

The Minor Prophets “The Twelve”

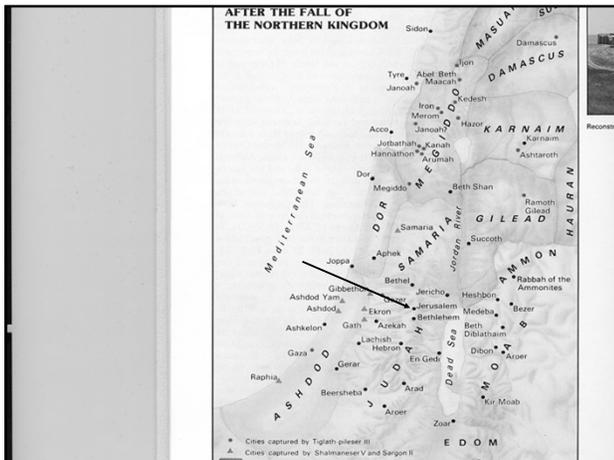
Hosea	Nahum
Joel	Habakkuk
Amos	Zephaniah
Obadiah	Haggai
Jonah	Zechariah
Micah	Malachi

Prophetic Ministry: 800 – 430 B.C.

Zephaniah

Historical Setting:

- **Date:** approx. 630 B.C. (w/ Jeremiah)
 - During the early days of King Josiah (prior to his reforms); preceded by nearly 60 yrs. of great idolatry under Manasseh and Amon
- **Audience:** Judah and Jerusalem



Zephaniah

“A Shelter in the Day of Wrath”

Message:

- **“Day of the Lord”** – catastrophic judgment is coming on Judah and the whole world
- **A Shelter:** there is the possibility of being “hidden” on that day (2:3)
 - “Zephaniah” = “hidden by Yahweh”
- **A Remnant:** those who take “refuge” in the Lord have a glorious future

“The Day of the Lord”

1. What is Coming?

- Catastrophic judgment of the world
- **“Day of Yahweh”** – any period of time in which the Lord profoundly intervenes in the affairs of men, either for judgment or blessing
 - Destruction of Jerusalem (1:7-13)
 - Judgment of all the earth (1:8-18); including all the nations that surround Judah (2:4-15)
 - A day of wrath, desolation, and terror – mercy is absent

“The Day of the Lord”

2. Why is it Coming?

- An arrogant refusal to worship the true God

Romans 1:18, 21, 25

“The wrath of God is revealed from heaven all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men...

for even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks;...

for they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever.”

“The Day of the Lord”

2. Why is it Coming?

➤ **An arrogant refusal to worship the true God**

(a). Idolatry (1:4-6)

- **God demands exclusive devotion**

(b). Self-Reliance (3:1-2; 1:12)

- **callous indifference toward the Lord**
- **pursuit of money**

** these two forms are complementary*

“The Day of the Lord”

3. How to Escape?

➤ **Humbly “seek” the Lord**

- **“seek” – ongoing pursuit of God to know Him and live for Him**
- **inseparable from seeking righteousness and humility**
- **These will be “hidden by God” in the day of judgment**