

A Survey Of The Old Testament

Resources: What The Bible Is All About by Henrietta Mears
and The Open Bible by Nelson Publishing,

Lesson 1 ~ Survey of the Bible

What's a survey? A gaze across a great expanse (like gazing across a number of mountain peaks. This is a "big picture" study as we move rapidly across the entire Bible, noting it's major peaks, and for now, passing over the details down in the valleys.

The Big picture

- What is the Bible core message? (Salvation; God is after a family for His glory and our good)
- What are its key verses? (John 3:16-17)
- What are its major themes? (Creation, Fall, Flood, Abraham, 12 Tribes, Egypt, Nation of Israel, refining a people, Babylon, return, the Messiah, the church, the consummation of history, the eternal future)

The Bible is comprised of 2 Testaments, known as the Old & New Testaments. The Old Testament contains 39 separate books/documents in our standard English translations and the New Testament contains 27 separate books/documents in our standard English translations.

The Open Bible - The Bible at a glance

PREPARATION - The OT is God readying the world for the Messiah ("at the fulness of time, Christ came...)

MANIFESTATION - (revealed) Christ is revealed to the world in the 4 gospels

APPROPRIATION - (seized) In Acts & the Epistles, the ways are revealed in which the Lord Jesus was received, appropriated, and applied in individual lives

CONSUMMATION - (conclusion) In the book of Revelation, the outcome of God's perfect plan is revealed.

What The Bible Is All About by Henrietta Mears

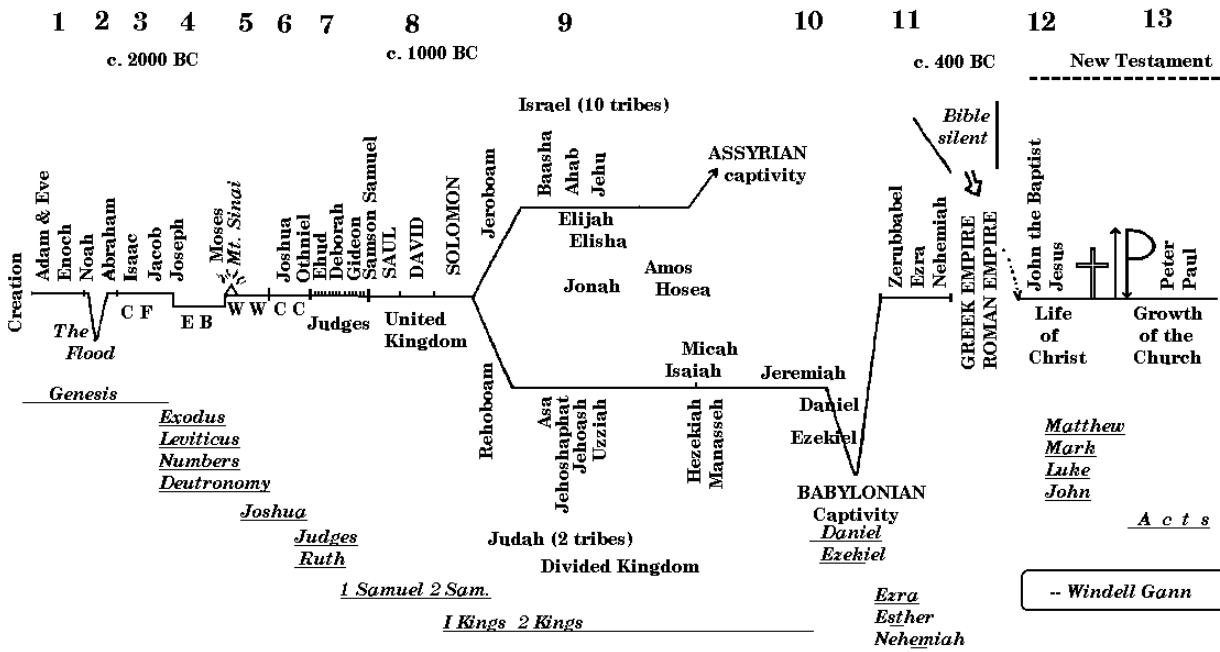
"The Old Testament is an account of a nation (the Jewish nation). The New Testament is an account of a Man (the Son of man). The nation was founded and nurtured of God in order to bring the Man into the World (Genesis 12:1-3)" -- Page 23

"From Adam to Abraham we have the history of the human race. From Abraham to Christ we have the history of the chosen race. From Christ on we have the history of the church." --Page 14

Comparisons, OT & NT

- The OT begins with God (Gen 1:1), the NT with Christ (the Gospels--John 1:1)
- OT Law/NT Grace: John 1:17 *For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*
- OT Christ concealed/NT Christ revealed: 2Co 3:14 *But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away.*
- Past/Present: Heb 1:1-2 *In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son*

BIBLE SURVEY



The different Genres of Scriptures

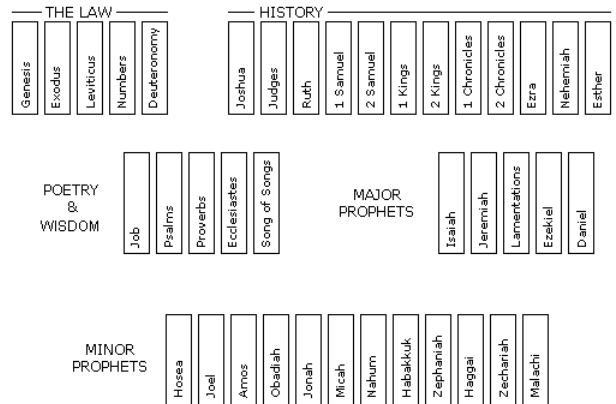
What The Bible Is All About by Henrietta Mears

"Behind and beneath the Bible, above and beyond the Bible, is the God of the Bible. The Bible is God's written revelation of His will to men. Its central theme is salvation through Jesus Christ." --Page 13

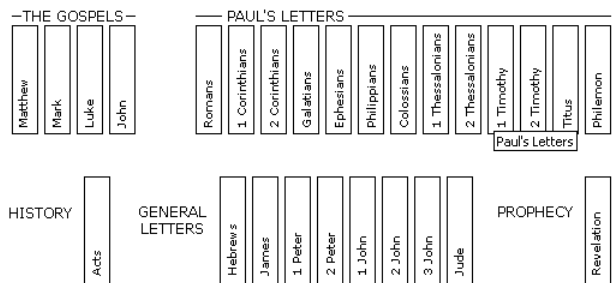
The Bible is inspired, inerrant, and infallible in the original manuscripts

- Psalm 19:7 "perfect" (Heb. 'complete, whole, sound')
- 2 Tim 3:15-17 "inspired"
- John 10:35 "...Scripture cannot be broken"
- 2 Pet 3:15-16 & 1 Pet 1:23-25

Old Testament



New Testament



Lesson 2 ~ Survey of the Bible

The Pentateuch / The Torah

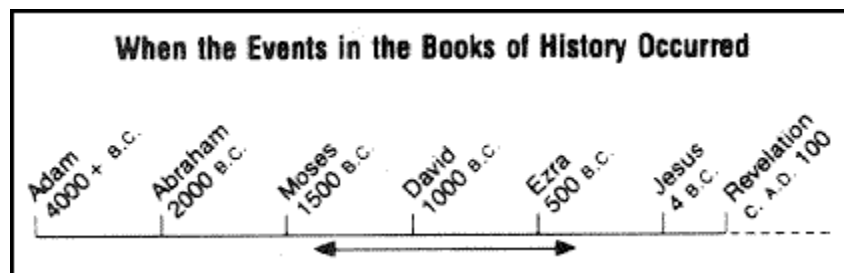
- The books of the Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy - was originally 1 volume, but separated into 5 by the Greek Septuagint (Greek OT translation)
- Pentateuch means 5-fold volume ('penta' as in the 5 sided Pentagon): *"The books composing the Pentateuch are properly but one book, the "Law of Moses," the "Book of the Law of Moses," the "Book of Moses," or, as the Jews designate it, the "Torah" or "Law." --Easton's Illustrated Bible. Jewish Rabbis called it "Five Fifths of the Law"*
- Torah means "teaching" or "instruction", sometimes translated as "law" - Key Verse: Deut 11:1,18-23+
- Author: Moses *"under the inspiration of God, all the available records, manuscripts, and oral narratives."* --The Open Bible
- Over-all theme: God establishes the nation of Israel in covenant with Himself

Survey of Genesis

- Purpose/Theme of: The Book of Beginnings (world, humans, sin, promise of redemption, family life, man-made civilization, nations of the world, Hebrew race)
- Author: Moses *"under the inspiration of God, all the available records, manuscripts, and oral narratives."* --The Open Bible
- Time of: From the Creation of all things, to the Fertile Crescent, Israel, and Egypt, spanning 2000 years and 1500 miles (more time than all the books of the bible combined, 4000-1804 B.C.)
- The Christ of: Co-creator (1:1/Jn 1:3), Crush the Serpent (3:15/Rom 16:20), Abram's blessing (12:3/Acts 3:25-26), Jacob's Ladder (28:12/Jn 1:51)
- Keys to: Key Word: Beginnings—Genesis gives the beginning of almost everything, from the created realm, to sabbath, death, marriage, sin, redemption, family, literature, cities, art, language, and sacrifice.
- Key Verses: Gen 1:1 Genesis 3:15; 12:3; Key Chapter: Genesis 15—Central to all of Scripture is the Abrahamic covenant, which is given in 12:1–3 and ratified in 15:1–21. Israel receives three specific promises: (1) the promise of a great land—"from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates" (15:18); (2) the promise of a great nation—"and I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth" (13:16); and (3) the promise of a great blessing—"I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing" (12:2). -- The Open Bible
- Survey of:

1:1	3:1	6:1	10:1	12:1	25:19	27:19	37:1 50:26
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CREATION	FALL	FLOOD	NATIONS	ABRAHAM	ISAAC	JACOB	JOSEPH
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Lesson 2 ~ Survey of the Bible

Recap: The Pentateuch ("the 5-fold volume") / The Torah ("teaching or instruction"), written by Moses " *under the inspiration of God, all the available records, manuscripts, and oral narratives.*" --The Open Bible. Over-all theme: God establishes the nation of Israel in covenant with Himself

Survey of Exodus

- Purpose/Theme of: "Exodus is the record of Israel's birth as a nation. Within the protective "womb" of Egypt, Jacob's (Israel's) family of seventy rapidly multiplies. At the right time, accompanied with severe "birth pains," an infant nation, numbering between two and three million people, is brought into the world where it is divinely protected, fed, and nurtured." --The Open Bible
- Author of: Moses (supported in the book, by the NT, and Jewish tradition)
- Time of: Exodus covers the period from the arrival of Jacob in Egypt (c. 1875 b.c.) to the erection of the tabernacle 431 years later in the wilderness (c. 1445 b.c.). --The Open Bible
- The Christ of: The Passover Lamb; Symbols in the Tabernacle; the ultimate High Priest
- Keys to: Key word is "Redemption" (from the bondage of Egypt); Key verses are Exodus 6:6; 19:5, 6

Survey of Leviticus

- Purpose/Theme of: Leviticus is God's guidebook for His newly redeemed people, showing them how to worship, serve, and obey a holy God. --The Open Bible
- Author of: Moses (supported in the book, by the NT, and Jewish tradition)
- Time of: No geographical movement as Israel remains camped at the foot of Mount Sinai (one month's time; about 1405 b.c.)
- The Christ of: He is represented in the offerings, the feasts, and the priesthood
- Keys to: Keyword is "Holiness" (on becoming a holy people); Key Verses are Leviticus 17:11; 20:7, 8

Survey of Numbers

- Purpose/Theme of: Numbers is the book of wanderings. It takes its name from the two numberings of the Israelites—the first at Mount Sinai and the second on the plains of Moab. Most of the book, however, describes Israel's experiences as they wander in the wilderness. The lesson of Numbers is clear. While it may be necessary to pass through wilderness experiences, one does not have to live there. For Israel, an eleven-day journey became a forty-year agony. --The Open Bible
- Author of: Moses (supported in the book, by the NT, and Jewish tradition)
- Time of: Numbers stretches over almost thirty-nine years (c. 1444–1405 b.c.)
- The Christ of: The red heifer sacrifice (Num. 19). The serpent in the wilderness (Num 21:4–9 & John 3:14). The rock that Israel drinks from (1 Cor. 10:4). The manna pictures Jesus, the Bread of Life (John 6:31–33). The "Scepter" that "shall rise out of Israel" (24:17). The glory & guidance of Christ in the pillar of cloud and fire
- Keys to: Key word; "wanderings." Key verses are Numbers 14:22, 23; 20:12

Survey of Deuteronomy

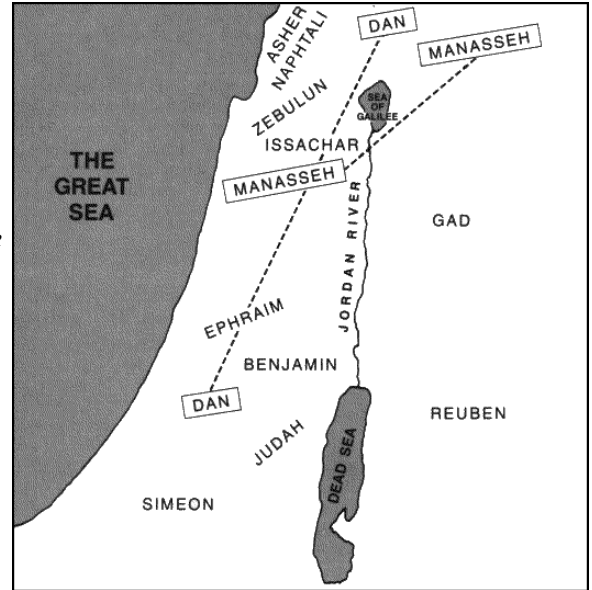
- Purpose/Theme of: Deuteronomy, Moses' "Upper Desert Discourse," consists of a series of farewell messages by Israel's 120-year-old leader. It is addressed to the new generation destined to possess the land of promise—those who survived the forty years of wilderness wandering. --The Open Bible
- Author of: Moses (supported in the book, by the NT, and Jewish tradition)
- Time of: Deuteronomy does not progress historically, taking place on the plains of Moab (east of Jericho) at the end of the 40 year wandering. About one month's time (c. 1405 b.c.)
- The Christ of: The "Prophet" messianic prophecy, Deut 18:15–19 : (Acts 7:37).
- Keys to: Key Word: Covenant (renewed on the plains of Moab). Key Verses are Deut 10:12, 13; 30:19, 20

Lesson 3 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Joshua

Joshua, the first of the twelve historical books (Joshua—Esther), forges a link between the Pentateuch and the remainder of Israel's history. --The Open Bible

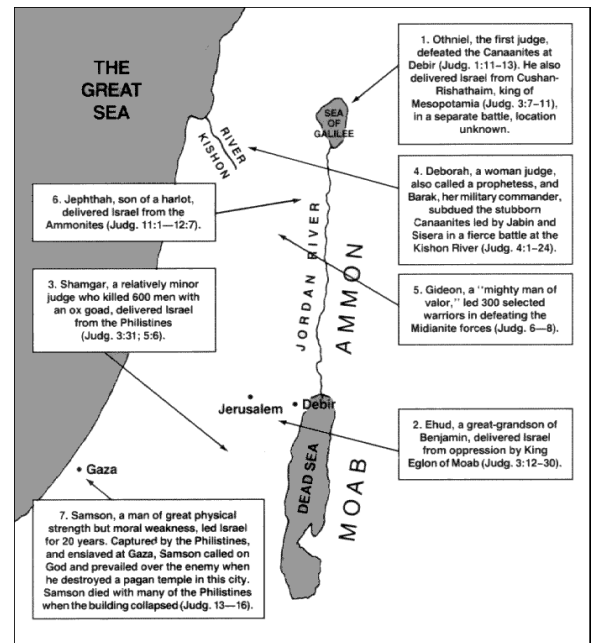
- Purpose/Theme of: *Conquest. The entire Book of Joshua describes the entering, conquering, and occupying of the land of Canaan* --The Open Bible
- Author of: Joshua - "Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God." --Joshua 24:26
- Time of: April, 1405-1390 b.c (15 year period) Moses has just died and Joshua takes his place. Beginning east of the Promise land, then conquering the land of Canaan, the the settling of the 12 tribes of Israel, ending in the death of Joshua
- The Christ of: Although there are no direct messianic prophecies in the book, Joshua is clearly a type of Christ. His name Yeshua ("Yahweh Is Salvation") is the Hebrew equivalent of the name "Jesus." In his role of triumphantly leading his people into their possessions, he foreshadows the One who will bring "many sons to glory" (Heb. 2:10). --The Open Bible
- Keys to: Key Verses: Joshua 1:7-8; 11:23; 24:14-15 (no successor follows Joshua)
- Life Lesson: *Victory comes through faith in God and obedience to His word, rather than through military might or numerical superiority.* --The Open Bible



Survey of Judges

The Book of Judges stands in stark contrast to Joshua. In Joshua an obedient people conquered the land through trust in the power of God. In Judges, however, a disobedient and idolatrous people are defeated time and time again because of their rebellion against God. --The Open Bible

- Purpose/Theme of: Cycles - 7 cycles of Israel's rebellion
- Author of: Anonymous, but possibly by Samuel or one of his students may have written it
- Time of: 1380-1045 b.c. (c. 335 years) from the Canaan conquest, just up to Samuel's birth. Israel is ruled by Judges (more of a Steward than a King)
- The Christ of: Each Judge is a deliverer and ruler, and therefore, a type of Christ; "In the last days... He [the Messiah] shall judge between the nations..." --Isa 2:2-4
- Keys to: *The author uses a five-point cycle to recount the repeated spiral of disobedience, destruction, and defeat. The five parts are: (1) sin, (2) servitude, (3) supplication, (4) salvation, and (5) silence.*--The Open Bible. Example of this cycle: the people serve God under good leadership (2:7), leader dies and the people do evil (2:11) they provoke the Lord to anger (2:12), God gives them over to their enemies (2:14), God raises up a deliverer (2:16), the people serve the Lord, but when the Judge dies, they turn back to evil (2:19)
- Key Verses: Judges 2:20-23; 21:25
- Life Lesson: When man abandons God as their King, sin and spiritual defeat must follow. However, those who, with a heart of contrition, turn to the Lord, shall undoubtedly see His deliverance.

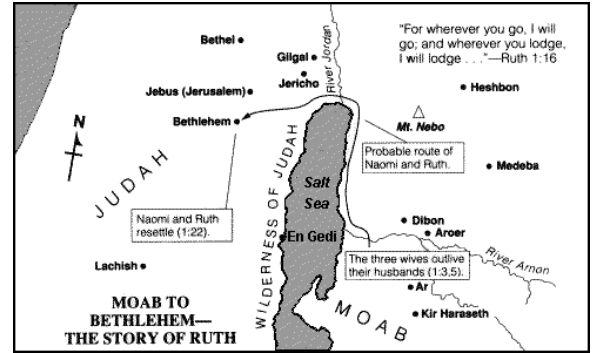


Lesson 4 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Ruth

Ruth is a cameo story of love, devotion, and redemption set in the grim context of the days of the judges. It is the story of a Moabite woman who forsakes her pagan heritage in order to cling to the people of Israel and to the God of Israel. —Open Bible

- Author of: Unknown; written during the reign of King David (1004-971 b.c.)
- Time of: The Judges, covering an 11 year period: The country of Moab (ten years), A field in Bethlehem (months), A threshing floor in Bethlehem (one day), The city of Bethlehem (one year)
- The Christ of: The concept of the kinsman-redeemer or *goel* (3:9, “close relative”) is an important portrayal of the work of Christ. The *goel* must 1. be related by blood to those he redeems—we are children of God through faith in His blood, 2. be able to pay the price of redemption—He alone is sufficient to atone, 3. be willing to redeem—Tit 2:14; 4. be free himself—Christ was free from the curse of sin
- Keys to: Key Word: Kinsman-Redeemer (*goel*) appears 13x; Key Verses: Ruth 1:16; 3:11; Key Chapter: Ruth 4—In 22 verses, Ruth moves from impoverished widowhood to marriage and wealth, that brings forth David, her grandson (4:17) and Jesus, the Messiah (Matt 1:5,16)
- Life Lesson: Our need to recognize our impoverished spirituality and need for redemption



Survey of 1 & 2 Samuel

The Book of 1 Samuel describes the transition of leadership in Israel from judges to kings. Three characters are prominent in the book: Samuel, the last judge and first prophet; Saul, the first king of Israel; and David, the king-elect, anointed but not yet recognized as Saul's successor. The books of 1 and 2 Samuel were originally one book in the Hebrew Bible, known as the "Book of Samuel" or simply "Samuel."

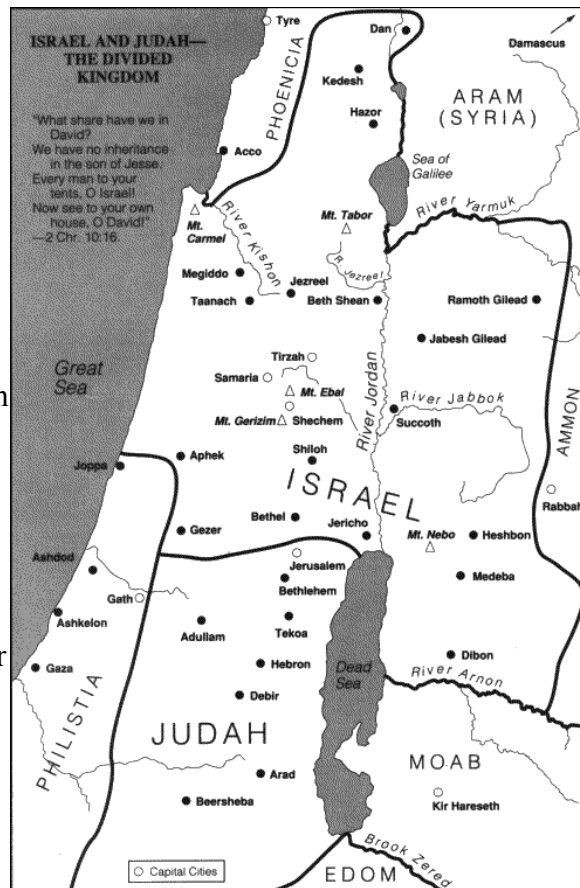
- Purpose/Theme of: The history of Israel's leadership transition from Judge to Prophet, to King
- Author of: Anonymous, but tradition says Samuel. Scriptures alludes to Samuel (10:25 & Chronicles 29:29). 2nd Samuel may have been written by a scribe of some sort.
- Time of: about 134 year period from Samuel's birth (c. 1105 b.c), to just before David dies (971 b.c.)
- The Christ of: Samuel is a type of Christ in that he is a prophet, priest, and judge. Highly revered by the people, he ushers in a new age. David is one of the primary Old Testament portrayals of the Person of Christ. He is born in Bethlehem, works as a shepherd, and rules as king of Israel. He is the anointed king who becomes the forerunner of the messianic King. Having conquered Jerusalem, he sits upon the throne of Melchizedek, another 'type' of Christ.
- Keys to 1 Samuel: Key Word; Transition—from the rule of God through the judges to His rule through the kings. Key Verses; 1 Samuel 13:14; 15:22. Key Chapter; 1 Samuel 15—First Samuel 15 records the tragic transition of kingship from Saul to David (15:3,11,19-23). —Life Lesson: To obey is better than sacrifice! (Relationship over religion)
- Keys to 2 Samuel: Key Word; David—around whom the entire book is written. The key truth illustrated is the same as the theme of Deuteronomy: obedience brings blessing and disobedience brings judgment. Key Verses; 2 Samuel 7:12-16; 22:20-21. Key Chapter; 2 Samuel 11-12—David's sin with Bathsheba, his conspiracy against her husband, Uriah, his calloused heart, his rebuke by Nathan, and his forgiveness/restoration.
- Life Lesson: God is looking for a people who are "after His own heart" (1 Sam 13:14), who "serve the purpose of God in [their] generation" (Act 13:36).

Lesson 5 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of 1st & 2nd Kings

Both books were one volume in the Hebrew Bible. The first half of 1 Kings traces the life of Solomon. Under his leadership Israel rises to the peak of her size and glory. Solomon's great accomplishments, including the unsurpassed splendor of the temple he constructs in Jerusalem, bring him worldwide fame and respect. However, Solomon's zeal for God diminishes in his later years, as pagan wives turn his heart away from worship in the temple of God. As a result, the king with the divided heart leaves behind a divided kingdom. For the next century, the Book of 1 Kings traces the twin histories of two sets of kings and two nations of disobedient people who are growing indifferent to God's prophets and precepts. The Book of 2 Kings continues the drama begun in 1 Kings—the tragic history of two nations on a collision course with captivity. --The Open Bible

- Author of: Uncertain, but Jeremiah may be the author; the last two chapters of 2 Kings were written after the captivity; probably by a Jewish captive in Babylon.
- Time of: Written between 646–570 b.c. Covers period of the Assyrian captivity of Israel (722 b.c.), the Babylonian captivity of Judah (586 b.c.). 1st Kings covers the 120 years from the beginning of Solomon's reign in 971 b.c. through Ahaziah's reign ending in 851 b.c. The key date is 931 b.c., the year the kingdom was divided into the northern nation of Israel and the southern nation of Judah. 2nd Kings cover the 131 years from 853 b.c. (King Ahaziah of Israel) to 722 b.c. (the Assyrian captivity of Israel), the 155 years from the beginning of Hezekiah's reign in 715 b.c. to the release of Jehoiachin in Babylon in 560 b.c.
- The Christ of: Solomon typifies Christ in a number of ways. His fabled wisdom points ahead to "Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God" (1 Cor. 1:30). However, despite Solomon's splendor, the Son of Man later says of His coming, "indeed a greater than Solomon is here" (Matt. 12:42). The prophet Elijah is more typical of John the Baptist than of Christ, but his prophetic ministry and miraculous works illustrate aspects of the life of Christ (Matt. 11:14; 17:10–12; Luke 1:17). God remains faithful to His covenant with David (2 Sam. 7) by preserving his lineage. Jesus the Messiah is his direct descendant. Elisha reminds us of Christ, who lives among the people and emphasizes grace, life, and hope.
- Keys to: Key Word to 1 Kings is "Division" tracing Israel's history from the great prosperity of Solomon, to the nation's demise. Key Word to 2 Kings is "Captivity" as Israel is captive to Assyria and Judah to Babylonian
- Key Chapter: 1 Kings 12—The critical turning point in 1 Kings occurs in chapter 12 when the united kingdom becomes the divided kingdom. Key Chapter: 2 Kings 25—The last chapter of 2 Kings records the utter destruction of the City of Jerusalem and its glorious temple.
- Key Verses: 1 Kings 3:3,5,9-10; 9:1-7; 10:4-7; 11:11; 12:16. 2 Kings 17:22-23; 23:27; 24:10-14
- Life Lesson: Blessing comes to those who love and obey the Lord; Disciplinary judgment is necessary to restore an erring people of God.

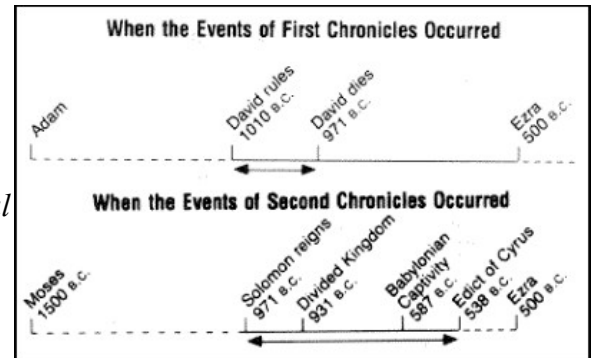


Lesson 6 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of 1st & 2nd Chronicles

Synopsis: "Chronicles" means an account of events. 1st & 2nd Chronicles were originally 1 book, beginning with David and following the The Book of 1 Chronicles begins with David's ancestry and follows his descendants. "2 Chronicles parallels 1 & 2 Kings (beginning w/ Solomon's temple) but mostly ignores the northern kingdom of Israel because of its false worship and refusal to acknowledge the temple in Jerusalem. Chronicles focuses on those kings who pattern their lives and reigns after the life and reign of godly King David. It gives extended treatment to such zealous reformers as Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, Hezekiah, and Josiah." --The Open Bible

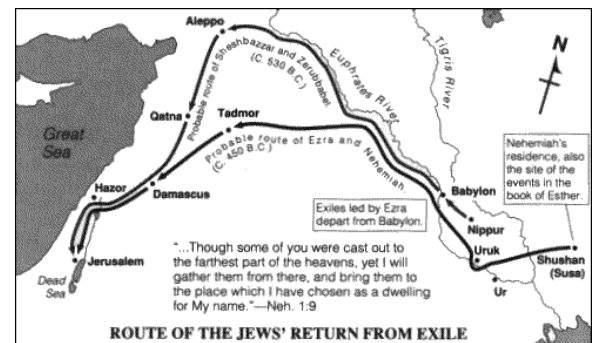
- Authorship/Time: Tradition and style says Ezra (along with the books Ezra & Nehemiah), written just after the end of the Babylonian captivity, and return to Israel's homeland, and covers from 791 b.c. to 538 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: David is a type of Christ; the promise David's eternal throne points to the coming of the Messiah King. See 1 Chr 17:11-14
- Key Verses: 29:11; 2 Chr 7:14; 16:9



Survey of Ezra

Synopsis: *The basic theme of Ezra is the restoration of the temple and the spiritual, moral, and social restoration of the returned remnant in Jerusalem under the leadership of Zerubbabel and Ezra.* --The Open Bible

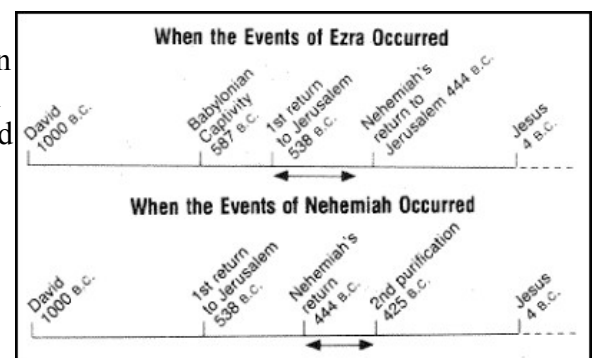
- Authorship/Time: Ezra, after the end of the Babylonian captivity, and return to Israel's homeland. Written about 440 b.c. covering the years, 538-457 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: The preservation of the Messianic lineage, in the promise land--The Christ will be born in Bethlehem, not in Babylon.
- Key Verses: Ezra 1:3; 7:10



Survey of Nehemiah

Synopsis: Nehemiah, contemporary of Ezra, challenges his countrymen to arise and rebuild the shattered wall of Jerusalem--in spite of opposition, they complete it in 52 days. Ezra & Nehemiah are exemplary leaders, used of God in the revival of the people and the restoration of the covenant community.

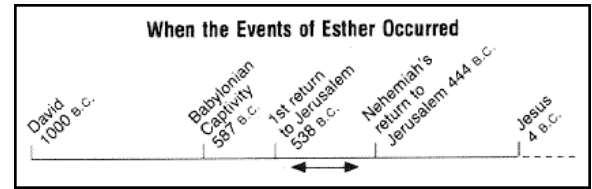
- Authorship/Time: Ezra, after the end of the Babylonian captivity, covering the years, 464-423 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: *Like Ezra, Nehemiah portrays Christ in His ministry of restoration. Nehemiah illustrates Christ in that he gives up a high position in order to identify with the plight of his people; he comes with a specific mission and fulfills it; and his life is characterized by prayerful dependence upon God.* --The Open Bible
- Key Verses: Neh 6:15, 16; 8:1-8
- Life Lessons from Ezra's writings: (1) God is a covenant keeping God, but human responsibility requires diligent action. (2) All who undergo the captivity of sin and its effects, will find a faithful God, ready to restore the sincere seeker.



Lesson 7 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Esther

Synopsis: *God's hand of providence and protection on behalf of His people is evident throughout the Book of Esther, though His name does not appear once. Haman's plot brings grave danger to the Jews and is countered by the courage of beautiful Esther and the counsel of her wise cousin Mordecai, resulting in a great deliverance. The Feast of Purim becomes an annual reminder of God's faithfulness on behalf of His people.* --The Open Bible

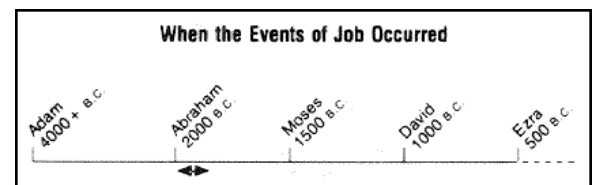


- Authorship/Time: Author unknown, but possibilities include Mordecai, Ezra, and Nehemiah. Obviously, someone who understood both Persian etiquette and Jewish customs, therefore, some suggest, a Persian Jew, and covering a 10 years span (483–473 b.c.). Written about 464 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: *Esther, like Christ, puts herself in the place of death for her people but receives the approval of the king. She also portrays Christ's work as Advocate on our behalf. This book reveals another satanic threat to destroy the Jewish people and thus, the messianic line. God continues to preserve His people in spite of opposition and danger, and nothing can prevent the coming of the Messiah.* --The Open Bible
- Key Verses: Esther 3:8-9,13; 4:13-17; 8:17-9:-2
- Life Lesson: God's plan cannot fail and He watches over His covenant people. However, we too are born "for such a time as this" and have a responsibility to willingly, and courageously, sacrifice ourselves or the greater good.

NOTE on Wisdom Literature: *The wisdom literature of the Old Testament consists of the books of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, as well as some of the Psalms... This literature provided guidance for moral behavior and everyday living.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

Survey of Job

Synopsis: *The book of Job tells the story of a man who loses everything—his wealth, his family, and his health—and wrestles with the question, Why? The book begins with a heavenly debate between God and Satan, moves through three cycles of earthly debates between Job and his friends, and concludes with a dramatic divine diagnosis of Job's problems. In the end, Job acknowledges the sovereignty of God in his life and receives back more than he had before his trials.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

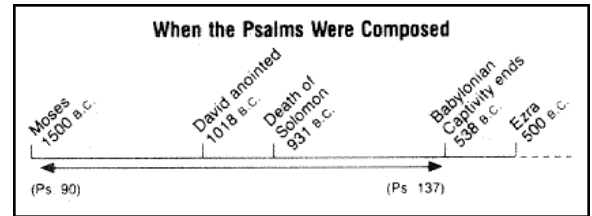


- Authorship/Time: Events occur during the time of the patriarchs--between Genesis 11 and 12, between 2000–1800 b.c. and therefore, the first written book of the Bible. The Author is certainly someone who is a profound thinker and familiar with wisdom literature's figures of speech.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Job acknowledges a Redeemer (see 19:25–27) and cries out for a mediator (9:33; 25:4; 33:23). Christ is the believer's Life, Redeemer, Mediator, and Advocate.
- Key Verses: Job 1:9-12, 20-22; 2:9-10, 13:15; 19:25-27; 42:10, 12
- Life Lesson: Suffering is common and the righteous are not exempt. We may not know the true source of our suffering (natural or demonic), but can find "grace to help" in Christ, who identifies with our sufferings (Heb. 4:15).

Lesson 8 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Psalms

Synopsis: *The Book of Psalms is the largest and perhaps most widely used book in the Bible. It explores the full range of human experience in a very personal and practical way. Its 150 "songs" run from the Creation through the patriarchal, theocratic, monarchical, exilic, and postexilic periods. The tremendous breadth of subject matter in the Psalms includes diverse topics, such as jubilation, war, peace, worship, judgment, messianic prophecy, praise, and lament. The Psalms were set to the accompaniment of stringed instruments and served as the temple hymnbook and devotional guide for the Jewish people.* --The Open Bible



- Authorship/Time: *Seventy-five psalms are attributed to David. Twelve are ascribed to Asaph, a priest who headed the service of music. Ten were by the sons of Korah, a guild of singers and composers, and other psalms are ascribed to Solomon, Moses, Heman the Ezrahite, and Ethan the Ezrahite. Fifty of the psalms are anonymous, although some of these are traditionally ascribed to Ezra.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts.

- The Psalms were collected during the reign of David, from as early at 1410 b.c. (Song of Moses), but were compiled some time after the Babylonia captivity, around 450–425 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Psalms, more than any other book, prophesy and describe the coming Messiah. Here are some of the specific messianic prophecies:

- Types of Psalms

- Psalms of lamentation, or prayers for God's deliverance. Example: Psalm 69
- Thanksgiving psalms, consisting of praise to God for His gracious acts. Example: Psalm 136
- Enthronement psalms, which describe God's sovereign rule. Example: Psalm 47
- Pilgrimage psalms, which were sung by worshipers as they traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish festivals. Example: Psalm 121
- Royal psalms, which portray the reign of the earthly king, as well as of the heavenly King of Israel. Example: Psalm 2
- Wisdom psalms, which instruct the worshiper in the way of wisdom and righteousness. Example: Psalm 1
- Imprecatory psalms, in which the worshiper invokes God's wrath and judgment against his enemies. Example: Psalm 35

	Prophecy	Fulfillment
2:7	God will declare Him to be His Son.	Matthew 3:17
8:6	All things will be put under His feet.	Hebrews 2:8
16:10	He will be resurrected from the dead.	Mark 16:6, 7
22:1	God will forsake Him in His hour of need.	Matthew 27:46
22:7, 8	He will be scorned and mocked.	Luke 23:35
22:16	His hands and feet will be pierced.	John 20:25, 27
22:18	Others will gamble for His clothes.	Matthew 27:35, 36
34:20	Not one of His bones will be broken.	John 19:32, 33, 36
35:11	He will be accused by false witnesses.	Mark 14:57
35:19	He will be hated without a cause.	John 15:25
40:7, 8	He will come to do God's will.	Hebrews 10:7
41:9	He will be betrayed by a friend.	Luke 22:47
45:6	His throne will be forever.	Hebrews 1:8
68:18	He will ascend to God's right hand.	Mark 16:19
69:9	Zeal for God's house will consume Him.	John 2:17
69:21	He will be given vinegar and gall to drink.	Matthew 27:34
109:4	He will pray for His enemies.	Luke 23:34
109:8	His betrayer's office will be fulfilled by another.	Acts 1:20
110:1	His enemies will be made subject to Him.	Matthew 22:44
110:4	He will be a priest like Melchizedek.	Hebrews 5:6
118:22	He will be the chief cornerstone.	Matthew 21:42
118:26	He will come in the name of the Lord.	Matthew 21:9

- Note on interpretive difficulties: We must limit our interpretation of any book to its genre, which, in this case, is Poetry. Poetry makes use of much metaphor, allegory, parallelism, Hebrew culture, etc., and as such, we must interpret Psalms in its artist sense, careful not to force isolated verses into settled doctrines.
- Life Lesson: The Psalms give us the language of prayer; verbalizing love for God, hope in adversity, and rousing the heart of the warrior/worshiper--so use the Psalms to feed prayer in your life.

Lesson 9 ~ Survey of the Bible

Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, & Song of Solomon

Written by David's son, King Solomon in the tradition of wisdom literature, providing guidance for moral behavior and everyday living. Written during Solomon's reign (970-931 b.c.) and collected by Hezekiah about 230 years later (Hezekiah reigned from 715 to 686 b.c.)

Survey of Proverbs

Synopsis: *The key word in Proverbs is wisdom, "the ability to live life skillfully." Proverbs provides God's detailed instructions for His people to deal successfully with the practical affairs of everyday life: how to relate to God, parents, children, neighbors, and government [using] a combination of poetry, parables, pithy questions, short stories, and wise maxims to give [a] divine perspective necessary to handle life's issues.* --The Open Bible

- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Christ, who is our wisdom (1 Cor 1:30) is personified in Proverbs 8:22-31 and seen in its perfection.
- Key Verses: Proverbs 1:1-7; 3:5-7
- Life Lesson: Grow in God's wisdom so that you are fully equipped for living a godly life.

Survey of Ecclesiastes

("Ecclesiastes" means "one who addresses an assembly")

Synopsis: *The key word in Ecclesiastes is "vanity," the futile emptiness of trying to be happy apart from God. The Preacher (traditionally taken to be Solomon—1:1, 12—the wisest, richest, most influential king in Israel's history) looks at life "under the sun" (1:9) and, from the human perspective, declares it all to be empty. Power, popularity, prestige, pleasure—nothing can fill the God-shaped void in man's life but God Himself! But once seen from God's perspective, life takes on meaning and purpose..."* --The Open Bible

- Messianic Prophecies and Types: The emptiness and perplexity of life without Christ
- Key Verses: Ecc 1:2, 14; 12:1, 11-14
- Life Lesson: Ultimately, only God satisfies. Everything else is emptiness, so "fear God and keep his commandments."

Survey of Song of Solomon

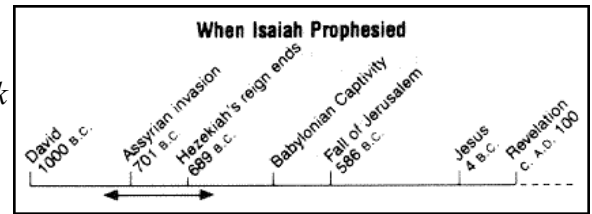
Synopsis: *The Song of Solomon is a love song written by Solomon and abounding in metaphors and oriental imagery. Historically, it depicts the wooing and wedding of a shepherdess by King Solomon, and the joys and heartaches of wedded love. Allegorically, it pictures Israel as God's espoused bride (Hos. 2:19, 20), and the church as the bride of Christ. As human life finds its highest fulfillment in the love of man and woman, so spiritual life finds its highest fulfillment in the love of God for His people and Christ for His church.* --The Open Bible

- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Song of Solomon illustrates the love of the Bridegroom (Jesus) for His bride (OT Israel, and later, the NT Church)
- Song of Solomon follows the progression of love: 1. Falling in love, 2. United in love, 3. Struggling in love, and 4. Growing in love
- Key Verses: Song of Solomon 7:10; 8:7
- Note: Three levels of interpretation that are equally valuable. First, it is about the love between a young man and woman. Secondly, it is a model for romance and marital love. Finally, it is an allegory of God's love for His people.
- Life Lesson: Love, romance, and cherish your life mate. Secondly, know the love that God has for those who are in Christ.

Lesson 10 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Isaiah

Synopsis: *Isaiah reads like a strategic plan of God's intentions for the world.* --Word in life study Bible. *Isaiah has often been called "the prince of prophets" because of the majestic sweep of his book and the powerful way he depicts the themes of justice and redemption, culminating in the great prophecies of the Messiah and the messianic age. In this sense, Isaiah is like a miniature Bible. The first thirty-nine chapters are filled with judgment upon immoral and idolatrous people—both Judah and the surrounding nations. But the final twenty-seven chapters declare a message of hope and consolation.*



--Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

- Authorship/Time: Isaiah is considered "the Paul of the Old Testament," because of his high level of education, command of language, and intensity of purpose. Isaiah's ministry stretched through the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, from 740 to 680 b.c.,--60 years (100 years before the Babylonian captivity). This, during a time following Israel's greatest period of prosperity; the "Golden Age" under David and Solomon. But prosperity and ease let go to immorality and God's increasing calls to repentance--eventually leading up to their ultimate discipline: Babylon.

- Messianic Prophecies and Types: *When he speaks about Christ, Isaiah sounds more like a New Testament writer than an Old Testament prophet. His messianic prophecies are clearer and more explicit than those in any other Old Testament book. They describe many aspects of the Person and work of Christ in His first and second advents, and often blend the two together.* --The Open Bible. Here are a few of the over 300 prophecies and their New Testament fulfillments: (see "Fulfilled Prophecies" chart)

Fulfilled Prophecies from Isaiah

The Prophecy	The Fulfillment
The Messiah...	Jesus Christ...
will be born of a virgin (Is. 7:14).	was born of a virgin named Mary (Luke 1:26-31).
will have a Galilean ministry (Is. 9:1, 2).	Ministered in Galilee of the Gentiles (Matt. 4:13-16).
will be an heir to the throne of David (Is. 9:7).	was given the throne of His father David (Luke 1:32, 33).
will have His way prepared (Is. 40:3-5).	was announced by John the Baptist (John 1:19-28).
will be spat on and struck (Is. 50:6).	was spat on and beaten (Matt. 26:67).
will be exalted (Is. 52:13).	was highly exalted by God and the people (Phil. 2:9, 10).
will be disfigured by suffering (Is. 52:14, 53:2).	was scourged by the soldiers who gave Him a crown of thorns (Mark 15:15-19).
will make a blood atonement (Is. 53:5).	shed His blood to atone for our sins (1 Pet. 1:2).
will be widely rejected (Is. 53:1, 3).	was not accepted by many (John 12:37, 38).
will bear our sins and sorrows (Is. 53:4, 5).	died because of our sins (Rom. 4:25; 1 Pet. 2:24, 25).
will be our substitute (Is. 53:6, 8).	died in our place (Rom. 5:6, 8; 2 Cor. 5:21).
will voluntarily accept our guilt and punishment (Is. 53:7, 8).	was silent about our sin (Mark 15:4, 5; John 10:11, 19:30).
will be buried in a rich man's tomb (Is. 53:9).	was buried in the tomb of Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea (Matt. 27:57-60; John 19:38-42).
will save us who believe in Him (Is. 53:10, 11).	provided salvation for all who believe (John 3:16; Acts 16:31).
will die with transgressors (Is. 53:12).	was numbered with the transgressors (Mark 15:27, 28; Luke 22:37).
will heal the brokenhearted (Is. 61:1, 2).	healed the brokenhearted (Luke 4:18, 19).

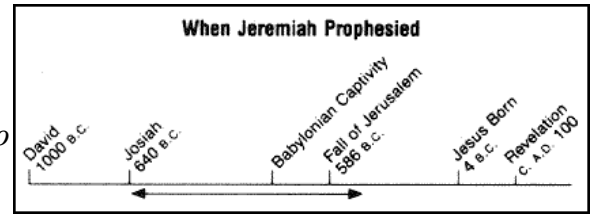
- **Outline of Isaiah** --The Open Bible
 - Part One: Prophecies of Condemnation (1:1-35:10)
 - Prophecies Against Judah 1:1-12:6
 - Prophecies Against Other Nations 13:1-23:18
 - Prophecies: The Day of the Lord 24:1-27:13
 - The Prophecies of Judgment and Blessing 28:1-35:10
 - Part Two: The Historical Parenthesis (36:1-39:8)
 - Hezekiah's Salvation from Assyria 36:1-37:38
 - Hezekiah's Salvation from Sickness 38:1-22
 - Hezekiah's Sin 39:1-8
 - Part Three: The Prophecies of Comfort (40:1-66:24)
 - The Prophecies of Israel's Deliverance 40:1-48:22
 - The Prophecy of Israel's Deliverer 49:1-57:21
 - The Prophecies of Israel's Glorious Future 58:1-66:24

- Key Verses: Key Verses: Isaiah 9:6, 7; 53:6; 61:1-2. Key Chapter: 53
- Life Lesson: God's judgments are His loving discipline, designed to bring us back into faith, obedience, and fellowship with Him. To those who turn to Him, He offers every hope, and promises great blessing.

Lesson 11 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Jeremiah & Lamentations

Synopsis: *The Book of Jeremiah is the prophecy of a man divinely called in his youth... [Called the weeping prophet, Jeremiah is a] heartbroken prophet with a heartbreaking message, Jeremiah labors for more than forty years proclaiming a message of doom to the stiff-necked people of Judah--[the coming Babylonian defeat and captivity]... He was threatened in his hometown, tried for his life by the priests and prophets of Jerusalem, put in stocks, forced to flee from King Jehoiakim, publicly humiliated by the false prophet Hananiah, and thrown into a cistern... Jeremiah bathes his harsh prophecies in tears of compassion...* --The Open Bible

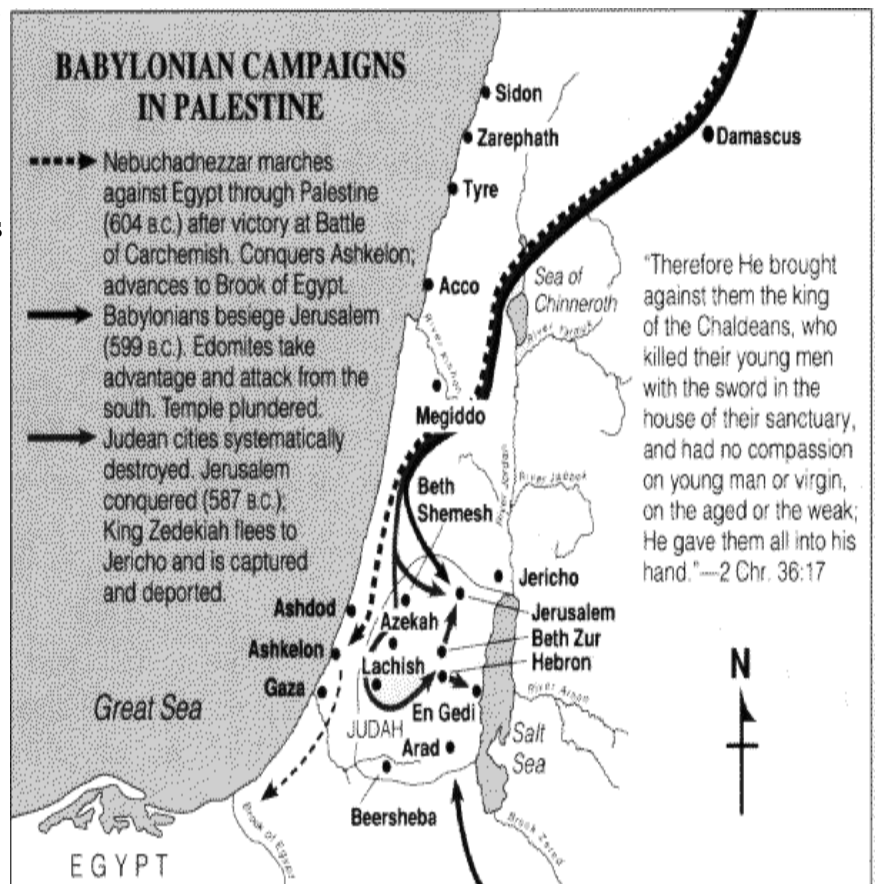


- Authorship/Time: Jeremiah is its author (1:1), and dictated all his prophecies to his secretary Baruch (chapter 52 was evidently not written by Jeremiah and it may have been added by Baruch. Jeremiah's ministry was from 627-580 b.c., about 46 years. He survived the Babylonian assault and was later taken to Egypt where he died.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: The Messiah is seen in 23:1–8 as the coming Shepherd. His name; "The Lord our Righteousness" (23:5, 6). He will bring in the new covenant (31:31–34).
- Key Verses: Jeremiah 7:23, 24; 8:11-12, 29:11; Key Chapter 31
- Life Lesson: "Surrender to God's will is the only way to escape calamity." --The Open Bible

Survey of Lamentations

Synopsis: *Lamentations describes the funeral of a city. It is a tear-stained portrait of the once-proud Jerusalem, now reduced to rubble by the invading Babylonian hordes. In a five-poem dirge, the author expresses the deep emotion of one who has seen the slaughter of many of his people, the enslavement of others, and the abject despair of the few survivors.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

- Authorship/Time: Jeremiah. Written, just after the fall of Jerusalem in 586 b.c., after Babylon laid a 2 1/2 year siege against the city.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Jeremiah is a type of Christ, who wept over the same city six centuries later. (Matt. 23:37, 38). Like Christ, Jeremiah is a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isa 53).
- Key Verses: Lam 2:5-6; 3:22-23
- Life Lesson: God is both angry over sin, and grieving its effects. When we fail spiritually, we need to see God's anger and grief, as powerful motivators in our restoration

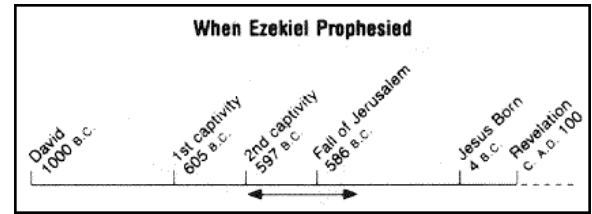


Lesson 12 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Ezekiel

Synopsis: *Ezekiel, a priest and a prophet, ministers during the darkest days of Judah's history: the seventy-year period of Babylonian captivity. Carried to Babylon before the final assault on Jerusalem, Ezekiel uses prophecies, parables, signs, and symbols to dramatize God's message to His exiled people. Though they are like dry bones in the sun, God will reassemble them and breathe life into the nation once again. Present judgment will be followed by future glory so that "you shall know that I am the Lord" (6:7).* --The Open Bible

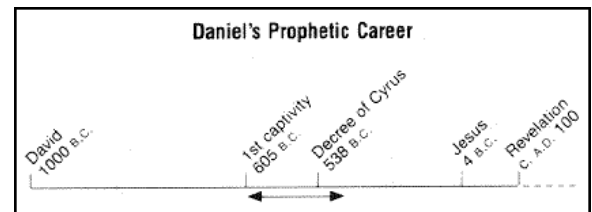
- Authorship/Time: Ezekiel, who was born 622 b.c., deported to Babylon 597 b.c., prophesied from 592 b.c. to at least 570 b.c., and died about 560 b.c. Like Daniel, he wrote from Babylon.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Ezekiel 17:22–24 depicts the Messiah as a tender twig that becomes a stately cedar on a lofty mountain. The Messiah is the King who has the right to rule (21:26, 27), and He is the true Shepherd who will deliver and feed His flock (34:11–31).
- Key Verses: Ezekiel 3:17; 36:24–26; 36:33–35; Key Chapter: Ezekiel 37—the vision of the valley of the dry bones.
- Life Lesson: Judgment falls upon sin, but restoration is promised to the repentant.



Survey of Daniel

Synopsis: *Daniel's life and ministry bridge the entire seventy-year period of Babylonian captivity. Deported to Babylon at the age of sixteen, and handpicked for government service, Daniel becomes God's prophetic mouthpiece to the Gentile and Jewish world declaring God's present and eternal purpose. Nine of the twelve chapters in his book revolve around dreams, including God-given visions involving trees, animals, beasts, and images. In both his personal adventures and prophetic visions, Daniel shows God's guidance, intervention, and power in the affairs of men.* --The Open Bible

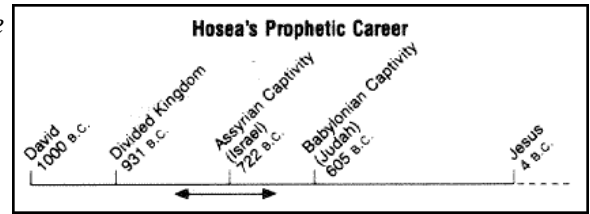
- Authorship/Time: Daniel, throughout the entire Babylonian captivity, first taken to Babylon as a youth in 605 b.c. (some doubt Daniel's authorship because his prophecies are so detailed on future historical events)
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: *Christ is the Great Stone who will crush the kingdoms of this world (2:34-35, 44), the Son of Man who is given dominion by the Ancient of Days (7:13-14), and the coming Messiah who will be cut off (9:25-26)...* The vision of the sixty-nine weeks in 9:25-26 pinpoints the coming of the Messiah. The decree of 9:25 took place on March 4, 444 b.c. (Neh. 2:1-8). The sixty-nine weeks of seven years equals 483 years, or 173,880 days (using 360-day prophetic years). This leads to March 29, a.d. 33, the date of the Triumphal Entry. This is checked by noting that 444 b.c. to a.d. 33 is 476 years, and 476 times 365.24219 days per year equals 173,855 days. Adding twenty-five days for the difference between March 4 and March 29 gives 173,880 days. --The Open Bible
- Key Verses: Daniel 2:20–22, 44; Key Chapter: Daniel 9
- Life Lesson: Just as Daniel was written to encourage the exiled Jews by revealing God's sovereign plan of redemption, so we too--in times of hardship--need encouraged that all is well in God's unfolding plan for believers. Secondly, Daniel is a great model for spiritual living in a secular setting.



Lesson 13 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Hosea

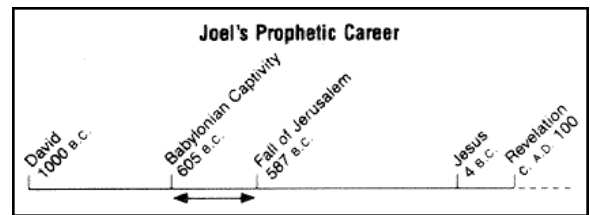
Synopsis: *Hosea, whose name means "Salvation," ministers to the northern kingdom of Israel (also called Ephraim, after its largest tribe). Outwardly, the nation is enjoying a time of prosperity and growth; but inwardly, moral corruption and spiritual adultery permeate the people. Hosea, instructed by God to marry a woman named Gomer, finds his domestic life to be an accurate and tragic dramatization of the unfaithfulness of God's people. During his half century of prophetic ministry, Hosea repeatedly echoes his threefold message: God abhors the sins of His people; judgment is certain; but God's loyal love stands firm.* --The Open Bible



- Authorship/Time: Probably written by Hosea but little is known about him--his ministry stretched from about 755-710 b.c., spanning the reigns of the last six kings of Israel from Zechariah to Hoshea
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Matthew 2:15 applies Hosea 11:1 to Christ "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son." Hosea's purchase of Gomer from the slave market (3:1-2) is a picture of Christ's redemption from the slavery of sin.
- Key Verses: The love of God for an erring people. Hosea 2:14-19; 11:7-9
- Life Lesson: Hos 14:9

Survey of Joel

Synopsis: *Disaster struck the Southern Kingdom of Judah in the form of a cloud of locusts. In a matter of hours, the fields were stripped bare, and the prophet Joel seized this opportunity to proclaim God's message. The plague of locusts is seen as a foreshadowing of the coming day of the Lord. In light of this, the book warns of approaching judgment, calls the people to repentance, and gives God's people hope of the coming day of salvation that will follow judgment.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts



- Authorship/Time: Joel, who is probably a priest and nearby resident of Jerusalem. It has traditionally been dated c. 835 b.c., when Joash was placed upon the throne at the age of seven and Jehoiada the priest functioned as the real ruler
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Joel portrays Christ as the One who will judge the nations in the Valley of Jehoshaphat in 3:2, 12.
- The Promise of the Spirit: On the Day of Pentecost, Peter says in Acts 2, "This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel" (Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-21).
- Key Verses: Joel 2:11-13, 28-29
- Life Lesson: Though great judgment will come upon all who reject God's Lordship, great blessing and salvation comes to all who trust in the Lord: "And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (2:32).

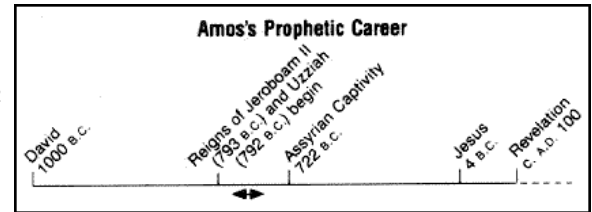
Lesson 14 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Amos

Synopsis: *The book of Amos addresses the excessive pursuit of luxury, self-indulgence, and oppression of the poor which characterized the period of prosperity and success in the Northern Kingdom of Israel... But with divinely given insight, he saw the corruption beneath the brilliantly colored exterior and announced that the nation was rotten to the core. The book stands as an eloquent witness against those who subordinate human need and dignity to the pursuit of wealth and pleasure.*

--Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

- Authorship/Time: Amos, not a typical prophet, yet well-versed in the Scriptures. He was a "sheepbreeder and a tender of sycamore fruit" (7:14). Amos prophesied "in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam, approximately 767-753 b.c
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Christ's all authority to judge (1:1–9:10), and to restore (9:11–15).
- Key Verses: Amos 3:1-3; 8:11-12; 9:11-15
- Life Lesson: To those unwilling to yield to God's way: "prepare to meet your God, O Israel" (4:12).

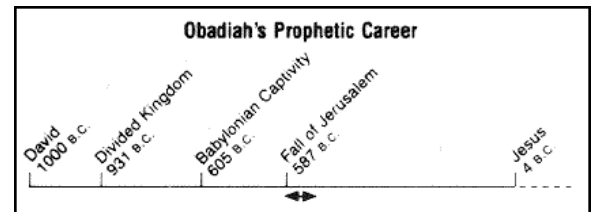


Survey of Obadiah

Synopsis: *Consisting of only twenty-one verses, Obadiah is the shortest book in the Old Testament. It deals with the bitter rivalry between Edom, the descendants of Jacob's twin brother Esau, and the people of Israel. Obadiah, whose name means "Worshiper of Yahweh" or "Servant of Yahweh," pronounces condemnation against Edom and prophesies their total destruction because of their persistent opposition to God's chosen people.*

--Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

- Authorship/Time: Obadiah was an obscure prophet who probably lived in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. The time of Obadiah is not specifically known.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types/Key Verses: Christ is seen in Obadiah as the Judge of the nations (15–16), the Savior of Israel (17–20), and the Possessor of the kingdom (21).
- Life Lesson: God will judge those who oppose and oppress God's people.



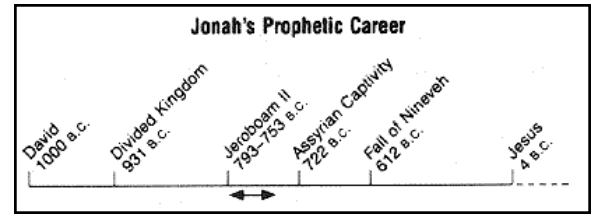
Lesson 15 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Jonah

Synopsis: *God's loving concern for the Gentiles is not a truth disclosed only in the New Testament. More than seven centuries before Christ, God commissioned the Hebrew prophet Jonah to proclaim a message of repentance to the Assyrian city of Nineveh. Jewish nationalism, however, blinded both the prophet and covenant people to God's worldwide purposes of salvation. The story of Jonah is one of the clearest demonstrations in Scripture of God's love and mercy for all peoples.*

--Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

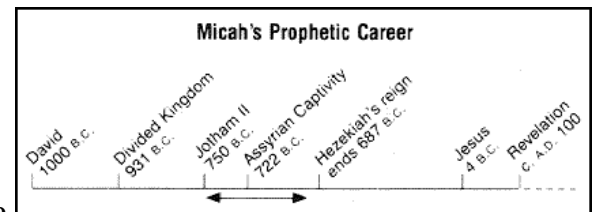
- Authorship/Time: Jonah, a prophet of Northern Israel, 8th century b.c., during the reign of Jeroboam II of Israel (782–753 b.c.) and the Ninevite King, Ashurban III (773–755 b.c.).
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: . Jonah's "three days and three nights" (1:17) in the belly of the fish, is a type of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (so says Jesus in Matt. 12:39–41).
- Key Verses: Jonah 1:1-3, 2:9; 4:2,11
- Life Lesson: God loves all sinners, and we should too.



Survey of Micah

Synopsis: *Burdened by the abusive treatment of the poor, the book of Micah rebukes anyone who would use social status or political power for personal gain. One third of Micah exposes the sins of his countrymen, another third pictures the punishment God is about to send, and the final third holds out the hope of restoration once that discipline has ended.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

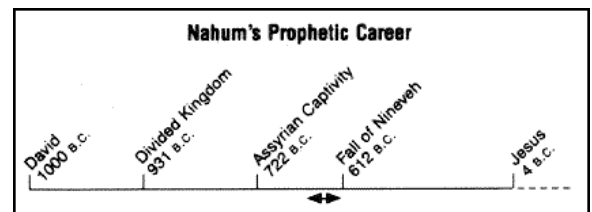
- Authorship/Time: Micah, was one of the eighth-century prophets, together with Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, and Jonah. Micah's prophecies ranged from about 735 to 710 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Micah 2 on the Messiah's Bethlehem birth (Matt 2:5-6)
- Key Verses: Micah 4:1-5; 5:1-2; 6:8; 7:18-19
- Life Lesson: In Micah 6:8, mankind is accountable to God and knows what God requires



Survey of Nahum

Synopsis: *In contrast to his predecessor Jonah, whose ministry resulted in the repentance of the Ninevites, the prophet Nahum proclaims the downfall of the great Assyrian city of Nineveh. The Ninevites have forgotten their revival and have returned to their habits of violence, idolatry, and arrogance. As a result, Babylon will so destroy the city that no trace of it will remain—a prophecy fulfilled in painful detail.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

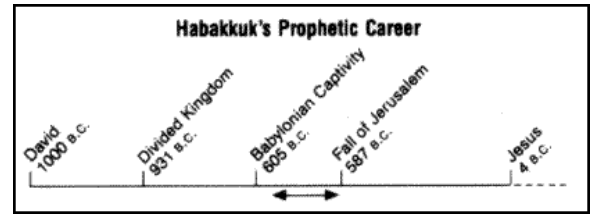
- Authorship/Time: By the prophet Nahum, probably of Judah. Written between 663 and 654 b.c., and prior to Nineveh's downfall in 612 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: No direct references but 1:2–8 describes Christ's attributes
- Key Verses: Nahum 1:7-8; 3:5–7
- Life Lesson: "He will make a complete end of the adversaries" (1:8).



Lesson 16 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Habakkuk

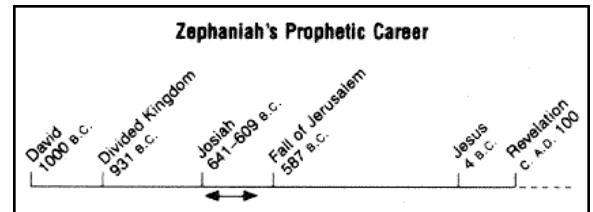
Synopsis: *The prophet Habakkuk ministered during the death throes of the nation of Judah. Although repeatedly called to repentance, the nation stubbornly refused to change her sinful ways. Asking how long this intolerable situation would continue, Habakkuk is told by God that the Babylonians will be His chastening rod on the nation—an announcement that sends the prophet to his knees. Though perplexed, Habakkuk acknowledges that the just in any generation shall live by faith (2:4), not by sight, and he concludes by praising God's wisdom even though he doesn't fully understand God's ways.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts



- Authorship/Time: By The Habakkuk, but not much known about him. Written some time prior to the Babylonian captivity, perhaps between 609-605 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: *The word "salvation" appears three times in 3:13, 18 and is the root word from which the name "Jesus" is derived (cf. Matt. 1:21). When He comes again, "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (2:14).* --The Open Bible
- Key Verses: Habakkuk 2:1-4,14; 3:16-19
- Life Lesson: When we wrestle with the will of God, let us ask honest questions, pursue understanding, and resolve to trust God by faith.

Survey of Zephaniah

Synopsis: *The book of Zephaniah repeatedly hammers home the message that the day of the Lord, judgment day, is coming when the malignancy of sin will be dealt with. Israel and her gentile neighbors will soon experience the crushing hand of God's wrath. But after the chastening process is complete, blessing will come in the person of the Messiah.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts



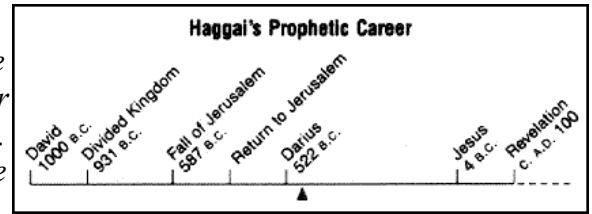
- Authorship/Time: Zephaniah, who traces his ancestry back four generations in order to demonstrate his royal lineage as the great-great-grandson of King Hezekiah, and a distant relative of King Josiah. Written prior to the Babylonian captivity, between 640-612 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Zephaniah 1:3,15 are referred to in NT as the Messiah's "Day of the Lord" (Matt. 13:41, 24:29); and Zephaniah 3:14,17 of Jesus the King, among us.
- Key Verses: Zephaniah 1:14,15; 2:3, 3:14-20
- Life Lesson: the Day of the Lord is coming when He will judge all, but those who come humbly through Christ, shall escape into the eternal blessings of the Lord.

This ends the books written prior to the Babylonian Captivity

Lesson 17 ~ Survey of the Bible

Survey of Haggai

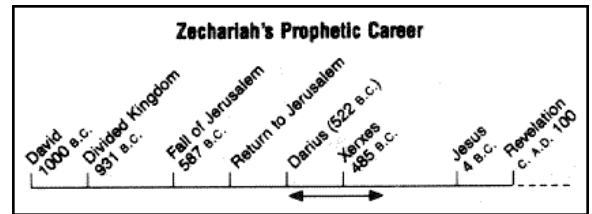
Synopsis: *Haggai is second only to Obadiah in brevity among the Old Testament books... The work on the temple had ceased and the people had become more concerned with the beautification of their own houses than with the building of the central sanctuary of God. Because of their misplaced priorities, their future labors cannot be blessed by God. Only when the people put the Lord first by completing the task He set before them will His hand of blessing once again be upon them.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts



- Authorship/Time: Written about 520 b.c. after the return from Babylon, Haggai is about 75 years old, and is seen working alongside the younger prophet Zechariah.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: The promise of Haggai 2:9 points to Christ's greater covenant
- Key Verses: Haggai 1:1-4,7-8; 2:7-9
- Life Lesson: God's kingdom priorities exceed our personal plans and comforts.

Survey of Zechariah

Synopsis: *For a dozen years or more, the task of rebuilding the temple had been half completed. The prophet Zechariah was commissioned by God to encourage the people to complete this important task. Rather than exhorting them with strong words of rebuke, Zechariah offered a very positive goal: the temple must be built, for someday the glory of the Messiah would inhabit it.*

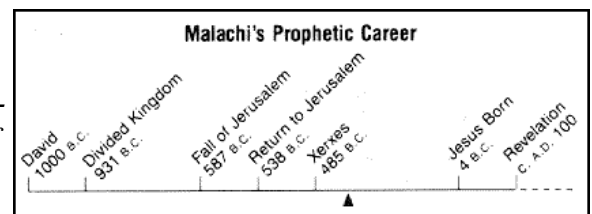


--Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts

- Authorship/Time: Zechariah, a post exile prophet of the priestly families of the tribe of Levi and a contemporary of Haggai; He was born in Babylon and returned to Jerusalem during Zerubbabel's leadership. Written between 520 and 464 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: *Christ: the angel of the Lord (3:1, 2); the righteous Branch (3:8; 6:12, 13), the stone with seven eyes (3:9); the King-Priest (6:13); the humble King (9:9, 10); the cornerstone, tent peg, and battle bow (10:4); the good Shepherd who is rejected and sold for thirty shekels of silver, the price of a slave (11:4-13); the pierced One (12:10); the cleansing fountain (13:1); the smitten Shepherd who is abandoned (13:7); the coming Judge and righteous King (14).* --The Open Bible
- Key Verses: Zechariah 2:10-11; 8:1-3; 9:9; 14:9
- Life Lesson: Let's us hold firm to the future hope we have, of Christ's coming.

Survey of Malachi

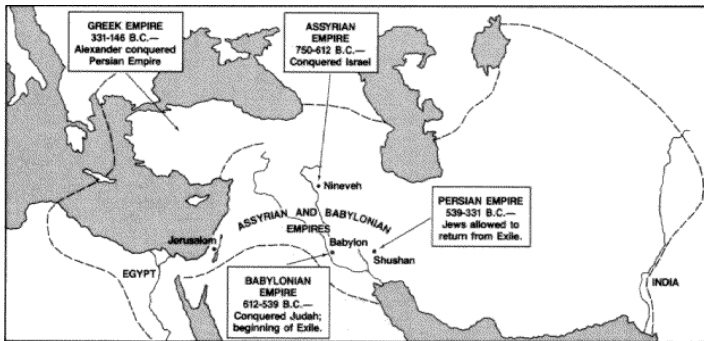
Synopsis: *Malachi, a prophet in the days of Nehemiah, directed his message of judgment to a people plagued with corrupt priests, wicked practices, and a false sense of security. Using the question-and-answer method, Malachi probes deeply into their problems of hypocrisy, infidelity, mixed marriages, divorce, false worship, and arrogance.* --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts



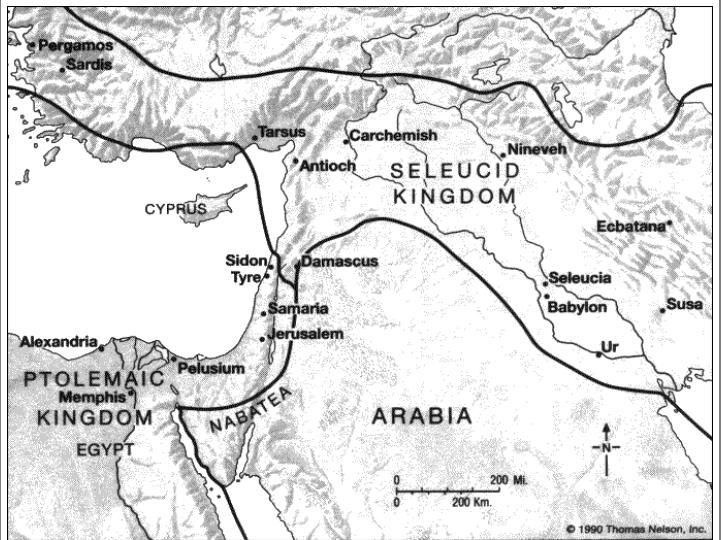
- Authorship/Time: Nothing is know about Malachi, but addresses the same problems that Nehemiah faced, suggesting a date between 432 and 425 b.c.
- Messianic Prophecies and Types: Malachi predicts the coming of the Messenger who prepares the way before the Lord (3:1; 4:5).
- Key Verses: Malachi 2:17-3:1; 4:5-6
- Life Lesson: When faith grows cold, doubts increase, and relationship gives way to religious observance. The humble heed God's loving rebuke, and are restored to 'first love.'

Intertestamental Period - Bridging the Testaments

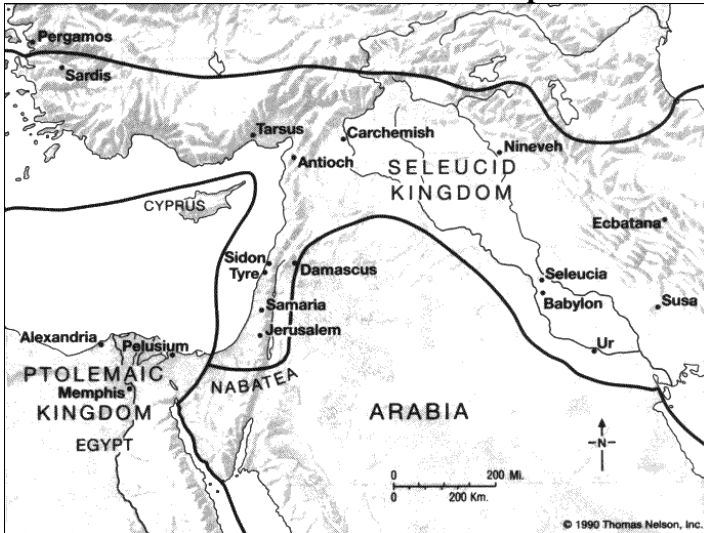
The map below shows Palestine as a subject region within four successive world empires, beginning with the Assyrian Empire in 750 b.c. and concluding with Alexander's Greek Empire of 331–146 b.c. After his death in 323 b.c., Alexander's leading generals divided the empire and established their own dynasties. Two of these controlled Palestine: first the kingdom of Ptolemy, which held Palestine from 323 b.c. until 198 b.c. when, by battle, it was lost to the kingdom of Seleucus. Then the Syrian Seleucids ruled until the strengthening revolt of the Jewish Hasmonean family (later called the Maccabees) gained complete independence in 143 b.c. Jewish independence of Judea lasted until the Romans occupied the region under general Pompey in 63 b.c. The Romans continued to occupy the whole of Palestine throughout all of New Testament history. Maps illustrating these shifts of political power over Palestine may be found below. --Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts



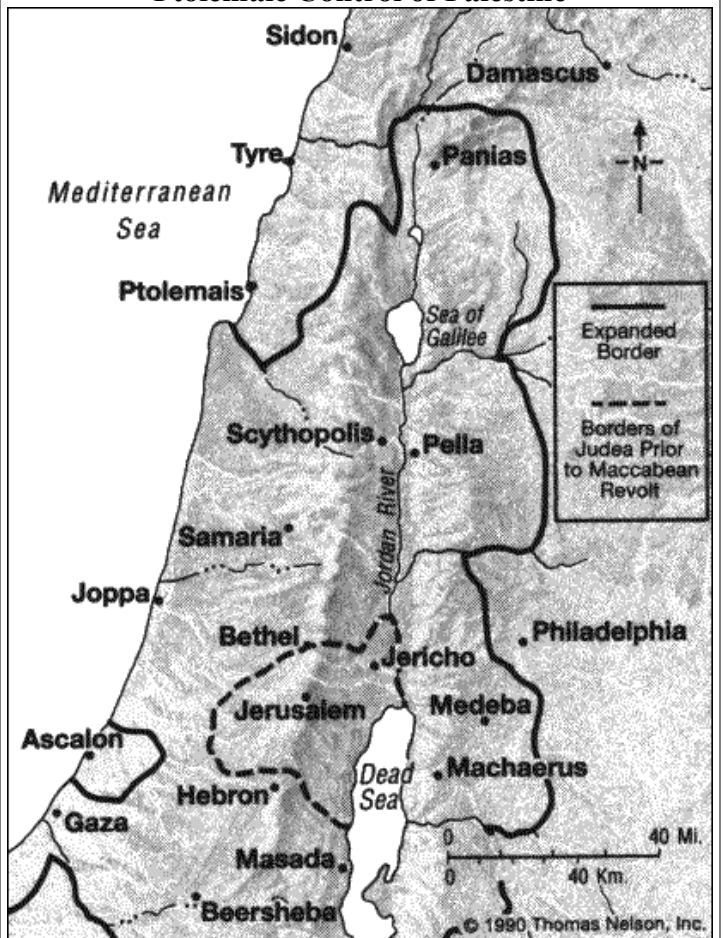
Succession of Four World Empires



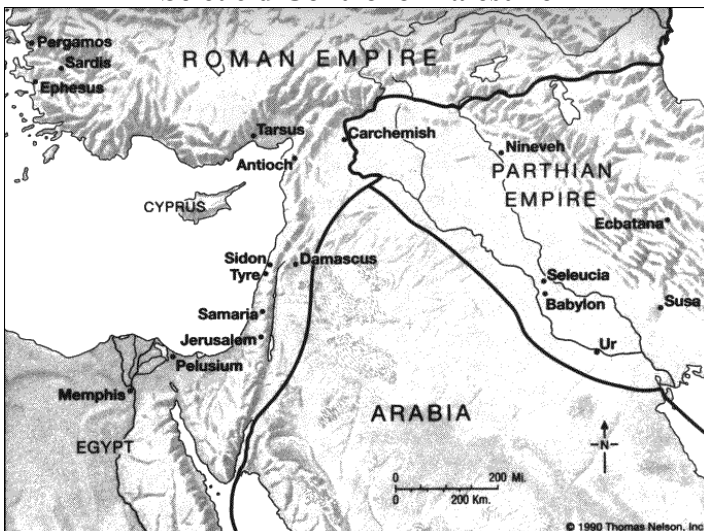
Ptolemaic Control of Palestine



Seleucid Control of Palestine



Expansion of Palestine Under the Maccabees



Roman Control of Palestine

