

An Introduction to The Minor Prophets

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1

The Division of Prophets

- The terms 'major' and 'minor' refer to the length of books
- Major Prophets:
 - Isaiah – 66 chapters
 - Jeremiah – 52 chapters
 - Ezekiel – 48 chapters

2

The Division of Prophets

- Minor Prophets: 12
 - Hosea - 14
 - Joel - 3
 - Amos - 9
 - Obadiah - 1
 - Jonah - 4
 - Micah - 7
 - Nahum - 3
 - Habakkuk - 3
 - Zephaniah - 3
 - Haggai - 2
 - Zechariah - 14
 - Malachi - 4

3

The Division of Prophets

- Each major prophet was written separately on a single scroll
- All 12 of the minor prophets were written together on a single scroll

4

The Division of Prophets

- Jewish scriptures refer to the minor prophets as the “Book of the twelve Prophets”
- There is a variety of sequences of these books found in Jewish writings. Generally, Jewish writings list them chronologically.

5

Dates of the Minor Prophets

- Range from 800 B.C. to 400 B.C.
- From the before the downfall of the Northern Kingdom to after the return of the exiles to Jerusalem

6

Message of the Minor Prophets

- There is a common message that runs throughout all of the minor prophets:
- God exists and has a plan
- You are part of that plan but you have wandered outside of His plan

7

Message of the Minor Prophets

- There is a common message that runs throughout all of the minor prophets:
- Get back with the plan because judgement is coming for those outside of His plan
- God's grace will again come when we are back in His plan

8

Message of the Minor Prophets

The minor prophets dramatize the character of God!

1. The sovereignty of God
2. The holiness of God
3. The love of God

9

Time Table of Prophets

JUDAH (Southern Kingdom)	ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom)	EVENT	DATE	PROPHET	NOTES
Jeroboam (29y)	Rehoboam (17y)	2 Kings 14:25	975 B.C.		
		Elijah, Elisha			
Uzziah (52y)	Jeroboam II (41y)		790-750 B.C.	Jonah, Isaiah, Hosea	
Ahaz (16y)	Pekah (20y)	Fall of Israel to Assyrians (Shalmaneser V)	722 B.C.	Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, Micah	
Manasseh (55y)			698 B.C.		
Josiah (31y)		Babylon Empire formed	641 B.C.	Nahum, Jeremiah	
		Alliance of Judah and Assyria			
		Egypt victory over Assyria			
Jehoiakim (11y)		Judah subject to Egypt	612 B.C.		
		Fall of Nineveh (Assyria) to Babylon			
Zedekiah (11y) (last king)		Babylonian Destruction of Jerusalem	586 B.C.	Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel, Obadiah, Daniel	
		Fall of Babylon to Persians	539 B.C.	Daniel	
