

God used these prophets over times and places to call His people back to Him.

1. Before the Northern Exiles—Hosea to Micah. Hos., Joel, Amos, Obad., Jonah, Micah

- a. Hosea’s family illustrated his prophesy of Israel’s adultery and sin vs. God’s holiness.
- b. Joel’s prophesy used locust plagues to illustrate their devastation, invasions and disaster.
- c. Amos warned Israel of their sin, doom and preached hope and need for repentance.
- d. Obadiah warned prideful Edom, descendants from Esau, of their pending destruction.
- e. Jonah reluctantly preached to Nineveh, they repented, and God spared this evil city.
- f. Micah prophesied to Israel and Judah, saying, *“out of Bethlehem shall come the One.”*

“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, ... And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth,” Micah 5:2a ... 4

2. Before the Southern Exile—Nahum to Zephaniah. Nahum, Hab., Zeph.

- a. Nahum predicted destruction of Assyrian city Nineveh 150 years after Jonah’s ministry.
- b. Habakkuk asked God of His leniency on Judah’s wickedness. God said He will judge.
- c. Zephaniah described the Judgment Day of the Lord for Judah and Gentiles.

“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith,” Hab. 2:4

3. After the Return to Jerusalem—Haggai to Malachi. Haggai, Zech., Malachi

- a. Haggai preached as the Temple was rebuilt, that God’s people weren’t putting Him first.
- b. Zechariah also encouraged the Temple rebuilding, revealing Messianic visions of hope.
- c. Malachi, as the Old Testament closed, preached Israel’s complacency toward God.

“They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.,” Malachi 3:17-18

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