

# THE PROPHETS

August 21, 2013 – Concluding Lecture  
Lakeside Institute of Theology  
Ross Arnold, Summer 2013

# Prophets (OT4)

1. Introduction – the Place of the Prophets
2. Major Prophets and Isaiah
3. Jeremiah and Lamentations
4. Ezekiel and Daniel
5. Book of the Twelve (Minor Prophets) – Hosea, Joel and Amos
6. Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephaniah
7. Post-Exilic Prophets – Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi
8. The Message of the Prophets; Final Exam

# Eschatology & the Message of the Prophets

- “Eschatology” – the study of the end times, or last things (from Greek “*eschaton*,” meaning “*last*”).
- Pre-modern society gave priority primarily to the past – where you came from was more important than where you are going.
- Modernity gave priority to the future, with the expectation that human achievement (especially thru science) would continually make the future better.
- Post-modernity saw a return of fear and pessimism, with a sense of skepticism and foreboding about the future and a resultant emphasis on the present.
- The Bible, *and especially the Prophets*, tell us that God is in control of where history is headed.

# Eschatology & the Message of the Prophets

- The Prophets spent most of their time proclaiming the broken covenant and pronouncing judgment.
- A smaller (yet very important) part of the OT prophetic message had to do with future restoration and the coming of the Messiah.
- The predictive aspects of the OT Prophets center around SIX central issues:
  - 1. The land.
  - 2. The *near view/far view* phenomenon.
  - 3. Conditional prophecy.
  - 4. Figurative language.
  - 5. Relationship between Israel and the Church.
  - 6. The nature of the future kingdom.