

The Minor Prophets: A Word For God's People Today
Luke 24:13-27
June 12, 2017

Main Point

The Minor Prophets challenge spiritually complacent people to faithfulness during a time of moral and spiritual upheaval. Understanding how the prophets speak of Jesus will help you maintain a gospel witness in a hostile world.

1. There are serious obstacles to understanding the prophets in general and the Minor Prophets in particular
2. The Minor Prophets were God's special messengers
3. The Minor Prophets spoke God's word to God's people in a time of great moral and spiritual upheaval
4. The Minor Prophets call you to faithfulness to God's covenant
5. The Minor Prophets remind you that Jesus and the gospel are the only hope for our world

Cross References and Quotations:

Exodus 7:1-2 (NKJ): “So the LORD said to Moses: ‘See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet. You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall speak to Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land.’”

C. Hassell Bullock: “To be a prophet was both a distinction and an affliction.”

Graeme Goldsworthy (*Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*):

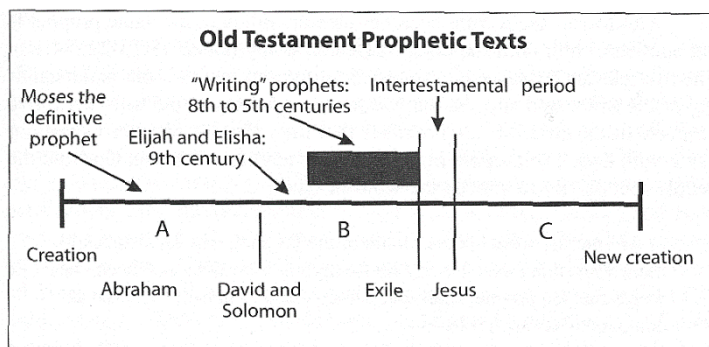


Diagram 12: Prophecy begins with Moses. Elijah and Elisha recall Moses' ministry in the Sinai covenant. The so-called writing prophets function in the period of decline, exile, and postexilic reconstruction.

971 BC – King David dies

933 BC – King Solomon dies

931 BC – The Kingdom Splits – Israel in the north and Judah in the south

722 BC – Samaria falls – Northern kingdom of Israel destroyed by the Assyrians

586 BC – Jerusalem falls – Judah is exiled in Babylon

538 BC – Cyrus decrees that all Jews may return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple

516 BC – The temple is completed

445 BC – The wall of Jerusalem is rebuilt

Hosea 8:1 (NKJ): “Set the trumpet to your mouth! He shall come like an eagle against the house of the LORD, Because they have transgressed My covenant And rebelled against My law.”

Hebrews 1:1-2 (NKJ): “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son...”

JC Ryle: “Let it be a settled principle in our minds, in reading the Bible, that Christ is the central sun of the whole book...once losing sight of

Christ, we shall find the whole Bible dark and full of difficulty. The key of Bible knowledge is Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 1:10-11 (NIV): “Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.”

Dates of the Prophets

1) Assyrian Power

a. 9th Century (Early Assyrian Period)

Obadiah (ca. 845 B.C.)

Joel (ca. 830 B.C.)

Jonah (ca. 790-750 B.C.)

b. 8th Century (Assyrian Period)

Amos (755 B.C.)

Hosea (750-725 B.C.)

Isaiah (740-700 B.C.)

Micah (735-700 B.C.)

2) Babylonian Power

a. 7th Century (Chaldean Period)

Jeremiah (626-586 B.C. and after)

Zephaniah (630-625 B.C.)

Nahum (625-612 B.C.)

Habakkuk (ca. 605 B.C.)

b. 6th Century (Exilic Period)

Ezekiel (593-570 B.C.)

Daniel (605-536 B.C.)

3) Persian Power

a. 6th Century (Exilic Period)

Daniel (605-536 B.C.)

b. 6th-5th Centuries (Post-Exilic Period)

Haggai (520 B.C.)

Zechariah (520-518 B.C.)

Malachi (ca. 440 B.C.)

Wiseman, *TOTC on 1 and 2 Kings*

Chronology in Kings

<i>Bible refs.</i>	<i>Kings of Judah/Israel</i>	<i>Contemporary prophets</i>	<i>BC</i>	<i>Kings of Assyria:</i>	<i>Babylonia:</i>	<i>Egypt:</i>
UNITED KINGDOM						
1 Sa. 16:1 - 1 Ki. 2:10	David (40) (1010-970)	Nathan	1010	Ashur-rabi II (1010-970)		Dynasty XXI
1 Ki. 1-11	Solomon (40) (970-930)*	Gad	970	Tiglath-pileser II (966-935)		
DIVIDED KINGDOM						
JUDAH		ISRAEL				
1 Ki. 12:1-24; 12:25-14:20	Rehoboam (17) (930-913)	Jeroboam I (22) (930-909)	930	Ashur-dan II (934-912)		Dynasty XXII
1 Ki. 15:1-8	Abijah (3) (913-910)					
1 Ki. 15:9-24	Asa (41) (910-869)					
1 Ki. 15:25-31		Nadab (2) (909-908)				
1 Ki. 15:32- 16:7		Baasha (24) (908-886)	900			
1 Ki. 15:8-14		Elah (2) (886-885)		Ashur-nasir-apli II (883-859)		
1 Ki. 16:15-20		Zimri (7 days) (885)				
1 Ki. 16:21-22		Tibni (5) (885-881)				
1 Ki. 16:21-28		Omri (12)+ (885-874)				
1 Ki. 16:29- 22:40		Ahab (22)+ (874-853)	870			
1 Ki. 22:41-50	Jehoshaphat (25)* (872-848)			Shalmaneser III (858-824)		
1 Ki. 22:51 - 2 Ki. 1:18		Ahaziah (2) (853-852)				
2 Ki. 1:17; 3:1-8:15		Jehoram (12) (852-841)	850			
2 Ki. 8:16-24	J(eh)oram (8-)* (853-842)					
2 Ki. 8:25-29; 9:27-29	Ahaziah (2) (842-841)					
2 Ki. 9:1 - 10:36		Jehu (28)+ (841-814)				
2 Ki. 11:1-16	Athaliah (7) (841-835)					
2 Ki. 11:17 - 12:21	Joash (40) (835-796)		800			
2 Ki. 13:1-9		Jehoahaz (17)+ (814-796)				

Bible refs.	Kings of Judah/Israel	Contemporary prophets	BC	Kings of Assyria:	Babylonia:	Egypt:
2 Ki. 13:10-25	Jehoash (16) ⁺ (798-781)*	Joel				
2 Ki. 14:1-22	Amaziah (29) (796-767)	Jonah	795	Shalmaneser IV (793-773)		
2 Ki. 14:23-29	Jeroboam II (41)* (793-753)	Amos				
2 Ki. 15:1-7	Azariah/Uzziah (52) ⁺ (792-740)	Hosea				
2 Ki. 15:8-12	Zechariah (6 months) (753)					
2 Ki. 15:13-15	Shallum (1 month) (753/2)	Micah		Tiglath-pileser III (745-727)		Piankhy (747-716)
2 Ki. 15:16-22	Menahem (10) ⁺ (752-742)	Isalah				
2 Ki. 15:23-26	Pekahiah (2) (741-740)					
2 Ki. 15:32-38	Jotham (16)* (750-735)		750			
2 Ki. 15:27-31	Pekah (20) ⁺ (752?-732)*					
2 Ki. 16:1-19	Ahaz (16)* (735-719)					
2 Ki. 17:1-23	Hoshea (9) ⁺ (732-722)*		730	Shalmaneser V (727-722)		
2 Ki. 18:1-20:21	Hezekiah (29) ⁺ (715/727*-698)	(Fall of Samaria 722) ⁺		Sargon II (722-705)		Shabako (716-650)
2 Ki. 21:1-18	Manasseh (55) ⁺ (697-642)	Nahum	700	Sennacherib (705-681)		Taharqa (690-664)
2 Ki. 21:19-26	Amon (2) (642-640)			Esarhaddon (681-669)		Psammetichus I Psamtik (664-610)
2 Ki. 22:1-23:30	Josiah (31) (640-609)	Zephaniah	650	Ashurbanipal (669-627)		
2 Ki. 23:31-33	Jehoahaz (3 months) (609)	Jeremiah				
2 Ki. 23:34-24:7	Jehoiakim (11) (609-598)	Daniel	600	Nebuchadnezzar II (605-581)		Necho II (610-595) Psamtik II (595-589)
2 Ki. 24:8-17:25-27-30	Jehoiachin (3 months) ⁺ (597)	Ezekiel				
2 Ki. 24:18-25:26	Zedekiah/Mattaniah (11) (597-586) (Sack of Jerusalem 587/6)	Obadiah ?	587/6			Apries/Hophra (589-570)
2 Ki. 25:22-26	Gedaliah (3 months) ⁺ (Governor)		580			Amasis II (570-526)

KEY

() Total years of reign
 (-) Less than a year

* Reign overlaps as co-regent
 + Named in extra-biblical documents