



OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY III

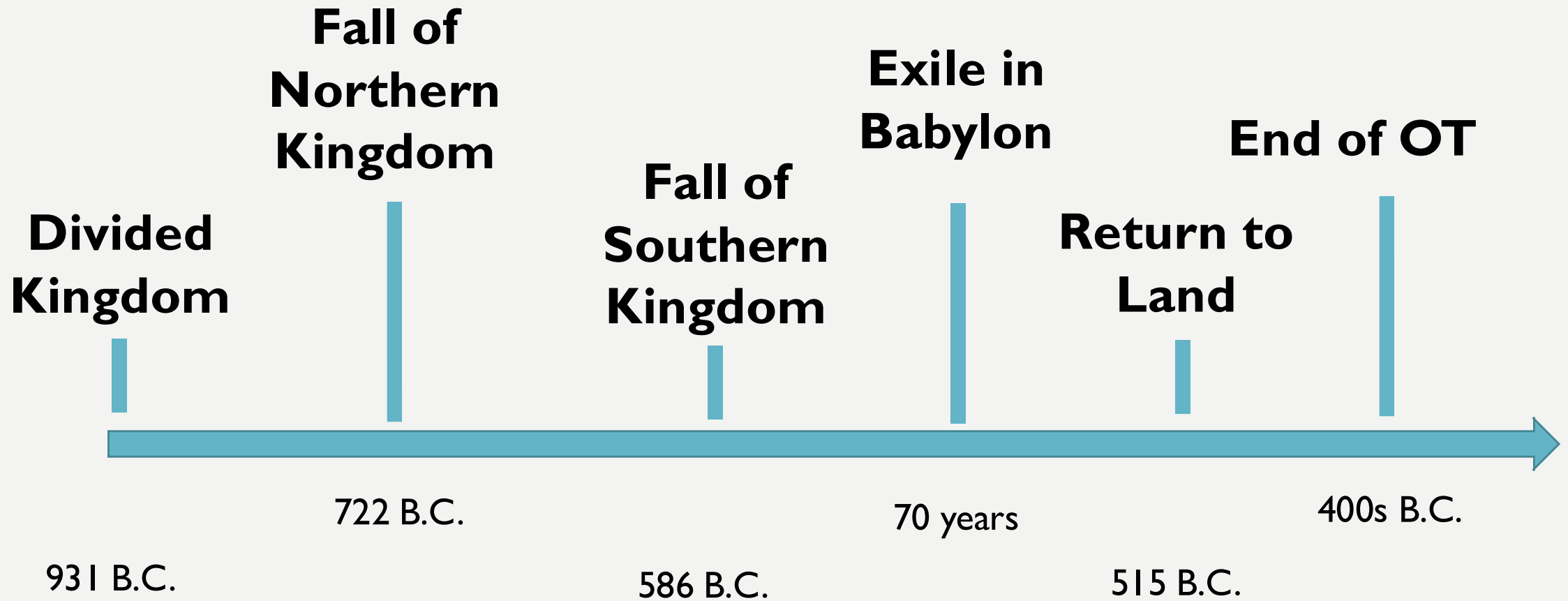
POETS & PROPHETS



PROPHETIC LITERATURE

WEEK 5: PRE-EXILIC PROPHETS – JONAH,
AMOS, & HOSEA

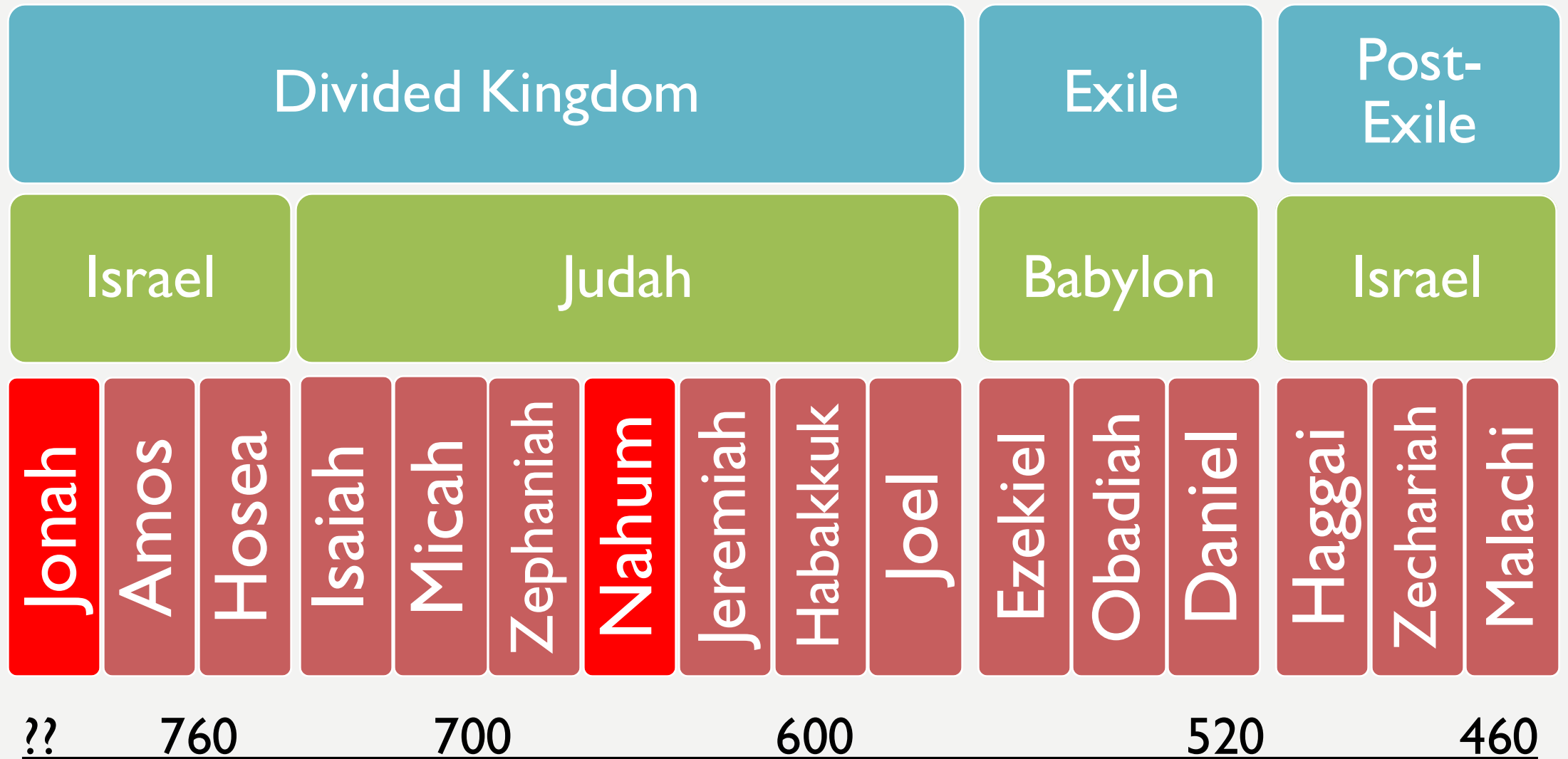
Old Testament Timeline



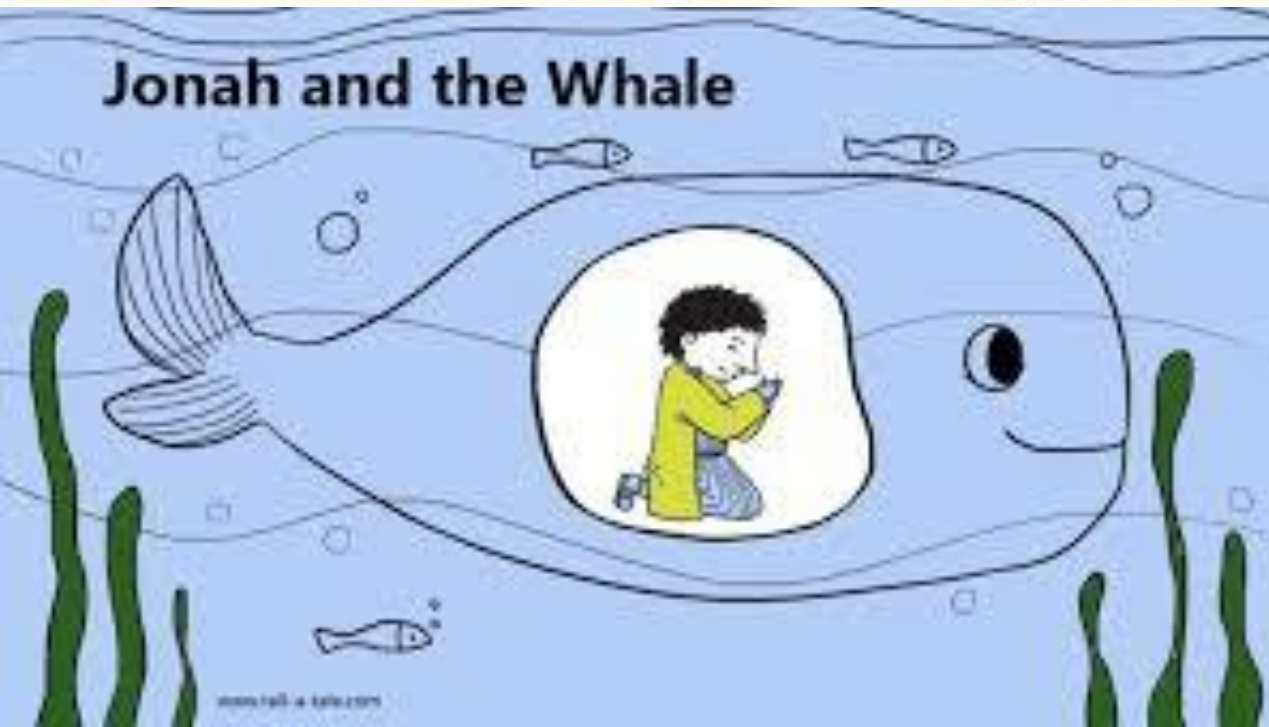
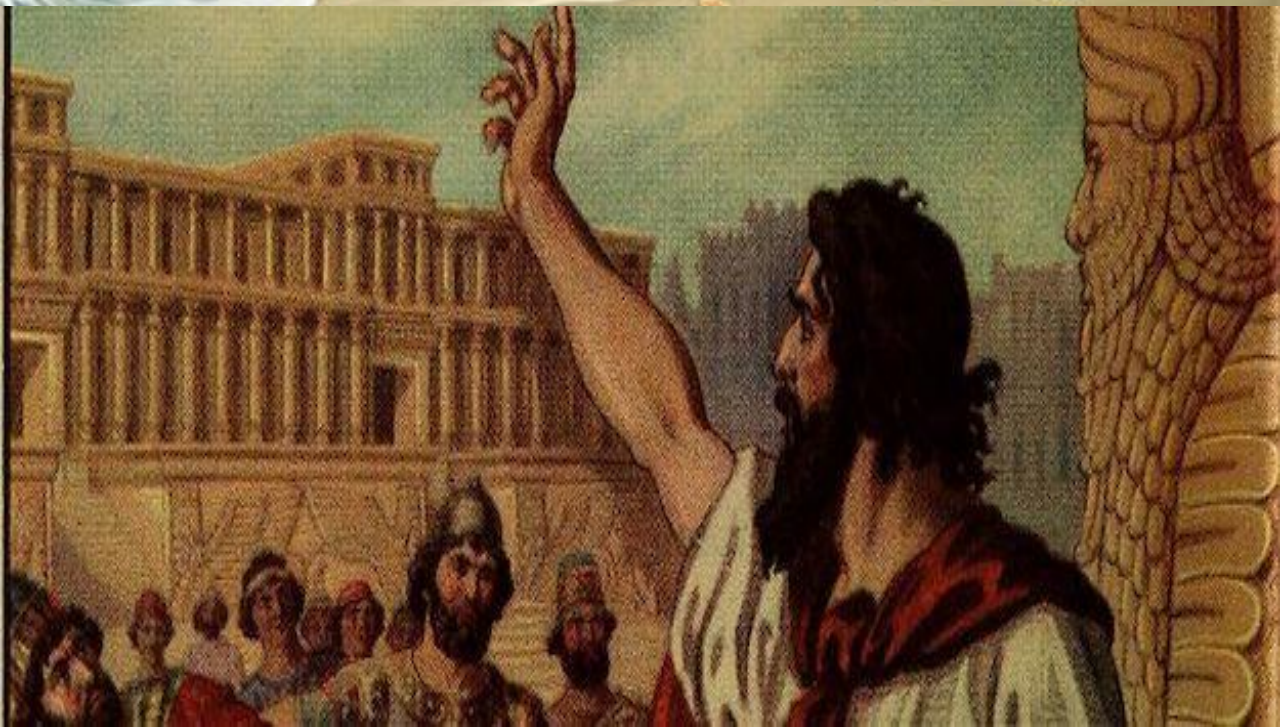
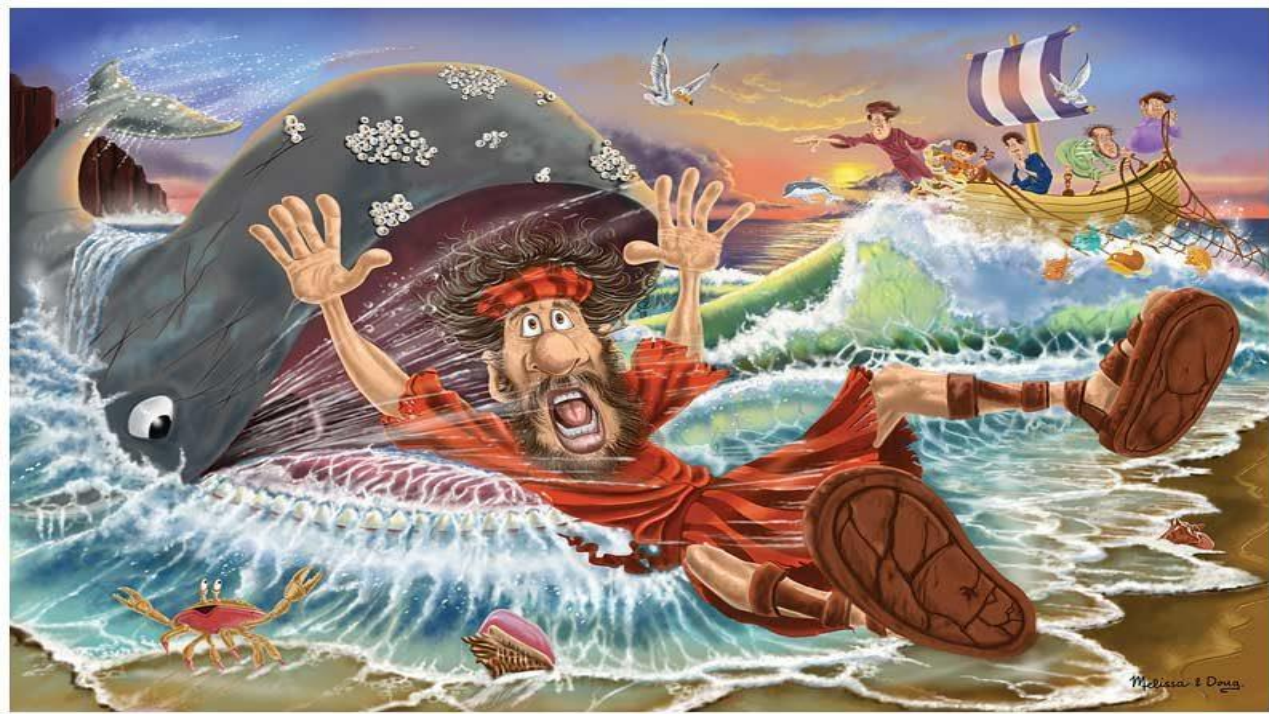
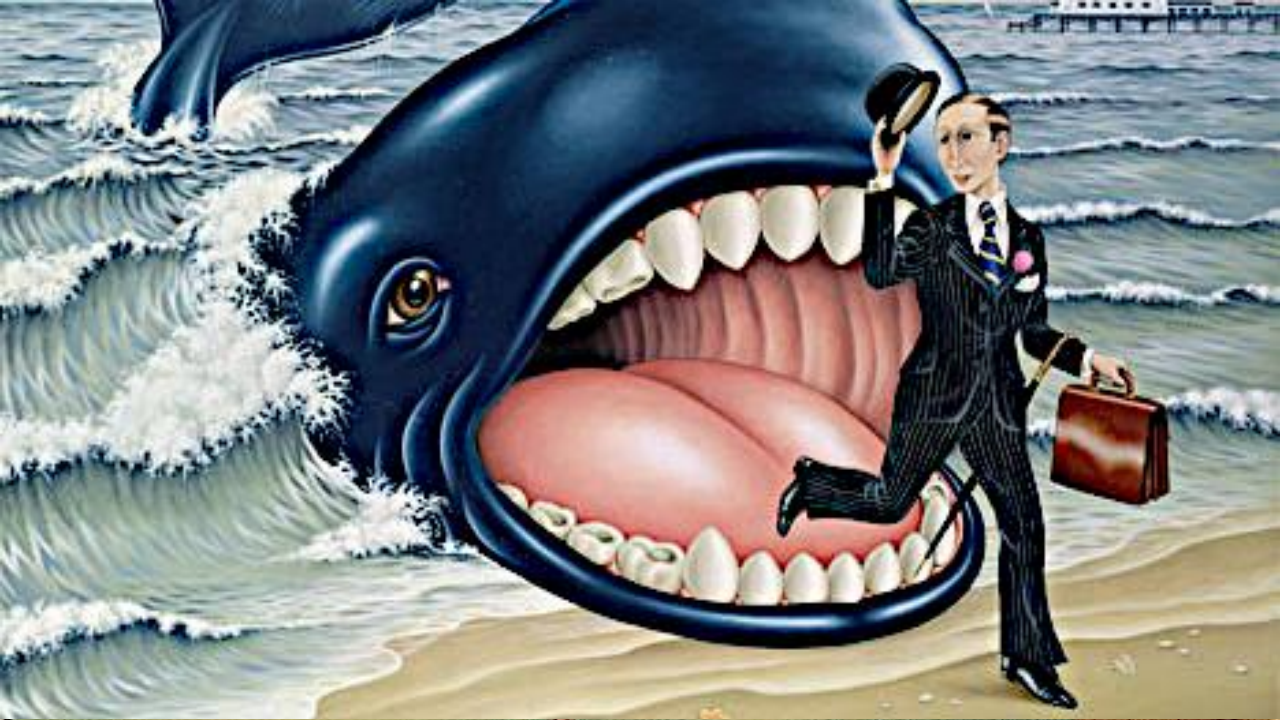
JONAH

THE RELUCTANT PROPHET

CHRONOLOGY OF PROPHETIC LITERATURE



Jonah & Nahum = focus on Nineveh



Fresh Fish. Mixed Vegetables.



BIG IDEAS
Jonah
a VeggieTales Movie

IN THEATERS FALL 2002 • JONAHMOVIE.COM

JONAH: BACKGROUND

- **Author** ~ Unknown
- **Key term** ~ In 4 short chapters, the word “**great**” shows up 14x.
- **Location** ~ Nineveh (in Assyria)
- **Context** ~ Story takes place during a time of peace & prosperity (politically) in Israel. Occurs a few generations before Assyria invades & conquers Israel



MESHECH

ARARAT

Tigris River

Caspian Sea

Tarsus

Carchemish

BETH-EDEN

Nineveh

ASSYRIA

Asshur

MEDIA

Ecbatana

ELAM

Susa

BABYLONIA

Babylon

Ur

Euphrates River

Hamath

SYRIA

Damascus

Tyre

Samaria

Joppa

ISRAEL

Jerusalem

JUDAH

ARABIAN DESERT

Dumah

TARSHISH?

Mediterranean Sea

EGYPT

Persian Gulf

JONAH: THEME

The Lord is a God of boundless compassion not just for “us” (Jonah and the Israelites) but also for “them” (the pagan sailors and Ninevites).

(ESV Study Bible, *Introduction to Jonah*)

JONAH: KEY VERSES

And he prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that ***you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love***, and relenting from disaster.

(Jonah 4:2 ESV)

JONAH: OVERVIEW

1 st Commission of Jonah		2 nd Commission of Jonah	
1:1-17	2:1-2:10	3:1-10	4:1-11
The Great Sea		The Great City	
"I won't go"	"I will go"	"I'm here"	"I shouldn't have come"
Jonah Runs	Jonah Prays	Jonah Preaches	Jonah Complains
God's Mercy Upon Jonah		God's Mercy Upon Nineveh	

Based on Walk Thru the Bible, Wilkinson & Boa

FAMILIAR FEATURES

	PROBLEM	MESSAGE	MEDIATOR	RESCUE	RESULT
Flood	“Wickedness of man was great” (Gen. 6:5)	Man & animals shall be blotted out	Noah	Noah & his family	Noah worships
Sodom	“outcry is very great & sin is grave” (Gen. 18:20)	This place will be destroyed	Abraham	Lot & his family	Abraham sees
Exodus	Israel’s ”cry for rescue came up to God” (Ex. 2:23)	God will strike Egypt with wonders	Moses	Israelites	Israel worships
Jonah	Nineveh’s “evil has come up before me” (1:2)	Nineveh shall be overthrown	Jonah	Sailors Jonah Nineveh	Jonah complains

JONAH: UNIQUE FEATURES

- Unlike the other Minor Prophets, Jonah does NOT primarily consist of the prophet's words but focuses on a story about the prophet himself.
- Wide range of interpretations about Jonah (myth, parable, allegory, literal-historical event)
- The book closes with an open-ended question

JONAH: CLOSES WITH A QUESTION

And the LORD said, “You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. ***And should not I pity Nineveh***, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?”

(Jonah 4:10–11 ESV)

JONAH: LESSONS

- Sin is serious and incites the judgment of God.
- God has power over nature to accomplish his purposes.
- Repentance is necessary to experience salvation
- God uses broken people to do his work
- No one deserves God's mercy, but everyone needs it.
- Yahweh is a God of great mercy & compassion

NEW TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah...

(Matthew 12:38–41 ESV)

NEW TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS

For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

(Matthew 12:38–41 ESV)

AMOS

JUDGMENT TIME

AMOS: BACKGROUND

- **Author** ~ Amos, a “shepherd of Tekoa”
- **Key term** ~ Amos is focused on announcing the **judgment** of a just God who will judge sin in an event called, “The Day of the Lord”
- **Context** ~ Amos is sent to the Northern Kingdom to issue a **wake-up call** to those who wrongly assumed: *material blessing = spiritual blessings*



AMOS: THEME

“The theme of Amos is the universal justice of God. The Israelites clearly expected a ‘day of the LORD’ when all their enemies would be judged. What they were not prepared for was that the judgment of that day would fall on them as well.”

(ESV Study Bible, *Introduction to Amos*)

AMOS: OVERVIEW

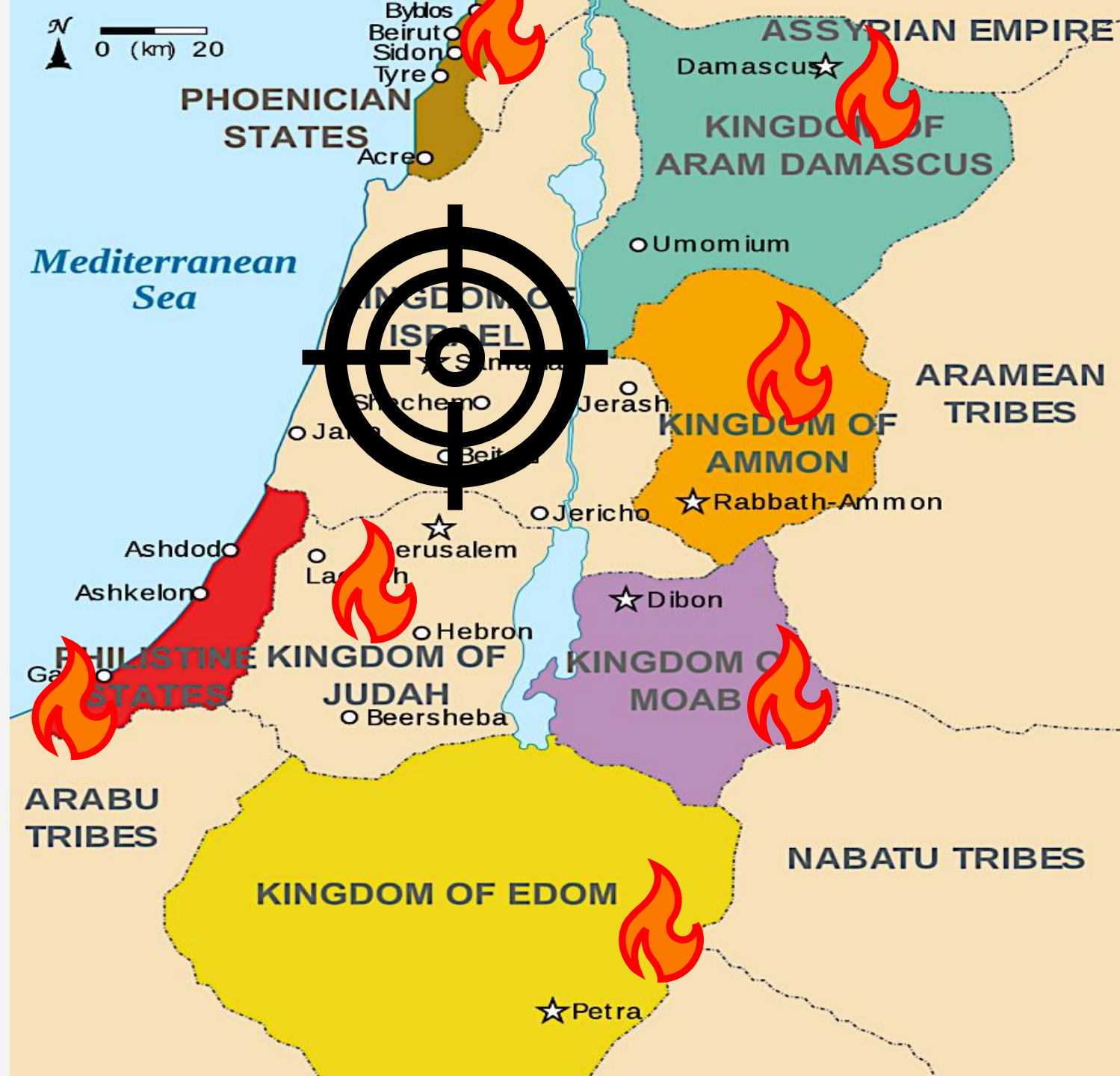
Eight Prophecies	Three Sermons	Five Visions	Five Promises
1:1-2:16	3:1-6:14	7:1-9:10	9:11-9:15
Judgment on Nations & Israel	Sins of Israel: Past, Present, & Future	Pictures of Judgment on Israel	Restoration of Israel
Judgment			Hope

Based on Walk Thru the Bible, Wilkinson & Boa

PATTERN OF JUDGMENT

“Thus says the Lord, for three transgressions of _____ and for four I will not revoke punishment... So I will send fire upon _____”

(Amos 1:3-2:6 ESV)



AMOS: KEY VERSES

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! ***Why would you have the day of the LORD?*** It is darkness, and not light, as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

(Amos 5:18–20 ESV)

AMOS: KEY VERSES

“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. ***But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.***

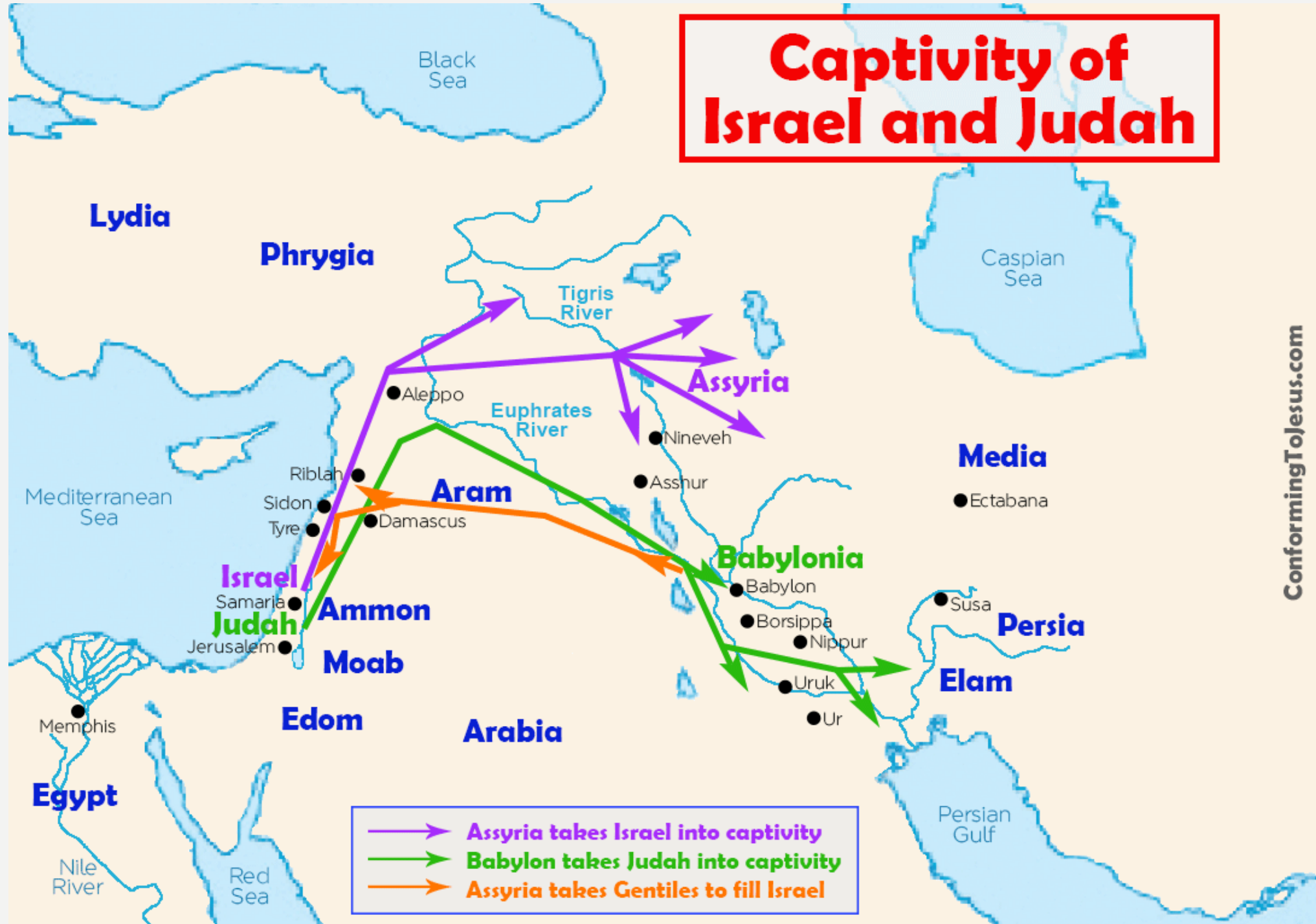
(Amos 5:21–24 ESV)

AMOS: EXILE IS COMING

Therefore they shall now be the first of those who **go into exile**, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away.”
(Amos 6:7 ESV)

For thus Amos has said, “Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must **go into exile** away from his land.” (Amos 7:11 ESV)

Captivity of Israel and Judah



AMOS: GLIMMER OF HOPE

I will **restore** the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall **rebuild** the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit. I will plant them on their **land**, and they shall never again be uprooted out of the land that I have given them,” says the LORD your God.

(Amos 9:14–15 ESV)

AMOS: LESSONS

- Wealth & comfort can blind us to our true spiritual condition
- Ignorance is not bliss
- God sees through hollow spiritual devotion
- How we treat others is a reflection of our true relationship with God
- The sword of justice cuts both ways

NEW TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS

- Stephen quoted Amos 5:25-27 in his sermon to confront pattern of disobedience among Jewish leaders in 1st century (Acts 7:42-43)
- James quoted Amos 9:11-12 at the council in Jerusalem to show that God's plan includes salvation for the Gentiles (Acts 15:16-17)

HOSEA

SPIRITUAL ADULTERY

HOSEA: BACKGROUND

- **Author** ~ Hosea (means: “the Lord saves”)
- **Key term** ~ Hosea scandalously portrays God’s **loyal love** to his disobedient and idolatrous “wife” (Israel).
- **Context** ~ Hosea speaks to Israel during a time of economic prosperity (reign of Jeroboam II), but Israel had grown increasingly idolatrous.

HOSEA: THEME

“Yahweh’s unfailing love for his people, even when he must punish them for unfaithfulness.”

(Fee & Stuart, *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*, p. 211)

HOSEA: OVERVIEW

Hosea's Family	Israel's Failures	Call to Return
1-3	4-13	14
God's Warning	God's Lawsuit	God's Plea
Hosea's wife and children have symbolic application to Israel	Spiritual adultery catalogued & judgment threatened	Offer of healing and covenant renewal

HOSEA'S FAMILY

- Hosea is called to become a living parable of God's faithfulness to unfaithful Israel through marriage to an adulterous wife (Gomer)
- Hosea's 3 children all have symbolic names:
 - **Jezreel** – alluded to place where Assyria would win a decisive victory over Israel
 - **Lo-Ruhamah** – means “not pitied”
 - **Lo-Ammi** – means “not my people”

HOSEA'S FAMILY

- Israel's spiritual adultery is portrayed through Gomer's adultery in very vivid language (Hosea 2)
- Hosea is called to portray God's **loyal love** by going to retrieve his adulterous wife and buy her back from her captors (Hosea 3)

HOSEA: KEY VERSES

And the LORD said to me, “**Go again, love** a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins.” So I **bought** her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley. And I said to her, “You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you.”

(Hosea 3:1–3 ESV)

ISRAEL'S FAILURES

- God brings a legal dispute, or charge (Hebrew ~ *rib*) against Israel (4:1).
- This legal charge boils down to a “**lack of knowledge**” of the Lord, that fueled their sins of trusting in other gods and other nations rather than Yahweh (4-5)

ISRAEL'S FAILURES

- God calls for them to return to the Lord; to know him intimately (6-9)

HOSEA: KEY VERSES

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ***For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.***

(Hosea 6:4–6 ESV)

ISRAEL'S FAILURES

- God calls for them to return to the Lord; to know him intimately (6-9)
- But Israel largely ignored this invitation; so they are compared to spoiled grapes, wild vine, grazing heifer, and an ungrateful toddler (9-13)

ISRAEL'S FAILURES

- God calls for them to return to the Lord; to know him intimately (6-9)
- But Israel largely ignored this invitation; so they are compared to spoiled grapes, wild vine, grazing heifer, and an ungrateful toddler (9-13)
- *What is a loving God to do?* He will indeed judge, but only temporarily. He will eventually restore & redeem them (14)

HOSEA: KEY VERSES

I will not execute my burning anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and not a man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. (Hosea 11:9 ESV)

I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. (Hosea 14:4 ESV)

HOSEA: LESSONS

- God is faithful even when his people are unfaithful
- Sin is a ***love problem***; we love the wrong things
- God uses discipline to restore his people when they are wandering far from him
- God is willing to forgive & sacrifice in order to restore relationship with us.

NEW TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS

- Matthew quotes Hosea 11:1 to show Jesus fulfills prophecy in birth narrative (Matt. 2)
- Jesus quotes Hosea 6:6 to rebuke hypocritical religion among Pharisees (Matt. 9 & 12)
- Paul quotes Hosea 1:10 & 2:23 to show God's plan to include the Gentiles among his people (Rom. 9)
- Hosea is a type of Christ when he goes & "buys back" Gomer to redeem his wife (3:1-5)



OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY III

POETS & PROPHETS