

HOW TO USE THIS WORKBOOK

This workbook is designed for use in middle to high school Bible classrooms and is intentionally flexible to meet a wide range of ages and maturity levels. Lessons are organized in sections that increase in depth and complexity, allowing teachers to adjust pacing and emphasis based on their students' needs. Each lesson contains enough material to fill a 30–45 minute class period.

Lessons begin with **Rapid Recall**, a brief set of questions to review the previous lesson and connect it to the day's topic. This should take only a few minutes. Next, **The Big Picture** introduces the main focus and goal of the lesson, helping students understand what they will be studying.

The **Content** section forms the core of the lesson. It includes questions tied directly to Scripture. Teachers may assign passages for students to read ahead of time or read/summarize them together in class, depending on age, preparation, and reading ability. Younger or less-prepared students may spend more time here, while older or well-prepared students can move through this section more quickly.

Each lesson also includes a **Gospel Message**, which intentionally connects the lesson to Christ and the gospel. This section encourages discussion and personal application, helping students see Scripture as more than information and guiding them toward Christ-like living.

The **Digging Deeper** section is designed for further application and discussion. This portion works especially well with older or more mature students and can take up a larger part of the lesson when time allows.

Some lessons include additional review activities such as maps or drawings. These tools help reinforce learning and can be used as appropriate for the class level.

Teachers are encouraged to adapt each lesson as needed, emphasizing different sections to best serve their students while keeping the overall goal of biblical understanding and gospel-centered application in view.

JONAH

RAPID RECALL

Recall what you learned about prophets from the Major Prophets study last quarter:

- 1 What is a prophet? _____
- 2 Why are these prophets call "minor prophets?" _____

THE BIG PICTURE

You may think you know about the prophet Jonah. But there is much more to his life and his call than being swallowed by a great fish. In this lesson, you are going to learn about Jonah the man, his mission, and his mistakes.

JONAH AND HIS MISSION (JONAH 1)

- 3 Where is Jonah told to go and preach against (1:1-2)? See the map on page 5 to understand where he was supposed to go. _____
- 4 Where does Jonah attempt to go (1:3)? What is he running from? _____
- 5 Is Jonah successful in his running away (1:4)? _____
- 6 What are the sailors doing in the storm (1:5)? What is Jonah doing? Why is this ironic? _____
- 7 What does Jonah say is the solution to the destructive storm (1:10-16)? _____
- 8 What happens after Jonah is thrown into the sea (1:17)? _____



JONAH AND HIS PRAYER (JONAH 2)

9 What is Jonah describing in his prayer (2:1-5)? _____

10 Where does it sound like Jonah is at (2:5-6)? _____

11 What does Jonah say he will do (2:7-10)? How does the Lord respond? _____

JONAH AND HIS PREACHING (JONAH 3)

12 What does the Lord tell Jonah to do (3:1-3)? Does he do it this time? _____

13 What did Jonah preach (3:4)? _____

14 What was the response of the city of Ninevah (3:5-9)? _____

15 What was the Lord's response to Ninevah (3:10)? _____

JONAH AND HIS ANGER (JONAH 4)

16 What was Jonah's response to what the Lord did (4:1)? _____

17 What does Jonah pray (4:2-3)? _____

18 What does the Lord ask Jonah (4:4)? _____

19 What does Jonah do? What does he seem to be hoping for (4:5)? _____

20 What does the Lord do with Jonah? What is the Lord trying to teach Jonah (4:6-11)? _____

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- After Jonah failed and attempted to run to Tarshish, did the Lord give up on Jonah?
- Write down the ways the Lord attempted to restore his wayward prophet:
1:4

1:17

3:1-2

4:4

4:8-9

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Matthew 12:39-40. How does Jesus use what happened to Jonah and apply it to himself? What is Jesus saying he will do?

- Jonah attempts to run from the presence of the Lord, rejecting his prophetic call to go preach to the city of Ninevah. Why was it foolish and sinful for Jonah to do this? What do we learn for our lives?

- What do we learn about repentance (3:7-10)? What do we learn about God when people truly repent? Why do you think that Jonah did not want to see these people repent (4:1-3)? How do we show that we have the same attitude toward people like Jonah did?

Below is a map of the Assyrian Empire. The Assyrian Empire is the world power during the lives of early prophets in the scriptures. Take note of the following locations:

- Jerusalem (capital city of Judah)
- Nineveh (capital city of Assyrian Empire)
- Joppa is not marked on the map but it is on the coast of the Great Sea, northwest of Jerusalem.

IMPORTANT: Come back to this map throughout your study of the early prophets to remind yourself about where the prophets are when they are delivering God's messages.



By File:Near East topographic map-blank.svg; SémhurFile:Assyrie general.PNG; Zunkirderivative work: Morningstar1814 - File:Assyrie general.PNG (1), CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=149452559>

AMOS

RAPID RECALL

1 What was God teaching Jonah? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Amos is a shepherd in Tekoa in the nation of Judah. But God calls him to be a prophet to the northern nation of Israel. Amos' prophecy is one of the more fiery prophetic messages with most of the book being messages of condemnation. Only the very end of the book offers a quick message of hope for when Christ comes.

AMOS' JUDGMENT OF NATIONS (AMOS 1-2)

2 Write down the nations, peoples, and cities Amos prophesies against in Amos 1:2-2:5. _____

3 Write down some of the sins that God says the people were doing in Amos 1:2-2:5 that caused the people to be worthy of condemnation. _____

4 Write down the sins of the people of Israel, as recorded in Amos 2:6-16. _____

AMOS' CONDEMNATION (AMOS 3-4)

5 What does Amos call the women of Israel (4:1-2)? Why does he call them this? What are the women doing? _____

6 Read Amos 4:6-12. After listing what God did to the people because of their sins, what does God say the people failed to do each time? _____

7 What must the people do now (4:12-13)? _____



AMOS' CALL (AMOS 5-6)

- 8 What did the people need to do to have life (5:4; 5:6; 5:14-15)? _____
- 9 What does the Lord think of Israel's worship (5:21-24)? Why is this the Lord's response to their worship? _____

AMOS' VISIONS (AMOS 7-9)

- 10 What was the response of Israel to Amos' declarations of judgment (7:10-13)? _____
- 11 Read Amos' vision in Amos 8:1-3. What will be the outcome for the nation of Israel? Will the northern nation of Israel return to the land and exist again as a nation? _____

AMOS' HOPE (AMOS 9:11-15)

- 12 What is promised to be rebuilt and restored in 9:11-12? _____
- 13 What is promised to be restored in 9:13-14? _____
- 14 What is promised in 9:15? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Acts 15:13-18. Compare how James quotes Amos 9:11-15 to how Amos originally said it. What was the meaning to what Amos was saying would happen when Christ came? Who was being restored?
- Who rebuilt and restored the kingdom of God (cf. Mark 1:14-15)?

HOSEA

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What was Amos' profession before becoming a prophet? _____
- 2 Write down one sin that Amos condemned. _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Hosea's relationship with his wife and children will be used as a teaching example to the nation of Israel. As you study, look at what the Lord asks Hosea to do and how these actions are intended to show the Lord's relationship with his people.

PICTURING UNFAITHFULNESS (HOSEA 1)

- 3 What does God tell Hosea to do (1:2-3)? What does God say is the reason he tells Hosea to do this (1:2)? _____
- 4 What is the name of the first child and what does it mean (1:4-5)? _____
- 5 What is the name of the second child and what does it mean (1:6-7)? _____
- 6 What is the name of the third child and what does it mean (1:8-9)? _____
- 7 In spite of the children's names, what hope is still given (1:10-11)? _____

REJECTION AND RESTORATION (HOSEA 2-3)

- 8 What does God tell Hosea to do with her unfaithful wife (3:1-2)? _____
- 9 What requirements are given to return to Hosea (3:3)? _____
- 10 How does this point to Christ (3:4-5)? _____



SEARCHING FOR HEALING (HOSEA 6)

- 11 What do the people say that they will do (6:1-3)? What is their hope by doing this? _____
- 12 What is the problem with the people deciding to do this (6:4)? Will their desire to return to the Lord last? _____
- 13 What does God say that he desires from his people (6:6)? Consider what the people are saying and how God responded in 6:1-4. What does God mean in Hosea 6:6? _____

GOD'S RELENTLESS LOVE (HOSEA 11-14)

- 14 What is the call to the people of Israel (14:1)? _____
- 15 What should the people say to the Lord (14:2-3)? _____
- 16 How will God respond to the people if they will return to him (14:4-9)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Hosea 11:1-2. What historical event is God recalling? But what did the people do? Then read Matthew 2:13-15. How does Matthew apply this quotation to Jesus?
- Read Hosea 6:1-3 again. What do the people hope will happen after two days and on the third day? How many days was Jesus in the tomb and on what day did he raise from the dead? What is the message?

MICAH

RAPID RECALL

1 What was Hosea asked to do to represent God's relationship with Israel? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The prophet Micah preached to the people at the same time as the prophet Isaiah. Micah will tell the people that God judges sin and unrighteousness. But God does delight in our obedience and promises a ruler who feed his flock in the strength of the Lord.

SIN AND JUDGMENT (MICAH 1-3)

2 How is God described and what is he described doing (1:1-7)? What will happen when he comes and why is he coming? _____

3 What are some of the sins the people have committed (2:1-2)? What does this mean and what would this look like today? _____

4 What are the people saying to Micah about his preaching (2:6)? Why would anyone say this? _____

5 What do the people want to hear preached to them (2:11)? What point is Micah making? _____

6 How are the prophets condemned (3:5-8)? _____

7 How are the leaders condemned (3:9-12)? _____



THE PROPHETIC HOPE (MICAH 4-7)

8 What was going to happen in the last days (when Christ comes) (4:1)? _____

9 What will many people and nations do (4:2)? _____

10 Where will the coming ruler of Israel be born (5:2)? _____

11 What will the ruler of Israel do (5:4)? _____

12 Does God just want sacrifices? What does God expect from his people (6:6-8)? _____

13 Read Micah 7:18-20. Then answer the questions below:

According to verse 18, what is the character of God? _____

According to verse 19, what will God's character do for his people? _____

According to verse 20, what will God do for his people? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Matthew 2:1-6. Who fulfilled the prophecy of Micah 5:2-4?
- Read John 10:11-18 with Micah 5:4-5. What does Jesus call himself and what did he come to do?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- Read 1 Timothy 1:5. What is our aim?
- Read Hebrews 10:19-22. How are we to draw near to God?
- What does it mean that God will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea (Micah 7:19)?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Micah 6:6-8. What would it look like in your life to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God?

- Why would God say that he did not want the people's sacrifices even though he commanded for the people to offer sacrifices? What does God mean by this? What kind of sacrifices was God not wanting?

- Read Hebrews 13:12-15 and Romans 12:1. What kind of sacrifices does God want from us today? How can we avoid the failure of Israel so that we do not offer sacrifices that God does not want?

NAHUM

RAPID RECALL

- 1 Where would the Ruler be born? _____
- 2 What does God expect from his people? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

In this lesson we are going to return to the capital city of Assyria, Ninevah. The prophet Jonah had already been sent to this city with a message of repentance. More than 100 years, God is going to send the prophet Nahum with a new message for these people. Will the prophet give them an encouraging message or a judgment message?

HISTORICAL SETTING

- 3 Who is this prophecy against (1:1)? _____
- 4 What prophet did you learn about who was also told to preach against this city? _____
- 5 Based on question 4, was that prophet successful in his preaching? _____

JUDGMENT DECREED (NAHUM 1)

- 6 How does God describe himself in Nahum 1:2? _____
- 7 How does God describe himself in Nahum 1:3? _____
- 8 How does God describe himself in Nahum 1:7? _____
- 9 How do we reconcile these characteristics of God? How can he be all these things at the same time? _____



10 What is God's message to Ninevah (1:12-13)? _____

11 Read Nahum 1:15. How is the message of chapter 1 "good news"? _____

JUDGMENT DETAILED (NAHUM 2-3)

12 What images or words are used to describe the attack on Ninevah? _____

13 In the book of Jonah, the people of Ninevah repented when the message of judgment was proclaimed. But about 140 years have passed since Jonah's preaching. What do you think happened so that God's judgment must come? _____

14 How can we act like Ninevah did? _____

15 Ninevah was the capital city of Assyria, the world power at that time. Is there a world power or nation powerful enough to resist the power and word of the Lord (2:13; 3:5-9)?

SEEING CHRIST

- The apostle Paul quotes Nahum 1:15 in Romans 10:15. Read Romans 10:14-17 and answer the following questions:
- How are people going to hear the message of salvation? _____
- Why are some people's feet consider beautiful to the Lord? _____
- Has everyone obeyed the gospel message? _____
- How does the faith to be saved come by? _____

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- The book of Nahum teaches us that repentance is not a one time action when we give our lives to Jesus. Ninevah had repented in the days of Jonah but that repentance had faded away by the time of Nahum’s prophecies. In the book of Revelation we read about some of the seven churches of Asia falling into the sin. The Christians had initially repented when they obeyed Christ but now were in need to repent again. Read the following scriptures and write down what was necessary for these churches to do:
- Revelation 2:5 –
- Revelation 3:3 –
- Revelation 3:15–19 –

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Why is it important to devote ourselves to returning back to God instead of returning to our sinful habits?

- Do we ever refuse to admit that we are wrong? Do we ever refuse to admit that we have sinned? Why do you think we are tempted to do this?

- Why do you think people would ignore God’s warning to repent before judgment comes?

ZEPHANIAH

RAPID RECALL

- 1 Write down what you remember about Nahum and his prophetic message: _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Zephaniah is preaching about the problem of sin in the hearts of the people. But as he identifies their heart problems, he will also proclaim hope that the Lord, the King of Israel, will be in their midst. He will change the hearts of the people so that he will delight in his people again.

JUDGMENTS (ZEPHANIAH 1-2)

- 2 During which king did Zephaniah prophesy (1:1)? Was he a good or bad king? _____
- 3 What does Zephaniah condemn the people for first (1:5-6)? _____
- 4 What is the second condemnation against the people (1:12)? What are the people thinking about the Lord? _____
- 5 What is the third condemnation against the people (1:17-18)? What do the people think about their wealth? _____
- 6 What does Zephaniah tell the people to do (2:1-3)? _____
- 7 What does it mean that the nation of Moab will be like Sodom and the Ammonites will be like Gomorrah (2:9; Genesis 19:24-25)? _____



RESTORATION (ZEPHANIAH 3)

- 8 What is another condemnation against the people (3:1-2)? _____
- 9 What did God expect the people to do (3:6-7)? What did the people do instead? _____
- 10 What is God going to do to restore people and have them in relationship with him (3:9)? _____
- 11 What will God's people be like (3:12-13)? _____
- 12 What will happen that will cause God's people to rejoice (3:14-16)? _____
- 13 What will the Lord do for those his people and toward their enemies (3:17-20)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

Read Acts 17:30-31.

- What does God expect all people everywhere to do? _____
- Who is going to judge the world? _____
- What evidence is given that he will return and judge the world? _____

Read Zephaniah 3:15,17.

- What is the repeated hope about what the Lord will do? What does this point to? _____

GOSPEL MESSAGE

- The people thought that their wealth would be able to deliver them from the coming wrath of the Lord. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10. Who is the only one who can save us from the coming wrath? What must we do to be saved according to this text?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- One of Zephaniah's messages is the need for humility. What is humility? Why is it so important to God for his people to humble? What does it mean to be humble in your life?

- One of the sins condemned of the people is that they have become complacent (1:12). They thought God would not do anything against them and did not do anything for them. What does it mean to be complacent? Were the people right, believing that God would not do anything for them or against them? Explain.

- Zephaniah 3:17 says that God will rejoice over his people with gladness. How is God able to rejoice over his people? How does God delight in us?

HABAKKUK

RAPID RECALL

1 Write down what you remember about Zephaniah and his prophetic message: _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Habakkuk is a unique prophecy because the book is not about the Lord telling Habakkuk to preach judgment on a certain people. Instead, Habakkuk has a discussion with the Lord about the questions he has about what is going on among his own people. What the Lord will tell Habakkuk is the foundation for being a follower of Christ.

HABAKKUK'S QUESTIONS (HABAKKUK 1-2)

2 What is Habakkuk's first question? What is happening in his nation (1:2-4)? _____

3 What does Habakkuk think God should do (1:2-4)? _____

4 What is God's answer to Habakkuk (1:5-6)? _____

5 What is Habakkuk's second question? What problem does he have with God's first answer (1:12-17)? _____

6 What does Habakkuk say he will do while he waits for God's answer (2:1)? _____

7 What is God's answer to Habakkuk (2:2-4)? _____



HABAKKUK'S PRAYER (HABAKKUK 2-3)

- 8 What are some of the sins that are judged in Habakkuk 2:6-20? _____
- 9 What does Habakkuk pray for in Habakkuk 3:1-2? _____
- 10 Write down some of the descriptions of God made in Habakkuk 3:3-15. _____
- 11 What is Habakkuk's reaction to learning that the Babylonians are going to be used by God to judge the nation of Judah (3:16)? _____
- 12 What does it mean if there is no fruit, no produce, no flock, and no food (3:17)? What is going to happen to the people? _____
- 13 What is Habakkuk's reaction to learning that they will lose all of their prosperity (3:18)? _____
- 14 How is Habakkuk able to have joy in the face of the coming judgment (3:19)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

Read Habakkuk 2:13.

- What is the great work God is doing in the world? _____
- What is God doing through judgment? _____
- Read Revelation 19:11-16. How is Jesus described? _____

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- God's answer to Habakkuk in Habakkuk 2:4 is so important that it is quoted three times in the New Testament (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38). When God answered Habakkuk's question by telling him that "the righteous live by faith," what was he asking Habakkuk to do?
- How is what God tells Habakkuk so central to the gospel message and what it means to be a Christian?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- What does Habakkuk 2:20 mean? If the Lord is in his holy temple, then what does that tell us? Does this give confidence and hope or fear and dread? Why should the earth remain silent before him?

- Why is idolatry foolish (Habakkuk 2:18-20)? Do you think idolatry is still a problem today? What do you think could become idols in the hearts of people today?

- What does Habakkuk teach us to do when we do not understand what God is doing or what is going on around us? How does God's answer to Habakkuk help us when we do not understand life?

JOEL

RAPID RECALL

1 Write down what you remember about Habakkuk and his prophetic message: _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The book of Joel speaks of the coming judgment against Judah and Jerusalem. But God will explain his own character and tell the people that there is still hope if they would make some changes. In this lesson you will see what God expects his people to do to be saved.

THE DAY OF THE LORD COMES (JOEL 1-2)

2 What event has happened to the nation of Judah (1:1-4)? _____

3 How are these insects described and what did they do (1:5-7)? _____

4 Joel uses what happened to the people before as a picture of the army that is about to invade the nation. How is this army described and what is it doing (2:1-11)? _____

THE CALL OF THE DAY OF THE LORD (JOEL 2)

5 What does God want the people to do (2:12-13)? _____

6 What does it mean to tear your heart, not your garments (2:13)? _____

7 What is the hope if the people will tear their hearts (2:14)? _____

8 What is God's answer if they tear their hearts (2:18-21)? _____



AFTER THE DAY OF THE LORD (JOEL 2-3)

- 9 What will happen afterward (2:28)? _____
- 10 What will be the signs to know the above event has occurred (2:28-29)? _____
- 11 What else is going to happen (2:30-31)? Explain this imagery. Does this sound like a positive or negative event? _____
- 12 How will people find salvation from this event (2:32)? _____
- 13 What else will happen at that time (3:1-2)? _____
- 14 What does God promise to be for his people (3:16)? _____
- 15 What else does God promise for his people (3:17-21)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Joel 2:28-32 is quoted in Acts 2:17-21. In Acts 2, the apostle Peter applies Joel's words to Christ. Read Acts 2:1-4. What happened that caused this moment for Peter to teach the crowds?

Read Acts 2:22-24 and Acts 2:29-33. What does Peter say this event proved?

What is Peter's conclusion in Acts 2:36?

What does Peter say the people need to do in Acts 2:38-39?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- In Acts 2:21 (quoting Joel 2:32), we read that “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord”? How does a person call on the name of the Lord?
- Read Acts 22:16. Paul was told to call on the name of the Lord. How was Paul told to do this?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- What is the character of God (2:13)? But God says that you must “return to me with all your heart” and “tear your heart and not your garments.” What does it look like to turn to God with all your heart? What does this mean doing?

- The apostle Paul also quotes from Joel 2 in Romans 10:13. Read Romans 10:8-13. What else is included in calling on the name of the Lord to be saved? Then write down what it looks like to do what Paul says to do to call on the name of the Lord. Is this just a mental act? Is it just saying a few words? What does Paul mean for people to do?

OBADIAH

RAPID RECALL

1 What do remember about the book of Joel? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Obadiah is a small prophecy that can be neglected due to its short length. But Obadiah's message is very important to understand what God expects from his people and the sins he condemns. You will learn why Edom was judged and the hope God proclaimed for the world through his Son.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN (1:1-9)

2 Who does Obadiah prophesy against (1:1)? _____

3 Read Genesis 25:30. Where did this nation come from? Who are they descendants of? _____

4 What is their condemnation (1:3)? _____

5 What is God going to do to them (1:2-4)? _____

6 What else will God do against them (1:8-9)? _____



WHY JUDGMENT WILL HAPPEN (1:10-14)

7 What did Edom do against Judah (1:10)? _____

8 What did Edom do when Judah was attacked (1:11)? _____

9 What else did Edom do when Judah was attacked (1:12)? _____

10 What else did Edom do when Judah was attacked (1:13)? _____

11 What else did Edom do when Judah was attacked (1:14)? _____

WHAT GOD WILL DO (1:15-21)

12 What will God do to Edom (1:15)? _____

13 Where will be the place for escape from judgment (1:17)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Obadiah 1:21. What is going to happen on Mount Zion? Who will go up to Mount Zion?
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-28. Who is reigning on the throne after he rose from the dead?
How long will he reign?
What is the last enemy to be destroyed?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- One of God's messages in the book of Obadiah is that God will do to them what they did to others. We see this idea taught in a number of ways in the New Testament.
- Read Matthew 7:12. What does Jesus say we are to do?
- Read Matthew 25:31-46. What does Jesus say about how we serve him or fail to serve him?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Edom thought they were secure and could not be conquered. Write down what they trusted in that caused them to think they were safe:

1:3 _____

1:7 _____

1:8 _____

1:9 _____

Why was it foolish to trust in these things? _____

- Edom was condemned for its pride (1:3). What are ways that we can be proud that would be condemned by the Lord? Think about your relationships with your friends, in your home, and in your school as you answer.

- Edom was also condemned for not helping the people of Judah when they were under attack. Instead of helping, the people of Edom laughed, gloated, boasted, and join in on the attacks happening (1:10-14). How do we look at those who are downcast, rejected, or oppressed in our lives? What do we do toward people we know who are suffering?

HAGGAI

RAPID RECALL

1 What do you remember from the prophecy of Obadiah? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Haggai was written about 520 BC which is about 16 years after the people had returned to Jerusalem from Babylonian captivity. God destroyed Jerusalem through the Babylonian invasion in 586 BC and removed many people from the land (including Daniel and Ezekiel). The Persians conquered Babylon and allowed the captured people to return to their homeland. Haggai prophesies to those who have returned and are living in Judah and Jerusalem.

FIRST MESSAGE (HAGGAI 1)

2 What is the condemnation God has for these people (1:2)? What are they not doing? _____

3 What have the people spent their time doing instead (1:3-4; 1:9)? _____

4 What has God done because of their misplaced priorities (1:5-6)? _____

5 What does God tell the people to do (1:7-8)? _____

6 What else does God say he has done because of their misplaced priorities (1:9-11)? _____

7 What was the response of the people (1:12)? _____

8 How did God respond to the people's response (1:13-15)? _____



THE SECOND MESSAGE (HAGGAI 2:1-9)

- 9 What problem is happening while the people are building the temple (2:1-3)? _____
- 10 What is God's message to these discouraged people (2:4-9)? _____

THE THIRD MESSAGE (HAGGAI 2:10-19)

- 11 Haggai uses an illustration of priestly defilement to teach a message to the people. Can holiness be transferred from one object to another (2:12)? _____
- 12 Can defilement and uncleanness be transferred from one object to another (2:13)? _____
- 13 What is the message (2:14)? _____

THE FOURTH MESSAGE (HAGGAI 2:20-23)

- 11 What does God say he will do (2:20-22)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- In Haggai 2:9 God proclaimed that the latter glory of the temple would be greater than the former (when Solomon built the temple with gold and precious stones). However, the temple that Zerubbabel built in 520 BC was not a glorious physically as Solomon's temple was.

Read John 2:19-23. How did Jesus describe himself? How is he the latter and greater glory?

Read Ephesians 2:19-20. How is Jesus described? Who else is part of this imagery?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- One of the messages in Haggai is that the people did not recognize that the emptiness they were experiencing was because they had failed to put God's work first in their lives (cf. Haggai 1:9-11). Pursuing life without God does not bring lasting joy or satisfaction but emptiness.
- Read Matthew 6:31-34. What did Jesus say about this idea? When will God give us what we need for life?
- Why should we not worry about life and possessions?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Haggai 1:9 again. What are ways that we busy ourselves with our own things rather than the things of God? How can we keep our priorities in life right and godly?

- Read Haggai 2:13-14 again. How is it that our defilement and uncleanness can spread to our other actions in our lives? How can our defilement affect other people?

- Haggai 2:6 is quoted in Hebrews 12:26 where the author of Hebrews explains that the things that cannot be shaken refers to Christ and his kingdom. Read Hebrews 12:28-29. What are we to do because we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken? What does this look like in your life? Why should we do this?

ZECHARIAH 1-8

RAPID RECALL

1 What do you remember about Haggai and his prophecy? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Zechariah prophesied at the same time as Haggai. Zechariah's method of encouraging the people to get to work and build God's temple is by showing amazing visions of God's future work through Christ and his people. Zechariah is considered a difficult prophetic book. We will look for the overall messages found in the book in this study.

EIGHT VISIONS (ZECHARIAH 1-6)

2 What is God's opening message to the people who have returned from captivity (1:1-6)? _____

3 What was the response of the people (1:6)? _____

4 Read the vision in Zechariah 3:1-10. What is Satan ready to do (3:1)? _____

5 What does the Lord say to Satan (3:2)? _____

6 Why was Satan ready to accuse Joshua the high priest (3:3)? _____

7 What does Joshua's filthy garments represent (3:3-4)? _____

8 What does the angel say to do (3:4-5)? Why could these be removed? _____



9 What instructions are given to Joshua (who represents God's people) (3:7)? _____

10 Read the vision in Zechariah 5:5-11. What is in the basket? What is God going to do? _____

FOUR MESSAGES (ZECHARIAH 7-8)

11 What is the message to the people (7:8-10)? _____

12 Did the people listen (7:11-13)? Why or why not? _____

13 What is the message to the people (8:16-17)? _____

14 What will happen when Christ comes (8:20-23)? What will people do? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Read Zechariah 6:9-15.

What is to be done to Joshua, the high priest? Why is this unusual?

Who is the Branch? What will he do?

How would Jesus build the new temple (cf. John 2:18-22)?

Having a priest also be king in Israel was impossible under the Law of Moses. The high priest could only come from the tribe of Levi. The king could only come from the tribe of Judah. The book of Hebrews will show that Jesus could be king (he is from the tribe of Judah) and high priest because he established a new covenant and his priesthood is like the priesthood of Melchizedek.

ZECHARIAH 9-14

RAPID RECALL

- 1 What was Zechariah sent? What was his prophetic purpose? _____
- 2 What was Zechariah's first message (1:1-6)? _____

THE BIG PICTURE

The second half of the book of Zechariah has a very forward view about the work Christ will accomplish when he came. The difficult visions continue in the second half of this book. But we will be seeing Christ in every message of these final chapters in the book.

THE COMING CHRIST (ZECHARIAH 9-10)

- 3 How is the King described as coming and what will he do (9:9-10)? _____
- 4 Read Matthew 21:1-11. How was this prophecy fulfilled? _____
- 5 What else will the King do when he came (9:11-12, 16-17)? _____

THE COMING SHEPHERD (ZECHARIAH 11)

- 6 What is Zechariah asked to do as a sign (11:4) What are the names of his two staffs (11:7)?

- 7 Since the sheep do not want him to shepherd them, what does he do with the two staffs (11:10,14)? _____
- 8 What value do the people assign to his shepherding (11:12-13) Where does the money go?

- 9 Read Matthew 26:14-16 and 27:3-10. How was this prophecy fulfilled? _____

THE COMING FOUNTAIN (ZECHARIAH 12-13)

- 10 What will God pour out on the people (12:10)? _____
- 11 How will the people come to God (12:10-14)? What do you think is the reason the people are doing this? _____
- 12 What will be available when Christ comes (13:1)? _____
- 13 What will be cut off when Christ comes (13:2-6)? _____
- 14 What will happen to the shepherd (13:7)? _____
- 15 What will happen to the sheep (13:7)? _____
- 16 Read Matthew 26:30-32 and 26:47-56. How were these prophecies fulfilled? _____
- 17 What will be the result of Christ's work (13:8-9)? _____

THE COMING RESTORATION (ZECHARIAH 14)

- 18 What will happen when Christ comes (14:8)? What does this mean (cf. John 7:37-39)? _____
- 19 What will be inscribed on the articles of the house of the Lord (14:20-21)? _____
- 20 Read 1 Peter 1:14-16. What are God's people to be? _____



GOSPEL MESSAGE

- To the right, compare Isaiah 53 below with Zechariah's prophecies that you have studied:
- Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:4-5 ESV)
- All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. (Isaiah 53:6-7 ESV)

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- What kind of king was God sending to the world (Zechariah 9:9)? What character will he have, according to this text? How do we see this fulfilled in the life of Jesus? How did Jesus show these characteristics? Give some examples.

- In Zechariah 11:15-17 God declares that the people will follow worthless and foolish shepherds because they rejected the true shepherd that God sent to save them. What are some foolish and worthless shepherds that we follow and listen to today?

- In Zechariah 13:2 we see the promise that God will remove the prophets and the unclean spirit from the land. When Christ came, we see the prophets fade away and the casting out of unclean spirits. Now we no longer have prophets or unclean spirits because we have Jesus, the final revelation of God (cf. Hebrews 1:1-3).

MALACHI

RAPID RECALL

- 1 Write down at least one prophetic message or vision about Christ from the book of Zechariah: _____

THE BIG PICTURE

Malachi is the final literary prophet to the people of Judah. It has been about 85 years since the people have returned from Babylonian captivity and about 70 years since the temple of the Lord was completed. We are going to see if the repentance and zeal in the days of Haggai and Zechariah have continued or if the people have lost their devotion to the Lord.

QUESTIONING GOD (MALACHI 1)

- 2 What are the people questioning God about (1:1-3)? _____
- 3 God answers their question by pointing back in history to when God chose Jacob, rather than Esau, for his promises to come through. If we question God's love, what historical event can we look at to know the answer (cf. Romans 5:6-8)? _____
- 4 How have the people despised the Lord (1:6-8)? _____
- 5 What does God wish would happen since the people are despising him and lacking honor to him in their worship (1:10)? _____
- 6 What are the people saying about having to bring sacrifices to God (1:12-13)? _____
- 7 Will God accept their sacrifices with this attitude (1:13)? _____
- 8 Why should God be honored (1:14)? _____



WEARYING GOD (MALACHI 2)

- 9 What is the condemnation for the priests (2:1-4)? _____
- 10 How does God describe his covenant with them (2:5-6)? _____
- 11 What should be coming from the lips of the priests (2:7)? What did the priests do instead?

- 12 How have the people wearied God (2:17)? _____

FUTURE HOPE (MALACHI 3-4)

- 13 Who is God going to send and what will he do (3:1-5)? _____
- 14 Did the people think they needed to return to God (3:7)? What were the people doing wrong now (3:8-10)? _____
- 15 Did the people respond to Malachi's message (3:16-18)? _____
- 16 What does God say is coming (4:1)? _____
- 17 Who was coming in preparation for this (4:5)? What will he do (4:6)? _____

SEEING CHRIST

- Malachi promises that the Lord will come to his temple. All of the gospel accounts record Jesus going to the temple and teaching at the temple. But there is another significant action Jesus performed when he went to the temple that is recorded in all four gospels. Read Matthew 21:12-13 (cf. Mark 11:15-17; Luke 19:45-46; John 2:13-17). What did Jesus do when he came to the temple? How does this match Malachi 3:2-3 and the need for repentance?

GOSPEL MESSAGES

- Read Romans 12:1. What kind of sacrifices does God want from his people today?
- Read Malachi 3:16. Who was written in the book of remembrance? Then read Revelation 20:11-15. Which book do we want our names written in and how can we have this happen?

APPLICATION

DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Luke 1:12-17. Compare what is said to Zechariah to what Malachi said about the coming Elijah in Malachi 4:5-6. Who fulfilled this prophecy? What did he preach was coming (Luke 3:7)? How does this match the prophecy in Malachi 4:5?

- God condemns the people for robbing him (Malachi 3:8-10). What are ways that we can rob God?

- God condemns the people for finding worship a weariness (1:13) and for not offering him their best sacrifices (1:8-9). What are ways that we show that serving God and worshiping him is a weariness? What are ways that we do not give God our best?

SEEING THE GOSPEL



THE MINOR PROPHETS

by: Brent Kercheville

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