

# **The Minor Prophets**

Lee Campbell

# Registration Issues

- If you are not registered - do so.
- If you have not paid - do so.
- Pick up copies of the hand-outs

One copy each please!

# Course Overview

- Let's examine the syllabus.
- Let's look at the handouts.
  - Appendices A - I
  - Tables 1 & 2;
  - Bibliography

# Minor Prophets

- Introduction
- An Overview of Prophecy
- *The Day of the Lord*
- God in Human History

# Introduction

- Core message → *God's in charge*
  1. God's goals should be prioritized.
  2. God can, must and will judge human rebellion but is deeply burdened about its affects.
  3. God disciplines to motivate change.

# Introduction

- Core message
- The Tenach

The description and history of God's relationships with people, nations and his special contractual relationship with Israel.

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The description and history of God's relationships with people, nations and his special contractual relationship with Israel.

Why call it the Old Testament?

“The day is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah...this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day”...“I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Jeremiah 31:31,33

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

Luke 22:20

This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 26:27f & 1Corinthians 11:23ff



# Introduction

- Core message
- The Tenach (c.f. Appendix D)

## The Law - the Pentateuch

- from *yarah* - to throw, aim or shoot
- Denotes - guidance, instruction & law

## The Writings - Books of Wisdom

## The Prophets - Former & Latter

# Introduction

- Core message

- The Tenach

The Dodecapropheton

Earliest reference:

And may the bones of the Twelve Prophets  
revive out their place, for they comforted Jacob  
and delivered them with their confident hope.

Ecclesiasticus 49:10 (c.180 BC)

# Introduction

- Core message

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## The Dodecapropheton

- Early 800's to late 700's BC -  
Obadiah, Joel & Jonah

- 700's BC - Amos, Hosea, Micah &  
Nahum

- 600's BC - Zephaniah & Habakkuk

- 500's to 400's BC - The postexilic  
prophets Haggai, Zechariah &  
Malachi

# Minor Prophets

- Introduction
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- An Overview of Prophecy

# Prophecy

- **What is prophecy?**

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  - A forth-telling

# Prophecy

- **What is prophecy?**
  - The proclamation of a prophet
  - Forth-telling
  - Foretelling



If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken Deut. 18:22

I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. Isaiah 46:9b-10

...I told you these things long ago...so you could not say, 'my idols did them.'...now I tell you of new things ...so you cannot say, 'Yes, I knew of them.'

Isaiah 48:5ff

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A seer is one who receives a  
vision

The *hazon* (vision) concerning Judah and  
Jerusalem that Isaiah, son of Amoz *hazut* (saw)  
... Isaiah 1:1

The words of Amos, one of the shepherds of  
Tekoa - what he *hazah* (saw) concerning  
Israel... Amos 1:1

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- **What is a prophet?**
- **What is the purpose of prophecy?**
  - To encourage dependence on God
  - To remind of the covenant conditions
  - To remind of the unconditional parts of the covenant
  - To call on people to change their minds
  - To validate the authenticity of the message



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Kinds of prophecies:  
unambiguous, gap, double  
reference, type prophecies &  
motif

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When the enemies of God & humanity are judged.

When God's people are purged, cleansed and redeemed.

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- God in Human History

# **God in Human History**

- **The history of the divided monarchy**



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  - God divided Israel over idolatry.
    - Northern 10 tribes under Jeroboam
    - Southern 2 tribes under Rehoboam

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  - God divided Israel over idolatry
    - Northern 10 tribes under Jeroboam
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  - There were tremendous pressures upon Judah & Israel from surrounding nations.



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- **The history of the divided monarchy**
  - God divided Israel over idolatry
    - Northern 10 tribes under Jeroboam
    - Southern 2 tribes under Rehoboam
  - There were tremendous pressures upon Judah & Israel from surrounding nations.
  - Israel (721 BC) then Judah (586 BC) fell to foreign invaders.

# God in Human History

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
  - God divided Israel over idolatry
  - There were tremendous pressures upon Judah & Israel from surrounding nations.
  - Israel (721 BC) then Judah (597 BC) fell to foreign invaders.
  - After resettlement (538, 457 & 445 BC) no more idolatry

# **God in Human History**

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- **The Promises of God**

# **God in Human History**

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
- **The Promises of God**
  - Abrahamic Covenant

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Gen.12:1-3

(c.f. 15:1-21 for the cutting of the covenant)



# **God in Human History**

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
- **The Promises of God**
  - Abrahamic Covenant - unilateral
  - The Mosaic Covenant

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself and idol...You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God...Remember the sabbath...Honor your father and your mother...You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony...You shall not covet.

Exodus 20:1-17

Deut. 4 (Deut.6-11, 28) – blessings for fidelity & curses for infidelity

# **God in Human History**

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
- **The Promises of God**
  - Abrahamic Covenant - unilateral
  - Mosaic Covenant - bilateral
  - Davidic Covenant

...tell my servant David...I will make your name great...I will provide a place for my people Israel...so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed...I will also give you rest from all your enemies...will establish a house for you...I will establish his kingdom. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

2 Samuel 7:4-16

see also Psalm 89:3f; 26ff & Psalm 132:11-18

# **God in Human History**

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
- **The Promises of God**
  - Abrahamic Covenant - unilateral
  - Mosaic Covenant - bilateral
  - Davidic Covenant - some unilateral & some bilateral features

# God in Human History

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
- **The Promises of God**
  - Abrahamic Covenant - unilateral
  - Mosaic Covenant - bilateral
  - Davidic Covenant - some unilateral & some bilateral elements
  - **Problem** - these promises clash with each other!

# God in Human History

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
- **The Promises of God**
  - These promises clash with each other!
    - How can a destroyed nation (under the Mosaic) fulfill the Abrahamic & Davidic covenants?

# God in Human History

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  - How can a destroyed nation (under the Mosaic) fulfill the Abrahamic & Davidic covenants?

**God will resurrect the destroyed nation!**



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- **The Promises of God**
  - These promises clash with each other!
    - How can a destroyed nation fulfill the other covenants?
    - How can a dead-end lineage produce an eternal king (under the Davidic)?

# God in Human History

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
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      - How can a dead-end lineage produce an eternal king (Davidic)?
- An eternal messiah will fulfill the Davidic covenant!**

# God in Human History

- **The history of the divided monarchy**
  - **The Promises of God**
    - These promises clash with each other!
      - How can a destroyed nation fulfill the other covenants?
      - How can a dead-end lineage produce an eternal king (Davidic)?
- A 'servant' of God will fulfill the Abrahamic & Mosaic covenants!**

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# Homework Assignment

- Read the historical documents
- Read & annotate Obadiah, Joel & Jonah
- Memorize Joel 2:13 & Jonah 2:8
- Ponder the personal application of these books
- **Prepare answers to the following:**