

Welcome to

calvary
chapel
portsmouth



www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk

Simply teaching the Word simply

The background features a vibrant sunset with a gradient of colors from deep blue at the top to bright yellow and orange near the horizon. In the foreground, an open Bible is laid flat, showing text in both English and Hebrew. The text is slightly blurred, emphasizing the overall theme of the Bible.

Through The Bible

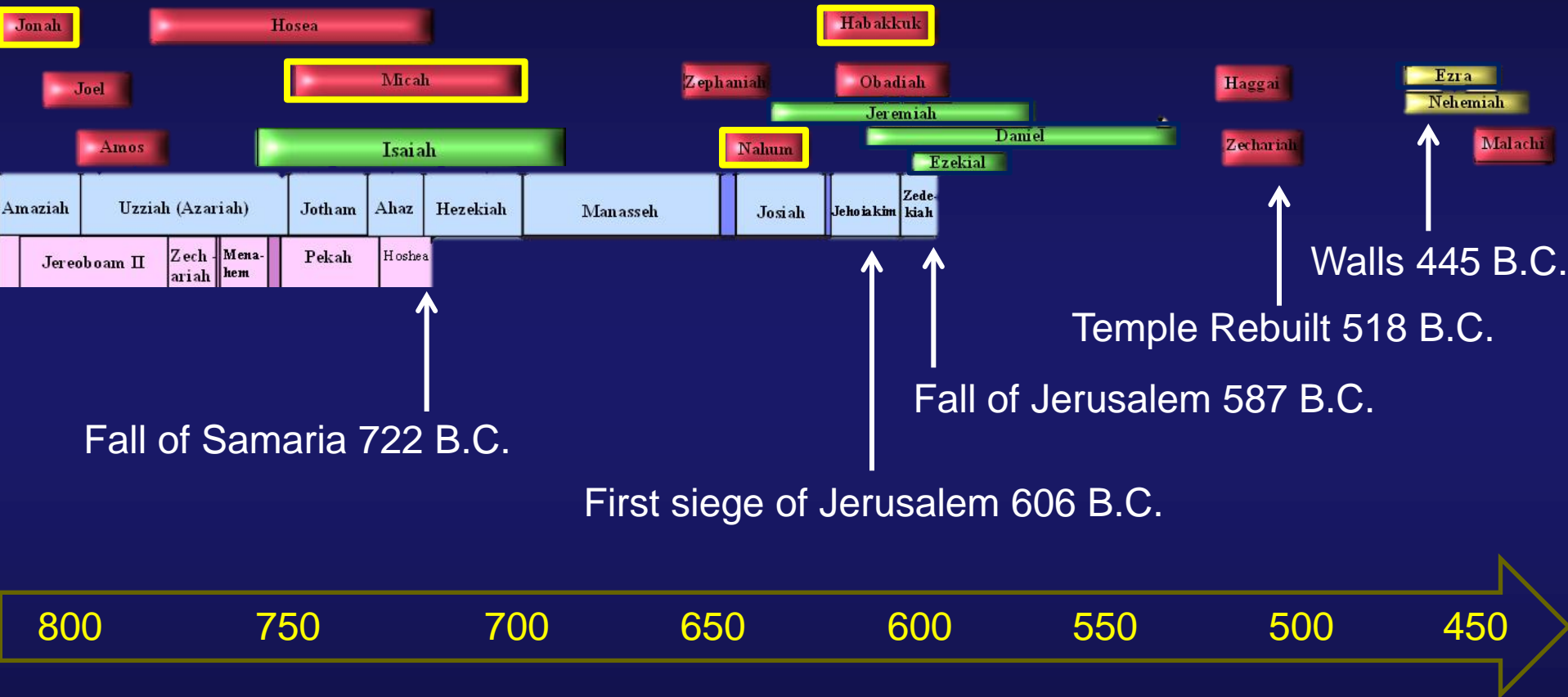
Session 30

The Minor Prophets

Jonah / Micah / Nahum / Habakkuk

From the miracle of our origin to the mystery of our destiny

Timeline of the Minor Prophets



Judah

The Southern Kingdom

Rehoboam	17
Abijam	3
Asa	41

Jehoshaphat	25
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1st Kings

2nd Kings

Jehoram	8	
Ahaziah	1	
Athaliah	6	
Joash	40	Joel
Amaziah	29	
Azariah (Uzziah)	52	Amos

Jotham	16	
Ahaz	16	Isaiah
Hezekiah	29	Micah
Manasseh	55	
Amon	2	
Josiah	31	Zephaniah
Jehoahaz	(3 mos)	
Jehoiakim	11	Jeremiah
Jehoiakin	(3 mos)	Habakkuk
Zedekiah	11	Obadiah

Babylonian Captivity
Daniel
Ezekiel

Israel

The Northern Kingdom

Jeroboam	22
Nadab	2
Baasha	24
Elah	2
Zimri	(1 wk)
Omri	12
Ahab	22

1st Kings Ahaziah 2 Elijah

2nd Kings Jehoram 12 Elisha
Jehu 28

Jehoahaz	17	
Jehoash	16	
Jeroboam II	41	Hosea
Zechariah	½	Jonah
Shallum	(1 mo)	
Menahem	10	
Pekahiah	2	
Pekah	20	
Hoshea	9	

Assyrian Captivity

Nahum

The Southern Kingdom

Minor Prophets

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

2nd Kings & 2 Chronicles

Jehoram	8	
Ahaziah	1	
Athaliah	6	
Joash	40	
Amaziah	29	Joel
Uzziah	52	
Jotham	16	Isaiah
Ahaz	16	
Hezekiah	29	
Manasseh	55	
Amon	2	
Josiah	31	Jeremiah
Jehoahaz	(3 mos)	
Jehoiakim	11	
Jehoiakin	(3 mos)	
Zedekiah	11	

Babylonian Captivity Daniel
Ezekiel

The Northern Kingdom

2nd Kings

Jehoram	12	Elisha
Jehu	28	
Jehoahaz	17	
Jehoash	16	
Jeroboam II	41	
Zechariah	1/2	
Shallum	(1 mo)	
Menahem	10	
Pekahiah	2	
Pekah	20	
Hoshea	9	

Nineveh

Assyrian Captivity

The Southern Kingdom

2 nd Kings & 2 Chronicles		
Jehoram	8	
Ahaziah	1	
Athaliah	6	
Joash	40	
Amaziah	29	Joel
Uzziah	52	
Jotham	16	Isaiah
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Jehoahaz	(3 mos)	
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Babylonian Captivity	Daniel
	Ezekiel

The Northern Kingdom

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Assyrian Captivity	
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Nineveh

Minor Prophets

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

Hosea – The loving Prophet – Israel’s call to repent and return

The Southern Kingdom

2nd Kings & 2 Chronicles

Minor Prophets

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

Jehoram 8

Ahaziah 1

Athaliah 6

Joash 40

Amaziah 29 → Joel

Uzziah 52

Jotham 16 → Isaiah

Ahaz 16

Hezekiah 29

Manasseh 55

Amon 2

Josiah 31 → Jeremiah

Jehoahaz (3 mos)

Jehoiakim 11

Jehoiakin (3 mos)

Zedekiah 11

Babylonian Captivity Daniel

Ezekiel

The Northern Kingdom

2nd Kings

Jehoram 12 → Elisha

Jehu 28

Jehoahaz 17

Jehoash 16

Jeroboam II 41 → Hosea

Zechariah ½

Shallum (1 mo)

Menahem 10

Pekahiah 2

Pekah 20

Hoshea 9

Nineveh

Assyrian Captivity

Joel – The Day of the LORD – Earliest of the writing prophets

The Southern Kingdom

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Babylonian Captivity	Daniel
	Ezekiel

The Northern Kingdom

2 nd Kings		
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Jereboam II	41	Hosea
Zechariah	1/2	Amos
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Assyrian Captivity

Nineveh

Minor Prophets

- Hosea
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- Jonah
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- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

Amos – The Shepherd Prophet – Judgment of the nations

The Southern Kingdom

2nd Kings & 2 Chronicles

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- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

Obadiah – The judgment on Edom



The Book of Jonah

The Southern Kingdom

2nd Kings & 2 Chronicles

Minor Prophets

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

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Jehoram 8

Ahaziah 1

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Jotham 16 Isaiah

Ahaz 16

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Assyrian Captivity

Nineveh

Jonah

Books That Satan Hates

- Genesis
 - The Incarnation of Christ
- Jonah
 - The Resurrection of Christ
- Daniel
 - The Second Coming of Christ
- Revelation
 - The Ultimate Reign of Christ

Jonah

“The book is unique in that it is more concerned with the prophet himself than with his prophecy. The condition of his soul, and God’s loving discipline of him, instruct and humble the reader.”

George Williams

The Book of Jonah

- Written about 853-824 B.C.
- 150 years before this, Israel had been the #1 power in the known world under Solomon
- Israel's kingdom then split c. 985 B.C.
- At the time of Jonah, Assyria is now on the rise as the major world power
- In 100 years from this point, Israel would be defeated by the Assyrians

The Assyrian Empire

- The Assyrian empire would become the largest the world had known
- The Assyrian's quickly gained a reputation as being violent & cruel
- *“They flayed their enemies alive, made heaps of their skulls, and did other dreadful deeds”* William MacDonald
- They also led captives away in human chains literally sown together!
- The Assyrian's also invented crucifixion

The Assyrian Kingdom



Nineveh

- At the time of Jonah, the city was 14 miles across
- With 100ft walls all around the city.
- There were 1500 towers 200ft tall around the city
- 15 gates
 - (of which 5 have now been uncovered).
- Many skeptics thought that Nineveh was just a mythological city - like Atlantis - until the 19th Century when Arabs discovered some ancient ruins.

Nineveh

- 1820: Nineveh was mapped by the British archaeologist Claudius J. Rich.
- 1847 a young British adventurer Sir Austen Henry Layard explored the ruins and found the lost palace of Sennacherib
 - thus silencing the critics once again and proving the accuracy of the Bible!

What Nineveh may have looked like?



¹ Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

² Arise, go to **Nineveh, that great city,** and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

Jonah 1:1-2

³ But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

Jonah 1:3

“You cannot say ‘No Lord’, and mean both words; one annuls the other. If you say no to Him, then He is not your Lord”

D. James Kennedy

Chapter 1

- The disobedience of Jonah
 - Jonah's Missionary Call 1,2
 - Jonah's Flight to Tarshish 1:3
 - The Storm at Sea 4–10
 - Jonah & the Great Fish 11–17

Chapter 2

- The deliverance of Jonah
 - Jonah's Prayer 1–9
 - God's Answer v.10

Chapter 3

- The declaration of God's message through Jonah
 - The Threat of Judgment 1–4
 - The City-Wide Repentance 5–9
 - The Judgment Averted v10

Chapter 4

- The displeasure of the prophet
 - Jonah's Petulant Prayer 1–3
 - God's Searching Question v4
 - Jonah Sulking Outside the City v5
 - Object Lesson on God's Sovereign Mercy 6–11

3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto **Tarshish** from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to **Tarshish**: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto **Tarshish** from the presence of the LORD.

Jonah 1:3

Tarshish?

- 'Afar off' – Isaiah 66:19
- 3 Year round trip – 1 Kings 10:21-22
- 'Beyond the pillars of Hercules'
 - Herodotus

Pillars of Hercules

(Straits of Gibraltar)



- Source of tin - *“Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kind of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs”* - Ezek 27:12

- Herodotus, as early as 445 BC speaks of the British Isles as the ‘Tin Islands’

Tarshish?

Joppa

Pillars of Hercules



Where Can We Go?

- 7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?
- 8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;
- 10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

Psalm 139:7-10

Downward Spiral

- Jonah went down to Joppa 1:3
- Down into the sides of the ship 1:5
- Down into the sea 1:15
- Down in the fish 1:17
- Down to the bottom of the mountains 2:6
- Down to corruption 2:6

Upward Journey

- He comes up from corruption 2:6
- He lifts his prayer up to the LORD 2:4
- Lifts his voice up in thanksgiving 2:9
- Comes up out of the fish 2:10
- Finally goes up to Nineveh 3:3

*I And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the
second time, saying.....*

Jonah 3:1

- Grace

Getting It Right The 2nd Time!

1st Time Disobedience

Law broken

Exodus 32

Spies to Canaan

Numbers 13

Israel rejected their Messiah

John 19:15

Israel a witness Deut 28:10

Instead Deut 28:37 'Astonishment'

We were 'dead in
trespasses & sins'

Eph 2:1

2nd Time Obedience

Law received

Exodus 34

Conquest

Josh 2

Israel will gladly receive Him

Matt 23:39

Israel a sign to all nations

Ezek 39:23

'He made us alive'

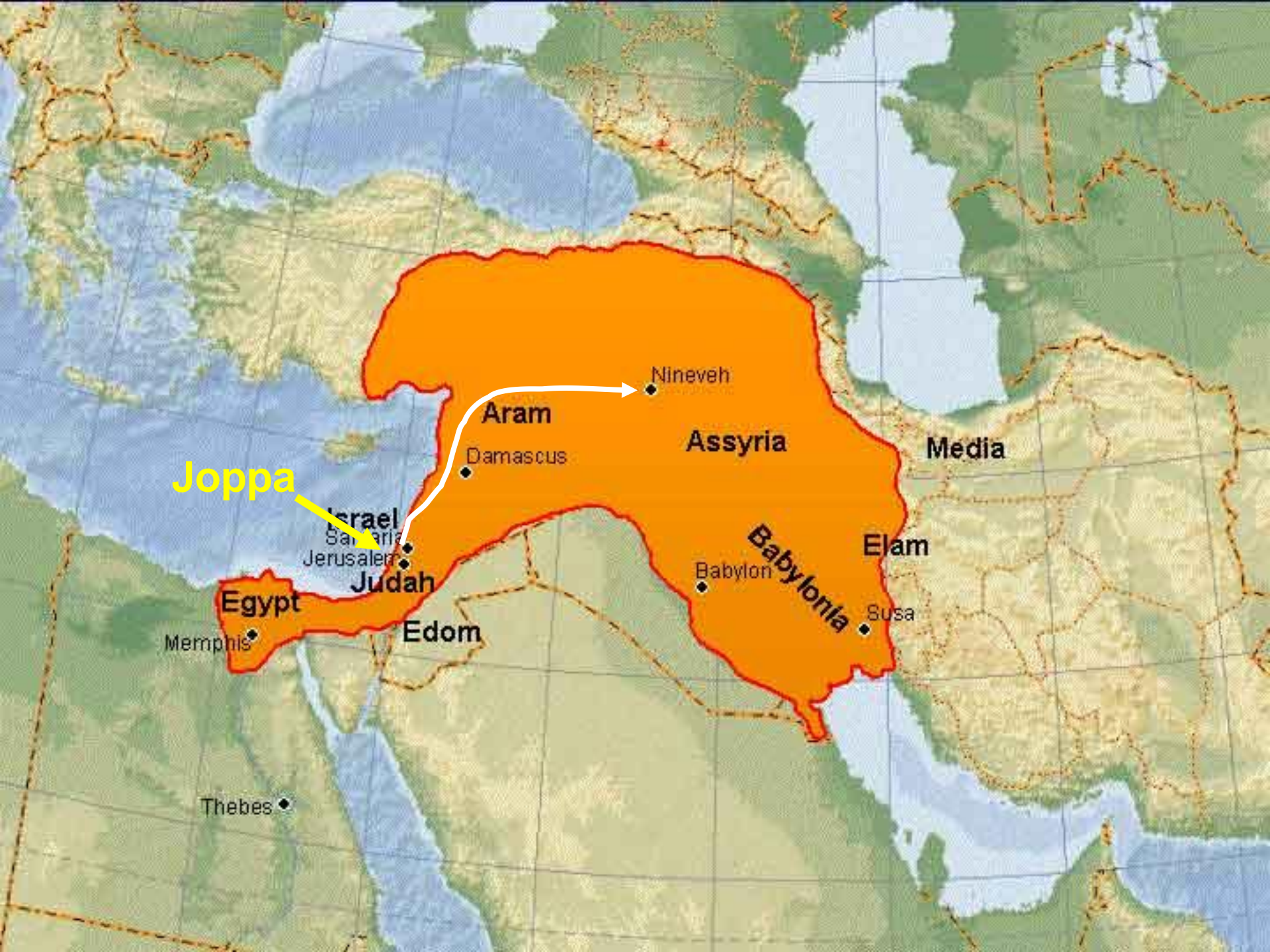
Eph 2:1

Gath-Hepher

Joppa



Joppa (Japho)



Joppa

Israel

Samaria

Jerusalem

Judah

Egypt

Memphis

Thebes

Edom

Aram

Damascus

Nineveh

Assyria

Media

Babylon

Babylonia

Elam

Susa

² Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city,
and **preach unto it** the preaching that I bid thee.

Jonah 3:2

Who Do You Fear?

- 4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.
- 5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

Luke 12:4-5

Who Do You Fear?

I The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

Proverbs 29:25

Preach The Word

4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown".

Jonah 3:4

- Jonah preaches of the coming judgment
- 'Forty days' 'Nineveh' 'Overthrown'
- The same in Hebrew / Assyrian

Preach The Word

“The doctrine of judgment to come is the power by which men are to be stirred.

There is another life; the Lord will come a second time; judgment will arrive; the wrath of God will be revealed.

Where this is not preached, I am bold to say the gospel is not preached”

C. H. Spurgeon

Jonah's 21st Century Message

- People of Nineveh – God loves you!
- You have a God shaped hole in your heart!
- Believe in the God of Israel and you will have peace, joy & lasting happiness!
- God has a wonderful plan for your life!

Jonah's Emergent Message

- People of Nineveh – God loves you!
- You don't have a sin problem, it's a self-esteem problem!
- If you call God 'Dagon', that's fine with us! As long as you're sincere, worship the way you feel comfortable
- We need to work together to tackle the social problems – combine our resources!
- Let's not get bogged down with doctrine; we need to reinterpret our beliefs to make them inclusive
- We reject fundamentalism of any kind, it's divisive!
– we're all going to the same place after all!

If I had my way, I would declare a moratorium on public preaching of "the plan of salvation" in America for one to two years. Then I would call on everyone who has the use of the airwaves and the pulpits, to preach the holiness of God, the righteousness of God and the law of God, until sinners would cry out, "What must we do to be saved?" Then I would take them off in a corner and whisper the Gospel to them. Such drastic action is needed because we have gospel-hardened a generation of sinners by telling them how to be saved before they have any understanding why they need to be saved.

--Paris Reidhead, Finding the Reality of God, pg. 54.

Jonah The Prophet

- Jesus confirms Jonah as a prophet
- Yet the only thing he prophesies fails to come to pass!
- In what way does Jonah speak prophetically?

Jonah as a type of Christ

- Jonah loved his own people
- His own people had rejected God
- Jonah gave his own life to save Israel
- He was in the grave for 3 days & 3 nights
- After he 'rose' the message of God's coming judgment and salvation through faith went to the gentiles

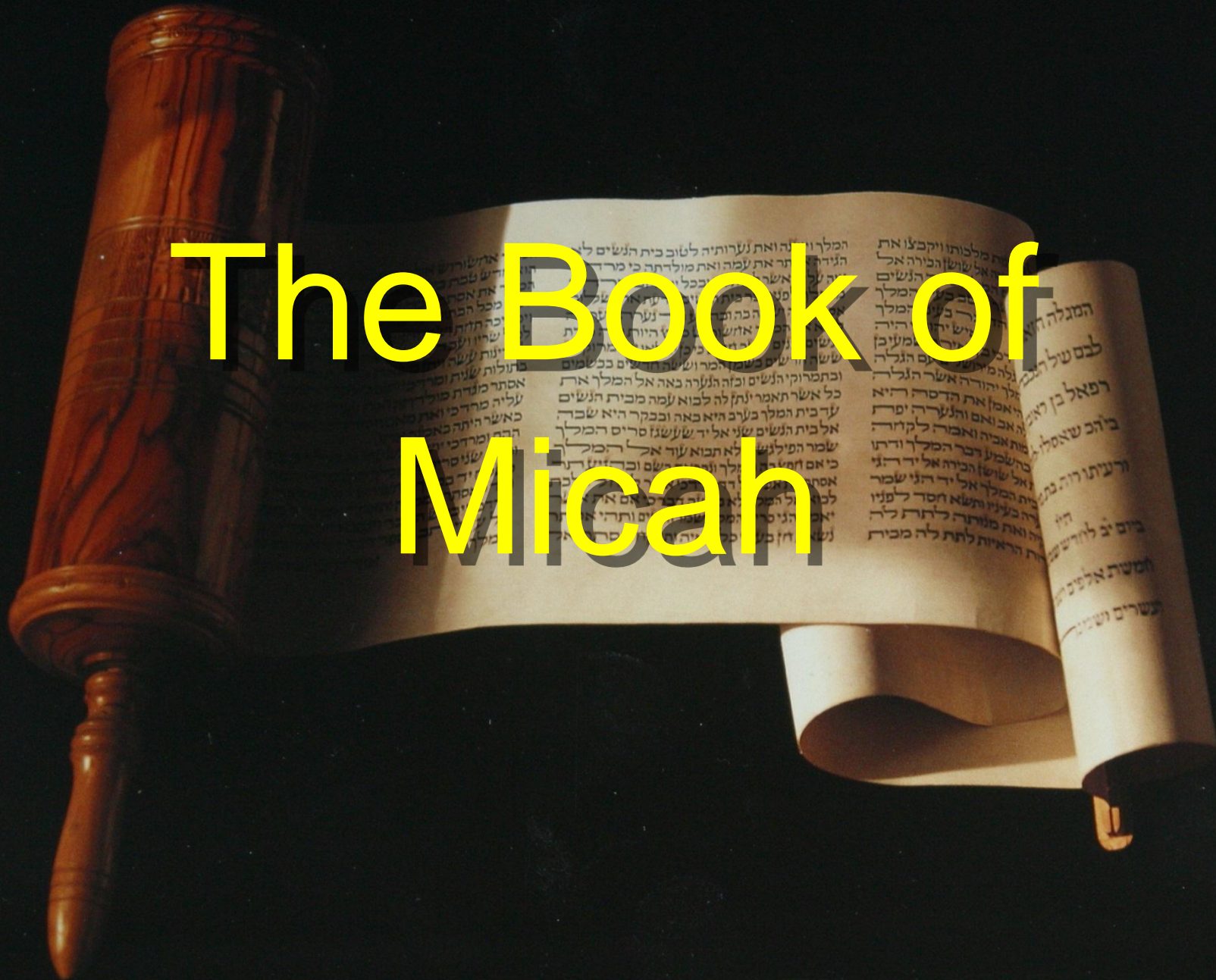
Jonah as a type of Israel

- Called to be a witness to Gentiles
- Disobeyed and rejected the Lord
- Cast into the sea of nations & consumed
- Cried to the Lord from the depths
- Miraculously given life again
- Eventually to become a witness to the Gentiles

Jonah as a type of Us

- We were called by God
- We ran away from His voice
- We went down to the depths & cry out to God
- He puts a new song in our mouths
- We are given a 2nd chance & new life
- We are commissioned to witness of the coming judgement
- God allows us to go through windstorms to show where our heart is
- He labours & causes all those He loves to grow

The Book of Micah



The Southern Kingdom

2nd Kings & 2 Chronicles

Jehoram	8	
Ahaziah	1	
Athaliah	6	
Joash	40	
Amaziah	29	Joel
Uzziah	52	

Jotham	16	Isaiah Micah
Ahaz	16	
Hezekiah	29	
Manasseh	55	
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Babylonian Captivity Daniel
Ezekiel

Minor Prophets

Hosea
Joel
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The Northern Kingdom

2nd Kings

Jehoram	12	Elisha
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Assyrian Captivity

Nineveh

Jonah

Micah

- Written around 750-687 B.C.
 - During the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah
- Micah was contemporaneous with Isaiah
- He was from a small town south-west of Jerusalem called Moresheth (nr. Gath)
- He spoke to *all Israel* (1:1) regarding God's judgment that would result from their unrepentant sin
 - He warned the northern kingdom and then used their destruction as an object lesson for the southern kingdom

Micah

- Micah is the fourth largest of the minor prophets (7 chapters)
- He is quoted five times in the NT
- His name means “Who is like Jehovah”
- He frequently used puns or double entendre’s
 - Seen in the names of the cities in Ch1
 - Jesus employs this in Rev 3 (Laodacia)

-

Micah

“By the eighth century B.C. the old agricultural system in Israel and Judah, with its fairly even distribution of wealth, was gradually replaced by a greedy, materialistic, and harsh society that split the people sharply into the “haves” and the “have-nots.” The rich land-owners got richer and the poor farmers got poorer. The latter migrated to cities, which were characterized by poverty and vice alongside the upper classes’ luxury and also their cruelty to the poor”.

William MacDonald

Overview

- Judgment against Israel & Judah Ch 1
- Judgment against wealthy oppressors Ch 2:1–11
- The promise of restoration Ch 2:12–13
- Judgment against religious leaders Ch 3
- The glory of Christ's millennial reign Ch 4
- The promise of the Messiah's coming Ch 5
- Israel on trial (the legal case) Ch 6
- Micah's lamentation over Israel Ch 7:1–10
- Future blessing for Israel Ch 7:11–20

- In the midst of the judgment of the wealthy oppressors God declares:

¹² I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.

Micah 2:12

- From 985 B.C. until 1948, this was not possible as Israel were divided into two kingdoms
- Israel will be gathered to Bozrah (Jordan)

- In declaring the coming Messiah, Micah says:

² But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Micah 5:2

- Note: the Messiah is to be ruler in Israel
- This has not yet happened!

- In the midst of the justification of God's actions God states:

8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 6:8

- The most simple expression of obedience?
 - 1 Be just – in thought, word & deed
 - 2 Be merciful – in thought word & deed
 - 3 To walk humbly with God

- In the midst of his lamentation, Micah lifts his head and declares...

7 Therefore I will look unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.

Micah 7:7

- Our confidence should never be in man!

- In considering Israel's future, Micah, thinking of his own name, declares...

18 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

Micah 7:18



The Book of Nahum

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Nahum (Jonah Pt 2)

- Nahum was from ‘House of Nahum’
 - Capernaum
- Probably written during the reign of Manasseh, but before 612 B.C.
- His book is a denunciation of a major world empire at the height of their power! (Assyria)
 - As Daniel would later tell Nebuchadnezzar, it is God who reigns in the kingdoms of men!
- He foretells the destruction Jonah sought
- His name means “comforter” or “consolation”

Nahum - Overview

- The character of God, the Judge Ch 1:1–8
- Nineveh's judgment decreed Ch 1:9–15
- Nineveh's judgment described Ch 2:1–12
- God's is just in his judgments Ch 2:13–3:19

² God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.

³ The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

Nahum 1:2-3

- 7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble;
and he knoweth them that trust in him.*
- 8 But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter
end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his
enemies.*

Nahum 1:7-8

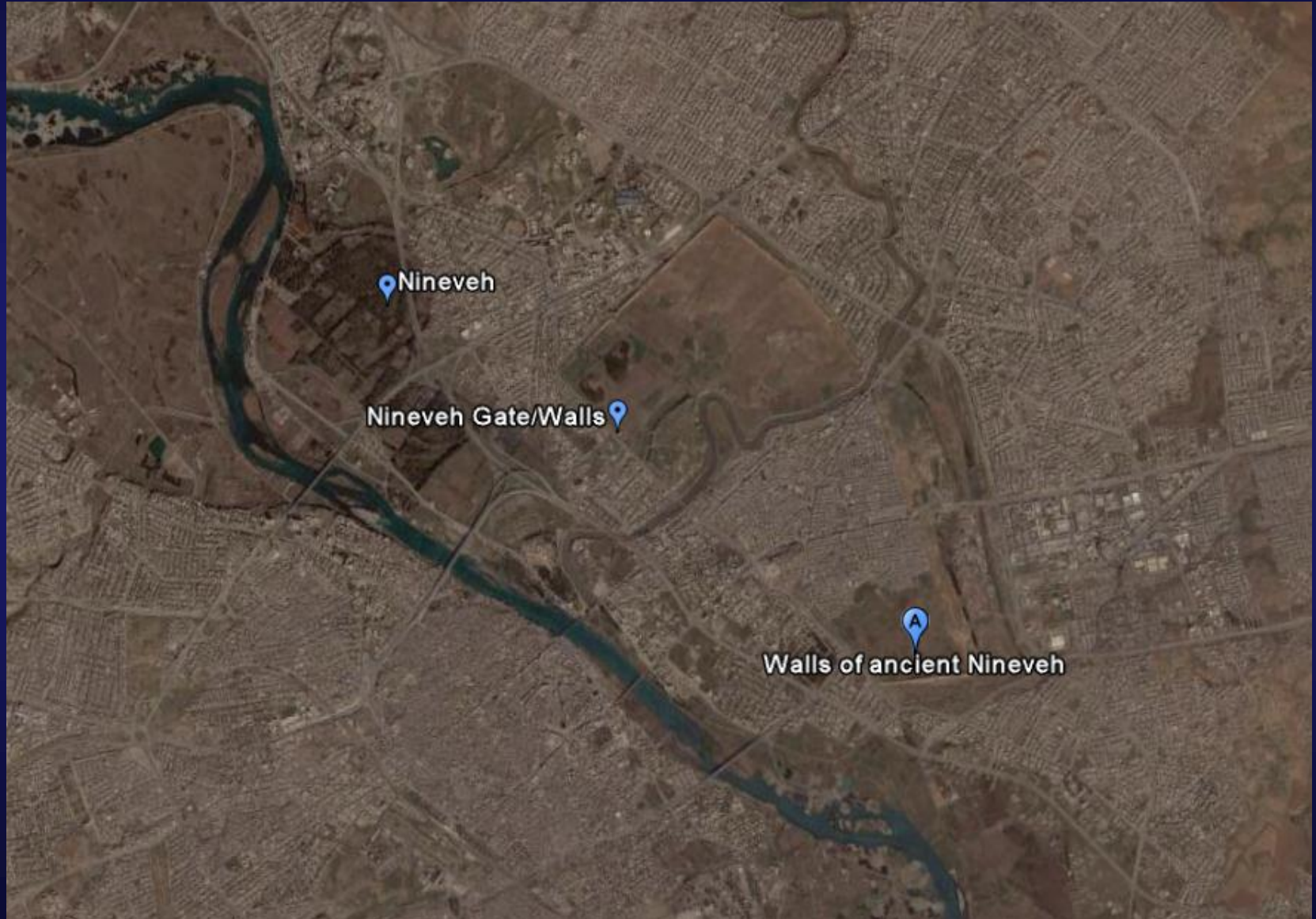
The Remains of Nineveh Today



- Destruction prophesied by Nahum

The Remains of Nineveh Today

(Modern day Mosul – Iraq)



The Remains of Nineveh Today



Excavations of Nineveh



- Palace of Sennacherib



The Book of Habakkuk

The Southern Kingdom

2nd Kings & 2 Chronicles

Minor Prophets

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
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Shallum	(1 mo)	
Menahem	10	
Pekahiah	2	
Pekah	20	
Hoshea	9	

Nineveh

Jonah

Assyrian Captivity

Nahum

Assyria falls to Babylon



Habakkuk

- Habakkuk's name means to 'wrestle'
- He seems to be a prophet & musician
- Time of writing: Before 606 B.C.
- Habakkuk is the epitome of the hard question before God – the 'why God do you allow'
- The conclusion is simply because God is God!

– God is God and I am not

I can only see a part of the picture He's painting

God is God and I am man

So I'll never understand it all

For only God is God

- Steven Curtis Chapman

Habakkuk - Overview

- Habakkuk's complaint 1:1-4
 - Why do the unrighteous prosper in Israel?
- God's response 1:5-11
 - The Babylonian's are coming to bring judgment!
 - But they themselves will not escape my wrath!
- Habakkuk's question 1:12-17
 - I kinda' trust You... You're just right? ...
 - But are You sure this is a good idea?
- God's response Ch 2
 - This is why I am bringing judgment... and yes...
 - It is severe because of Israel's iniquity

*1 A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth.
2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O
LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in
the midst of the years make known;
in wrath remember mercy.*

Habakkuk 3:1-2

16 When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.

17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Habakkuk 3:16-17

18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

19 The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

Habakkuk 3:18-19

Habakkuk 2:4

- Habakkuk 2:4 has lead to a Trilogy of epistles in NT.

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- Romans became the cornerstone of Reformation
 - Hard to summarize how much impact on Western Civilization by Reformation - rediscovered God's grace

14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14

- In the midst of God's list of Israel's iniquity...
- ...though Israel themselves have been unfruitful to the nations
 - Israel were to be a fruitful vine bearing fruit revealing God to the nations
- God declares that it will happen anyway!



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