

GROW ON YOUR OWN

// STUDY GUIDE

This plan takes you through the books of the minor prophets over the course of 12 weeks. Each book includes videos specifically designed to enhance your understanding & engagement of God's word.

WEEKLY STUDY PLAN

Resources You'll Need:

1. Sunday Message
2. This Study Guide by The Bible Project
3. Videos: Find on North Central Church App or visit thebibleproject.com/explore
4. Bible

WEEK 1: HOSEA

1. Sunday, July 7 Message
2. Read Pages 8-9
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/hosea
4. Read Hosea Chapters 1-14

WEEK 2: JOEL

1. Sunday, July 14 Message
2. Read Pages 10-11
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/joel
4. Read Joel Chapters 1-3

WEEK 3: AMOS

1. Sunday, July 21 Message
2. Read Pages 12-13
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/amos
4. Read Amos Chapters 1-9

WEEK 4: OBADIAH

1. Sunday, July 28 Message
2. Read Pages 14-15
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/obadiah
4. Read Obadiah Chapter 1

WEEK 5: JONAH

1. Sunday, August 4 Message
2. Read Pages 16-17
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/jonah
4. Read Jonah Chapters 1-4

WEEK 6: MICAH

1. Sunday, August 11 Message
2. Read Pages 18-19
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/micah
4. Read Micah Chapters 1-7

WEEK 7: NAHUM

1. Sunday, August 18 Message
2. Read Pages 20-21
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/nahum
4. Read Nahum Chapters 1-3

WEEK 8: HABAKKUK

1. Sunday, August 25 Message
2. Read Pages 22-23
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/habakkuk
4. Read Habakkuk Chapters 1-3

WEEK 9: ZEPHANIAH

1. Sunday, September 1 Message
2. Read Pages 24-25
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/zephaniah
4. Read Zephaniah Chapters 1-3

WEEK 10: HAGGAI

1. Sunday, September 8 Message
2. Read Pages 26-27
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/haggai
4. Read Haggai Chapters 1-2

WEEK 11: ZECHARIAH

1. Sunday, September 15 Message
2. Read Pages 28-29
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/zechariah
4. Read Zechariah Chapters 1-14

WEEK 12: MALACHI

1. Sunday, September 22 Message
2. Read Pages 30-31
3. Watch Video thebibleproject.com/explore/malachi
4. Read Malachi Chapters 1-4

THE MINOR PROPHETS

// SUMMARIES



HOSEA

Hosea accuses Israel of breaking their covenant with God, and warns them of the tragic consequences to follow.



JOEL

Joel reflects on the “Day of the Lord” and how true repentance will bring about the great restoration hoped for in the other prophetic books.



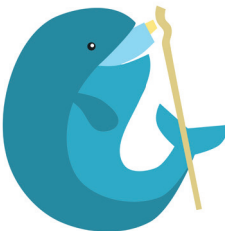
AMOS

Amos accuses Israel of breaking their covenant with God, and highlights how their idolatry has led to injustice and the neglect of the poor.



OBADIAH

Obadiah announces Edom's downfall to Babylon, which is an image of how God will bring down all arrogant and violent nations.



JONAH

A subversive story about a rebellious prophet who despises his God for loving his enemies.



MICAH

Micah announces that God's justice is coming in order to create a new future of love and faithfulness on the other side of Israel's sin and exile.



NAHUM

Nahum portrays the downfall of Nineveh and Assyria as an image of how God will confront and bring down all violent human empires.



HABAKKUK

Habakkuk struggles to understand God's goodness in the midst of such evil and injustice in the world.



ZEPHANIAH

Zephaniah announces God's purifying judgment on Israel. It will remove evil and open up a new future where all people can flourish in peace.



HAGGAI

Haggai challenges Israel after the exile to remain faithful to their God and rebuild the temple.



ZECHARIAH

Zechariah's visions foster hope in the future promise of the messianic kingdom, and challenge Israel after the exile to remain faithful to God.



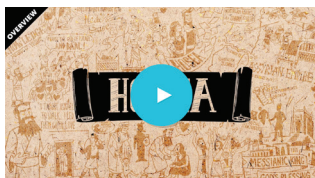
MALACHI

Malachi accuses Israel of selfishness after the exile and announces that the day of the Lord will purify Israel and prepare them for God's kingdom.

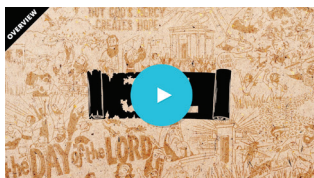
MORE ON THE MINOR PROPHETS

// VIDEOS

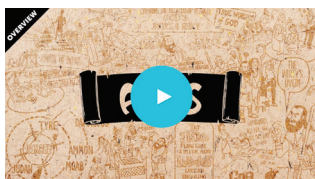
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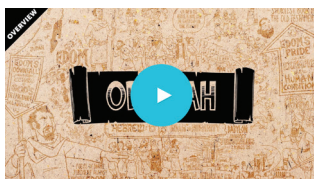
HOSEA



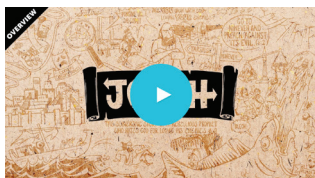
JOEL



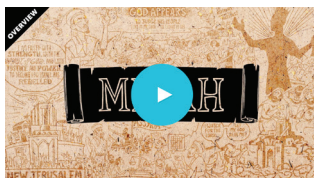
AMOS



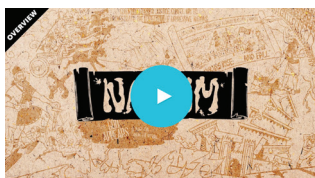
OBADIAH



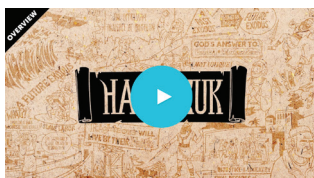
JONAH



MICAH



NAHUM



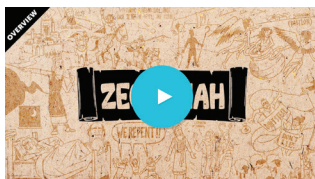
HABAKKUK



ZEPHANIAH



HAGGAI

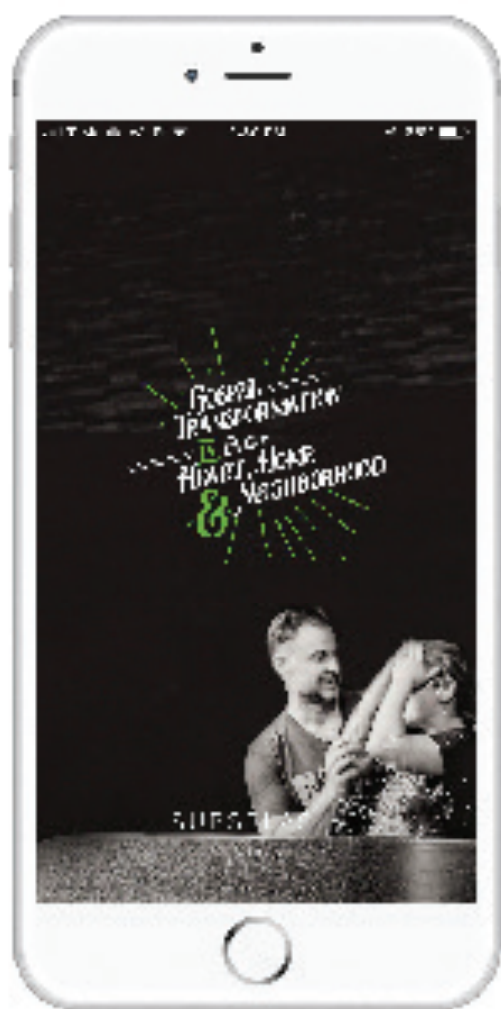


ZECHARIAH



MALACHI

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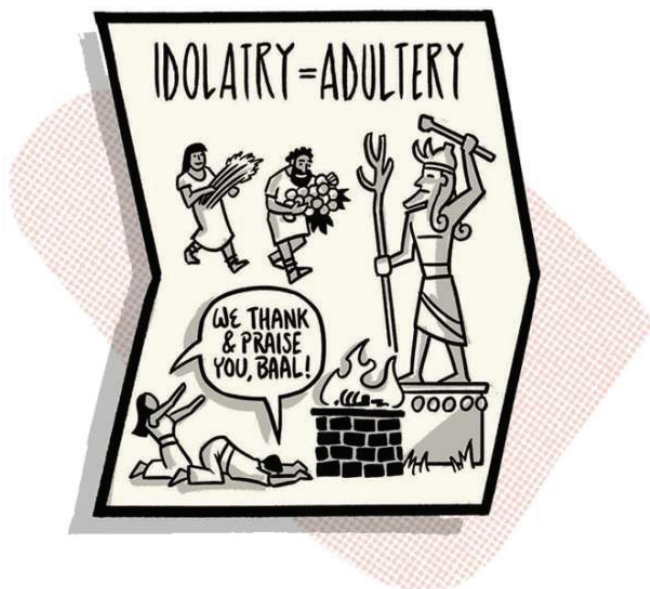


- listen to messages
- study the bible



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// WEEK 1: HOSEA



NORTH ISRAEL'S WRONGS THREATEN THEIR COVENANT WITH GOD, BUT GOD'S LOVE PULLS THROUGH IN THE BOOK OF HOSEA. HE SENDS HOSEA TO WARN THEM OF THEIR SINS AND TO REPENT.

The Northern Kingdom of Israel enjoyed moderate success from conquering neighboring kingdoms, but they were spiritually bankrupt on the inside. In the Book of Hosea, God sends Hosea to Israel during King Jeroboam II's reign to admonish them of their wrongs in perpetual idol worship and dependence on outside nations.

LOVE CONQUERS ALL

King Jeroboam II, one of the worst kings in Israel's history, grew apathetic and allowed idol worship to run amok in the nation, opening the doorway for Israelites to cheat, steal, have unlawful sex with, and even murder each other on a constant basis. Growing cold and distant,

they had forgotten about knowing God as their intimate first love, ushering in a disaster that would imminently strike through Assyria's siege. But God does not forget Israel even in their self-destruction, and He teaches us that love is the strongest force of all, even over sin.

Hope would still come through God's Messiah.

MILESTONES

IDOLATROUS ISRAEL

Hosea prophesies against the corruption of Israel's priests, who led Israel away from knowing God and into idol worship. Judah, too, is warned against their sins.

ADULTEROUS GOMER

God's relationship with Israel is demonstrated through Hosea's marriage with the prostitute Gomer. Like Gomer, Israel has committed adultery against God by worshipping foreign gods.

ADULTERER REDEEMED

Though adulterous Israel worships idols, God's never-ending love will buy them back. He will restore Israel again and bring a Messianic King from David's family.

GOD CRIES OUT

In a moving allegory of a father and son, God expresses His love and heartbreak for Israel and their constant rebellion, pleading for them to repent.

ALMOST REDEEMED

Even though God confronts Israel's wrongdoings, He longs to restore them. God will heal their faithlessness if they choose to repent. Sadly, Israel doesn't listen.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/hosea

// WEEK 2: JOEL



THE BOOK OF JOEL DESCRIBES THE DAY OF THE LORD THROUGH LOCUST SWARMS, WAR SCENES, AND POWERFUL IMAGERY IN ORDER FOR READERS TO COMPREHEND ITS MAGNITUDE.

The Book of Joel accounts for justice over evil in a form that's unique to the other Old Testament prophets. Unlike the other books, Joel tells us a story about a terrible plague of locusts that seems to traverse across time.

NO ROOM FOR EVIL

No particular mention of Israel's sins is present in the book, but the consequences of the terrible events described are certainly clear: God will one day wipe out all evil and start creation over. But through this destruction also comes eternal protection for those who believe in Him.

Salvation from the Messianic King is once

again prophesied, but this time the Holy Spirit is prophesied to come too, causing seemingly ordinary people to have visions, divine dreams, and be filled with God's Spirit. That's exactly what happened during Pentecost to Jesus' disciples after His death and resurrection, ensuring us that the Day of the Lord is even closer at hand today.

MILESTONES

● **THE LOCUST SWARM**

Joel tells of a past locust plague in Israel and describes its detailed devastation like that of a destruction with weapons.

● **THE DAY OF THE LORD**

The Day of the Lord is defined as when God will defeat all evil for good and save His people. Israel's past becomes our future.

● **FAITHFUL RESTORED**

Joel urges people to give their hearts to God while there's time. If they turn to Him on the Lord's Day they will be spared.

● **GOD'S SPIRIT ON ALL**

God will pour out His Spirit upon people in the last days. This is fulfilled centuries later on Pentecost after Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension.

● **A NEW EDEN**

God's people won't be the only ones restored in the future - the earth gets renewed too. God will heal creation into a new Eden.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/joel

// WEEK 3: AMOS



GOD CALLS A JUDEAN SHEPHERD AMOS TO CONFRONT THE WRONGDOING OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL IN THE BOOK OF AMOS, BUT ALSO OFFERS THEM ONE MORE CHANCE BEFORE THEY FACE THEIR CONSEQUENCES.

The Book of Amos is an intriguing Scripture from a unique individual, Amos, a shepherd and fig tree farmer dwelling in southern Judah who is called by God to go to Bethel and announce warnings of judgment to the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

ONE LAST CHANCE

Northern Israel had conquered other nations and enjoyed its recent successes, but was spiritually bankrupt on the inside. Worshiping local pagan gods twisted their moral perceptions, and the people of Israel infamously cheated,

stole and sold their poor into slavery in foreign lands. God is grieved by the evils he sees the people of Israel doing, but through His mercy, He is willing to give them another chance to change their ways. What can we learn by reading Amos today? Through Amos' wisdom, we discover that doing the right thing and loving others is more important than sacrifice to God, who desires to renew the hearts of everything through His coming Messiah King.

MILESTONES

A SHEPHERD'S CALL

God calls Amos, a shepherd and fig tree farmer in Judah, to prophesy in Israel against the people's sins, especially cheating, oppressing and enslaving the poor.

CIRCLING IN EVILDOING

Through sermons, poems and visions, Amos prophesies judgment against the nations surrounding Israel, and then the epicenter of Israel's wrongs. Consequences are carefully spelled out.

POWER & RESPONSIBILITY

Because of God's intimate covenant He made with the people of Israel, they are set to higher standards as His representatives on the earth. Israel should lead by example.

NO ONE LIKE THE LORD

Amos pleads with the people of Israel to turn from Canaan idols and worship the One True God, who made everything and delivered them out of Egypt's bonds.

ALL NATIONS UNDER GOD

In the midst of gloomy judgment, a hopeful promise rings out. God will confront evil and create a restored family in a new world.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/amos

// WEEK 4: OBADIAH



THE BOOK OF OBADIAH MAY BE SMALL, BUT IT PACKS A POWERFUL PUNCH AGAINST THE ARROGANCE OF EDMON AND OTHER UNGODLY NATIONS. IT APPLIES TO BOTH OUR PAST AND FUTURE.

The smallest Old Testament account, the Book of Obadiah is a vision written by The Lord's prophet known as Obadiah, who prophesied against Israel's relative nation Edom.

EDOM WILL FALL

The Edomites, who were descended from Jacob's brother Esau, still carried the grudge their founder had for Jacob's deception. Worse, Esau's nation hated Israel even more. They refused to help Israel in their need, sold them as slaves, and even abused them while they were exiled to Babylon. Through Obadiah, God declares judgment over Edom and prophesies that they

will be erased from history. Babylon overtook Edom 100 years later, never to recover again.

MILESTONES

ESAU'S CONTEMPT

Esau's jealousy over Jacob stealing his birthright carries over to their lines of descendants – the nations Israel and Edom – even though Esau had forgiven Jacob.

PRIDEFUL EDM

Instead of helping their relatives, Edom gloats over Israel's exile, enslaving their refugees and encouraging Jerusalem's destruction. But God's judgment will pay for their wrongs.

ALL NATIONS JUDGED

Edom's not the only nation who will receive God's judgment – all godless nations who have wronged the innocent will be punished for taking advantage, too.

RESTORATION

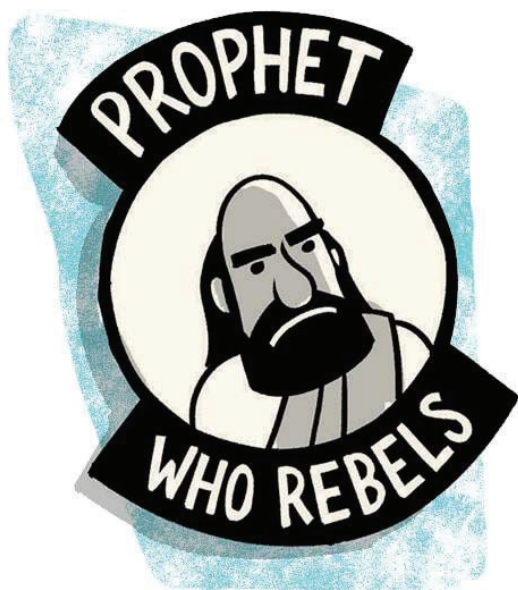
In contrast to Edom's pride and fall, Israel will be restored after exile. This includes the reconstruction upon their return and the future New Jerusalem.

EDOM BROUGHT IN

Can Esau's descendants repent and receive God's forgiveness? Yes! Even they are included in God's new kingdom if they repent and believe in His Messiah.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/obadiah

// WEEK 5: JONAH



THROUGH SATIRE AND COMPELLING STORYTELLING, THE BOOK OF JONAH REVEALS TO READERS WHY GOD IS COMPASSIONATE TO EVILDOERS IN THE PAST AND PRESENT AGE TODAY.

If you have ever attended church, Sunday school, or bedtime story sessions as a child, you have likely heard about the story in the Book of Jonah at some point. But, the prophet Jonah's account of remarkable experiences with storms at sea, being eaten by a fish, and plants that miraculously grow and die in a day have lessons that go much deeper than what is on the surface.

FORGIVENESS IS HARD

Through Jonah's perspective, we have the opportunity to perform a spiritual checkup of ourselves. Do we truly forgive and love our enemies? Do we run away from the Lord about certain issues, afraid of being exposed? The

answer is different for every individual, and yet God personally knows the answers to these questions. By examining ourselves in Jonah's story, we can learn to trust God in His final decisions and give all our concerns to Him, while knowing that He desires to save every individual on Earth and reunite with them forever.

No one is too far for Him to reach.

MILESTONES

THE RUNAWAY PROPHET

When God tells Jonah to deliver a prophecy at terrible Nineveh, Jonah runs away from God instead. He soon learns this is not a good idea.

OUT AT SEA

A wild storm threatens Jonah's runaway ship voyage. Pagan sailors search for God's help, and Jonah is revealed as the cause of their turmoil. The sailors reluctantly throw him overboard.

JONAH'S PRAYER

A large fish swallows Jonah while out at sea. It spits him out when Jonah repents, and God tells him to go to Nineveh again.

NINEVAH REPENTS

Jonah tells God's warning at Nineveh, and the whole city repents--from the king to the cows! But, Jonah becomes angry when God spares the city.

JONAH'S LESSON

Jonah waits for God's judgment on Nineveh outside the city, but God teaches him about His mercy instead. The conclusion is left to the reader.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/jonah

// WEEK 6: MICAH



THE BOOK OF MICAH DESCRIBES GOD'S COMING JUDGEMENT ON ISRAEL BECAUSE OF ITS REBELLION. GOD WILL SHOW MERCY, THOUGH, AND WILL ONE DAY GATHER AND RESTORE HIS PEOPLE AND ALL NATIONS TO THE LAND.

The Book of Micah describes God's coming judgment on Israel because of its rebellion. The Assyrian Empire and then the Babylon Empire would destroy the nation and leave Jerusalem in ruin.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

However, Micah also gives the people hope. Like a shepherd, God will one day gather and restore a faithful remnant to the land. He will rebuild Jerusalem, defeat evil forever, set a Messianic King to rule over the people and bless all the nations.

Before that can happen, though, He must confront and judge evil from among His people. Then He can show mercy and fulfill His covenant promise to Abraham and bless all the nations through Israel. His ultimate purpose is not to destroy Israel but to redeem and save the world.

MILESTONES

ISRAEL INDICTED

The Book of Micah opens with God's appearance over Israel like at Mt. Sinai in Exodus. He has come to judge the rebellious, unjust people.

CORRUPT LEADERS

Israel's leaders violate the Torah as they accept bribes, bend justice, favor the wealthy and steal land from the poor. God will judge them severely.

HOPE AND RESTORATION

Although God accuses and warns the people, He also gives them hope. He will shepherd the faithful remnant and gather all the nations to Israel.

MESSIANIC KINGDOM

After the Assyrian attack and Babylonian exile, God will restore His people in their land with a new Jerusalem, a Messianic King and no evil.

FUTURE HOPE IN GOD

Israel begs God to listen to and forgive them, and He will because of His merciful character and covenant promise to Abraham and His people.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/micah

// WEEK 7: NAHUM



THE BOOK OF NAHUM ANNOUNCES THE DESTRUCTION OF ASSYRIA AND REVEALS THAT GOD WILL PUNISH ALL ARROGANT, VIOLENT AND EVIL NATIONS WHILE HE PROTECTS HIS HUMBLE AND FAITHFUL PEOPLE.

The Book of Nahum is a collection of poems announcing the downfall of Assyria, one of Israel's worst oppressors. Referencing Daniel, Exodus, Isaiah and Babylon, Nahum shows us that the destruction of Nineveh and Assyria are examples of how God works in history in every age.

GOD IS JUST

He is committed to justice and will not allow any arrogant, violent or evil nation to endure forever. However, while He defeats evil, He is also good and cares for the innocent. He will provide a refuge on the day of distress for anyone who

humbles himself before God, believes in God's justice and trusts that in His time He will bring down oppressors in every time and place.

MILESTONES

GOD'S JUSTICE

The Book of Nahum opens with God's words from Exodus 34. God is slow to anger and great in power, but He must punish evil.

PEOPLE OF SIN VS. FAITH

Referencing Isaiah, Nahum reminds the people that when God brings down the arrogant empires He will provide refuge for those who humble themselves before Him.

THE FALL OF NINEVAH

Babylonian soldiers and chariots will attack Nineveh. Chaos reigns as the soldiers breach the city walls, slaughter the people and plunder and destroy the city.

ASSYRIA'S DOWNFALL

Nineveh's downfall causes the Assyrian empire to fall. While injustice built the system that made Assyria successful, its violence will also bring about its destruction.

ASSYRIAN KING TAUNTED

Stricken with a fatal wound, the perpetually cruel king of Assyria is taunted and his death is celebrated by the people whom he once oppressed.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/nahum

// WEEK 8: HABAKKUK



THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK OFFERS HOPE TO PEOPLE LIVING IN AN EVIL WORLD. IT RECOGNIZES HOW DARK AND CHAOTIC THE WORLD IS AND INVITES US TO TRUST THAT GOD WILL ONE DAY DEAL WITH EVIL BECAUSE HE LOVES US.

The Book of Habakkuk is a compilation of the prophet's laments, not an accusation against Israel and its sin or a message to the people on God's behalf like some of the other prophetic books. Instead, Habakkuk questions God's goodness because he sees so much injustice, evil and tragedy in the world. He's also concerned because God plans to send Babylon, an intensely evil nation, to judge Israel.

WHEN WILL YOUR JUSTICE BE DONE?

Throughout the book, we see that Babylon is

an example of any nation that exalts itself above God and practices injustice, violence and idolatry. In the end, God reminds Habakkuk and every generation that God will deal with evil.

We can continue to love and trust His timing and plan as we remain faithful to Him.

MILESTONES

FIRST COMPLAINT

Israel has become violent, unjust and corrupt, and Habakkuk asks God to intervene. God replies that He will use a terrifying empire to judge Israel.

SECOND COMPLAINT

Habakkuk hates that God would use an incredibly violent and corrupt nation like Babylon to judge Israel. God replies that all nations will be accountable.

FIVE WOES

Habakkuk lists five woes perpetrated by Babylon. However, most nations eventually perform these same violent, unjust and idolatrous injustices because of the sinful human condition.

GOD WILL ACT

Habakkuk pleads for God to act and end corrupt nations. God's powerful appearance illustrates that when He eventually confronts human evil, everyone will pay attention.

FUTURE EXODUS

The Book of Habakkuk ends by comparing the ancient exodus and a future exodus when God defeats evil, brings justice and rescues all the oppressed.

» [thebibleproject.com/explore/habakkuk](https://www.thebibleproject.com/explore/habakkuk)

// WEEK 9: ZEPHANIAH



THE BOOK OF ZEPHANIAH SHOWS HOW GOD'S JUSTICE AND LOVE WORK TOGETHER TO GIVE THE WORLD HOPE. A CONSUMING FIRE, HIS JUSTICE PURIFIES THE PEOPLE, AND HIS LOVE RESTORES JERUSALEM FOR THE NATIONS.

The Book of Zephaniah contains some of the most intense images of God's justice and love found in the prophetic books. Zephaniah warns Israel and the surrounding nations that the Day of the Lord is near. God will judge the nations with a burning fire as He purifies them from sin, evil and violence.

JUDGEMENT & HOPE

God performs this act of justice because He's passionate about protecting and rescuing His world from evil. He loves us so much that He must purify us. Only then can He bring

restoration where He removes evil forever and creates a New Jerusalem for His faithful remnant from all nations to gather and flourish in peace and praise Him. Together, God's justice and love give the world future hope.

MILESTONES

JUDAH JUDGED

God's good, ordered world is descending into disorder. A great army will judge, devastate and ruin corrupt, violent and arrogant Jerusalem, Israel and surrounding nations.

FAITHFUL REMNANT

Anyone in Jerusalem who seeks the Lord, repents from sin, obeys Him and humbles themselves before Him will be spared. They are God's faithful remnant.

GOD'S BURNING FIRE

God's final judgment is a consuming fire that devours evil from Jerusalem and all the nations. The burning fire of God's judgment purifies the world.

HOPE FOR ALL

After God purifies the world, the people will repent and call on Him. They are transformed into a unified family, fulfilling God's promise to Abraham.

REMNANT RESTORED

The book of Zephaniah concludes with a picture of restored Jerusalem where God's mercy transforms the faithful remnant, and He celebrates them with joyful songs.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/zephaniah

// WEEK 10: HAGGAI



THE BOOK OF HAGGAI REMINDS EXILES REBUILDING JERUSALEM AND BELIEVERS OF EVERY GENERATION TO REMAIN FAITHFUL, OBEDIENT, AND HOPEFUL. ONE DAY GOD WILL RETURN TO ESTABLISH A NEW JERUSALEM.

The people of Israel were conquered by Babylon because they broke their covenant with God through idolatry and injustice. The Book of Haggai was written 70 years after this prophesied exile and recounts the experience of a small group of Israelites, led by Joshua and Zerubbabel, who had returned to rebuild Jerusalem.

REMEMBER THE COVENANT

Haggai challenges the returning exiles to remember their covenant, remain faithful to God and build the temple before constructing their

own homes. While the new temple didn't meet their expectations, their efforts and faithfulness would be blessed. They could also be encouraged by God's promise to build a New Jerusalem for His international kingdom, defeat evil, and live in their midst. Future prophetic books contain more details about when these promises would be fulfilled.

MILESTONES

MISPLACED PRIORITIES

The Book of Haggai reminds the exiled rebuilders of Jerusalem to give God their primary allegiance and not rebel against the covenant like their ancestors.

SHATTERED EXPECTATIONS

The people felt discouraged because their temple looked unimpressive, but Haggai reminded them to keep working and hope in God's promise of a New Jerusalem.

NEW COVENANT CALL

Like ritual purity in Leviticus, the current Jerusalem inhabitants must humble themselves and reject injustice and apathy or their building efforts would be impure too.

REMAIN FAITHFUL

Haggai challenged the exiled generation as Moses challenged the wilderness generation. They could choose their future. Obedience and covenant faithfulness brought success and God's blessing.

HOPE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

God will fulfill His promise to establish a New Jerusalem, the center of His international kingdom, and He will defeat evil from among the nations.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/haggai

// WEEK 11: ZECHARIAH



THROUGH A SERIES OF DREAM VISIONS, THE BOOK OF ZECHARIAH GIVES HOPE TO THE ISRAELITES AND REMINDS THEM THAT THE NEW JERUSALEM WILL ONLY COME TO PASS IF THEY REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THE COVENANT.

Almost 70 years after the exile, the Israelites were experiencing hardships and wondered if prophetic promises of a New Jerusalem would ever be fulfilled. The Book of Zechariah answers this question through several dream visions.

THINGS JUST GOT WEIRD

These bizarre images remind God's people that they must remain faithful to the covenant if they want the New Jerusalem, Messianic kingdom, peace on earth and end of evil to come to pass. Even though the book doesn't follow a neat, orderly pattern and contains scary and bizarre images, it shows glimpses of God's hand at work

guiding history toward His own purposes. We can look above the chaos and hope for the coming of God's kingdom, which will motivate faithfulness in the present.

MILESTONES

TURN BACK TO GOD

The Book of Zechariah begins with a challenge for God's people to turn back to Him, unlike their ancestors who rebelled, disobeyed and were exiled.

EIGHT DREAM VISIONS

God spoke to His people through dream visions with bizarre images. The message included details about the New Jerusalem and a warning to remain faithful.

GRIEVING EXILES

Grieving exiles wondered if they could stop mourning the temple's destruction. Zechariah asked if they were ready to receive and participate in God's coming kingdom.

MESSIANIC KINGDOM

Through images of a Messianic king riding into the New Jerusalem and a rejected shepherd, Zechariah asks if the Israelites would reject their king forever.

THE NEW JERUSALEM

One day, the New Jerusalem will be established where God's justice would defeat evil, His people would repent and all nations would gather in peace.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/zechariah

// WEEK 12: MALACHI



THE BOOK OF MALACHI EXPOSES ISRAEL'S CORRUPTION AND ALSO OFFERS HOPE. EVEN AFTER EXILE, THEIR HEARTS ARE HARD AS EVER, BUT HE WILL PURIFY A FAITHFUL REMNANT AND ESTABLISH A NEW JERUSALEM.

One hundred years after exile, the Israelites who had returned to Jerusalem were as evil and corrupt as their ancestors. The book of Malachi addresses their corruption regarding issues like sacrifices, marriage and tithing. It also affirms that God does love His people and will fulfill prophecy.

A FINAL WORD ON THE FUTURE MESSIAH

The entire Scripture is one unified story that tells us the truth about the human condition and sin while announcing God's promise to one day send a messenger and then show up personally.

He will defeat evil and purify a faithful remnant, establish a New Jerusalem and bring peace, healing and justice forever. It's that promise that prompts God's people to denounce sin, remain faithful to His covenant and hope for the future.

MILESTONES

COVENANT LOVE

The Book of Malachi begins with an affirmation about the love God has shown to generations by choosing Jacob's family to carry His covenant promise.

COVENANT BROKEN

God admonishes the men who married foreign women, worshiped their gods or divorced their wives to be faithful to their covenant with Him and marriage.

DAY OF THE LORD

Israel feels neglected and wants God to show justice. He will send a messenger to prepare the Day of the Lord and purify the people.

GENEROSITY ENCOURAGED

God calls the people to start offering a tithe again. It supports the temple, and He will bless them with abundance if they are faithful.

SCROLL OF REMEMBRANCE

In the scroll of remembrance, God records the faithful remnant. It reminds them of His character and promises and inspires them to faithfulness and hope.

» thebibleproject.com/explore/malachi