

Minor Prophets Part 2 Lecture Notes

I. ZEPHANIAH

II. JUDGMENT IN THE DAY OF THE LORD

A. Author

1. Only prophet who traces genealogy
2. Four generations
 - a. Son of Cushi
 - b. Son of Gedaliah
 - c. Son of Amariah
 - d. Son of Hizkiah (Hezekiah)
3. Possibly of royal lineage
4. Contemporary of Jeremiah
5. His name means “Jehovah hides”
 - a. Speaks of God’s protection of the faithful

B. Theme

1. Day of the Lord
 - a. God’s judgment on the world
 - b. God’s establishment of the righteous kingdom
 - c. Compared to a great flood
 - d. Compared to great sacrifice
 - e. Compared to a battle
2. Judgment on the Nations
 - a. Philistia
 - b. Moab and Ammon
 - c. Ethiopia
 - d. Assyria
 - e. Four nations
 - (1) Represent four corners of the earth
 - (2) All nations judged
 - f. Cause: Treatment of God's people
3. God’s Judgments on Judah
 - a. Idolatry
 - b. Alliances with foreign powers
 - c. Violence and injustice
3. Description of Day of the Lord
 - a. People falsely trusted
 - b. Powerful warriors
 - c. Fortified cities



- d. Silver and Gold
- 4. Call for Repentance
 - a. A Time of Salvation
 - b. Climax of Zephaniah
 - c. Salvation proclaimed in the final verses
 - d. God rejoices when He saves but not when He judges
 - e. Restoration of Israel to Jerusalem
- C. Application
 - 1. Trust God to work out His plan
 - 2. Wait on God
 - 3. Seek the Lord
 - 4. Be humble
 - 5. Be obedient

II. HAGGAI

- A. The Author
 - 1. Haggai means festive or festival
 - a. Born on or near a festival day
 - b. Related to celebration of prophetic hope
 - c. Ministry began on festival day
 - 1. The Date
 - a. Haggai most precisely dated book
 - b. Each sermon dated to the exact day
 - c. Might have kept a journal
 - d. Messages preached in second year of Darius' reign
- B. Haggai's Messages
 - 1. First Sermon - Conviction
 - a. Rebuke
 - b. Reminder
 - c. Response
 - 2. Second Sermon - Courage
 - a. God's Presence
 - b. God's Peace
 - 3. Third Sermon - Cleanliness
 - a. Defilement
 - b. Dependency
 - 4. Fourth Sermon - Consummation
 - a. Sovereign King
 - b. Signet ring
- C. Application
 - 1. Don't procrastinate doing God's work
 - 2. It is never too late to start obeying God
 - 3. God's presence produces courage
 - 4. God's perspective defeats discouragement

III.ZECHARIAH

- A. Author
 - 1. Name means “Jehovah remembers”
 - 2. There is hope because Jehovah remembers
 - 3. Family
 - a. Son of Berechiah
 - b. Son of Iddo
 - c. May have been of priestly line
- B. Ministry began between Haggai’s second and third messages
- C. Purposes
 - 1. Comfort the returned remnant
 - 2. Encourage the returned remnant
- D. Zechariah’s Messages
 - 1. Eight Night Visions - Apocalyptic
 - a. Horse Patrol
 - b. Four Horns/Craftsman
 - c. Man/Measuring Line
 - d. Joshua High Priest Clothed
 - e. Lamps & Olive Tree
 - f. Flying Scroll
 - g. Woman & Epah
 - h. Chariot Patrol
 - 2. Four Messages - Ethical Prophecy
 - a. Rebuke
 - b. Reminder
 - c. Restoration
 - d. Return
 - 3. Two Oracles - Predictive Prophecy
 - a. Burden against Nations
 - b. Burden for Israel

IV.HABAKKUK

- A. Unique among minor prophets
 - 1. Doesn’t address own countrymen
 - 2. Doesn’t address foreign nation
 - 3. Addresses God alone
 - 4. Didn’t deliver message – solved problem
- B. Author
 - 1. Last minor prophet to Judah
 - 2. Contemporary of Jeremiah
 - 3. During Jehoiakim’s reign
 - 4. His name means . . .
 - a. Embrace
 - b. Wrestle

- c. Wrestles with difficult issue
- 5. “Doubting Thomas of the OT”
- B. Habakkuk’s problem
 - 1. If God is good . . .
 - a. Why is there evil in world?
 - b. Why does evil prosper?
 - c. What is God doing in the world?
 - d. Begins with worry/wonder . . . Ends with worship
 - 2. His Question
 - a. Why does evil go unpunished?
 - b. Why do the wicked prosper?
 - c. Why doesn’t God do something?
 - 3. God’s Answer
 - a. God is doing something.
 - b. He is raising up Babylonians
 - c. To discipline Judah
- C. Habakkuk’s Rest
 - 1. He believes God
 - 2. He trusts God
 - 3. He doesn’t fully understand God
 - a. God is immutable
 - b. God made promises to Israel
 - c. God will fulfill His promises
 - d. God will not totally destroy Israel
- D. Principles
 - 1. God sometimes seems to be inactive, but He is involved
 - 2. God hears and answers prayers
 - 3. God sometimes gives unexpected answers
 - 4. The righteous live by faith and faithfulness

II. MALACHI

- A. Last of the Writing prophets
 - 1. No information about
 - a. Family
 - b. Personal life
 - 2. Name means “My Messenger”
 - 3. Perhaps written while Nehemiah was in Shushan
 - 4. Rebuilding had stopped
- B. Malachi’s Questions
 - 1. Malachi’s Questions
 - a. How have you loved us?
 - b. God affirms love for Israel
 - c. People’s skepticism
 - d. People’s doubt that God loved them
 - 2. How have we despised your name?

- a. Violating the Covenant
 - (1) Neglect of priests
 - (2) People brought second rate sacrifices
- 3. For what reason?
 - a. Bad relationship with God carried over into the community
 - b. Practices
 - (1) Divorce
 - (2) Remarriage to foreigners
- 4. How have we wearied Him?
 - a. Questioned God’s Justice
 - b. Mistook God’s patience for lack of divine justice
 - c. God’s Messenger
 - (1) Judge
 - (2) Purify
- 5. How shall we return?
 - a. Did not recognize their evil
 - b. Did not see need for repentance
- 6. How have we robbed Thee?
 - a. The Robbery
 - (1) Not tithing or giving is stealing!
 - (2) Giving was affected by their attitudes
 - b. The Remedy
 - (1) Give
 - (2) Giving is other-centered
- 7. What have we spoken against Him?
 - a. People’s Arrogance
 - b. God’s Assurance
- C. The Day of the Lord
 - 1. Partial fulfillment every time God judges evil
 - a. Judgment will come on wicked
 - b. Salvation to the righteous.
 - 2. Primary fulfillment second coming of Christ
 - a. Obey the law
 - b. Wait for Elijah
- D. Application

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

— Titus 2:11-13

- 1. Appreciate the grace of God
- 2. Accomplish godly living
- 3. Anticipate the coming of the Lord