

The Twelve Minor Prophets

Early Assyrian - 9th Century BC (800s)

Prophet	Date	Target	Main Points
Obadiah	845 B.C.	Edom	destruction for pride Mt. Esau (Seir) vs. Mt Zion
Joel	830 B.C.	Judah	locust plague 2:28 fulfilled in Acts 2
Jonah	790 B.C.	Nineveh	Universal Salvation, gospel in OT; symbol of Christ's resurrection

Assyrian Period - 8th Century B.C. (700s)

Prophet	Date	Target	Main Points
Amos	755 B.C.	Israel	shepherd from the south "justice & righteousness"
Hosea	750 B.C.	Israel	God's suffering for man's sin 4:6
Micah	735 B.C.	Israel & Judah	6:8 - What God requires 5:2 - Bethlehem

Babylonian Period - 7th Century B.C. (600s)

Prophet	Date	Target	Main Points
Zephaniah	730 B.C.	Judah	a scathing, hot rebuke
Nahum	626 B.C.	Nineveh	Assyrian fall is utter, swift; a great "At last!"
Habakkuk	625 B.C.	Judah	God uses the wicked to pun- ish His people: 2:4

The captivity itself is covered by Daniel & Ezekiel

Post-Exile Period - 6th & 5th Centuries (500-400s)

Prophet	Date	Target	Main Points
Haggai	520 B.C.	remnant	call to rebuild Temple nations shaken - Hebrews 12:28
Zechariah	520 B.C.	remnant	God's New Temple ver Mes- sianic book
Malachi	444 B.C.	all Israel	last book before silence; sarcastic; "Elijah" to come

THE BOOK OF OBADIAH
Lesson 23

Obadiah a prophecy against Edom. Obadiah means “servant.” There are several “Obadiah’s” mentioned in the O.T. c.f. 1 Kings 18:3 16; 2 Chron. 17:7; 25:7; 34:12 . Whether the prophet of this book is one of these other Obadiah’s is uncertain. Obadiah probably prophesied about the time of Isaiah, during the reign of Ahaz, when many calamities befell Judah, calamities befell Judah, and the Edomites rejoiced over and even helped promote these troubles 2 Kings 16:6 8; 2 Chron. 28:6 8, 17 18 . The period of his prophesy is 597 BC.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF OBADIAH

- I. EDOM TO BE DESTROYED, DESPITE HER SEEMING SECURITY IN HER ROCKY FORTRESS.: VS. 1 9
- II. THE REASON FOR THIS DESTRUCTION: EDOM’S CRUELTY TO JACOB, HER REJOICING OVER JUDAH’S ADVERSITY.: VS. 10 14
- III. RETRIBUTION TO EDOM AND RESTORATION TO ISRAEL: VS. 15 21

THE BOOK OF JOEL

Joel “the day of the Lord” means “Jehovah is My God”. Joel uses a locust plague followed or accompanied by a drought as the basis for projecting the terrors of judgment to the unrepentant. Jesus similarly used local disasters to present the danger of judgment “except ye repent.” Luke 13 Much imagery and symbolism is used in Joel: the locusts are “a nation without number,” having “teeth of a lion...the jaw teeth of a lioness.” “The day of the Lord” is always a time of judgment in the Bible; in the O.T. it represents various judgments of God upon the wicked whether Israel or the nations ; and in the N.T. the “day of the Lord” is always the final judgment day. (2 Peter 3:10; 1 Thes. 5:2)

BRIEF OUTLINE OF JOEL

- I. HISTORICAL DESOLATION: 1:1 2:17
 - A. The Fact of Desolation: 1
 1. The situation: vss. 2:12 locusts relentless
 2. The exhortation: vss. 13, 14 a call to penitence
 3. The supplication: vss. 15 20 a cry of prayer
 - B. The Cause of Desolation: 2:1 17
 1. The situation: vss. 1 11 locusts resistless
 2. The exhortation: vss. 12 17a a call to penitence
 3. The supplication: vss. 17b a cry of prayer
- II. PROPHETICAL DELIVERANCE: 2:18 3:21
 - Promise of present blessing: 2:18 27
 1. Restoration of Judah: 2:18, 19, 28 3:1
 2. Vistation of Enemies: 2:20 3:2 17
 3. Fertilization of the Land: 2:21 27; 3:18 21

THE BOOK OF JONAH

Jonah the repentance of Ninevah. It means “a dove.” Jonah prophesied during the reign of Jeroboam II of Israel 2 Kings 14:25 , just before Assyria took Israel into captivity. But at the time Jonah was prophesying, Jeroboam II captured Hamath and Damascus, and extended the borders of Israel from Hamath south to the Dead Sea, making Israel Northern Kingdom at the zenith of its power and possessions, though morally corrupt and very wicked. The dating of his prophesy is the years 784 772 BC.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF JONAH

- I. THE PRODIGAL PROPHET: 1
- II. THE PRAYING PROPHET: 2
- III. THE PREACHING PROPHET: 3
- IV. THE POUTING PROPHET: 4

**Books of Minor Prophets
Obadiah, Joel and Jonah
Lesson 23**

I. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. List three teachings of Obadiah: _____

2. Describe the terrors of the coming day of the Lord: Joel 2:1-11 _____

3. In view of this coming judgment, what should the people do? _____

4. What are the consequences of the day of the Lord to God's enemies and to his people? _____

5. Why did Jonah attempt to flee to Tarshish? _____

6. What caused Jonah to repent and go preach to Nineveh? _____

7. What was the result of Jonah's preaching to Nineveh? _____

8. Why was Jonah angry at the repentance of Nineveh? _____

9. Describe the lesson of the gourd: _____

10. What was wrong with Jonah's attitude? _____

II. TRUE OR FALSE

- ___ 1. Obadiah makes charges against Edom.
- ___ 2. Obadiah speaks of robbers stealing until they have enough.
- ___ 3. Joel speaks of what the swarming locust leaves the chewing locust will eat.
- ___ 4. Joel will pour out his spirit on all flesh.
- ___ 5. It was impossible for Jonah to have been in the belly of a whale because his throat is too small.

III. RESEARCH

Where is Joel 2:28 quoted and what fulfillment is given for the passage? _____

IV. THOUGHT QUESTION

When did the latter days begin? how can we be certain _____

