

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

PERIOD NINE

RETURN TO THEIR OWN COUNTRY - ZECHARIAH, HAGGAI, MALACHI

LESSON 37

In this lesson we want to learn about the last three prophets of the Old Testament time - HAGGAI, ZECHARIAH AND MALACHI -

- *Who they are.*
- *When they lived.*
- *The outlines of their books.*
- *Haggai and the building of the temple.*
- *Important verses in the book of Zechariah.*
- *The visions Zechariah had.*
- *Zechariah's prophecies of Jesus Christ.*
- *Malachi's words to the Jews about their worship and their giving.*

Time	PERIOD NINE			RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY		
Main thought	THE KING OF PERSIA SENT THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY					
Kings	559 - 530 BC - King Cyrus 521 - 486 BC - King Darius 485 - 465 BC - King Xerxes (Ahasuerus) - 478 BC - Esther					
Great men	ZERUBBABEL 537 BC		EZRA 458 BC		NEHEMIAH 444 BC	
Chapters that tell of each part	Ezra 1 to 6	Ezra 7 to 10	Nehemiah 1 to 13			
What this part tells about	Built the temple Prince of the house of David 520 - Haggai Zechariah		Writer Teacher PROPHETS		Small Ruler (governor) Rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem 443 - Malachi	

JUDAH															
Babylon	Da ri u s	Me de s	Darius I				Xerxes (Ahasuerus)			Artaxerxes				Darius	
	Cy ru s	Arta xerx es													
King	Zerubbabel								Ezra Nehemiah 430-420 Babylon						
Prophet	Zechariah														
Prophet	Haggai											Malachi			
BC	540	530	520	510	500	490	480	470	460	450	440	430	420	410	400
Prophet															
Prophet															
King	Israel in exile in Assyria														
ISRAEL															

INTRODUCTION

Haggai and Zechariah told when the Jews were to go back to their country. Zerubbabel was governor during that time. There were no kings in Israel. The kings of Persia ruled over Israel. The Persian king, Darius I, ruled when Haggai and Zechariah prophesied. Malachi prophesied after the people were settled in Israel. Nehemiah was the governor at that time. Artaxerxes and Darius II of Persia ruled the country.

These prophets rebuked the people because they forgot the Lord. To rebuke a person means to tell him where he is wrong and what he can do about it. These prophets also encouraged the people to do the work of the Lord. The prophets told about the blessings to come.

Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi were called minor prophets.

HAGGAI

● THE MAN HAGGAI

Haggai worked with Zechariah. Haggai was an old man. If he saw the temple before it was destroyed, he would have been nearly 80 years old (Haggai 2:3).

● THE BOOK HAGGAI

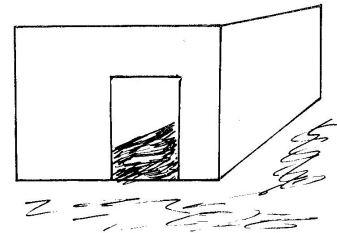
A. Outline of the book.

- Rebuked the people for not building the temple, Haggai 1:1-15.
- Showed the beauty of the new temple, Haggai 2:1-9.
- Told of the coming blessing, Haggai 2:10-19.
- Talked to the people, Haggai 2:20-23.

B. Lessons of the book.

READ THE BOOK OF HAGGAI.

The Jews had started to build the temple. Then they stopped building the temple. They started to build their own houses. Haggai rebuked the people for this. What did the people do when Haggai rebuked them (Haggai 1:14)?



Who was the high priest during this time (Haggai 1:12)?

What is the Lord going to do to His temple in time to come (Haggai 2:6-9)?

ZECHARIAH

● THE MAN ZECHARIAH

Zechariah was a young man when he started to prophesy (Zechariah 2:4). He must have been born in Babylon. Zechariah went to Jerusalem with the first group of people. Many Jews went back to Jerusalem.

Haggai and Zechariah worked closely together (Ezra 5:1). They were anxious to see the temple built (Ezra 6:14).

Zechariah wrote much like Ezekiel and Daniel. He wrote about his visions.

● THE BOOK ZECHARIAH

The book Zechariah has two main parts. Chapters 1 through 8 tell about what happened when Zechariah lived. Chapters 9 through 14 tell about things which would happen in time to come.

A. Outline of the book.

- The call to repentance, Zechariah 1:1- 6.
- The night vision, Zechariah 1:7- 6:8.
- Joshua made high priest, Zechariah 6:9-15.
- The problem of fasting, Zechariah 7:1- 8:23.
- The shepherd-king, Zechariah 9:1 - 1:17.
- The world ruler, Zechariah 12:1-14:21.

B. Lessons of the book.

READ THE BOOK OF ZECHARIAH.

- **Verses to be remembered.**

There are three verses to be remembered in this book.

- **Zechariah 4:6** (KJV)

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

- **Zechariah 4:10** (KJV)

"For who hath despised the day of small things?"

Never think you are too small or too weak to be used of the Lord.

- **Zechariah 8:5** (KJV)

"And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof."

This is a picture of the joy which will be in the New Jerusalem.

- **Visions.**

READ ZECHARIAH 1:7 - 2:5.

The visions in these chapters were to encourage the Jews.

- The first vision answers the question, "Is God letting the nations of the world destroy Jerusalem?"

What did the vision show (Zechariah 1:7-17)?

- Zechariah 2:1-5. What happened in this vision?

This vision shows that Jerusalem will be so big that it cannot be measured.

- Zechariah 4:1-14.

READ THESE VERSES.

The vision in these verses answers the question, "Are the poor and weak Jews able to build the temple?"

What did the vision show?

The work the people of Israel were to do was to be done by the Spirit of God. The Lord said,

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit."

The Lord would help the people of Israel. The people of Israel were to think about the greatness of God. They were not to think that they were so small (Zechariah 4:10).

- **Prophecies of Christ.**

Zechariah prophesied about the coming of the Messiah.

Zechariah 9:9 - Matthew 21:5 - Jesus Christ would ride into Jerusalem on a colt (young donkey).

Zechariah 13:7 - Matthew 26:31 - Jesus Christ, the Shepherd, Who was struck.

Zechariah 11:12,13 - Matthew 27:3-10 Jesus Christ was given to His enemies for thirty pieces of silver.

Zechariah 14:3-8 - Revelation 22:1-5 Jesus Christ will come again to the Mount of Olives.

MALACHI

- **THE MAN MALACHI**

The name Malachi means "my messenger."

Malachi is the last of the Old Testament prophets. He prophesied sometime around 440 to 420 BC. Malachi prophesied during the time of Artaxerxes. Nehemiah was governor of Israel.

● THE BOOK MALACHI

A. Outline of the book.

- The people of Israel were God's favorite people, Malachi 1:1-5.
- The people of Israel did not respect God, Malachi 1:6-14.
- Malachi rebuked the priests, Malachi 2:1-9.
- The people of Judah did not show faith in God, Malachi 2:10-16.
- Malachi told the people what God wanted them to do, Malachi 2:17 - 3:15.
- The righteous and the wicked will get their rewards, Malachi 3:16 - 4:6.

B. Lessons of the book.

READ THE BOOK OF MALACHI.

What kind of offerings did the priests make (Malachi 1:7,8)?



Why did the Lord not accept the offerings of the priests (Malachi 2:13-15)?

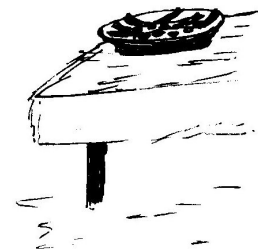
What does the Lord think about divorce (Malachi 2:16)?

What will the Lord do to the nation of Israel when He comes to earth again (Malachi 3:2,3)?

How did the Jews rob God (Malachi 3:8)?

What will the Lord do for the Jews who give Him their tithes and offerings (Malachi 3:10)?

Who is Malachi talking about in Malachi 4:5,6? See Matthew 11:13,14.



IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

The prophets Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi tell about God's love for Israel. These prophets tell about the sinfulness of Israel. They also tell about the time when the Lord will take away the sin of Israel. These prophets tell about the time when the Lord will come and live with the people of Israel.

WORDS TO LEARN

1. rebuke - to tell a person where he is wrong and what he is to do about it.
2. tithes - God asked the Jews to give back to Him 10% of what they earned or received. 10% is \$1.00 out of \$10.00 or \$2.00 out of \$20.00.

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