

WEEK 9 | OBADIAH, JONAH, MICAH

OBADIAH

Obadiah prophesied during the middle of the 19th century BC. Though he was from the southern kingdom of Judah, Obadiah’s message is directed towards Edom, the descendants of Esau and an historic enemy of Israel. His message is that God’s judgment is for the nations, as symbolized by the judgment meted out against Israel and Judah for their covenant violations. What Israel would experience historically all nations, represented by Edom, will experience eschatologically during the great Day of the Lord.

STRUCTURE

The Vision of Obadiah	Yahweh’s Judgment on Edom	Yahweh’s Judgment on the Nations	Yahweh’s Restoration of Israel
1a	1b	15	17

PURPOSE

Edom, a symbol of the nations, would suffer under God’s judgment for their pride and lack of brotherly love to Israel, while Israel herself would be restored

THEMES

- 1) The Sin of Edom – (3, 10-14)
- 2) The Day of the Lord – 8, 15
- 3) The Restoration of Israel – 17-21

JONAH

The book of Jonah, the events of which take place somewhere around 760 BC (before the fall and exile of the northern kingdom at the hands of the Assyrians), highlights God's loving compassion towards the nations. In the book, Jonah and Nineveh function as symbols for Israel and the Gentile nations. Like Israel, Jonah is a rebellious prophet who has only hatred for non-Israelites. God, however, has a great concern for all people He has created, and providentially works to save the Assyrian city of Nineveh—a salvific work that points to God's work among the nations.

STRUCTURE

- A** Yahweh Commissions Jonah (1:1-2)
 - B** Jonah Rejects His Commission (1:3)
 - C** The Sovereign Yahweh Reveals His Power (1:4)
 - D** Gentiles Submit to Yahweh and Are Saved (1:5-16)
 - E** Yahweh Uses a Fish to Retrieve Jonah (1:17)
 - F** Jonah Thanks God for His Salvation (2:1-9)
- A'** Yahweh Commissions Jonah (3:1-2)
 - B'** Jonah Accepts His Commission (3:3)
 - C'** The Sovereign Yahweh Reveals His Plan (3:4)
 - D'** Gentiles Submit to Yahweh and Are Saved (3:5-10)
 - F'** Jonah Complains About God's Salvation (4:1-4)
 - E'** Yahweh Uses a Plant to Teach Jonah (4:4-11)

PURPOSE

Though Israel, represented by the rebellious prophet Jonah, had failed in its missionary role to the nations, God sovereignly and mercifully continued to save Gentiles, represented by the city of Nineveh who repent at Jonah's preaching.

THEMES

- 1) The Sovereignty of God – 1:4, 17; 2:10; 4:6, 7, 8
- 2) The Compassion of God – 1:6, 15-16; 2:2; 3:10; 4:2, 6, 10-11
- 3) The Disobedience of God's Prophet – 1:3; 4:1, 9

MICAH

Micah, like Isaiah, ministers to Judah in the late 8th century BC, encompassing the collapse and exile of the northern kingdom at the hands of the Assyrians in 723 BC. His message is one of judgment and restoration, as seen in how he alternates between these two themes.

Israel's sin was so pervasive that God vowed He would use the Assyrians to judge them. In the future, however, He would cut off Assyria and restore Israel to the Promised Land.

STRUCTURE

Introduction	Yahweh's Judgment of Israel and Judah	Yahweh's Judgment of the Leaders	Yahweh's Indictment of the People
Prophet	Judgment (1:2-2:11)	Judgment (3:1-12)	Judgment (6:1-7:6)
Date			
Subjects	Restoration (2:12-13)	Restoration (4:1-5:15)	Restoration (7:7-20)
1:1	1:2	3:1	6:1

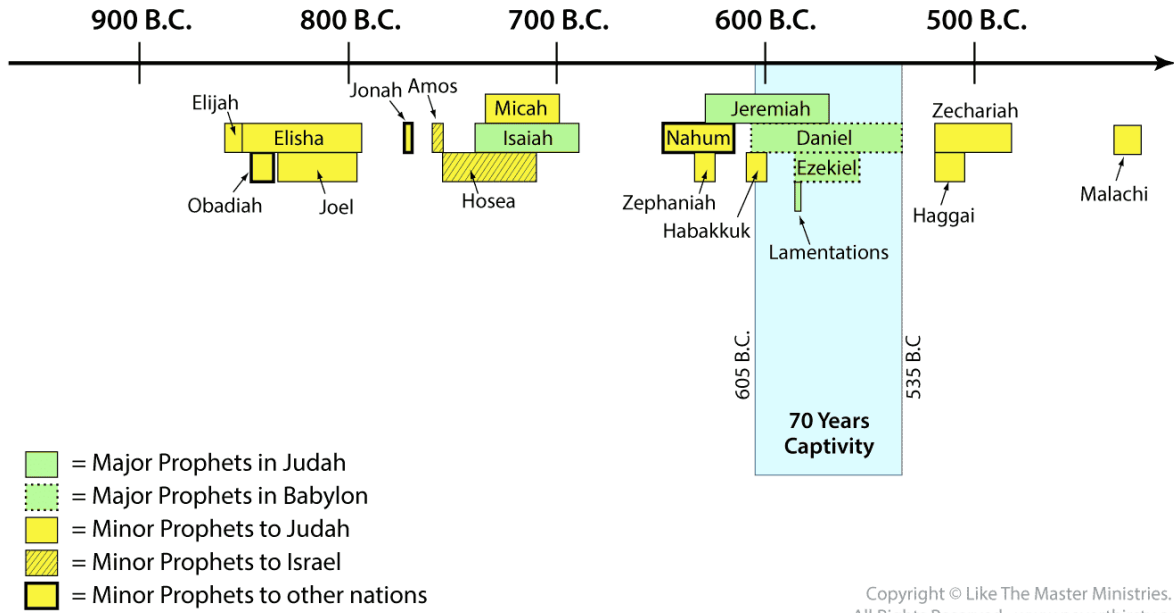
PURPOSE

Yahweh, in accordance with His just and righteous character, will judge His unrighteous people for their covenant failures. However, in the future a coming ruler will fulfill Yahweh's covenant promises to Abraham and David.

THEMES

- 1) The Sin of Jacob – 1:5; 2:1-2, 7-9; 3:1-3, 5, 9-11; 6:10-11; 7:1-6
- 2) The Coming Ruler – 2:12-13; 5:2-6; 7:14

Major and Minor Prophets



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