SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL

A WORK OF THE
CHURCH OF CHRIST AT WEBBERVILLE
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WEBBERVILLE, MI 48892

YEAR 2, BOOK 2

LESSONS:

"REVELATION"
"JOB THROUGH SONG OF SOLOMON"
"ISAIAH THROUGH DANIEL"
"HOSEA THROUGH MALACHI"

ALL LESSONS WERE WRITTEN BY:
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION ........................................................................... aa

**REVELATION**

REVELATION – BACKGROUND ................................................. 1
SEVEN CHURCHES OF ASIA – BACKGROUND ......................... 7
REVELATION 1-3 ....................................................................... 10
REVELATION 4-6 ....................................................................... 15
REVELATION 7-11 ..................................................................... 18
REVELATION 12-14 ................................................................. 21
REVELATION 15-16 ................................................................... 25
REVELATION 17-19 ................................................................. 28
REVELATION 20-22 ................................................................. 31

**JOB THROUGH SONG OF SOLOMON**

JOB ......................................................................................... 37
PSALMS ................................................................................. 43
PROVERBS .............................................................................. 49
ECCLESIASTES ....................................................................... 56
SONG OF SOLOMON ............................................................. 59

**ISAIAH THROUGH MALACHI**

ISAIAH .................................................................................... 60
JEREMIAH .............................................................................. 66
LAMENTATIONS ..................................................................... 72
EZEKIEL ................................................................................. 74
DANIEL ................................................................................... 78
HOSEA ................................................................................... 83
JOEL ......................................................................................... 87
AMOS ..................................................................................... 89
OBADIAH .............................................................................. 92
JONAH .................................................................................... 94
MICAH ................................................................................... 97
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

NAHUM .................................................................................. 99
HABAKKUK ............................................................................ 102
ZEPHANIAH ............................................................................. 104
HAGGAI .................................................................................. 107
ZECHARIAH ............................................................................ 110
MALACHI .................................................................................. 113

## SPECIAL STUDIES, CHARTS AND LISTS

REVELATION INTERPRETS ITSELF ........................................... 4
ROMAN WORSHIP ..................................................................... 5
ROMAN RULERS THROUGH 117 A.D. ........................................ 6
THE NUMBERS IN THE FIRST CENTURY ............................... 14
ARMAGEDDON .......................................................................... 26
REVELATION 20 ......................................................................... 32
WHY CHRIST WILL NOT ESTABLISH A KINGDOM UPON EARTH 35
PROPHECY IN PSALMS ................................................................. 44
CONCERNING WOMEN IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS ............. 50
ON CHILDREN & CHILD REARING IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS 52
CHRONOLOGICAL LOOK AT THE OLD TESTAMENT ................. 59A
CHRONOLOGICAL LOOK AT THE NEW TESTAMENT ................. 59B
THE TIMES OF THE PROPHETS ................................................. 59C
THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHETS .......................................... 59D
THE FOLLY OF IDOLATRY ........................................................ 65
BABYLONIAN AND PERSIAN RULERS ...................................... 81
CITY OF NINEVEH .................................................................... 101
IMPORTANT DATES IN REBUILDING JERUSALEM .................. 109
INTRODUCTION

Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. (Acts 21:13)

For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel (1 Cor. 9:16)

Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay. (Jer. 20:9)

This is the third of three books covering the lessons presented at the South Michigan Teacher Training School, a work of the congregation that meets in Webberville, Michigan. All of the books are made available free of charge by the congregation.

The lessons in this book are the class notes given out during the second half of the second year of study. All the lessons were written by Charles Coats, the preacher who works with the congregation at Webberville, Michigan. These lessons were designed to encourage the student to look more deeply in God’s word to gain the knowledge needed to proclaim the message of God. With this knowledge, the student will gain confidence, boldness, and courage to do God’s will.

It is our desire that those using this material will go forth into all the world to teach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Permission is granted to freely reproduce this material for use in Bible classes, home Bible studies, or other ways of getting the message to the world.

This material has been reviewed for accuracy to the best of our ability. Please forgive us for any grammatical, spelling, or typographical errors we have overlooked. All scripture references are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

I am thankful for the congregation at Webberville for making this work possible. A special thank you to my wife, Leanna, who has supported me in this effort and has used her typing skills to help produce these lessons.

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"REVELATION"

"The revelation of Jesus Christ" (1:1). The magnificence of this book has often been overshadowed by the many false views put forth concerning this book. The apocalyptic language of the book has caused people to expect literal beasts, horses, etc. to someday come upon earth. A great, terrible tribulation shown in a literal physical battle between the forces of good and evil is supposed by many to take place before the end of the world.

Every generation, since the writing of the book, has had its "signs of the end". Every world war or evil tyrant seems to point to the times of the end. On and on we could go with people’s ideas concerning this book. But, all of this would be a waste of our time as these ideas all fail to take one thing into consideration: THE BOOK OF REVELATION WAS WRITTEN TO COMFORT CHRISTIANS IN THE FIRST CENTURY!

The book of Revelation is really quite simple. It gives us a marvelous look at the downfall of wickedness and the triumph of the righteous. Although written for all to learn from it, to remove its interpretation from the events of the first century does a great disservice to the book. Why would God write to comfort Christians in the first century by telling them about events that would actually take place hundreds or thousands of years later?

In our study, we want to explore the historical background to the times of the writing of the Revelation. Who was ruling the area? In what kind of religious world were they living? What was happening to Christians at that time? How did those of the first century see this book?

We will also look at the signs and symbols. Every generation has had its own peculiar signs and numbers. Consider the peace symbol of the seventies; or, the Democrat’s donkey and the Republican’s elephant. To us today, seven is lucky and thirteen is evil (especially if it falls on a Friday). To break a mirror is considered bad luck by many, as well as walking under a ladder or having a black cat cross your path. On the other hand, a four-leaf clover is considered lucky. However, two thousand years from now, all of these will be history lessons for children who want to understand the writings of our time.

The difficulty we have with Revelation is that we are nearly two thousand years removed from it. It is not hard to understand though, if we do a little historical research and keep it in its context.

The biggest reason the book is so hard for people today is because of the many false views put forth. Theses views confuse and frighten people. People believe the book too complicated to understand and therefore, shy away from studying the book at all.

It will be our endeavor to uncover what the book actually says and remove the fear. For a book written to comfort, people certainly are uncomfortable with it.
Certainly, it was not God's intention to confuse and frighten us. The confusion and fear came from men.

Please remove any preconceived ideas about the Revelation and approach this study with an open mind. Let us uncover the beauties of this wonderful book.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." (Revelation 14:13)
1. It is the revelation of Jesus Christ (1:1), not revelation.

2. It was written to Christians of the first century (1:4).

3. It was written in symbolic language (1:1).

4. Its theme is victory in Christ, thus a letter of comfort (14:13; 17:14).

5. Its message was not to be changed in any way (22:18,19).

6. It was written to be understood and followed.
   A. Read, hear and keep the things written therein (1:3). One cannot keep what one cannot understand.
   B. “He that hath an ear, let him hear…” (2:7,11,17,29; 3:6,13,22; 13:9). Obviously, God intended the reader to learn from and heed the message.
   C. If one cannot understand the book, how can one know when they are adding to it or taking from it? (22:18,19)

7. Be careful to notice the comparison language (“like” and “as”).

8. Do not read too much into the symbology. The big picture is important. The details of the symbols only emphasize the big picture. (For instance, locusts are used as a symbol of God’s punishment of the wicked (ch. 9). These locusts have nine things said about them in their description. Each of these serves to give an overall picture of how terrible this punishment is.)

9. The book’s primary recipients are the seven churches of Asia: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea (1:4,11). These cities are all located in western Asia Minor. Asia was the Roman province of this area.

10. The book was written near the end of the first century. Domitian was the Emperor of Rome. The church was severely persecuted.
REVELATION INTERPRETS ITSELF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Seven golden candlesticks (1:12)</td>
<td>Seven churches (1:20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Seven stars (1:16)</td>
<td>Angels of the seven churches (1:20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Seven lamps of fire (4:5)</td>
<td>Seven spirits of God (4:5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Root of David (5:5)</td>
<td>Jesus (22:16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Seven horns and seven eyes (5:6)</td>
<td>Seven spirits of God (5:6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Golden vials full of odors (5:8)</td>
<td>Prayers of the saints (5:8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Great red dragon (12:3)</td>
<td>Devil (12:9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Old serpent (12:9; 20:2)</td>
<td>Devil (12:9; 20:2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast (17:3)</td>
<td>Great city that reigns over the kings of the earth (17:18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Seven heads (17:3)</td>
<td>Seven mountains on which the woman sitteth (17:9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Ten horns (17:3)</td>
<td>Ten kings (17:12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There may be others not on this list. This is given to show that the book was not written to hide information, but to reveal it.
**ROMAN WORSHIP**

**Greek gods with their Roman equivalents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greek gods</th>
<th>Roman gods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zeus</td>
<td>Jupiter (Acts 14:12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hera</td>
<td>Juno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poseidon</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hestia</td>
<td>Vesta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ares</td>
<td>Mars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athena</td>
<td>Minerva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aphrodite</td>
<td>Venus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermes</td>
<td>Mercury (Acts 14:12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artemis</td>
<td>Diana (Acts 19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hephaestus</td>
<td>Vulcun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apollo</td>
<td>Apollo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pluto (also called Hades)</td>
<td>Pluto (not called Hades)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Roman gods**

- Numina – vague powers having no shape or form
- Lares – individual or state gods. Patrons and protectors.
- Penates – gods of the storeroom
- Vesta – goddess of the hearth. (Her priestesses were called vestal virgins and served for thirty years.)
- Ceres – goddess of grain

**Emperor Worship**

Began with Augustus. He set the groundwork for his being declared a god after his death. Later, all emperors, whether good or bad, demanded deification.
ROMAN RULERS THROUGH 117 A.D.

The official beginning of the Roman Empire began with Augustus in 27 B.C. Historians mark the end of the Roman Empire as A.D. 476, although the empire began to fall apart in the mid to late A.D. 200’s. By A.D. 395, the Roman Empire was hopelessly split and ready to completely fall.

The list below lists the Roman emperors from 27 B.C. to A.D. 117. Although there were many more emperors after this, these will suffice for our study of the book of Revelation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emperor</th>
<th>Reign</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Augustus</td>
<td>27 B.C. – A.D. 14</td>
<td>(Lk. 2:1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiberius</td>
<td>A.D. 14 – 37</td>
<td>(Lk. 3:1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caligula</td>
<td>A.D. 37 – 41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudius</td>
<td>A.D. 41 – 54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nero</td>
<td>A.D. 54 – 68</td>
<td>(Claudius and Nero were the emperors through Paul’s work.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galba</td>
<td>A.D. 68 – 69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otho</td>
<td>A.D. 69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitellius</td>
<td>A.D. 69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vespasian</td>
<td>A.D. 69 – 79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titus</td>
<td>A.D. 79 – 81</td>
<td>(The general who conquered Jerusalem in A.D. 70 and Masada in A.D. 73.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domitian</td>
<td>A.D. 81 – 96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nerva</td>
<td>A.D. 96 – 98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trajan</td>
<td>A.D. 98 – 117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SEVEN CHURCHES OF ASIA – BACKGROUND TO CITIES

Ephesus (2:1-7)
Smyrna (2:8-11)
Pergamos (2:12-17)
Thyatira (2:18-29)
Sardis (3:1-6)
Philadelphia (3:7-13)
Laodecia (3:14-22)

I. Ephesus
1. A port city located on the Cayster River in western Asia Minor. A great seaport.
2. Three trade routes converged here.
   A. From the Euphrates.
   B. From Galatia.
   C. From the Meander Valley to the South.
3. Considered itself the first and great metropolis of Asia.
   A. Roman governor came to Ephesus to try important cases.
   B. Panonian Games (like the Olympics) were held here.
   C. A free city. Self-governed.
4. Home of the temple of Diana (Artemis), goddess of fertility. One of the seven wonders of the ancient world.
   A. 425' long x 220' wide x 60' high.
   B. Had 127 pillars.
   C. Served as a bank. People put their goods inside for safe keeping.
   D. The perimeter of 200 yards around the temple was a safe haven for criminals. Those in this area were safe from prosecution.
   E. Heraclitus, a philosopher of Ephesus, said the morals of the temple were worse than the morals of beasts and that the inhabitants of Ephesus were only fit to be drowned.
7. Timothy worked in Ephesus also (1 Tim. 1:3).
8. Paul also sent Tychicus to Ephesus (2 Tim. 4:12).
10. 1 Corinthians was written while Paul was at Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:8).

II. Smyrna
2. Famous for her “Golden Street” lined with temples to the gods – Cybele, Apollo, Asklepios, Aphrodite, Zeus.
   A. Cybele – goddess of nature and fertility. Worshipped in Rome as the Great Mother of the gods.
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 2
REVELATION

B. Apollo – god of prophecy, agriculture, cattle, light, and truth
C. Asklepios – god of healing / medicine
D. Aphrodite – goddess of love and beauty (same as Roman goddess, Venus)
E. Zeus – chief god

3. Center of emperor worship.
4. Had a large Jewish population.
5. Polycarp, a pupil of the apostle John, was a martyr here in A.D. 115. When asked to deny Christ, Polycarp replied: “Eighty and six years, have I served him and He hath done me no wrong. How can I revile my Lord and Savior?” He was burned at the stake.
6. Roman emperors visited Smyrna. It was known for its wealth, beauty, and rhetorical tradition, library, and school of medicine.

III. Pergamos
2. Known for its library.
   A. Contained as many as 160,000 scrolls; all catalogued.
   B. Parchment for writing was first used in Pergamos. Parchment eventually replaced papyrus as the writing material in Europe.
   C. Rivaled the library at Alexandria, Egypt.
3. Known for its idolatry.
   A. Asklepios, god of healing, was worshipped here. Asklepios was represented by a snake. People considered the touch of the snakes in the temple to have healing powers.
   B. Zeus and Athena were also worshipped. The altar of Zeus stood 800 feet up a hillside and was 90 feet square by 20 feet high.
      a. Zeus – chief god
      b. Athena – goddess of the Greek cities, industry, the arts, wisdom, war, and handicrafts. Her major temple was the Parthenon.
   C. A center for emperor worship. The Concilia, the branch of the Roman army that enforced emperor worship, was headquartered here.

IV. Thyatira
1. Famous for its dyeing industry. Lydia, a seller of purple, was from here (Acts 16:14). Purple dye sold for about $200 a pound.
2. Had well organized trade guilds. Each guild’s activities involved a god or goddess. Drunkenness and fornication were the norm in the religious practices of the guilds.

V. Sardis
1. At one time, the western capital of the Persian Empire, under Cyrus the Great.
2. Captured twice – by Cyrus the Great (546 B.C.) and Alexander the Great (334 B.C.)
4. Situated on the Pactolus, a gold bearing river.
5. Two great industries – wool and dyes.
6. Center for the worship of Cybele.

VI. Philadelphia
1. Situated on the trade route from Europe to the Orient, it was known as the “Gateway to the East”.
2. Destroyed by earthquake in 17 A.D. Rebuilt with help from Tiberius Caesar.
3. Its chief deity was Dionysius, the god of wine. Its fertile soil helped its grape growing industry.
4. Had many temples to its gods. People to be honored had a pillar with their name on it erected in one of these temples.

VII. Laodecia
1. Had a large Jewish population.
2. The banking center of Asia Minor.
3. Had enough wealth to rebuild itself after being destroyed by an earthquake.
4. Had a large cloth and clothing industry. Famous for her black wool sheep.
5. Had a famous medical school. This school was known for its ointment for sore ears and for an eye powder.
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 3
REVELATION

REVELATION 1-3

I. Introduction (1:1-3)
   1. Things which must shortly come to pass (1:1)
   2. Read, hear, and keep the words of the revelation (1:2,3)

II. The origin of the letter (1:4-20)
   1. John, the penman (1:4,9)
   2. Jesus, the author (1:4-20)
      A. Our Savior (1:4-6)
      B. All shall see his return (1:7)
      C. The alpha and the omega (1:8,11)
      D. The giver of the revelation (1:9-11)
      E. In the midst of the churches (1:12-20)
      F. A message to be given (1:17-20)

III. Ephesus – the church which left its first love (2:1-7)
   1. Knows their good (2:1-3,6)
      A. Their works, labor, and patience (2:2)
      B. Tried false teachers (2:2)
      C. Has laboredsteadfastly (2:3)
      D. Hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans (2:6)
   2. The call to repentance (2:4-7)
      A. They left their first love (2:4)
      B. Repent or perish (2:5)
      C. Overcome (2:7)

IV. Smyrna – the church that was faithful unto death (2:8-11)
   1. He knows their faithfulness (2:8,9)
   2. They will suffer (2:10)
   3. Be faithful unto death and be rewarded (2:10,11)

V. Pergamos – the church in hell’s headquarters (2:12-17)
   1. They were faithful (2:12,13)
   2. Antipas, the faithful martyr (2:13)
   3. The call to repentance (2:14-16)
      A. They hold the doctrine of Balaam – taught to eat things
         sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication (2:14)
      B. They hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans (2:15)
      C. Repent or perish (2:16)
   4. Those who overcome will be rewarded (2:17)

VI. Thyatira – the church that was threatened from within (2:18-29)
   1. They maintained some good works (2:18,19)
   2. The call to repentance (2:20-23)
      A. Jezebel teaches others to eat things sacrificed to idols and to
         commit fornication (2:20)
      B. Jezebel would not repent (2:21)
      C. Those who follow her will perish with her (2:22,23)
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 3
REVELATION

3. Encouragement to the faithful (2:24-29)
   A. Remain faithful (2:24,25)
   B. A reward for the faithful (2:26-29)

VII. Sardis – the church of the living dead (3:1-6)
   1. They think they are alive, but are really dead (3:1)
   2. The call to repentance (3:2,3)
      A. Be on guard and restore that which was lost (3:2)
      B. Repent or perish (3:3)
   3. Encouragement to the faithful (3:4-6)
      A. Will walk with Christ in heaven (3:4,5)
      B. Will have his name in the book of life (3:5)
      C. Jesus will confess him before God (3:5)
      D. Heed what has been said (3:6)

VIII. Philadelphia – the church with the open door (3:7-13)
   1. They kept his word and did not deny him (3:7,8)
   2. The Jews will know the church is God’s people (3:9)
   3. Jesus will help them (3:10)
   4. Remain faithful and be rewarded (3:11-13)

IX. Laodicea – the church which made God sick (3:14-22)
   1. They were lukewarm and therefore nauseating (3:14-16)
   2. They thought they were great, but were wretched, miserable, poor, blind,
      and naked (3:17,18)
   3. The call to repentance (3:19)
   4. Faithfulness will be rewarded (3:20-22)
LESSONS FROM REVELATION 1-3

1. The letter was written to reveal what must shortly come to pass (1:1).

2. The letter was written to be understood. You cannot keep what you cannot understand (1:3).

3. God is eternal – which is, which was, which is to come (1:4).

4. Jesus paid the price for our sins (1:5).

5. Jesus' return will not be secretive (1:7).

6. The kingdom is in existence, not yet to be established. John was a member of the kingdom (1:9).

7. Jesus knows our true condition. Jesus knew the good and the bad about each congregation (ch. 2,3).

8. Christians must repent if they fall away (2:5,16,21,22; 3:3,19).

9. We should honestly examine ourselves (2:5; 3:3).

10. A congregation can lose its good standing with Jesus Christ (2:5).

11. We should learn from what is written in this letter (2:7,11,17,29; 3:6,13,22).

12. Be faithful even if it costs us our lives (2:10).

13. One cannot rest on the glories of the past. Pergamos once was faithful (2:13), but had slipped away (2:14).

14. Follow evil men and perish with them (2:21,22).

15. Remain faithful (2:25).

16. Work to be perfect before God (3:2).

17. Those who fail to serve God do serve Satan (3:9).

18. Do not try to hold the "middle" ground. Compromise makes God sick (3:15).

19. Materialism blinds us to the truth of our condition (3:17).
20. God chastens those he loves (3:19).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Unity; independent existence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Strengthening; confirmation; redoubled courage and energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Divine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ½</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cosmic number; represented the world in which men lived, worked, and died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Evil (one less than 7, perfect)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Completeness; Perfection (Sacred number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Human completeness</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Organized religion in the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Sacred and complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>Ultimate completeness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>144,000</td>
<td>Sum total of all righteous on earth (12 x 12 x 1000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As numbers are multiplied, the emphasis becomes greater. For instance, 7 is complete, and 7 x 10 or 70 is sacred and complete. 6 is evil and 666 is intense evil.
I. The vision of the throne of God (4:1-11)
   1. Jesus, the messenger (4:1; cf. 1:10)
   2. The one who sits on the throne (4:2,3)
   3. Those around the throne (4:4-11)
      A. 24 elders (4:4)
      B. The Holy spirit ("seven Spirits of God") (4:5)
      C. Four beasts (4:6-9)
         a. First beast was like a lion (4:7)
         b. Second beast like a calf (4:7)
         c. Third beast had a face as a man (4:7)
         d. Fourth beast was like a flying eagle (4:7)
         e. Each beast had six wings and were full of eyes within (4:8)
         f. They worshipped God (4:8,9)
      D. 24 elders worshipped God (4:10,11)
      E. Before the throne was a sea of glass like unto crystal (4:6)

II. The book with the seven seals (5:1-6:17)
   1. God holds the book (5:1)
   2. No one is found who is worthy to open the book (5:2-4)
   3. One is found who is worthy – Jesus (5:5-14)
      A. Lion of the tribe of Judah (5:5)
      B. Root of David (5:5)
      C. A Lamb as it had been slain (5:6)
      D. Redeemed us to God by his blood (5:9)
      E. Made us unto our God kings and priests (5:10; cf. 1 Pet. 2:9)
      F. We shall reign on the earth (5:10)
      G. God and Jesus are worshipped (5:13,14)
   4. The book is opened (6:1-17)
      A. Seal one reveals one with a bow and crown on a white horse. Went forth conquering and to conquer (6:1,2)
      B. Seal two reveals one on a red horse. Takes peace from the earth (6:3,4)
      C. Seal three reveals one with a set of balances on a black horse. Famine is on the land as seen by wheat and barley selling for a day's wages (6:5,6).
      D. Seal four reveals Death and Hades sitting on a pale horse. They would bring death to a part of the earth (6:7,8).
      E. Seal five reveals the souls of those who died for God. They want the wicked punished. God tells them others will be persecuted (6:9-11).
F. Seal six reveals a great earthquake, sun darkening, moon becoming as blood, etc. These signs indicate a great day of the Lord (cf. Acts 2:16-20). The wrath of God is poured out upon the wicked (Rev. 6:17).

III. A brief overview of this section

We are given a look at the glorious throne of God and shown that God is in control of all things. Jesus opens the book with the seven seals and unfolds God’s plan upon the earth. The first four seals revealed wars, killings, famine/hard times, and death upon the earth. These will later be seen as things that should turn man to repentance (Rev. 9:20ff).

For the persecuted Christian, the fifth seal shows that they will be rewarded for their faithfulness. Those who die for God will rest at the throne of God.

The sixth seal shows that God will pour out his wrath upon the wicked. The persecuted Christian now knows that God will bring down the wicked. God would punish those who persecuted the church and prospered in their wicked ways. One will truly reap what one sows (cf. Gal. 6:7,8).

The book has a seventh seal not yet opened. The next section of the book of Revelation will deal with the opening of the seventh seal.
1. God is to be revered (4:8).

2. God is eternal (4:8).

3. Christ redeemed us by his blood (5:9).

4. Jesus died for all (5:9).

5. Troubles, trials, and tribulations will come upon all mankind (6:2-8).

6. Those who die faithful to Christ will be rewarded (6:9-11).

7. God will punish the wicked (6:12-17).
I. God knows those who are faithful (7:1-17)
   1. God marks those that are his (7:1-3)
   2. The 144,000 are all those faithful to God (7:4-17)
      A. The twelve tribes (7:4-8)
      B. A multitude without number from all nations (7:9 12)
      C. Those who overcame and washed their robes white (7:13-17)

II. The seventh seal is opened (8:1-11:19)
   1. Seven trumpets given to the seven angels (8:1,2)
   2. Prayers of the saints come before God (8:3-5)
   3. First angel sounds – Calamity and destruction upon the land (8:6,7)
   4. Second angel sounds – Calamity and destruction upon the sea (8:8,9)
   5. Third angel sounds – Calamity and destruction upon freshwater (8:10,11)
   6. Fourth angel sounds – Calamity in the skies (8:12)
   7. The next three angels sounding will be terrible (8:13)
   8. Firth angel sounds – Punishment upon the wicked. They will wish for
depth, but it will not come (9:1-11).
   9. Sixth angel sounds – death to come upon a part of the wicked to motivate
people to repent (9:12-21)
      A. The angel with the little book (10:1-4)
      B. John to eat the little book (10:5-10)
      C. John to teach all nations (10:11)
   11. The two witnesses (11:1-14)
      A. Two witnesses to prophesy (11:1-5)
      B. They would work miracles (11:6; cf. Heb. 2:3,4).
      C. They will be killed by the enemies of God in Jerusalem (11:7,8)
      D. Their enemies will rejoice over their death (11:9,10)
      E. They will be resurrected (11:11,12).
      F. Jerusalem to be punished and God to be glorified (11:13,14)
   NOTE: In this section, the 42 months, the 1260 days, and the 3 1/2 days all
represent the same period of time.
Victory in Christ! (11:15-19)

III. A brief overview of this section

   God knows those that are his and will reward them for their faithfulness. They
will be “arrayed in white robes” (7:9,13). They will live in a place where there will
be no hunger or thirst or hard times or tears (7:16,17).

   Calamities and destruction will come upon all areas of the earth. Some will even
desire death, but death will not come. Even when death does come upon some, others
will not repent of their wickedness. The book of Revelation helps us to understand
that one purpose of calamities, hard times, and death is to help us realize that we need
God, and to motivate us to repent of our wickedness (9:20,21).

Chapters 10 and 11 help us understand that teaching the truth has its good side
and bad side. Good in that others will have the opportunity to obey God. Bad
because the enemies of the cross will punish and kill those who faithfully follow God.

Even though the faithful may be killed, they will still overcome and be victorious
with Christ. The wicked will be punished by God at judgment; everyone will be
judged fairly.

IV. Why we know the 144,000 is not literal
1. This number represents the servants of God (7:3). All of them.
2. The twelve tribes listed here are not the literal twelve tribes of Israel.
   There was no tribe of Joseph (7:8) in the original twelve tribes. Levi (7:7)
   was not in the original 12 tribes. Dan and Ephraim, of the original twelve
   tribes, are not mentioned.
3. The followers of God are described as a great multitude without number,
   out of all nations, kindreds, people, and tongues (7:9).
4. The servants of God are described as having overcome through tribulation
   (7:14)
5. If it were literal, only certain Jews would be saved! No Gentiles would be
   saved, as they are not of the tribes of Israel listed here.
1. God knows those who are faithful to him (Rev. 7).

2. Heaven is a wonderful place (7:15-17).

3. Calamities, destruction, and death will come upon the earth (Rev. 8).

4. The wicked will be punished (9:4).

5. During times of trouble people should repent of their wickedness (9:20,21).

6. The preaching of the word will have two effects – bring us great joy or cause us to be persecuted (Rev. 10; cf. 2 Tim. 3:12).

7. The faithful will be raised to their reward in heaven (11:11,12).

8. Judgment is a certainty (11:15-19).
I. Woman with the man child (12:1-17)
   1. Woman about to give birth (12:1,2)
   2. Woman gives birth (12:5)
      A. A man child is born (12:5)
      B. Child to rule the nations (12:5)
      C. Child caught up to God and his throne (12:5)
   3. Woman flees into wilderness (12:6)
   4. Woman persecuted (12:13)
   5. Woman comforted and cared for (12:14-16)

II. The dragon (12:1-17)
   1. Great red dragon appears (12:3)
   2. Dragon ready to devour the woman’s child (12:4)
   3. Dragon and his angels cast from heaven (12:7,8)
   4. Dragon is the Devil (12:9)
   5. A great rejoicing over the Devil’s downfall (12:10)
   6. Sorrow for the earth because the Devil was cast down (12:12)
   7. Dragon persecutes the woman that brought forth the man child (12:13-15)
   8. Dragon makes war with the seed of the woman (12:17)

III. The 666 (13:1-18)
   1. A blasphemous beast arises (13:1-10,18)
      A. A terrible beast (13:2,3)
      B. Received his power from the Dragon (Satan) (13:2)
      C. Wounded, but now healed (13:3)
      D. People worshipped the beast and the Dragon (13:4)
      E. Spoke blasphemies against God (13:5,6)
      F. Made war with the saints and overcame them (13:7)
      G. Evil people will worship the beast (13:8)
      H. The beast will be overthrown (13:10)
      I. His number is 666 (13:18)
   2. The second beast (13:11-17)
      A. Exercised all the power of the first beast (13:12)
      B. Caused the earth to worship the first beast (13:12)
      C. Deceived people by “mighty miracles” (13:13-15)
      D. Would cause people to be killed who did not worship the beast (13:15)
      E. Kept people from buying and selling unless they had the mark of the beast (13:16,17)

IV. Christ and the redeemed (14:1-7)
   1. Redeemed are with Jesus (14:1-3)
   2. Who are the redeemed?
      A. The 144,000 (cf. Rev. 7) (14:1,3)
B. Kept themselves pure (14:4)  
C. Follow the Lamb wherever he leads (14:4)  
D. Redeemed from among men (14:4)  
E. Without guile or fault before God (14:5)  

3. The gospel is to be preached to all (14:6)  
4. Worship God, for the hour of judgment is come (14:7)  

V. The fall of the wicked (14:8-11)  
1. Fall of the great city (14:8)  
2. Fall of those who follow the beast (14:9-11)  

VI. The patience of the saints (14:12,13)  
1. Saints keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus (14:12)  
2. The righteous will go to heaven (14:13)  
3. They will rest from their labors (14:13)  

VII. Judgment of the wicked (14:14-20)  
1. One like unto the Son of man appears to reap the harvest (14:14-16)  
2. An angel assists in reaping the harvest (14:17-19)  
3. The wicked cast into the “winepress of the wrath of God” (14:19,20)  

VIII. An overview of Revelation 12-14

In this portion of the vision, we see a woman that gives birth to a child that rules the nations and ascends to God and reigns with God. We also see a dragon ready to devour the child and when he cannot, he persecutes the woman and her seed.

The dragon is identified as the Devil (12:9). The child that was born of the woman would be Jesus. Jesus came to establish a kingdom that would be superior to all kingdoms and be stronger than all (cf. Dan. 2:44). The Devil tried to destroy Jesus at the cross, yet Jesus was raised from the dead and now reigns on the right hand of God (cf. Acts 2:14-36).

The woman is seen on both sides of the ascension of Christ. Upon his birth and before his ascension, she was the Jewish nation – the chosen of God to bring forth the Messiah. After the ascension, she represents the church – the new chosen people of God. The chosen people of God have always been cared for and comforted by God (cf. 12:6,1416).

The Devil was tossed from heaven, and in his rage, made war against the people of God and the Son of God. To accomplish this, the Devil used the two beasts. The first beast is said to be worshipped by the world and served by the wicked. This beast persecuted the saints, and ruled the world (cf. 13:7). Historically, this was the Roman Empire. The Devil used the Romans to aid his persecution of the church.

The second beast served the first beast and caused others to worship the first beast. Those who refused to worship the beast were killed or persecuted. Life was extremely difficult for those who would not worship the beast. The terror of the beast is expressed by the number 666 – 6 intensified. Extreme evil.

While persecution is severe, all is not lost. The Lamb of God appears with the redeemed (Here seen as the 144,000, cf. Rev. 7). The redeemed are with Christ and
are encouraged to remain faithful and preach the word. The lesson for those being persecuted is to serve and worship God to receive the great reward (cf. 14:12,13).

The wicked will not get away with their evil deeds. The great city, Rome, will fall (Here described figuratively as Babylon). Those who worship the beast will fall. The wicked will be cast into the “winepress of the wrath of God.”
LESSONS FROM REVELATION 12-14

1. The people of God will be persecuted by the Devil (12:17).

2. The faithful will die for Christ (12:11).

3. The Devil uses men to further his evil deeds (ch. 13).

4. The wicked serve the world (13:8).

5. You will reap what you sow (13:10).

6. Many will be deceived into following wickedness (13:14).

7. Persecution will be intense (13:16,17).

8. The redeemed will be with Jesus (14:1).

9. The redeemed are the righteous (14:4,5).

10. The gospel is to be proclaimed to all mankind (14:6).

11. The wicked will be punished (14:8-20).

12. Those who die faithful to God will rest from their labors (14:13).
I. The angels with the seven plagues (15:1-8)
   1. They carry the wrath of God (15:1)
   2. The faithful saints who have died worship God (15:2-4)
   3. Seven vials given to the seven angels contain the wrath of God (15:5-8)

II. The wrath of God is poured out upon the wicked (16:1-21)
    1. Those who worship the beast are punished (16:1,2)
    2. The wicked on the seas are punished (16:3)
    3. The wicked on the fresh waters are punished (16:4-7)
    4. The wicked are punished by nature (16:8,9)
    5. The wicked in Rome ("seat of the beast") are punished (16:10,11)
    6. The enemies of God gather against God (16:12-16)
    7. Judgment is come (16:17-21)

III. A review of Revelation 15 – 16

   This section of the vision shows God preparing to pour out his wrath upon the wicked. The righteous have a great reward and worship God forever.

   The wrath of God is poured out upon wicked all over the earth. God will punish those who worship the beast. One of the great comforts for the persecuted Christians is that God will punish Rome itself for Rome’s wickedness.

   A great battle scene unfolds. This is commonly referred to as the battle of Armageddon. What we see in this battle and the judgment scene to follow is that the wicked will continue to oppose and blaspheme God all the way to their judgment.

   One thing the vision continues to emphasize is how powerful the deceitfulness of the Devil is. Paul warned us of this in 2 Cor. 2:11, and Peter in 1 Pet. 5:8,9. Paul further warns us to be on guard because one of the tactics of the Devil is to present himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:13-15).

   The persecuted Christian is reminded once again that God has not forgotten him. The righteous will be rewarded. The wicked will be punished.
Revelation 16 introduces us to the battle of Armageddon. To the premillennialist, this battle will take place prior to Christ's return to set up his earthly kingdom. To many, this battle will be an earthly battle in which the forces of evil will be conquered.

Revelation 16 shows the "battle" discussed here is a gathering of the wicked for judgment. Notice the statement of Rev. 16:15: "Behold, I come as a thief" (cf. 1 Thess. 5:2). At judgment, the wicked will be punished forever. They will lose the battle.

Armageddon, which literally means, "mountain of Megiddo, is an apt representation of defeat. This area of Israel was the scene of many battles and several losses by Israel. Please not the following:

1. Kings of Canaan defeated here – Judges 5:19
2. Ahaziah, King of Judah, was killed here – 2 Kgs. 9:27
3. Josiah, King of Judah, was killed here – 2 Kgs. 23:29

The "battle" mentioned in Rev. 16 is not a literal battle, but a scene showing that God will punish the wicked at judgment.
LESSONS FROM REVELATION 15 – 16

1. The faithful will be in heaven and worship God forever (15:2-4).

2. God is eternal (15:7).

3. God will punish all the wicked (ch. 16).


5. God is true and righteous (16:7).

6. Problems caused by our wickedness should cause us to repent (16:9,11).

7. Judgment will come as a thief (16:15).

8. All the wicked will be punished at the Judgment Day (16:17-21).
I. The woman on the scarlet beast (17:1-18)
   1. Her judgment is upon her (17:1)
   2. Others follow her (17:2)
   3. Described as "Babylon the Great" (17:3-5)
   4. Kills the saints (17:6)
   5. The beast will be judged (17:7,8) [Note: This is the same beast as in 13:1ff]
   6. Woman sits upon seven mountains (seven heads = seven mountains) (17:9) [The city of Rome was built on seven hills]
   7. The city was, is, and will continue for a short time (17:10)
   8. The power of the city comes from the beast (17:11)
   9. Others will help the beast, yet have no kingdom of their own. Seems to refer to smaller rulers within the empire (17:12,13)
   10. The King of kings will defeat the woman on the beast (17:14)
   11. The woman rules over many people (17:15)
   12. Those who serve the woman will turn against her and destroy her (17:16,17)
   13. The woman is the great city that rules the world – Rome (17:18)

II. The fall of Babylon (18:1-24)
   1. The city's judgment is come (18:1-3)
   2. The saints are encouraged to faithfulness so as not to receive the judgment of the woman (18:4)
   3. God knows the wickedness of the woman and will punish her. She will reap what she has sown (18:5-8)
   4. Those who have served Babylon shall weep when she falls (18:9-19)
   5. The city that persecuted the saints (Rome) shall be destroyed and the saints shall rejoice (18:20-24)

III. The victory of the saints (19:1-21)
   1. God's judgment is true and righteous (19:1-6)
   2. The faithful will be with Christ (19:7-9)
   3. The angel bringing the vision refuses John's attempt to worship him (19:10)
   4. Christ is ready to judge (19:11-16)
   5. The two beasts of Revelation 13 (The Roman Empire and its army) are cast into the lake of fire and brimstone (19:17-21)

IV. A review of Revelation 17-19

In this picture, we see the city of Rome described in all her beauty. Rome rules the world because of her strength. Many walk in her wicked ways. Although Rome showed such great strength, she will be destroyed from within.
Those who served the woman and made their money off the Roman Empire weep at the fall of Rome. If they partook with her, they will receive the same condemnation as Rome does. Rome and her allies will be cast down.

God knows what is happening in Rome and the Empire and has not forgotten those who died for Christ (cf. Rev. 6:9,10). Punishment will come upon the wicked.

The saints are encouraged by knowing they will be at the marriage of the Lamb (19:9). All their faithfulness has paid off. We see Jesus coming in judgment with a sword, to cast the wicked into the “winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God” (19:15). The saints will reign. The wicked will be punished.

One final comfort to the righteous is that the beasts will be cast down also. The ones killing the saints (Rome and her forces) will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone (19:20). The saints now know that God has not forgotten them, and that wickedness does not pay.
1. Jesus will overcome the wicked (17:14).

2. Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords (17:14).

3. The faithful are with Christ (17:14).

4. The righteous must not fall with the wicked. Abstain from wickedness (18:4).

5. God knows (18:5).

6. You will reap what you sow (18:6-8).

7. God's judgments are true and righteous (19:2).

8. God will punish the wicked (19:2).

9. The faithful will be with Jesus (19:7-9).

10. Do not worship any but God (19:9,10).

11. All the wicked will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone (19:11-21).
I. Satan bound (20:1-3)

II. Those who died for Christ (20:4-6)

III. Satan punished forever (20:7-10)

IV. Judgment (20:11 – 21:8)
   1. All to be judged (20:11-13)
   2. Death, hell (hades), and the wicked to be cast into the lake of fire (20:14,15)
   3. The faithful will be in Heaven (21:1-7)
      A. A new dwelling place (21:1,2)
      B. No more earthly problems (21:3,4)
      C. The faithful will be with God (21:5-7)
      D. The wicked will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone (21:8)

V. Heaven’s beauty (21:9 – 22:5)
   1. Having the glory of God (21:9-11)
   2. Walls, gates, and street (21:12-21)
   3. God and Jesus are its light (21:22,23)
   4. Righteous are there (21:24-26)
   5. Wicked are not there (21:27)
   6. River of water of life and tree of life (22:1,2)
   7. God is the light (22:3-5)
   8. It is eternal (22:5)

VI. General exhortation (22:6-21)
   1. Sudden and certain return of Christ (22:7,12,20)
   2. Keep the sayings of the book (22:7,18,19)
   3. Angel refuses worship (22:8,9)
   4. Worship God (22:9)
   5. We will be judged by our works (22:10-12)
   6. Those who keep God’s commandments will be saved (22:13-15)
   7. Jesus is the authority for the book (22:16)
   8. Jesus wants all to be saved (22:17)
   9. Conclusion (22:21)

VII. A review of Revelation 20-22

In this section, we see the judgment of all. Satan and the wicked will be cast into Hell and punished forever. Death and hades will be conquered and cast away (cf. 1 Cor. 15:26).

The faithful will be rewarded by an eternity in Heaven. They are given a beautiful description of Heaven to encourage them to faithfulness.

The righteous are comforted in knowing they will be rewarded and the wicked will be punished. They are also encouraged to neither add to nor take from God’s word. Keeping God’s commandments will bring our reward.

All are reminded that Christ is coming, and Judgment will be upon everyone.
In this portion of our lesson, we want to look a little closer at what is said in Revelation 20. This chapter is one of the most misused and abused chapters in the Bible. Premillennialists use this chapter to support the so-called 1000-year reign of Christ. What does this chapter teach? In this chapter, Satan, faithful saints who have died, and unfaithful people who have died are dealt with. We will note what the chapter says about each of these and then do an overview of the chapter.

**SATAN**

Bound for 1000 years (20:1-3)  
Must be loosed at the end of the 1000 years (20:3)  
Will deceive as his forces are gathered at Judgment (20:7-9)  
Cast into the lake of fire and brimstone (20:10)

**MARTYRED SAINTS**

Live and reign with Christ 1000 years (20:4)  
Raised to their final reward in Judgment (20:6)

**UNFAITHFUL DEAD** ("Rest of the dead")

Do not live with Christ (20:5)  
Will be resurrected to eternal punishment (20:12-15)

Revelation 20 shows us that the Devil does not have free reign on the Earth. He is bound now. This is the case, because he will be loosed at Judgment and be punished (vss. 7-10). The Devils' binding or restriction is shown throughout God's word. In Job 1 and 2, we see that God limits Satan's activity by restricting what Satan could do. Yet, the Devil's real restriction came about with the work of Christ.

Christ defeated the Devil at the temptation in Matt. 4 and the Devil left him. After this, Jesus begins to cast out demons and further restrict the Devil (c. Matt. 4:24; et.al).

The work of the apostles in Matt. 10 included casting out devils (Matt. 10:5), but more importantly spread the message of God, which the Devil cannot defeat. The work of the 70 in Lk. 10 is associated with the Devil falling from Heaven (i.e., a defeat of the Devil). The preaching of the word works to defeat the Devil.

Jesus discusses the salvation of all men in Jn. 12. Jesus would glorify God by doing his will, and thus, begins the work of casting out the Devil (Jn. 12:31). This would come by Jesus' death upon the cross (Jn. 12:32). Jesus' death on the cross openly defeated the Devil and his work (Eph. 2:11ff; Col. 2:14,15). Rev. 12:5 teaches us that, while the Devil tried to defeat Jesus, Jesus triumphed to reign with God.
The church continues to fight the Devil by using the whole armor of God (His Word) (Eph. 6:10ff). We resist the Devil and he will flee from us (Jas. 4:7). The Devil may seem powerful, but God's word limits his ability.

While restricted now, the Devil will be loosed at Judgment, and gather his forces together. The Devil and all his forces will be cast into the lake of fire, the second death.

Here, in Rev. 20, we see the saints who have died for Christ (vs. 4; cf. Rev. 6:9). These reign with Christ NOW in Paradise. Their reign is not upon Earth. Those who die for Christ will be rewarded with Heaven and need not fear eternal punishment (vs. 6).

It must be noted that the saints reigning with Christ a 1000 years (vss. 4,6) all takes place in the Heavenly realm. The 1000 years represents a period in which the saints will be with Christ, and in vs. 4, this is in Paradise (cf. Lk. 19:16ff - "Abraham's bosom"). In vss. 5,6, it is Heaven - their reward after the resurrection (cf. Jn. 5:29; Matt. 25:46; Acts 24:15).

The "1000-year-reign" of the saints is (1) not a literal 1000 years, and (2) does not take place on Earth. Those who believe Christ will reign upon Earth 1000 years did not get that idea from God's word. In the Bible, it teaches us that the faithful will meet Christ in the air and ever be with the Lord (1 Thess. 4:17).

Revelation 20 does not teach the doctrine of a second chance. What it does teach is that now is the time we have to prepare for Judgment. At Judgment, we will be judged by our deeds (vs. 13).
1. God is more powerful than the Devil (20:1-3).
2. The faithful will be rewarded (20:4).
3. The wicked will be lost (20:5,15).
4. The Devil and his followers will be lost forever (20:8-10).
5. Heaven is wonderful (21 and 22).
6. There is a Hell (20:15; 21:8).
7. We will be judged by our deeds (20:13; 22:12).
8. Heaven is for all the saved (21:24).
9. Heaven is eternal (22:5).
10. Jesus will come again (22:7,12,20).
11. Worship God only (22:8,9).
13. Do not tamper with God’s word (22:18,19).
14. Jesus’ invitation is open to all (22:17).
15. We should look forward to the second coming of Christ (22:20).
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 9
REVELATION

WHY CHRIST WILL NOT ESTABLISH A KINGDOM UPON EARTH (Or, our response to the doctrine of premillennialism)

INTRODUCTION:

1. The doctrine of premillennialism is based upon three things being true:
   A. The Earth will continue to stand after Christ returns.
   B. Christ will reign upon Earth for 1000 years.
   C. The kingdom that Christ came to establish is not yet set up.

2. If any of these is false, then the doctrine fails. Let us examine these from the scriptures.

DISCUSSION:

I. WILL THE EARTH CONTINUE TO STAND AFTER CHRIST RETURNS?

1. 2 Pet. 3:5ff teach us that the Earth will be burned up at the coming of Christ.
2. 1 Jn. 2:15-17 also teach us that the Earth and the works therein will be burned up at the end of time.
3. NOTE: Both of the passages above distinguish between the Earth and the works that are upon the Earth. The Earth will not be “cleansed” but will be destroyed.

II. WILL CHRIST RETURN TO EARTH TO REIGN FOR 1000 YEARS?

1. Rev. 20 shows that the 1000 years is now. Satan will be loosed after the 1000 years to be judged (Rev. 20:7-10); therefore the period of his binding is now. The saints who have died in Christ reign now with Christ (Rev. 20:4). These are not future periods, but present.
2. If Jesus were on Earth, he could not be our High Priest (Rom. 8:4). The significance of this is seen in the following notes concerning Jesus as our High Priest.

III. DID CHRIST ESTABLISH THE KINGDOM HE INTENDED TO SET UP?

1. Jesus and John taught that the kingdom was at hand (Matt. 3:2; 4:17).
2. Jesus promised the apostles the keys to the kingdom (Matt. 16:19).
3. Jesus taught the apostles things pertaining to the kingdom (Acts 1:3).
5. The people were taught things concerning the kingdom (Acts 19:8; 28:23-31).
6. Jesus, at Judgment, will deliver the kingdom to the Father (1 Cor. 15:24).
7. Those who are saved are translated out of darkness into the kingdom (Col. 1:13).
8. We are called into the kingdom (1 Thess. 2:12).
9. John was in the kingdom (Rev. 1:9).

**CHRIST, OUR HIGH PRIEST**

*In Hebrews*

1. He is our High Priest (3:1)
2. We are to hold fast our profession because he is High Priest (4:14)
3. He is a High Priest who was tempted, yet without sin (4:15)
4. God made Jesus our High Priest (5:5,6,10)
5. Jesus has entered within the veil (6:19,20)
6. New priesthood necessitated a new law (7:11)
7. His is an unchangeable priesthood (7:24)
8. He is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, higher than the heavens (7:26)
9. He sits on the right hand of God (8:1)
10. He has entered into the holy place (Heaven) (9:12,24)
11. He was offered once for all (10:10-14)
12. His being our High Priest gives us boldness to enter in (10:19)
13. What does Jesus do for us as High Priest?

   A. Makes reconciliation for his people (2:17)
   B. Is the author of eternal salvation (5:9)
   C. Is the surety of a better testament (7:22)
   D. Is the mediator of a better covenant (8:6)
   E. Has made eternal redemption possible for us (9:12)

14. All of the above, we will not have if Jesus comes to Earth again, because if he were upon Earth, he would not be our High Priest (8:4).
JOE

The book of Job contains 42 chapters and gives us the story of the great trials of Job. Because of Job's perseverance throughout his difficulties, he is an example to us of patience (Jas. 5:11).

The date and authorship of this book is uncertain, but its time frame is during the Patriarchal period (cf. 1:5 where Job offers sacrifices on behalf of his sons). Job was a wealthy man who is described as "the greatest of all men of the east" (1:3). Yet, Job loses all that he has and is stricken with boils. Job's plight is worsened by his wife's rebuke (2:9), and the accusations of his friends.

The book also shows us the control God has on the Devil. While the Devil wanted Job, God restricted the Devil in what he could do to Job (1:12; 2:6). The Devil brings great misery to Job, but Job remains faithful to God (1:22; 2:10; 42:1-6).

At the end of the book, Job's wealth will be restored to him, and he will have more children (ch. 42). The following is a comparison chart between what Job had in material wealth at the beginning of the book and at the end of the book.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INITIAL WEALTH (1:3)</th>
<th>WEALTH AT END (42:12)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7,000 SHEEP</td>
<td>14,000 SHEEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,000 CAMELS</td>
<td>6,000 CAMELS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 YOKE OF OXEN</td>
<td>1,000 YOKE OF OXEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 FEMALE DONKEYS</td>
<td>1,000 FEMALE DONKEYS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Job was a family man (7 sons, 3 daughters - 1:2) who was concerned for the salvation of their souls (1:5). While hurt that his children were killed and his wealth destroyed, Job never blamed God (1:20-22). Job's faith in God carried him through this crisis of life. Job was "perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil" (1:1).
I. Job and his family (1:1-5)
   1. His faith (1:1)
   2. His family and wealth (1:2-5)
II. Satan before God (1:6-12)
    1. Going about to destroy (1:6,7)
    2. Bargains for Job (1:8-12)
III. Job's wealth taken and his family killed (1:13-19)
IV. Job's remorse, yet his continued faithfulness (1:20-22)
V. Satan before God (2:1-6)
   1. Going about to destroy (2:1,2)
   2. Bargains for Job (2:3-6)
VI. Job's terrible condition (2:7-13)
    1. Stricken with boils (2:7,8)
    2. Job's wife rebukes him (2:9,10)
    3. Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar come to comfort Job (2:11-13)
VII. Job curses the day of his conception and his life (3:1-26)
VIII. Eliphaz's first answer to Job (4:1-5:27)
IX. Job's first response (6:1-7:21)
X. Bildad's first answer to Job (8:1-22)
XI. Job's second response (9:1-10:22)
XII. Zophar's first answer to Job (11:1-20)
XIII. Job's third response (12:1-14:22)
XIV. Eliphaz's second answer to Job (15:1-35)
XV. Job's fourth response (16:1-17:16)
XVI. Bildad's second answer to Job (18:1-21)
XVII. Job's fifth response (19:1-29)
XVIII. Zophar's second answer to Job (20:1-29)
XIX. Job's sixth response (21:1-34)
XX. Eliphaz's third answer to Job (22:1-30)
XXII. Bildad's third answer to Job (25:1-6)
XXIII. Job's eighth response (26:1-31:40)
XXIV. Elihu replies to all four men (32:1-37:24)
XXV. God speaks to Job (38:1-41:34)
XXVI. Job repents (42:1-6)
XXVII. Job prays for his friends (42:7-10)
XXVIII. Job's great blessing (42:11-17)
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 10
JOB — SONG OF SOLOMON

THE ACCUSATIONS OF JOB’S FRIENDS

1. Job failed to stay strong when troubles afflicted him (4:5).

2. Job has been evil. Bad things do not happen to good people (4:7).

3. Job has despised God because of his troubles (5:17,27).

4. Job is not pure and upright for if he were God would help him (8:4-6).

5. Job is a hypocrite. He has forgotten God (8:13).

6. Job is evil because God will not cast out a perfect man (8:20).

7. Job has lied concerning himself (11:2,3).

8. Job deserved to be punished more than he was getting (11:6).

9. God knows that Job is wicked (11:11).

10. Job is being punished because he has not sought God (11:13,14).

11. Job has spoken against God (15:12,13).

12. Job will be cast down because he is evil (18:5-7).

13. Job’s wickedness is great because he has failed to help others in need (22:5-9).


15. Job strives against God (33:12,13).

16. Job speaks that which he has no right to speak (35:16).

17. Job has charged God with being unjust (Elihu’s speech, 32:1-37:24).

This is but a sampling of what Job’s friends said to him. They went with the philosophy of many generations believing that evil came upon people because they were evil. While it is certain that we will reap what we sow (Gal. 6:7,8), it is also the case that bad things happen to good people (cf. Paul’s afflictions in 2 Cor. 11:23-33). As we know from the book of Job, the Devil is working hard to cause faithful people to turn from God. This same idea is found in 2 Pet. 2 and the book of Jude.
1. Job, in his misery, wishes he had never been born (ch. 3).

2. My friends are not a comfort to me (ch. 6).

3. Job pleads to God for help (7:12-21).

4. God is just (ch. 9 & 10).

5. Job asks God for some comfort before he dies (10:20-22).

6. God is all-powerful (ch. 12).

7. Job has complete trust in God (13:15).

8. Job’s friends were afflicting him with their words (16:1-4).

9. Though his friends scoured him, Job placed his confidence in God (16:20).

10. Even though Job is suffering greatly, he will not accuse God. Job knows that his redeemer lives and that he will one day be with God (ch. 19, esp. 25-27).

11. While the wicked will sometimes prosper on Earth, God will punish them for their wickedness (ch. 21).

12. Job cherished God’s words more than the food he needed to survive (23:12).

13. God is magnificent (ch. 26).

14. The fear of the Lord is wisdom. To depart from evil is understanding (28:28).

15. Job had made a covenant with his eyes that he would not do evil (31:1).

16. Job requests that they weigh his life and see if he has wronged God or any man (ch. 31).

17. Job repents for having spoken that which he ought not. Even though Job never lost faith in God, he did sometimes question why God was doing what he was doing or allowing these bad things to happen to him (42:1-6).

Job’s answer to his friends is that he will ever trust in God, even though bad things happen to him and he is in great misery. Job understood that God was mightier than man,
and that man could never fully understand God. Man needs to understand that God will always do that which is right. Through all that happens to us in this life, we need to continue to keep our trust in God (cf. Rom. 8:35-39; 1 Pet. 4:19).

That Job had made remarks about things he did not fully understand is clearly seen when God speaks in Job 38-41. Notice some of the statements made by God:

*Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.* (38:2,3)

*Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding.* (38:4)

*Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? Declare if thou knowest it all.* (38:18)

*Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? He that reproveth God, let him answer it.* (40:2)

As God continued to speak to Job, it became perfectly clear to Job that he had gone past his knowledge (cf. 40:3-5). God lets Job know that when Job can do what God can do, "Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee" (40:14). What man must understand is that we are incapable of saving ourselves (cf. Jer. 10:23). We need God, and must trust in him completely.
LESIONS FROM JOB

1. The main lesson from the book of Job is to always trust in and obey God throughout good times and bad times (2:10).
2. Another important lesson from this book is to never let our “friends” discourage us.
3. We will take nothing with us when we die (1:21).
4. The Devil goes about seeking whom he may devour (1:7; 2:2).
5. We must not blame God for our problems (1:22).
6. Do not let your spouse cause you to lose your soul (2:9,10).
7. Abortion is wrong. Life begins at conception (3:1).
9. The wicked will be punished (18:5).
10. We should love God’s word more than anything else we have (23:12).
11. The wicked will prosper for a little while, but will be brought low (23:24).
12. The earth hangs upon nothing (26:7).
13. We should make a covenant with ourselves that we will not do evil (31:1).
14. Do not question God for he is superior to man (38:1-41:34).
15. God made everything and placed it where he wanted it (38:1-41:34). Therefore, evolution is false.
16. We should honestly examine ourselves and repent when we have done wrong (42:1-6).
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL  
QUARTER 7  
LESSON 11  
JOB – SONG OF SOLOMON  

PSALMS

With its 150 chapters (psalms), Psalms is the longest book in the Bible. It contains both the longest chapter in the Bible (Ps. 119) and the shortest chapter in the Bible (Ps. 117). The Psalms are songs of Israel used to praise God, express faith, offer repentance, and extol God’s power and majesty.

Of the Psalms, only 90 have an author attributed to them. These authors are recognized in the subtitles attached to many of the Psalms. These subtitles, concerning either the author or the content (“A Psalm of David”; “A song of degrees”; “A psalm”; etc.), were affixed to the Psalms before the Septuagint was translated around 200 B.C. Known authors of the Psalms are:

- David – 73 psalms
- Moses – 1 psalm
- Asaph – 12 psalms
- Solomon – 2 psalms
- Heman the Ezrahite – 1 psalm
- Ethan the Ezrahite – 1 psalm

Twelve of the Psalms are said to be written “for the sons of Korah”. (Please see page 45 for a list of the authors and their Psalms.)

The Psalms do not lend themselves to an outline, as they are not grouped together by subject matter. The best we can do in outlining these is use a general outline that has been around for years. The Psalms are divided into five Books as follows:

- Book 1 – Psalms 1-41
- Book 2 – Psalms 42-72
- Book 3 – Psalms 73-89
- Book 4 – Psalms 90-106
- Book 5 – Psalms 107-150

Fourteen of the Psalms are considered Messianic in nature. These Psalms give us some information concerning the events surrounding Jesus’ life on Earth. These Psalms are 2, 8, 16, 22, 40, 41, 45, 68, 69, 89, 102, 109, 110, and 118. The list on the next page gives a comparison of some of the prophecies in these Psalms and their New Testament parallel.
A COMPARISON OF SOME OF THE PROPHECIES OF CHRIST IN THE PSALMS AND THEIR NEW TESTAMENT PARALLELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPHECY IN PSALMS</th>
<th>NEW TESTAMENT PARALLEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 2:7</td>
<td>Acts 13:33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 8:4</td>
<td>Heb. 2:6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 16:10</td>
<td>Acts 2:27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 22:1</td>
<td>Matt. 27:46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 22:8</td>
<td>Matt. 27:43</td>
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<td>Psalm 40:8</td>
<td>Jn. 4:34</td>
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<td>Psalm 41:9</td>
<td>Jn. 13:18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 45:6</td>
<td>Heb. 1:8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 68:18</td>
<td>Eph. 4:8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 69:9</td>
<td>Jn. 2:17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 89:36,37</td>
<td>Lk. 1:33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 102:25</td>
<td>Heb. 1:10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psalm 109:6-9</td>
<td>Acts 1:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 110:4</td>
<td>Heb. 7:17,21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 118:22</td>
<td>1 Pet. 2:7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 11
JOB – SONG OF SOLOMON

PSALMS WITH AUTHORS

WRITTEN BY DAVID
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29,
30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63,
64, 65, 69, 70, 86, 101, 103, 108, 109, 110, 122, 124, 131, 133, 138, 139, 140, 141,
142, 143, 144, 145

WRITTEN BY MOSES
90

WRITTEN BY ASAPH
50, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83

WRITTEN BY SOLOMON
72, 127

WRITTEN BY HEMAN THE EZRAHITE
88

WRITTEN BY ETHAN THE EZRAHITE
89

PSALMS WRITTEN FOR THE SONS OF KORAH
42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 84, 85, 87

NOTE: Heman, Asaph, and Ethan were singers from the tribe of Levi (1 Chr. 15:19). The sons of Korah were over the work of the service and keepers of the gate of the tabernacle (1 Chr. 9:19).
Psalm 1 – The blessed man
Psalm 3 – God’s protection
Psalm 8 – How excellent God is
Psalm 14 & 53 – The fool hath said in his heart, “There is no God”
Psalm 19 – God’s power and authority
Psalm 23 – God is our shepherd
Psalm 32 & 51 – Psalms of repentance
Psalm 34 – God hears the righteous
Psalm 46 – God is our refuge and strength
Psalm 49 – We will take nothing with us when we die
Psalm 91 – The righteous will be victorious
Psalm 103 – The merciful God
Psalm 104 – God, the creator
Psalm 111 – Holy and reverend is God
Psalm 115 – The folly of idolatry
Psalm 119 – The magnificent word of God
Psalm 139 – God knows all

As most of the Psalms were written during the time of David, it is not surprising that many of the Psalms beseech God to punish the wicked and protect the righteous. David was beset by many enemies, but never lost his confidence in God. The Psalms show us the majesty and justice of God. Wicked men may rule, but God will judge them and overcome them.
1. The blessed man seeks the law of God (1:1).

2. God beholds mankind (11:4).

3. One who denies the existence of God is a fool (14:1; 53:1).

4. In God we trust (18:2).

5. God hears the cries of his people (18:6).

6. We can know there is a God by the things created (19:1).

7. God's word is perfect (19:7).

8. Forgiveness comes when we acknowledge our sins and repent (32:5).

9. Flee that which is evil; seek that which is good (34:14,15).

10. God will cut off those that do evil (34:16).


12. Follow the righteous (37:37).

13. Keep the tongue from evil (39:1-3).

14. God is our refuge and strength (46:1).


16. The "lowest" place in God's house is greater than the "highest" place in the house of the wicked (84:10).

17. Those who love God will hate evil (97:10).

18. While slow to anger, God will punish man (103:8,9).

19. Only God's name is to be revered (111:9).

20. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (111:10).

22. God's word is a lamp unto our feet and a light to our path (119:105).

23. God's word is true (119:160).

24. All God's commandments are righteousness (119:172).

25. If our homes are not built upon God, we have wasted our time (127:1).

26. Children are an heritage from the Lord (127:3).

27. We should dwell together in unity (133:1).

28. Nothing can be hidden from God (139:1-13).

29. We are fearfully and wonderfully made (139:14).

30. The Lord is righteous in all his ways (145:17).

31. Praise the Lord (Psalm 148).
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 7
LESSON 12
JOB – SONG OF SOLOMON

PROVERBS

The book of Proverbs was written primarily by Solomon. 1 Kings 4:32 tells us that Solomon wrote 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs. The proverbs were compiled probably during the days of Hezekiah, around 700 B.C. This we conclude based on Proverbs 25:1. The writers of the book of Proverbs are:

Solomon (1:1; 10:1): Chapters 1 – 24

Solomon, as copied by the men of Hezekiah (25:1): Chapters 25 – 29

Agur (30:1): Chapter 30

King Lemuel (31:1): Chapter 31

The proverbs are generally short sayings that contain the lesson within them. In many cases, they do not have a context outside of the saying itself. This book covers such subjects as: child rearing, alcohol, evil women, instruction from God, things God hates, and pride. The subject matter may change quickly, so a general outline will serve us in our study.

I. Instructions to his son (1:1-7:27)
II. Concerning wisdom (8:1-9:18)
III. General proverbs of Solomon (10:1-29:27)
IV. Words of Agur (30:1-33)
V. Words of king Lemuel (31:1-31)

Instructions, either to children or concerning their upbringing, are prominent in the book. Solomon was concerned about the one to whom he would leave his estate (cf. Ecc. 2:18, 19) and desired his son to heed his instructions and follow God (cf. Prov. 1:8; 2:1; 3:1; 4:1; 5:1; 6:1; 7:1).

The writers of Proverbs also give strong caution to avoid wicked women and find a virtuous woman. This lesson was one Solomon certainly knew first hand (cf. 1 Kings 11:4).

Due to the mention of the men of Hezekiah (25:1), it is certain Proverbs was not compiled until around 700 B.C. The words of Solomon, however, were written approximately 300 years beforehand.
CONCERNING WOMEN IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

I. Proverbs 6:24-29

1. Keep away from evil women (24)
2. Do not lust after evil women in your heart (25)
3. Do not let evil women entice you (25)
4. Evil women will destroy you (26-28)
5. One will not be innocent who goes after his neighbor’s wife (29)

II. Proverbs 7:5-27

1. Keep away from strange women (5)
2. Those void of understanding will fall for the flattery of evil women (6-21)
3. Those who go after evil women will be led to their destruction, and not see it coming (22-23)
4. Keep your heart away from evil women (24,25)
5. The way of the evil women is the way to Hell (26,27)

III. Proverbs 12:4

A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband.

IV. Proverbs 21:9,19; 25:24

It is not good to dwell in the house with a contentious woman. (This is a word of caution for both the man and the woman. The man must be careful in choosing the right woman. The woman must be careful to maintain the demeanor of a godly woman.)

V. Proverbs 23:27,28

1. Evil women are a ditch and a pit to trap men (27)
2. Evil women seek to catch her prey and increase the transgressions of men (28)

VI. Proverbs 27:15

A contentious woman is like a faucet that continually drips.

VII. Proverbs 31:3

Womanizing will destroy kings.
VIII. Proverbs 31:10-31

1. A virtuous woman is more valuable than all our possessions (10)
2. A virtuous woman will see to the needs of her family (11-19,21,22)
3. A virtuous woman will help those in need (20)
4. A virtuous woman will support and uplift her husband (23)
5. A virtuous woman is clothed in strength and honor (24,25)
6. A virtuous woman controls her tongue speaking only that which is wise and filled with kindness (26)
7. A virtuous woman is not lazy (27)
8. A virtuous woman’s family will bless her (28)
9. A virtuous woman fears God (29,30)
10. A virtuous woman will be known by her deeds (31)
ON CHILDREN AND CHILD REARING IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

There are many verses that deal with children in this book. The following are some of them. As we think about these in our own experiences, we will find that these need little or no explanation.

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not (1:10)

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding (4:7)

. . . A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother (10:1)

He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame (10:5)

A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke (13:1)

He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes (13:24)

A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother (15:20)

A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bear him (17:25)

The just man walketh in his integrity; his children are blessed after him (20:7)

Even a child is known by his doings, whether his works be pure, and whether it be right (20:11)

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it (22:6)

Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him (22:15)

Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell (23:13,14)

Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way. Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags (23:19-21)
The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him (23:24)

Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father (28:7)

The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame (29:15)

Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest: yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul (29:17)

The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it (30:17)

MY SON, KEEP THY FATHER'S COMMANDMENT, AND FORSAKE NOT THE LAW OF THY MOTHER: BIND THEM CONTINUALLY UPON THINE HEART, AND TIE THEM ABOUT THY NECK. WHEN THOU GOEST, IT SHALL LEAD THEE; WHEN THOU SLEEPEST, IT SHALL KEEP THEE; AND WHEN THOU AWAKEST, IT SHALL TALK WITH THEE. FOR THE COMMANDMENT IS A LAMP; AND THE LAW IS LIGHT; AND REPROFS OF INSTRUCTION ARE THE WAY OF LIFE (6:20-23)
LESSONS FROM PROVERBS

1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (1:7).
2. Fools despise wisdom and knowledge (1:7).
3. Do not follow those who are evil for their path leads to destruction (1:15,16).
5. The wicked will be punished (2:22).
6. Trust in God and do not try to guide yourself (3:5,6).
7. God chastens those he loves (3:11,12).
8. Avoid the path of sinners; go not near the path of sinners; turn from the path of sinners; flee from the path of sinners (4:14,15).
9. As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he (4:23; 23:7).
10. God knows all that we do (5:21).
11. These are an abomination to God (6:16-19).
   A. A proud look
   B. A lying tongue
   C. Hands that shed innocent blood
   D. A heart that deviseth wicked imaginations
   E. Feet that are swift to run to mischief
   F. A false witness that speaketh lies
   G. He that soweth discord among brethren
12. Committing adultery will destroy the soul (6:32).
13. God hates pride, arrogancy, the evil way, and the froward mouth (8:13).
14. Wisdom comes from hearing instruction (8:33).
15. Cheating our fellow man is an abomination to God (11:1).
16. We should love instruction so we can gain knowledge (12:1).
17. A fool measures himself by himself (12:15).
18. Liars are an abomination to God (12:22).
19. The way of righteousness leads to life (12:28).
20. Pride leads to contention (13:10).
22. If man tries to lead himself, the end of that path will be death (14:12; 16:25).
23. Those who oppress the poor reproach God (14:31; 17:5).
24. Righteousness exalteth a nation (14:34).
25. A soft answer turns away wrath (15:1).
26. God does not hear the prayers of sinners (15:8,9).
27. The greedy person brings trouble to his house (15:27).
28. Those proud in heart are an abomination to the Lord (16:5).
29. Pride goes before destruction (16:18).
31. Fools do not listen to reproof (17:10).
32. Those who justify the wicked are an abomination to God (17:15).
33. The righteous run to God for safety (18:10).
34. To have friends, we must first be friendly ourselves (18:24).

54
35. Do not listen to that which causes us to err from the truth (19:27).
36. Alcoholic beverages are not to be consumed (20:1; 23:29-35).
37. God knows what is in our hearts (21:2).
38. If we fail to help others, we will not be helped (21:13).
39. A good name is rather to be chosen than riches (22:1).
40. Do good to those who are your enemies (24:21,22).
41. God made all things (25:10).
42. If no one gossips or backbites, strife will cease (26:20).
43. We are not promised tomorrow (27:1).
44. Better to be a poor righteous man that to be a wicked rich man (28:6).
45. God will not hear the prayers of those who turn from him (28:9).
46. Those who walk with God shall be saved (28:18).
47. We must not be respecters of persons (28:21).
48. If we add to God’s word, we will be found liars (30:6).
49. Those who consume alcoholic beverages forget the law of God, pervert the judgment of the afflicted, and attempt to drown their problems (31:4-7).
50. Judge righteously (31:9).
INTRODUCTION:

1. In its twelve chapters, Ecclesiastes gives us the writing of Solomon, apparently in his old age (cf. ch. 12).

2. The writer is described as the son of David (1:1) and as king of Israel in Jerusalem (1:1,12). This can only point to Solomon, the wise king of Israel (1 Kgs. 3).

3. The theme of the book is found in two verses: 1:2 — “vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity.” And 12:13 — “Let us hear the conclusion of the matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”

4. Solomon shows us that the pursuit of happiness from worldly possessions is emptiness. The only thing that really counts is keeping God’s commandments.

5. Therefore, remember God in the days of thy youth (Ecc. 12:1).

Outline

I. Solomon’s dilemma (1:1-2:26)
   1. All is vanity (1:1,2)
   2. There is nothing new (1:3-11)
   3. Wisdom and knowledge brought him sorrow (1:12-18)
   4. Worldly pleasures did not bring happiness (2:1-11)
   5. All will die, and then, whose shall these things be? (2:12-19)
   6. Our labor is in vain without God (2:20-26)

II. A time for every purpose (3:1-22)
   1. To everything there is a season (3:1-10)
   2. The judgment of God (3:11-22)

III. Solomon’s observations (4:1-9:3)
   1. It is better to be already dead or not yet born (4:1-6)
   2. Better to have friends than to be alone (4:7-12)
   3. Do not get to where you will not accept admonition (4:13-16)
   4. Listen much; speak less (5:1-3)
   5. Keep your vows (5:4,5)
   6. Fear God (5:6-8)
   7. Material wealth is nothing. We shall take nothing with us when we die (5:9-17)
   8. Our blessings come from God (5:18-20)
   9. Do not leave here with a life that has done no good (6:1-12)
10. Live to leave behind a good remembrance of your life (7:1,2)
11. Various words of wisdom (7:3-29)
12. Obey those who lead us (8:1-5)
13. We cannot stop our deaths (8:6-10)
14. The wicked may seem to prosper, but God will punish the wicked (8:11-15)
15. God is superior to man (8:16,17)
16. It "rains" on the just and the unjust (9:1-3)

IV. Concerning death (9:4-12)
   1. Death is certain (9:4,5)
   2. In the grave, there is no opportunity to do good (9:6-12)

V. Wisdom (9:13-10:15)
   1. Wisdom is better than strength (9:13 –10:3)
   2. Wisdom contrasted to folly (10:4-15)

VI. Various exhortations (10:16-20)

VII. Help others from our bounty (11:1-8)

VIII. Remember God in our youth (11:9-12:6)

IX. What really matters (12:7-14)
   1. All will die (12:7)
   2. All must heed the teachings (12:8-12)
   3. Fear God and keep his commandments (12:13)
   4. Judgment (12:14)
1. All has been done before (1:9).

2. There is no happiness in worldly possessions (ch. 2).

3. All will die (2:16).

4. We will take nothing with us when we die (2:18).

5. All will be judged (3:17).


8. Keep a good name (7:1).

9. We cannot change what God has made (7:13).

10. Pride leads to destruction (7:16).

11. We are responsible for our downfall (7:29).

12. Man was made perfect (7:29).

13. A failure to punish evil quickly will strengthen those who do evil (8:11).

14. Man does not have the knowledge that God possesses (8:17).

15. While there is life, there is hope (9:4).

16. Give your best to God (9:10).

17. All we do will be brought into judgment (11:9; 12:14).

18. Do not waste our lives by failing to obey God (12:1-7).

19. Man’s whole duty is to fear God and obey God (12:13).
1. Song of Solomon's eight chapters give us a story concerning Solomon and one of his wives.

2. The story is an analogy of the love God has for his people.

3. The story shows a deep love between the two parties. A willingness to help one another is seen. Today, God has given us all we need for us to make it to heaven. He even gave his own Son for us (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:7,8).

4. The only lesson in this book is that this love should be mutual. God loves us, therefore we must express our love to him (cf. 1 Jn. 4:19; Jn. 14:15; 1 Jn. 5:3).

Outline

I. Mutual admiration of Solomon and the Shulamite woman (1:1-2:7)
II. Their love grows (2:8-3:5)
III. The wedding (3:6-5:1)
IV. She longs for her husband’s return (5:2-6:9)
V. Her beauty (6:10-8:4)
VI. Their great love (8:5-14)
"A CHRONOLOGICAL LOOK AT THE OLD TESTAMENT"

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY
JOSHUA
JUDGES
1 SAMUEL
2 SAMUEL
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON
1 KINGS 1-11
1 KINGS 12-22
2 KINGS 1-17
ISAIAH, HOSEA, AMOS, MICAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
OBADIAH
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
2 KINGS 18-25
EZEKIEL
DANIEL
EZRA
HAGGAI, ZECHARIAH
ESTHER
NEHEMIAH
MALACHI

(Compiled by Charles Coats, 12-5-95)
CHRONOLOGY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

James 50 a.d.
1 & 2 Thessalonians 51 a.d.
Galatians 52 a.d.
1 & 2 Corinthians 57 a.d.
Romans 58 a.d.
Colossians, Philemon, Ephesians 62 a.d.
Philippians 63 a.d.
1 Timothy, Titus 63-65 a.d.
Acts 64 a.d.
Hebrews 64 a.d.
1 & 2 Peter 64 a.d.
2 Timothy 67 a.d.
Jude 67-68 a.d.
John, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Revelation 90-96 a.d.

1st Missionary Journey
Acts 13:4 - 14:28
Churches established in: Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe
Elders appointed on the way back home (Acts 14:23)
Paul and Barnabas were on this journey.

2nd Missionary Journey
Acts 15:36 - 18:22
Churches established in: Philippi, Thessalonica, Beroea, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus.
Paul, Silas, and Timothy were on this journey.

3rd Missionary Journey
Acts 18:23
No churches established, but many strengthened.
Paul worships with the church at Troas on this journey (Acts 20:1-12)
Paul, Silas, Luke, and others were on this journey.
## THE TIMES OF THE PROPHETS

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### TO JEREOBOAM, KING OF ISRAEL: HOSEA & AMOS

### DURING BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY: EZEKIEL & DANIEL

### AFTER THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY WHEN ISRAEL RETURNED TO JERUSALEM: HAGGAI, ZECHARIAH, & MALACHI

### TO THE EDOMITES: OBADIAH

### TO NINEVEH: JONAH & NAHUM

**CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:** All dates are B.C. and are given as a range of time.

1. JONAH (790 - 750)  
2. AMOS (786 - 746)  
3. ISAIAH (750 - 680)  
4. HOSEA (746 - 700)  
5. MICAH (738 - 698)  
6. JOEL (724 - 695)  
7. NAHUM (663 - 612)  
8. ZEPHANIAH (638 - 608)  
9. JEREMIAH (625 - 586)  
10. OBADIAH (606 - 586)  
11. DANIEL (606 - 536)  
12. HABAKKUK (605 - 587)  
13. EZEKIEL (597 - 576)  
14. ZECHARIAH (520 - 516)  
15. HAGGAI (520 - 516)  
16. MALACHI (480 - 400)

Compiled by Charles Coats, 11-23-01
"and the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one" (Zechariah 14:9)

GOD WILL BE GLORIFIED!
INTRODUCTION:

1. The 66 chapters of Isaiah contain God’s message to a wicked Judah. The book is filled with hope also, as the Messiah to come is prophesied herein.

2. Isaiah prophesies during the reigns of four kings of Judah — Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah (Isa. 1:1). This would place Isaiah’s work between 750 B.C. and 698 B.C.

3. Isaiah is the prophet who prophesied the overthrow of the Assyrian army (2 Kgs. 19:20ff) and the addition of fifteen years to Hezekiah’s life (2 Kgs. 20:1-11).

4. Many prophecies concerning Christ are found in Isaiah. Thus, some have termed him the Messianic prophet.

5. Judgments are made upon several nations, including Israel and Judah.

6. Isaiah prophesies of the spread of God’s word to the Gentiles.

Outline

I. Judah’s wickedness (1:1-5:30)
   1. Her wickedness (1:1-10)
   2. God refuses her worship (1:11-15)
   3. God calls her to repentance (1:16-20)
   4. God offers hope (1:21-27)
   5. The wicked will be punished (1:28-31)
   6. The church prophesied (2:1-4)
   7. God will overcome the wicked (2:5-22)
   8. Judah will fall because she has turned against God (3:1-11)
   9. Judah’s leaders lead her astray (3:12-15)
  10. God will punish the arrogant women (3:16-4:1)
  11. Safety is with God (4:1-6)
  12. Judah rebelled against God and God will destroy her (5:1-7)
  13. Judah called evil good and good evil and will be punished (5:8-30)

II. Isaiah’s desire to preach and his message (6:1-13)

III. Ahaz is comforted, yet warned (7:1-25)

IV. Syria and Samaria will fall to Assyria (8:1-8)

V. Various judgments (8:9-11:16)
   1. None can stand against God (8:9-18)
   2. Idolaters will be punished (8:19-22)
   3. The Messiah promised (9:1-7)
4. Israel will be punished because she did not seek God (9:8-21)
5. God will punish those who oppress the needy (10:1-4)
6. Assyria to punish Israel, but will also be punished by God (10:5-34)
7. The Messiah is prophesied (11:1-9)
8. A remnant of Israel will come out of captivity (11:10-16)

VI. God is my salvation (12:1-6)

VII. Various judgments upon the nations (13:1-24:23)
1. Against Babylon (13:1-14:23)
2. Against Assyria (14:24-32)
3. Against Moab (15:1-16:14)
4. Against Syria (17:1-14)
5. Against Ethiopia and Egypt (18:1-20:6)
6. Against Babylon (21:1-10)
7. Against Edom (21:11,12)
8. Against Arabia (21:13-17)
10. Against Tyre (23:1-18)
11. Against Judah (24:1-23)

VIII. Our glorious God (25:1-26:21)
IX. Israel to be punished, but a restoration promised (27:1-13)
X. Woe to Ephraim (28:1-29)
XI. Woe to Jerusalem (29:1-24)

XII. Israel rebuked for not seeking help from God and turning to false teachers (30:1-26)

XIII. Assyria to be destroyed (30:27-31:9)
XIV. Blessings will come (32:1-20)
XV. God’s enemies are rebuked (33:1-34:17)
XVI. Safety with God (35:1-10)
XVII. Assyrian army destroyed during days of Hezekiah (36:1-37:38)
XVIII. Hezekiah’s life lengthened (38:1-22)
XIX. Hezekiah’s mistake (39:1-8)
1. Shows his treasures to the Babylonians (39:1,2)
2. Isaiah prophesies the Babylonian captivity (39:3-8)
XX. God’s providential care (40:1-41:20)
XXI. Foolishness of idols (41:21-29)
XXII. The Gentiles to be taught (42:1-9)
XXIII. God’s care for his people (42:10-43:17)
XXIV. God’s plea for his people to return to him (43:18-28)
XXV. There is only one God (44:1-8)
XXVI. Folly of idolatry (44:9-20)

XXVII. Judah will be restored from captivity (44:21-45:4)
XXVIII. God, the only God, is the great creator (45:5-46:13)
XXIX. Judgment against Babylon (47:1-15)
XXX. Trust in God (48:1-51:23)
   1. God revealed his work so man would not give credit to his idols (48:1-11)
   2. God exhorts to obedience (48:12-22)
   3. The Jews would not listen, so the Gentiles will be taught and will listen (49:1-12)
   4. God will not forsake his people (49:13-26)
   5. Trust in God (50:1-51:23)
XXXI. The Messiah prophesied (52:1-53:12)
XXXII. Future redemption for God’s people. The church in prophecy (54:1-17)
XXXIII. A plea to turn to God (55:1-13)
XXXIV. God rewards the righteous and punishes the wicked (56:1-59:19)
   1. God rewards the righteous (56:1-8)
   2. Reproof of those who fail to watch (56:9-12)
   3. Righteous will rest in death (57:1,2)
   4. Idolaters reproved (57:3-12)
   5. Repent or perish (57:13-21)
   6. Encouragement to serve God (58:1-14)
   7. Sin separates us from God (59:1,2)
   8. Israel’s sins and punishment (59:3-19)
XXXV. Salvation for the Gentiles (59:20-60:22)
XXXVI. The Messiah prophesied. The Gentiles to be blessed in him (61:1-62:12)
XXXVII. God’s judgment upon the people and his teaching of the Gentiles (63:1-65:16)
XXXVIII. The church in prophecy (65:17-25)
XXXIX. God was rejected by the people (66:1-4)
XL. God’s final exhortation and warning (66:5-24)
   1. The faithful will be comforted (66:5-14)
   2. The wicked will be punished (66:15-24)
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 8
LESSON 1
ISAIAH – MALACHI

ISAIAH – LESSONS FROM

1. Sin separates us from God (1:15; 59:1,2).

2. Turn from sinful things to godly things (1:16,17).

3. God offers salvation to us (1:18).

4. The church to be established in Jerusalem in the last days (2:1-4).

5. Pride leads to destruction (2:12).

6. Leaders must be careful not to lead astray (3:12).

7. When God needs workers, we must go (6:8).

8. None can stand against God (8:10).

9. Speak only what God has spoken (8:20).

10. We need to turn to God (9:13).

11. We should not think we are better than our Creator (10:15).

12. God is our strength and in whom we trust (12:2).

13. We must look to our Maker (17:7).

14. God’s word is faithful (25:1).

15. God is our everlasting strength (26:4).

16. We cannot hide from God (29:15).

17. The wicked will find teachers who will tell them they are okay (30:9,10).

18. People are people. God is God (31:3).

19. God is our judge, our lawgiver, and our king (33:22).

20. God’s word will stand forever (40:8).

21. God is the Creator (40:21,22; 40:28; 42:5; 45:12,18; 48:12,13).
22. God will help us (41:10).

23. God is the forgiver of sins (43:25).

24. There is only one God (45:22).

25. God is superior to man (55:8,9).

26. God’s word will work (55:11).

27. Blessings come to those who trust in God (57:13).

28. We must teach others (59:21).

29. Nations that do not serve God will perish (60:12).

30. God’s people will be called by a new name (62:2 + Acts 11:26).

31. God pleads with us, and if we reject him, we will be punished (66:4).

32. A few prophecies of Christ with their New Testament fulfillment:

   A. 7:14 + Matt. 1:23
   B. 8:14 + Rom. 9:33; 1 Pet. 2:8
   C. 9:6 + Jn. 1:1; Acts 10:36
   D. 11:1 + Acts 13:22,23
   E. 28:16 + Acts 4:11
   F. Note especially Isa. 53
1. They worship the work of their own hands (2:8; 17:8).

2. They worship that which the workman molded and the goldsmith covered (40:19,20).

3. Idols cannot tell us of the past or predict the future (41:22,23).

4. Idols do no work (41:24).

5. Idolatry is an abomination to God (41:24).

6. Idolatry is vanity (41:29).

7. To get an idol, man has to make it. The false gods of man are powerless (44:9-14).

8. From the same tree, idolaters build a fire to warm themselves, make a fire to cook their food, and carve an image that they will fall down and worship (44:15-17).


10. Idols cannot answer us (46:7).

INTRODUCTION:

1. Jeremiah prophesied from about 625 B.C. to 586 B.C., during the reigns of Josiah, Jehoiakim, and Zedekiah.

2. All of these were kings of Judah.

3. Josiah was a good king who attempted to reform the worship of Israel (2 Kgs. 22.23).

4. Jehoiakim was ruler when Babylon first conquered Judah in 606 B.C. (2 Kgs. 24).

5. Zedekiah was appointed by the king of Babylon to rule over Judah. However, in the eleventh year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar carried Zedekiah off into captivity (2 Kgs. 25; Jer. 1:3).

6. Jeremiah's forty years of prophecy did not change the minds of the people of Judah. Jeremiah is sometimes called the weeping prophet because of his great sorrow for the condition of the people (Jer. 9:1; Lamentations).

7. Jeremiah teaches us to persevere even when we feel discouraged (Jer. 20:9).


Outline

I. Jeremiah's call (1:1-19)
   1. Jeremiah is the writer (1:1-4)
   2. His charge (1:5-10)
   3. His vision of the fall of Judah (1:11-16)
   4. God will help him (1:17-19)

II. Judah has forsaken God (2:1-5:31)
   1. She forgot God's kindness and help (2:1-7)
   2. Her leaders turned against God (2:8)
   3. Judah caused her own fall (2:9-19)
   4. God worked to restore Judah, but Judah rejected God (2:20-37)
5. Israel and Judah turned to worldly things and cast off God (3:1-11)
6. Call to repentance (3:12-15)
7. Prophecy of the church (3:16-19)
8. Call to repentance (3:20-4:4)
9. Judah's downfall foretold (4:5-31)
10. Judah refused to return to God (5:1-4)
11. Judah fooled herself into believing all was well (5:5-14)
12. Her downfall foretold (5:15-18)
13. Their prophets prophesy falsely and they love to have it so (5:19-31)

III. God pleads for Judah to return, or she will be destroyed (6:1-30)
   1. The nations are coming to take Judah (6:1-8)
   2. Judah will not hearken to God (6:9-25)
   3. God has rejected them (6:26-30)

IV. Jeremiah calls the people to repentance (7:1-9:26)
   1. Jeremiah's message (7:1-16)
   2. Jeremiah reminds them of their idolatry (7:17-20)
   3. God rejects their sacrifices (7:21-28)
   4. Judah should mourn (7:29-34)
   5. Judah refused to return (8:1-12)
   6. Judah to be destroyed (8:13-22)
   7. Jeremiah's sorrow (9:1-6)
   8. God's judgment upon Judah (9:7-17)
   9. Call to repentance (9:18-26)

V. There is only one God; idolatry is foolishness (10:1-25)
   1. Folly of idolatry (10:1-16)
   2. Judah's fall foretold (10:17-22)
   3. Man cannot direct his own steps (10:23-25)

VI. Judah to be judged by God (11:1-13:27)
   1. God's covenant will be the standard of judgment (11:1-10)
   2. Judah's destruction foretold (11:11-23)
   3. Jeremiah calls for the punishment of the wicked (12:1-6)
   4. God mourns for the lost (12:7-13)
   5. Call to repentance (12:14-17)
   7. Call to repentance (13:15-27)

VII. Famine prophesied (14:1-22)
VIII. Judah's fall prophesied (15:1-9)
IX. Jeremiah's plea to God for help in adversity (15:10-21)
X. Judah's fall prophesied (16:1-17:6)
XI. Salvation is in God (17:7-18)
XII. Judah exhorted to keep the Sabbath (17:19-27)
XIII. Judah's fall prophesied (18:1-19:15)
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 8
LESSON 2
ISAIAH – MALACHI

XIV. Pashur strikes Jeremiah and is condemned (20:1-6)
XV. Jeremiah feels alone, yet trusts in God (20:7-18)
XVI. Jeremiah preaches to Zedekiah (21:1-22:30)
   1. Babylonian captivity prophesied (21:1-14)
   2. Call to repentance (22:1-9)
   3. God will punish the unrighteous (22:10-30)
XVII. Various teachings (23:1-40)
   1. Religious leaders condemned for failing to lead Judah to
      righteousness (23:1-4)
   2. The Messiah prophesied (23:5-8)
   3. False teachers condemned (23:9-40)
XVIII. Judah will be restored after the captivity (24:1-10)
XIX. God sent his prophets; the prophets were rejected; captivity is upon us
     (25:1-11)
XX. Captivity to last seventy years (25:12-14)
XXI. Judgment on all nations (25:15-38)
XXII. Jeremiah arrested (26:1-24)
XXIII. Jeremiah urges the people to submit to Babylon (27:1-13)
XXIV. False prophets (27:14-22)
XXV. Jeremiah reprouses the false prophecy of Hananiah (28:1-17)
XXVI. Jeremiah exhorts those in captivity (29:1-52)
XXVII. Israel to be restored from captivity (30:1-31:11)
XXVIII. The Messiah and a new law prophesied (31:12-40)
XXIX. Jeremiah imprisoned because of his prophecies (32:1-33:26)
   1. Judah to fall (32:1-25)
   2. Restoration promised (32:26-33:14)
   3. The Messiah prophesied (33:15-26)
XXX. Judah’s fall prophesied (34:1-22)
XXXI. Rechabites blessed (35:1-19)
XXXII. Baruch writes the words of Jeremiah; Jehoiakim burns them;
      Baruch rewrites them (36:1-32)
XXXIII. Jeremiah cast into prison for prophesying fall of Judah (37:1-21)
XXXIV. Jeremiah cast into the dungeon (38:1-16)
XXXV. Babylonian captivity foretold (38:17-28)
XXXVI. Jerusalem captured (39:1-18)
XXXVII. Gedaliah, governor of Judah (40:1-42:22)
   1. Jeremiah dwells with him (40:1-12)
   2. A conspiracy to kill Gedaliah (40:13-16)
   3. Gedaliah is killed (41:1-10)
   4. Gedaliah’s killers flee (41:11-18)
   5. Johanan told to stay in Judea (42:1-22)
XXXVIII. Jeremiah in Egypt (43:1-45:5)
   1. Taken to Egypt (43:1-13)
   2. Jews in Egypt to be punished for their wickedness (44:1-10)
SOUTH MICHIGAN TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL
QUARTER 8
LESSON 2
ISAIAH – MALACHI

3. Idolatrous people to be destroyed (44:11-28)
4. Destruction of Egypt foretold (44:29,30)
5. Baruch comforted (45:1-5)

XXXIX. Judgment against the nations (46:1-51:64)
1. Egypt to be defeated in battle by Babylon (46:1-28)
2. Philistia to be defeated (47:1-7)
3. Moab to be defeated (48:1-47)
4. Ammon to be defeated (49:1-6)
5. Edom to be defeated (49:7-22)
6. Damascus to be defeated (49:23-27)
7. Kedar and Hazor to be defeated (49:28-33)
8. Elam to be defeated (49:34-39)
9. Babylon to be destroyed (50:1-51:64)

XL. Zedekiah rebels and Jerusalem is taken (52:1-34)
1. Zedekiah captured (52:1-23)
2. Judah taken captive (52:24-30)
3. Jehoiachin brought out of prison by the king of Babylon (52:31-34)
1. There is life in the womb (1:5).
2. Bad leaders = bad people (2:8).
3. We will reap what we sow (2:19).
4. Forgetting God is like forgetting our essential attire. It is not natural (2:32).
5. Repentance will bring forgiveness (3:22).
6. Salvation cannot be obtained from anyone or anything, but God (3:23).
7. We can become so hardened that we will not return to God (5:3; 6:15; 8:5,12).
8. People will love to have false doctrine taught to them (5:31; 6:14).
10. Obedience brings blessings (7:23).
11. Obeying man’s doctrines will cause us to go backwards, not forward (7:24).
12. Our God is a living God (10:10).
15. God will come to a point where he will punish (15:6).
16. God knows all, including the evil we try to hide (16:17; 23:24).
17. All people will know there is only one God (16:21).
18. Persevere, even when we despair (20:9).
19. The whole world needs to hear and obey the word of God (22:29).
20. God is just (32:18,19).
21. One can try to destroy God's word but God's word will prevail. Or, even though we do not like what the Bible teaches, we are still wrong if we do not obey it (ch. 36).
INTRODUCTION:

1. The five chapters of Lamentations let us see the great sorrow Jeremiah had over the fall of Jerusalem.

2. This book relates well with Jeremiah chapters 39 and 52.

Outline

I. Jerusalem taken captive because of her sins (1:1-17)
II. God is righteous (1:18-22)
III. Great sorrow for the fall of Jerusalem (2:1-22)
IV. Jeremiah’s lament of personal agonies (3:1-21)
V. Call to repentance and a plea to God (3:22-66)
VI. The calamities of Jerusalem (4:1-12)
VII. Jerusalem sought help from others, not from God (4:13-20)
VIII. Edom to be punished (4:21,22)
IX. Jerusalem pleads for God’s help (5:1-22)
1. When God punishes us for our wrongs, God is still righteous. We must not blame God when we do wrong and suffer for it. We are at fault, not God (1:18).

2. Hope for and be patient for the salvation of God. Patiently endure. God will reward the righteous (3:26).
INTRODUCTION:

1. The forty-eight chapters of Ezekiel give us the word of God to Israel during Babylonian captivity, both in exile and in Jerusalem.

2. The book begins in the thirteenth year of the captivity, which corresponds to the fifth year of Jehoiachin's being taken into exile. This would be around 593 B.C.

3. Ezekiel prophesies before and after Jerusalem is destroyed. Chapter 40:1 gives us a date of fourteen years after the city was taken, or around 572 B.C.

4. Chapter 29:17 tells us Ezekiel was still prophesying in the twenty-seventh year after Jehoiachin's exile (or about 570 B.C.).

5. Thus, Ezekiel prophesied some twenty-two or twenty-three years.

6. Ezekiel prophesied to a very stiff-necked and impenitent people. Even though they were in captivity, they still had not learned their lesson.

7. Ezekiel is a little difficult to understand because it is not written in chronological order (chapters 1-29 progress chronologically up to the twenty-seventh year, then chapter 30 reverts to the eleventh year).

8. It is also difficult because it uses considerable symbology. However, as with the book of Revelation, Ezekiel was not written to hide, but rather to reveal a message. Therefore, do not get too involved in the symbology.

9. Ezekiel foretold the destruction of Jerusalem and saw it come to pass. Yet, even with the loss of their city, Israel remained stubborn and rebellious.

10. Although, Ezekiel prophesies bad things against Jerusalem, there was always the message of a restoration of Israel. Thirty-four years after Ezekiel's work, Israel will once again return to Palestine (536 B.C.).

Outline

I. God prepares Ezekiel to teach Israel (1:1-3:27)
II. Famine in Jerusalem prophesied (4:1-17)
III. Jerusalem's fall prophesied (5:1-6:7)
IV. A remnant to be saved (6:8-14)
V. Final destruction of Israel prophesied (7:1-27)
VI. Ezekiel’s vision of the wickedness of Jerusalem (8:1-11:25)
   1. Idolatrous Jerusalem (8:1-18)
   2. Wicked punished; righteous spared (9:1-11)
   3. The glory of God (10:1-22)
   4. The leaders of Judah led them astray (11:1-13)
   5. A remnant will return to God (11:14-21)
   6. Ezekiel’s vision of Jerusalem ends (11:22-25)

VII. Judah’s final desolation prophesied (12:1-28)
   1. The king to be taken into captivity (12:1-16)
   2. All Judah to be taken captive (12:17-20)
   3. God will accomplish his will (12:21-28)

VIII. Judah reproved (13:1-14:23)
   1. False prophets condemned (13:1-16)
   2. False prophetesses condemned (13:17-23)
   3. Idolaters condemned (14:1-5)
   4. God works for their repentance (14:6-21)
   5. A remnant will be saved (14:22, 23)

IX. Jerusalem’s iniquity and God’s rejection of her (15:1-16:63)
   1. God rejects her (15:1-8)
   2. Her sins (16:1-59)
   3. God’s mercy (16:60-63)

X. Babylon to destroy Judah (17:1-24)

XI. The soul that sinneth, it shall die (18:1-32)

XII. Sorrow over Judah and Jerusalem (19:1-14)

XIII. Israel’s rebellion (20:1-49)
   1. God will not listen to the elders (20:1-4)
   2. Israel’s rejection of God (20:5-32)
   3. God will gather the penitent back to Israel (20:33-49)

XIV. God is against Israel (21:1-24:27)
   1. God will cut them off (21:1-32)
   2. Jerusalem’s sins (22:1-14)
   3. Jerusalem to be destroyed (22:15-31)
   4. Parable of Aholah and Aholibah – Judah sought the wrong thing (23:1-49)
   5. God will punish Judah (24:1-27)

XV. God’s judgments against the nations (25:1-32:32)
   1. Against Amon (25:1-7)
   2. Against Moab, Seir, Edom, and Philistia (25:8-17)
   3. Against Tyre (26:1-28:19)
   4. Against Zidon (28:20-26)
   5. Against Egypt (29:1-32:32)

XVI. Duty of a watchman (33:1-9)

XVII. The justice and fairness of God (33:10-33)

XVIII. Shepherds of Israel rebuked (34:1-19)
XIX. The Messiah prophesied (34:20-31)
XX. Judgment against Mt. Seir (35:1-15)
XXI. God never ceased to love Israel (36:1-38)
XXII. The valley of dry bones (37:1-28)
   1. Israel to be restored to land of Canaan (37:1-23)
   2. Propheesed Messiah (37:24-28)
XXIII. Judgment against Gog (Babylon) (38:1-39:29)
XXIV. The worship of Israel to be restored (40:1-48:35)
   1. Temple to be rebuilt (40:1-44:8)
   2. Levites' instructions (44:9-31)
   3. Divisions of the land (45:1-8)
   4. Instructions to the princes and priests (45:9-46:24)
   5. Restoration promised (47:1-23)
   6. Jerusalem to be restored (48:1-35)
1. If we do not warn people, God will require their blood at our hands (3:17-21; 33:1-9).

2. When we change God's law, we will fall (5:6).

3. People will know there is a God (6:14).

4. You will reap what you sow (7:8; 9:10).

5. God sees us, even in the dark (8:12; 9:9).

6. We are right with God when we walk in his statutes and keep his ordinances (11:20).

7. Rebellion causes us to fail to see or listen to God (12:2).

8. We are not born in sin. Sin is a result of one's failure to obey God (18:20).

9. Turning to wickedness will cause us to be lost (18:26; 33:18).

10. Turning from wickedness to God will cause us to be saved (18:27; 33:19).

11. The sabbath day was a sign between God and Israel. It was not a command to all people (20:12).

12. God does not rejoice in the death of the wicked (33:11).

13. The true prophet's words will come true (33:33).

14. We must follow the pattern God has given us (43:11).
INTRODUCTION:


2. The message of the book spans the period of time from the beginning of the Babylonian captivity (606 B.C.) to the third year of Cyrus, the Great (533 B.C.).

3. Four stories stand out in the book of Daniel:
   A. Nebuchadnezzar’s dream – chapter 2
   B. The fiery furnace – chapter 3
   C. The handwriting on the wall – chapter 5
   D. The lions’ den – chapter 6

4. Daniel shows the rule of four worldly kingdoms – Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome. Babylon ruled from 606 B.C. to 536 B.C.; Persia from 536 B.C. to 333 B.C.; Greece from 333 B.C. until the death of Alexander the Great in 323 B.C. After Alexander’s death, the Greek Empire was broken up into four sections and was never strong again. The Roman Empire began its long reign around 46 B.C.

5. The book of Daniel gives us the promise of the establishment of the church (2:44) and the coming Messiah (9:25).

6. Five kings are mentioned by name in this book.
   A. Jehoiakim, king of Judah (1:1,2)
   B. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon (chapters 1-4)
   C. Belshazzar, king of Babylon (chapters 5,7,8)
      (Belshazzar ruled while his father, Nabonidus, was out of the country.)
   D. Darius, the Mede (5:31; chapters 6,9,11)
      (Darius was an officer in Cyrus’ army. Appointed to rule in Babylon by Cyrus. Cf. 9:1)
   E. Cyrus the Great, king of Persia (chapter 10)

Outline

I. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshech, and Abednego are taken to Babylon (1:1-21)
   1. Trained in ways and knowledge of the Chaldeans (1:1-7)
   2. Refuse to eat the food provided by the king (1:8-16)
   3. Wisdom given by God (1:17-21)

II. Nebuchadnezzar’s dream (2:1-49)
   1. Cannot remember the dream (2:1-13)
2. Daniel gives the dream (2:14-35)
   A. Head of gold
   B. Breast and arms of silver
   C. Belly and thighs of silver
   D. Legs of iron
   E. Feet of iron and clay
3. Interpretation of the dream (2:36-45)
4. The church (2:44,45)
5. Daniel advanced (2:46-49)

III. The fiery furnace (3:1-30)
   1. Nebuchadnezzar's image of gold (3:1-7)
   2. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refuse to bow to the image (3:8-13)
   3. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego before the king (3:14-18)
   4. The three Jews are thrown in the furnace (3:19-25)
   5. God is praised by Nebuchadnezzar (3:26-30)

IV. Nebuchadnezzar's dream (4:1-37)
   1. His dream of a strong tree cut down (4:1-18)
   2. Daniel's interpretation (Nebuchadnezzar would fall before God) (4:19-27)
   3. The fulfillment of the dream (4:28-37)

V. The handwriting on the wall (5:1-31)
   1. Belshazzar's feast (5:1-4)
   2. Fingers of a man's hand appear (5:5,6)
   3. Daniel called to interpret the writing (5:7-24)
   4. The interpretation (5:25-30)
   5. Babylon falls (5:31)

VI. The lions' den (6:1-28)
   1. Daniel appointed head of the three presidents (6:1-3)
   2. The conspiracy against Daniel (6:4-15)
      A. A law passed that people could pray only to the king (6:4-9)
      B. Daniel, knowing the decree, prays to God (6:10,11)
      C. Daniel charged before the king (6:12-15)
   3. Cast into the lions' den (6:16,17)
   4. Delivered from the lions' den (6:18-23)
   5. Daniel's enemies cast into the lions' den (6:24)
   6. God is glorified (6:25 28)

VII. Daniel's vision of the four beasts (7:1-28)
   1. Daniel sees four beasts (7:1-10)
   2. Each beast would lose dominion (7:11,12)
   3. An everlasting kingdom is seen (7:13,14)
   4. The interpretation (7:15-28)
      A. The four beasts are four kings (7:15-18)
      B. The fourth beast will persecute the saints but will be judged by God (7:19-22)
C. The everlasting kingdom (church) will prevail (7:23-28)

VIII. Daniel’s vision of the ram and he goat (8:1-27)
  1. The ram (8:1-4)
  2. The he goat (8:5-14)
  3. The interpretation (8:15-27)
     A. The ram’s horns = kings of Media and Persia (8:15-20)
     B. The he goat — Greece (8:21-27)
        a. Great horn — the first king (8:21)
        b. First king will fall. Then, the kingdom will be divided
           into four parts (8:22)
        c. Later, a king will rise against God’s people and the
           Messiah (8:23-27)
  4. A look at the vision from history
     A. Alexander the Great — The first king of Greece, conquered Persia.
     B. Four generals who ruled after Alexander’s death
        a. Seleucus — Babylonia
        b. Ptolemy — Egypt
        c. Antigonus — Asia Minor
        d. Antipater — Macedonia
     C. There was continual fighting among these generals and the Greek
        Empire was never strong again (cf. Dan. 9:22)
     D. In time, the Roman Empire would rise from these four areas and
        would persecute God’s people and crucify his son.

IX. Daniel’s prayer for forgiveness on behalf of the Jews (9:1-23)

X. The seventy weeks (9:24-27)
  1. This time span is to end with the Messiah’s work (9:24)
  2. “Sixty nine weeks” equals the time from the rebuilding of Jerusalem until
     the Messiah (9:25)
  3. At the end of this time, the Messiah will be cut off, ending the sacrifices
  4. Daniel also references the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70
     A.D. (9:26; Matt. 24:15).

XI. Daniel’s vision of the fall of Persia to Greece (10:1-11:2)
  1. The deliverer of the vision (10:1-9)
  2. The fall of Persia (10:10-11:2)

XII. The fall of Greece and conflicts between the nations (11:3-29)

XIII. The rise and fall of Rome (11:30-45)

XIV. Judgment (12:1-4)

XV. Daniel promised a reward for his faithfulness (12:5-13)
BABYLONIAN AND PERSIAN RULERS

NEBUCHADNEZZAR
(606-562 B.C.)

EVIL-MERODACH
(561 - 560 B.C.)

NERIGLISSAR
(559 - 555 B.C.)

LABASHI-MARDUK
(555 B.C.)

NABONIDUS
(555 - 539 B.C.)

BELSHAZZAR
(Son of Nabonidus. Ruled in his father's place when his father was on extended absences from Babylon)

CYRUS, THE GREAT
(550 - 529 B.C.)

CAMBYSES
(529 - 522 B.C.)

DARIUS I
(522 - 486 B.C.)

XERXES
(486 - 465 B.C.)

Esther was queen here.
1. Fear God wherever you are (1:8).

2. Give God the glory and the honor (2:20-22).


4. The church would be established in the days of the Roman Empire (2:44).

5. Do not worship idols even if your life is threatened (chapter 3).


7. God is in control of the world (4:17,25; 5:19,23).

8. Humble yourself or be humbled (4:30,31).

9. Do not make vain what God has made sacred (chapter 5).

10. Obey God even if the laws of the land forbid it (chapter 6).

11. The saints will be victorious (7:22).

12. The resurrection of the dead (12:1,2).

13. One thing we must learn from Daniel is that God can bring up a nation or take it down. We may think we are powerful, but God is superior to mankind.
INTRODUCTION:

1. Hosea’s work came during the reigns of four kings in Judah (Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah) and one king in Israel (Jeroboam II) (1:1).

2. Hosea’s work began around 770 B.C. and ended after 744 B.C.

3. Hosea’s prophecy warns Israel and Judah of their upcoming punishment from God unless they repent.

4. Israel is especially wicked, being heavily involved in idolatry. Judah is warned not to follow Israel’s lead.

5. Hosea’s marriage and children are analogies to show God’s concern for and upcoming punishment of Israel.

6. The book ends with God’s promise to redeem Israel when they repent.

7. Hosea has fourteen chapters.

Outline

I. Hosea’s marriage and children, a likeness to Israel’s unfaithfulness (1:1-11)
   1. His wife, Gomer – representative of Israel’s unfaithfulness to God (1:1-5)
   2. His children (1:4-9)
      A. Jezreel – Fall of Israel (1:4,5)
      B. Lorahamah – Captivity of Israel (1:6-8)
      C. Loammi – Israel is not God’s people (1:9)
   3. The church in prophecy (1:10,11; cf. Rom. 9:25,26)

II. Israel will run to false “lovers” (2:1-23)
   1. Hosea’s wife returns to her harlotry (2:1-5)
   2. Israel to be punished for her worship of false gods (2:6-13)
   3. Israel’s return to God (2:14-23)

III. Hosea’s second wife – a symbol of Israel’s restoration (3:1-5)

IV. The wickedness of Israel (4:1-9:17)
   1. Israel will fall because she rejected God’s word (4:1-6)
   2. The priests will give the people what they want to hear (4:7-9)
   3. Israel’s idolatry (4:11-14)
   4. Judah warned (4:15-19)
   5. God knows their iniquities (5:1-3)
6. God will not help Israel until Israel repents (5:4-15)
7. A plea for Israel’s repentance (6:1-3)
8. God pleaded with them; they rejected God (6:4-11)
9. Israel is unaware her wickedness is leading her to destruction (7:1-10)
10. Israel rebelled against God (7:11-16)
11. They have sown to the wind and they reap the whirlwind (8:1-14)
12. Israel’s punishment prophesied (9:1-17)

V. Backsliding Israel (10:1-13:16)
1. A terrible fall prophesied (10:1-15)
2. Assyrian captivity promised (11:1-6)
3. Israel is bent on backsliding (11:7-12:1)
4. Judah reproved (12:1-6)
5. Israel rejected God’s care and teaching (12:7-13:6)
6. God will punish them (13:7,8)
7. God’s desire for Israel to come back to him (13:9-11)
8. Israel’s fall prophesied (13:12-16)

VI. God’s call for Israel’s return (14:1-9)
1. Turn back to God (14:1-3)
2. Israel will learn to hate idolatry and will return to God (14:4-9)
1. The church in prophecy (1:10,11).

2. A nation falls when truth, mercy, and knowledge of God are not present (4:1-3).


4. God knows (5:3; 7:2).

5. God expects us to acknowledge our wrongs and seek him (5:15).

6. Actions without the proper attitude mean nothing to God (6:6).

7. Leaders of God’s people commit spiritual murder when they are wicked (6:9).

8. People forget what God has done for them and will even speak evil of God (7:13).

9. Sow to the wind; reap the whirlwind (8:7).

10. People will think God’s word is some strange thing (8:12).

11. People fall when they seek their own pleasures (9:10).

12. We will be lost if we do not hearken to God (9:17).

13. One will fall if his heart is divided (10:2).

14. You will reap what you sow (10:12,13).

15. People will run from God even as he calls them to him (11:2).

16. Sometimes, God’s people just want to fall away (11:7).

17. God is superior to man (11:9).

18. Turn to God and abide in his ways (12:6).

19. When one goes after “false gods”, one will fall (13:1).

20. Salvation is found only with God (13:4,10).

21. God is in control (13:11).
22. The lesson of the captivity – hate idolatry (14:8).

23. The wise will listen to God (14:9).
INTRODUCTION:

1. Joel uses a locust invasion as an example of God’s punishment of Israel.

2. The date of the book is unknown, although the reference to the northern army being removed from them (2:18-20) may be a reference to Assyria’s defeat during the days of Hezekiah (cf. 2 Kgs. 19:35ff).

3. From 1:14, we know that the temple is present and the people could gather there.

4. Joel also gives the hope of the coming Messiah and his church.

5. Joel has three chapters.

Outline

I. Destruction upon the land (1:1-2:32)
   1. The locust invasion (1:1-4)
   2. The destruction by the invading army (1:5-13)
   3. A plea to turn to God for help (1:14-20)
   4. The fierceness of God’s judgment (2:1-11)
   5. A plea for the people to repent (2:12-14)
   6. The people exhorted to pray for God’s mercy (2:15-20)
   7. God’s blessings will come on his people (2:21-27)
   8. A prophecy of the church (2:28-32)

II. Punishment of the nations for their wickedness (3:1-12)

III. The coming Messiah (3:13-21)
JOEL – LESSONS FROM

1. Teach God’s word to future generations (1:3).

2. No one can stand against God (2:11).

3. God desires true repentance that comes from the heart (2:13).

4. There is no God but God (2:27).

INTRODUCTION:

1. Amos works during the days of Jereboam, king of Israel, and Uzziah, king of Judah (about 780-740 B.C.).

2. This book pronounces God's judgment upon several nations, including Judah and Israel.

3. Amos' work is primarily to teach Israel. He is asked to leave Israel and go prophesy in Judah (7:13-16).

4. While destruction is to come upon God's people, a remnant will be spared (ch. 9).

5. Before he was a prophet, Amos was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees (7:14).

6. Amos teaches us to do the will of God even in the face of severe opposition.

7. Amos has nine chapters.

Outline

I. God's judgment upon the nations (1:1-2:15)
   1. Against Syria (Damascus) (1:1-5)
   2. Against Philistia (Gaza) (1:6-8)
   3. Against Tyre (1:9-12)
   4. Against Ammon (1:13-15)
   5. Against Moab (2:1-3)
   6. Against Judah (2:4,5)
   7. Against Israel (2:6-15)

II. Reproof of Israel (3:1-4:13)
   1. God sent his prophets to call them to repentance (3:1-8)
   2. Israel to be conquered, yet a remnant spared (3:9-12)
   3. Israel's idols to be destroyed (3:13-15)
   4. Israel's idolatry (4:1-5)
   5. Israel refused to repent even in great distress (4:6-13)

III. God's plea to Israel (5:1-6:14)
   1. Israel is fallen (5:1-3)
   2. Seek God and live (5:4-9)
   3. Israel's wickedness (5:10-13)
   4. Seek good and live (5:14,15)
   5. Israel's captivity prophesied (5:16-6:14)
IV. Analogies of Israel’s punishment (7:1-8:14)
   1. Grasshoppers — Amos pleads and God relents (7:1-3)
   2. Fire — Amos pleads and God relents (7:4-6)
   3. Israel does not measure up (7:7-17)
      A. A plumbline in their midst (7:7)
      B. Israel to be destroyed (7:8,9)
      C. Amos rebuked by Amaziah (7:10, 15)
      D. Amaziah’s house to be destroyed; Israel to go into captivity
         (7:16,17)
   4. The basket of summer fruit — the end is certain and near (8:1-10)
   5. The people will reject God’s word and will fall (8:11-14)

V. Israel cannot hide from God (9:1-8)

VI. A remnant to be saved (9:9-15)
   1. A remnant (9:9,10)
   2. The Gentiles to be taught by the church (9:11,12; cf. Acts 15:16-18).
   3. The people to come back from captivity (9:13-15)
1. We will fall if we despise the word of God (2:4).

2. Just because our fathers did it, does not make it right (2:4).

3. We will fall if we change God's law or ask the preachers to not tell us the truth (2:12).

4. We must agree with God to walk with him (3:3).

5. When God speaks, we can only proclaim what he spoke (3:8).

6. We must prepare to meet our God in judgment (4:12).

7. Seek God and live (5:4, 6, 14).

8. Being comfortable with sin will cause us to fall (6:1).

9. We are not to use instruments of music to worship God (6:5).

10. Preach the word whether they want to hear it or not (7:13-15).

11. Oppressing the needy, mocking God's law, and cheating people will cause us to fall (8:4, 5).

12. Wickedness will cause a famine of God's word (8:12).

13. God knows. We cannot hide from God (9:4-8).
INTRODUCTION:

1. Obadiah is one of the one chapter books in the Bible.

2. Obadiah’s prophesy is against Edom.

3. The date of the book is uncertain, although many place it before the conquest of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. (cf. 10-12)

Outline

I. Edom’s pride will lead to her fall (1-4)
II. Edom’s total destruction prophesied (5,6)
III. Edom’s “friends” will turn against her (7)
IV. Edom will be destroyed because she did not help Judah (8-14)
V. Edom is reaping what she sowed (15,16)
VI. Edom to be conquered by God (17-21)
1. Pride leads to destruction (3,4).

2. There is no honor among thieves (7).

3. We will reap what we sow (15).

4. God is in control (21).
INTRODUCTION:

1. Jonah has four chapters, each with one main point:
   - Chapter 1 – Runs From God
   - Chapter 2 – Runs To God
   - Chapter 3 – Runs With God
   - Chapter 4 – Runs Against God

   OR

   - Chapter 1 – Runs
   - Chapter 2 – Repents
   - Chapter 3 – Preaches
   - Chapter 4 – Pouts

2. Jonah is most noted for being swallowed by a great fish (1:17).

3. Jonah was commissioned by God to reach to Nineveh, the capital city of Assyria. Jonah does not want to preach to Nineveh and tries to flee to Tarshish. A great storm comes against the boat Jonah has taken, and to still the storm, Jonah is cast into the sea.

4. Jonah is swallowed by a great fish and comes to his senses. Upon his repentance, Jonah is released from the great fish and goes to Nineveh to preach.

5. Nineveh repents and is spared the wrath of God. This makes Jonah mad, and he pouts. God teaches Jonah that he should be glad God did not destroy the city.

6. Jonah prophesies during the days of Jereboam II, king of Israel (cf. 2 Kgs. 14:25).

Outline

I. Jonah attempts to flee to Tarshish (1:1-17)
   1. Jonah’s commission (1:1,2)
   2. Jonah boards a boat to flee to Tarshish (1:3)
   3. A storm comes against the boat (1:4-6)
   4. Jonah is cast overboard to still the storm (1:7-15)
   5. Jonah is swallowed by the great fish (1:16,17)

II. Jonah repents (2:1-10)
   1. Jonah’s prayer (2:1-9)
2. Jonah is released from the fish (2:10)

III. Jonah preaches to Nineveh (3:1-10)
   1. Jonah's commission (3:1,2)
   2. Jonah preaches (3:3,4)
   3. Nineveh repents (3:5-9)
   4. God spares Nineveh (3:10)

IV. Jonah is mad because God spared the city (4:1-11)
   1. Jonah's anger (4:1-4)
   2. Jonah pouts (4:5)
   3. The lesson of the gourd (4:6-11)
1. God wants all to be saved (1:1,2).

2. We cannot flee from God (1:3).

3. We cannot hide from God (1:5).

4. God is all-powerful (1:17; 2:10).

5. Repentance spares us (2:10; 3:10).

6. We must preach what God has spoken (3:2).

7. We should be more concerned with souls than we are with material things (4:10,11).
INTRODUCTION:

1. Micah’s seven chapters give us the prophecies of Micah against both Israel and Judah. The time frame is from around 740 B.C. to around 698 B.C. (1:1).
2. Micah not only proclaims the wickedness of the people but also the coming redemption in the Messiah and the church (ch. 4 & 5).
3. The book was written prior to both nations going into captivity. It is a stern rebuke for their wickedness (note esp. 2:11 & 3:4).

Outline

I. God’s judgment against Israel and Judah (1:1-16)
   1. God, the Judge (1:1-4)
   2. His judgment (1:5-9)
   3. God’s desire for them to mourn (1:10-16)

II. Judgments against the people (2:1-3:12)
   1. Against those who oppress others (2:1-6)
   2. Against falsehood (2:7-11)
   3. Remnant to be restored (2:12,13)
   4. Against the princes (3:1-4)
   5. Against the prophets (3:5-7)
   6. Their fall prophesied (3:8-12)

III. The coming of the church (4:1-13)
   1. Establishment prophesied (4:1-8)
   2. Victory prophesied (4:9-13)

IV. The Messiah prophesied (5:1-15)
   1. Out of Bethlehem (5:1-3)
   2. The Messiah’s victory (5:4-15)

V. God has a controversy with the people (6:1-7:20)
   1. God pleads with them (6:1-4)
   2. God’s judgment against the people (6:5-16)
   3. Enemies wait to take them (7:1-4)
   4. Trust in God (7:5-7)
   5. Victory with God (7:8-20)
1. The people will not want to hear the truth (2:6).

2. The people will desire false prophets (2:11).

3. God will not answer those who deal wickedly (3:6,7).

4. The prophecy of the church (4:1,2).

5. The prophecy of the Messiah (5:1-3).

6. What God requires of his people (6:8).

7. We will reap what we sow (6:13).

8. God is the God of salvation (7:7).

9. God hears those who turn to him (7:7).

10. There is none like God (7:17,18).
INTRODUCTION:

1. As with Jonah, this book deals with Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. While Jonah preaches to Nineveh in order to get her to repent, Nahum’s message is one of certain destruction. Nineveh ignored God and will fall.

2. Like Micah, Nahum begins with a description of God, the great judge. None can stand against God (1:6).

3. The book of Nahum, three chapters in length, takes place close to the time of the fall of Nineveh around 612 B.C. The book references the fall of No in 3:8. No (Thebes or No-Amon) fell around 661 B.C. Nahum, therefore, would have prophesied after that date. The impending fall of Nineveh would indicate a time closer to the fall.

Outline

I. God, the great judge (1:1-15)
   1. God will punish the wicked (1:1-7)
   2. Judah must be faithful (1:8-15)
      A. God will overthrow her enemies (1:8-14)
      B. Judah must keep her vows (1:15)

II. God’s judgment on Nineveh (2:1-3:19)
   1. Nineveh’s destruction is near (2:1-3)
   2. None shall help Nineveh (2:4-12)
   3. God is against Nineveh (2:13)
   4. Why Nineveh fell (3:1-4)
   5. God will lay Nineveh waste (3:5-7)
   6. Nineveh should learn from another who fell (3:8-10)
   7. Nineveh will be taken captive (3:11-17)
   8. You reap what you sow (3:18,19)
NAHUM - LESSONS FROM

1. God (1:2,3,7)
   A. Is jealous (2)
   B. Revenge (2)
   C. Is furious (2)
   D. Reserveth wrath for his enemies (2)
   E. Slow to anger (3)
   F. Great in power (3)
   G. Will not acquit the wicked (3)
   H. Good (7)
   I. Stronghold in the day of trouble (7)
   J. Knows those that trust in him (7)

2. None can stand against God (1:6).

3. The wicked think they know more than God (1:11).

4. One cannot stand if God is against him (2:13; 3:5).

5. Learn from the failures of others (3:8-10).

1. Founded by Nimrod/Asshur (Gen. 10:8-11)

2. Located on the east bank of the Tigris River

3. The walls of the city proper were:
   
   A. Southwestern wall – about 2 ½ miles
   B. Northwestern wall – about 1 ½ miles
   C. Northeastern wall – about 3 ¼ miles
   D. Southern wall – about ½ mile
   E. Approximate circumference = 7 ¼ miles

4. The archaeological evidence and the description in Jonah 3:3 show the city extended outside of its walls.

5. Jonah 4:11 indicates there were more than 120,000 people in Nineveh.

6. King Sennacherib built a defensive wall at Nineveh. This wall was about 50 feet thick and 100 feet high. There were 15 gates in this wall.

7. A library containing clay tablets was discovered at Nineveh in 1850. These tablets give information concerning language, astronomy, astrology, their religion, their laws, science, literature, history and commerce. The library also contained letters both personal and public.

8. Nineveh fell around 612 B.C.
INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Habakkuk dates around the time of the Babylonians conquering Judah. This would be somewhere around 606 B.C. to 597 B.C.

2. Habakkuk calls for the punishment of Judah for her wickedness, and is distressed that a wicked nation would be used to punish Judah.

3. Habakkuk questions God, then understands and pronounces his trust in God.

4. Habakkuk has three chapters.

Outline

I. Habakkuk questions why God will not punish Judah (1:1-4)
II. God will use Babylon to punish Judah (1:5-11)
III. Habakkuk questions why God will use the wicked to punish Judah (1:12-17)
IV. God will punish Babylon because of her wickedness (2:1-20)
   1. Why Babylon will be punished (2:1-8)
   2. "Woe" (2:9-16)
   3. The folly of idolatry (2:17-19)
   4. The majesty of God (2:20)
V. Habakkuk’s prayer (3:1-19)
   1. The power of God (3:1-11)
   2. The judgment of God (3:12-16)
   3. God is his strength (3:17-19)
HABAKKUK – LESSONS FROM

1. Never question God (Ch. 1-3).
2. God is pure and cannot stand evil (1:13).
3. The just shall live by faith (2:4).
4. Do not give alcoholic beverages to your neighbor (2:15).
5. Idolatry is foolish (2:18.19).
7. God does not forget his people (3:13).
8. God is our strength (3:19).
INTRODUCTION:

1. This book gives us the message of Zephaniah during the days of Josiah, king of Judah.

2. Josiah was one of the good kings of Judah. During his reign, the book of the law was found in the temple. Upon hearing the reading from God’s word, Josiah instituted religious reform in Judah (2 Kgs. 22).

3. Zephaniah’s message comes at a time when Judah is wicked, and he calls for their repentance.

4. Judah is reminded of God’s wrath, and also that there will be a remnant saved.

5. At the time of this message, Assyria is the ruling nation.

6. Zephaniah has three chapters.

Outline

I. God’s judgment against Judah (1:1-18)
   1. God will consume them (1:1-6)
   2. The day of the Lord is at hand (1:7,8)
   3. God’s judgment will cause much distress for the people (1:9-18)

II. God calls for Judah to repent (2:1-3)

III. God will punish various surrounding nations (2:4-15)
    1. Philistines (2:4-7)
    2. Moabites (2:8-11)
    3. Ammonites (2:8-11)
    4. Ethiopians (2:12)
    5. Assyrians (2:13-15)

IV. Judgment against Jerusalem (3:1-7)
    1. She failed to turn to God (3:1,2)
    2. Her rulers were wicked (3:3)
    3. Her religious leaders were wicked (3:4)
    4. God tried to spare them, but they rejected him (3:5-7)

V. A faithful remnant (3:8-20)
   1. Faithful (3:8-13)
   2. God will restore them from captivity (3:14-20)
1. God will punish the wicked (1:2ff).

2. Never believe that God takes a neutral position (1:12).

3. Repentance is necessary to keep from being punished (2:3).

4. God is superior to all gods (2:11).

5. Pride leads to destruction (2:13).

6. Why people fall (3:2)
   
   A. They do not obey God.
   B. They do not receive correction.
   C. They do not trust in the Lord.
   D. They do not draw near to God.

7. God is our mighty Savior (3:17).
Terms Found in Zephaniah

Baal (1:4) – Chief god of Canaan and other regions

Chemarims (1:4) – The Hebrew word is also found in 2 Kings 23:5 and Hosea 10:5. It refers to idolatrous priests.

Maicham (1:5) – Refers to Milcom, an idol of the Moabites and Ammonites

Fish gate (1:10) – A gate in the east wall of Jerusalem (See also 2 Chron. 33:14)

Maktesh (1:11) – Thought to be a merchant street or area of Jerusalem

Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Ekron (2:4ff) – Four of the five chief cities of Philistia (the fifth city was Gath)

Cherethites (2:5) – Philistine tribe in southern Palestine
INTRODUCTION:

1. Haggai was a contemporary with Zechariah.

2. His work was to get the people to restart and complete the work on rebuilding the temple.

3. This work had been started some sixteen years previously when Zerubbabel returned to Jerusalem.

4. While work on God's house had ceased, the people had no problem in building their own houses (Haggai 1:4).

5. The work of Haggai and Zechariah accomplishes its purpose and the temple is completed.

6. Haggai has two chapters.

Outline

I. He rebukes the people for failing to build the temple (1:1-8)
II. He exhorts them to build the temple (1:9-15)
   1. The exhortation (1:9-11)
   2. The work begins (1:12-15)
III. Haggai's messages (2:1-23)
    1. God's glory will be in the temple (2:1-9)
    2. God exhorts them to faithfulness by reminding them of their past weaknesses (2:1-19)
    3. God will exalt Zerubbabel (2:20-23)
HAGGAI – LESSONS FROM

1. God and his desires must be first (1:2-5).
2. Think about what you are doing (1:5, 7).
3. God keeps his word (2:5).
4. Tribulation should bring us to repentance (2:17).
Zerubbabel returns (536 B.C.) (Ezra 2:1,2) – altar of burnt offering set up; temple rebuilding begun but stopped

Haggai and Zechariah (520 B.C.) – work to get temple work restarted and temple rebuilt

Temple completed (516 B.C.) (Ezra 6:13-15)

Ezra returns (458 B.C.) – a priest to restore worship

Nehemiah (445 B.C.) – rebuilds wall to city
INTRODUCTION:

1. Zechariah comes from a line of prophets, being described as “the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet” (1:1).

2. Zechariah, like Haggai, works to encourage the rebuilding of the temple (4:6-9).

3. Zech. 7:5 also shows us that Zechariah’s work was after the Babylonian captivity.

4. Zechariah prophesies of the coming Messiah and salvation in him (cf. 9:9).

5. Zechariah uses visions to express his message in the first portion of the book.

6. The latter half of the book is quite prophetic in content.

7. Zechariah has fourteen chapters.

Outline

I. God calls them to repent (1:1-6)
   1. Turn back to God (1:1-3)
   2. Your fathers would not listen to God and were punished (1:4-6)

II. The temple will be rebuilt (1:7-17)
    1. The earth seems to be at rest (1:7-11)
    2. The temple will be rebuilt (1:12-17)

III. Judah to be restored (1:18-21)

IV. A prophecy of the church (2:1-3:10; cf. 2 Cor. 6:16)
    1. Jerusalem will be honored again (2:1-5)
    2. God loves Judah (2:6-9)
    3. God will dwell in the midst of her (2:10-13)
    4. Faithfulness enjoined (3:1-7)
    5. The Messiah and the church (3:8-10)

V. Zerubbabel shall finish the temple – God has spoken (4:1-14)

VI. Wickedness to be punished (5:1-6:8)
    1. Wickedness will be punished (5:1-4)
    2. Babylon will be punished (5:5-11)
    3. God will protect them (6:1-8)

VII. A prophecy of the church (6:9-15; cf. 1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 1:22,23; Rev. 17:14)

VIII. Learn from the sins of your fathers (7:1-14)
    1. Do not fast to please yourselves (7:1-7)
2. God punished your fathers because they would not listen (7:8-14).

IX. Jerusalem to be restored (8:1-23)
   1. Jerusalem will once again be a busy city (8:1-8)
   2. Build the temple; God is with you (8:9-15)
   3. Be faithful to God (8:16,17)
   4. Judah will be favored (8:18-23)

X. Judah's enemies will be subdued (9:1-17)
   1. Enemies subdued (9:1-8)
   2. The coming Messiah (9:9-11)
   3. Victory promised (9:12-17)

XI. Judah to be restored to the land (10:1-12)

XII. Jerusalem to lose favor with God (11:1-12:5)
   1. Will be devoured from within (11:1-9)
   2. Will kill the Messiah (11:10-14)
   3. Her shepherds will not help her (11:15-17)
   4. Jerusalem to be a cup of trembling (12:1-5)

XIII. The Messiah (12:6-13:9)
   1. Salvation will come to Judah (12:6-8)
   2. A great mourning for the Messiah who has been slain (12:9-14)
   3. A new order will be established (13:1-6)
   4. The Messiah will be killed; some will scatter; others will be faithful (13:7-9)

XIV. Jerusalem to be destroyed (14:1-10)

XV. Internal fighting concerning the Messiah (14:11-21)
   1. Among nations (14:11-13)
   2. Among Judah (14:14,15)
   3. Those who do not worship the Lord will be punished (14:16-19)
   4. God will be glorified (14:20,21)
1. Repentance will bring God back to us (1:3).

2. Learn from the mistakes of the past (7:7).

3. What we need to do to please God (7:9,10)
   A. Execute true judgment
   B. Show mercy and compassion every man to his brother
   C. Oppress not the widow
   D. Oppress not the fatherless
   E. Oppress not the stranger
   F. Oppress not the poor
   G. Do not imagine evil against your brother in your heart

4. Our sins make it where God will not hear our prayers (7:13).

5. Do not fear with God on our side (8:13).

6. What we need to do to please God (8:16,17)
   A. Speak truth to your neighbor
   B. Execute the judgment of truth and peace
   C. Do not imagine evil in your hearts against your neighbor
   D. Love no false oath

7. There is false comfort in seeking help in false worship (10:2).

8. God is the Creator (12:1).

9. God will be glorified (14:9).

10. Some Messianic prophecies in Zechariah:
    A. He will dwell among us (2:10 + Jn. 1:14; 2 Cor. 6:16).
    B. He will establish his temple (6:12 + Matt. 16:18).
    C. He will be King (6:13 + Acts 2:33,36).
    D. He will enter Jerusalem on a donkey (9:9 + Matt. 21:5).
    E. His kingdom will spread all over the world (9:10 + Rev. 11:15).
    F. He will be sold for thirty pieces of silver (11:12 + Matt. 26:15).
    G. The thirty pieces of silver will be used to buy a potter’s field (11:13 +
       Matt. 27:7,8).
    H. His side will be pierced (12:10 + Jn. 19:34).
    I. His hands will be wounded (13:6 + Jn. 20:25-28).
    J. His followers would be scattered upon his death (13:7 + Mk. 14:27,50).
INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Malachi is the last book of the Old Testament both in our Bibles and chronologically.

2. It is generally dated from around 450–400 B.C. Temple worship has been restored (516 B.C.) and Israel has had time to corrupt the worship (ch. 1).

3. Malachi chastises Israel for her unfaithfulness to God, yet prophesies of the coming of John the baptizer and Jesus (ch. 3 and 4).

4. Malachi, in four chapters, uses a question and answer format to teach Israel. When the question is asked, though, Malachi answers it for them. Therefore, there is no misunderstanding the message of Malachi.

Outline

I. God honored Israel (1:1-5)
   1. Jacob was chosen (1:1,2)
   2. Esau (Edom) was punished (1:3,4)
   3. God will be magnified (1:5)

II. Israel had profaned the sacrifices (1:6-14)
   1. You offer what your governor will not accept (1:6-9)
   2. God will not accept their sacrifices (1:10,11)
   3. You have profaned the sacrifices (1:12-14)

III. The priests rebuked (2:1-10)
    1. The priests should seek God (2:1-7)
    2. The priests had departed from God (2:8-10)

IV. The people rebuked (2:11-17)
    1. Judah had profaned the holiness of God (2:11-13)
    2. Judah dealt unfaithfully in marriage (2:14-16)
    3. Judah had placed evil as being good (2:17)

V. The coming Messiah (3:1-4)

VI. God’s judgment (3:5)
    1. Against sorcerers
    2. Against adulterers
    3. Against false swearsers
    4. Against those that oppress the hireling in his wages
    5. Against those that oppress the widows
    6. Against those that oppress the fatherless
    7. Against those that turn aside the stranger from his right
    8. Against those that fear not God
VII. God pleads with Israel to return to him (3:6-12)
   1. Return to God (3:6,7)
   2. Will a man rob God? (3:8,9)
   3. Blessings for faithfulness (3:10-12)

VIII. Israel’s wickedness (3:13-15)
   1. They said it was vain to serve God (3:14)
   2. They did not see any good in serving God (3:14)
   3. They called the proud happy (13:15)
   4. They exalted those that worked wickedness (3:15)

IX. God’s judgment (3:16-4:4)
   1. God will remember the faithful (3:16,17)
   2. God will discern between the righteous and the wicked (3:18)
   3. The wicked punished (4:1)
   4. The victorious faithful (4:2-4)

X. The forerunner of Christ prophesied (4:5,6; cf. Matt. 11:12-14)
1. God will be magnified (1:5).

2. We should never offer to God less than what the world will accept (1:8).

3. God is the supreme being (1:14).

4. The priest of God should seek knowledge and the word of God (2:7).

5. There is one God (2:10).

6. God created all (2:10).


8. It is foolish to believe that God takes pleasure in evil things (2:17).

9. God does not change (3:6).

10. The blessings of God are unlimited (3:10).

11. God will determine who is righteous and who is wicked (3:18).