

# THE PROPHETS

August 14, 2013 –  
Post-Exilic Prophets - Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Lakeside Institute of Theology  
Ross Arnold, Summer 2013

# Prophets (OT4)

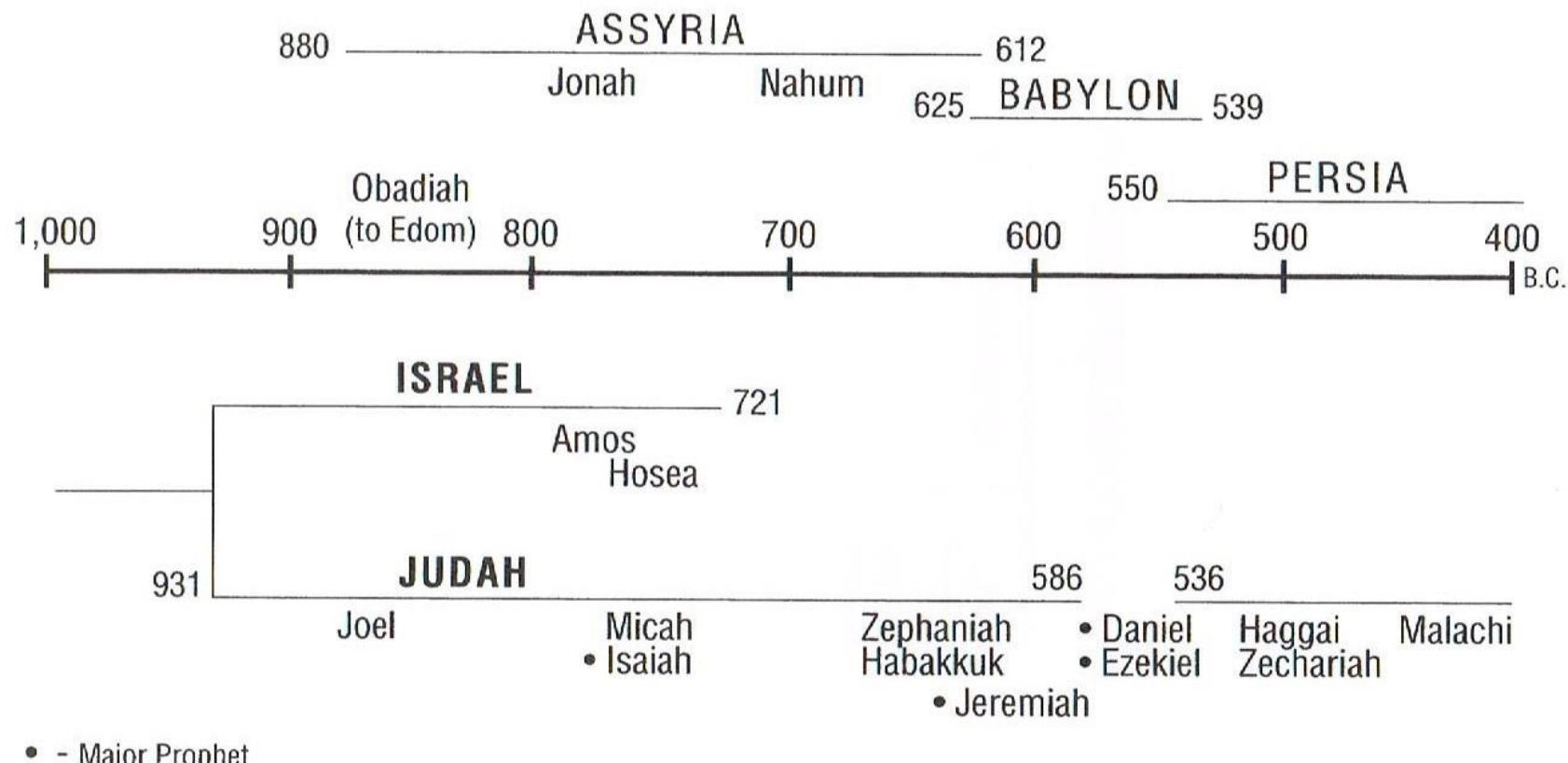
1. Introduction – the Place of the Prophets
2. Major Prophets and Isaiah
3. Jeremiah and Lamentations
4. Ezekiel and Daniel
5. Book of the Twelve (Minor Prophets) –  
Hosea, Joel and Amos
6. Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk  
and Zephaniah
7. Post-Exilic Prophets – Haggai, Zechariah  
and Malachi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

# **+The 12 Books of the Minor Prophets+**

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- **Hosea** – Israel condemned, but God's love remains and He will redeem.
- **Joel** – Prediction of foreign invasion as God's judgment.
- **Amos** – Eight declarations of judgment against Israel.
- **Obadiah** – Prophesy of the destruction of Edom.
- **Jonah** – Reluctant prophet leads Nineveh to repent.
- **Micah** – Prediction of destruction and messianic restoration.
- **Nahum** – Prophesy of destruction of Nineveh.
- **Habakkuk** – God is questioned and then praised for the approaching judgment against Judah.
- **Zephaniah** – Prediction of judgment and tremendous blessing.
- **Haggai** – Call to rebuild the Temple.
- **Zechariah** – Messianic prophesy calling for completion of the Temple.
- **Malachi** – God continues to love, despite Israel's lethargy in following God in the completed Temple and Jerusalem.

## CHRONOLOGY OF THE PROPHETS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH





# The Book of Haggai

- Author: Prophet Haggai
- Date: 520 BC
- Theme: Call to rebuild the Temple.
- Purpose: To challenge the Remnant to reorder priorities & rebuild the Temple to receive God's blessings.
- Outline:
  - \*Completion of Latter Temple (1)
  - \*Future Glory of the Temple (2:1-9)
  - \*Blessings of Obedience (2:10-19)
  - \*Future Blessings Promised (2:20-23)

In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest:

<sup>2</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord’s house.’”

<sup>3</sup> Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: <sup>4</sup> “Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?”

<sup>5</sup> Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. <sup>6</sup> You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.”

<sup>7</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. <sup>8</sup> Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the Lord. <sup>9</sup> “You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?” declares the Lord Almighty. “Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. <sup>11</sup> I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the olive oil and everything else the ground produces, on people and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands.”

Haggai 1:1-11

Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the Lord their God and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the Lord their God had sent him. And the people feared the Lord.

<sup>13</sup> Then Haggai, the Lord's messenger, gave this message of the Lord to the people: "I am with you," declares the Lord. <sup>14</sup> So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the Lord Almighty, their God, <sup>15</sup> on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month.

Haggai 1:12-15

In the second year of King Darius,<sup>2:1</sup> on the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai:  
<sup>2</sup>“Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them,<sup>3</sup> ‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing? <sup>4</sup> But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’

<sup>6</sup>“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. <sup>7</sup> I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty. <sup>8</sup>‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup>‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

Haggai 1:15-2:9

“Now give careful thought to this from this day on—consider how things were before one stone was laid on another in the Lord’s temple. <sup>16</sup> When anyone came to a heap of twenty measures, there were only ten. When anyone went to a wine vat to draw fifty measures, there were only twenty. <sup>17</sup> I struck all the work of your hands with blight, mildew and hail, yet you did not return to me,’ declares the Lord. <sup>18</sup> ‘From this day on, from this twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, give careful thought to the day when the foundation of the Lord’s temple was laid. Give careful thought: <sup>19</sup> Is there yet any seed left in the barn? Until now, the vine and the fig tree, the pomegranate and the olive tree have not borne fruit.

“From this day on I will bless you.”

Haggai 2:15-19

# The Book of Zechariah

- Author: Zechariah, son of Berechiah
- Date: c. 520 BC - 486 BC
- Theme: Messianic prophesy calling for completion of the Temple.
- Purpose: To encourage completion of the Temple as the symbol of a blessed Messianic future.
- Outline:
  - \*The Eight Visions (1-6)
  - \*The Four Messages (7-8)
  - \*The Two Burdens/Oracles (9-14)

In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo:

<sup>2</sup> “The Lord was very angry with your ancestors. <sup>3</sup> Therefore tell the people: This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘Return to me,’ declares the Lord Almighty, ‘and I will return to you,’ says the Lord Almighty. <sup>4</sup> Do not be like your ancestors, to whom the earlier prophets proclaimed: This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘Turn from your evil ways and your evil practices.’ But they would not listen or pay attention to me, declares the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Where are your ancestors now? And the prophets, do they live forever? <sup>6</sup> But did not my words and my decrees, which I commanded my servants the prophets, overtake your ancestors?

“Then they repented and said, ‘The Lord Almighty has done to us what our ways and practices deserve, just as he determined to do.’”

Zechariah 1:1-6

On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo. . .

<sup>12</sup> Then the angel of the Lord said, “Lord Almighty, how long will you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and from the towns of Judah, which you have been angry with these seventy years?” <sup>13</sup> So the Lord spoke kind and comforting words to the angel who talked with me.

<sup>14</sup> Then the angel who was speaking to me said, “Proclaim this word: This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘I am very jealous for Jerusalem and Zion, <sup>15</sup> and I am very angry with the nations that feel secure. I was only a little angry, but they went too far with the punishment.’”

<sup>16</sup> “Therefore this is what the Lord says: ‘I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. And the measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem,’ declares the Lord Almighty.

<sup>17</sup> “Proclaim further: This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘My towns will again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.’”

Zechariah 1:7-17

Then I looked up, and there before me was a man with a measuring line in his hand. <sup>2</sup>I asked, “Where are you going?”

He answered me, “To measure Jerusalem, to find out how wide and how long it is.”

<sup>3</sup>While the angel who was speaking to me was leaving, another angel came to meet him <sup>4</sup>and said to him: “Run, tell that young man, ‘Jerusalem will be a city without walls because of the great number of people and animals in it. <sup>5</sup>And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,’ declares the Lord, ‘and I will be its glory within.’”

<sup>6</sup>“Come! Come! Flee from the land of the north,” declares the Lord, “for I have scattered you to the four winds of heaven,” declares the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>“Come, Zion! Escape, you who live in Daughter Babylon!” <sup>8</sup>For this is what the Lord Almighty says: “After the Glorious One has sent me against the nations that have plundered you—for whoever touches you touches the apple of his eye—<sup>9</sup>I will surely raise my hand against them so that their slaves will plunder them. Then you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me.

<sup>10</sup>“Shout and be glad, Daughter Zion. For I am coming, and I will live among you,” declares the Lord. <sup>11</sup>“Many nations will be joined with the Lord in that day and will become my people. I will live among you and you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you. <sup>12</sup>The Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>Be still before the Lord, all mankind, because he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.” Zechariah 2

Then the angel who talked with me returned and woke me up, like someone awakened from sleep. <sup>2</sup> He asked me, “What do you see?”

I answered, “I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lamps on it, with seven channels to the lamps. <sup>3</sup> Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.”

<sup>4</sup> I asked the angel who talked with me, “What are these, my lord?”

<sup>5</sup> He answered, “Do you not know what these are?”

“No, my lord,” I replied.

<sup>6</sup> So he said to me, “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>7</sup> “What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of ‘God bless it! God bless it!’”

<sup>8</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to me: <sup>9</sup> “The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands will also complete it. Then you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you.

<sup>10</sup> “Who dares despise the day of small things, since the seven eyes of the Lord that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?”

Zechariah 4:1-10

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Zechariah 4:1-10

I looked again, and there before me was a flying scroll.

<sup>2</sup> He asked me, “What do you see?” I answered, “I see a flying scroll, twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide.”

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, “This is the curse that is going out over the whole land; for according to what it says on one side, every thief will be banished, and according to what it says on the other, everyone who swears falsely will be banished. <sup>4</sup> The Lord Almighty declares, ‘I will send it out, and it will enter the house of the thief and the house of anyone who swears falsely by my name. It will remain in that house and destroy it completely, both its timbers and its stones.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the angel who was speaking to me came forward and said to me, “Look up and see what is appearing.”

<sup>6</sup> I asked, “What is it?” He replied, “It is a basket.” And he added, “This is the iniquity of the people throughout the land.”

<sup>7</sup> Then the cover of lead was raised, and there in the basket sat a woman! <sup>8</sup> He said, “This is wickedness,” and he pushed her back into the basket and pushed its lead cover down on it.

<sup>9</sup> Then I looked up—and there before me were two women, with the wind in their wings! They had wings like those of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between heaven and earth.

<sup>10</sup> “Where are they taking the basket?” I asked the angel who was speaking to me. <sup>11</sup> He replied, “To the country of Babylonia to build a house for it. When the house is ready, the basket will be set there in its place.”

The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>10</sup> “Take silver and gold from the exiles Heldai, Tobijah and Jedaiah, who have arrived from Babylon. Go the same day to the house of Josiah son of Zephaniah. <sup>11</sup> Take the silver and gold and make a crown, and set it on the head of the high priest, Joshua son of Jozadak. <sup>12</sup> Tell him this is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘Here is the man whose name is the Branch, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the Lord. <sup>13</sup> It is he who will build the temple of the Lord, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And he will be a priest on his throne. And there will be harmony between the two.’ <sup>14</sup> The crown will be given to Heldai, Tobijah, Jedaiah and Hen son of Zephaniah as a memorial in the temple of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> Those who are far away will come and help to build the temple of the Lord, and you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you. This will happen if you diligently obey the Lord your God.”

Zechariah 6:9-15

In the fourth year of King Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah on the fourth day of the ninth month, the month of Kislev. ...

<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the Lord Almighty came to me: <sup>5</sup> “Ask all the people of the land and the priests, ‘When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months for the past seventy years, was it really for me that you fasted? <sup>6</sup> And when you were eating and drinking, were you not just feasting for yourselves?...”

<sup>8</sup> And the word of the Lord came again to Zechariah: <sup>9</sup> “This is what the Lord Almighty said: ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. <sup>10</sup> Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other.’

<sup>11</sup> “But they refused to pay attention; stubbornly they turned their backs and covered their ears. <sup>12</sup> They made their hearts as hard as flint and would not listen to the law or to the words that the Lord Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets. So the Lord Almighty was very angry.

<sup>13</sup> “‘When I called, they did not listen; so when they called, I would not listen,’ says the Lord Almighty. <sup>14</sup> ‘I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations, where they were strangers. The land they left behind them was so desolate that no one traveled through it. This is how they made the pleasant land desolate.’”

The word of the Lord Almighty came to me.

<sup>2</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “I am very jealous for Zion; I am burning with jealousy for her.”

<sup>3</sup> This is what the Lord says: “I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the Faithful City, and the mountain of the Lord Almighty will be called the Holy Mountain.”

<sup>4</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Once again men and women of ripe old age will sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each of them with cane in hand because of their age. <sup>5</sup> The city streets will be filled with boys and girls playing there.”

<sup>6</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “It may seem marvelous to the remnant of this people at that time, but will it seem marvelous to me?” declares the Lord Almighty.

<sup>7</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “I will save my people from the countries of the east and the west. <sup>8</sup> I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as their God.”

Zechariah 8:1-8

This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Now hear these words, ‘Let your hands be strong so that the temple may be built.’ This is also what the prophets said who were present when the foundation was laid for the house of the Lord Almighty. <sup>10</sup> Before that time there were no wages for people or hire for animals. No one could go about their business safely because of their enemies, since I had turned everyone against their neighbor. <sup>11</sup> But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as I did in the past,” declares the Lord Almighty.

<sup>12</sup> “The seed will grow well, the vine will yield its fruit, the ground will produce its crops, and the heavens will drop their dew. I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of this people. <sup>13</sup> Just as you, Judah and Israel, have been a curse among the nations, so I will save you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong.”

<sup>14</sup> This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Just as I had determined to bring disaster on you and showed no pity when your ancestors angered me,” says the Lord Almighty, <sup>15</sup> “so now I have determined to do good again to Jerusalem and Judah. Do not be afraid. <sup>16</sup> These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts; <sup>17</sup> do not plot evil against each other, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this,” declares the Lord.

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious,  
lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the  
warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend  
from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with  
you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup> Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now  
I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

<sup>13</sup> I will bend Judah as I bend my bow and fill it with  
Ephraim.

I will rouse your sons, Zion, against your sons, Greece,  
and make you like a warrior's sword.

Zechariah 9:9-13

Then the Lord will appear over them; his arrow will flash like lightning.

The Sovereign Lord will sound the trumpet; he will march in the storms of the south,<sup>15</sup> and the Lord Almighty will shield them.

They will destroy and overcome with slingstones.

They will drink and roar as with wine; they will be full like a bowl used for sprinkling the corners of the altar.

<sup>16</sup> The Lord their God will save his people on that day as a shepherd saves his flock.

They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown.

<sup>17</sup> How attractive and beautiful they will be!

Grain will make the young men thrive, and new wine the young women.

Zechariah 9:14-17

“I will strengthen Judah and save the tribes of Joseph. I will restore them because I have compassion on them. They will be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them. <sup>7</sup> The Ephraimites will become like warriors, and their hearts will be glad as with wine. Their children will see it and be joyful; their hearts will rejoice in the Lord. <sup>8</sup> I will signal for them and gather them in. Surely I will redeem them; they will be as numerous as before. <sup>9</sup> Though I scatter them among the peoples, yet in distant lands they will remember me. They and their children will survive, and they will return. <sup>10</sup> I will bring them back from Egypt and gather them from Assyria. I will bring them to Gilead and Lebanon, and there will not be room enough for them. <sup>11</sup> They will pass through the sea of trouble; the surging sea will be subdued and all the depths of the Nile will dry up. Assyria’s pride will be brought down and Egypt’s scepter will pass away. <sup>12</sup> I will strengthen them in the Lord and in his name they will live securely,” declares the Lord.

Zechariah 10:6-12

Then I took two staffs and called one Favor and the other Union, and I shepherded the flock. <sup>8</sup> In one month I got rid of the three shepherds.

The flock detested me, and I grew weary of them <sup>9</sup> and said, “I will not be your shepherd. Let the dying die, and the perishing perish. Let those who are left eat one another’s flesh.”

<sup>10</sup> Then I took my staff called Favor and broke it, revoking the covenant I had made with all the nations. <sup>11</sup> It was revoked on that day, and so the oppressed of the flock who were watching me knew it was the word of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.

<sup>13</sup> And the Lord said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the Lord.

<sup>14</sup> Then I broke my second staff called Union, breaking the family bond between Judah and Israel.

<sup>15</sup> Then the Lord said to me, “Take again the equipment of a foolish shepherd. <sup>16</sup> For I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will not care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured, or feed the healthy, but will eat the meat of the choice sheep, tearing off their hooves.

Zechariah 11:7-16

“On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

<sup>2</sup> “On that day, I will banish the names of the idols from the land, and they will be remembered no more,” declares the Lord Almighty. “I will remove both the prophets and the spirit of impurity from the land. <sup>3</sup> And if anyone still prophesies, their father and mother, to whom they were born, will say to them, ‘You must die, because you have told lies in the Lord’s name.’ Then their own parents will stab the one who prophesies.

<sup>4</sup> “On that day every prophet will be ashamed of their prophetic vision. They will not put on a prophet’s garment of hair in order to deceive. <sup>5</sup> Each will say, ‘I am not a prophet. I am a farmer; the land has been my livelihood since my youth.’ <sup>6</sup> If someone asks, ‘What are these wounds on your body?’ they will answer, ‘The wounds I was given at the house of my friends.’

Zechariah 13:1-6

“Awake, sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is close to me!” declares the Lord Almighty.

“Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn my hand against the little ones.

<sup>8</sup> In the whole land,” declares the Lord, “two-thirds will be struck down and perish; yet one-third will be left in it.

<sup>9</sup> This third I will put into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold.

They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, ‘They are my people,’ and they will say, ‘The Lord is our God.’”

Zechariah 13:7-9

A day of the Lord is coming, Jerusalem, when your possessions will be plundered and divided up within your very walls.

<sup>2</sup> I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. <sup>3</sup> Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights on a day of battle. <sup>4</sup> On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south. <sup>5</sup> You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.

<sup>6</sup> On that day there will be neither sunlight nor cold, frosty darkness. <sup>7</sup> It will be a unique day—a day known only to the Lord—with no distinction between day and night. When evening comes, there will be light.

<sup>8</sup> On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half of it east to the Dead Sea and half of it west to the Mediterranean Sea, in summer and in winter. <sup>9</sup> The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and his name the only name.

Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, and to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles. <sup>17</sup> If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, they will have no rain. <sup>18</sup> If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The Lord will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles. <sup>19</sup> This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles.

<sup>20</sup> On that day holy to the Lord will be inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the Lord's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar. <sup>21</sup> Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the Lord Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord Almighty.

Zechariah 14:16-21

# The Book of Malachi

- Author: Prophet Malachi
- Date: c. 450 BC
- Theme: God continues to love, despite Israel's lethargy and backsliding.
- Purpose: To tell the people a lack of God's blessing isn't because God doesn't care, but is the fruit of disobedience.
- Outline:
  - \*Yahweh's love for Israel (1:1-5)
  - \*Corrupt sacrifices & priests (1:6-2:9)
  - \*Divorce & breaking covenant (2:10-16)
  - \*Where is the God of justice? (2:17-3:5)
  - \*Robbing Yahweh (3:6-12)
  - \*Deliverance for righteous; Fire for wicked (3:13-4:3)
  - \*Obey Moses and wait for Elijah (4:4-6)

“A son honors his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? If I am a master, where is the respect due me?” says the Lord Almighty.

“It is you priests who show contempt for my name.

“But you ask, ‘How have we shown contempt for your name?’

<sup>7</sup> “By offering defiled food on my altar.

“But you ask, ‘How have we defiled you?’

“By saying that the Lord’s table is contemptible. <sup>8</sup> When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice lame or diseased animals, is that not wrong? Try offering them to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you?” says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>9</sup> “Now plead with God to be gracious to us. With such offerings from your hands, will he accept you?”—says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 1:6-9

“Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you,” says the Lord Almighty, “and I will accept no offering from your hands. <sup>11</sup> My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations,” says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>12</sup> “But you profane it by saying, ‘The Lord’s table is defiled,’ and, ‘Its food is contemptible.’ <sup>13</sup> And you say, ‘What a burden!’ and you sniff at it contemptuously,” says the Lord Almighty.

“When you bring injured, lame or diseased animals and offer them as sacrifices, should I accept them from your hands?” says the Lord. <sup>14</sup> “Cursed is the cheat who has an acceptable male in his flock and vows to give it, but then sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord. For I am a great king,” says the Lord Almighty, “and my name is to be feared among the nations.

Malachi 1:10-14

Do we not all have one Father? Did not one God create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our ancestors by being unfaithful to one another? ...

<sup>13</sup> Another thing you do: You flood the Lord's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer looks with favor on your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. <sup>14</sup> You ask, "Why?" It is because the Lord is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.

<sup>15</sup> Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth.

<sup>16</sup> "The man who hates and divorces his wife," says the Lord, the God of Israel, "does violence to the one he should protect," says the Lord Almighty.

So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful. <sup>17</sup> You have wearied the Lord with your words.

"How have we wearied him?" you ask.

By saying, "All who do evil are good in the eyes of the Lord, and he is pleased with them" or "Where is the God of justice?" Mal. 2:10-17

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, <sup>4</sup> and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

<sup>5</sup> “So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurors, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 3:1-5

“I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. <sup>7</sup> Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord Almighty.

“But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’

<sup>8</sup> “Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me.

“But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’

“In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup> You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. <sup>10</sup> Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. <sup>11</sup> I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the Lord Almighty. <sup>12</sup> “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 3:6-12

“You have spoken arrogantly against me,” says the Lord.

“Yet you ask, ‘What have we said against you?’

14 “You have said, ‘It is futile to serve God. What do we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the Lord Almighty? 15 But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly evildoers prosper, and even when they put God to the test, they get away with it.’”

16 Then those who feared the Lord talked with each other, and the Lord listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the Lord and honored his name.

17 “On the day when I act,” says the Lord Almighty, “they will be my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as a father has compassion and spares his son who serves him.

18 And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.

Malachi 3:13-18

“Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the Lord Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them. <sup>2</sup> But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. <sup>3</sup> Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,” says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>4</sup> “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup> “See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. <sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”

Malachi 4:1-6