

Journey Through the Bible: A Year of Our Lord
 Session 37: The Minor Prophets (Haggai-Zechariah)
 Remember Acts 17:11

The Twelve Minor Prophets:

| Prophet | Ministry | Date of Book | Chr. Order |
|-----------|----------|---------------|------------|
| Haggai | Return | c. 520 BC | 9 |
| Zechariah | Return | c. 518 BC | 10 |
| Malachi | Return | c. 450-420 BC | 11 |

History of the Late Exile Period:

- Province of Judea Reorganized
 - o 538BC: Edict of Cyrus the Great
 - o **536BC: 49,670 Return with Zerubbabel**
 - o **515BC: Temple Rebuilt**
 - o 483BC: Setting of Esther
 - o 458BC: 2,000 Return with Ezra
 - o 445BC: Nehemiah Receives Permission to Rebuild Jerusalem (Cf. Dan. 9)

Haggai:

- Haggai “Festive” (My Festivals)
- No Definitive Biographical Background is Given
 - o Referenced in Ezra
 - Prophetic Ministry is Dated to 520BC
 - o Contemporary of Zechariah
 - o Predates Malachi by a Century
 - o 2:3 Suggests that He May Have Been in Judah Prior to the Babylonian Exile
 - o Focused on a Stalled Period of Temple Construction (18 Years) Samaritan\Regional Intrigues Inspired a Zeal for Reviving Temple Worship

Outline:

- The Summer Sermon (Ch. 1)
- The Fall Sermon (Ch. 2:1-9)
- The Winter Sermon (Ch. 2:10-23)

The Winter Sermon (Cont.):

- Personal Message from God
 - o Zerubbabel (Governor):
 - Provision will Come
 - The Powers Who Oppose You Will Fail
 - Your Enemies Will Turn on Themselves
 - You Will Be the Lord’s Signet Ring
(Emblem of Royal Authority)
(Identifying Mark of the Creator)
(Allusion to the Coming of Christ)

Zechariah:

Zechariah “God Remembers”

- Prophetic Ministry 520 – 518BC
 - o Central Figures: Zerubbabel & Joshua
- Speculated to be from Levi
 - o Possible Descendant of Iddo the Seer
- Heavily Influenced by Ezekiel (Isaiah, Jeremiah)

Outline:

- The Past of Judah 1:1-6
- The Eight Visions 1:7-6:8
- Blessings Upon Joshua the Priest 6:9-15
- Worship During the 2nd Temple Period 7:1-8:19
- The Nations & The Messiah (1st Coming) 9-11
- The Messiah & Jerusalem 12-14

The Past of Judah (1:1-6):

- Reminder of the Sins of Judah
- God’s Proclamation of the End of Exile
- Confess – Repent – Return

The Eight Visions (1:7-6:8):

- Written in a Chiastic Structure (X)
1&8(Peace) 2&7(Judgement) 3&6 (Enemies) 4&5 (Leaders)
- Visions from God in a Dream
- Filled with Cultural & Prophetic Symbolism
- Vision 1: The Horsemen & Peace for Judea (1:7-17)
 - o An Angelic Guide Accompanies the Prophet
 - Pay Attention to the Color of the Horses
 - The Horsemen Patrol the Earth
 - God’s Favor will be Restored to Israel
 - o With Babylon Gone, There is Peace

The Eight Visions (Cont.):

- Vision 8: The Chariots (6:1-8)
 - o Spirits from Heaven (Created Beings?)
 - Two Bronze Mountains (Judgement)
 - o 4 Teams of Different Colored Horses
 - o Sent Throughout the Earth
 - “Rest in the land of the North.” (6:8)
 - With Babylon Gone, Judah is at Peace
- Vision 2: 4 Horns & 4 Blacksmiths (1:18-21)
 - o Horns: Symbols of Power/Authority (Cf. Dan. 11 & 12; Rev. 13)
 - o Enemies of Israel/God’s Tools of Judgement (Assyria & Babylon)
 - o God will Use Blacksmiths (Craftsmen/Builders) to Judge Them (Persia)
- Vision 7: The Woman in the Basket (5:5-11)
 - o A Woman in a Basket (Lid) Flown East
 - o The Sins of Judah were Sealed & Carried to Babylon (Adulterous Generation)
- Vision 3: Measuring the City (2:1-13)
 - o Determining Jerusalem’s Length & Breadth
 - o Crowds In & Outside will Live in Safety
 - o The Enemies will be Defeated
 - o The People will be Safe from External Oppression
- Vision 6: The Flying Scroll (5:1-4)
 - o The Convicting Power of the Word of God
 - o Targeting Thieves & Liars
 - o The People will be Safe from Internal Oppression
- Vision 4: Cleansing the Priest’s Clothes (3:1-10)
 - o Satan is Rebuked for Accusing Joshua
 - “Brand plucked from the fire...” (3:2)
 - o Removed His Dirty Clothes (Sins of Israel)
 - o Replaced with Clean (Purified) Priestly Clothes
- Vision 5: The Lampstand (4:1-14)
 - o The Prophet Sees a 7 Lamp Lampstand
 - Reservoir of Oil at the Top
 - The Spirit of the Lord (Not Politics) will Complete the Temple
 - o Two Olive Trees Beside the Lampstand are the Anointed Workers of God (Joshua & Zerubbabel)

