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Assignment #13

November 18, 2017, B-108 Old Testament Literature, Professor Armstrong

List the 5 Major Prophets:

1. Elisha – Prophesied to Israel. The prophet Elisha lived on into the reign of Jehoash (814b.c.)

At the time as his death drew near the king came to him and asked him did he have a message from the Lord, Elisha told him to shoot an arrow out of the chamber window. This shows that the king would have success in conquering their enemy the Aramaeans. He then told the king to strike the ground with his bundle of arrows but the King only did it with half the arrows. The prophet in response told him he would only get a partial victory over his foes and would eventually be unsuccessful against them.

2. Daniel – Daniel prophesied to “The Nations”. He lived during the reign of King

Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, King Darius the Mede, and Cyrus king of Persia (535/534BC).

Known for and most famous and controversial prophecy of the 70 weeks. The major challenge that Daniel faced was his-self. He truly worshipped God which excelled him above others during his time. In other words he set the standards in government and because of that there was some that were jealous of Daniel and plotted ways they could get rid of him.

3. Ezekiel – Ezekiel was part of Judah that was carried away by the Babylonia during the fall of the Southern Kingdom. He prophesied to Judah. His major prophecy is of a future covenant. His task was to declare God’s message to the Israelites. He had to tell them the reason why they were in Babylon. God was punishing them. This was a very serious matter. Ezekiel must also call them

to a holy life. Then he could give them the good news. God had a better future for them. The people did not have hope about the things of God. They did not have much national hope. So, the task would be very hard. It was natural for the *prophet to hesitate about doing it. He must speak in a helpful way. In times of serious trouble, this is never easy.

4. Isaiah –lived from 725-675 BC. He prophesied to Israel and Judah during the reign of Ahaz of Israel and king Hezekiah of Judah. He prophesied of the fall of the northern Kingdom. No other prophet excelled him in beauty and strength of his prophetic declaration. His major task he faced was trying to comfort the captive and those who lived under impending shadow of captivity.

5. Jeremiah.- Lived during the reign of king Jehoiakim of Judah. He Prophesied to Judah about their eminent fall to Babylon. And a future covenant to God. The major challenge Jeremiah faced was convincing the people of Judah because of their sins God would deliver them into the hands of their enemies. This was a people that thought they did everything right in their own eyes.

List the 12 Minor Prophets:

1. Hosea – Prophesied to Israel. He prophesied over a period of 40 years (755-715bc) under several reigning kings of both Israel and Judah. He was sent to Israel with a message from God to repent and turn back to him or face punishment from God, but they did not listen. God gave him a task to marry a woman who would become a harlot. After that experience Hosea understood the broken hearted feeling God was feeling because of the sins of his chosen people.

2. Joel – Prophet at the turn of the century 800bc) Prophesied to Judah with the theme of the “day of the Lord”. Prophesied the day of the Lord would come while Judah was in captivity because of their sins.

3. Amos - Lived and ministered in the luxuriant age of Jeroboam II. He Prophesied to Israel. Because of his task, his message of continuous judgment and denunciation because of their sins, he was truly worthy of his name "burden-bearer".

4. Obadiah - It is impossible to put a time frame to this prophet because of the lack of any clear historical references. He is credited with the pronouncement of doom against an ancient and long-forgotten nation, the land of Edom.

5. Jonah – He was commissioned to preach against Nineveh. His message to the people of Nineveh was to “repent or receive punishment” for their sins. In the process he ran from his responsibilities. Some say that Jonah’s act of running away was a cowardice act because he feared the Assyrians. Jonah’s problem does not seem to be cowardice. Rather, it seems to have been resentment against the Lord for giving the hated enemy a chance to repent.

6. Micah – His life paralleled that of his colleague Isaiah. He prophesied both to Israel and Judah. He inveighed against the social and moral aberrations of the time, paying special heed to the corrupt rulers and priests and the false prophets who cried “peace” when there was none.

7. Nahum – Lived in the later part of the 7th century (around 667B.C). He prophesied to the Assyrians and the Northern Kingdom. His message to the kingdom was there will be no possibility of recovery for Assyria, for the kingdom, though an instrument in the hands of the Lord, has become bloody and like Jehu, has overreached itself in doing God’s will.

8. Habakkuk – This Prophet lived during the neo- Empire era established by Nabopolassar. He prophesied to Judah. His message was because of the sins of Judah God will raise up the Babylonians to execute his will against the Assyrians and Judah, much as he had raided up the Assyrians to afflict Israel.

9. Zephaniah – This prophet lived during the reign of Josiah of Judah. His message is that of Joel's, it revolves around the theme of the Day of Yahweh.

10. Haggai – Prophesied to the Jews during his ministry (520B.C)

During that time, the initial enthusiasm of the people wore off and the unfinished foundations remained as an ugly reminder of an uncompleted task. His message to the Jews was one of motivation that the people received it well and completed the reconstruction of the temple in Jerusalem.\

11. Zechariah – Had the burden to rebuild the temple, but his vision expressed largely in apocalyptic terms, was much broader than just that. He prophesied to the Jews encouraging them to rebuild the temple.

12. Malachi - By Malachi's time, the Jews had been back in their homeland for more than 100 years. The temple had been rebuilt and the city of Jerusalem had been restored. Jews. The purpose of Malachi is to deliver stern rebukes to the people and priests, to call them to repentance, and to promise future blessing. His theme is God's love for Israel, despite the sins of the priests and people.

1. What nation did they prophesy to?
2. Name one major challenge they faced.
3. When did they prophesy (under what king or year)