
- C. Marital Commitment

IV. A Word about Application

- A. Understanding Original Meaning
- B. Making Appropriate Adjustments

I. What is a prophet?

- A. Someone who speaks on behalf of another.
- B. Tended to cluster around times of crisis.
 - 1) Religious crisis.
 - 2) Political crisis
 - 3) Identity crisis

II. Prophecy in Israel

- A. Pre-Classical
 - 1) Pre-monarchy
 - 2) Monarchy
- B. Classical

III. The Message of the Prophet

- A. Apocalyptic Literature
- B. Interpreting the message
 - 1) God's Syllabus
 - 2) Fulfillment
 - a) Proximate and Ultimate
- C. The New Testament's use of the prophetic word.

I. Outline

- A. Introduction (1-6)
- B. Assyrian Context (7-39)
- C. Oracles addressing exiles (40-55)
- D. Oracles addressing post-exilic life (56-66)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Isaiah 6—The call of Isaiah
- B. Isaiah 7-9—Four sons
- C. Isaiah 11—The Branch of Jesse
- D. Isaiah 35—”The ransomed of the Lord will return...”
- E. Isaiah 40—”Comfort, comfort my people...”
- F. Isaiah 43:10—”You are my witnesses...”
- G. Isaiah 42, 49, 50, 52-53—Servant Songs
- H. Isaiah 55—”Seek the Lord while he may be found...”
- I. Isaiah 58—Fasting
- J. Isaiah 61—The Year of the Lord’s Favor
- K. Isaiah 65—The New Heavens and the New Earth

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Sons Names as Signs
- C. The Holy One of Israel
- D. The Servant of the Lord
- E. Redeemer
- F. The Remnant

I. Outline

- A. The Call of Jeremiah (1)
- B. Book 1 of the oracles of Jeremiah (2-25)
- C. Biographical Interlude 1 (26-29)
- D. Book 2: The Book of Consolation (30-31)
- E. Biographical Interlude 2 (32-45)
- F. Book 3: Oracles against the Nations (46-51)
- G. Historical Appendix: The Fall of Jerusalem (52)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Jer. 1—The Call of Jeremiah
- B. Jer. 7—Den of Robbers
- C. Jer. 18—The Potter and the Clay
- D. Jer. 23—The Righteous Branch
- E. Jer. 25—Seventy Years of Captivity
- F. Jer. 31:31-33—The New Covenant

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. The People and the Covenant
- C. God's Word in Jeremiah

Lamentations

I. Outline

- A. Lamentation for Jerusalem's misery and desertion (1)
- B. Lamentation for the Daughter of Zion (2)
- C. The Poet's Grief and Hope (3)
- D. The Horror of the Siege (4)
- E. Zion's Disgrace Remembered: A Petition for Restoration (5)

I. Outline

- A. Prophecies against Jerusalem (1-24)
- B. Prophecies against the nations (25-32)
- C. Prophecies of restored Jerusalem (33-48)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Ezek. 1—The Glory of the LORD
- B. Ezek. 2—The Call of Ezekiel
- C. Ezek. 10—The Glory leaves the temple
- D. Ezek. 11:10—New Heart and New Spirit
- E. Ezek. 16—Israel as a faithless bride
- F. Ezek. 37—Valley of Dry Bones
- G. Ezek. 40—The New Temple
- H.

III. Important Themes

- A. The purpose of the book
- B. Son of Man
- C. Ezekiel's Chariot Vision
- D. Individual Responsibility

The Covenantal Framework of the Prophets

- The role of the prophet.
- The response of the king/people.
- The non-negotiables.

Prophecy to produce change.

- Change of behavior.
- Change of the heart.
- Repentance and faith.

Periods of Prophecy

- Early Monarchy (1000-930 BC)
- Assyrian Judgment (734-701) *Jonah, Hosea, Amos, Micah, Nahum, Isaiah*
- Babylonian Judgment (605-586) *Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Joel, Obadiah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel, Daniel*
- Restoration Period (539-400) *Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi*

Hosea

Judah may receive judgment as Israel did, but it should not lose hope in the final restoration .

I. Outline

- A. Hosea's Prophetic Experience (1-3)
- B. Prophetic Announcements of Judgment (4-9)
- C. Historical Reflections of Judgment and Salvation (9-14)
- D. Call to Repentance (14)

II. Significant Passages

- A. God's command to marry a prostitute (1:1-7)
- B. Weeping wanderers (9:1-9)
- C. Call to repentance (14:1-9)

III. Important Themes

- A. Marital/Covenantal infidelity (2:2-5; 3:3; 4:10-19; 5:3-7; 6:10; 8:9; 9:1)
- B. God's unique sovereignty (12:9; ;13:4)
- C. Repentance (2:19-20; 14:1-19)
- D. Knowing God (2:8; 4:1-6; 5:4; 6:3-6; 13:4)
- E. Religious syncretism illustrated by prostitution (2:2-13)

Joel

Judah was to learn of their judgment, repentance, and hope from Joel's ministry.

I. Outline

- A. Crisis demanding repentance (1-2)
- B. Divine Response to Repentance (2-3)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Day of the Lord (2:1-11)
- B. Pour Out My Spirit (2:28)

III. Important Themes

- A. The Day of the Lord
- B. Repentance
- C. God is Gracious.

Amos

Judah should learn that judgment is coming against them unless they repent.

I. Outline

- A. God's People Judged with the Nations (1-2)
- B. Oracles Against Israel (3-6)
- C. Visions Against Israel (7-9)
- D. God's People Exalted Above the Nations (9:11-15)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Day of the Lord (5:18-27)
- B. Plumb-line (7:7-9)
- C. Restoration (9:11-15)

III. Important Themes

- A. Idolatry
- B. Social Injustice
- C. Syncretistic Worship

Obadiah Here Comes the Judge

God's people are to trust God's triumphant justice at work for them.

I. Outline

- A. Sentence Against Edom (1-14)
- B. Announcement of New Order (15-21)

II. Significant Passages

- A. The Fall of the Mighty (2-4)
- B. Your Deeds Return on Your Head (15)

III. Important Themes

- A. Divine Judgment (1:1, 8, 15)

Jonah Big God, not just a Big Fish

Israel is to be an instrument of mercy to the nations and have compassion on them as God does.

I. Outline

- A. Jonah's Disobedience and God's Reaction (1-2)
- B. Jonah's Obedience and God's Reaction (3-4)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Jonah's Prayer (2:1-9)
- B. Jonah's Pouting Fit (4:1-11)

III. Important Themes

- A. Salvation Comes From the Lord
- B. Fear and Hatred
- C. Thanksgiving

Micah "Kill My Landlord!"

Warning that God will no longer tolerate Israel's persistent evil (particularly greed) and would destroy Samaria and ravage Jerusalem.

I. Outline—Three cycles each including prophecies of judgment and salvation

- A. Judgment and Deliverance in the Assyrian Crisis (1-2)
- B. Judgment of Leaders and Future Restoration (3-5)
- C. Judgment of the Nation and Future Restoration (6-7)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Judgment on Greedy Landowners (2:1-5)
- B. Rescue from Babylon (4:6-10)
- C. Leader from Bethlehem (5:2-6)
- D. The Shepherd's Redemption (7:14-20)

III. Important Themes

- A. Greed and Corruption (2:1-5; 8-9; 3:1-4; 6:9-16; 7:1-7)
- B. Day of the Lord (2:4; 4:1-6; 5:10; 7:12)
- C. Jerusalem and Samaria

Nahum The Book Jonah Wished He Got to Write

Judah should acknowledge God's destruction of Nineveh and blessing for Judah.

I. Outline

- A. Praise to the Divine Warrior (1:1-11)
- B. Judgment for Nineveh and Salvation for God's People (1:12-2:13)
- C. Mockery of Doomed Nineveh (3:1-19)

- B. Vivid Image of Nineveh's End (2:3-10)
- C. Mockery of Nineveh's Ruin (3:5-7)

III. Important Themes

II. Significant Passages

- A. God's Vengeance (1:2-6)

- A. Divine Vengeance (1:2, 8, 14-15; 2:13; 3:5, 19)
- B. Pride and Cruelty
- C. God Is Sovereign Over the Nations

Habakkuk The Great-Grandpa of the Reformation

Judah should learn how to react to Babylonian troubles through his experiences.

I. Outline

- A. Lament and Response Concerning Judah (1:1-11)
- B. Lament and Response Concerning Babylon (1:12-2:20)
- C. Prayer, Praise, and Submission (3:1-19)

II. Significant Passages

- A. "The righteous will live by his faith." (2:4; Romans 1:17)
- B. The Lord's Glory (2:14-20)
- C. Hope Despite Desolation (3:17-19)

III. Important Themes

- A. Injustice (1:2-4, 17; 2:6, 9)
- B. God's Honor (1:12; 3:3)
- C. Divine Warfare (3:8-15)
- D. Moving from severe grief to hope through prayer

Zephaniah From Wrath to Singing

Judah should repent in humility because God will bring restoration after devastating judgment.

I. Outline

- A. The Coming Destruction of Creation (1:1-18)
- B. A Shameful Nation's Hope (2:1-3)
- C. The All-Consuming Fire (2:4-3:8)
- D. God Singing Over His People (3:9-20)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Total Devastation (1:1-3)
- B. Call to Repentance (2:1-3)
- C. Restoration (3:11-20)

III. Important Themes

- A. The Day of the Lord
- B. God's Jealousy
- C. Corporate Repentance
- D. Waiting

A Word about Application

- A. Understanding Original Meaning
- B. Making Appropriate Adjustments
 - 1. Epochal Adjustments
 - 2. Cultural Adjustments
 - 3. Personal Adjustments

The Covenantal Framework of the Prophets

- The role of the prophet.
- The response of the king/people.
- The non-negotiables.

Prophecy to produce change.

- Change of behavior.
- Change of the heart.
- Repentance and faith.

Periods of Prophecy

- Early Monarchy (1000-930 BC)
- Assyrian Judgment (734-701) *Jonah, Hosea, Amos, Micah, Nahum, Isaiah*
- Babylonian Judgment (605-586) *Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Joel, Obadiah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel, Daniel*
- Restoration Period (539-400) *Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi*

The Lord Almighty—Lord of Armies

Haggai

to encourage the reconstruction of the temple with the expectation of restoration blessings.

I. Outline

- A. Call to Rebuild the Temple (1)
- B. God's Greater Temple and Blessings (2:1-9)
- C. God's Blessing for a Defiled People (2:10-19)
- D. Victory for God's People (2:20-23)

II. Significant Passages

- A. The Priority of the Lord's House (1:2-4)
- B. Shake the Heavens and the Earth (2:6-7)
- C. God's Signet Ring (2:23)

III. Important Themes

- A. The Temple
- B. The Victory of the Davidic Line

Zechariah

to exhort the restored community to remain faithful to the Davidic king despite disappointments because God will one day bring it to full realization.

I. Outline—Three cycles each including prophecies of judgment and salvation

- A. Prophecies and Visions in the Near Term (1-8)
- B. Prophecies and Oracles for the Future (9-14)

II. Significant Passages

- A. The Branch (3:8-9)
- B. The Coming of the King (9:9-10)

III. Important Themes

- A. The Welfare and Future of Jerusalem (1:7-17; 2:1-13; 5:1-4)
- B. The Lord Almighty

Malachi

failures of the people in their tithes and marriages and the failure of the priesthood will result in judgment unless they repent.

I. Outline—Three cycles each including prophecies of judgment and salvation

- A. The Truth of God's Love (1:1-5)
- B. Israel's Unfaithfulness (1:6-2:16)
- C. God's Just Judgment (2:17-4:6)

II. Significant Passages

- A. Defiled Table (1:12)
- B. Robbing God (3:6-12)
- C. Day of the Lord (4:1-6)

III. Important Themes

- A. The Covenant
- B. Commitment

A Word about Application

- A. Understanding Original Meaning
- B. Making Appropriate Adjustments
 - 1. Epochal Adjustments
 - 2. Cultural Adjustments
 - 3. Personal Adjustments

The Covenantal Framework of the Prophets

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Daniel

The meaning of history and how to live for God in ungodly times¹

The book of Daniel was written to console and motivate God's people during desperate times. It shows us how to live faithfully in the midst of a faithless world. It is a book-long treatment of Christ's command to be in the world but not of it (John 15:17). But the book of Daniel is far more than a "how-to" manual. It sets in context the whole flow of history. It shows that all of history is His story—the story of God's redeeming work for His people. From the horrific discipline of the exile to the horrors of the cross, God is sovereignly directing all human history for the redemption of His saints.

Outline²

- I. Prologue: The Setting (1:1-21)
- II. The Nations and the Most High God (2:1-7:28)
 - A Nebuchadnezzar Dreams of Four Kingdoms and God's Kingdom (2:1-49)
 - B Nebuchadnezzar the Tyrant Sees God's Servants Delivered (3:1-30)
 - C Judgment on Nebuchadnezzar (4:1-37)
 - C¹ Judgment on Belshazzar (5:1-31)
 - B¹ Darius the Mede Sees Daniel Rescued (6:1-28)
 - A¹ Daniel Has a Vision of Four Kingdoms and of God's Kingdom (7:1-28)
- III. The Second and Third Kingdoms Identified (8:1-27)
- IV. Daniel's Prayer and the vision of the Seventy Weeks (9:1-27)
- V. Vision of the Heavenly Messenger and His Final Revelation (10:1-12:13)

At the center of the chiasm (2:1-7:28) is God's judgment on two Babylonian kings. Nebuchadnezzar responds to the judgment with faith and repentance and is restored. Belshazzar does not and is destroyed. These two narratives contrast the possible responses to God's judgment.

Who Is God? The King of All Nations Who Commands History

Who Did He Make Us to Be? Holy Servants in a Hostile Kingdom

Scope From Jerusalem's Desecration to Her Ultimate Rescue

Significant Passages

- A. God blessing Daniel even in captivity (1:8-20)
- B. The contrast of gods in interpreting dreams (2:7-23)
- C. God's Protection in the Fiery Furnace (3:1-30; especially vv. 16-18)
- D. God's Protection in the Lion's Den (6:1-28)
- E. Son of Man (7:13-14)
- F. Seventy Weeks (9:1-27)
- G. The End Times (12:4-13)

III. Important Themes

- A. God's Sovereignty—over nations, history, people
- B. Marriage (12:4; 31:10-31)
- C. Stewardship (3:9-10; 27:23-27; 28:11-19)
- D. Discipline (3:11-12)

IV. A Word about Application

- A. Understanding Original Meaning
- B. Making Appropriate Adjustments
 - 1. Epochal Adjustments
 - 2. Cultural Adjustments
 - 3. Personal Adjustments

Notes

- 1 James M. Boice's description of Daniel. The only book he preached through twice at Tenth Presbyterian Church.
- 2 Baldwin in the Tyndale Commentary.
- 3 Drawing by Travis Kinney

