

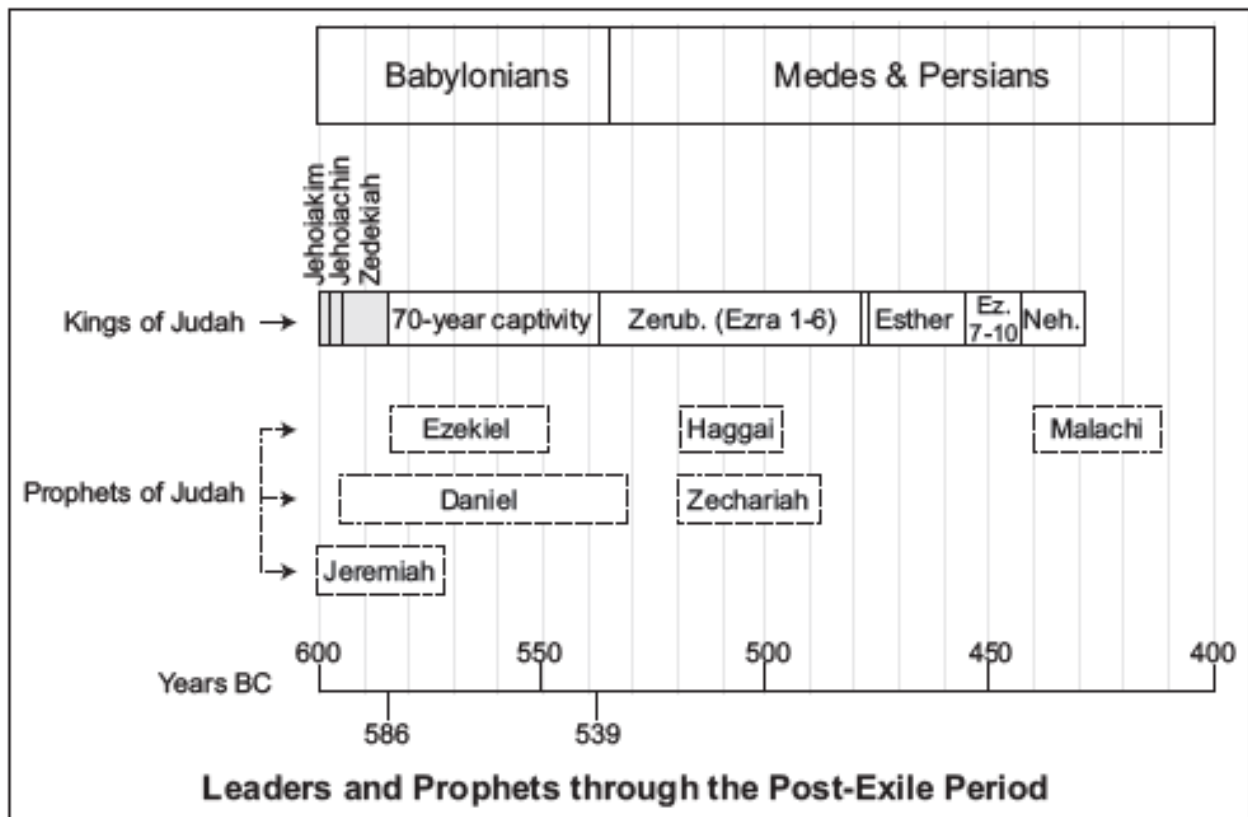
INTRODUCTION:

1) TODAY WE WILL BE LOOKING AT *THE POSTEXILIC PROPHETS*

THINGS WE WILL LOOK AT IN THIS LESSON:

- 1) HAGGAI: THE PROPHET OF REBUILDING THE TEMPLE
- 2) ZECHARIAH: THE PROPHET OF VISIONARY ENCOURAGEMENT
- 3) MALACHI: THE PROPHET OF GIVING ONE'S BEST

FIGURE 1)



PART 1 – HAGGAI: THE PROPHET OF REBUILDING THE TEMPLE:

Q 1) WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF HAGGAI?

Q 2) WHEN DID HAGGAI START HIS PROPHETIC MINISTRY?

Q 3) WHAT DID HAGGAI INTEND HIS MESSAGE TO DO?

Q 4) WHAT WAS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE AND THEME FOR HAGGAI'S WRITING?

OUTLINE OF HAGGAI...

- I. First Message: Put God First—Finish the Temple, 1
 - A. Date: 1 Elul (August 29) 520 B.C. (1:1)
 - B. Haggai rebukes the people (1:2–11)
 - C. The people's response (1:12–15)
- II. Second Message: God's Presence Matters More Than Beauty, 2:1–9
 - A. Date: 21 Tishri (October 17) 520 B.C. (2:1)
 - B. Zerubbabel's temple compared to Solomon's temple (2:2–9)
- III. Third Message: It Is Easier to Spread Sin Than Holiness, 2:10–19
 - A. Date: 24 Kislev (December 18) 520 B.C. (2:10)
 - B. Sin corrupts (2:11–14)
 - C. Obedience brings blessings (2:15–19)
- IV. Fourth Message: The Day of the Lord Will Exalt the Godly, 2:20–23
 - A. Date: 24 Kislev (December 18) 520 B.C. (2:20)
 - B. God will shake and judge the nations (2:21–22)
 - C. Zerubbabel will be like a signet ring (2:23)

PART 2 – ZECHARIAH: THE PROPHET OF VISIONARY ENCOURAGEMENT:

Q 5) WHO WROTE ZECHARIAH AND WHEN DID THEY START WRITING?

Q 6) WHEN DID ZECHARIAH RETURN TO JERUSALEM?

Q 7) WHAT ARE THE PURPOSES AND THEMES FOR ZECHARIAH'S WRITING?

OUTLINE OF ZECHARIAH...

- I. Eight Visions, 1:7–6:8
 - A. The horseman among the myrtle trees (1:7–17)
 - B. The four horns and four craftsmen (1:18–21)
 - C. A man measuring Jerusalem (2)
 - D. The cleansing of Joshua the high priest (3)
 - E. The gold lampstand and two olive trees (4)
 - F. The flying scroll (5:1–4)
 - G. The woman in a basket (5:5–11)
 - H. The four chariots (6:1–8)
- II. The Symbolic Crowning of Joshua the High Priest, 6:9–15
- III. Fasting and the Future, 7–8
 - A. Fasting and social justice (7)
 - B. Zion will be restored (8)
- IV. Two Prophecies on Israel and the Messiah, 9–14
 - A. The Messiah will come as a Shepherd King but be rejected (9–11)
 - B. The Messiah will come as a King and be accepted (12–14)

FIGURE 2)

Eight Visions in Zechariah (Stamps 1992, 1372–1376)	
Vision	Explanation
1. Horseman among the myrtle trees (1:7–17)	While other nations were secure and at rest, Judah suffered seventy years and afterward from famine, mildew, and hail (Haggai 1:9–11; 2:15–17). God would judge other nations and restore Judah.
2. Four horns and four craftsmen (1:18–21)	The four horns probably represent Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, and Media-Persia, all of whom scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem. The four craftsmen represent those who judged and punished the four horns.
3. A man measuring Jerusalem (2)	God would fully restore Judah. He would live among the Jews, and many other nations would also become His people.
4. Cleansing of Joshua the high priest (3)	God cleansed Joshua as a symbol that He would <i>in one day</i> remove the sin of Judah. The stone represents Christ, who in one day brought peace and removed sin for all who accept Him.
5. Gold lampstand and two olive trees (4)	The two olive trees symbolized constant fuel (olive oil) for the lamps. The oil flowed into a bowl that had seven small pipes and then flowed down the pipes into seven lamps. In the same way, the Holy Spirit flowed through Zerubbabel and Joshua to empower others. God wanted the Jews to be a light to the nations.
6. Flying scroll (5:1–4)	Sinners would be punished and removed from Judah. God must judge sinners wherever He finds them.
7. Woman in a basket (5:5–11)	Israel's sin and wickedness would be sent away. A sinful land like Babylonia was a fitting place to send evil (Revelation 17–18). The revival under Ezra and Nehemiah cleansed Israel of much sin.
8. Four chariots (6:1–8)	God sent His angels of war and judgment against enemy nations. Red represents war, black is for famine and death; white is for conquering; and dappled stands for pestilence. Judgment on Babylonia caused God to rest.

FIGURE 3)

New Testament Fulfillments of Zechariah's Prophecies		
Zechariah	New Testament	Prophecy Fulfilled
9:9	Matthew 21:5	Jesus, a humble King, rides a donkey and brings salvation.
11:4–14	John 10:14	Jesus says that He is the Good Shepherd.
11:12	Matthew 26:15	Christ is sold for thirty pieces of silver.
12:10	John 19:37	Jesus is pierced on the cross.
14:6–7	Revelation 22:5	There will no longer be any night.
14:8	Revelation 22:1–2	A river runs out of Jerusalem.

PART 3 – MALACHI: THE PROPHET OF GIVING ONE'S BEST:

Q 8) WHO WROTE MALACHI AND WHEN DID THEY WRITE IT?

Q 9) WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF MALACHI'S WRITING?

Q 10) WHAT DID MALACHI EMPHASIZE IN HIS WRITING?

OUTLINE OF MALACHI...

- I. First Message: God Has Loved Israel, 1:2–5
Question 1: How have You loved us? (1:2)
- II. Second Message: Israel Has Dishonored God, 1:6–2:9
Question 2: How have we shown contempt for Your name? (1:6)
Question 3: How have we defiled You? (1:7)
- III. Third Message: Judah Has Been Unfaithful in Two Ways, 2:10–16
Question 4: Why does the Lord not pay attention to our offerings? (2:14)
- IV. Fourth Message: The Lord Will Come Suddenly, 2:17–3:6
Question 5: How have we wearied Him? (2:17)
Question 6: Where is the God of justice? (2:17)
- V. Fifth Message: Return to the Lord, 3:7–12
Question 7: How are we to return? (3:7)
Question 8: How do we rob You? (3:8)
- VI. Sixth Message: Israel Has Said Harsh Things against God, 3:13–18
Question 9: What have we said against You? (3:13)
Question 10: What did we gain by carrying out Your requirements? (3:14)
- VII. Seventh Message: The Day of the Lord Is Coming, 4:1–6

KEY CONTENT:

- In spite of deliverance, their current conditions looked bleak
 - The people grew cynical
- God responded by assuring of His love
 - God desired they bring their very best
- Once again Malachi called attention to the LORD's attributes
 - Malachi encouraged the people to appreciate God's gifts, giving Him their best

HOMEWORK FOR THE WEEK:

Read Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. Use the outline sections. If you choose to use an Audio Bible, that is fine too.

