

Hosea to Micah

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HOSEA

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Minor Prophets				
750 -- 710 BC	Hosea 14 Chapters	God is faithful	The prophet Hosea marries a prostitute, Gomer, as an illustration of God's love for faithless, idolatrous Israel.	Our Sin Distresses God	Jesus is the faithful husband even when we run away.

HOSEA

Chapters 1–3 use Hosea’s own marriage (Hosea’s Family) as a parable for the relationship between God and Israel. The dominant image is of Israel as an unfaithful wife.

God gives Hosea instructions to marry an unfaithful woman and he obeys. His unfaithful wife Gomer leaves him and finds another man. Hosea is faithful; he finds her, redeems her and brings her back home.

Hosea 3: 3

3 Then I said to her, “You shall stay with me for many days. You shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man; so I will also be toward you.”

HOSEA

Chapters 4–14 detail the comparison, with its series of accusations, warnings, appeals, and motivations (Promises for Israel) for God's people to return.

Hosea describes how Israel has been unfaithful to God. God wants Israel to repent and turn from their wickedness. He wants to restore Israel, however, they continue to disobey and follow their own ways.

Hosea 4: 6

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

HOSEA

The central theme of the book is the Israelite nation breaking their covenant with God and God's future restoration.

Hosea laid out three ways that the nation had sinned against God and broken the covenant they made with Him in Egypt (9: 10).

He called out Israel on their failure to acknowledge God (4: 1-6: 3), breaking of the covenant (6: 4-11: 11), and their faithlessness to God (11: 4-14: 9).

Within each of these charges, Hosea puts their idolatry, cult prostitution, sinful priests, deceit, injustice, and murder on display.

Through Hosea, the Lord called Israel to repent of their wickedness and turn back to God in humility and faithfulness towards His law and covenant. As Israel continued to refuse repentance, Hosea prophesied over the beginning of their distress and future destruction of the nation as an act of discipline. God used Hosea to remind His chosen people of the Lord's grace and mercy from the past.

HOSEA

Hosea's prophecy not only defines Israel's sins, but it also warns of impending judgment because of them (5: 9–14).

The nature of the judgment is twofold: the land of Israel would be laid desolate, and its inhabitants would be thrown into exile (5: 13; 8: 8, 9).

Although judgment would certainly come upon Israel, Hosea includes a note of joy and hope for the people of God in the future after judgment.

Israel's coming punishment would not be the end, but God would one day bring about a splendid time of restoration (1: 10, 11; 2: 14-23).

Hosea prophesied to Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, who reigned over the southern kingdom of Judah from 790 BC to 686 BC and Jeroboam II ruled the northern kingdom of Israel from 782 BC to 753 BC.

HOSEA

Hosea linked his message closely with his personal life.

By marrying a woman he knew would eventually betray his trust and by giving his children names that sent messages of judgment on Israel, Hosea's prophetic word flowed out of the life of his family (Hosea 1: 3-9).

The cycle of repentance, redemption, and restoration evident in Hosea's prophecy, and even his marriage (Hosea 1: 2; 3: 1-3), remains intimately connected to our lives.

This sequence plays itself out in the lives of real people, reminding us that the Scriptures are far from a mere collection of abstract statements with no relation to real life. They work their way into our day-to-day existence, commenting on issues that impact all our actions and relationships.

HOSEA

The book of Hosea makes clear its repetitious theme: **though God will bring judgment on sin, He will always bring His people back to Himself.** God's love for Israel, a nation of people more interested in themselves than in God's direction for their lives, shines through clearly against the darkness of their idolatry and injustice.

Hosea 14: 4

4 I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from them.

HOSEA

Hosea 2: 23

23 “I will sow her for Myself in the land. I will also have compassion on her who had not obtained compassion, And I will say to those who were not My people, ‘You are My people!’ And they will say, ‘*You are my God!*’ ”

This passage is a prophetic message from God to include the Gentiles as His children.

Rom. 1: 16

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Gentiles are not originally “God’s people,” but through His mercy and grace, He has provided Jesus Christ, and by faith in Him we are grafted into the tree of His people.

Rom. 11: 11-12

11 I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation *has come* to the Gentiles, to make them jealous.

12 Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!

HOSEA

1. Sin Leads to Confusion, Forgetfulness, and Destruction

The prophet warned the people of Israel that they were in a state of spiritual decline that would only lead to destruction. Sadly, the people had become blind to the reality of their own demise (Hosea 4: 1).

Not only had the people walked away from God, but they had also forgotten Him entirely. They had forgotten His faithfulness. They had forgotten His many miracles and how good He had been to them throughout their relationship (Hosea 1: 8).

They had forgotten His law and instructions. And once separated from God and the knowledge of their first love, they quickly turned to their own ways, other gods, and other nations (Hosea 8: 4), which, they soon discovered, could not satisfy or save them (Hosea 7: 16).

HOSEA

2. Personal and Private Sin Does Not Stay Personal or Private for Very Long

God used prophets like Hosea to minister to the people of Israel in the north, the people of the Southern Kingdom were not immune to idolatry and betrayal either. However, where Judah was known to go through seasons of revival, the Northern Kingdom's spiritual sickness had spread far quicker than their southern neighbor's.

Hidden sin does not stay hidden forever, and the sin we think we can cover up will eventually be exposed.

Hosea 2: 10

10 “And then I will uncover her lewdness In the sight of her lovers, And no one will rescue her out of My hand.

HOSEA

3. God Is Faithful Even When We Are Not

But as Israel (like Gomer) had proven themselves unfaithful, God (like Hosea) would demonstrate His love for His bride by remaining faithful even when she was not.

God's faithfulness and compassion seemed too good to be true, God reminds His people.

Hosea 11: 9

9 I will not execute My fierce anger; I will not destroy Ephraim again. For I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst, And I will not come in wrath.

HOSEA

4. Only God Can Redeem and Restore

Despite Israel's spiritual adultery, God's invitation was clear.

Hosea 12: 6

6 Therefore, return to your God, Observe kindness and justice,
And wait for your God continually.

Hosea 14: 4

4 I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely, For My anger
has turned away from them.

HOSEA

5. God Is Committed to the Good of His People

Hosea was loyal to his God, as he was to his wife because he understood something about the heart of God. God is faithful, God is good, God is loving, and God is just; and if God is faithful, good, loving, and just, His plans for us are the same, even when they don't make sense, aren't fun, or aren't easy.

In God's love He disciplined His people to steer them away from the things that brought them harm, back into His loving arms. This is the same God we serve today, and His love remains the same.

HOSEA

The Book of Hosea assures us of God's unconditional love for His people. It is also a picture of how God is dishonored and angered by the actions of His children.

Remembering how much God has done for each of us, will we be able to avoid rejecting the One who can give us eternal life in glory instead of the hell we deserve?

It is essential that we learn to respect our Creator.

Hosea has shown us God's heart of loving commitment. When we do sin, if we have a sorrowful heart filled with repentance, then God will bring us back to Himself and show His never-ending love to us.

1 John 1: 9

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

HOSEA

Just as the Israelites broke their covenant with God, we also are sinful beings who've chased after idols and wickedness.

Eph. 2: 3-5

3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

HOSEA

God promised hope and belonging to the Israelites (Hosea 2: 23) in their repentance, and by God's grace, we are promised the same.

We also are called to repent of our sins and put our faith in the new covenant through Christ.

Heb. 9: 15

15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

HOSEA

With the new covenant we have in Christ, we can experience a freeing redemption, that provides peace, joy, and hope, as we find our salvation in Him.

Rom. 15: 13

13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This call to repentance and faith in Christ is no longer a call to try (living up to the law), but one of trust in the faithful, sovereign Lord.

There is great comfort for those who believe in God. Despite their sin and lack of faithfulness, God seeks us out, and promises redemption through His Son.

2 Cor. 1: 3-4

3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

4 who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

JOEL

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Minor Prophets				
835 - 796 BC	Joel 3 Chapters	Judah's judgment is coming.	Judah is warned that she awaits judgment unless she repents. The Day of the Lord is described.	True Repentance Brings an Overflow of Blessings.	He is sending His Spirit to His people.

JOEL

Chapter 1 - A. Symbols of the Day of the Lord

1. Plague and drought (1:1-14)
2. Starvation and fire (1:15-20)

Chapter 1

Joel describes a natural disaster caused by a plague of locusts. He calls for the people to fast and to gather at the temple for a solemn assembly to plead with the Lord for deliverance.

JOEL

Chapters 2-3 - B. Events of the Day of the Lord

1. The army from the north (2:1-10)
2. The army of the Lord (2:11)
3. The remnant's repentance (2:12-17)
4. The remnant's acceptance (2:18-27)
5. The remnant's blessing (2:28-32)

Chapter 2

Joel describes the “day of the Lord” and the war and desolation that will accompany it and then asks, “Who can abide it?” (Joel 2: 11). The Lord answers by telling the people to turn to Him with all their hearts. Joel prophesies of some of the blessings the Lord will give His people in the latter days.

6. The restoration of Israel (3:1)
7. The judgment of the nations (3:2-16)
8. The establishment of the kingdom (3:17-21)

Chapter 3

Joel prophesies of the latter days and affirms that every country in the world will be at war shortly before the Second Coming. The Lord will dwell with His people when He comes again.

JOEL

Joel ("Jehovah is God") gives no indication of the time of his prophecy, but his subject is the Day of the Lord with its great and sore judgment.

Joel prophesied about destruction that could apply to the Babylonian invasion or the destruction of the temple in 70 AD, or other traumatic times for Israel.

Joel also prophesied about the Day of the Lord. The apostle Peter quoted Joel 2: 28 in Acts 2.

JOEL

A devastating invasion of insects had left the land of Israel famine - stricken; and Joel uses this as a vivid illustration of the invasion of Israel in the last days by the King of the North and his confederate armies, who, though proud, fierce, and ungodly, are yet the means God will use for the punishment of His people Israel.

Covering the land like swarming parasites, they will at least accomplish the bringing of Israel to her knees before God.

When this end is reached, the Lord Himself will judge these Gentile nations unsparingly, and deliver the afflicted children of Judah and Israel.

JOEL

The book of Joel illustrates the solemn warning that they who sow the wind will reap the whirlwind.

JOEL

Joel 2: 1

1 Blow a trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, For the day of the Lord is coming; Surely it is near,

Joel 2: 28

28 It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions

JOEL

The book of Joel teaches about the power of the combined prayers and fasting of God's people during a time of great difficulty in Israel's history.

“Joel assured the people that through repentance they would again receive the blessings of God”.

JOEL

The book also contains many prophecies about the coming “day of the Lord”.

Joel 1: 15

15 Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near, And it will come as destruction from the Almighty.

JOEL

The book of Joel centers on prophecies that Joel made after the land of Judah was afflicted with a severe drought and a plague of locusts.

These prophecies tell of many signs to precede the Second Coming of the Savior, especially a great outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh.

Joel 2: 28-29

28 “It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

29 “Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days

JOEL

One fulfillment of this prophecy occurred on the day of Pentecost in New Testament times, when the Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon a multitude, who heard the preaching of the Lord's Apostles and understood the words in their own language (Acts 2: 16-17).

JOEL

Joel capitalized on a recent tragedy (locust plague in Judah) to dispense the Lord's message of judgment and the hope of repentance.

In referring to the terrible locust plague, Joel was able to imprint the message of judgment into their minds, like a brand sears the flesh of an animal.

Joel uses that plague of locusts to compare with the future judgments which will come upon this earth.

In Joel we see:

1. The judgment of God's people (Joel 2: 1-11)
2. The judgment of foreign nations (Joel 2: 28-32)
3. The purification and restoration of God's people through intense suffering (Joel 3: 1-16)

JOEL

Lessons we can learn from the book of Joel:

1. The Day of the Lord Is Still Coming

The theme of judgment is unmistakable in the book of Joel, who prophesied that a day would come when the sovereign God would judge His people and the nations who rebelled against Him. We know from history, however, that Joel's warning went largely unheeded.

The day of the Lord is also a day that is still coming when Christ returns and God in His sovereignty executes a final great and terrible judgment on those who've rejected Him.

JOEL

Lessons we can learn from the book of Joel:

2. God Uses Physical Suffering to Get Our Attention

Joel shares how God often uses nature and events like famine, plague, violent weather, invading armies, and celestial phenomena to get our attention (Joel 1:5). Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn't.

Crisis, and even personal hardship, can either turn our hearts to God or blind us from the truth and lead us further into despair.

God, in His sovereignty, is not afraid to use earthly suffering and physical hardship to challenge us, wake us up, and turn our hearts back to Him before it's too late. Joel reminds us that, "the Lord will roar from Zion and thunder in Jerusalem" (Joel 3:16)

JOEL

Lessons we can learn from the book of Joel:

3. The Promise of God's Presence is Our Ultimate Hope

One of the key prophecies of the prophet Joel that came to fruition and was cited in Acts 2: 17-21.

JOEL

Lessons we can learn from the book of Joel:

4. God's Judgment Is Great for Those Who Belong to God

Within Joel's vision of coming judgment and destruction, there is also a promise of hope, restoration, blessing, and prosperity for the righteous and those who "call on the name of the Lord" (Joel 2: 32).

Not many would see coming judgment as something to look forward to. For the wicked and impenitent, it is not.

Christians who have been made right with God through the atoning salvation of Jesus Christ, the judgment of God is not something to dread.

AMOS

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Minor				
750 BC	Amos 9 Chapters	Israel's judgment is coming	Israel awaits destruction unless she repents.	Relationship requires agreement	Jesus delivers justice to the oppressed

AMOS

Outline of Amos

Chapters 1 - 2: 3 - Judgment on surrounding nations

Chapters 2: 4 – 4: 23 - Judgment on Israel

Chapters 5 – 6 - The dirge against unrepentant Israel

Chapters 7 – 9: 10 - Amos' visions against Israel

Chapter 9: 11-15 - God's promise of restoration

AMOS

Amos (meaning "to burden") received his prophecy in the days of Uzziah, who reigned in Judah at the time that Jeroboam II reigned in Israel, and "two years before the earthquake," which evidently left a great impression.

Amos was a shepherd who lived in the region of Tekoa, not many miles from the city of Jerusalem. He made his living by raising sheep and taking care of sycamore trees.

The book is orderly, deliberate condemnation of evil, especially in Israel, and the resulting measured judgments of God.

The evil is exposed in a calm, judicial way, rather than in burning anger; and the punishment from God is perfectly adjusted to the guilt.

AMOS

Amos can see that beneath Israel's external prosperity and power, internally the nation is corrupt to the core.

The sins for which Amos chastens the people are extensive: **neglect of God's Word, idolatry, pagan worship, greed, corrupted leadership, and oppression of the poor.**

God's word through Amos was directed against the privileged people of Israel, a people who had no love for their neighbor, who took advantage of others, and who only looked out for their own concerns.

Amos begins by pronouncing a judgment upon all the surrounding nations, the Syrians, Philistines, Tyre, Ammon, Moab, and Edom, then upon his own nation of Judah, and finally the harshest judgment is given to Israel.

AMOS

The book of Amos holds God's people accountable for their ill-treatment of others.

It repeatedly points out the failure of the people to fully embrace God's idea of justice.

They were selling off needy people for goods, taking advantage of the helpless, oppressing the poor, and the men were using women immorally (Amos 2:6–8; 3:10; 4:1; 5:11–12; 8:4–6).

Engrossed on their own economic success and intent on strengthening their financial position, the people had lost the concept of caring for one another.

Amos rebuked them because he saw in that lifestyle evidence that Israel had forgotten God.

AMOS

His visions from God reveal the same emphatic message: judgment is near.

The book ends with God's promise to Amos of future restoration of the remnant of Judah and Israel by the power and grace of God.

Amos 9: 8

8 "Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are on the sinful kingdom, And I will destroy it from the face of the earth; Nevertheless, I will not totally destroy the house of Jacob," Declares the Lord.

AMOS

Rather than seeking out opportunities to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly, the political and religious leaders embraced their arrogance, idolatry, self-righteousness, and materialism. Amos communicated God's utter disdain for the hypocritical lives of His people.

Amos 5: 21-24

21 “I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.

22 “Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept *them*; And I will not *even* look at the peace offerings of your fatlings.

23 “Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

24 “But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

AMOS

Amos emphasizes two aspects of God that are essential to the book.

1. God is the Creator

Amos 4: 13

13 For behold, He who forms mountains and creates the wind And declares to man what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness And treads on the high places of the earth, The Lord God of hosts is His name.

Amos 9: 5-6

5 The Lord God of hosts, The One who touches the land so that it melts, And all those who dwell in it mourn, And all of it rises up like the Nile And subsides like the Nile of Egypt;

6 The One who builds His upper chambers in the heavens And has founded His vaulted dome over the earth, He who calls for the waters of the sea And pours them out on the face of the earth, The Lord is His name.

AMOS

Amos emphasizes two aspects of God that are essential to the book.

2. God is the God of Covenant

Amos 3: 1-2

1 Hear this word which the Lord has spoken against you, sons of Israel, against the entire family which He brought up from the land of Egypt:

2 “You only have **I chosen among all the families of the earth**; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.”

AMOS

The prophecy of Amos should simplify the choices in our lives.

Instead of choosing between prayer and service, the book of Amos teaches us that both are essential.

God has called Christians not only to be in relationship with Him but also to be in relationships with others. For those Christians whose tendency has been to focus more on the invisible God than on His visible creation, Amos pulls us back toward the center, where both the physical and the spiritual needs of people matter in God's scheme of justice.

Injustice permeates our world. Christians often turn a blind eye to the suffering of others for "more important" work like praying, preaching, and teaching.

Amos reminds us that those works, while unquestionably central to a believer's life, ring hollow when we don't love and serve others in our own lives.

OBADIAH

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Minor Prophets				
850 - 840 BC	Obadiah 1 Chapter	Edom to be destroyed	The nation of Edom is to be destroyed since she rejoiced over Judah's destruction. What a lesson for us.	What you do to others will be returned to you. Jeremiah 50:29; Habakkuk 2:8; Matthew 26:52; Luke 6:38; James 2:13; Revelation 13:10.	Jesus judges those who do evil

OBADIAH

OUTLINE OF OBADIAH

I. The Doom of Edom, 1-9

- A. The Certainty, 1-4
- B. The Completeness, 5-9

II. The Denunciation of Edom, 10-14

- A. For Mistreatment of Their Brother, vs. 10
- B. For Not Caring and Not Helping Their Brother, 11-12
- C. For Actions Against Their Brother, 13-14

III. The Destruction of Edom, 15-21

- A. The Time of the Destruction, vs. 15
- B. The Nature of the Destruction, 16-21

OBADIAH

Obadiah ("worshipper of Yahweh ") writes the shortest book of the Old Testament; and he prophesies entirely against Edom. This is the family of Esau, Jacob's brother.

His hatred and violence against Israel was a dreadful result of pride and self-righteousness, which could not bear his brother's receiving blessing from God.

God takes account their flagrant outward wickedness, but of the secret motives of the heart: "How is Esau searched! his hidden things sought out!" (v. 6).

Their gloating over the suffering of Israel is sternly denounced, and their taking advantage of Israel's misfortunes to strengthen themselves. The fearful judgment of God is the result of all this.

OBADIAH

Edom is actually the same name as Adam, but somewhat disguised.

The nation stands therefore for the flesh, and "They that are in the flesh cannot please God." The flesh may appear in various plausible forms, pleasing to the natural senses, and appealing to the rationalizing minds of men.

In our day the strong humanist movement is a marked example of this proud, empty, fleshly pretension that will fall under the awesome judgment of God, while the despised people of God will be delivered.

The book of Obadiah then would lead us to a very serious self-judgment of our ways and of the secret thoughts and feelings of our hearts.

OBADIAH

The majority of the book pronounces judgment on the foreign nation of Edom, making Obadiah one of only three prophets who pronounced judgment primarily on other nations (Nahum and Habakkuk are the others).

While others of the prophetic books contain passages of judgment against Edom and other nations, Obadiah's singular focus points to a significant truth about humanity's relationship with God.

When people remove themselves from or place themselves in opposition to God's people, they can expect judgment, rather than restoration, at the end of life.

OBADIAH

Obadiah 1

1 The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord God concerning Edom—We have heard a report from the Lord, And an envoy has been sent among the nations *saying*, “Arise and let us go against her for battle”—

Obadiah 3

3 “The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, ‘Who will bring me down to earth?’

Obadiah 10

10 “Because of violence to your brother Jacob, You will be covered *with* shame, And you will be cut off forever.

Obadiah 15

15 “For the day of the Lord draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head.

OBADIAH

Obadiah 21

21 The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion To judge the mountain of Esau, And the kingdom will be the Lord's.

Verse 21 of the Book of Obadiah contains a foreshadowing of Christ and His Church.

These “saviors” (also called “deliverers” in several versions) are the apostles of Christ, ministers of the word, preachers of the Gospel.

They are called "saviors," not because they obtain our salvation, but because they preach salvation through the Gospel of Christ and show us the way to obtain that salvation. They, and the Word preached by them, are the means by which the good news of salvation is delivered to all men.

OBADIAH

Obadiah's prophecy focuses on the destructive power of pride.

It reminds us of the consequences of living in a self-serving manner, of following through on our own feelings and desires without considering their impact on those around us.

Pride has been part of the lives of fallen human beings since the tragedy of the fall in Eden.

Obadiah reminds us:

1. To place ourselves under God's authority
2. To be in subjection to God's will
3. To find our hope in being His people.

JONAH

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Minor Prophets				
775 BC	Jonah 4 Chapters	Gentiles to be included in salvation	The prophet of God attempts to be disobedient by running from God. God goes after him and the prophet eventually submits to God.	It is best to do God's will	He is the greatest missionary

JONAH

OUTLINE OF JONAH

I. Jonah Fleeing, 1:1-17

- A. The Reason for His Flight, 1:1-2
- B. The Route of His Flight, 1:3
- C. The Results of His Flight, 1:4-17
 - 1. To the sailors, 1:4-11
 - 2. To Jonah, 1:12-17

II. Jonah Praying, 2:1-10

- A. The Characteristics of His Prayer, 2:1-9
- B. The Answer to His Prayer, 2:10

III. Jonah Preaching, 3:1-10

- A. God's Command to Preach, 3:1-3
- B. The Content of Jonah's Preaching, 3:4
- C. The Consequences of Jonah's Preaching, 3:5-10

IV. Jonah Learning, 4:1-11

- A. Jonah's Complaint to God, 4:1-3
- B. God's Curriculum for Jonah, 4:4-11

JONAH

Chapter 1: God told Jonah to go to Nineveh and preach coming judgment. Jonah didn't like the Ninevites and didn't want God to spare them from judgment, so he fled in the opposite direction by boarding a ship heading to Tarshish. A storm arose and Jonah slept. The sailors cast lots and determined Jonah was the cause of the storm. Jonah told them to throw him overboard and they did so. Then they called out to the LORD. God prepared a great fish and it swallowed Jonah. Jonah spent three days and three nights in the belly of the fish.

Jonah 1: 17

17 And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

Chapter 2-3: God caused the fish to vomit up Jonah and three days later Jonah obeyed God and went to Nineveh. He preached coming judgment and the whole city repented (3:5).

Chapter 4: God not only cared about saving Nineveh, He also cared about changing Jonah's heart. So God taught Jonah about His love and compassion.

JONAH

Chapter 2-3: God caused the fish to vomit up Jonah and three days later Jonah obeyed God and went to Nineveh. He preached coming judgment and the whole city repented.

Jonah 2: 10

10 Then the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah up onto the dry land.

Jonah 3: 5

5 Then the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them.

Chapter 4: God not only cared about saving Ninevah, He also cared about changing Jonah's heart. So God taught Jonah about His love and compassion.

Jonah 4: 11

11 "Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know *the difference* between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?"

JONAH

Jonah ("A dove") is more than anything a personal history of the prophet in connection with God's sending him to prophesy against Nineveh, the Assyrian capital city.

He shows us, not the secret workings of the heart of an unbeliever, but those of even a chosen servant of God. How humbling is the exposure, but the prophet himself must faithfully write it all for our benefit.

The prophet Jonah lived in the Galilean city of Gath-hepher (about four miles north of Nazareth) during the reign of Jeroboam II (793-753 B.C.), king of Israel (cf. 2 Kgs. 14:25). Jeroboam II was northern Israel's most powerful king, and during his administration, the borders of the nation were expanded to their greatest extent since the time of David and Solomon.

JONAH

Ten miracles are recorded in the book:

1. Storm (Jonah 1:4)
2. Selection of Jonah as guilty by lot (Jonah 1:7)
3. Sudden subsiding of the storm. Storms don't just stop (Jonah 1:15)
4. Great fish: at the right time and place. (Jonah 1:17)
5. Preservation of Jonah (chapter 2)
6. Ejection Safe and Sound on dry land (Jonah 2:10)
7. The Gourd (Jonah 4:6)
8. The worm (Jonah 4:7)
9. East wind (Jonah 4:8)
10. Repentance of an entire city Nineveh! (Jonah 4:11)

JONAH

We cannot hide from God. What He wishes to accomplish through us will come to pass despite all our objections and reluctance.

He has plans for us and will see to it that we conform to those plans. How much easier it would be if we, unlike Jonah, would submit to Him without delay.

Eph. 2: 10

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

God's love manifests itself in His accessibility to all, regardless of our reputation, nationality or race. The free offer of the Gospel is for all people in all times.

Our task as Christians is to be the means by which God tells the world of the offer and to rejoice in the salvation of others.

JONAH

- 1. Jonah teaches us that God's mercy is wider and God's grace is greater than all of our sins.**
- 2. Jonah shows us that God's love is greater than our self-interest.**
- 3. Jonah teaches us that God uses all means to extend his grace to all kinds of people.**
- 4. Jonah shows us God's mercy is motivated by God's love for his own creation.**

MICAH

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Minor Prophets				
735 - 710 BC	Micah 6 Chapters	Destruction of Israel and Judah predicted	Destruction is coming since Judah ignored God. Despite religious idolatry and hypocrisy, God will keep His promises.	Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God.	Jesus casts our sin into the sea of forgetfulness

MICAH

OUTLINE OF MICAH

I. The Superscription, 1:1

II. A Message of Destruction for Samaria and Judah, 1:2-2:13

A. The Revelation of the Coming Judgment, [Micah 1:2-16](#)

B. The Reasons for the Coming Judgment, 2:1-13

III. A Message of Doom and Deliverance, 3:1-5:15

A. Doom: The Coming Judgment, 3:1-12

1. Judgment on the leaders, 3:1-4

2. Judgment on the false prophets, 3:5-8

3. Judgment on Jerusalem, 3:9-12

B. Deliverance: The Coming Kingdom, 4:1-5:1

1. The glories of the kingdom, 4:1-8

2. The suffering that precedes the kingdom, 4:9-5:1

C. Deliverance: The Coming King, 5:2-15

1. His first coming, 5:2-3

2. His second coming, 5:4-15

IV. A Message of Denunciation, 6:1-7:10

A. God's First Indictment, 6:1-5

B. Israel's First Reply, 6:6-8

C. God's Second Indictment, 6:9-16

D. Israel's Second Reply, 7:1-10

V. Epilogue: Blessings for Israel, 7:11-20

MICAH

Micah ("Who is like God?") shows the Lord coming forth in judgment, not only of Israel, but of all the nations.

Micah prophesied concerning judgment on the kingdoms of Israel and Judah for their sins. He also prophesied about the kingdom of Jesus.

The condition of Judah and Israel is seen to be an indication of the condition of "all the peoples" the "earth, and all that is therein." So that, if in Amos God must judge Israel when once He begins to judge the nations; in Micah He must judge the nations if Israel must be judged.

For Israel is but a sample of all mankind: now that she is proven guilty, this is proof of the guilt of all the world (cf. Rom. 3:19). God can therefore alone execute judgment, and He is infinitely capable of so doing.

MICAH

In the book of Micah, we see the prophet Micah prophesying judgment against Samaria and Jerusalem for their sins and declaring future promises such as a time where the Lord himself will rule from Zion.

The prophet Micah identified himself by his hometown, called Moresheth Gath, which sat near the border of Philistia and Judah about twenty-five miles southwest of Jerusalem.

Micah stated in his introduction to the book that he prophesied during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah in Judah, Jeroboam II, Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah and Pekah in Israel.

The book of Micah provides one of the most significant prophecies of Jesus Christ's birth in all the Old Testament, pointing some seven hundred years before Christ's birth to His birthplace of Bethlehem and to His eternal nature.

Micah 5: 2

2 “But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.*”

MICAH

There shall be a glorious church for God set up in the world, in the last days, in the days of the Messiah. Christ himself will build it upon a rock.

The people will cleave to the Lord with full purpose of heart, and delight in doing his will.

Micah 4: 3-4

3 And He will judge between many peoples And render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they train for war.

4 Each of them will sit under his vine And under his fig tree, With no one to make *them* afraid, For the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

MICAH

Surrounding Micah's prophecy of Jesus's birth is one of the most lucid pictures of the world's future under the reign of the Prince of Peace - Jesus.

Micah 5: 5

5 This One will be *our* peace. When the Assyrian invades our land, When he tramples on our citadels, Then we will raise against him Seven shepherds and eight leaders of men.

MICAH

The prophet condemns the rulers, priests, and prophets of Israel who exploit and mislead the people. It is because of their deeds that Jerusalem will be destroyed.

The prophet Micah proclaims the deliverance of the people who will go from Jerusalem to Babylon and concludes with an exhortation for Jerusalem to destroy the nations who have gathered against her.

The ideal ruler would come from Bethlehem to defend the nation, and the prophet proclaims the triumph of the remnant of Jacob and foresees a day when Yahweh will purge the nation of idolatry and reliance on military might.

Micah 6: 8

8 He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?

This scripture applies to Christians as it did to people during Micah's time.

MICAH

The message of the Book of Micah is a complex mixture of judgment and hope.

The prophecies announce judgment upon Israel for social evils, corrupt leadership and idolatry. This judgment was expected to culminate in the destruction of Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah proclaims not merely the restoration of the nation, but the transformation and exaltation of Israel and Jerusalem.

The messages of hope and doom are not necessarily contradictory, however, since restoration and transformation take place only after judgment.

MICAH

1. Rebellion will be punished

God does not look the other way when people are living in sin. He will hold them accountable, often using destruction and disaster in the process (Micah 1:1-7).

2. The Regathering of Israel

A day is coming when Israel will be gathered to live in a new land, with God as their King and Leader (Micah 2:12-13). When they are gathered anew, it will be a time of peace and prosperity and rule by the Lord forever (Micah 4:1-5).

MICAH

3. Leaders are accountable

Micah is careful to call out the leaders for their sin of leading people astray. He accuses them of hating what is good and loving evil and taking advantage of the people (Micah 3:1-2). These false prophets will be judged (Micah 3:5-7).

4. The Role of the Word of God

Micah was emotionally involved in his message, lamenting and wailing (Micah 1:8). God's Word came to him (Micah 1:1), he was filled with power by the Spirit of the Lord (Micah 3:8) to bring this important message.

MICAH

God pardons iniquity because He delights in mercy.

He turns His people to Himself, and forgives all their sins when they repent.

The blessing of Israel will mean great blessing also for the nations, who will find delight in the mountain of Jehovah at Jerusalem.

The Book then shows when all else fails, God is the eternal Rock.