

Week Three: Literary Structure of the Twelve

The “Former Days”: From _____ to the period of the _____

The “Later Days”: From the _____ to the coming of _____

(Is. 2:2; Jer. 23:20; 30:24; 48:47; 49:39; Ezek. 39:8, 16; Dan. 2:28; 8:19, 23; 10:14; Hos. 3:5; Mic. 4:1; Hag. 2:9)

Crisis is coming. Focus on the sins of both Israel and Judah.

Hosea: Come Home, Unfaithful Israel

Joel: The Day of the Lord for Judah

Amos: Yahweh roars against Israel

Obadiah: Edom’s Fall and Judah’s Rise

Jonah: Yahweh – Savior of the Nations

Micah: Judgment and Restoration for Judah

Before the Destruction of Jerusalem. Focus on Judah

Nahum: Judgment On Fallen Assyria

Habakkuk: The Justice of God Against Babylon and Judah

Zephaniah: The Day of the Lord is Near

Restoration Covenant – Focus on Returnees from exile. (Ezra-Nehemiah)

Haggai: Rebuild the Temple

Zechariah: Yahweh the King to return to His people

Malachi: Be Faithful – The Day is Coming!

The minor prophets are one scroll – 1 Book.

Many of the books are connected one to another by themes.

- 1) Hosea 14:7 speaks of a return of the blessing of grain (bread) and wine.
Joel 1:4-11 speaks of judgment in terms of wine and grain.
- 2) Joel 3:16 says that Yahweh will roar from Zion
Amos 1:2 says that Yahweh roars from Zion
- 1) Amos 9: 12 Israel will possess Edom
Obadiah prophesies against Edom
- 4) Obadiah concludes in vv. 15-21 with the nations being judged and the kingdom shall be the Lord’s.
Jonah begins with God sending Jonah to the nation of Assyria.
- 5) Haggai and Zechariah both begin by dating their books by the reign of Darius the Mede.
- 6) Zechariah 14:21 ends by referring to the holiness of the people of the “Lord of Hosts.”
Malachi 1:4 begins with a word from the “Lord of Hosts” who convicts His people for their unholiness.

Homework assignment: Read the whole book of Haggai