

The Minor Prophets

General Introduction

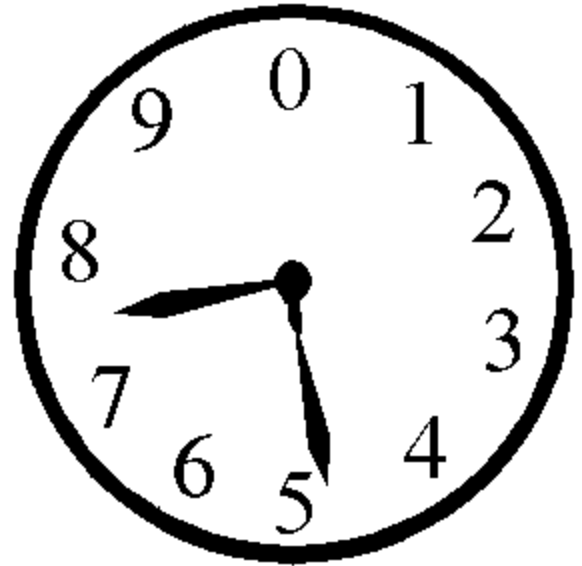
Improvements

- Better Presentation
 - Fewer, better notes on Powerpoint
- Take Video
- Post Video and Notes to Website
- Overlay Notes on Video
- Stream Live Add Chat



Schedule

- Doors Open at 7:30
- Singing Begins at 7:45
- Lesson Begins at 8:00
- Lesson Ends at 8:50
- Doors Closed at 9:00



How You Can Help

- Bring your own Bible
- Make/keep copies for visitors
- Help with music, attendance
- Help with video and web site
- Come on time & bring friends



Putting Things in Perspective

New Testament → Old Testament

Old Testament = Hebrew Bible (Tanakh)

Same content

Different order



Three Parts = Law, Prophets, Writings

└→ Torah = Instruction

The Prophets



Former Prophets = Joshua,
Judges, Samuel, Kings

Latter Prophets = Isaiah, Jeremiah,
Ezekiel, The Book of 12

The Writings = 11 Books = 3 Poetic Books (Psalms, Job, Proverbs) + The “Five Scrolls” (Ruth, Esther, Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, Song of Solomon) + 4 books of “revisionist history” (1, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah) + Daniel

Historical Focus

- Torah → Until the death of Moses
1500 BC
- Former → Joshua – Fall of Jerusalem
Prophets 587 BC
- Latter Prophets → From 800 BC

The Book of 12 (Minor Prophets)

Not less important than Isaiah,
Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.

The 12 belong together in this order
Organization is somehow meaningful

Hints of Structure

Hosea, **Joel**, Amos,

Sin

Obadiah, Jonah, Micah 800 – 700 BC

Nahum, Habakkuk,

Punishment

Zephaniah

700 – 600 BC

Haggai, Zechariah

Restoration

Malachi

520 – 420 BC

Composition of Biblical Prophecy

Like the ***Book of 12***, each of the 12 books is itself a compilation of writings

The same is true for all or most of the prophetic books and for Torah itself.

Questions of authorship are not simple

What is a Prophet?

Each of the Latter Prophets is associated with a named individual, typically one identified as a prophet.

A prophet is ... one who receives and transmits a special revelation from God

Understanding Prophecy

Revelations from God are veiled
Prophecy is inherently obscure

We must be careful and not overly
literal when reading it

Some prophecy may
remain obscure to us!



Looking Ahead to Next Week

We will begin reading Hosea, the last one to prophesy before the Northern Kingdom fell to Assyria in 722 B.C.

This book is best known for its first three chapters.

Please read these before next week.

Questions

1. What is the central message of Hosea 1 – 3?
2. How do the three chapters relate to one another?
3. Do you think Hosea really did marry a whore?