



What is It?

Jonah, Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk are the second four books of the Old Testament's minor prophets (minor in length, not necessarily in message or importance).

Who, What, When, Where and WHY

Who – Although there are some scholars who think otherwise, there is strong evidence that Jonah wrote his book. The other three – Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk – are generally accepted to have been written by the prophets name appears on the books. They were written to the peoples of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) and Judea before, during and after the calamities that led to exile. Of course, they have a message for us too.

What – Jonah is more narrative than prophecy, describing a reluctant God-called evangelist to a gentile city (Nineveh). Nahum prophesies against the very same city. Micah and Habakkuk share the theme of warning concerning God's coming judgement of Israel and Judea, a call to turn back to God and His covenant, and the promise of redemption. There is a strong call to justice in some of these books too.

When – Jonah and Micah were written in the 8th Century BC (the 700's); Nahum and Habakkuk were written in the 7th Century BC (the 600's).

Where – All four books were written in and about events in Israel and Judea – modern day Israel (Palestine) on the Eastern edge of the Mediterranean Sea. Jonah includes other locations – the Mediterranean Sea itself and Nineveh which is in present day Iraq.

Why – God is always calling His people back to himself. All the minor prophets, including Jonah, Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk here, has a message similar to the major prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel - repent and turn back to God. If you do there is salvation; if you don't, there is judgement. There are additional messages here too like telling others about God.

Reading Advice

To read though Jonah, Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk in one week you will need to read 3 chapters a day (17 combined chapters/6 days = 2.8 per day). We recommend 10 minutes a day, Monday through Saturday. If you include a Sunday reading, then you can reduce the chapters and/or minutes per day a little.