

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
TEACHER'S  
TOOLBOX  
OF THE  
OLD  
TESTAMENT**

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## GENESIS

### “THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS”

**KEY VERSE:** GENESIS 1:1

“ In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

**THEME:** BEGINNINGS (Greek word means “Origin:)

**GENESIS RECORDS:**

- |                               |                                       |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Beginning of Heaven        | 7. Beginning of Sin                   |
| 2. Beginning of Earth         | 8. Beginning of Sacrifice             |
| 3. Beginning of Man           | 9. Beginning of Prophecy              |
| 4. Beginning of Woman         | 10. Beginning of Human Government     |
| 5. Beginning of Marriage      | 11. Beginning of Nations of the Earth |
| 6. Beginning of God’s Sabbath | 12. Beginning of Family of Israel     |

**DATE:** 1500 B.C.

**WRITER:** MOSES

The great Hebrew Lawgiver and Leader  
Wrote all first five books of the Bible.  
Verified by Christ (Matthew 8:3,4; 19:7,8)

**WRITTEN:** To All Of Mankind

**THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 1st of 66 Books  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 50  
NO. OF VERSES: 1,533  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: First of 5 Books of Moses (Pentateuch)

Genesis introduces the other four Books of Moses.  
Genesis also introduces the entire Bible.

**PURPOSE:** To set the stage for the mighty drama of Redemption that finds its fulfillment in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

**IT SETS FORTH:**

1. The Character and Acts of God
2. The Need of Man
3. The Revelation of the Coming Christ

**DIVISIONS:** CHAPTERS 1-11

1. Story of Creation
2. History of Human Race
3. Four Great Events
4. Two-thousand Years – Plus

CHAPTERS 12-50

1. History of Jewish Race
2. Four Great People
3. Three-Hundred Sixty Years

## GENESIS, continued

### FACTS: THE FOUR GREAT EVENTS (ch. 1-11)

1. The Creation of Universe
2. The Fall of Man
3. The Flood of Noah
4. The Tower of Babel

### THE FOUR GREAT PEOPLE

- |            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. ABRAHAM | Man of Faith       |
| 2. ISAAC   | The Promised Son   |
| 3. JACOB   | The Prince of God  |
| 4. JOSEPH  | The Type of Christ |

### OUTLINE: INTRODUCTION

1. READ all fifty chapters several times
2. REVIEW it several more times by sections.
3. RETAIN it by naming each chapter:  
Chapter 1 Creation, Chapter 2 Eden, Chapter 3 Fall, Chapter 4 Cain, Chapter 5 Seth, Chapter 6 Wickedness, Chapter 7 Flood, Chapter 8 Dry Land, Chapter 9 Rainbow, Chapter 10 Nations, and etc.

### I. CREATION STORY (ch. 1:1-2:7)

1. The Person of Creation (Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:3)
2. The Purpose of Creation (Revelation 4:11; Isaiah 43:7)
3. The Program of Creation (Genesis 1:3-31)

### II. THE FALL OF MAN (2:8-3:24)

- |                       |                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Reason for Fall    | Satan's Presence and Free Will of Man |
| 2. Ruin by Fall       | Loss of Home and Fellowship with God  |
| 3. Result of Fall     | Curse, Murder (4:2), Death            |
| 4. Recovery from Fall | Slain Lamb – Christ                   |

### III. THE FLOOD OF NOAH (ch. 6-9)

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Reason for Flood    | "Wickedness of Men" (Genesis 6:5,11,12) |
| 2. Reaction to Warning | "Scoffing" (2 Peter 3:9)                |
| 3. Rescue from Flood   | "Lord shut him in" (Genesis 7:16)       |

### IV. THE TOWER OF BABEL (ch. 11)

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. The Pride of Man's Heart   | "Make a Name" (11:4)                           |
| 2. The Plan of Rebellious Men | "Reach Heaven" (11:4)                          |
| 3. The Place of the Tower     | "Shinar" (10:10; 11:2)                         |
| 4. The Penalty                | "Confusion of Tongues and Scattering" (11:7,9) |

### V. THE CHOICE OF A NATION (Genesis 11:10-12:2)

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The Promise To Israel | "Blessings" (12:2,3)   |
| 2. The Place For Israel  | "Palestine" (13:14-17) |
| 3. The Purpose Of Israel | "Channel" (3:15)       |

## GENESIS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### VI. THE CALL OF ABRAHAM (Genesis 11:10-25:10)

1. Abraham's Sojourn in Egypt (12:10-13:1)
2. Abraham's Separation from Lot (13:5-11)
3. Abraham's Success Over Foes (14:1-16)
4. Abraham's Submission to Melchizedek (14:17-24)
5. Abraham's Supplication for Sinners (18:1-33)

#### VII. THE PROMISED SON – ISAAC (Genesis 25:11-26:35)

1. The Birth of Isaac (15:4-17:16)
2. The Burnt Offering of Isaac (22:14)
3. The Bride for Isaac (24:1-67)
4. The Backsliding of Isaac (22:6-16)

#### VIII. JACOB – THE CONNIVER AND PRINCE WITH GOD

1. His Lying and Cheating (25:28)
2. His Leaving for Haran (27:43)
3. His Living In Fear "Facing Esau" (32:9-12)
4. His Learning the Hard Way "Reaping" (37:28)

#### IX. JOSEPH – WINNING OVER TROUBLES (Genesis 37:1-50:26)

1. He Stood the Test of Adversity (37:23,24)
2. He Stood the Test of Prosperity (39:2-6)
3. He Stood the Test of Temptation (39:7-12)
4. He Stood the Test of False Accusation (39:13-18)
5. He Stood the Test of Broken Promises (40:23)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

The Book of Genesis is to the Christian what a foundation is to a house. It forms a basis for all the revelation of the Bible.

It tells us the beginning of everything but God. It is the seed plot of the Bible. Almost every subject of major importance has its roots in Genesis.

## EXODUS

### “THE BOOK OF DELIVERANCE”

- KEY VERSE:** Exodus 3:8  
“And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.”
- THEME:** REDEMPTION of God’s Chosen People by the Blood.
- DATE:** Between 1400-1500 B.C.
- WRITER:** MOSES  
Leader and lawgiver of Hebrews  
Name occurs more than 720 times  
Peter, Paul, Jude, John, and Jesus refer to Moses
- WRITTEN:** To give a historical record of God fulfilling His promise in getting the people back in the land.  
To give an example or type of God’s plan for deliverance for all.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 2nd Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 40  
NO. OF VERSES: 1,178  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Second of 5 Books of Moses (Pentateuch)
- PURPOSE:** 1. To show “the way out.”  
2. To set forth the great truth of the whole Bible, the deliverance of man from the bondage and slavery to sin and the world.
- DIVISIONS:** 1. Bondage in Egypt (1:1-22)  
2. Birth and Preparation of Moses (2:1-25)  
3. Call and Surrender of Moses (3:1-4:31)  
4. Conflict With Pharaoh (5:1-11:10)  
5. The Passover (12:1-28)  
6. The Judgments on Egypt (12:29-33)  
7. The Journey to Sinai (12:29-33)  
8. The Law Given (19:3-24:18; 32:1-35:3)  
9. The Tabernacle and Its Meaning (25:1-27; 3:1-11; 35:4-38:31; 39:32-40:38)  
10. The Priesthood and Worship (28:1-30; 38-39:31)

## EXODUS, continued

### FACTS: TYPES IN EXODUS

- |             |              |                          |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. MOSES    | Is a type of | CHRIST                   |
| 2. EGYPT    | Is a type of | THE WORLD                |
| 3. PHARAOH  | Is a type of | SATAN                    |
| 4. ISRAEL   | Is a type of | MAN IN NEED OF SALVATION |
| 5. PASSOVER | Is a type of | CRUCIFIXION              |
| 6. RED SEA  | Is a type of | BAPTISM                  |

Approximately seventy (70) people went in. By count, 600,000 men came out, not including women and children, totaling approximately two to three million. (Exodus 27:37-38)

### OUTLINE: INTRODUCTION

The promise of Canaan to Abraham (Genesis 15:13-16)

The possession of Canaan by Moses

#### I. DELIVERANCE AND SALVATION (ch. 1-12)

1. The Man of God Selected (1-4)
2. The Might of God Seen (5-11)
3. The Mind of God Spoken (12)

#### II. DIFFERENCE AND SEPARATION (ch. 13-18)

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Complete Separation             | “No a hoof left” (13,14)        |
| 2. Conscientiousness of Separation | “Moses Song” (15)               |
| 3. Contention about Separation     | “Murmuring” (16:1-17:7)         |
| 4. Continued Separation            | “Fighting Amalakites” (17:8-16) |
| 5. Convinced Separation            | “Jethro’s and Moses” (18)       |

#### III. DEDICATION AND SANCTIFICATION (ch. 19-40)

1. The Foundation For It (19-23)
2. The Focus Of It (25-27; 30-31)
3. The Function Of It (28-29)
4. The Failure Of It (32)
5. The Fulfillment Of It (33-40)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### BRIEF SUMMARY

1. In Bondage
2. The Passover
3. The Exodus
4. The Law Given (ch. 20)
5. The Tabernacle Built (ch. 35-40)

## LEVITICUS

### “THE WORSHIP OF GOD’S PEOPLE”

- KEY VERSE:** LEVITICUS 16:34  
“And this shall be an everlasting statute unto you, to make an atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year. And he did as the LORD commanded Moses.”
- THEME:** Presentation Of The Laws Regulating The Worship Of Israel Through sacrifices, Offerings, Sabbaths and etc.
- DATE:** BETWEEN 1500-1400 B.C.
- WRITER:** MOSES – Author of Pentateuch (1:1, 6:1,8,19,24)  
Jesus told the leper to go to the priest as Moses commanded (see Matthew 8:4).  
Command given (Leviticus 14:3-10)  
Fifty-six times God spoke revealing His will and re-emphasizing it.
- WRITTEN:** As a manual of sacrifice, a directory of worship, a guidebook primarily for Hebrew priests, but also for the Nation of Israel, which had now emerged from Egyptian bondage.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 3rd Book                               |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 27                                     |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 859                                    |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Third of 5 Books of Moses (Pentateuch) |
- PURPOSE:**
1. To show Israel how to live as a holy nation.
  2. To teach Israel how to worship as the people of God.
  3. To teach Israel the Holiness of God.
- DIVISIONS:** TWO BROAD DIVISIONS:
1. The Basis Of Fellowship – Sacrifice (ch. 1-17)
  2. The Walk Of Fellowship – Separation (ch. 18-27)
- THREE-FOLD DIVISION
1. Sin And Offerings (ch. 1-15)
  2. Atonement And Forgiveness (ch. 16)
  3. Righteousness And Priesthood (ch. 17-27)



## LEVITICUS, continued

- FACTS:**
1. Forty references to “atonement,” meaning “to cover.” (17:11)
  2. Forty-two references – “I Am The Lord.”
  3. Creation took six days. Instructing Moses on Mount Sinai took one month. This illustrates that the work of Grace is more glorious than the work of Creation.
  4. Leviticus is referred to over forty times in the New Testament.
  5. Levities were descendants of Levi – the third son of Jacob.
  6. Levities began service from twenty-five to fifty years of age.
  7. There were three basic divisions of the Levities:
    - a. Kohathites (Numbers 3:30)
    - b. Gershonites (Numbers 3:24)
    - c. Merarites (Numbers 3:35)
  8. Parallels “Hebrews” in the New Testament. (Hebrews 4:14-5:10; 6:19-1:31)
  9. Note with care, as you read Leviticus, historical details and spiritual applications.
  10. Select a “key” word for each chapter.

- OUTLINE:**
- I. THE SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS (1:1-7:38)
    1. The Burnt Offering (1:1-17; 6:8-13)
    2. The Meal Offering (2:1-16; 6:14)
    3. The Sin Offering (3:1-17; 6:24-30)
    4. The Trespass Offering (4:1-35; 7:1-10)
    5. The Peace Offering (5:1-6:7; 7:11-21)
  - II. THE PRIESTLY MINISTRY (8:1-10:20)
    1. The Purification of the Priest (8:6)
    2. The Preparation of the Priest (8:7-13)
    3. The Presentation of the Offering By Priest (8:14-30)
    4. The Provision for the Priest (8:31,32)
  - III. THE LAW OF HOLINESS (11:1-15:33)

Holiness means “separation” or “hallowed.”

    1. The Application of Holiness – to God, to Hebrews and to Believers.
    2. The Areas of Ceremonial Holiness (ch. 11-15)
    3. The Purpose Of These Laws (Physical Health/Spiritual Health)
    4. The Selection of Foods (11:1-17)
    5. The Regulations Concerning Motherhood (12:1-8)
    6. The Laws Relating To Leprosy (13:1-14:57)
    7. The Laws Regarding Issues (15:1-33)
  - IV. THE DAY OF ATONEMENT (16:1-34)
    1. Importance Historically and Prophetically
    2. High Priestly Garments
    3. Animal Sacrifices
    4. Entrance to Holy of Holies
    5. Application of the Blood
    6. The Two Goats – One Sacrificial, One Released (16:5-7:10)
    7. Aaron and Christ

## LEVITICUS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### V. LAWS OF MORAL SEPARATION (18:1-20:27)

1. Reasons For Moral Separation
2. Separation From Impurity (Kinship, dual marriage, etc.)
3. Separation To God (19:1-8)
4. Separation From Evil Against Ones Neighbor (19:9-22)
5. Separation From Wickedness In Canaan (19:23)
6. Basic Principle Under Moral Separation
7. Penalties Attached To Disobedience (20:1-27)

#### VI. PRIESTS AND SACRIFICES ACCEPTABLE TO GOD (21:1-20:2)

1. Absolutely Necessary Laws (21:1; 22:2)
2. Separation Required (21:1-15)
3. Physical Disabilities (21:16-24)
4. Ceremonial Purity (22:1-9)
5. Protection Of Priest (22:10-16)
6. Sacrifices Were To Be Perfect (22:25)
7. Application For Believers Today (Hebrews 13:15,16)

#### VII. THE FEAST OF THE JEWS (23:2-23:44)

1. The Feast Of The Sabbath (23:2,3)
2. The Feast Of The Passover (23:4,5)
3. The Feast Of The Unleavened Bread (23:6-14)
4. The Feast Of The Pentecost (23:15-22)
5. The Feast Of The Trumpets (23:22)
6. The Feast Of The Atonement (23:26-32)
7. The Feast Of The Tabernacles (23:33-44)

#### VIII. BLESSINGS AND WARNINGS (26:1-42)

1. Beginnings To The Obedient (3-13)
2. Curse To The Disobedient (14:39)

#### IX. THE PAYMENT OF VOWS (27:1-34)

1. Vows Of Persons (1-8)
2. Vows Of Domestic Animals (9-13)
3. Vows Of Houses And Fields (14-25)
4. Exclusion From Vows (26-34)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### LEVITICUS AND THE PENTATEUCH

1. GENESIS Man's Ruin And God's Remedy  
"The Seed of Woman"
2. EXODUS Redemption: God's Answer  
"The Blood Of The Lamb"
3. LEVITICUS God's Provision  
"A Priest, A Sacrifice and An Altar"
4. NUMBERS Required Walk Of The Redeemed
5. DEUTERONOMY Obligation Of The Redeemed To Work

## NUMBERS

### “WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS”

- KEY VERSE:** NUMBERS 1:1  
 “And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,”
- THEME:** God honors faith and punishes unbelief.
- DATE:** 1500-1400 B.C. (First month of second year – Numbers 9:1)
- WRITER:** The Holy Spirit used Moses to pen Numbers, the third book of the Pentateuch.  
 Moses was the leader of the host.  
 He was also the Commander of the Hebrew Army.  
 He was spokesman for God to the people.  
 He was well-equipped to write it all for the record.  
 Eighty or more claims in the Book state, “The Lord spoke unto Moses.”
- WRITTEN:** To Trace Israel’s history.  
 To record dangers (physical and spiritual) to which they were exposed.  
 To explain why the eleven-days journey took forty years.  
 To explain why the entire generation was prevented from entering the Promised Land.  
 To warn and challenge all who have been delivered from the world and are journeying through on their way to Heaven.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 4th Book                                |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 36                                      |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 1,288                                   |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Fourth of 5 Books of Moses (Pentateuch) |
- PURPOSE:** To record the two important events of numbering or taking a census of the Jews coming out of Egypt. The first took place at Sinai the second year out, and the second was forty years later at the Jordan, ready to cross Jordan into Canaan.
- DIVISIONS:** THE THREE-FOLD DIVISION OF THE RECORD FROM SINAI TO THE BORDER OF CANAAN.
1. PREPARATION FOR ADVANCE AT SINAI (1:1-10:11)
    - a. There were approximately two million of them.
    - b. They were organized into a theocracy.
    - c. They now had a legal Constitution (Ten Commandments)
  2. JOURNEYING FROM SINAI TO JORDAN
    - a. Failure at Kadesh
    - b. Forty years of wandering
    - c. Hostility of enemy nations

## NUMBERS, continued

### DIVISIONS, continued:

#### 3. CONSOLIDATION AND RENEWED PREPARATION AT JORDAN

- a. New generation enrolled and counted
- b. New generation instructed in religious, military and civic matters
- c. Reminder of God's plan of leadership and control

FACTS: Available men at first count in second year: 603,550  
Available men at second count in fortieth year: 601,730  
Longest funeral march in history.

#### CONTRAST OF OLD GENERATION TO NEW GENERATION

OLD	NEW
Led by Moses	Led by Joshua
Crossed Red Sea	Crossed the Jordan
Wandering in Circles	Possessing the Land
A Diet of Manna	Diet of Old Corn of the Land
Led by Cloud	Led by Ark
Wandered in Unbelief	Conquered by Faith

### OUTLINE:

#### I. THE CENSUS AT SINAI (1:1-2:34)

1. Time: First day of second month of second year (1:1)
2. Place: Wilderness at Sinai – Tabernacle built there
3. Method: One prince from each tribe to supervise
4. Various Groups: Congregation, Priests, Levities
5. Purpose: For efficiency and loyalty to tribe
6. Results: Each man's identity recorded, and possibly represents an average of at least four people per family (or two million people)

#### II. THE PRIESTS AND LEVITIES (2:1-4:49)

1. The Priests: Sons of Aaron
2. The Levities: Sons of Levi – Assistants to Priests; exempt from military duty; assignments of care for Tabernacle

#### III. THE SEPARATION FROM DEFILEMENT (2:1-4:27; 5-6)

1. Reason: God's Holiness demanded similar holiness for relationships. Coming wars and conflict necessitated it.
2. Exclusion of Defilement: Leprosy (5:1-3)
3. Elimination of Guilt: Morally Clean (5:4-10)  
(Problems between Jews a Must)
4. Law of Jealousy (5:11-31)
5. Nazarite Vows: (6:1-21)  
Samson (Judges 13:5)  
John the Baptist (1 Samuel 1:11,28)

## NUMBERS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### IV. THE PRELIMINARIES TO DEPARTURE (7:1-10:10)

1. Princes Brought Gifts For Service Of Dedication (7:1-89)  
Twelve times this is repeated.
2. The Altar And Tabernacle Consecrated To The Lord
3. The Lighting Of The Candlesticks (8:1-4)
4. The Dedication Of The Levities (8:5-26)
5. The Celebration Of The Passover (9:1-14)
6. The Guidance Of The Lord (9:15-23)
7. The Silver Trumpets (10:1-10)

#### V. THE JOURNEY TO KADESH

1. Departing From Sinai (10:11-13)  
(The cloud moved out thirteen months after escape from Egypt)
2. Orderly March (according to tribes) (10:14-28)
3. The Guide: Hobab (known territory)
4. Moses Assures The People (10:33-36)
5. Murmuring And Complaining (11:11-35)
6. Family discontent (Miriam and Aaron) (12:1-15)

#### VI. FAILURE AT KADESH (13:1-14:45)

1. Mission Of The Spies (13:1-25)
2. The Investigation (13:21-25)
3. The Minority Report (13:30)
4. The Majority Report (14:1-19)

#### VII. THE WILDERNESS WANDERINGS

1. Promise of Canaan Renewed (15:1-31)
2. Offerings Presented To Re-Emphasize Their Meaning To New Generation
3. Commandments Of God (15:32-41)
4. Revolt Of Korah (16:1-50)
5. Budding Rod (17:1-13)
6. Moses' Sin (20:1-13)

#### VIII. DETOUR TOWARD CANAAN

1. Edom Refuses Entry (20:14-29)
2. Israel Murmurs Again (21:1-9)
3. Israel Advances (21:10-35)
4. Balak's Scheme (22:1-7)
5. Balaam's Lack Of Direction
6. Blessings For Israel (23:7-10)

#### IX. THE NEW CENSUS

1. Reason: To count loss of forty years and check strength for battle. (26:1-65)
2. Result: Seven tribes larger, five smaller, Judah largest. (26:22-51)
3. Problems: Women's inheritance rights
4. Death Of Moses (27:12-23)
5. Vows And Oaths (30:1-16)
6. Vengeance On Midian (31:1-54)

## NUMBERS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### X. PREPARATION TO ENTER CANAAN (32:1-36:13)

1. Inheritance East Of Jordan (32:1-42)
2. Inheritance West Of Jordan (34:1-29)
3. Levities' Property (35:1-8)
4. Cities Of Refuge (35:9-34)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### OLD GENERATION

1. Counted (1-4)
2. Counselling (5-10)
3. Chastised (11-12)
4. Condemned (13-20)

#### NEW GENERATION

1. Their Journey (21,25,33)
2. Their Numbering (26,27)
3. Their Offering (28-30)
4. Dividing The Inheritance (31-36)

## DEUTERONOMY

### “THE SECOND LAW”

- KEY VERSE:** DEUTERONOMY 17:18,19  
18. “ And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levities:  
19. And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:”
- THEME:** Repetition of the law to keep the Children of Israel from forgetting.  
The two statements, “Beware, lest ye forget” and “Thou shall remember,” are found over and over again. (Deuteronomy 4:9,23; 5:15; 6:12; 8:2,11,18; 9:7)
- DATE:** Written forty years after Exodus (First day of eleventh month.)
- WRITER:** The Holy Spirit uses Moses to write the Book of Deuteronomy. (31:9,19,22)  
His live is divided into three sections of forty years:  
First Forty Years: Exodus 2:11 In Egypt  
Second Forty Years: Exodus 2:15 In Midian  
Third Forty Years: Deuteronomy 31:2 Until his death
- WRITTEN:** To remind Israel of her past history and to prepare Israel for the days ahead. While Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers are technical books for priests and Levities, Deuteronomy is written for “every man.”
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 5th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 34  
NO. OF VERSES: 959  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Fifth of 5 Books of Moses (Pentateuch)
- PURPOSE:** To give the law to the new generation of Israel in the Wilderness. Revision and up-date of the law was to be passed along to the second generation.  
1. There Was A New Generation  
2. There Was A Need For A New Challenge  
3. There Was A New Leader To Be Installed  
4. There Would Be New Temptations
- DIVISIONS:** 1. Moses’ First Address (1:1-4:43)  
2. Moses’ Second Address (4:44-26:19)  
3. Moses’ Third Address (27:1-28:68)  
4. Moses’ Final Counsel (31:1-29)  
5. Moses’ Farewell And Death (32:45-34:12)

## DEUTERONOMY, continued

### FACTS:

1. Several key words are found:  
Land (153); Inherit (36); Possess (65); Hear (44); Hearken (27); Heart (46); Love (20).
2. Deuteronomy quoted by Jesus and Apostles more than any other Old Testament Book.
3. There are at least fifty quotations from Deuteronomy in the New Testament.
4. It was this Book discovered about 700 years B.C. by King Josiah that produced great revival. (2 Kings 22:8-20)
5. The prediction of a “prophet like Moses” is one of the outstanding passages in the Book. (Deuteronomy 18:15-19)
6. This is the Book quoted by the Saviour during the Temptation in the Wilderness. (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:1-11)

### OUTLINE:

- I. LOOKING BACK (1-4) The Historical Approach
  1. The Tragedy Of unbelief (1)
  2. The Journeys And Victories (2-3)
  3. The Closing Appeal To Obey (4)
- II. LOOKING WITHIN (5-26) The Practical Approach
  1. Testimonies (5-11)
    - a. The law proclaimed (5)
    - b. The law practiced (6)
    - c. The law preserved (7)
      - 1) Danger from without
      - 2) Danger from within
    - d. The Closing Effort (11)
  2. The Statutes (12-18)
  3. The Judgments (19-26)
- III. LOOKING AHEAD (27-30) The Prophetical Approach
  1. Blessings and Curses (27-28)
  2. Repentance and Return (29-30)
- IV. LOOKING UP (31-34) The Personal Approach
  1. A New Leader (31)
  2. A New Song (32)
  3. A New Blessing (33)
  4. A New Home (34)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- MOSES – HERO OF ISRAEL (31-34)
1. Moses The Statesman (31)
  2. Moses The Singer (32)
  3. Moses The Seer (33)
  4. Moses The Saint (34)



# DEUTERONOMY

## THE BOOK OF TRANSITION

The book of Deuteronomy acts as a “bridge” between the books of Numbers and Joshua.

NUMBERS	DEUTERONOMY	JOSHUA
Old generation sins and dies out	Leader of old generation (Moses) recounts the history of his generation and draws lessons from it.	Joshua assumes leadership over new generation.
New generation grows up and comes to the edge of the land.	New generation is warned by Moses to avoid sins of their parents.	New generation enters land and embarks on conquest.
Old generation inhabits only the wilderness, has no real possessions.	New generation receives renewed assurance that God will give them the land for their possession.	New generation claims possession of the land as God had directed.
Old generation lives in tents and eats manna and quail.  Revelation of the wrath of God	New generation hears of the promise of permanent homes and a land of “milk and honey.” Revelation of the love of God.	New generation builds homes and settles in the land.  Revelation of the power of God.

## JOSHUA

### “ THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN ”

- KEY VERSE:** JOSHUA 1:6  
“Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.”
- THEME:** Possessing Your Possessions
- DATE:** 1425 B.C.
- WRITER:** JOSHUA (The Elders who outlived him wrote the account of his death.)  
He is also the principle character in the Book.  
Born in Egypt in slavery  
Co-laborer with Moses  
Always loyal; a trusted captain
- WRITTEN:** To give an account of the settlement of the Children of Israel in Canaan and showing God’s faithfulness in fulfilling His promise in the Covenant with Abraham.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 6th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 24  
NO. OF VERSES: 656  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: First of 12 History Books of the Bible
- PURPOSE:** To give the account of the commission of Joshua, the crossing of Jordan, the conquest of Jericho, the conquest of Canaan and the charge of Joshua. It also gives practical lessons to God’s children concerning victory in the battles of life.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. The Commission of Joshua (1:1-9)
  2. The Course of the Spies (2:9-18)
  3. The Crossing of Jordan (3:9-14)
  4. The Conquering of Jericho (5-6)
  5. The Calamity at Ai ((7-8)
  6. The Conquest of the Land (9-12)
  7. The Choice of Land (12-24)

## JOSHUA, continued

### FACTS: THE CONQUEST AND SETTLEMENT OF CANAAN

#### 1. THE CENTRAL CAMPAIGN

Jericho was quickly defeated as Israel obeyed God.

Ai's conquest was hindered by sin in the camp and Joshua's trust in his own carnal reasoning.

The secrets of victory were faith, courage and obedience.

#### 2. THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN

Joshua made league with the Gibeonites, and a powerful souther coalition, headed by Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem, attacked Gibeon.

Joshua and his army marched from Gilgal, and foes were crushed.

#### 3. THE NORTHERN CAMPAIGN

Centered around the waters of Merom.

Joshua attacked and totally defeated his foes.

Final crusades were against the mountain foes, some of whom were giants.

All his glorious victories were attributed to God.



## JOSHUA, continued

- OUTLINE:
- I. CLAIMING THE LAND Decision (ch. 1-5)
    1. Faith Believes The Bible (1)
    2. Faith Counts The Cost (2)
    3. Faith Makes A Move (3)
    4. Faith Strengthens Its Stand (4)
    5. Faith Pays The Price (5)
  - II. CONQUERING THE LAND Dedication To Task (ch. 6-11)
    1. Overcoming The World – At Jericho (6)
    2. Confidence In The Flesh – At Ai (7-8)
    3. Facing The Wiles Of The Devil (9-11)
      - The Devil Will:
        - a. Seek an agreement through the Gibeonites. (9)
        - b. Seize the advantage through the southern alliance. (10)
        - c. Stage his attack through the northern threat. (11)
  - III. COLONIZING THE LAND Division Of Land (ch. 12-24)
    1. Declaring The Spoils Of Victory (12)
    2. Dividing The Spoils Of Victory (13-21)
      - a. Statutes of liberty (13-19)
      - b. Statements of equality (20)
      - c. Standards of justice (21)
    3. Dedicating The Spoils Of Victory (22)
    4. Defending The Spoils Of Victory (23-24)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### JOSHUA THE MAN

Born In Egyptian Slavery

Father's Name Was Nun

Of Tribe Of Ephraim (1 Chronicles 7:20-27)

Nothing Known About His Mother

Originally Names Oshea or Hoshea (Meaning "Salvation") But Moses Changed It To Jehoshua (Or Joshua), Meaning "Jehovah Is Salvation." (Numbers 13:16)

According To Jewish Tradition, Joshua Was Eighty-Five Years Old When He Took Moses' Place.

He Died At One-Hundred Ten Years Of Age. (Joshua 24:9)

#### IN THE BOOK OF JOSHUA, WE LEARN LESSONS ABOUT...

1. Saturation Of Scripture (1:8)
2. Salvation Of Sinners (2:21)
3. Sanctifying Of Selves (3:5)
4. Setting Up Stones (4:6)
5. Separation Of Saints (5:2)
6. Spirit Versus Flesh (6:5)
7. Stealing God's Tithe (7:1)
8. Supernatural Intervention (8:18,19)
9. Subtleness Of Satan (9:3,4)
10. Smiting The Flesh (10:26)
11. Smiting The Flesh (11:6,9)

## JOSHUA, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

12. Steadfastness And Completeness (12:1)
13. Still Long Way To Go (13:1)
14. Strength Available (14:11)
15. Salvation And Spirit-Filling (15:16,17,18)
16. Rewards For Faithfulness (16:1)
17. More Available (Help Self) (17:14,15)
18. Sluggishness (18:3)
19. Giving Due Rewards (19:49)
20. Sinner's Grace (20:3)
21. Servants' (Priests) Allotment (21:2)
22. Gossip – Jumping To Conclusion (22:34)
23. Strength: A Formula For It (23:6-10)
24. Stand Of Testimony (24:14-15)

### BOOK OF JOSHUA – CHAPTER DIVISION

The People Prepared For War	The Central Campaign at Jericho and Ai	The Southern and Northern Campaigns	Allocations for 5 Tribes and Caleb	Allocations for 7 Tribes and Levites	The Last Days of Joshua
Conquest of the Land			Settlement of the Land		
Action			Allocation		
7 Years			23 Years		

## JUDGES

### “EVERY MAN DOING RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES”

- KEY VERSE:** JUDGES 17:6; 21:25  
6. “In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.  
25. In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.”
- THEME:** The failure of Israel and God’s faithfulness to deliver them when they turned to Him in repentance.  
Joshua pictures “walking in the Spirit.”  
Judges pictures “walking in the flesh.”
- DATE:** 1400-1100 B.C.
- WRITER:** Probably Samuel – or a contemporary of Samuel.
- WRITTEN:** In the early days of Israel’s history as a nation when King Saul or David came into power, and before David’s capture of Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 5:6-9)
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 7th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 21  
NO. OF VERSES: 618  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Second of 12 History Books of the Bible  
The Book of Judges begins with compromise and ends with confusion.
- PURPOSE:** To bridge the gap between the two great periods of Hebrew history, from Moses’ and Joshua’s leadership to the kings’ and prophets’ leadership.  
To show revelations of divine truth through the ghastly, depressing stories of Judges.
- DIVISIONS:** A THREE-FOLD DIVISION IN JUDGES  
1. The Condition Of The Nation Of Israel After The Death Of Joshua. (ch. 1-2)  
2. The Repeated Cycles Of Rebellion, Retribution, Repentance And Restoration. (ch. 3-16)  
3. The General Condition Existing During The Days Of Judges. (ch. 17-21)  
    a. Apathy (ch. 1-2)  
    b. Apostasy (ch. 3-26)  
    c. Anarchy (ch. 17-21)

## JUDGES, continued

### DIVISIONS, continued:

#### SEVEN PERIODS OF OPPRESSION

1. First Oppression (3:7-11)
2. Second Oppression (3:12-31)
3. Third Oppression (ch. 4,5)
4. Fourth Oppression (6:8-32)
5. Fifth Oppression (8:33-10:5)
6. Sixth Oppression (10:6-12)
7. Seventh Oppression (ch. 13-16)

### FACTS:

#### IN JUDGES WE FIND...

1. Twelve separate, independent tribes or states.
2. Civil war among themselves.
3. Surrounded by enemy bent on extermination.
4. One-hundred eleven years of oppression.
5. Two-hundred ninety-nine years of rest.
6. Total of four-hundred ten years (some overlap).

### OUTLINE:

- I. ISRAEL'S INITIAL VICTORIES (1:1-20)
- II. ISRAEL'S FATAL COMPROMISES (1:21-34)
- III. THE FIRST JUDGES (3:5-5:31)
- IV. THE FEASTS OF GIDEON (6:1-8:32)
- V. THE REVOLT OF ABIMELECH (9:1-57)
- VI. A SUCCESSION OF JUDGES (10:1-12:15)
- VII. THE TRAGEDY OF SAMSON (13:1-16:31)
- VIII. THE RELIGIOUS CHAOS IN ISRAEL (17:1-18:31)
- IX. THE MORAL DECAY IN ISRAEL (19:1-30)
- X. THE DEADLY CIVIL WAR (20:1-21,25)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

The Book of JOSHUA Typifies "THE HEAVENLIES"

The Book of JUDGES Typifies "THE EARTHLIES"

The Book of JOSHUA Shouts "THE VICTORY"

The Book of JUDGES Sobs "THE DEFEAT"

Six or seven times, the cycle of "Ups and Downs" are recorded.

- |        |   |                       |
|--------|---|-----------------------|
| First  | – | Rebellion of Israel   |
| Second | – | Retribution of Israel |
| Third  | – | Repentance of Israel  |
| Fourth | – | Restoration of Israel |

## JUDGES, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

It Is Interesting To See How God Used The “Weak Things” To Bring Deliverance In This Book.

1. The Left Hand Of Ehud (3:21)
2. The Ox Goad Of Shamgar (3:31)
3. The Woman Jael (4:21)
4. The Nail In Her Hand (4:21)
5. The Pitcher And Trumpet Of Gideon (7:20)
6. The Piece Of Millstone (9:53)
7. The Jawbone Of A Donkey (15:15)

(See 1 Corinthians 1:27 and 2 Corinthians 12:9)

### See Also...

1. The Lad With Five Loaves And Two Fishes (John 6:9)
2. The Needle And Thread Of Dorcas (Acts 9:39)
3. The Rod Of Moses (Exodus 4:2-4)
4. The Widow’s Mite (Mark 12:43)

The Book of Judges records seven national apostasies from the Lord and the consequences of these spiritual revolts.

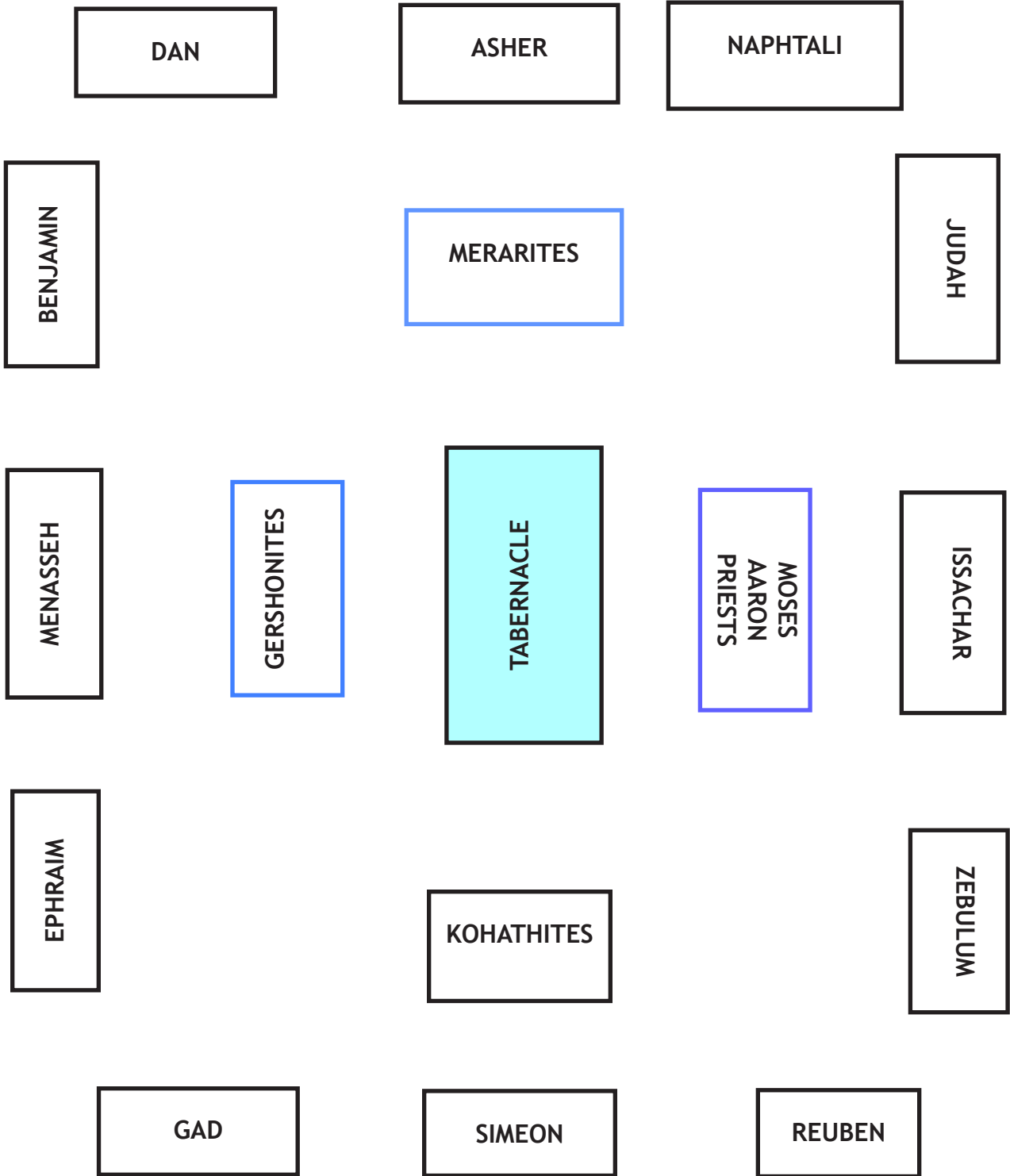
The Judges Of Israel Listed In The Book Are:

- |             |             |            |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. Otheniel | 6. Gideon   | 11. Elon   |
| 2. Ehud     | 7. Tola     | 12. Abdon  |
| 3. Shamgar  | 8. Jair     | 13. Samson |
| 4. Deborah  | 9. Jephthah | 14. Eli    |
| 5. Barak    | 10. Ibzan   | 15. Samuel |

THE ENEMY	SUBJECTION	DELIVERER	PEACE
Mesopotamians	8 years	Otheniel	40 years.
Moabites Ammonites Amalekites	18 years	Ehud	80 years.
Canaanites	20 years	Deborah Barak	40 years
Ammonites	18 years	Jephthah Ibzan Elon Abdon	6 years 7 years 10 years 8 years
Philistines	40 years	Samson	20 years



THE CAMP OF ISRAEL



## RUTH

### “THE BRIDE AND THE GROOM”

- KEY VERSE:** RUTH 1:16-17  
 16. “And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: or whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:  
 17. Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.”
- THEME:** A wealthy Jew takes a Gentile bride (Ruth) and illustrates Christ taking a Gentile bride (The Church).
- DATE:** 1100 B.C.  
 It records events that occurred during the time of the Judges and approximately sixty years before the time of David’s reign in Israel.
- WRITER:** SAMUEL
- WRITTEN:** Sometime after the happenings it describes.  
 David is mentioned (4:22) and possibly did not appear in written form until David had become king.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 8th Book                               |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 4                                      |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 85                                     |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Third of 12 History Books of the Bible |
- PURPOSE:** To establish the lineage of David, the ancestor of Christ.  
 The adoption of Ruth into the family of Israel is recorded as a type and prophecy of the Gentiles into Christ’s family.  
 To reveal the overall sovereign arrangement and watchfulness of God over His program of redemption.
- DIVISIONS:** THE DIVISIONS OF RUTH ARE SEEN IN FOUR SETTINGS RECORDED IN THE BOOK, ONE IN EACH CHAPTER.
- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. At The Funeral | In Moab (ch. 1)      |
| 2. In The Field   | Of Bethlehem (ch. 2) |
| 3. On The Floor   | Of Boaz (ch. 3)      |
| 4. In The Family  | Of Christ (ch. 4)    |
- FACTS:** Of the top one hundred names of girls, “Ruth” is the seventh most popular. There are one and one-half million girls in the United States (before 1975) named “Ruth.” The Book covers a period of ten years of heartbreak and sorrow caused by the philosophy, “Every man did that which was right in his won eyes.”

## RUTH, continued

### FACTS, continued:

BETHLEHEM	means	“The House of Bread”
JUDAH	means	“Praise”
MOAB	means	“The World” (Garbage Dump) (Thirty miles from Bethlehem) (Psalm 60:8 God’s Wash Pot – Gets Clean)
ELIMELECH	means	“God Is My King”
NAOMI	means	“Pleasant One” (Delightful)
MAHLON	means	“Sickly”
CHILION	means	“Puny” (Piney)
RUTH	means	“Beauty”
ORPAH	means	“Fawn”
BOAZ	means	“Redeemer” (Quick to do things – No procrastination)

### Only Two Books Named For Women In The Bible

RUTH	Gentile girl marries a Jew.
ESTHER	Jewish girl marries a Gentle.

“Ruth” is read in the synagogues by the Jews at Pentecost (Harvest Festival).

### OUTLINE:

#### I. RUTH IN MOAB: MAKING A CHOICE (ch. 1)

1. The Conditions In Palestine (1:1,2)
2. The Compromise Of This Family (1:1,2; 1:4)
3. The Catastrophe In Moab (1:3,5)
4. The Conviction Of Heart (1:13)
5. The Conversation With The Girls (1:8-13)
6. The Consideration By The Girls (1:15,16)
7. The Certainty Of Ruth (1:16)

#### II. RUTH IN THE FIELD: GLEANING (ch. 2)

1. The Picture Of Christ (Boaz) (2:1)
2. The Providence Of God (“hap”) (2:3)
3. The Presence Of The Lord (2:4)
4. The Prayer Of Ruth (2:7)
5. The Provision Of A Need (2:14,15)
6. The Plenty On Purpose (2:16-18)
7. The Praise Of Naomi (2:20)

#### III. RUTH ON THE FLOOR RESTING (ch. 3)

1. The Plan Of Naomi (3:1-4)
2. The Participation Of Ruth (3:5-10)
3. The Promise Of Boaz (3:11-13)
4. The Picture Of Submission (3:13,14)
5. The Provision Of The Lord (3:15; Philippians 4:19)
6. The Performance Of Duty (3:18; Philippians 1:6)

## RUTH, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### IV. RUTH IN THE FAMILY: REJOICING (ch. 4)

1. The Promise Of Boaz Fulfilled (4:1,2)
2. The Procedure Of Israel Followed (4:3-5)
3. The Problem Of The Next-Of-Kin (4:6-9)
4. The Purchase Of Ruth And Her Inheritance (4:10-12)
5. The Provision Of An Heir (4:13-15)
6. The Protection Of The Child (4:16)
7. The Parental Line Of Christ (4:17-22)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### 1. RUTH IS A BOOK ABOUT: PEOPLE

Elimelech, Naomi, Mahlon, Chilion, Ruth, Orpah, Boaz, Rachel, Leah, Pharez, Tamar, Hezron, Ram, Amminadab, Nahshon, Salmon, Obed, Jesse, David and God.

#### 2. RUTH IS A BOOK ABOUT: PLACES

Bethlehem, Judah, Moab, The Field, The Threshing Floor and The Gate.

#### 3. RUTH IS A BOOK ABOUT: PROBLEMS

Famine, Death, Widowhood, The Near Kinsman

#### 4. RUTH IS A BOOK ABOUT: PROVIDENCE

God's working throughout this amazing story to bring about a symbolic picture of Christ receiving a Gentile Bride is obvious.

#### 5. RUTH IS A BOOK ABOUT: A PERSON

Christ is the theme of all the Bible. He is in every chapter, every verse and every line.

### THE NUMBER "EIGHT" IN THE BIBLE

1. The Book of Ruth is the eighth Book of the Bible.
2. The number eight signifies "a new beginning."
3. The Resurrection of Christ was the first day of the week and the eighth day.
4. Noah was the eighth person and a preacher of righteousness. (2 Peter 2:5)
5. There were eight people on the ark for a new beginning.
6. A Jewish boy was circumcised on the eighth day.
7. The cleansed leper was presented to the priest on the eighth day to mark his new beginning.
8. The eighth note on a musical scale begins a new key.
9. Sunday, the eighth day, begins a new week.
10. Ruth introduces David, the eighth son of Jesse.

### THE BOOK OF RUTH MAY BE STUDIED IN A THREE-FOLD MANNER...

#### 1. HISTORICALLY:

The story of Elimelech and his family, the departure of Ruth from Moab to Bethlehem and her marriage to Boaz.

#### 2. DISPENSATIONALLY:

The Jew was set aside temporarily, and the Gentile incorporated in (Romans 11:11) as seen in Ruth, the Gentile's marriage to Boaz, the Jew.

## **RUTH**, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

3. TYPICALLY:

Boaz – a type of Christ as the Kinsman Redeemer.

The relative of Boaz' who had first claim pictures the law that could not redeem. (Acts 13:39)

### THE THREE WIDOWS IN RUTH

1. THE GRIEVING WIDOW: NAOMI
2. THE LEAVING WIDOW: ORPAH
3. THE CLEAVING WIDOW: RUTH

## 1 SAMUEL

### “THE PEOPLE DEMAND A KING”

- KEY VERSE:** 1 SAMUEL 8:5  
“And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.”
- THEME:** The theme centers around Israel’s desire for a king. They chose less than God’s best and suffered for it. The failures of Israel bring about a divided kingdom.  
A note of failure runs through 1 Samuel.
- DATE:** 940 B.C. (Approximately) Just after the death of Solomon.  
Events cover a period from 1100-1017 B.C., or eighty-three years.
- WRITER:** SAMUEL wrote the first twenty-four chapters, and it is believed that the prophets, NATHAN and GAD wrote the remainder. (1 Chronicles 29:29)
- WRITTEN:** Written as books of Hebrew history.  
Originally 1 and 2 Samuel were written as one book. The division was made in the Hebrew Bible in 1517. They were called 1 and 2 Kingdoms, while 1 and 2 Kings were referred to as 3 and 4 Kingdoms.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 9th Book                                |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 31                                      |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 810                                     |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Fourth of 12 History Books of the Bible |
- PURPOSE:** To give an account of the history of Israel under the last two Judges, ELI and SAMUEL, and their first king, SAUL, and to explain the “Monarchy.”
- DIVISIONS:**
1. Eli Becomes Both Judge And Priest. (ch. 1,2)
  2. Samuel’s Birth, Life And Death. (ch. 3-16)
  3. Saul Becomes King Of Israel. (ch. 9-31)
  4. Jonathan, David’s Best Friend. (ch. 14-20)
- FACTS:**
1. 1 Samuel is a portion of the Word of God written for our learning. (Romans 15:4)
  2. It furnishes us with an important transitional link between the period of the Judges and the Kingdom of David.
  3. It describes characters to be patterned after and others whose patterns are to be shunned.
  4. It reveals the nature and will of God, the weakness and frailty of man, the unfailing purpose of God, the blessing which attends obedience, and the disaster which follows disobedience.

## 1 SAMUEL, continued

### OUTLINE:

- I. THE FAILURE OF THE PRIESTLY OFFICE – ELI
  1. Eli's Failure As A Priest (1:9,13; 2:27-36)
  2. Eli's Failure As A Parent (2:12-17,22-25)
- II. THE FORMING OF THE PROPHETIC OFFICE – SAMUEL
  1. Samuel As A Person
    - a. His Birth (1:1-8,10-28; 2:1-10)
    - b. His boyhood (2:11,18-21,26; 3:1-21)
  2. Samuel As A Prophet
    - a. Teaching the people (4:1-7:14)
      - 1) to wait (4-6)
      - 2) to war (7:1-14)
    - b. Reaching the people (7:15-17)
- III. THE FOUNDING OF THE PRINCELY OFFICE – SAUL, DAVID
  1. The Tragedy Of Saul (8-15)
    - a. The finding of Saul (8-10)
    - b. The fitness of Saul (11-12)
    - c. The Failure of Saul (13-15)
  2. The Training Of David (16-31)
    - a. As a lover of God – His years as a shepherd
    - b. As a lord over self – His years as a courtier
    - c. As a leader of men – His years as an outlaw

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### THE FOUR-FOLD NATURE OF SAMUEL'S MINISTRY

1. As a PROPHET (2:27-35)
2. As a INTERCESSOR (7:5-8)
3. As a PRIEST (2:35)
4. As a JUDGE (7:15-17)

SAMUEL WAS CALLED:        “The Last Of The Judges”  
                                      “The First Of The Prophets”

#### SAMUEL CROWNED TWO OF ISRAEL'S KINGS:

SAUL:	The People's Choice
DAVID:	God's Choice

1 Samuel Opens With A Prayer.

2 Samuel Closes With A Prayer.

Prayer is the key word in the Book. It is found at least thirty times.

It has been said of 1 Samuel:

“Because of its deep religious spirit, it takes the highest rank among the historical books of the Old Testament.”

## 1 SAMUEL, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

#### A LOOK AT THE FOUR MAIN PERSONALITIES

1. ELI
  - Judge And Priest (First in Israel to be both)
  - Feeble Old Man
  - Had Two Wicked Sons (Hophni and Phinehas)
  - They Were Indulgent And Immoral
  - Eli Died Of Shock At Ninety-Eight Years Of Age.
  - Humble And Gentle. A Good Man, But Weak.
  - Failed in Raising His Boys.
2. SAMUEL
  - Descendant Of Levi
  - Born In Answer To Prayer
  - Dedicated To The Lord
  - Last Of Judges – First Of Prophets
  - Founder Of The School Of The Prophets
3. SAUL
  - Israel's First King
  - Of The Tribe Of Benjamin (smallest of twelve)
  - Stood Physically Head And Shoulders Above People
  - Impulsive And Jealous
  - Sinned In Presumption And Disobedience
4. DAVID
  - God's Choice For King
  - A Born Leader And Mature
  - One Of The Greatest Men In History
  - Appears In 1 Samuel As A Shepherd
  - Had Victory Over A Bear And Lion
  - This Prepared Him For Battle With Goliath



## 2 SAMUEL

### “THE REIGN OF DAVID”

- KEY VERSE:** 2 SAMUEL 5:4,5  
 4. “David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.  
 5. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.”
- THEME:** The great prosperity and blessings of Israel under David’s reign on one hand, and the severe afflictions and judgment on the other.  
 We see triumph turned to trouble through sin.
- DATE:** 940 B.C. (Approximately) The same as in 1 Samuel. Both Books were one originally and were written covering approximately forty years of the reign of David.
- WRITER:** Probably the prophet, NATHAN and GAD (1 Chronicles 29:29)
- WRITTEN:** As Hebrew History
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 10th Book  
 NO. OF CHAPTERS: 24  
 NO. OF VERSES: 695  
 NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Fifth of 12 History Books of the Bible
- PURPOSE:** To trace the career of David from the death of Saul to the closing days of David’s life. The suggestive types and examples in the book make it obvious that God has given us illustrations to teach us principles of the Lord.
- DIVISIONS:** FIRST DIVISION  
                   David’s Reign From Hebron: 7 ½ years (ch. 1-4)  
                   David’s Reign From Jerusalem: 33 years (ch. 5-24)
- SECOND DIVISION  
                   David’s Triumph (ch. 1-10)  
                   David’s Sin (ch. 11-14)  
                   David’s Troubles (ch. 15-24)
- THIRD DIVISION  
                   David’s Reign Over Judah (ch. 1-4)  
                   David’s Reign Over All Israel (ch. 5-7)  
                   David’s Kingdom Expanded (ch. 8-10)  
                   David’s Sin And Its Consequences (ch. 11-14)  
                   David’s Problems With Absalom (ch. 15-18)  
                   David’s Restoration To The Throne (ch. 19-20)  
                   David’s Final Words And Deeds (ch. 21-24)

## 2 SAMUEL, continued

### FACTS:

- The Royal Line Of Saul Closed In Tragedy
- All Israel Was Unified Under David
- The First Seven Years David Ruled From Hebron In Judah
- The Whole Land Was Unified And David Moved His Capitol To Jerusalem
- He Built The Royal Palace
- He Successfully Defeated The Enemy Nations Of The Ammonites, Moabites, Edomites And The Amalekites
- The Book is Equally Divided Into David's:
  1. Triumphs (1-12)
  2. Tragedies (13-24)

### OUTLINE:

- I. DAVID'S TRIUMPHS OVER HIS FOES (ch. 1-10)
  1. The Civil War (ch. 1-4)
  2. The Conquest Period (ch. 5-6)
  3. The Covenant Of David (ch. 7-16)
  4. The Crowning Years (ch. 8-10)
- II. DAVID'S TEMPTATION AND HIS FALL (ch. 11-12)
  1. His Luxury (11:1)
  2. His Look (11:2)
  3. His Lust (11:3,4)
  4. His Lament
  5. His Loss (12:1-23)
- III. DAVID'S TROUBLES BECAUSE OF HIS FAILURES (ch. 13-24)
  1. Trouble With His Kids (ch. 13-19)
    - a. The baby died (12:23)
    - b. Amnon assaults his sister (13:1-27)
    - c. Absalom kills Amnon (13:23-29)
    - d. Absalom rebels against his father (ch. 14-19)
  2. Trouble With His Kingdom (ch. 20-24)
    - a. Sheba's revolt (ch. 20)
    - b. Saul's sons slain (ch. 21)
    - c. Song of thanksgiving (ch. 22)
    - d. Speaking his last words (ch. 23)
    - e. Sin of numbering the people (ch. 24)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

The Content Of 2 Samuel May Be Seen In The Following Outline:

1. DAVID'S RISE
2. DAVID'S REIGN
3. DAVID'S RUIN

## 2 SAMUEL, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

Chapter Seven Records The Covenant God Made With David. It Includes the PROPHECY OF CHRIST.

FIRST:	Given to ADAM	Genesis 3:25
SECOND:	Given to ABRAHAM	Genesis 22:18
THIRD:	Given to JACOB	Genesis 49:10
FOURTH:	Given to DAVID	2 Samuel 7

### ANALYSIS OF 2 SAMUEL

#### I. THE PATIENT YEARS (ch. 1-4)

1. The Lament For Saul (1)
2. The House Of Saul (2-4)

#### II. THE PROSPEROUS YEARS (ch. 5-12)

1. David's Coronation (5)
2. David's Convictions (6)
3. David's Covenant (7)
4. David's Conquests (8)
5. David's Compassion (9)
6. David's Critics (10)
7. David's Crime (11)

#### III. THE PERILOUS YEARS (ch. 13-24)

1. Trouble With His Kinsman (13-19)
2. Trouble With His Kingdom (20-24)

In 2 Samuel we see...

1. POETIC RETRIBUTION: Saul's History  
Sin Of David
2. IMPLICIT OBEDIENCE IS ENFORCES:  
David's Attempt To Bring Up Ark On A Cart Resulted In  
Death Of Uzzah.
3. GODLY REPENTANCE IS ILLUSTRATED:  
Treachery And Murder Lay Heavy On David (Psalm 51)
4. GRACE:  
In David's Treatment Of Absalom And Mephibosheth

## 1 KINGS

### “DISOBEDIENCE LEADS TO DIVISION”

- KEY VERSE:** 1 KINGS 11:11  
“Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.”
- THEME:** The human failures seen in the action of the kings and people compare to the Divine interest revealed through the prophets and their messages.
- DATE:** Written During The Exile 588-538 B.C.  
Covers a period of approximately four hundred years from 977 to 577 B.C. (Ascension of Solomon to captivity).
- WRITER:** Jewish tradition says JEREMIAH was the human author. There is a striking similarity of style of the books of 1 and 2 Kings and Jeremiah. No one was better-fitted to record these sad events than the Weeping Prophet.
- WRITTEN:** As A Book Of Hebrew History.  
Like 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings also were originally one book. The division came with the translation of the Septuagint for convenience.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 11th Book                              |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 22                                     |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 816                                    |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Sixth of 12 History Books of the Bible |
- PURPOSE:** To give the history of the glorious kingdom of Solomon, the division, the defeat of both the northern nations of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. The Reign Of Solomon
  2. The Realm Of Two Kingdoms
  3. The Rise Of The Prophets
- FACTS:**
- Israel, the Northern Kingdom, was comprised of ten tribes. Judah, the Southern Kingdom, had two.
  - The capitol of Israel was Samaria – of Judah, it was Jerusalem.
  - The Northern Kingdom had nineteen kings in two hundred fifty-six years – from 977-721 B.C.
  - The Southern Kingdom had twenty kings in three hundred ninety years – from 977-587 B.C.
  - The phrase, “As David his father,” is found nine times in 1 Kings.
  - Israel had been united for one hundred twenty years: forty under Saul, forty under David, now forty under Solomon until the split.
  - The book records the forty year reign of King Solomon, then the eighty years history of the divided kingdom.

## 1 KINGS, continued

- OUTLINE:**
- I. DAVID'S LAST DAYS AND THE CROWNING OF SOLOMON (ch. 1-2:11)
    1. Adonijah's Exaltation To Be King (1:1-27)
    2. The Crowning Of Solomon: Adonijah's Submission (1:28-53)
    3. David's Charge To Solomon: David's end (2:1-11)
  - II. SOLOMON'S GLORIOUS REIGN. HIS FAILURE AND END. (2:12-11)
    1. The Righteous Judgment Of Solomon (2:12-46)
    2. Jehovah Appears To Solomon; His Prayer And The Answer (ch. 3)
    3. Solomon's Princes And Officers. The Prosperous Kingdom And The King's Great Wisdom (ch. 4)
    4. The Building Of The Temple And Its Dedication (ch. 5-8)
    5. Jehovah Appears Unto Solomon. The Greatness Of The King (ch. 9)
    6. Solomon And The Queen Of Sheba. His Great Riches And Splendour (ch. 10)
    7. Solomon's Failure. Judgment Announced And The Beginning Of The Disruption (ch. 11)
  - III. THE DIVIDED KINGDOM (ch. 12-16)
    1. Rehoboam And The Revolt Of The Ten Tribes (ch. 12)
    2. Jeroboam And Rehoboam And Their Reign (ch. 13-14)
    3. Abijam And Asa. Kings Of Judah (15:1-24)
    4. Kings Of Israel (15:25; 16)
  - IV. THE PROPHET ELIJAH AND KING AHAB (ch. 17-22)
    1. Elijah's Prediction. His Miracles (ch. 17)
    2. Elijah On Mount Carmel. The Answered Prayer (ch. 18)
    3. Elijah In The Wilderness And On Mount Horeb (ch. 19)
    4. King Ahab, His Wicked Reign And Downfall (ch. 20-22)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- I. THE YEARS OF STRENGTH  
The Unified Kingdom (ch. 1-12:19)
  1. The Death Of David (1:1-2:10)
  2. The Days Of Solomon (2:22-11:43)
  3. The Decree Of Rehoboam (12:1-19)
- II. THE YEARS OF STRUGGLE  
The Divided Kingdom (12:20- ch. 22)
  1. Israel – Jeroboam to Hoshea
  2. Judah – Rehoboam to Ahaz

# 1 KINGS, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

## KINGS OF ISRAEL Northern Kingdom

## KINGS OF JUDAH Southern Kingdom

KING	REIGNED	BAD/GOOD	KING	REIGNED	BAD/GOOD
JEROBOAM	22 Years	Bad	REHOBOAM	17 Years	Bad Mostly
NADAB	2 Years	Bad	ABIJAH	3 Years	Bad Mostly
BAASHA	24 Years	Bad	ASA	41 Years	Good
ELAH	2 Years	Bad	JEHOSHAPHAT	25 Years	Good
ZIMRI	7 Days	Bad	JEHORAM	8 Years	Bad
OMRI	12 Years	Extra-Bad	AHAZIAH	1 Year	Bad
AHAB	22 Years	The Worst	ATHALIAH	6 Years	Devilish
AHAZIAH	2 Years	Bad	JOASH	40 Years	Good Mostly
JORAM	12 Years	Bad Mostly	AMAZIAH	29 Years	Good Mostly
JEHU	28 Years	Bad Mostly	UZZIAH	52 Years	Good
JEHOARHAZ	17 Years	Bad	JOTHAM	16 Years	Good
JOASH	16 Years	Bad	AHAZ	16 Years	Wicked
JEROBOAM 2	41 Years	Bad	HEZEKIAH	29 Years	The Best
ZECHARIAH	6 Months	Bad	MANASSEH	55 Years	The Worst
SHALLUM	1 Month	Bad	AMON	2 Years	The Worst
MENAHM	10 Years	Bad	JOSIAH	31 Years	The Best
PEKAHIAH	2 Years	Bad	JEHOAHAZ	3 Months	Bad
PEKAH	20 Years	Bad	JOHOIAKIM	11 Years	Wicked
HOSHEA	9 Years	Bad	JEHOIACHIN	3 Months	Bad
			ZEDEKIAH	11 Years	Bad

Solomon's kingdom encompassed 60,000 square miles, or ten times what David had inherited. He began with a blaze of glory and ended with a divided kingdom.

His work included building the Temple on Mount Moriah at Jerusalem. It was dressed with gold, silver and precious stones. A modern estimate of the cost is \$600,000,000. It was ninety feet by thirty feet by forty-five feet high.

Solomon wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. He formed alliances with foreign nations and brought idolatry to Israel. God raised up enemies to vex him. He reigned forty years.

### LESSON:

Be wary of success...not only how we get there, but how we fare after getting there. We must build on a good foundation and not overlook small, but basic principles.

## 2 KINGS

### “THE DIVIDED KINGDOM”

### TAKEN INTO CAPTIVITY

- KEY VERSE:** 2 KINGS 17:9  
“And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the LORD their God, and they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.”
- THEME:** No nation can prosper and have success if it forsakes God and disregards His Word.
- DATE:** Written During The Exile In Babylon 588-538 B.C.
- WRITER:** JEREMIAH speaks directly from God.  
The key phrase in the book is “according to the Word of the Lord.” Giving Divine inspiration and authenticity, the phrase is found twenty-four times in the book.
- WRITTEN:** To show human failure as seen in the kings and the people.  
To show Divine workings through the prophets and their messages.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 12th Book                                |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 25                                       |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 719                                      |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Seventh of 12 History Books of the Bible |
- PURPOSE:** To give an historical account of the division of the Northern and Southern Kingdoms and the conflict between them that weakened them. Assyria overran Israel, and the Babylonians then conquered Judah and carried the people into captivity.
- DIVISIONS:** Events Of Israel – The Northern Kingdom (ch. 1-10)  
Events To Assyrian Captivity Of Israel, Jonah, Amos And Hosea Prophesied In Israel (ch. 11-17)  
Events Of Judah – The Southern Kingdom, Obadiah, Joel, Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah And Jeremiah Prophesied (ch. 18-25)
- FACTS:** THE BOOK COVERS...
1. The Divided Kingdom
  2. The Ministry Of Elisha
  3. The Last One Hundred Thirty Years Of The Northern Kingdom
  4. The Last Two Hundred Fifty Years Of The Southern Kingdom
  5. The Captivity Of Israel (Ten Tribes) By Babylon
  6. The Captivity Of Judah (Two Tribes) By Babylon
    - 2 Kings Is A Continuation Of 1 Kings
    - Events Begin About Eight Years After The Division.

## 2 KINGS, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- There Is A One Hundred Twenty Year Span Between The Fall Of Israel To Assyria And The Fall Of Judah To Babylon.
- This Book Covers The Last Twelve Kings Of Israel.
- This Book Covers The Last Sixteen King Of Judah.
- The History Of Judah Covers Two Hundred Fifty Years From 850-600 B.C.
- The Northern Kingdom Fell In 721 B.C. (ch. 17)
- The Southern Kingdom Fell In 600 B.C. (ch. 25)
- The Ministry Of Elijah And Elisha Was To The Northern Kingdom.
- This Ministry Of Elijah And Elisha Lasted Seventy-Five Years.
- Twenty Of The Kings Of Judah Were From The House Of David.
- The Phrase, "Did Evil In The Sight Of The Lord," Is Found Twenty-One Times In The Book.

### OUTLINE:

- I. ELIJAH FINISHES HIS MINISTRY AND IS TAKEN TO HEAVEN. (ch. 1-2:11)
  1. Elijah Pronounces Doom On King Ahaziah
  2. Elijah Calls Down Fire On Two Occasions  
(Destroys A Captain And Fifty Men Each Time)
  3. Elijah Travels From Gilgal To Bethel, To Jericho And To Jordan With Elisha
  4. Elijah Goes Up In The Whirlwind
- II. ELISHA BEGINS HIS MINISTRY AND WORKS TWICE THE MIRACLES (2:12-9:10)
  1. The Man:
    - A Man Of Power (2:9)
    - A Man Of Meekness And Humility (3:11)
    - A Man Of Great Faith
  2. The Miracles:
    - Jordan Divided
    - Bitter Springs Healed
    - Called Bears From Woods
    - Oil For Widow
    - Boy Raised From Dead
    - Axe-Head Swims, etc.
- III. ISRAEL DRIFTS INTO APOSTACY AND IS TAKEN INTO CAPTIVITY. (9:11-11:17)
  1. Jehu Anointed King Of Israel To Bring Judgment
  2. Elisha Dies
  3. Israel Defeated And Overcome By The Assyrians
- IV. JUDAH'S REVIVAL UNDER HEZEKIAH (ch. 18-21)
  1. Good King Hezekiah Comes To Power
  2. Sennacherib Invades And Is Defeated
  3. Hezekiah Dying, Prays. God Gives His Fifteen-Year Extension
- V. GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THE REIGN OF JOSIAH (ch. 22-23:30)
  1. Revival And Reformation Is Set Into Motion (22:1,2)
  2. The Temple Is Repaired (22:3-7)
  3. The Law Discovered (22:8,9)
  4. The Law Read To Public And Covenant Set Into Operation (23:10-20)



## 2 KINGS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### VI. JUDAH FALLS INTO IDOLATRY AND IS TAKEN INTO BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY. (23:25-31)

1. The Wrong King Put In By The People (23:31-27)
2. King Jehoiakim Cuts The Bible With His Pen Knife (24:6-10)
3. First Deportation To Babylon (24:11-16)
4. Siege Of Jerusalem And Overthrow (ch. 25)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Israel covered an area of 9,500 square miles, or three times the area of 3,500 square miles in Judah.
- When the division came, hostility lasted for sixty years, then an alliance was formed for thirty years. The hostility flared again for one hundred sixty-nine more years.
- The rich and fertile growing lands were located in the Northern Kingdom.
- The Northern Kingdom also was the location of the School of the Prophets. In spite of this, they remained much farther from God than Judah. "...To whom much is given much is required."
- Judah had Jerusalem, the center of everything for the Jew. Solomon's Temple was also there.
- Judah attempted to conquer Israel, but failed, leaving both kingdoms in a weakened state. Thus, they were prey to Assyria and Babylon.
- God preserved the Davidic line of genealogy through all of this period.

# 1 CHRONICLES

A Record Of Divinely – Chosen Families

Through Whom God Would Carry Out His  
Plan Of Redemption

- KEY VERSE:** 1 CHRONICLES 29:11,12  
11. “Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.  
12. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.”
- THEME:** To give the actual historical account of the events from the reign of David to the captivity.
- DATE:** 450-400 B.C. (After the captivity)
- WRITER:** Most historians agree that EZRA wrote the book at the close of the Babylonian captivity.
- WRITTEN:** Originally as one book and divided by Septuagint translators.  
Covers a period of 3,500 years.  
Traces Israel’s history back to Adam.  
At one time called “Acts Of The Days.”
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 13th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 29  
NO. OF VERSES: 939  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Eighth of 12 History Books of the Bible
- PURPOSE:** To show how God preserved the tribe of Judah and the line of David through which the Messiah was to come.
- DIVISIONS:** The Genealogies (ch. 1-9)  
David Made King (ch. 10-12)  
The Ark Brought To Jerusalem (ch. 13-16)  
David Purposes To Build The Temple (ch. 17)  
David’s Victories (ch. 18-20)  
The People Numbered (ch. 21)  
David’s Preparation For The Temple (ch. 22)  
Duties Of The Levities Designated (ch. 23)  
Priests Organized (ch. 24)  
Further Organization (ch. 25-27)  
David’s Final Word And Prayer (ch. 28-29)

# 1 CHRONICLES, continued

## FACTS:

### THE CHRONICLES

- History Viewed From Altar
- Temple Is The Center
- Given From God's Viewpoint
- Deals Primarily With Judah
- Viewpoint Of Priests

### KINGS

- History Viewed From Throne
- Palace Is The Center
- Given From Man's Viewpoint
- Deals Primarily With Israel
- Viewpoint Of Prophets

1 Chronicles Deals Primarily With David.

2 Chronicles Gives Prominence To The House Of David.

- Chapter 1-9 Give The Largest Table Of Names In The Bible.
- Chapter 1-9 Covers A Period Of 3,500 Years Of History.
- "The Book Of Chronicles Of The Kings Of Judah" Mentioned In 1 Kings 22:39,45 Are Not The Same As 1 And 2 Chronicles.
- 1 Chronicles Is Really A Recap Of Things That Have Gone Before.

### 1 AND 2 CHRONICLES REVEAL:

1. The Pitiful Shortcomings Of Man
2. The Character Of God
3. The Importance Of The Prophets Of God
4. A True Philosophy Of History.

## OUTLINE:

### I. THE GENEALOGIES (ch. 1-9)

1. From Adam To The Edomites (ch. 1)
2. The Sons Of Israel And The Tribe Of Judah (ch. 2-4:23)
3. Simeon, Reuben, Gad And Manasseh (4:24-ch. 5)
4. Levi (ch. 6)
5. Issachar, Naphtali, Half Manasseh, Ephraim And Asher (ch. 7)
6. Benjamin (ch. 8)
7. The Record Of The Inhabitants Of Jerusalem After The Return (ch. 9)

### II. THE OVERTHROW AND END OF SAUL (ch. 10)

### III. THE CROWNING OF DAVID AND ESTABLISHMENT OF HIS KINGDOM (ch. 11-21)

1. David In Hebron (ch. 11)
2. David's Warriors And Friends (ch. 12)
3. The Ark Removed From Kirjath-Jearim (ch. 13)
4. David's Increase And Blessing (ch. 14)
5. The Ark Brought To Jerusalem (ch. 15-16:3)
6. The Great Celebration (16:4-43)
7. The Covenant And The Promise (ch. 17)
8. David's Wars And Successful Reign (ch. 18)
9. The Wars With Ammon, Syria And The Philistines (ch. 19-20)
10. The Numbering Of The People And The Punishment (ch. 21)

# 1 CHRONICLES, continued

## OUTLINE, continued:

### IV. PREPARATIONS FOR THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE. DAVID'S DEATH (ch. 22-24)

1. The Preparations And Charge To Solomon (ch. 22)
2. The Numbering And Arrangement Of The Levities (ch. 23)
3. The Twenty-Four Courses Of The Priests (ch. 24)
4. The Singers And Musicians Of The Temple (ch. 25)
5. The Porters And Other Temple Officers (ch. 26)
6. The Captains, Princes And Various Officers And Counsellors. (ch. 27)
7. The Last Acts Of David And His Death (ch. 28-29)

## MISCELLANEOUS:

### THE SCOPE OF CHRONICLES

Beginning with Adam and ending with the decree of Cyrus, the book of Chronicles covers the longest period of any of the books of the Bible. Beginning with David and going through to Zedekiah, it relates the history of twenty-one kings and also the inglorious reign of Queen Athaliah, the usurper. The kings of Israel are mentioned only occasionally in passing. There were the same number of kings on the throne of Israel, however, the kingdom of Judah lasted one hundred thirty-six years longer than the kingdom of Israel. This was one effect which the half dozen God-fearing kings of Judah had on the history of their nation.

### ISRAEL AND THE WORLD POWERS

During the period covered by the Hebrew history of the Old Testament, Israel came into conflict with four world powers; Egypt, Assyria, Babylon and Persia. Later they came into conflict with Greece and Rome as well.

Egypt, with its long, colorful and brilliant history, was used of God during the formative years. In Egypt Israel grew up. Long after the exodus, Egypt periodically exercised an influence on Hebrew history. Solomon's queen was an Egyptian. Several of the Pharaohs invaded the land or brought Palestine into subjection. The imperial interests of Egypt were bound to clash with the interests of the tiny Hebrew nation.

Assyria was an implacable foe of Israel. Fierce, ruthless, cruel and proud, the Assyrians were the scourge and terror of their neighbors. As has been seen, they finally brought to an end the nationhood of the northern ten tribes.

When the Babylonians succeeded the Assyrians on the world scene, the scattered ten tribes were absorbed into the Babylonian empire. With Nebuchadnezzar's conquests of Judea and Jerusalem, the Hebrew monarchy ceased to exist. In Babylon, the home of idolatry, the Jews were cured of idolatry, their prevailing sin.

With the fall of Babylon, the Persians fell heir to "the Jewish problem." Cyrus wisely solved that problem by giving the Jews permission to return to their homeland. The last three books of The Old Testament history and the last three books of Old Testament prophecy cover this event.

Against their changing panorama of world empire, God wrote Hebrew history. Overruling the passions and powers of men, immutable in His counsels, invincible in His purposes, from generation to generation pursuing His eternal purposes all down through the years, God cannot be dethroned. This is the message of Chronicles and it is as valid today as when it was written.

## 2 CHRONICLES

### “A HISTORY OF THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM”

- KEY VERSE:** 2 CHRONICLES 20:20  
“And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.”  
2 CHRONICLES 30:18,19  
18. “...The good LORD pardon every one  
19. That prepareth his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though he be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.”
- THEME:** The secret of a victorious and overcoming religion and life is in the preparation of the heart to seek the Lord and serve Him.
- DATE:** 450-400 B.C. (At the end of the Babylonian captivity)
- WRITER:** EZRA, The Priest-Scribe  
Ezra also led in the rebuilding of the Temple.  
The style of writing very closely resembles that of Nehemiah.
- WRITTEN:** To give a journalistic account of how God preserved Judah one hundred thirty-six years after the fall of Israel and the preservation of the house of David through which the Messiah would come.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 14th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 36  
NO. OF VERSES: 822  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Ninth of 12 History Books of the Bible
- PURPOSE:** -To Record The Reign Of Solomon  
- To Give Account Of The Building Of The Temple  
- To Give Account Of The History Of Judah After The Ten Tribes Pulled Away
- DIVISIONS:** 1. The Reign Of Solomon (ch. 1-9)  
2. The Religious Reforms In Judah (ch. 10-36)
- FACTS:** - 2 Chronicles Records The History Of The Southern Kingdom Of Judah From The Reign Of Solomon To The Return Of The Exiles From Babylon.  
- The Apostate Northern Kingdom Prominent In Kings Is Hardly Mentioned In Chronicles.  
- 2 Chronicles Closely Parallels The Book Of Ezra.  
- The Last Verses Of 2 Chronicles (36:22,23) Are The Same As The Opening Verses Of Ezra (1:1-3),

## 2 CHRONICLES, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- The Name, Chronicles, Means "Record."
- Religious Revivals Are Recorded Under Asa, Joash, Hezekiah And Josiah.

### OUTLINE:

#### I. THE REIGN OF SOLOMON (1:1-99)

1. Solomon's Wisdom, Wealth And Worship (ch. 1)
2. Solomon Builds And Furnishes The Temple (ch. 2-4)
3. Solomon Consecrates And Dedicates The Temple (ch. 5-7)
4. Solomon Builds Cities And Becomes Famous (ch. 8)
5. Solomon Visited By Queen Of Sheba (ch. 9)

#### II. THE REBELLION OF THE TEN TRIBES (ch. 10)

1. Jereboam Leads The Northern Kingdom
2. Rehoboam Leads The Southern Kingdom

#### III. THE REIGN OF THE KINGS OF JUDAH (ch. 11-36)

1. Apostasy Under Rehoboam (ch. 11-16)
2. Reformation Under Jehoshaphat (ch. 17-20)
3. Apostasy Under Jehoram, Ahaziah And Athaliah (ch. 21-22)
4. Reformation Under Joash – And Later, Failure (ch. 23-24)
5. Apostasy Under Amaziah, Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz (ch. 25-28)
6. Reformation Under Hezekiah (ch. 29-32)
7. Apostasy Under Manasseh (ch. 33)
8. Reformation Under Josiah (ch. 34-35)
9. Apostasy For The Final Time (36:1-14)

#### IV. THE CAPTIVITY BY NEBUCHADNEZZAR (36:15-23)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Israel Had Spent Four Hundred Years Worshipping In A Tent
- The Lord Had Told David To Build A Temple ( 2 Samuel 7:5-7)
- David Was Later Forbidden To Build It, Because He Was A Man Of War. (2 Chronicles 22:8)
- The Temple Was Built Of Great Stones, Cedar Beams And Boards Overlaid With Gold.
- Estimates Given Indicate That In Our Money It Would Have Taken From Two To Five Billion Dollars.
- It Was Built Like The Tabernacle With Every Part Twice The Size.
- Solomon's Temple Stood About Four Hundred Years: 970-586 B.C.
- Zerubbabel's Temple Stood About Five Hundred Years: 520-20 B.C.
- Herod's Temple Stood About Ninety Years: 20 B.C.-70 A.D.

## THE TEMPLES OF GOD

### THE TABERNACLE

Only a Tent. God's localized dwelling-place in Israel for four hundred years. Most of the time at Shiloh.

### SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

It's glory was short-lived. Plundered within five years after Solomon's death. Destroyed by Babylonians 586 B.C.

## 2 CHRONICLES, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

### EZEKIEL'S TEMPLE

Ezekiel 40-43. Not an actual temple, but a vision of a Future Ideal Restored Temple.

### SYNAGOGS

Arose during the Captivity. Not temples, but small buildings, in scattered Jewish communities, for local meetings.

### ZERUBBABEL'S TEMPLE

Built after return from captivity. Stood five hundred years, until replaced by Herod's Temple.

### HEROD'S TEMPLE

This was the Temple to which Christ came. Built by Herod, of marble and gold. Magnificent beyond description. Destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D.

### CHRIST'S BODY

Jesus called His Body a Temple (John 2:19-21). In Him God tabernacled among men. Jesus said that earthly temples were not necessary to the worship of God (John 4:20-24).

### THE CHURCH

Collectively, is a Temple of God. God's dwelling-place in the world (1 Corinthians 3:16-19).

### EACH INDIVIDUAL CHRISTIAN

Is a Temple of God (1 Corinthians 6:19), of which the grandeur of Solomon's Temple may have been a type.

### CHURCH BUILDINGS

Are sometimes called Temples of God, but nowhere so designated in the Bible.

### THE TEMPLE IN HEAVEN

The Tabernacle was a pattern of something in Heaven (Hebrews 9:11,24). John saw a Temple in Heaven (Revelation 11:19), but later God and the Lamb had become the Temple (Revelation 21:22).

## EZRA

### “RETURNING TO JERUSALEM TO REBUILD THE TEMPLE”

- KEY VERSE:** EZRA 7:6  
“This Ezra went up from Babylon; and he was a ready scribe in the law of Moses, which the LORD God of Israel had given: and the king granted him all his request, according to the hand of the LORD his God upon him. ”
- THEME:** The release from captivity to return to their homeland to rebuild the center of worship and restore the worship of God.
- DATE:** 444 B.C.
- WRITER:** The book was named for its author, EZRA, the priest, teacher and reformer. He could trace his lineage back to Aaron.  
Some believe that he wrote 1 and 2 Chronicles, Psalm 119 and compiled the Psalms.
- WRITTEN:** Just after the captivity.  
Along with Nehemiah, Ezra is the earliest record after the release.  
Others written were Esther, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi.  
Ezra and Nehemiah were regarded as one book in Hebrew Canon. Much of Ezra’s history is recorded in Nehemiah.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 15th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 10  
NO. OF VERSES: 280  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Tenth of 12 History Books of the Bible
- PURPOSE:** To give written record of one of the most important events in Jewish history.  
The return of the Southern Kingdom from Babylon and the reestablishment of the Jews in their land.  
The Northern Kingdom never returned but was absorbed and dispersed. Speculation still is projected as to what happened to the ten lost tribes of Israel.
- DIVISIONS:** I. REBUILDING THE TEMPLE WALLS (ch. 1-6)  
(Twenty Years Under Zerubbabel’s Leadership)
1. Restoration (ch. 1)
  2. Regeneration (ch. 2)
  3. Reconstruction (ch. 3)
  4. Resistance (ch. 4)
  5. Revival
- II. RESTORING THE TEMPLE WORSHIP (ch. 7-10)
1. His Exercise – Teaching the Mosaic Law (ch. 7)
  2. His Experience – Safety During Four Months Travel (ch. 8)



## EZRA, continued

### DIVISIONS, continued:

3. His Example – He Assumed Burden Of All Their Sin (ch. 9)
4. His Exhortation – He Spoke Out On Mixed Marriages, And They Were Carefully Dealt With (ch. 10)

### FACTS:

- Ezra Is Ecclesiastical History – Temple Rebuilt.
- Nehemiah Is Civil History – Walls And Gates Rebuilt.
- Ezra Was A Revivalist And Reformer.
- Ezra Covers A Period Of Eighty Years.
- Fifty Thousand People Went Back With Zerubbabel.
- Six Thousand People Went Back With Ezra.
- Captivity Was Prophesied To Last Seventy Years (Jeremiah 25:11,12).
- In 536 B.C. King Cyrus Of Babylon Made The Decree, “Any Jew desiring to go back to Palestine to build again the Temple can do so.”
- Zerubbabel Acted As Governor Of Judah.
- Joshua Acted As High Priest.

### OUTLINE:

- I. RETURNING TO THE LORD (ch. 1-2)
  1. The Decree Of Cyrus
  2. The Dedicated Vessels Returned
  3. The Delegation Of Jews Return (50,000)
- II. REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE (ch. 3)
  1. The altar Set Up (3:1-6)
  2. The Foundation Rebuilt (3:7-13)
- III. RESISTING THE ENEMY (ch. 4)
  1. The Samaritans Offended
  2. The Samaritans Opposition
  3. The Samaritans Overcome
- IV. RESUMING THE WORK (ch. 5)
  1. The Prophets Speak Out
  2. The Proclamation Of Darius
  3. The Progress Of The Work
- V. REVIVAL UNDER EZRA (ch. 7,8)
  1. His Passion
  2. His Preaching
  3. His Praise (\$100,000 from the king)
- VI. REFORMS UNDER EZRA (ch. 9,10)
  1. Mixed Marriages Dealt With
  2. Mourning, Fasting And Praying

## **EZRA**, continued

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

#### **THE CAPTIVITY OF JUDAH CAME IN THREE STAGES**

1. 605 B.C. – Nebuchadnezzar's First Invasion  
Captives Included Daniel
  2. 579 B.C. – Nebuchadnezzar's Second Invasion  
Captives Included Ezekiel
  3. 586 B.C. – Final Destruction Of The Temple  
Sacked And Burned
- There Were 5,400 Vessels Of Gold And Silver Returned To The Temple.
  - Babylon Was Seven Hundred Miles From Jerusalem.
  - The Seventy Years Of Captivity Was God Collecting His Sabbaths.

## NEHEMIAH

### “THE REBUILDING OF JERUSALEM”

- KEY VERSE:** NEHEMIAH 6:3  
 “And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?”
- THEME:** In the twentieth year of the reign of Artaxerxes 1, ruler of Babyon (445 B.C.), Nehemiah, the King’s cupbearer, received royal permission to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls of the ruined city (Nehemiah 1:11; 2:16). The walls were built in fifty-two days in the face of opposition from without and discouragement within. For twelve years he worked to restore civil and religious order in Jerusalem, then he returned to Babylon. During his absence from Jerusalem, moral and religious abuse arose, and he hastened back to deal with the issue.
- DATE:** 431 B.C.  
 Events cover a period of eleven years (from 445 B.C. to 434 B.C.).
- WRITER:** NEHEMIAH  
 He held the office of Cupbearer to the King of Persia. He was a worthy member of the old line Hebrews, and fits into the same category as Moses, Joshua and David. He was sent to be Governor of Palestine for and by the Persian king. Some think Ezra wrote the account and that Ezra, 1 and 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah were all one book.
- WRITTEN:** Largely as an autobiography of Nehemiah. It opens and closes with prayer. Its message is for those who would serve.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 16th Book                                 |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 13  |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 406                                       |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Eleventh of 12 History Books of the Bible |
- PURPOSE:** To give a description of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem, the renewing of the Covenant and the Temple and sabbath reforms.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. The Discouraging Report (1:1-11)
  2. The Expedition To Jerusalem (2:1-20)
  3. The List Of Builders (3:1-32)
  4. The Opposition And Discouragement (4:1-5:19)
  5. The Adversaries Craftiness (6:1-7:4)
  6. The Remnant Under Zerubbabel (7:5-73)
  7. The Revival: Causes And Effects (8:1-10:39)
  8. The Redistribution Of The Population (11:1-36)
  9. The Dedication Of The Walls (12:1-43)
  10. The Disorder And Reformation (12:44-13:31)

## NEHEMIAH, continued

- FACTS:**
- Nehemiah Was Born In Exile.
  - Nehemiah's Character Was Without Blot.
  - Nehemiah Became The King's Cupbearer.
  - Nehemiah Represents The Dedicated Businessman.
  - The Word "So" (key word) Appears Thirty-Two Times.
  - The Book Opens And Ends With Prayer
  - Nehemiah's Administration Covers A Period of Thirty-Six Years.
  - Nehemiah Was The Civil Governor While Ezra Was The Priest.
  - Almost One Hundred Years Had Gone By Since The Return, And No Progress, Except For The Temple.

- OUTLINE:**
- I. THE WORK OF CONSTRUCTION (ch. 1-7)
    1. The Prayer (ch. 1)
    2. The Place (ch. 2)
    3. The Plan (ch. 3)
    4. The Problems (ch. 4-5)
    5. The Prize (ch. 6)
    6. The Poll (ch. 7)
  - II. THE WORK OF CONSECRATION (ch. 8-10)
    1. The Construction (ch. 8)
    2. The Confession (ch. 9)
    3. The Covenant (ch. 10)
  - III. THE WORK OF CONSOLIDATION (ch. 11-13)
    1. How It Was Commended (ch. 11-12:26)
      - a. Distribution of the population
      - b. Descendants of the priests
    2. How It Was Completed – Twelve Years Later (12:27-13:21)
      - a. Dedication of the city (12:27-47)
      - b. Dealing with the sin (ch. 13)

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

### THE TEACHING OF THE GATES (ch. 3)

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. THE SHEEP GATE (3:1)     | Lamb Led To Slaughter (John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18)   |
| 2. THE FISH GATE (3:3)      | Fishers Of Men (Mark 1:17)<br>Soul winning (Matthew 4:19)   |
| 3. THE OLD GATE (3:6)       | Old Paths-Old Truths (Jeremiah 6:16; 18:15)   |
| 4. THE VALLEY GATE (3:13)   | Speaks Of Humility (James 4:10)   |
| 5. THE DUNG GATE (3:14)     | Putting Away Uncleanliness<br>Separation (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)                                      |
| 6. THE FOUNTAIN GATE (3:15) | Fresh Spring Water Speaks of Holy Spirit (John 7:37)  |
| 7. THE WATER GATE (3:26)    | No Repair Needed Here<br>Speaks Of Word Of God (Psalm 119:9)  |
| 8. THE HORSE GATE (3:28)    | Soldiers Enter Here   |
| 9. THE EAST GATE (3:29)     | We Are In Spiritual Warfare (Ephesians 6:12)<br>Closed Reserved For Messiah (Malachi 4:2; Titus 2:13) |

## NEHEMIAH, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

10. **THE JUDGEMENT GATE** (3:31) Means Appointed Place; Speaks of Judgement Seat  
(2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 14:10)

### ENEMIES OF THE WORK

1. **SANBALLAT** Means "Hate In Disguise" Angel Of Light
2. **TOBIAH** Means "The Servant" He Was Sanballat's Puppet  
Good Appearance, Bad Heart
3. **GESHEM** Means "A Violent Shower" He Brought A Shower Of Ridicule And  
Criticism.

**ESTHER****“THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD”**

- KEY VERSE:** ESTHER 4:14  
 “For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father’s house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”
- THEME:** The Deliverance Of The Jews From Annihilation In The Days Following The Babylonian Captivity.
- DATE:** 478-464 B.C.  
 Esther Became Queen in 478 B.C.  
 She Saved Her People in 473 B.C.  
 Book Probably Written About 450 B.C.
- WRITER:** Some think Mordecai, others think Ezra, and still others think Nehemiah wrote the Book of Esther.
- WRITTEN:** - Very simple in style like Ezra and Nehemiah.  
 - Written in Hebrew with some Persian words.  
 - Covers a twelve year period of Jewish history of those who remained in Persia after they were free to go back to the Holy Land.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 17th Book  
 NO. OF CHAPTERS: 10  
 NO. OF VERSES: 166  
 NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Twelfth of 12 History Books of the Bible
- PURPOSE:** Recorded as a memoir to all the Jews scattered throughout the one hundred twenty-seven countries of the Persian Empire to relate the providence of God in preventing extinction of the Jewish race and to establish the Feast of “Purim” (meaning “lots”). Named so, because lots were cast to determine in which month the Jews were to be destroyed.
- DIVISIONS:** I. THE RISE OF ESTHER (ch. 1-2)  
     1. The Rejection Of Vashti (1:2-21)  
     2. The Selection Of Esther (3:1-20)  
     3. The Detection Of Mordecai (2:19-23)  
 II. THE LIES OF HAMAN (ch. 3-5)  
     1. The Infernal Servitude – Haman  
     2. The Intestinal Fortitude – Mordecai  
 III. THE PRIZE OF FAITH (ch. 6-8)  
     1. The Execution Of Haman (ch. 7)  
     2. The Institution Of A Feast (ch. 9-10)

## ESTHER, continued

- FACTS:**
- One of two books named after a woman – The other is Ruth.
  - In Ruth we have a Gentile girl marrying a Jew.
  - In Esther we have a Jewish girl marrying a Gentile.
  - Esther means “star.” The name of God is not mentioned in the Book of Esther.
  - Events covered fall between Ezra, chapters six and seven.
  - Sushan, the Palace, was a summer resort of Persian Kings two hundred miles east of Babylon.
  - History calls the King Zerxes – the Bible calls him Ahasuerus.
  - Great numbers of Jews were still living in Persia.
  - The huge Persian Empire covered one hundred twenty-seven countries.
  - Persia is not the nation of Iran.
  - The Persian king is mentioned one hundred ninety-two times in ten chapters.
  - Haman was an Amalekite of the line of Agag (the King that Saul was to have Slain, but did not).

- OUTLINE:**
- I. HOW THE PLOT WAS FORMED (ch. 1-3)
    1. The Might Of Ahasuerus (ch. 1-3)
    2. The Marriage Of Esther (2:1-20)
    3. The Ministry Of Mordecai (2:21-23)
    4. The Malice Of Haman (ch. 3)
  - II. HOW THE PLOT WAS FOUGHT (ch. 4-5)
    1. The Cry Of Israel (4:1-3)
    2. The Convictions Of Mordecai (4:1-14)
    3. The Courage Of Esther (4:15-5:8)
    4. The Confidence Of Haman (5:9-14)
  - III. HOW THE PLOT WAS FAILED (ch. 6-10)
    1. The Death Of Haman
      - a. He was publicly humiliated (ch. 6)
      - b. He was publicly hanged (ch. 7)
    2. The Decree Of Ahasuerus (ch. 8)
    3. The Deliverance Of Israel (9:1-18)
    4. The Day Of Purim (9:19-32)
    5. The Dignity Of Mordecai (ch. 10)

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

**ESTHER IS CENTERED AROUND THREE FEASTS**

1. The Feast Of Ahasuerus (ch. 1-2)
  2. The Feast Of Esther (ch. 3-7)
  3. The Feast Of Purim (ch. 8-10)
- Esther was a Jewish orphan.
  - Esther’s Jewish name “Hadassah” means “A Myrtle.”
  - The name “Esther” means “A star.”
  - Esther won the “Miss Persia Pageant” and beat out all the other “finalists.”
  - Esther’s influence upon her step-son, Artaxerxes, is seen later. He was so kind to Ezra and Nehemiah.

## **ESTHER**, continued

### **MISCELLANEOUS**, continued:

#### **THE JEWS ARE GOD'S INDESTRUCTIBLE PEOPLE**

1. PHARAOH Learned That Thy Could Not Be DROWNED. (Exodus 14)
2. NEBUCHADNEZZAR Learned That They Could Not Be BURNED. (Daniel 3)
3. DARIUS Learned That They Could Not Be EATEN. (Daniel 6)
4. HAMAN Learned That They Could Not Be HANGED. (Esther 7)

### **CONCLUSION:**

HITLER And STALIN Also Learned That The GAS CHAMBERS And FIRING SQUADS Would Not Do Away With The Jews.



## JOB

### “THE PROBLEM OF SUFFERING

- KEY VERSE:** JOB 5:17  
“Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:”
- THEME:** Suffering Of The Righteous. (The Mystery Of Suffering)  
- Why do the godly suffer?  
- How can their suffering be harmonized with the righteousness of God?  
- When God is love, and He loves His saints, why do they have afflictions?
- DATE:**  
- Job probably lived about 2,000 B.C., just before the time of Abraham.  
- The book finds its place between the eleventh and twelfth chapters of Genesis.  
- Job is doubtless the oldest book of the Bible.  
- The book itself was probably written about 1,520 B.C.
- WRITER:** Most scholars believe that probably MOSES wrote the book of Job in the Desert of Midian. (Exodus 2:15)
- WRITTEN:**  
- Job is one of the most ancient books of the entire Bible.  
- It gives comments about the Pyramids (Job 3:14), Cities of the Plains (Job 15:28), and the Flood (Job 22:16).  
- No mention is made of Israel’s history, the Giving of the Law, the Exodus from Egypt, the Red Sea Crossing, the journeying in the Land of Cana, or any of the Kings of Israel, so obviously, it was written before these events.  
- It was written about the setting of Job’s family in the Land of Uz that probably was located northeast of the Sea of Galilee running toward the Euphrates River.  
- The Hebrew language used in the original writings was that of every early times and not of later-day Hebrew language.  
- Traces of the Chaldean language are found in the Hebrew of Job.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 18th Book             |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 42                    |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 1,070                 |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | First book of Poetry. |
- PURPOSE:**  
- To Show The Disciplinary Nature Of Suffering.  
- To Inspire Patience In The Lives Of Bible Readers In The Misfortunes Of Life.
- Some Reasons Given For Job’s Sufferings...
- That Satan might be silenced. (1:9-11; 2:4-5)
  - That Job might see God. (42:5)
  - That Job might see himself. (40:4: 42:6)
  - That Job’s friends might learn not to judge. (42:7)
  - That Job might learn to pray for his critics, rather than to lash out against them. (42:10)

## JOB, continued

### PURPOSE, continued:

- To demonstrate that all God's plans for His own eventually have happy endings. (42:10).

### DIVISIONS:

- I. THE DISASTERS OF JOB (ch. 1-2)
  1. The Explanation Of His Troubles
  2. The Extent Of His Troubles
    - Satan was permitted to:
      - a. take Job's fortune
      - b. touch Job's family
      - c. torture Job's flesh
      - d. turn Job's friends against him
- II. THE DEBATES OF JOB (3:1-42:6)
  1. Job's Cry (ch. 3)
  2. Job's Critics (ch.4-31)
  3. Job's Comforter (ch. 32-27)
  4. Job's Creator (38:1-42:6)
- III. THE DELIVERANCE OF JOB (42:7-17)
  1. The Reconciliation To God
  2. The Restoration From God

### FACTS:

- Job is classified as one of the Poetical Books of the Old Testament.
- Ezekiel 14:14 proves that Job really lived.
- James 5:11 also gives proof of Job's existence.
- Job lived before the days of Moses.
- Job offered sacrifices on behalf of his family.
- We believe that Job lived to be approximately two hundred ten years of age.
- The Book of Job contains more scientific truth than any other book of the Bible.
- Job's contemporaries all believed the earth was flat, and that it rested upon the shoulders of one of the gods, or the back of an elephant, or on a giant sea turtle, but Job said that God "hangeth the earth upon nothing." (26:7)
- The flat earth theory was still believed in the days of Columbus before the discovery of America some three thousand years later, but Job had insight from God on this. It was settled long, long ago.
- Job's name means "persecuted."
- The Book of Job might be labeled "Tested."
- Job summed it up when he said, "But He knoweth the way I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." (Job 23:10)

### OUTLINE:

- I. INTRODUCTION (1:1-5)
- II. CONTROVERSY BETWEEN JEHOVAH AND SATAN, AND THE RESULTS. (1:6-11)
- III. CONTROVERSY BETWEEN JOB AND HIS FRIENDS. (2:11-27:31)
  1. First Series Of Controversies (2:11-14)
  2. Second Series Of Controversies (ch. 15-31)
  3. Third Series Of Controversies (ch. 22-31)

## JOB, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

- IV. TESTIMONY OF ELIHU (ch. 32-37)
- V. JEHOVAH'S TESTIMONY AND CONTROVERSY WITH JOB (ch. 38-41)
- VI. CONFESSION OF JOB. (42:1-6)
- VII. RESTORATION AND BLESSING OF JOB (42:7-17)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### FOUR DIFFERENT VIEWS OF SUFFERING

Four different views of suffering are prevalent in the world today. All four of these are presented in the Book of Job.

##### 1. THE VIEW OF SATAN

Satan's accusation before God was that His people love and serve Him only to gain temporal advantage, or for what good they can get out of it (health, etc.).

##### 2. THE VIEW OF ELIPHAS, BILDAD, AND ZOPHAR

These three so-called friends of Job came to the conclusion that sufferings of the righteous are punishment for known, but perhaps secret sins.

##### 3. THE VIEW OF ELIHU

This wise man pictures God as a great God. He gives a true account of man in suffering. But, in his conceit, he was guilty of the very thing he had accused Job of.

##### 4. THE VIEW OF GOD

The godly are afflicted so that they might be brought to self-knowledge and self-judgment, or afflictions are there for purifying.

#### THE LORD JESUS IS SEEN IN THE BOOK OF JOB

- Job Longed For A Mediator (9:32, 33)
- He Spoke Of A Daysman (9:33)
- He Recognized A Need For Some Link Between Himself And God
- The Lord Jesus Is Called The Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5)  
(Daysman)

Many writers and poets set the Book of Job up as the most remarkable book in the Bible.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| TENNYSON        | "The greatest poem of all ancient or modern literature."  |
| MARTIN LUTHER   | "More magnificent and sublime than any book of Scripture."  |
| THOMAS CARLISLE | "I call Job one of the grandest things ever written with pen."                                    |
| VICTOR HUGO     | "The book of Job is perhaps the greatest masterpiece of the human mind."                          |
| PHILLIP SCHAFF  | "It rises like a pyramid in the history of literature without a predecessor and without a rival." |

## PSALMS

### “THE HYMNS OF THE HEBREWS”

- KEY VERSE:** PSALM 95:6  
“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.”
- THEME:** Praising the Lord Through Prayer.
- DATE:** The time span in which the Psalms were written extends from the time of Moses, who wrote the Nineteenth Psalm about 1520 B.C., to the time of Malachi, about 420 B.C., covering 1100 years of Israel’s history.  
The Psalms were collected and arranged by Ezra.
- WRITER:** There are 150 Psalms.  
Fifty of them are anonymous.  
DAVID wrote seventy-three.  
ASAPH wrote 122.  
KORAH wrote 10.  
SOLOMON wrote 2.  
MOSES wrote one.  
ETHAN wrote one.  
HAMEN wrote one.
- WRITTEN:**
- By the Holy Spirit, of course.
  - As a collection of hymns to be sung with a stringed instrument called a psaltery.
  - To reveal the attributes and the sovereignty of God.
  - To show His relationship to His people.
  - To reveal the majesty of His law.
  - To contrast between righteousness and wickedness.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 19th Book             |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 150                   |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 2,461                 |
| NO. OF WORDS:            | 43,743                |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Second book of Poetry |
- PURPOSE:**
- To provide a book of devotions for the Lord’s people.
  - To communicate the heart of God.
  - Almost every mood of the soul is expressed in the Book of Psalms.
  - The Lord has communicated to us His entire revelation through the Psalms.
- DIVISIONS:** Dr. A.T. Pearson Divides The Psalms Into Seven Groups or Divisions:
1. Psalms of Law
  2. Psalms of Creation
  3. Psalms of Judgment
  4. Psalms of Christ

## PSALMS, continued

### DIVISIONS, continued:

5. Psalms of Life
6. Psalms of Heart
7. Psalms of God

### FACTS:

- Some of the Psalms are DEVOTIONAL, stressing the inward lives of the people of God and dealing with their trust in times of affliction, their sorrow for sins, their hope in sorrow, their longings in hours of distress, their quest for holiness, and their spiritual yearnings and aspirations.
- Some of the Psalms are TEACHING Psalms, explaining the great matters of nature, the attributes of God, the works and sovereign control of Almighty God, His relationships to His people, relationships to the law, and the contrast between right and wrong.
- Some Psalms are HISTORICAL, describing the career of Israel, and in particular, God's dealing with His people.
- Other Psalms are PROPHETIC, tracing, in advance, the unfolding purposes of God for the Hebrew people, the coming of the Messiah and His ministry, and also, His ultimate glory when all things are complete.
- Other Psalms are INTERCESSORY, pleading with the Lord for deliverance from illness or danger.
- Some Psalms are JUDGMENTAL, calling on God to let his judgment fall on wickedness.
- Other Psalms are EXALTING in nature, praising the Lord.

### OUTLINE:

The 150 Poems Are Divided Into Five Sections, Each Paralleling One of the Five Books of Moses in the Pentateuch.

- I. THE GENESIS PSALMS (Psalm 1-41)  
The Key thought: God's Counsel To Men
- II. THE EXODUS PSALMS (Psalm 42-72)  
The key thought: The Nation of Israel
- III. THE LEVITICAL PSALMS (Psalm 73-89)  
The key thought: The Temple Sanctuary
- IV. THE NUMBERS PSALMS (Psalm 90-106)  
The key thought: The Rebellion In The Wilderness
- V. THE DEUTERONOMY PSALMS (Psalm 107-150)  
The key thought: God's Word.

### MISCELLANEOUS:

The Psalms Deal With Five Subjects:

1. The Person of God
2. The Son of God
3. The Word of God
4. The Works of God
5. The People of God

## PSALMS, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

The Psalms Are Grouped or Classified Into Various Sections:

1. PSALMS OF INSTRUCTION  
Example: Psalm 32 and 44
2. PSALMS OF HISTORY  
Example: Psalm 105 and 106
3. PSALMS OF ADORATION  
Example: Psalm 8 and 29
4. PSALMS OF CONFESSION  
Example: Psalm 51
5. PSALMS OF THANKSGIVING  
Example: Psalm 18
6. PSALMS OF SUPPLICATION  
Example: Psalm 26
7. PSALMS OF PROPHECY  
Example: Psalms 2, 16 and 22
8. PSALMS OF PENITENCE  
Example: Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130 and 143
9. PSALMS OF JUDGMENT (Cursing)  
Example: Psalms 109 and 140

### PRACTICAL VALUE

- It is suited to the human heart.
- There is no experience of the human heart of life that does not find its counterpart in the Book of Psalms.
- It reflects every mood of man.
  1. Sets forth to us models of devotion.
  2. Teaches truth in terms of human experience.
  3. Reveals the Lord Jesus Christ.

### The Significance of Musical Terms:

- “MEGINOTH” (Psalm 4 and 6)  
Refers to the music of stringed instruments.
- “SHEMINITH” (Psalm 6 and 12)  
Conveys the idea of the musical octave.
- “SHIGGAION” (Psalm 7)  
Suggest a wild, exuberant praise.
- “GITTITH” (Psalm 8 and 81)  
Means wine presses and gives reference to vintage hymns.
- “MIGHTAM” (Psalm 32 and 42)  
Means instruction or teaching.
- “GEDUTHUN” (Psalm 39)  
This is the name of the chief singer among the Levites. His name means “praising.”

The word, “SELAH,” which occurs seventy times in the Psalms, is not primarily a musical term. It means to “pause,” or “look up for meditation.”

In His dying statements on the Cross, Jesus quoted Psalms 22:1 and Psalm 31:5 (see Matthew 27:46; Luke 23:46; Luke 24:44).

## PSALMS, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

W.E. Gladstone said,

“All the wonders of Greek civilization heaped together are less wonderful than is this simple Book of the Psalms.”

## PROVERBS

### “THE BOOK OF WISDOM”

- KEY VERSE:** PROVERBS 9:10  
“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.”
- THEME:** There Are Ten Themes In The Book Of Proverbs:
1. A Good Name (10:7)
  2. Youth and Discipline (13:34)
  3. Business Matters (11:1)
  4. Marriage (5:15)
  5. Immorality (5:3-5)
  6. Wisdom (3:13-18)
  7. Self-Control (16:32)
  8. Strong Drink (20:1)
  9. Friendship (17:17)
  10. Words and the Tongue (15:1)
- DATE:** 800 B.C.
- WRITER:** Solomon is given credit for writing most of the Book of Proverbs.  
Solomon was:
1. A Philosopher
  2. A Scientist of Great Knowledge
  3. An Architect of the Temple
  4. A King in Political Realm
  5. An Author and Poet
  6. A Businessman With Vast Holdings
  7. A Preacher
- WRITTEN:** Solomon wrote most of the Proverbs and is credited as being the chief editor (ch. 1; 25:1); however, some are attributed to wise men (22:17), others to Hezekiah’s men (25:1), some to Agur (30:1), and still others to King Lemuel and his mother (31:1).
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 20th Book            |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 31                   |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 915                  |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Third book of Poetry |
- PURPOSE:** - To provide a handbook of wisdom which would apply to earthly conditions for the people of God.  
We have Divine laws, Divine history, Divine Psalms, and now, we have Divine wisdom.



## PROVERBS, continued

### PURPOSE, continued:

Proverbs contains a complete body of Divine ethics, politics, and economics, exposing every vice, recommending every virtue, and suggesting rules to govern self in every relationship of life.

### DIVISIONS:

Counsel For Young Men (ch. 1-10)  
Counsel For All Men (ch. 11-20)  
Counsel For Kings And Rulers (ch. 21-31)

### FACTS:

- Solomon wrote 3,000 Proverbs. (1 Kings 4:32)
- He also wrote 1,005 songs.
- His wisdom was a direct gift of God. (1 Kings 3:12)
- He wrote three of the sixty-six Books of the Bible.
- He wrote Song of Solomon when he was young and in love.
- He wrote Proverbs when he was middle-aged and in the zenith of his intellectual power.
- He wrote Ecclesiastes when he was old, disappointed and disillusioned.

### OUTLINE:

- I. DUTIES OF MAN TO GOD (1:7; 3:5)
- II. DUTIES TO OURSELVES (1:10)
- III. DUTIES TO OUR NEIGHBOR (12:25; 14:31)
- IV. DUTIES OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN (4:1; 22:6)
- V. DUTIES IN CIVIL LIFE (14:21; 16:14; 18:23; 22:2)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Proverbs is intended to do for our daily lives what Psalms is intended to do for our devotional lives.
- In the Book of Proverbs, there is a contrast between wisdom and folly (or the wise man and the foolish man).
- The Jews liken Proverbs to the outer court of the temple, Ecclesiastes to the Holy Place in the Temple, and Song of Solomon to the Holy of Holies in the Temple.
- After three thousand years, the principles of Proverbs still all hold true.
- The first nine chapters of Proverbs are instructions of Solomon to his son.
- The rest of Proverbs involve 374 statements that touch every phase of human life.

### THE BASIC SUBJECTS OF PROVERBS ARE:

- |                  |                               |                       |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Wisdom        | 11. Proper Use of Riches      | 20. Honesty           |
| 2. Righteousness | 12. Consideration of the Poor | 21. Avoiding Idleness |
| 3. Fear of God   | 13. Control of the Tongue     | 22. Sin of Laziness   |
| 4. Knowledge     | 14. Kindness to Enemies       | 23. Justice           |
| 5. Morality      | 15. Choice of Companions      | 24. Helpfulness       |
| 6. Chastity      | 16. Avoiding Bad Women        | 25. Contentment       |
| 7. Diligence     | 17. Praise of Good Women      | 26. Cheerfulness      |
| 8. Self-Control  | 18. Training of Children      | 27. Reverence         |
| 9. Trust In God  | 19. Industry                  | 28. Common Sense      |
| 10. Tithes       |                               |                       |

## ECCLESIASTES

### “THE BOOK OF PESSIMISM”

- KEY VERSE:** ECCLESIASTES 1:2  
“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.”
- THEME:** Human View of Life  
“In this Book God has given a record of all that human thinking and natural religion has ever been able to discover concerning the meaning and goal of life.”  
Mrs. Henrietta C. Mears
- DATE:** 979 B.C.
- WRITER:** Solomon  
Solomon is called the Preacher and lists himself in verse one as the son of David, King of Jerusalem.
- WRITTEN:** Ecclesiastes is written to sum up the personal philosophy of human life.  
Some have suggested that two statements may be used to summarize the entire Book of Ecclesiastes.  
The first statement is from the Bible. It says, “...we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing:...” Luke 5:5.  
The second statement is from a Chicago sewer employee, who said, “I digge de ditch to getta de money to buye de food to getta de strength to digge de ditch.”
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 21st Book             |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 12                    |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 222                   |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Fourth book of Poetry |
- PURPOSE:** To Show That True Happiness Apart From God Is Impossible.  
The verdict of “vanity of vanities” is pronounced upon any philosophy of life that regards the created world of human enjoyment as an end in life itself.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. EMPTINESS OF PLEASURE (ch. 1-3)
  2. EMPTINESS OF RICHES (ch. 4-6)
  3. EMPTINESS OF FOOLISHNESS (ch. 7-11)
  4. EMPTINESS OF UNGODLINESS (ch. 12)
- FACTS:** - The statement, “...under the sun...,” is found twenty-nine times in the Book of Ecclesiastes, indicating that things discussed here are earthly and human principles.

## ECCLESIASTES, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- The Key words in Ecclesiastes are:

MAN	Used forty-seven times.
LABOR	Used thirty-six times.
VANITY	Used thirty-seven times.

- Solomon wrote from a background of all that wealth could demand, all that wisdom and love of learning could invent or devise, and all that fame could bring. Solomon had it all, and in full measure.

- Solomon also had a proud ancestry, a godly father, a rich national heritage, and a personal knowledge of God and His Word.

### OUTLINE:

- I. THE PREACHER'S SUBJECT (1:1-11)
  1. He States His Text (1:1,2)
  2. He States His Topic (1:3-11)
- II. THE PREACHER'S SERMON (1:12-3:20)
  1. Some of the Things He Had Sought (1:12-2:26)
  2. Some of the Things He Had Seen (3:1-6:12)
  3. Some of the Things He Had Studied (ch. 7-10)
- III. THE PREACHER'S SUMMARY (ch. 11-12)
  1. He Repeats His Complaint About Life (ch. 11)
  2. He Relates His Conclusions About Life (ch. 12)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- A Prime Minister of Britain, Lord Beaconsfield, stated, in the heyday of the British Empire, "Youth is a mistake, manhood a struggle, and old age a regret." Solomon could have told him that. Power, popularity, prestige, and pleasure, all in abundant measure and all combined, cannot quench the burning thirst in man's soul that can only be satisfied by God Himself.

- Solomon tried to satisfy his soul by searching the length and breadth of the land for peace and purpose. Like a man looking behind every tree, under every rock, in every bottle, in every dance hall, in every movie house, and in every other place of pleasure, like the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, it was missing.

#### I. Solomon Lists the Places That He Looked:

1. Human Wisdom (1:16,17)
2. Pleasure (2:1-3)
3. Alcohol (2:3)
4. Great Building Projects (2:4)
5. Beautiful Gardens and Parks (2:4-6)
6. Personal Indulgences (2:7)
7. Sex (1 Kings 11:3)  
(700 wives, princesses and 300 concubines)
8. Massive Wealth (2:7,8)
9. International Reputation (1 Kings 10:6,7)  
(Queen of Sheba)
10. Cattle Breeding (2:7)
11. Music (2:8)

## ECCLESIASTES, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

12. Literature (1 Kings 4:32)  
(3,000 Proverbs, 1,005 songs)
13. Natural Science (1 Kings 4:33)
14. Military Power (1 Kings 4:26)

### II. After Returning Home, Solomon Concluded The Following About Life Apart From God:

1. Utterly Futile (2:11)
2. Filled With Repetition (3:1-8)
3. Permeated With Sorrow (4:1)
4. Grievous and Frustrating (2:17)
5. Uncertain (9:11,12)
6. Without Purpose (4:2,3: 8:15)
7. Incurable (1;15)
8. Unjust (7:15; 8:14)
9. Level of Animal Existence (3:19)

### III. Solomon Recommends That:

1. Man Find God Early in Life (11:9,10; 12:1,2)
2. Man Fear God Throughout His Life (12:3-14)

## SONG OF SOLOMON

### “THE CHRISTIAN LOVE SONG”

- KEY VERSE:** SONG OF SOLOMON 2:4  
“He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.”  
SONG OF SOLOMON 6:3  
“I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies.”
- THEME:** LOVE  
Under the figures of a bride and bridegroom is expressed the love of Christ for His own and the love that each believer has for his Lord.
- DATE:** 1000 B.C.
- WRITER:** SOLOMON is the author and hero; thus, the Book is called the Song of Solomon.
- WRITTEN:** The Book, Song of Solomon, was written to express the innermost feelings of God for His people.  
Some people say that Song of Solomon is just a love song and, therefore, has no place in the Bible. A superficial reading of the Book might lead to that conclusion. When one considers the tremendous truth found in Ephesians Chapter Five, the union of husband and wife as an earthly illustration of the heavenly relationship between Christ and His church, than the Song of Solomon takes on new meaning.  
This book is probably censored more and read less than any other Book. Critics have said that it is indecent. It may appear to be so to the unspiritual mind, but there is no question that this was written by inspiration by the Holy Spirit through Solomon.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 22nd Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 8  
NO. OF VERSES: 117  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Fifth book of Poetry
- PURPOSE:** In contrast to the Book of Ecclesiastes that shows the emptiness and vanity of all the world has to offer, Song of Solomon shows the height and fullness that is offered in a spiritual relationship to the Lord.  
Here we have the day and night of it all. We come from the Wilderness Journeys into the Land of Canaan.
- DIVISIONS:** ACTS I THE SHULAMITE CINDERELLA  
Solomon has a vineyard in the hill country, just outside the little town of Shulem fifty miles north of Jerusalem. It is rented to a family of share croppers. They have two sons and two daughters. The oldest girl is the “Shulamite,” and the youngest is her “little sister.” The Shulamite is the Cinderella of the family. Her brothers make her work hard pruning vines, setting traps for the little foxes, and keeping flocks.

## SONG OF SOLOMON, continued

### DIVISIONS, continued:

#### ACT II THE SHEPHERD STRANGER

One day a mysterious, handsome stranger comes and wins the heart of the girl. Unknown to her, he is really Solomon, the king, disguised as a lowly shepherd. She asks about his flocks, and he gives evasive answers, but he is definite about his love for her. He leaves and promises to come back some day. During his absence, she dreams of him on two occasions.

##### First Dream.

She dreams they are already married, and she awakens to find him missing from the bed. She goes looking for him.

##### Second Dream.

Her beloved returns and beseeches her to open the door and let him in. She refused and he goes away. She is not able to find him again.

Joyfully, she discovers his whereabouts but is not able to understand why he left, where he went, and when he will return.

#### ACT III THE MIGHTY KING

One day the little town of Shulem receives the electrifying news – King Solomon is approaching the city! The lonely maiden is not interested at all until word comes that the great king wants to see her personally. She is puzzled. When she is brought into his presence, she recognized that he is her in the Bible. A superficial reading of the Book might lead to that conclusion. When one considers the tremendous truth found in Ephesians Chapter Five, the union of husband and wife as an earthly illustration of the heavenly relationship between Christ and His church, than the Song of Solomon takes on new meaning.

This book is probably censored more and read less than any other Book. Critics have said that it is indecent. It may appear to be so to the unspiritual mind, but there is no question that this was written by inspiration by the Holy Spirit through Solomon.

#### ACTS IV THE BRIDE OF THE STORY

As described by the bridegroom, she is the most beautiful girl in the world (1:8). She is a bouquet of flowers (1:14), with eyes soft as doves (1:15) and like the lilies among thorn (2:2), and etc.

**FACTS:** Like many accounts of Scripture, we have an actual, historical setting that has deep spiritual meaning and application.

To the spiritual mind, the dialogue between the bridegroom and the bride typifies the mystery of Christ and His church (Ephesians 5:25-32).

**OUTLINE:** I. THE BRIDE'S SELF-KNOWLEDGE (1:5)

The Shulamite said, "I am black, but comely." Looking from her standpoint, she saw the dark-skin tanned by the sun (which symbolizes the blackness of a heart of sin). But, the Lord looks upon us as Solomon looked upon her in the expression of 4:7. "Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee."

## SONG OF SOLOMON, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### II. THE BRIDE'S AWAKENING (5:2)

When the groom came to the door, the bride was too sleepy to open it. He went away. The Lord does not always tarry when we do not respond to His impressions and moods.

#### III. THE BRIDE'S EXCUSES (5:3)

"I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?"

Backsliders usually do not need much of an excuse. A weak alibi serves the purpose, and the Lord departs, leaving us to our misery.

#### IV. THE BRIDE'S DISCOVERY (5:6)

"I opened to my beloved..."

Christ sometimes withholds His blessings and will not come on in until we seek Him totally.

#### V. THE BRIDE'S REMORSE (5:6)

"...My soul failed when he spake..."

What a miserable condition resulted from refusing to respond immediately to the call of the lover who was outside wanting in. Fellowship was broken, separation resulted, and her prayer was unanswered. "I called him, but he gave me no answer."

#### VI. THE BRIDE'S REPENTANCE (5:10-16)

She is now ready to acknowledge him. Following this, he returns. Fellowship is restored.

**CONCLUSION:** Across every page of Song of Solomon could be written these words of the Apostle Paul. "This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church." Bernard, an old saint, said of the Song of Solomon, "It is the song of songs. This is the first of all the rest. Grace alone can teach it – experience alone can learn it. Without a spiritual mind, it is impossible to enter into the spirit of the song, illustrating as it does, the union and communion existing between Christ, as the Bridegroom, and the church, as the bride."

Someone has written that, in light of the teaching of the Song of Solomon, we should do the following things:

1. Make a definite dedication of ourselves to Christ.
2. Be very careful not to offend Him in our conduct.
3. Prove our devotion by obedience to His commands.
4. Defend Him and His cause against all present-day enemies.
5. Seek to extend His Kingdom from shore to shore.

## SONG OF SOLOMON, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS: CONTENT OF SONG OF SOLOMON

- The Bride's Love For The King (ch. 1)
- The Bride's Delight In The King's Love (ch. 2)
- The Bride's Dream Of Her Lover's Disappearance (3:1-5)
- The Bride's Procession (3:6-11)
- The King Adores His Bride (ch. 4)
- Another Dream of the Lover's Disappearance (ch. 5)
- The Shulamite, The Loveliest Of The Lovely (ch. 6)
- Their Mutual Passionate Devotion (ch. 7)
- Their Love Unquenchable (ch. 8)



## ISAIAH

### “THE LITTLE BIBLE”

**KEY VERSE:** ISAIAH 9:6

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

**THEME:** JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

Isaiah strikes at the root of the nation’s trouble – “apostasy.” His divine commission was to warn of coming destruction and great tribulation, and then, he was to prophesy of the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ, concerning His birth, suffering, death and coming reign on earth.

**DATE:** Isaiah lived in the Kingdom of Judah during the reign of Uzziah around 740 B.C. (Isaiah 6:1)

His ministry continued through the reign of Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and possibly Manasseh, and covers between fifty and sixty years.

**WRITER:** ISAIAH (Jehovah Saves)

There is really very little known about Isaiah. God seems to have hid him.

- He was a man of the city. He was born in the city, raised in the city, labored in the city, and really loved the city of Jerusalem.
- Tradition says his father was Amos, brother of Amaziah, the king. Amaziah was the father of Uzziah, the king.
- He was cultured and refined. He moved in the highest circles of government.
- He knew the priesthood intimately.
- Isaiah lived in a day of prosperity and affluence.
- He saw much degeneration.
- He dressed in loin cloth for three years, and dressed like a slave most of the time.
- He was married to “the prophetess,” and had two sons, Shear-Jashub (“remnant shall return”), and Maher-Shalo-Has-Baz (“hastening to the prey – speeding to the spoils”).
- He was a poetic genius – an artist with words, a master of language, and an orator, to be sure.
- Isaiah was called:
  - a. The Prince of Prophets
  - b. The Messianic Prophet
  - c. The Evangelical Prophet
  - d. The Universal Prophet

## ISAIAH, continued

**WRITTEN:** Isaiah is the first of seventeen prophetic Books of the Old Testament. The first five Books, Isaiah through Daniel, are called “Major Prophets.” The last twelve Books are “Minor Prophets.”

The Book of Isaiah is written as a parallel to the entire Bible.

THE BIBLE	THE BOOK OF ISAIAH
Has Sixty-Six Books	Has Sixty-Six Chapters
Old Testament Has Thirty-Nine Books	First Section Has Thirty-Nine Chapters
New Testament Has Twenty-Seven Books	Last Section Has Twenty-Seven Chapters
Old Testament Covers History and Sin of Israel	Isaiah 1-39 Covers History and Sin of Israel
New Testament Describes The Person and Ministry of Christ	Isaiah 49-66 Describes The Person and Ministry of Christ
New Testament Begins With the Ministry of John the Baptist	Isaiah 40 (Second Section) Begins By Predicting the Ministry of John the Baptist

**THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 23rd Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 66  
NO. OF VERSES: 1,296  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: First of 17 Books of Prophecy

**PURPOSE:** To prophesy Israel’s captivity, repentance, and restoration, and to prophesy the glories of the Messianic age.

**DIVISIONS:**

1. Accusations against Judah and Israel (ch. 1-12)
2. Prophecies concerning foreign nations (ch. 12-35)
3. History of Hezekiah (ch. 36-39)
4. Coming restoration prophesied (ch. 39-48)
5. Messiah promised (ch. 49-58)

**FACTS:**

- Assyria dominated the world during this time.
- Jerusalem was a strong fortress along the trade route through which Assyria and Egypt passed.
- Isaiah prophesied the fall of the Northern Kingdom of Assyria.
- He also prophesied the fall of Judah by Babylon.
- The Book of Isaiah is quoted directly or indirectly 190 times in the New Testament.
- Isaiah is generally regarded as one of the six greatest Books in the Bible (the others being Romans, John, Psalms, Genesis and Revelation).
- A copy of Isaiah was among the famous Dead Sea Scrolls discovered in 1947.
- Isaiah was the greatest of the Old Testament prophets.
- His literary abilities surpass Shakespeare’s, Milton’s, Homer’s.
- Isaiah prophesied during the reign of five kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and Manassah.

## ISAIAH, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- The only Book that gives more material about Christ is Psalms.
- We believe Isaiah wrote other books which have not been preserved...The Life of Uzziah (2 Chronicles 26:22), and a book of Kings of Israel and Judah (2 Chronicles 32:32).

### OUTLINE:

#### I. ISRAEL: GOD'S FAITHLESS SERVANT (ch. 1-35)

1. Her Sins Listed (ch. 1,3,5)
2. Her Future Predicted (ch. 2,4,9,11,12,25-35)
3. Her Great Prophet's Vision (ch. 6)
4. Her Wicked King's Unbelief (ch. 7)
5. Her Enemies Judged (ch. 13-25)
  - a. Babylon (ch. 13,14,21)
  - b. Assyria (14:24-27)
  - c. Philistia (14:28-32)
  - d. Moab (ch. 15,16)
  - e. Damascus (ch. 17)
  - f. Ethiopia (ch. 18)
  - g. Egypt (ch. 19,20)
  - h. Edom (34:5-15)
  - i. Arabia (21:13-17)
  - j. Tyre (ch. 23)
  - k. Entire World (ch. 24,25)

#### II. HEZEKIAH: GOD'S FRIGHTENED SERVANT (ch. 36-39)

1. Hezekiah and the King of Assyria (ch. 36,37)
2. Hezekiah and the King of Heaven (ch. 38)
3. Hezekiah and the King of Babylon (ch. 39)

#### III. CHRIST: GOD'S FAITHFUL SERVANT (ch. 40-66)

1. The Deliverance (ch. 40-48)
  - a. God and the Idols (ch. 40-46)
  - b. God and the Nations (ch. 47,48)
2. The Deliverer: The Salvation of Jehovah (ch. 49-57)
3. The Delivered: The Glory of Jehovah (ch. 58-66)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

The Prophecies of Isaiah Fall Into Three Categories:

1. Prophecies fulfilled during his Own lifetime
2. Prophecies fulfilled after his lifetime
3. Prophecies yet to be fulfilled
  - a. The Tribulation Period
  - b. The Battle of Armageddon
  - c. The Millennium

The Various Personalities Listed In The Book:

ISAIAH, AHAZ, LUCIFER, SHEBNA (22:15-25); ELIAKIN (36:3); RABSHAKEH (36:2); SENNACHERIB (37:21); HEZEKIAH (36:1); MERO-DACH-BAL-ADAN (39:1); JOHN THE BAPTIST (40:3-5); CYRUS (44:28; 45:1).

## ISAIAH, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

#### CHRIST IN ISAIAH

1. His Incarnation (7:14,15; 9:6)
2. His Youth In Nazareth (11:1,2; 53:2; 7:15)
3. His Relation With The Father (42:1; 50:4,5)
4. His Miracles (35:5,6)
5. His Message (61:1,2)
6. His Specific Ministry to Gentiles (9:1,2)
7. His Gracious Ministry to All (42:2,3)
8. His Suffering and Death (50:6; 52:14; 53:1-10)
9. His Resurrection, Ascension, and Exaltation (52:13; 53:10-12)
10. His Millennial Reign (9:7; 42:4-7; 59:16-21; 11:3-5; 49:1-12; 32:1; 33:22)

## JEREMIAH

### “THE WEEPING PROPHET” Gives Warning To Israel

**KEY VERSE:** JEREMIAH 2:2,9

2. “Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

9. Wherefore I will yet plead with you, saith the LORD, and with your children’s children will I plead.”

**THEME:** Jeremiah makes an appeal to backslidden, sinning Israel to repent and turn back to God in light of the coming invasion of the Babylonian Empire.

He warns and prophesies of defeat and captivity, then later, he prophesies restoration and the making of a new covenant with the House of Judah and the House of Israel.

**DATE:** Jeremiah began to prophesy when he was a young man in the reign of Josiah (628 B.C.).

He exercised his prophetic ministry about one hundred years later than Isaiah. Events of the Book of Jeremiah cover forty-one years (from 629-588 B.C.).

**WRITER:** JEREMIAH, of course.

- He was the son of a priest. (1:1)
- He was commanded to remain unmarried. (16:2)
- He protested his call by God at first, pleading youth as an excuse. (1:6)
- He was assured that God had already chosen him prior to birth. (1:5)
- He attempted to find one honest man in Jerusalem. (5:1-5)
- He pleaded with Judah to return to God (3:12-14)
- He fearlessly denounced Judah’s sin and was persecuted by his family. (12:16)
- ...by his home-town people. (11:21)
- ...by the religious world. (2:1-3)
- He listed Judah’s many sins, such as:
  - the worship of the queen of heaven, (7:18)
  - their sacrifice of their own children to devil gods. (8:3)
  - their murder of Judah’s own prophet. (2:30)
- He warned them about coming Babylonian captivity. (4:17; 7:15)
- He wept over this captivity. (4:19-21)
- He had his original manuscripts burned by King Jehoiakim. (36:21-23)
- He threatened to resign. (20:7-9)
- He was ordered to buy a field while in prison to prove a point. (32:6-15)
- He was set free by Nebuchadnezzar. (40:1-6)
- He helped the newly-appointed governor, Gedaliah. (40:6)
- He advised Johanan when Gedaliah was killed. (42:1-5)
- He was carried by force to Egypt by Jehonah. (43:1-7)

## JEREMIAH, continued

### WRITER, continued:

- He continued to preach out against sin. (ch. 43,44)
- He probably died in Egypt.

**WRITTEN:** The Book of Jeremiah was written over a period of more than forty years. No chronological order or logical arrangement can be given to the prophecy.

It was written to announce to Judah that Babylon would be victorious over her, but that, if Judah would turn from her wickedness, somehow, God would save her from her destruction by the hands of Babylon.

**THE BOOK:**

NO. IN BIBLE:	24th Book
NO. OF CHAPTERS:	52
NO. OF VERSES:	1,364
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING:	Second Book of Prophecy

**PURPOSE:** Jeremiah spells out a clear account of captivity that would follow Judah's backsliding and rebellion, and then, the judgments that would come upon the nations for their oppression of Judah.

**DIVISIONS:**

1. The Introduction (ch. 1)
2. Complaints Against the Jews (ch. 2-20)
3. Prophecies Against Individuals (ch. 21-29)
4. Restoration of Israel (ch. 30-33)
5. Historical Narrative (ch. 34-35)
6. Judgments of Nations (ch. 36-49)
7. Doom of Babylon (ch. 50-51)
8. Historical Review (ch. 52)

**FACTS:**

- (Dr. Alexander Whyte) "This book stands to this day second only to the Psalms as the most spiritual Book in the Old Testament."
- (Dr. W.W. White) "Jeremiah was the healthiest, youngest, bravest, grandest man of the Old Testament history."
- Backsliding occurs thirteen times, but Jeremiah's harsh message of judgment delivered with tears never won a convert. His message was unwelcome and totally rejected.
- Jeremiah used many symbols given him by Jehovah in teaching the people. On one occasion he wore a rotten girdle, and another time he put a yoke on his neck like an oxen. Another time, he broke a bottle in the presence of a ruler. He bought a field and buried the deed.
- Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin and Zedekiah.

**OUTLINE:**

- I. THE MANDATE OF THE PROPHET (ch. 1)
  1. Time of Mandate (1:1-3)
  2. Terms of Mandate (1:4-19)
- II. THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHET (2:51)
  1. To the Nation of Judah (2:45)
    - a. During the days of incomplete revival (2:12)

## JEREMIAH, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### b. During the days of increasing rejection (ch. 13-45)

##### 1) By signs

- a.) of linen girdle (13:1-27)
- b.) of drought (14:1-15:21)
- c.) of the potter's house (18:1-19:13)
- d.) of unmarried prophet (16:1-17:18)
- e.) of the figs (24:1-10)
- f.) of the yokes (27:1-28:17)
- g.) of the field of Hanameel (32:6-44)
- h.) of the Rechabites (35:1-19)
- i.) of the hidden stones in Egypt (40:8-13)

##### 2) By sufferings

- a.) Jeremiah in the stocks (19:14-20:18)
- b.) dangers – the murder of Urijah (26:20-24)
- c.) Jeremiah in prison (32:1-5)
- d.) Jeremiah's prophecy destroyed by Jehoiakim (36:1-32)
- e.) Jeremiah imprisoned by Zedekiah (37:1-39:18)
- f.) Jeremiah forcibly carried to Egypt (43:1-7)

##### 3) By sermons

- a.) messages concerning the Sabbath (17:19-27)
- b.) message to Zedekiah regarding Babylon (21:1-22:30)
- c.) restoration promised (23:1-40)
- d.) prophecy of the seventy-year captivity (25:1-38)
- e.) message to Jehoiakim (26:1-19)
- f.) message to the Jews of the first captivity (29:1-32)
- g.) message regarding the time of Jacob's trouble (30:1-24)
- h.) message of the last days (31:1-40)
- i.) message on the millennium (33:1-26)
- j.) message to Zedekiah concerning his captivity (34:1-22)
- k.) message to the poor remnant of the land (40:1-42:22)
- l.) messages in Egypt (43:8-44:30)
- m.) message to Baruch in the days of Jehoiakim (45:1-5)

#### III. THE MISERY OF THE PROPHET (ch. 52)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### RULERS THAT JEREMIAH MINISTERED UNDER...

JOSIAH	Judah's last godly king
JEHOIAKIM	Ungodly Bible-burning king
JEHOIACHIN	A ninety-day wonder judged by God
ZEDEKIAH	Judah's final king
NEBUCHADNEZZAR	Great Babylonian conquerer
GEDALIAH	Babylonian-appointed governor of the occupied city of Jerusalem
JOHANAN	Successor of Gedaliah

## JEREMIAH, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

### NATIONS THAT JEREMIAH PROPHESED AGAINST...

EGYPT	To be defeated by Nebuchadnezzar (46:1-27)
PHILISTIA	To be overrun and destroyed by Egyptians (47:1-6)
MOAB	To be conquered by Babylon (48:1-47)
AMMON	To be destroyed by sinning against Israel and re-established during the Millennium (49:1-6)
EDOM	To become a Sodom and Gemorrah (49:7-22)
DAMASCUS	To be destroyed in a single day (49:23-27)
KEDAR AND HAZOR	To be destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar and re-established in the millennium (49:34-39)
BABYLON	There are two Babylons. The historical Babylon and the future Babylon.

The historical Babylon: Captured by Darius, the Persian, in 539 B.C.

The future Babylon: To be destroyed by God the Father during the Tribulation. (Revelation 18:18)

See Chapter 50:1-51:56

### JEREMIAH ACTUALLY GIVES EIGHTEEN PROPHECIES...

1. Fall of Jerusalem
2. Destruction of the Temple
3. Death of King Jehoahaz
4. Death of King Jehoiakim
5. Cutting off of the royal line of King Jehoiachin
6. Death of two false prophets and the punishment of another living in Babylon.
7. Death of false Jerusalem prophet
8. Capture and exile of a friend named Seraiah
9. Failure of the Egyptian-Judean military alliance against Babylon.
10. Defeat of Egypt by Babylon at Carchemish
11. Babylonian occupation of Egypt
12. Seventy year captivity of Judah in Babylon
13. The restoration of Jerusalem after seventy years
14. The defeat of Babylon after seventy years
15. The capture of Zedekiah
16. Kindly treatment of godly exiles in Babylon
17. Final regathering of the people of Israel
18. Final rebuilding of the land of Israel



## LAMENTATIONS

### “THE WAILING WALL OF THE BIBLE”

**KEY VERSE:** LAMENTATIONS 1:1,3

1. “How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary!

3. Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest: all her persecutors overtook her between the straits.”

**THEME:** Jeremiah’s sorrow over the terrible destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians and the suffering and sorrow that fell on her people.

**DATE:** David’s glorious kingdom was established about 1000 B.C. God’s blessings prevailed for nearly four hundred years. The Assyrians had carried away the Northern Kingdom in 721 B.C. Jerusalem was spared 115 more years before the people’s sin provoked God to release judgment upon them, through the nation of Babylon, under the direction and leadership of King Nebuchadnezzar.

**WRITER:** JEREMIAH

The Book of Jeremiah gives us more details of his life, method, and work as an Old Testament prophet than of any other prophet.

- He was born a priest, but he became a prophet by the divine call of God.
- He was called to the prophetic office through a vision. (Jeremiah 1:1)
- He is presented as one of the grandest men of the Old Testament history.
- He is referred to as “the son of Hilkiah” to distinguish him from others by that same name and to prove his priestly origin.
- He was called before his birth. (Jeremiah 1:5)
- He was consecrated to God.
- He was distinguished by his humility and modesty.
- He labored for more than forty years.
- Jeremiah sang his song in the minor key.
- He wished that his head was “waters” and his eyes “a fountain of tears.”

Seven other Jeremiahs are listed in the Bible and are to be distinguished from this great prophet of God.

**WRITTEN:** The Book of Lamentations is written in five different poetic sections, all of them lamenting the tragic destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians.

- The first, second, and fourth poems (ch. 1,2 and 4), are twenty-two verses each, corresponding to the letters of the Hebrew alphabet.
- The third, or center poem (ch. 3), is built on the same principle, except that each letter of the alphabet is repeated three times, totalling sixty-six verses.

## LAMENTATIONS, continued

### WRITTEN, continued:

- The fifth poem (ch. 5), drops the acrostic use of the alphabet. This particular section has to do with the fall of Jerusalem and the terrible sufferings connected with here overthrow.

Dr. J. Vernon McGee writes...

“The book is filled with tears and sorrow. It is a paean of pain, a poem of pity, a proverb of pathos, a hymn of heartbreak, a psalm of sadness, a symphony of sorrow. It is the Wiling Wall of the Bible.”

THE BOOK:	NO. IN BIBLE:	25th Book
	NO. OF CHAPTERS:	5
	NO. OF VERSES:	154
	NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING:	Third Book of Prophecy

**PURPOSE:** To unveil the great, loving heart of Jehovah. He chastens them, yet He loves them. God's sorrow and love are demonstrated through the heart expressions of Jeremiah. The feelings, deep emotions of sorrow, and humiliation expressed by the mouthpiece of Jehovah, Jeremiah, were produced by the Spirit of Christ in the heart of the prophet.

**DIVISIONS:** CHAPTER ONE  
Jerusalem's Great Desolation and the Sorrow of His People  
CHAPTER TWO  
What the Lord Has Done  
CHAPTER THREE  
The Prophet's Suffering and Distress  
CHAPTER FOUR  
The Departed Glory and the Cup Of Shame  
CHAPTER FIVE  
The Prayer of Hope

**FACTS:**

- We see a picture of the Lord Jesus in the suffering of Jeremiah.
- The people who rejected and persecuted the prophet portray the religious leaders of Israel who rejected their Messiah.
- The Name “Lord” used in Lamentations, is the Name “Jehovah.” This Name designates the covenant-keeping God, the God of redemption, and therefore is a reflection of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- In Halley's Handbook, Lamentations is referred to as a “funeral dirge over the desolation of Jerusalem.”
- The last chapter of Jeremiah, about the burning of Jerusalem and the beginning of the Babylonian exile, should be read as an introduction to the Book of Lamentations.
- The Book of Lamentations, to this day, throughout the world wherever there are Jews, is read in the synagogues on the ninth day of the fourth month (Jeremiah 52:6) in remembrance of the destruction of Jerusalem.
- Someone has said, “This hymn of sorrow is written...every ‘letter with a tear... every word with the sound of a broken heart’.”

## LAMENTATIONS, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- The place where Jeremiah wept his bitter tears outside the city of Jerusalem is the very place where the cross on which Christ was crucified stood six hundred years later.

### OUTLINE:

#### I. PROVOKING GOD (ch. 1)

- A. In this chapter we see the horrors of the siege of Jerusalem, the desolate ruins, all due to Zion's sin.
- B. Jeremiah is stunned, dazed, heartbroken, and weeps with grief inconsolable.
- C. One of the points of special emphasis, in this chapter, is that the people brought catastrophe upon themselves by their sins.

#### II. PUNISHMENT FROM GOD (ch. 2)

- A. He had destroyed every home (2:2)
- B. Every fortress and wall was broken (2:2)
- C. He bent His bow of judgment across the land (2:4)
- D. He allowed His own temple to fall, as though it was a booth of leaves and branches in a garden. (2:6)
- E. Judah's enemies were given full freedom to ridicule and destroy her citizens (2:16)
- F. Her people, young and old alike, filled the streets with lifeless bodies. (2:21)

#### III. PROPHET OF GOD (ch. 3)

##### A. The Affliction of the Prophet

Jeremiah shares the agony of his soul with us as he speaks...

1. "Thou hast covered thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through." (3:44)
2. "Mine eye runneth down with rivers of water" (3:48)
3. "Mine eyes trickleth down, and ceaseth not, without any intermission." [in chapter 1] (3:49)
4. "Mine eyes do fail with tears, my bowels are troubled, my liver is poured upon the earth." (1:12)
5. "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?" (1:12)

##### B. The Assurance of the Prophet

In the midst of the terrible storm, there was a ray of sunshine and reassurance. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not." (3:22)

##### C. The Advice of the Prophet

"Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord. Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens." (3:40,41)

#### IV. PEOPLE OF GOD (ch. 4)

- A. The children's tongues stuck to the rooves of their mouths for thirst (4:4)
- B. The youth of Judah were treated as earthenware pots. (4:2)
- C. The rich and pampered were in the streets begging bread. (4:5)
- D. Mighty princes, once lean and tanned, were now skin and bones. (4:7,8)
- E. Tender-hearted women had cooked and eaten their own children. (4:10)
- F. False prophets and priests blindly staggered through the streets. (4:14)
- G. King Zedekian had been captured, blinded, and carried into captivity. (4:20)

## LAMENTATIONS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### V. PRAYER TO GOD (ch. 5)

- A. It was a Prayer of Remembrance (5:1)
- B. It was a Prayer of Repentance (5:16)
- C. It was a Prayer of Recognition (5:19)
- D. It was a Prayer of Renewal (5:21)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### ANALYSIS OF THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS (Dr. R.G. Lee)

THE FIRST POEM Chapter One	The city represented as a weeping widow mourning in solitude.
THE SECOND POEM Chapter Two	The city represented as a veiled woman mourning against ruins.
THE THIRD POEM Chapter Three	The city represented as the weeping prophet mourning before Jehovah the Judge.
THE FOURTH POEM Chapter Four	The city represented as gold-dimmed, changed, and degraded.
THE FIFTH POEM Chapter Five	The city represented as a repentant, begging sinner pleading with the Lord.

Dr. Henrietta Mears points out that Lamentations is not all sorrow. Above the clouds of the poet's weeping over sins of his people, God's sun is shining. (3:22-27)

Here the light breaks through to show a shining rainbow across the murky sky. God's sunshine of grace is always shining above the clouds of sin.

This Book indicates that God will give beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. (Isaiah 61:3)

## EZEKIEL

### “THE UNFOLDING OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD IN HISTORY”

**KEY VERSE:** EZEKIEL 1:1b,3

1b “...as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

3 “The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.”

**THEME:** Ezekiel’s message was a reminder of the awfulness of Israel’s sin and a summons for her to repent.

He reminded Israel that Almighty God never changes. He is gloriously holy, just, and loyal to His covenants, and completely loving toward His erring people.

His message was intended, not only as a stern rebuke, but also, as a source of encouragement to the nation.

He, like Jeremiah, shared with them that a God of judgment who was forcing them to pay for their iniquities would also deal with them in grace and restore them to the heights of glory in the days to come.

**DATE:** The events of the Book of Ezekiel cover twenty-one years, from 595 B.C. to 574 B.C.

**WRITER:** EZEKIEL

- The Book is named after its author, Ezekiel, who was a priest and major prophet.
- He was carried captive to Babylon in 597 B.C., about eleven years before the destruction of Jerusalem.
- He lived at the time of Jeremiah and was a disciple of the latter while in Jerusalem.
- He received his call at the age of thirty and prophesied twenty-two years.
- He was a man of moral earnestness and deep personal humility.
- He was conspicuous for his faith to God in the trying time of the exile.
- His name (Ezekiel) means, “God shall strengthen,” or “strength of God.”
- He was married (24:18) and had his own house (8:1).
- His wife died suddenly (24:18)
- He was held in high esteem by Judah’s elders, who consulted him frequently (8:1; 11:25).

**WRITTEN:** The Book of Ezekiel Is Given In Three Clear Divisions...

1. To the exiles before the final fall and siege of Jerusalem.
2. To the seven Gentile nations.
3. To the exiles after the final fall and siege of Jerusalem – to comfort the people with reports of glory and deliverance to come in the future

<b>THE BOOK:</b>	<b>NO. IN BIBLE:</b>	26th Book
	<b>NO. OF CHAPTERS:</b>	48
	<b>NO. OF VERSES:</b>	1,273
	<b>NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING:</b>	Fourth Book of Prophecy

## EZEKIEL, continued

- PURPOSE:** There Is a Four-Fold Purpose of the Book of Ezekiel...
1. To dispel foolish hopes of speedy deliverance from the yoke of Babylon.
  2. To expose the backsliding of Judah.
  3. To call the Jews to individual repentance.
  4. To call out a new Israel which would inherit the promises.
- DIVISIONS:**
- I. Prophecies BEFORE the Siege of Jerusalem. (ch. 1-24)
  - II. Prophecies DURING the Siege of Jerusalem. (ch. 25-32)
  - III. Prophecies AFTER the Siege of Jerusalem. (ch. 33-48)
- FACTS:**
- The river, Chebar, was a ship channel, or canal.
  - Ezekiel's preaching was to the exiles in Babylon.
  - The generation born during the period of the captivity had trouble getting the message from god.
  - There are thirteen visions in the Book.
  - Seventy times we read, "They shall know that I am God."
  - Seven times we read, "The hand of the Lord was upon me."
  - The messages in the Book seem to have been dramatized to make impression on the minds of the children. They, of course, would be the ones going back to Jerusalem after the captivity.
- OUTLINE:**
- I. THE FALL OF JUDAH (ch. 1-24)  
Prophecies Before the Siege of Jerusalem
    1. Judgment Decided (ch. 1-3)
    2. Judgment Demonstrated (ch. 4-5)
    3. Judgment Declared (ch. 6-7)
    4. Judgment Demanded (ch. 8-11)
    5. Judgment Decreed (ch. 12-19)
    6. Judgment Deserved (ch. 20-24)
  - II. THE FOES OF JUDAH (ch. 25-32)  
Prophecies During the Siege of Jerusalem
    1. Ammon (25:1-7)
    2. Moab (25:8-11)
    3. Edom (25:12-14)
    4. Philistia (25:15-17)
    5. Tyre (26:1-28:19)
    6. Sidon (28:20-26)
    7. Egypt (ch 29-31)
  - III. THE FUTURE OF JUDAH (ch. 33-36)  
Prophecies After the Siege of Jerusalem
    1. Nation's Troubles Removed (ch. 33-36)
    2. Nation's Tribes Regathered (ch. 37-38)
    3. Nation's Temple Rebuilt (ch. 40-47)
    4. Nation's Title Restored (ch. 48)

## EZEKIEL, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### COMPARISON OF EZEKIEL TO OTHER OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS...

- |             |           |                 |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1. ISAIAH   | speaks of | GOD'S SALVATION |
| 2. JEREMIAH | speaks of | GOD'S JUDGMENT  |
| 3. DANIEL   | speaks of | GOD'S KINGDOM   |
| 4. EZEKIEL  | speaks of | GOD'S GLORY     |

#### EZEKIEL'S TWELVE SYMBOLIC ACTS...

1. Drawing a Map of Jerusalem (4:1-3)
2. Laying On His Left Side For a Portion of Three (4:4,5)
3. Laying On His Right Side For a Portion of Forty Days (4:6)
4. Preparing a Scant Meal (4:9-17)
5. Shaving His Head and Beard (5:1-4)
6. Stamping His Feet and Clapping His Hands (6:11)
7. Digging Through a Wall (12:1-16)
8. Trembling As He Ate His Food (12:7-20)
9. Slashing About With a Sword (21:9-17)
10. Drawing a Map of the Middle East (21:18)
11. Boiling a Pot of Water Dry (24:1-24)
12. Remaining Tear less At the Death of His Wife (24:15-18)

#### SIX PARABLES OF EZEKIEL...

1. A Fruitless Vine Tree (15:1-8)
2. The Adopted Girl Who Becomes a Harlot (16:1-63)
3. The Two Eagles (17:1-21)
4. The Tender Twig (17:22-24)
5. The Mother Lioness and Her Cubs (19:1-9)
6. The Two Harlot Sisters (23:1-49)

#### EZEKIEL'S ACCOUNT OF THE INVASION OF ISRAEL BY RUSSIA (ch. 38-39)

1. The Identity of the Invaders  
There is geographical, historical and linguistic proof that Ezekiel is speaking about Russia.
2. The Allies In the Invasion

Persia	(Modern Iran)
Ethiopia	(South African Nations)
Libya	(North African Nations)
Gomer	(Eastern European Nations)
Togarmah	(Turkey)
3. Reasons For the Invasion  
To cash in on the riches of Israel (38:11-12)  
To challenge the authority of the Antichrist (11:40-44)
4. The Results of the Invasion  
Russia finally totally defeated by God (38:21-23)
5. The Russian Troops Destroyed On the Mountains of Israel (39:2)  
Seven years to be spent burying the war weapons (38:9)  
Seven months to be spent burying the dead (38:12)

## DANIEL

### “THE REVELATION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT”

**KEY VERSE:** DANIEL 2:20, 21

20. “Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

21. And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:”

**THEME:** The theme of Daniel is built around the man.

“Man greatly beloved...”

Three times Daniel is spoken of by these terms (9:23; 10:11; 10:19)

The touch of God upon his life made it so. God touched him to...

1. Make him see (8:18,19)
2. Give him skill (9:21,22)
3. Make him stand (10:10,11)
4. Make him speak (10:16)
5. Make him strong (10:18)

**DATE:** 605-536 B.C.

Daniel was a teenager when taken into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar during the first siege of Jerusalem in 605 B.C.

He was an old man in his late eighties by the time the captivity was over and the events had all been recorded.

**WRITER:** DANIEL

- Daniel was well-equipped to write the Book, having been a statesman who held high office under three successive kings (Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar and Darius).
- He dad lived through the whole seventy years of captivity and saw the return under King Cyrus, as recorded in the Book of Ezra.
- He was of royal blood and from a high-ranking family. (See Daniel 1:3)
- He was handsome, cultured and intelligent. (See Daniel 1:4)
- Our attention is called to his purity (1:8), his consecration (9:3,4), his wisdom (1:4,17,20), his courage (5:17; 6:10), his humility (2:30; 9:5-8), his unselfishness (2:49) and his love (1:9; 10:11,19).

**WRITTEN:** Daniel is written in two sections...

HISTORY (ch. 1-6)

PROPHECY (Visions and Interpretations) (ch. 7-12)

Dr. W.S. Criswell said,

“You would think that Daniel was writing the headline for tomorrow’s newspaper.”

Daniel is to the Old Testament what Revelation is to the New Testament.



## DANIEL, continued

### WRITTEN, continued:

The unusual feature of Daniel is that the central portion (2:4 through 7:28) is written in the Aramaic language.

Daniel bookmarks the third of five great periods of miracles in the Bible.

The periods are...

1. The time of Moses and Joshua
2. The time of Elijah and Elisha
3. The time of Daniel
4. The time of Christ and His Disciples
5. The time of Peter and Paul

THE BOOK:	NO. IN BIBLE:	26th Book
	NO. OF CHAPTERS:	12
	NO. OF VERSES:	357
	NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING:	Fifth Book of Prophecy

**PURPOSE:** To reveal that God controls, not only in the lives of Hebrew captives, but also the mighty empires of the earth.

God called Daniel to expose the gods of the heathens as powerless, lifeless idols and to prove the reality and supremacy of the one, true God of heaven and earth.

**DIVISIONS:** HISTORICAL SECTION (ch. 1-6)  
Times of Testing (ch. 1-3)  
Times of Triumph (ch. 4-6)  
PROPHETIC SECTION (ch. 7-12)  
Controlling the Future (ch. 7-10)  
The Course and Climax of the Future (ch. 11-12)

**FACTS:**

- Assyria had defeated the Northern Kingdom (ten tribes).
- Judah had lost much of her power (two tribes).
- The Syrian kingdom had been conquered by Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon).
- Nebuchadnezzar invaded Judah and defeated her (606-586 B.C.).
- Nebuchadnezzar had carried approximately 10,000 chief men to Babylon.
- Daniel, the Hebrew Children, Ezra, Ezekiel and others were in the wave of captives.
- The captivity lasted seventy years.
- Daniel had been captured when he was sixteen (in the first invasion). Ezekiel was captured eight years later.

### ATTACK ON THE BOOK

1. None of the sixty-six Books have suffered as much attack as Daniel.
2. Sixteen countries of enemies have viciously and violently attacked this Book.
3. The liberal world rejects it as forgery and fraud.

## DANIEL, continued

### FACTS, continued:

4. The attack has been given in four areas:
  - a. HISTORICAL  
Its enemies claim inaccuracy and historical error.
  - b. PHILOSOPHICAL  
They claim there are linguistic irreconcilables.
  - c. PROPHETICAL  
They say it is prophetically impossible.
  - d. DOCTRINAL  
They claim there are doctrinal mistakes.
5. Its critics object to Daniel's word about the resurrection and angels. Their real objection, of course, is supernatural.

- OUTLINE:
- I. CARRIED INTO BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY
  - II. NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM
  - III. THE FIERY FURNACE INCIDENT
  - IV. THE THREE VISION
  - V. THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL
  - VI. THE LIONS' DEN
  - VII. THE VISION OF FOUR BEASTS
  - VIII. THE RAM AND HE-GOAT VISION
  - IX. THE SEVENTY WEEKS OF DANIEL
  - X. THE SKY FULL OF DEMONS
  - XI. LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE
  - XII. TROUBLE BREWING TOWARD THE END

### MISCELLANEOUS: THE IMAGE OF CHAPTER TWO

Head of Gold	Babylon	606-539 B.C.
Chest and Arms of Silver	Persia	539-331 B.C.
Stomach and Thighs of Brass	Greece	331-323 B.C.
Legs and Feet of Iron and Clay	Rome	322 B.C.-476 A.D.

### CONTRASTING THE GODLESS KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

"And four great beasts came up from the sea..." (7:3)

"...Behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds..." (7:13)

BABYLON	pictured by a	LION	= NEBUCHADNEZZAR
PERSIA	pictured by a	BEAR	= CYRUS
GREECE	pictured by a	LEOPARD	= ALEXANDER THE GREAT
ROME	pictured by a	ONE-HORNED MONSTER WITH TERRIBLE TEETH	= ROMAN CEASARS AND THE PROPHETICAL ANTI-CHRIST
EVERLASTING KINGDOM	pictured by	SON OF MAN	= LORD JESUS CHRIST

## DANIEL, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

MUCH INFORMATION IS GIVEN ON THE TRIBULATION PERIOD IN DANIEL CHAPTER TWELVE

“...A time of trouble, such as never was...” Daniel 12:1

1. HELPER IN THE TRIBULATION

Michael the Archangel (12:1)

2. LENGTH OF THE TRIBULATION

Three and one-half years

(See 12:7 – 1,260 days; 12:11 – 1,290 days; 12:12 – 1,335 days)

3. INTEREST CONCERNING THE TRIBULATION

Both Angels and Old Testament Prophets (12:5-8)

4. SALVATION DURING THE TRIBULATION (12:1,10)

5. SIGNS PRECEDING THE TRIBULATION

Increase in Speed and Increase in Knowledge (12:4)

6. THE RESURRECTIONS FOLLOWING THE TRIBULATION (12:2,3)

## HOSEA

### “THE STRANGEST BOOK OF THE BIBLE”

**KEY VERSE:** HOSEA 6:1,2

1. “Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.
- 2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.”

**THEME:** The Book of Hosea is the story of a broken home and a broken heart.

The theme may be divided into at least four parts:

1. The Limitless Love of God For His Erring People
2. The Incurable Rebellion of Israel
3. The Enforced Chastisement of Israel
4. The Ultimate Restoration of Israel

**DATE:** The Book was written about 725 B.C. and covers a period of sixty years (from 785 B.C. to 725 B.C.).

Isaiah and Micah were prophesying in Judah.  
Hosea and Amos were prophesying in Israel.

**WRITER:** HOSEA, the prophet of the Northern Kingdom.

- His name means “The Lord is my help.”
- Hosea was the son of Beeri.
- He was a man of sensitivity and nobility of soul.
- He was a man faithful to God at any price.
- He was willing, for the sake of his message, to endure intense personal anguish of soul.
- He loved his God and his nation without reservation.

Hosea is written from a very strange standpoint. He is called upon by God to give a biographical sketch of his own life and experiences.

There were several reasons for this:

#### 1. THE EXPERIMENTAL REASON

By marrying an unfaithful woman, it would be possible for Hosea to understand, better than anyone, the anguish in God’s heart over the unfaithfulness of the Northern Kingdom and its people, who were continually committing spiritual fornication and adultery against Jehovah.

There are several places in the Bible where God compares His relationship to that of a marriage. (Isaiah 62:5; Hosea 2:19; Jeremiah 3:14)

#### 2. THE ILLUSTRATIVE REASON

His own marriage would become a walking and visible example of his message to Israel.

## HOSEA, continued

### WRITER, continued:

#### 3. THE PROPHETICAL REASON

God would command him to name his children by those titles which would describe the future punishment and eventual restoration of all Israel.

THE BOOK:	NO. IN BIBLE:	28th Book
	NO. OF CHAPTERS:	14
	NO. OF VERSES:	197
	NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING:	First Book of Minor Prophecy

PURPOSE: To help reveal God's yearning love for His unfaithful people, Israel.

The Spirit of the Lord helps us understand that broken laws also break God's heart. As one author suggested, "Hosea illustrates the love that many waters cannot quench."

DIVISIONS: I. PERSONAL SELECTION (ch. 1-3)

- A. Sign of Names of Children (1:1-2:1)
- B. Sin of Gomer (2:2-23)
- C. Sympathy and Understanding of Hosea (3:1-5)

II. POLITICAL AND PROPHETICAL SECTION (ch. 4-14)

- A. Israel's Intolerable Sin (ch. 4-7)
- B. Israel's Impending Judgment (ch. 8-10)
- C. Israel's Inevitable Restoration (ch. 11-14)

### FACTS:

- It was a time of great prosperity. Military victories in the past had enlarged the land. Trade was flourishing. Several forms of religion were observed. At the same time, the nation was decaying. The people were discontent. There was oppression from corrupt rulers. Baal worship, with its wicked ceremonies, was eating out purity and uprightness of the nation. It is said of all the kings of Israel during this time that "they did evil in the sight of the Lord."
- Assyria was about to crush Israel. Hosea was pleading with them to return unto God and ask for help. This, of course, they refused to do, so God left them to their own fate.
- Hosea is quoted more times in the New Testament (in relation to it's side) than any other Old Testament Book.
- The word "return" occurs fifteen times in the Book of Hosea.
- Hosea refers to Israel continually as Ephraim. Ephraim was the first of the twelve tribes of Israel to backslide.
- Hosea predicted the Syrian invasion, and he lived to see the prophecy fulfilled in 721 B.C.
- He probably ministered longer than any other prophet.
- Someone has referred to this Book as "a grieving husband and a grievous wife."
- Hosea has been called "the Jeremiah of the Northern Kingdom."
- Hosea's contemporary prophets were Amos, Isaiah and Micah.
- His message was characterized by the lightening bolt statement of Hosea 13:6, "*Sama ria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God...*"
- Hosea prophesied in the days of King Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah and Jereboam II.

## HOSEA, continued

- OUTLINE:
- I. TRAGEDY IN HOSEA'S HOME LIFE (ch. 1-3)
    - A. Signs Reflected in the Children (ch. 1)
    - B. Sins Reflected in the Wife (ch. 2)
    - C. Salvation Reflected in the Husband (ch. 3)
  - II. TRAGEDY IN HOSEA'S HOMELAND (ch 4-14)
    - A. The Polluted People (ch. 4-7)
    - B. The Punished People (ch. 8-10)
    - C. The Pardoned People (ch. 11-14)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### BREAKDOWN OF THE BOOK OF HOSEA

1. The Illustrative Marriage of Hosea (1:1-11)
2. The Shame of Israel (2:1-13)
3. The Restoration of Israel (2:14-3:5)
4. The controversy of the Lord (4:1-6:3)
5. The Chastisement of Israel (6:4-8:14)
6. The Days of Visitation (9:1-17)
7. The Prospect of Chaos (10:1-15)
8. The Backsliding of the Nation (11:1-12)
9. The Spurned Loving-Kindness of God (12:1-13:8)
10. The Depth of Divine Love (13:9-14:9)

#### DESCRIPTION OF ISRAEL IN HOSEA

Israel is called a...

1. "Backward Heifer" (4:16)
2. "Morning Cloud" (6:4)
3. "Heated Oven" (7:4)
4. "Cake Not Turned" (7:8)
5. "Silly Dove" (7:11)
6. "Deceitful Bow" (7:16)

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF NAMES OF HOSEA'S CHILDREN

1. JEZREEL (Son: 1:4)

The first little boy's name means "TO BE SCATTERED," primarily predicting the Syrian invasion and the scattering of the Jews throughout the Babylonian Empire.

2. LO-RUHAMA (Daughter: 1:6)

This name means "NO MORE MERCY." This indicated that God's judgment was just around the corner.

3. LO-AMMI (Son: 1:9)

This name means "NOT MY PEOPLE," indicating that the Lord would disown and no longer be their God.

#### PRACTICAL TEACHING OF HOSEA

1. Worldliness in the lives of God's people is the same as the "harlotry" (1:2) and "spiritual adultery" (James 4:4).

## HOSEA, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

2. God's Word is always revealing. Hosea's constant plea was, "*Hear the Word of the Lord.*"
3. Israel's failure is a picture of the failure of the local church because of sin. The church is espoused to God. She is to keep herself only unto Him.
4. The Heart cry of God for backsliders and spiritual adulterers is expressed in the words, "*How shall I give thee up, Ephriam?*" (Hosea 11:8).
5. The final view of God's mercy to the repentant and returning one is found in His promise, "*I will be as the dew unto Israel...*" (Hosea 14:5).

## JOEL

### “THE DAY OF THE LORD”

- KEY VERSE:** JOEL 2:28  
“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:”
- THEME:** A terrible plague of locusts swarmed over the land of Israel. Using the situation as an object lesson, Joel predicts future judgment and future restoration of the nation of Israel.
- DATE:** Joel wrote the Book early in the eighth century B.C., somewhere between the dates of 860 B.C. and 835 B.C.
- WRITER:** JOEL  
Joel is called, “The son of Pethuel.” Beyond this bare statement, little is known about Joel.  
Some think he might have been a priest because of his repeated reference to the priest hood of his day (1:9,13; 2:17)  
The name, Joel, means “Jehovah is God.”  
We believe Joel lived in Jerusalem.
- WRITTEN:** Joel, next to Obadiah, is probably the most ancient prophet.  
There is no mention of Assyria, Syria or Babylon.  
There is mention of ancient Tyre, Zidon, Philistia, Edom and Egypt (3:4,19)  
We believe Joel prophesied during the reign of the boy king, Joash. Elijah and Elisha were preaching in the north to the ten tribes, while Joel prophesied to the two tribes in Judah.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 29th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 3  
NO. OF VERSES: 73  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Second Book of Minor Prophecy
- PURPOSE:** To show that locusts swarming into the land were figurative of the nations who would swarm upon Israel, but if the people would repent, then God would deliver them and pour out His Spirit upon them.
- DIVISIONS:** 1. PRESENT FAMINE (1:1-20)  
2. PREDICTED FOES (2:1-11)  
3. PROMISED FORGIVENESS (2:12-27)  
4. PROPHETIC FOCUS (2:28-3:12)



## JOEL, continued

- FACTS:**
- We believe the little boy, Joash, was king at the time Joel was written.
  - The country was governed by his advisor, Jehoida, the high priest.
  - The queen mother, Athaliah, had killed all of the grandchildren that were heir to the throne, except Joash, who had been hidden away in the Temple.
  - Joel is sometimes called “the prophet of Pentecost.”

### JOEL IS THE STORY OF WASTED YEARS

- Israel had gotten careless and loose. (1:5)
- The tragedy had set in upon them. (1:6)
- Israel was like a virgin bride whose new husband had died. (1:8)
- The People had stopped bringing offerings to the Temple. (1:9)
- The priests were at their wits' end. (1:9)
- The fields were dry and barren. (1:10)
- The corn shriveled and was empty. (1:10)
- The grapes were wrinkled and like raisins. (1:10)
- Wheat and barley were gone. (1:11)
- The fruit was withered (1:12)
- There was no hope, but God. (1:12)
- The oxen, sheep, goats and cattle were desolate. (1:18)
- The water all dried up. (1:20)

- OUTLINE:**
- I. THE AUTHOR (1:1)
  - II. THE SWARM OF LOCUSTS (1:2-20)
  - III. THE CLASHING ARMIES AT ARMAGEDDON (2:1-11)
  - IV. THE CALL TO REPENTANCE (2:12-17)
  - V. THE ASSURANCE OF THE LORD (2:18-29)
  - VI. THE HAPPENINGS PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE LORD (2:30-32)
  - VII. THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL (3:1)
  - VIII. THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS (3:2-14)
  - IX. THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN JERUSALEM (3:15-17)
  - X. THE ETERNAL HAPPINESS OF JUDAH (3:18-21)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Even though the Book of Joel is short, it is neglected.
- It is one of the most stirring of all prophetic writings.
- It is a survey of the history of Israel from the time of its writing to the Second Coming of Christ in power and great glory.
- The Book of Joel illustrates how God makes the future known to man.
- It illustrates the way all Biblical truth is revealed.
- Joel unfold and develops a new concept, the Day of the Lord, as do the prophets that follow him.
- The land of Palestine had been a beautiful place dotted with fig and olive trees. The slopes were covered with beautiful vineyards, and the valleys were filled with corn.
- Palestine had been described as “...a land flowing with milk and honey.” Then, the locust came.

## JOEL, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

- There had been four plagues...palmer worms, locusts, canker worms and caterpillars.

Some Hebrew scholars maintain that four stages of the development of the locusts are described here.

- The first column destroyed every leaf and blade of grass.
- The second wave devoured the bark from the trees.
- The noise of their wings was heard for miles and the land looked as though it had been swept by fire.
- The prophet revealed that this was chastening upon the people because of sin.
- The Locusts symbolized the invasion of Assyria.

JOEL CHAPTER THREE GIVES THE ORDER OF THE EVENTS IN THE "DAY OF THE LORD."

1. The Regathering of Judah to Jerusalem (Zechariah 10:6)
2. The Gathering of the Gentile Powers Against Jerusalem (3:3,9-15; Revelation 17:12-15; 19:17-19)
3. Great Controversy With the Gentile Power Over Their Treatment of God's People (3:2-8; Deuteronomy 30:5-7; Matthew 25:31-45)
4. The Deliverer Who Came Out of Zion (3:15,16; Joel 2:32)
5. The Millennial Blessing of Israel With Jehovah Dwelling Inside (3:17-21)

## AMOS

## “THE GATHERER OF SYCAMORE FRUIT”

**KEY VERSE:** AMOS 4:12

“Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.”

**THEME:** JUDGMENT

His pronouncement of judgment fell upon those who were dishonest in commerce, oppressed the poor, indulged selfishly and worshipped idols.

This judgment, Amos predicted, would result in the captivity of Israel and the rejection by God of His chosen people.

**DATE:** About 760 B.C. (About thirty years before the fall of Israel).

Amos also gave his prophecy about two years before the great earthquake (1:1) This was during the reign of Uzziah, King of Judah (787-735 B.C.) and Jereboam II, King of Israel (790-749 B.C.).

**WRITER:** AMOS

- Amos means “burden.”
- He was from the little town of Tekoa, five miles from Bethlehem, in Judea, and only twelve miles south of Jerusalem.
- Amos was a herdsman (1:1; 7:14,15) and a gatherer of sycamore fruit (7:14).
- He did not graduate from the school of prophets, but he was called by God to become a layman evangelist.
- He was sent to the Northern Kingdom in Samaria, at the city of Bethel, where the golden calf had been set up by Jeroboam I. There he prophesied at the main sanctuary at Bethel (7:10).

**WRITTEN:** The Book was written during the time of great prosperity in Israel, which had resulted in great evil.

- The rich lived in luxury, drank and feasted to excess amid delicate perfumes and soft strains of varied music. (6:4-6)
- All of this was obtained through violence and robbery. (3:10)
- The poor and needy were sold as slaves, and the false weights and measures were used. (2:6)
- The judges were corrupt. (5:7)
- To be upright was to be unpopular and to be hated. (5:10)

During these days Amos thundered away on the subjects of sin, separation and sanctification. His message was not well-accepted.

<b>THE BOOK:</b>	NO. IN BIBLE:	30th Book
	NO. OF CHAPTERS:	9
	NO. OF VERSES:	146
	NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING:	Third Book of Minor Prophecy

## AMOS, continued

**PURPOSE:** To foretell the punishment that would come upon the foreign nations around Israel and to condemn Israel for here idolatry and oppression.

**DIVISIONS:** The Divisions of Amos Fall Into Three Basic Scenes:

SCENE ONE            AMOS 1-2  
Judgment Against the Nations

SCENE TWO            AMOS 3-6  
Judgments Against Israel

SCENE THREE        AMOS 7-9  
Visions Regarding the Future

**FACTS:** All together, eight nations were denounced. (ch. 1-6)  
Amos tells who the nations were, what their crimes had been and what their punishment would be.

NATION	CRIME	PUNISHMENT
SYRIA (1:1-5)	Had often harassed Israel	- The captial at Damascus to be burned - Their strongholds to be broken - Their citizens to be enslaved
PHILISTIA (1:6-8)	Had sold Israelites into slavery to Edom	- The burning of their four main cities: Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon and Ekron
PHOENICIA (1:9,10)	Had broken their peace covenamt with Israel	- The burning down of the forts and palaces in Tyre, their chief city
EDOM (1:11,12)	Had murdered many Jews	- The destruction of their cities
AMMON (11:13-15)	Had murdered Jewish women	- Their cities to be burned - Their citizens to be enslaved
MOAB (2:1-3)	Had desecrated the tombs of the dead	-They would be defeated in battle
JUDAH (2:4,5)	- Had rejected the Word of God - Had disobeyed the God of the Word	- Their Temple in Jerusalem to be destroyed
ISRAEL (2:6-16)	- Had accepted bribes - Had enslved the poor - Had committed adultery - Had stolen - Were totally unthankful - Had caused the innocent to sin	- Their punishment would make them groan as a loaded-down wagon - Their armies would stumble in battle

## AMOS, continued

### FACTS, continued:

#### THE FIVE VISIONS THAT WERE ANNOUNCED IN AMOS (ch. 7-9)

##### 1. THE LOCUST PLAGUE (7:1-3)

Here God reveals His intention to destroy all the main crops. Because of Amos interceding for Israel, God changed His course of action and did not carry out this plague.

##### 2. THE GREAT FIRE (7:4-6)

The heat of this fire was so fierce that it consumed the waters of Palestine. This was to be a punishment against the land. Again, Amos pleaded for mercy, and God set aside this punishment.

##### 3. THE PLUMB LINE (7:7-16)

The Lord stood beside a wall built with a plumb line to see if it was straight. God's intention was to measure the deeds of Israel by the strictness and straightness of a plumb line. The vision revealed the destruction of Jeroboam II and his dynasty. This came to pass.

##### 4. THE BASKET OF SUMMER FRUIT (8:1-4)

This fruit basket symbolized Israel ripe and ready for judgment. The merchants had robbed and cheated the citizens, neglected and criticized the Sabbath-keeping, and made slaves of the poor, so God plucked the fruit.

##### 5. GOD AT THE ALTAR (9:1-15)

This vision reveals the condemnation of Israel's transgression and the restoration of David's tabernacle. Once David's kingdom is set up, which, of course, refers to the Millennial reign upon the earth, it will be a great time of abounding and blessing.

### OUTLINE:

#### I. THE VERDICT BY THE PROPHET (ch. 1-2)

Woes against...

1. Damascus (1:3-5)
2. Gaza (1:6-8)
3. Tyre (1:9,10)
4. Edom (1:11,12)
5. Ammon (1:13-15)
6. Moab (2:1-3)
7. Judah (2:4,5)
8. Israel (2:6-16)

#### II. THE VOICE OF THE PROPHET (ch 3-6)

1. As to the Past
2. As to the Present
3. As to the Prospect

## AMOS, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### III. THE VISIONS OF THE PROPHET (ch. 7-9)

1. Vision of Locust (7:1-3)
2. Vision of Fire (7:4-6)
3. Vision of Plumb Line (7:7-17)
4. Vision of Over-Ripe Fruit (8:1-14)
5. Vision of Lord at the Altar (9:1-15)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Amos preached his stern message to Israel thirty years before she was invaded by the Assyrians.
- His message was given to Jeroboam II, who had established the golden calf worship centers in Dan and Bethel.
- He illustrated the destruction of Israel as a man fleeing from a lion, only to be met by a bear.
- Amos was a contemporary of Hosea, and possibly knew Jonah and Elisha as a boy.
- Even though he was born in Judah, his ministry was in the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

The invasion by the Assyrians, and also by the Babylonians, fulfilled the prophecy of Amos toward Syria, Philistia, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, Moab, Judah and Israel.

There Will Be A Future Fulfillment...

- Someday the nations of the earth will be aligned in battle against the Son of God at Armageddon. (Revelation 16:14-16)
- These same people will join together and share in the crushing defeat and the subsequent judgment of nations. (Joel 3:1-8; Matthew 25:31-46)
- Israel and Judah then will be restored to their lands, reunited, and there will be a great time of prosperity and abundance. This period is referred to as the Millennium.

The Prophecies and Promises of Amos Can Be Divided Into...

- Prophecies Against Surrounding Nations (1:2,3)
- Prophecies Against Israel and Judah (2:4-6:9)
- Prophecies of the Times Previous To and During the Messiah's Reign (ch. 7-9)

The greatest reason for the prophets condemnation of Israel was that the people were "at ease." They were indolent, sinful and indifferent to the Lord.

ISRAEL'S UNRIGHTEOUSNESS WAS CHARACTERIZED BY:

1. A Dependence Upon Natural Things (6:1)
2. A False Optimism [To them the evil day was far off.] (6:3)
3. They Lived in Luxury [They were self-sufficient and had forgotten their need of God.] (6:4)
4. They Were Absorbed In the Culture of Music (6:5)

**OBADIAH****“THE DOWNFALL OF EDOM”**

- KEY VERSE:** OBADIAH 1:8  
 “Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau?”
- DATE:** Most scholars think that Obadiah wrote shortly after the capture of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar – about 587 B.C.  
 It was during that time that Zedekiah reigned.
- THEME:** The theme of Obadiah is the denunciation of Edom for her pride and persecution of Israel.
- WRITER:** The Holy Spirit, of course, is the author of this prophecy (2 Peter 1:21), and He has not seen fit to disclose the details concerning the career of the human author, Obadiah.
- Obadiah means “worshipper of Jehovah.”
  - He is known as the “unknown prophet.”
- The only thing we really know about Obadiah is that he was from Judah; however, the fact that he was a prophet tells us much.
- There are two more Obadias listed in the Bible:
    1. A servant to Ahab
    2. A superintendent of temple construction in the days of Josiah.
- WRITTEN:**
- Obadiah is the shortest Book in the Old Testament.
  - It is believed that Jeremiah quoted Obadiah (cf Obadiah 1-8 with Jeremiah 49:7-22).
  - Joel quoted Obadiah (cf Obadiah 17 with Joel 2:32)
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 31th Book                     |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 1                             |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 21                            |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Fourth Book of Minor Prophecy |
- PURPOSE:** The Lord gave Obadiah a two-fold purpose for writing the Book...
1. To reveal His plan to deal with Edom, the descendants of Esau, because of her hatefulness and pride.
  2. To show that He would deliver Israel, establish her in righteousness, and restore her possessions in the days ahead.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. The Downfall of Edom (vs. 1-9)
  2. The Cause of the Downfall (vs. 10-16)
  3. The Triumph of Israel (vs. 17-21)

## OBADIAH , continued

**FACTS:** The writings of Obadiah took place during the period of time referred to as the “Chaotic Kingdom Stage.”

The Book of Obadiah is one of twelve Books written during that time period.

- The Edomites were descendants of Esau, and thus, akin to the Jews; however, they were always bitter enemies to the Jews.
- The sale of the birthright by Esau to Jacob started the whole conflict that continued throughout the history of Israel. The Edomites continued the animosity between Esau and Jacob.
- They refused passage to Moses (Numbers 20:14-21) and were always ready to aid when an enemy launched an attack against Israel.
- There are at least four instances when Edom helped in the plunder of Jerusalem and Judah...
  1. during the reign of Joram (853 B.C.) (see 2 Chronicles 21:8, 16, 17; Amos 1:6)
  2. during the reign of Amaziah (796 B.C.) (see 2 Chronicles 25:11, 23-24)
  3. during the reign of Ahaz (735 B.C.) (see 2 Chronicles 28:16-21)
  4. during the reign of Zedekiah (597 B.C.) (see 2 Chronicles 36:11-21; Psalm 137:7)

**OUTLINE:** I. THE PROPHET...OBADIAH

II. THE PEOPLE...EDOMITES

1. Descendants of Esau
2. Hated Jews
3. They raided neighboring tribes and ran for their protective cliffs.
4. They aided armies against Israel
5. They were bitter enemies between the Old Testament and New Testament
6. After the 70 A.D. destruction of Jerusalem, they disappeared from history.
7. They were proud, self-sufficient people.

III. THE PLACE...PETRA

The Wonder of the World

1. High in the rocks of the mountain (eagle nests)
2. Narrow passes to get in (one mile long)
3. Eagles and hawks sailed overhead
4. Water and wild fruit was in abundance
5. Bible scholars believe the caves and holes in the rocks of Petra will play a big part in the Jews hiding places in the Tribulation.
6. One thousand temples cut out of the pink rock.

IV. THE PROPHECY

1. The doom of Edom
2. To be despised greatly
3. To be small among heathen (vs. 2)
4. To be cut off (vs. 5)



## OBADIAH, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

5. Charges against them where:
  - a. pride (vs. 3)
  - b. violence against their brothers (vs. 10)
  - c. watched strangers devour them without helping (vs. 11)
  - d. acted as one of the enemies (vs. 11)
  - e. looked on without helping (vs. 12)
  - f. rejoiced over their destruction (vs. 12)
  - g. entered into their gate (vs. 13)
  - h. looted their possessions (vs. 13)
  - i. stood at the crossways and cut off their escape (vs. 14)
  - j. delivered the ones that they arrested into the hands of their enemies

### V. THE PROMISE...TO ISRAEL

1. They would possess their possessions
2. They would be a flame to make Edom into stubble

### VI. THE PICTURE

1. Flesh versus the spirit
2. Sinner prevailing over the saint
3. Materialism versus spiritualism

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### PETRA

- Petra is one of the wonders of the world
- It was a city unique of its kind among the works of men.
- It was perched like an eagle's nest (vs. 4) located amid inaccessible mountain passes.
- The only approach was through a deep rock cliff more than a mile long with massive cliffs more than seven hundred feet high rising on each side.
- The city was able to withstand any invasion.
- Its temples numbered a thousand.
- They were cut out of the pink rock on the sides of the cliffs sandstone. (vs. 3,6)
- They were placed where it is hard to believe possible that a human foot could climb.
- Petra was inhabited by the Edomites

#### THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL

- Prophecy declares that the Jews will someday have Palestine fully-restored to them.
- They will control tremendous land areas never before occupied, including the land of Edom.
- Judges will rule Edom and Petra from Jerusalem during the Millennium

## OBADIAH , continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

Some of the prophecies concerning Edom have already come to pass, at least in part...

- An Arab people displaced the Edomites living in Petra (312 B.C.)
- Jewish military hero, John Hyracanus, subdued the Edomites where they had fled in Southern Palestine (134-104 B.C.)
- Wicked King Herod came from the Edomites
- They were totally destroyed in 70 A.D., along with the Jews, by the Roman Empire and the invasion of Titus.

Other verses foretelling the doom of Edom:

Isaiah 34:5-15; Ezekiel 25:12-14; 35:1-15; Amos 1:11,12

- Edom was noted for her wise men.
- Obadiah 8 indicates that the wisdom would be stripped away.
- In Job's time, Eliphaz, the wisest of Job's three friends, was from Teman, five miles east of Petra in Edom.

## JONAH

### “ THE UNWILLING PROPHET ”

- KEY VERSE:** JONAH 4:11  
“And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than six score thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?”
- THEME:** A servant given a specific job reneges and runs away from his call. God allows circumstances to bear down upon him, and then provides deliverance from his plight. The job offered is repeated and he obeys this time. He goes to Nineveh to preach the Gospel to six hundred thousand people. God’s long-suffering and mercy is on display as He seeks to accomplish His sovereign purpose.
- DATE:** Jonah prophesied about 800 B.C. during the reign of Jereboam II. (see 2 Kings 14:25) His prophecy was in the Northern Kingdom. He was a contemporary of Hosea.
- WRITER:** The author, of course, is the Holy Spirit, who used Jonah to write the Book.
- The name Jonah means “dove.”
  - Jonah was the son of Amittai.
  - He resided in Gath-Hepher in Zebulun, a village approximately one hour’s walk north of Nazareth.
  - Jonah was probably a disciple of Elisha.
  - Legend says he was the son of the widow of Sarepta.
  - He prophesied the victories of Jeroboam II against Syria.
- WRITTEN:** The Book of Jonah was written during the time of the great Assyrian Empire’s control of the world. Nineveh was the capital of the Assyrian Empire. This world power lasted approximately three hundred years – from 900-607 B.C. The Book of Jonah is different from the other minor prophets in that it gives a personal experience of the prophet himself. There are only eight actual words of preaching in it. The rest is personal experience symbolizing, of course, the burial and resurrection of Christ, as our Lord Himself stated in Matthew 12:38-41.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 32nd Book                    |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 4                            |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 48                           |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Fifth Book of Minor Prophecy |

## JONAH, continued

**PURPOSE:** To show God's method of dealing with His servants in patience and long-suffering as they resist His will and go their own ways.

We also note the call of a missionary to a heathen people.

Jonah is the first missionary called and sent.

By application we see a lesson to all of God's servants who are called to reach lost sinners.

- DIVISIONS:**
1. The Divine Command of Jonah (1:1,2)
  2. The Disobedience of Jonah (1:3)
  3. The Watery Fate of Jonah (1:4-16)
  4. The Confinement of Jonah (1:17)
  5. The Prayer of Jonah (2:1-9)
  6. The Deliverance of Jonah (2:10)
  7. The Obedience of Jonah (3:1-4)
  8. The Response of Jonah (3:5-10)
  9. The Exasperation of Jonah (4:1-9)
  10. The Pity of the Lord (4:10,11)

**FACTS:** The Book of Jonah is One of Three Old Testament Books Especially Hated by Satan...

**GENESIS:** Predicting the Incarnate Christ as the Seed of woman. (Genesis 3:15)

**DANIEL:** Predicting the glorious Second Coming of Christ. (Daniel 7:9-12)

**JONAH:** Predicting in type and form the death and resurrection of Christ. (cf. Jonah 2; Matthew 12:38-41)

There Are Three Basic Interpretations of the Book of Jonah...

### THE MYTH INTERPRETATION

This liberal view looks upon Jonah as a Robinson Crusoe story. It teaches that the persons, places and experiences are all imaginary.

### THE ALLEGORY INTERPRETATION

Those who hold to this interpretation believe the Book is a parable and that Jonah represents Israel, the sea represents the Gentile nations in general, the fish represents the Babylonian captivity and the regurgitation is the return during Ezra's time.

### THE HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION

This, of course, is the correct view. The account represents itself as actual history. The Jews and early church believed it to be literal. The author of 2 Kings 14:25 refers to Jonah as an historical person. His home town is given, along with the name of his father and the king he served under. Jesus testified to the literal account of Jonah in Matthew 12:38-41 (also see Matthew 16:4 and Luke 11:29-32).

### THE CITY OF NINEVEH

- Nineveh was sixty miles in circumference.
- It had twenty mile streets.
- The walls were one hundred feet high.

## JONAH, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- Three Chariots could ride abreast on the walls.
- There were 600,000 people there.
- The people were known to be very wicked.
- It is referred to as Sodom and Gomorrah.
- Shalmaneser II, Tiglath-poleser III, Shalmaneser IV, Sennacherib, Assur-banipal and several other world-famous kings of history reigned from Nineveh.

### THE FISH

- The word means “great fish” and should not be translated “whale.”
- It is “sea monster”
- Many sea monsters have been found large enough to swallow a man, however, the point of the story is that it was a miracle – a divine attestation of Jonah’s mission to Nineveh.
- Except for some such astounding miracle, the Ninevites would have given little heed to Jonah. (see Luke 11:30)

### OUTLINE:

- I. RUNNING FROM GOD  
Jonah’s Disobedience (1:1-17)
- II. RUNNING TO GOD  
Jonah’s Prayer (2:1-9)
- III. RUNNING WITH GOD  
Jonah’s Preaching (2:10-3:9)
- IV. RUNNING AHEAD OF GOD  
Jonah’s Complaining (3:10-4:8)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

God always shows initiative toward the heathen as He did toward the Assyrians...

1. EGYPT – God sent Joseph and Moses
2. PHILISTINES – God sent Samuel, the prophet
3. ASSYRIANS – God sent Elijah and Elisha
4. BABYLON – God sent Daniel

### METHOD OF STUDYING THE BOOK OF JONAH

1. Read repeatedly and prayerfully.
2. Understand the conditions which prevailed in Jonah’s lifetime.
3. Analyze the motives which swayed Jonah’s thoughts and actions.
4. Beg the Holy Spirit to teach you the lessons that He may have for you personally.

### APPLICATION OF THE BOOK

1. We Live In a Needy World

Like Nineveh, our modern culture is far from God with its Nebos and Dagon and the Sodom and Gomorrah attitude. We are given to idolatry.

## JONAH, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

#### 2. The Loving Heart of God

God is still infinitely kind, merciful and long-suffering.

He is waiting for men to repent and turn to Him and is not willing that any should perish.

#### 3. There Is a Great Need For Faithful Servants To Obey the Call

Believers are expected to witness, as Jonah did. (Acts 1:8)

God has not entrusted the task of world evangelism to angels, but to frail men and women who, like Saul of Tarsus, must not be disobedient to the heavenly vision. (Acts 26:19)

### NOTICE FOUR THINGS PREPARED IN THE BOOK OF JONAH...

1. GREAT FISH (1:17)

2. GOURD (4:6)

3. WORM (4:7)

4. WIND (4:8)

Jonah's reluctance to go to Nineveh was obviously based on the fact that he knew that if she repented and was spared by God, eventually the Assyrians would prevail over Israel.

Basically, that is what happened in the days ahead, but all in accordance with God's plan.

Tarsus, the place where Jonah tried to flee to, was located in Spain. It was on the edge of the known world. In other words, he was getting as far away as possible from God's will.

## MICAH

### “THE COUNTRY PREACHER”

- KEY VERSE:** MICAH 2:1,2  
“Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.”
- THEME:** Micah denounced the social sins of his day. He felt keenly the social evils. He saw the unfair treatment of the poor by the rich. He felt that these sins cried up to Heaven. No class was free from corrupting influences; princes, priests and people alike were all affected.
- DATE:** Micah wanted the people to know that every cruel act to one’s fellow man was an insult to God.  
Micah prophesied in the days of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah (1:1)  
He was a contemporary of Isaiah in Judah and Hosea in Israel (Isaiah 1:1; Hosea 1:1)  
The Northern Kingdom of Israel was taken into captivity during Micah’s lifetime. He lived between 758-700 B.C.
- WRITER:** MICAH
- He was born in the town of Moresheth, which was located in Palestine, on the Philistine border, about twenty-five miles south of Jerusalem.
  - Micah was a representative of the common people.
  - He was called “The Country Preacher,” in contrast to Isaiah, who was “The Court Preacher.”
- Micah’s prophecy is like many Old Testament prophecies.
- It covers, not only the context of his day, but also the context of the Day of the Lord.
  - He sees far into the future and speaks of the “last days.” (4:1)
  - He vividly describes the restoration, which is future, even to us.
  - Both comings of the Messiah are foretold.
  - Micah closes his prophecy with a passionate plea for repentance.
- WRITTEN:** Micah’s writings cover from the birth of Christ through to the Kingdom reign of Christ here on the earth.  
Dr. A.T. Pearson says of the Book of Micah, “There is nothing like it in all the literature of man.”
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 33rd Book                    |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 7                            |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 105                          |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Sixth Book of Minor Prophecy |
- PURPOSE:** To show that God’s plan to redeem should not be frustrated, even though He had to punish His chosen people for their sins.

## MICAH, continued

**DIVISIONS:** The Book is Divided into Three Separate Scenes:

**SCENE ONE:** A MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE  
Micah 1,2 *“Hear, all ye people”*

**SCENE TWO:** A MESSAGE TO THE RULERS  
Micah 3-5 *“Hear, O heads of Jacob”*

**SCENE THREE:** A MESSAGE TO THE CHOSEN PEOPLE  
Micah 6,7 *“Hear ye, the Lord’s controversy...with His people”*

**FACTS:**

- Micah was younger than Isaiah.
- His chief ministry was to Jerusalem, but he also was commissioned to speak for God to Samaria and Israel.
- He lived to see the evils he pronounced on Samaria in the north actually come to pass.
- His messages, no doubt, helped to bring about the great spiritual awakening in the days of Hezekiah (see Jeremiah 26:18)
- The land was in a state of corruption in the moral, religious and national aspects of life. The prevailing attitude was one of complacency. The people thought that no harm could come to them, but Micah plainly told them otherwise.
- He was the only prophet sent to both southern and northern kingdoms.
- He ministered to the capitol cities of both kingdoms, Jerusalem and Samaria.
- He includes an amazing number of prophecies in his short Book:
  1. The Fall of Samaria (1:6,7)
  2. The Invasion of Judah by Assyrians (1:9-16)
  3. The Eventual Fall of Jerusalem and Destruction of Its Temple (3:12; 7:13)
  4. The Exile to Babylon (4:10)
  5. The Return From Captivity and Future Restoration of Israel (7:11,14)
  6. The Birth of Christ at Bethlehem (5:2)
  7. The Future Reign of Christ (2:12,13; 4:1-7)

**OUTLINE:** I. A NOTE OF WARNING (ch. 1)

The rapidly approaching doom of Samaria, the capitol of the ten tribes, is announced.

II. A NOTE OF WRATH (ch. 2)

A cause of the overthrow is traced to the covetousness and worldliness of God’s one highly-favored people.

III. A NOTE OF THREATENING (ch. 3)

Princes and popular prophets are rebuked. Because of them Jerusalem was to be come a rubble, and Zion would be plowed as a field.

IV. A NOTE OF PROMISE (ch. 4)

When the Son of God appears, Jerusalem will shine in glory. Zion will become the meeting place for the millennial nations (vs. 1)



## MICAH, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### V. A NOTE OF ANNOUNCEMENT (ch. 5)

The Messiah's birthplace prophesied. (vs. 2)

#### VI. A NOTE OF INSTRUCTION (ch. 6)

A tender pleading by Jehovah warns the children of Israel that they must suffer for their iniquities (vs. 8)

#### VII. A NOTE OF HOPE (ch. 7)

In the midst of Jehovah's rebuke and indignation, the hope of the Lord's coming shines like a star in the dark sky.

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### PROPHECIES OF CHRIST IN MICAH

##### 1. MICAH SAW THE PLACE OF HIS BIRTH (5:2)

##### 2. MICAH SAW HIS HUMANITY (5:2)

*"Out of thee."*

Micah seems to indicate here that the Messiah will come forth out of the human element of Israel, showing forth His fleshly line.

##### 3. MICAH SAW HIS DEITY (5:2)

*"Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."*

This is the same truth that Isaiah chapter nine deals with.

(see also John 1:1,14; 5:58; 10:30; 17:5)

#### MICAH IS QUOTED ON THREE OCCASIONS

##### 1. BY THE ELDERS OF JUDAH (Jeremiah 26:18)

Quoting Micah 3:12

##### 2. BY THE WISE MEN COMING TO JERUSALEM (Matthew 2:5,6)

Quoting Micah 5:2

##### 3. BY JESUS WHEN SENDING OUT THE TWELVE (Matthew 10:35,36)

Quoting Micah 7:6

#### THE BOOK HAS BEEN OUTLINED IN THREE LOOKS

##### 1. THE OUTWARD LOOKS (ch. 1-6)

Micah's Public Sermons

##### 2. THE INWARD LOOKS (7:1-6)

Micah's Personal Contemplations

##### 3. THE UPWARD LOOKS (7:7-20)

Micah's Prayer Petitions

## NAHUM

## “THE DESTRUCTION OF NINEVAH”

- KEY VERSE:** NAHUM 1:3  
 “The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.”
- THEME:** The terrible and total coming destruction of Nineveh, the great world power of her day.
- DATE:** The destruction of the great model city of No-amon in Egypt in 664 B.C. and the doom on Nineveh in 612 B.C. act as parentheses around the time of the writing of the Book by Nahum.  
 This book was written during the fifty-two year period of interval between those two events, or approximately 650 B.C. during the reign of Manasses.
- WRITER:** NAHUM
- Nahum means “The Comforter.”
  - He was born in Elkosh, a Galilean village.
  - The name Elkosh means “Consolation.”
  - During a time of great despair and fearfulness in Judah, Nahum appeared on the scene with the message from God.
- WRITTEN:** The book was written about one hundred fifty years after the revival of Jonah’s day when the city of Nineveh was brought to repentance in dust and ashes. Mercy unheeded in years to follow finally brought judgment.  
 Nahum’s message predicts the final doom and complete overthrow of Nineveh and her empire. The destruction of Nineveh is minutely described.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 34th Book                      |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 3                              |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 47                             |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Seventh Book of Minor Prophecy |
- PURPOSE:** To give reassurance and comfort to the Hebrews in Judah who were living in fear and desperation and to announce the future fall of Syria.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. NINEVEH JUDGMENT (ch. 1)
  2. NINEVEH SENTENCED (ch. 2)
  3. NINEVEH EXECUTED (ch. 3)
- FACTS:**
- Nineveh, of course, was the capitol of Assyria.
  - Assyria was the greatest military power of her day.
  - Northern Israel had fallen.
  - Assyria also had entered Judah and had destroyed her military strongholds and made her a tributary nation.
  - Nahum prophesied that this great world power would fall.

## NAHUM, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- Fifty years after his prophecy, Nineveh was completely destroyed and never rose to power again.
- Sennacherib and his mighty army invaded Judah thirteen years after Assyria entered Judah and was determined to annihilate her, but the Angel of the Lord appeared in the night and slew 185,000 of Sennacherib's army.
- Babylon declared here independence of Assyria in 612 and aligned with the Medes. They conquered and destroyed Nineveh.
- The Tigris River was swollen from rains and washed away a section of the wall, thus letting the enemy in.
- Nahum 1:8 predicted that this would come to pass.

### OUTLINE:

#### I. NINEVEH'S DOOM DECLARED (ch. 1)

1. The Lord's Patience (1:1-3)
2. The Lord's Power (1:3-5)
3. The Lord's Presence (1:6-8)
4. The Lord's Purpose (1:9-14)
5. The Lord's Protection (1:15)

#### II. NINEVEH'S DOOM DESCRIBED (ch. 2)

1. The Siege of Nineveh (2:1-8)
2. The Sacking of Nineveh (2:9-13)

#### III. NINEVEH'S DOOM DESERVED (ch. 3)

1. The City's Fierceness (3:1-3)
2. The City's Filthiness (3:4-7)
3. The City's Fury (3:8-10)
4. The City's Fear (3:11-13)
5. The City's Fall (3:14-19)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

The Book of Nahum is a continuation of the Book of Jonah.

Jonah's Message to Nineveh:	Repentance
Nahum's Message to Nineveh:	Judgment

Nahum Had a Double Emphasis:

1. As a Prophet
2. As a Patriot

- The siege of the Medes and the Babylonians lasted for three years. Once the walls were broken down and the enemy poured in, the king built a large funeral pyre in the palace. He collected all his wealth, his concubines and eunuchs, and then burned the palace and everything in it, including himself and all his servants.

- Like all of the prophets, Nahum looks forward to the time when Christ will come to reign in righteousness and justice. As in every other portion of the Old Testament Scriptures, the Lord's Anointed is visible upon the horizon. In Nahum we see both the Lord's character and His power, and we anticipate His glorious coming.

## NAHUM, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

- The city of Capernaum, on the Sea of Galilee, literally means “The Village of Nahum.” Many believe Capernaum was named after this prophet.
- Nineveh appeared to be impregnable with its walls one hundred feet high and broad enough for chariots to drive upon them. It had a circumference of some sixty miles and was adorned by more than twelve hundred watchtowers.
- The destruction of Nineveh was so great that when Alexander the Great marched his troops over the same desolate ground, which had once given support to her mighty buildings, he did not even know there had once been a city there.
- The city was evacuated later in 1845 A.D.

### LESSONS IN THE BOOK OF NAHUM

1. The Patience of God (1:1-8)
2. The Pride of Sennacherib (1:9-14)
3. The Promise of Judah (1:15)
4. The Punishment of Nineveh (ch. 2-3)

## HABAKKUK

### “WHY DO THE WICKED PROSPER?”

- KEY VERSE:** HABAKKUK 2:4b  
“... but the just shall live by his faith.”
- THEME:** There is a keynote of faith ringing throughout the entire prophecy. Habakkuk, the prophet called, “The Doubting Thomas of the Old Testament,” questions God when His revelation is made known to him. Once the facts are in and the messages are made clear, he comes to a strong position of faith.
- DATE:** 605 B.C.  
Habakkuk was the last of the prophets writing to the Southern Kingdom before the captivity by Babylon.  
He probably prophesied during the reign of Josiah about 608-605 B.C.
- WRITER:** HABAKKUK  
Habakkuk means “Embrace.”  
That is really all we know about the prophet. Some think he was probably a Levite connected with the music of the temple.
- WRITTEN:** - The Book was written just after the fall of the Assyrian Empire.  
- Egypt and Babylon fought a major war to see who would be master of the earth.  
- The Babylonians won and joined forces with the Chaldeans.  
- They became one kingdom and used the names of Babylonians and Chaldeans synonymously.  
The Book gives two distinct parts of a single prophecy:  
1. A dialogue between the prophet and God.  
2. A poetic prayer and theophany of God.
- THE BOOK:** NO. IN BIBLE: 35th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 3  
NO. OF VERSES: 56  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Eighth Book of Minor Prophecy
- PURPOSE:** To give light on why God sometimes allows the wicked to prosper.  
To give light and understanding as to why God would use a more wicked nation to punish a nation of His Own people.  
The Jews believed very strongly in temporal punishments and rewards. The question is answered by setting forth the contrast between the temporary and the permanent. God is working on a long-range program and sometimes allows temporary setbacks to accomplish His overall purpose.

## HABAKKUK, continued

- DIVISIONS:
1. The Complaint of the Prophet (1:1-4)
  2. The Reply of the Lord (1:5-11)
  3. The Statement of the Problem (1:12-17)
  4. The Certainty of the Vision (2:1-4)
  5. The Pronouncement of Woes (2:5-19)
  6. The Sovereign Fullness of God (2:20)
  7. The Intercession of the Prophets (3:1,2)
  8. The Splendor of God (3:3-6)
  9. The Dealings of the Lord (3:7-15)
  10. The Response of the Prophet (3:16-19)

- FACTS:
- The question of the Book of Habakkuk is “Why?”
  - Nahum deals with the Lord’s judgment of Assyria. Habakkuk takes up a similar note against Babylon for the same cause.
  - The Book is closer to the Psalms in structure than any of the other prophetic writings.
  - The Book moves from perplexity of the prophet to praise by the same.
  - Habakkuk was confused and bewildered. It seemed that God was doing nothing to straighten out the conditions in the world. The prophet had been involved in the Great Reformation under good King Josiah. It just didn’t seem to make sense that God would still punish Judah by Babylon under these conditions.

### A SCHEDULE OF THE EVENTS OF THE PERIOD

1. The Great Reformation under King Josiah during the prophecy of Zephaniah (639-606 B.C.)
2. Assyria was greatly weakened by the Scythian Invasion (626 B.C.)
3. Babylon declared its independence of Assyria (625 B.C.)
4. Jehoz reigned three months and was taken to Egypt (608 B.C.)
5. The very wicked reign of Jehoiakim in the days of Habakkuk (608-597 B.C.)
6. The destruction of Nineveh by Babylon (607 B.C.)
7. The Babylonians invaded Judah and took captives (606 B.C.)
8. The Babylonians defeated Egypt (605 B.C.)
9. Jehoiachin reigned three months and was taken to Babylon (B.C.)
10. A weak, wicked King Zedekiah was taken to Babylon (597 B.C.)
11. Jerusalem was burned and the land was left desolate (586 B.C.)

- Habakkuk lived at the same time of Jeremiah and Zephaniah.
- The word “burden” in the beginning verse of Habakkuk indicates a message that is heavy with tidings of coming judgment.
- The famous phrase, “*The just shall live by faith,*” located in Habakkuk 2:4 is found three other times in the Scriptures. (1) Romans 1:17p; (2) Galatians 3:11; (3) Hebrews 10:38.

## HABAKKUK, continued

### OUTLINE:

#### I. THE PROPHET TESTED (ch. 1)

1. The Uneased Burden (1:1)
2. The Unanswered Prayer (1:2)
3. The Unchecked Violence (1:3)
4. The Unpunished Evil (1:4)
5. The Unexpected Answer (1:5)

#### II. THE PROPHET TRUSTING (ch. 2)

1. Faith Watching (2:1)
2. Faith Writing (2:2)
3. Faith Waiting (2:3)
4. Faith Winning (2:4)

#### III. THE PROPHET TRIUMPHANT (ch. 3)

1. The Prayer of the Prophet (3:1,2)
2. The Praise of the Prophet (3:3-16)
3. The Personal Testimony of the Prophet (3:17-19)

#### ANOTHER LOOK AT THE CONTENTS OF THE BOOK

#### I. THE TROUBLED PROPHET ASKING "WHY?" (ch. 1)

1. The Prophet is Troubled Over the Sins of Judah (1:2-4)
2. The Prophet is Troubled of the Coming Chaldean Invasion (1:5-11)
3. The Prophet is Troubled Over the Character of the Chaldeans (1:12-17)

#### II. THE WAITING PROPHET RECEIVES AN ANSWER (ch. 2)

1. God Gives a Word of Comfort (2:4,5)
2. God Speaks Woes Upon the Wicked (2:6-18)

#### III. THE PRAYING PROPHET ASKS FOR REVIVAL AND MERCY (ch. 3)

1. God's Glory Is Praised (3:3,4)
2. God's Power Is Exhibited (3:5-7)
3. God's Purpose Is Seen (3:8-15)

## ZEPHANIAH

### “THE DAY OF THE LORD”

- KEY VERSE:** ZEPHANIAH 3:9  
“For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.”
- THEME:** In the Book of Zephaniah the whole earth becomes a theater where the Judge of all time displays the working of the law and judgment and the working of mercy and grace.
- DATE:** Zephaniah prophesied about 630 B.C. in the reign of the young and good King Josiah.  
- Josiah reigned from 641-610 B.C.  
- Zephaniah’s prophecy was about fifty years after Nahum, but before the actual destruction of Nineveh and the collapse of the Assyrian Empire.  
- The Babylonian Empire was in the making, but it had not come to the front yet.
- WRITER:** ZEPHANIAH  
- Zephaniah’s name means “the Lord hides, or protects.”  
- He was the great, great grandson of King Hezekiah and, therefore, of royal blood.  
- He was also, of course, influenced by the moral principles and good traits of King Hezekiah.  
- His ministry may well have helped prepare for the great revival of 621 B.C., which occurred under Josiah’s reign when the law of Moses was rediscovered during the repair of the temple (see 2 Chronicles 34,35).
- WRITTEN:**  
- The Book was written, not only to pronounce judgment and restoration during the current time, but to give a real look into the future right to the very end of time.  
- Even though Nineveh would not fall until 612 B.C., some eighteen year later, yet the threat of Assyria on Judah was now gone.  
- It is well to keep in mind that the prophecy was written in a time of favorable conditions for such writing, while young Josiah was setting in the reforms of his earlier predecessor, Hezekiah.  
- Even though the prophecy is emphatic about judgment and wrath, the final chapter looks away to the end of time to picture Christ’s glorious reign and future glory of a restored Israel.  
- It is written, also, to give practical application to this present time for believers.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 36th Book                    |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 3                            |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 53                           |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Ninth Book of Minor Prophecy |



## ZEPHANIAH, continued

- PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Book of Zephaniah is three-fold...
1. To show that a faithful remnant (remaining few) should be delivered from captivity
  2. To show that the heathen shall be converted
  3. To show that, instead of men having to worship God at Jerusalem, they will be able to do so anywhere (see Zephaniah 2:11; John 4:21).
- DIVISIONS:** There are two basic divisions...
1. A BAD DAY                      Zephaniah Pronounced Judgment
  2. A GOOD DAY                     Zephaniah Announced Justice
- FACTS:**
- Good King Hezekiah had been succeeded by three descendants before young Josiah came on the scene and Zephaniah began to prophesy.
  - Two of the kings were wicked and idol worshipping kings.
  - The rich had amassed a great fortune by their oppression of the poor.
  - Conditions were very bad when Josiah, only sixteen years of age, undertook to promote a revival of religion.
  - He was one of the most beloved kings of Judah.
  - He took a hatchet and hewed down the altars and images of Baal.
  - This background gave Zephaniah great courage and comfort.
  - Zephaniah foretold the doom of Nineveh, as Nahum had done (see Zephaniah 2:13).
  - Tradition says that Jeremiah prophesied at the same time.
  - The Book begins with sorrow, but ends with singing.
  - The first of the Book is full of sadness and gloom, but the last contains one of the sweetest songs of love in the Old Testament.
  - Three classes of false worshippers of Judah are denounced. (1:4,5)
    1. The black-robed, unlawful priests of Baal.
    2. The unworthy priest of Jehovah.
    3. Those who worshipped the stars from the housetops.
  - There was also denunciation for those who wavered (for at one time they swear by the Lord, and at other times they swear by the god Molech (see 1:5).
  - Then there were those who turned backward from outwardly following the Lord and began to despise Him (see 1:6).
- OUTLINE:**
- I. THE DETERMINATION OF THE LORD (1:1-6)
    1. To Judge Fully (1:2-4)
    2. To Judge Fairly (1:5,6)
  - II. THE DAY OF THE LORD (1:7-3:8)
    1. The People Mentioned (1:7-13)
      - a. the mighty            – too independent to listen (1:7,8)
      - b. the mob                – too sinful to listen (1:9)
      - c. the merchants        – too involved to listen (1:10,11)
      - d. the majority          – too indifferent to listen (1:12,13)

## ZEPHANIAH, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

2. The Period Mentioned (1:14-18)
  - a. its nearness (1:14)
  - b. its nature (1:15-18)
3. The Places Mentioned 2:1-3:8

### III. THE DELIVERANCE OF THE LORD (3:9-20)

1. Israel's Regathering (3:9,10)
2. Israel's Repentance (3:11-13)
3. Israel's Rejoicing (3:14,15)
4. Israel's Redeemer (3:16-20)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

- Zephaniah mentions the "DAY OF THE LORD" some seven times within the fifty-three verses of his short book: (1:7,8,14 mentioned twice, 18; 2:2,3).
- Joel, Hosea, Amos, Micah, Isaiah and other prophets besides Zephaniah make mention of the "Day of the Lord."
- Zephaniah has none of the tenderness of Jeremiah. Instead, he hammers hard at the nation's conscience. He does end on a happy note looking beyond the

time of wrath to the blessings that follow.

- His message was very pertinent to his own day and generation, and it is very pertinent to ours, as well.

### Zephaniah Names Four Sins of Omission That Cursed Israel (2:3)

1. She Obeyed Not the Voice
2. She Received Not the Correction
3. She Trusted Not in the Lord
4. She Drew Not Near to Her God

### The judgments Pronounced by Zephaniah Fell Into Three Categories:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Upon the Land of God    | Judah  |
| 2. Upon the Enemies of God | Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites,<br>Ethiopians and the Assyrians. |
| 3. Upon the City of God    | Its Gates, Its Citizens and Its Leaders                            |

## HAGGAI

## “FIRST THINGS FIRST”

- KEY VERSE:** HAGGAI 1:8  
 “Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.”
- THEME:** Rebuilding of the Temple  
 This work had been discontinued. Fourteen years had passed since the remnant had returned. Not only was the temple unfinished, but its foundation had become overgrown with weeds.
- DATE:** The Jews Had returned to their own land from seventy years of captivity in Babylon (approximately 535 B.C.). They got started at that time, but opposition caused the work to cease. Some fourteen or fifteen years later (520 B.C.), Haggai and Zechariah came on the scene, stirred up the people and caused the work to begin again.  
 Haggai’s four prophecies date from 520-504 B.C.
- WRITER:** HAGGAI
- Haggai was born in Babylon during the captivity period.
  - He was the first of three prophets of the restoration.
  - The others were Zechariah and Malachi.
  - He was a prophet of great faith and was used of God to awaken the consciences and stir up the enthusiasm of the Jews to rebuild the temple.
  - His strong leadership, his prayers and faith, and his strong appeals caused the great task to be accomplished.
- WRITTEN:**
- The Book of Haggai was written as four sermons to the remnant over a period of four months.
  - The Book is written in plain style and simple language.
  - It was written during a critical time in the history of the Jews.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 37th Book                    |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 2                            |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 38                           |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Tenth Book of Minor Prophecy |
- PURPOSE:** To show that the building of the Lord’s house should come before the building of fine homes by the people.  
 The people made excuses saying that the time the Lord’s house should be built had not come (1:2). Haggai came on the scene saying, *“Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.”* (1:4,5)
- DIVISIONS:**
1. Haggai’s First Message (1:1-11)
  2. Haggai’s Second Message (2:1-9)
  3. Haggai’s Third Message (2:10-19)
  4. Haggai’s Fourth Message (2:20-23)

## HAGGAI, continued

- FACTS:**
- The name, Haggai, means “My Feast.”
  - Haggai is the second-smallest Book in the Old Testament. Obadiah is the shortest.
  - Haggai was a contemporary of Zechariah. Both are mentioned in the Book of Ezra.
- (5:1; 6:14)
- Haggai’s prophecies are the most precisely dated ones in all the Bible.
  - His Book has been compared to the Epistle of James in the New Testament.

A Chronology of This Period May Be Seen By the Following Dates...

536 B.C. Fifty thousand Jews returned to Jerusalem under Zerubbabel.

536 B.C. The Seventh Month:

They built the altar and offered sacrifice.

535 B.C. The Second Month:

The work on the temple began and was stopped

520 B.C. The Sixth Month, the First Day:

Haggai called to build.

The Sixth Month, the Twenty-Fourth Day:

The building began.

The Seventh Month, the Twenty-First Day:

Haggai’s second appeal is made.

The Eighth Month (November):

Zechariah’s opening address is given.

The Ninth Month (December), the Twenty-Fourth Day:

Haggai’s third and fourth address is given.

The Eleventh Month (February), the Twenty-Fourth Day:

Zechariah has visions.

518 B.C. The Ninth Month, the Fourth Day:

Zechariah has visions.

516 B.C. The Twelfth Month (March), the Third Day:

The temple is completed.

515 B.C. The joyful Passover takes place.

455 B.C. Ezra comes to Jerusalem and makes certain reforms.

445 B.C. Nehemiah rebuilds the wall during the period of Malachi.

### OUTLINE:

#### I. A CALL TO BUILD

“Consider your ways...” (1:1-15)

1. Message to the Prince and Priests (1:1,2)

2. Message to the People (1:3-11)

3. Message of Encouragement For All (1:12-15)

#### II. A CALL TO COURAGE

“Be strong...” (2:1-9)

1. Circumstances (2:1-3)

2. Challenge (2:4,5)

3. Comfort (2:6-9)

#### III. A CALL TO CONSIDER

“I will bless you...” (2:10-12)

1. The Riddles (2:10-13)

2. The Application (2:14-19)

## HAGGAI, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

#### IV. A CALL TO ENDURE

“I have chosen thee...” (2:20-23)

1. The Shaking (2:20-22)
2. The Making (2:23)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### THREE TEMPLES MENTIONED IN HAGGAI

1. Solomon’s Temple (2:3a)
2. Zerubbabel’s Temple (2:3b-5)
3. Messiah’s Temple (2:6-9)

#### ANALYSIS OF HAGGAI

1. Call to Build (ch. 1)
2. Call to Behold (2:1-9)
3. Call to Behave (2:10-19)
4. Call to Believe (2:20-23)

The New Testament passage of 1 Corinthians 15:58 may appropriately be written over the Book of Haggai...

*“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”*

#### HAGGAI’S THREE MAIN MESSAGES

##### I. A SEPTEMBER MESSAGE

Directed to the Hands of the People.

This message said: “PERFORM” (1:1-11)

The people had given up and were making excuses. God would not bless them because of their carelessness. The Lord advised them to go up on the mountain, get some wood and build the house of God. The governor, Zerubbabel, and the high priest, Joshua, were stirred up by the Lord to lead the people in the rebuilding of the temple.

##### II. AN OCTOBER MESSAGE

Directed to the Hearts of the People

This message said: “PATIENCE” (2:1-9)

The new temple was very insignificant compared to the old, but in spite of this, there was weeping at the dedication ceremony, as well as joy. The old men remembered the glory of Solomon’s temple. The young, of course, were delighted in what they saw.

##### III. A DECEMBER MESSAGE

Directed to the Head of the People

This message said: “PONDER” (2:10-23)

This message dealt with the contamination of Judah and the determination of the Lord. The Lord promised to send tribulation and overthrow the Gentile kingdoms and nations around them. (2:21.22)

## HAGGAI, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

CLIMAX...

The real climax of the message of Haggai is that “...*The desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts.*” (2:7)

This refers to the Lord coming and the new temple in the Millennium.

**ZECHARIAH****“THE TEN-FOLD VISION”**

- KEY VERSE:** ZECHARIAH 4:6b  
 “... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.”
- THEME:** Zechariah deals with things yet to come. His primary concern is the nation of Israel. Zechariah deals with the remnant and the immediate future, then the incarnation of the Messiah, and the return of Christ in great glory
- DATE:** Zechariah appeared on the scene in 520 B.C., two months after Haggai. His early prophecies continued until 518 B.C.
- WRITER:** ZECHARIAH
- Zechariah means “Jehovah remembers.”
  - He was a priest, probably of the tribe of Levi.
  - He was the son of Iddo.
  - He was born in Babylon and returned with the captives.
  - Zechariah began his ministry as a young man.
  - According to Josephus, the Jewish historian, he died a martyr, being slain in the temple
- WRITTEN:**
- The Book was written in Palestine after the return from captivity.
  - It contains more predictions of prophecy than do all the other minor prophets combined.
  - It is also the longest of the twelve minor prophecies.
  - Zechariah was written with amazing literary skill.
  - It records, in intricate detail, the last prophetic themes of the ages.
- THE BOOK:**
- |                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| NO. IN BIBLE:            | 38th Book                       |
| NO. OF CHAPTERS:         | 14                              |
| NO. OF VERSES:           | 211                             |
| NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: | Eleventh Book of Minor Prophecy |
- PURPOSE:** Zechariah and Haggai were both sent of God to purge the remnant to begin again to build the temple.  
 Zechariah gives a message of comfort and reassurance. He points out God’s glorious purpose for Israel in the future. Some of them having trouble realizing that a number of the promises made of restoration would be fulfilled in the Messianic age in the future.
- DIVISIONS:**
1. The Ten-Fold Visions of the Prophet (ch. 1-6)
  2. The Manifold Vanities of the People (ch. 7-8)
  3. The Two-Fold Visitation of the Prince (ch. 9-13)
- FACTS:**
- Zechariah was born in Babylon.
  - He returned with the captives (approximately 50,000 people).
  - Zerubbabel was governor and Joshua was the high priest.

## ZECHARIAH, continued

### FACTS, continued:

- Zechariah was a contemporary of Haggai. (1:1)
- The ruined temple was being rebuilt at Jerusalem.
- Adverse conditions had caused building to cease. The work had been neglected for fifteen years.
- Zechariah was a priest, as well as a prophet.
- His grandfather was Iddo, who had returned with Zerubbabel and Joshua.
- There is a decided difference between the earlier part of the Book and the latter chapters in writing style. Bible students believe the reason for this is that the prophet, Zechariah, was a much older man when he wrote the  
of the Book.
- Haggai seems to have been a very old man, while Zechariah seems to be a very young man.
- Haggai's ministry lasted only four months, while Zechariah's, in contrast, lasted for about two years.
- We believe both of these men were on hand through the whole four years of the work and completion of the temple.
- Tradition says that Haggai and Zechariah were not only laborers together in rebuilding the temple, but that they were also buried in the same grave.
- Haggai seemed to have his feet on the ground; Zechariah was a visionary with his head in the clouds.

last part

### OUTLINE:

- I. THE INTRODUCTION (1:1-6)
- II. THE VISIONS OF THE NIGHT (1:7-6:8)
- III. THE CORONATION OF JOSHUA (6:9-15)
- IV. THE QUESTION CONCERNING FASTS (7:1-3)
- V. THE ANSWER TO THESE QUESTIONS (7:4-8:23)
- VI. THE FIRST BURDEN OF THE PROPHET (9:1-11:17)
- VII. THE DELIVERANCE OF JERUSALEM (12:1-10)
- VIII. THE CONVERSION OF THE REMNANT (12:11-13:9)
- IX. THE RETURN OF THE MESSIAH (14:1-7)
- X. THE BLESSINGS OF THE KINGDOM (14:8-21)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### THE TEN VISIONS

1. A RIDER ON A RED HORSE (1:7-17)  
Here we have an appearance of Christ Himself, along with some angels, keeping watch over Jerusalem.
2. THE FOUR HORNS (1:18-19)  
These may represent the four world powers of Assyria, Babylon, Persia and Rome.
3. THE FOUR ARTISANS (1:20,21)  
Probably these are the first four sealed judgments of Revelation Six.



## ZECHARIAH, continued

### MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

4. A MAN WITH A MEASURING LINE (2:1-13)  
This refers to the measuring of Jerusalem during the Millennium.
5. THE VISION OF CONFRONTATION IN HEAVEN (3:1-10)  
Joshua is standing before the Angel of the Lord with Satan at his right hand resisting.
6. THE GOLDEN LAMP STANDS AND THE TWO OLIVE TREES (4:1-14)  
This, historically, refers to Zerubbabel and Joshua; prophetically, it refers to Elijah and Moses (see Revelation 11:3-12).
7. THE FLYING SCROLL (5:1-4)  
This represents God's judgment upon the land for breaking the moral law of God.
8. THE WOMAN IN THE EPHAH (5:5-11)  
This represents a type of sin and rebellion that began in Genesis Eleven and ended in Revelation Eighteen.
9. THE FOUR CHARIOTS (6:1-8)  
Four heavenly spirits or angels driving four chariots coming from two brass mountains...probably represents four plagues of Revelation Six from the mountain of God's judgment.
10. THE CROWNING OF JOSHUA (6:9-15)  
This act illustrates the three-fold ministry of the coming Messiah. He will build the temple, minister as a Priest, and rule as a King.  
  
There are some twenty-eight Zechariah's in the Bible. This one followed his grandfather in the priestly office. Undoubtedly, his father, Berechiah, died, and Zechariah became a priest after Iddo, his grandfather. He is mentioned in Ezra 5:1; 6:14, as the "son of Iddo" for that reason.

### ZECHARIAH SPEAKS OF THE FOLLOWING MESSIANIC PASSAGES:

1. Christ, The Branch (3:8)
2. Christ, The Servant (3:8)
3. Christ, The Smitten Shepherd (13:7)
4. Christ, The Triumphant Entry (9:9)
5. Christ's Betrayal For Thirty Pieces of Silver (11:12,13)
6. Christ's Hands and Feet Pierced (12:10)
7. Christ's Return To The Mount of Olives (14:3-8)

## MALACHI

### “THE MESSENGER OF THE LORD”

**KEY VERSE:** MALACHI 3:1

“Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.”

**THEME:** Against a backdrop of God’s love toward Israel, the people had begun to neglect the house of God and had become lax and degenerate. Their sacrifices were inferior, the tithes were being neglected, divorce had become common, and the people had reverted to the old practice of intermarrying idolatrous neighbors.

**DATE:** Approximately 420 B.C.

The temple at Jerusalem had been completed when the Book of Malachi was written. The altar was in existence and sacrifices were being presented to the Lord. (1:7-10; 3:8)

The Book was composed later than Haggai and Zechariah, who pleaded for the completion of the building of the temple.

It is probable, therefore, that Malachi wrote his message in the days of Nehemiah, while the wall was being built. In that case, Malachi was written about 420 B.C.

**WRITER:** THE HOLY SPIRIT, writing through MALACHI

- Malachi means “My Messenger,” or “Messenger of Jehovah.”
- He gives us a message to condemn the social evils of the day.
- Some think that the Hebrew word “Malakiyah” (Malachi) is simply a title of an anonymous prophet who penned the words. Since all of the other eleven minor prophets have their own names, we believe this one is no exception.
- We know little about Malachi, except that he was a faithful and courageous mouthpiece of God to an extremely wicked nation.

**WRITTEN:** The Book of Malachi was written after Israel’s seventy years of captivity was complete. They had returned to Palestine, rebuilt the temple under Zerubbabel and the governor and Joshua, the high priest.

Haggai and Zechariah had gotten behind the people and pressed them into completing the work. Ezra had come later and let another group to re-establish the temple worship and to re-institute sound legislation. Nehemiah had then come to be governor of Jerusalem and rebuilt the city walls.

After completing the walls in fifty-two days, Nehemiah returned to Babylon to continue his work as the king’s cupbearer. During his absence, dreadful moral abuses appeared among the remnant. When he returned, he took drastic action.

It was during this time and setting that Malachi prophesied. Probably his messages were written while Nehemiah was back in Babylon.

## MALACHI, continued

THE BOOK: NO. IN BIBLE: 39th Book  
NO. OF CHAPTERS: 4  
NO. OF VERSES: 55  
NO. IN ORDER OF WRITING: Twelfth Book of Minor Prophecy

PURPOSE: There Is a Three-Fold Purpose In the Writing of Malachi”

1. To condemn the social evils of the time.
2. To show that God is the Moral Ruler of the world and that it is wise to serve Him.
3. To foretell the coming of John the Baptist before Christ and that of Elijah before the Second Coming of Christ.

DIVISIONS: The Prophecy of Malachi Is Divided Into Six Sections:

1. Jehovah’s love for His people (1:1-5)
2. The rebuke of the priests (1:6-2:9)
3. The rebuke of the social conditions (2:10-16)
4. Announcement of the Messenger and the Day of the Lord (3:1-6)
5. The rebuke for defrauding the Lord. (3:7-15)
6. The remnant and the concluding prophecy (3:16-4:6)

FACTS:

- Malachi prophesied probably one hundred years later than Haggai and Zechariah.
- Everything was in a state of religious and moral decline.
- The religious attitude was characterized by sacrilege and profanity.
- Prevailing moral sins of witchcraft, adultery, perjury, fraud and oppression were common.
- Social conditions were highlighted by disregard of family responsibilities.
- Gross materialism of the age was reflected by “robbing God.”
- The people reflected an attitude of sneering self-defense.
- Skepticism and formality are seen in full bloom and is carried over into the Phariseeism and Sadduceeism in the time of Christ.
- Malachi set out to catalog the sins of the nation.
- Malachi pointed back to Moses, the great representative of the law, and to Elijah, the great representative of the prophets.
- He then foretold the coming again of Elijah, which would be fulfilled in the ministry of John the Baptist.
- It is interesting that the last word of the Book of Malachi and the last word of the Old Testament is the word “*curse*.”

OUTLINE:

- I. INTRODUCTION (1:1)  
(The word “*burden*” here means judgment)
- II. GOD’S LOVE FOR ISRAEL (1:2-8)
  - A. God’s Love Stated (1:2a)
  - B. God’s Love Questioned (1:2b)
  - C. God’s Love Proven (1:2b-4)
  - D. God’s Love to be Perceived (1:5)

## MALACHI, continued

### OUTLINE, continued:

- III. GOD'S INDICTMENT OF THE PRIESTS (2:6-9)
  - A. The Indictment (2:6a)
  - B. The Indictment Questioned (2:6b)
  - C. The Indictment Proven (2:7-9)
  - D. The Indictment's Penalty (1:14; 2:9)
  - E. The Indictment's Consequences (2:8,9)
- IV. GOD'S INDICTMENT OF THE UNFAITHFULNESS OF THE PEOPLE (2:10-4:3)
  - A. The Treachery of the People (2:11-16)
  - B. Their Questioning the Goodness of God. (2:17)
- V. GOD'S FINAL OLD TESTAMENT WORDS TO ISRAEL (4:4-6)
  - A. Remembering the Law of Moses (4:4)
  - B. The Promise of Elijah (4:5)

### MISCELLANEOUS:

#### SEVEN QUESTION ASKED BY THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

1. *"In what way has Thou loved us?"* (1:2)
2. *"In what way have we despised Thy name?"* (1:6)
3. *"In what way have we polluted Thee?"* (1:7)
4. *"In what way have we wearied Him?"* (2:17)
5. *"In what way shall we return?"* (2:17)
6. *"How have we robbed Thee?"* (3:8)
7. *"What have we spoken so much against Thee?"* (3:13)

Old

Some have noted that Malachi could be looked upon as a miniature summary of the Testament.

He covers five key truths found in other Books. They are:

1. The selection of Israel by God (1:2; 2:4-6,10)
2. The transgression of Israel against God (1:6; 2:11-17)
3. The manifestation of the Messiah (3:1; 4:2)
4. The tribulation upon the nations (4:1)
5. The purification of Israel, at least (3:2-4;12,16-18; 4:2-6)

#### MALACHI COMPARED TO MOSES...

1. Moses gives us the first Old Testament prophecy concerning the Messiah (Genesis 3:15)
2. Malachi lists the last Old Testament prophecy concerning the Messiah (Malachi 4:2)

The Love of God was Scorned by the People In At Least Six Ways...

1. Through Their Inequalities (2:10)
2. Through Their Intermarriages (2:11)
3. Through Their Immoralities (2:14)
4. Through Their Insincerity (2:17)
5. Through Their Indebtedness (3:10)
6. Through Their Incriminations (3:13-15)

## MALACHI, continued

MISCELLANEOUS, continued:

CONCERNING JOHN THE BAPTIST...

Dr. J. Vernon McGee writes,

“Malachi announced the coming of John the Baptist as ‘My messenger’.”

John was the Malachi of the New Testament and began where Malachi of the Old Testament left off.

Malachi was the first radio announcer who said, “The next voice you hear will be that of the Lord’s messenger.”