

Unleashing the Old Testament

with Alan Gilman
Bible Teacher

Session 15



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The Prophets: The Books of the Prophets



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The Books of the Prophets

<i>Major Prophets</i>	<i>The Twelve</i>	
Isaiah	Hosea	Nahum
Jeremiah	Joel	Habakkuk
Lamentations	Amos	Zephaniah
Ezekiel	Obadiah	Haggai
Daniel	Jonah	Zechariah
	Micah	Malachi



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The Prophets

Books Overview

- ❖ Book by book in order
- ❖ General introduction to each book (timing, content)
- ❖ Sample passage(s)



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Isaiah (Yeshayahu)

- ❖ Lived during time of Northern Kingdom's final demise
- ❖ Judah is attacked unsuccessfully by Assyrians
- ❖ Long, complex book



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Isaiah (Yeshayahu)

- ❖ Much ethical material
- ❖ Multiple "Isaias"?
- ❖ Strong messianic themes
- ❖ Envisions glorious future: New heavens & new earth



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The Books of the Prophets

Isaiah (Yeshayahu)

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:



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The Books of the Prophets

Isaiah (Yeshayahu)

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”



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The Books of the Prophets

Isaiah (Yeshayahu)

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”



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The Books of the Prophets

Isaiah (Yeshayahu)

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." (Isaiah 6:1-8)



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Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

- ❖ Preached surrender and was persecuted for it
- ❖ Gloom and doom
- ❖ Promise of restoration
- ❖ New covenant: Jeremiah 31:31-37



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

In that same year, at the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fifth month of the fourth year, Hananiah the son of Azzur, the prophet from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)
Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

Within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD'S house, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon. I will also bring back to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon, declares the LORD, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon."



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)
Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles.



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)
Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

Then the prophet Hananiah took the yoke-bars from the neck of Jeremiah the prophet and broke them. And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all the nations within two years." But Jeremiah the prophet went his way.



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Handwriting practice lines (8 horizontal lines)

The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

Sometime after the prophet Hananiah had broken the yoke-bars from off the neck of Jeremiah the prophet, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: "Go, tell Hananiah, 'Thus says the LORD: You have broken wooden bars, but you have made in their place bars of iron. For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:



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Handwriting practice lines (8 horizontal lines)

The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

I have put upon the neck of all these nations an iron yoke to serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and they shall serve him, for I have given to him even the beasts of the field." And Jeremiah the prophet said to the prophet Hananiah, "Listen, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, and you have made this people trust in a lie. Therefore thus says the LORD:



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Handwriting practice lines (8 horizontal lines)

The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

Speaking amidst prophetic opposition (28:1-17)

“Behold, I will remove you from the face of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have uttered rebellion against the LORD.”

In that same year, in the seventh month, the prophet Hananiah died.



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

God's enduring faithfulness to Israel (31:35-37)

Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—the LORD of hosts is his name:



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The Books of the Prophets

Jeremiah (Yirmeyahu)

God's enduring faithfulness to Israel (31:35-37)

“If this fixed order departs from before me, declares the LORD, then shall the offspring of Israel cease from being a nation before me forever.” Thus says the LORD: “If the heavens above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth below can be explored, then I will cast off all the offspring of Israel for all that they have done, declares the LORD.”

(Jeremiah 31:35-37)



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Lamentations (Eicha/How?)

- ❖ Among the Writings/K'tuvim
- ❖ Traditionally ascribed to Jeremiah
- ❖ Author not mentioned
- ❖ Lament over destruction of Jerusalem
- ❖ Four acrostic poems and one non-acrostic poem.



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The Books of the Prophets

Lamentations (Eicha)

Lamentations 3:16-33

He has made my teeth grind on gravel,
and made me cower in ashes;
my soul is bereft of peace;
I have forgotten what happiness is;
so I say, "My endurance has perished;
so has my hope from the LORD."



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The Books of the Prophets

Lamentations (Eicha)

Lamentations 3:16-33

Remember my affliction and my wanderings,
the wormwood and the gall!
My soul continually remembers it
and is bowed down within me.
But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:



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The Books of the Prophets

Lamentations (Eicha)

Lamentations 3:16-33

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
 his mercies never come to an end;
 they are new every morning;
 great is your faithfulness.
 “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul,
 “therefore I will hope in him.”



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The Books of the Prophets

Lamentations (Eicha)

Lamentations 3:16-33

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
 to the soul who seeks him.
 It is good that one should wait quietly
 for the salvation of the LORD.
 It is good for a man that he bear
 the yoke in his youth.



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The Books of the Prophets

Lamentations (Eicha)

Lamentations 3:16-33

Let him sit alone in silence
 when it is laid on him;
 let him put his mouth in the dust—
 there may yet be hope;
 let him give his cheek to the one who strikes,
 and let him be filled with insults.



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The Books of the Prophets

Lamentations (Eicha)

Lamentations 3:16-33

For the Lord will not
cast off forever,
but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
for he does not afflict from his heart
or grieve the children of men.



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Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

- ❖ Early days of the Babylonian exile
- ❖ Strange visions
- ❖ Strange prophetic actions
- ❖ Speaks of return and glorious restoration



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Vision of the Heavenly Chariot (1:4-14)

As I looked, behold, a stormy wind came out of the north,
and a great cloud, with brightness around it, and fire
flashing forth continually, and in the midst of the fire, as it
were gleaming metal. And from the midst of it came the
likeness of four living creatures. And this was their
appearance: they had a human likeness, but each had four
faces, and each of them had four wings.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)
Vision of the Heavenly Chariot (1:4-14)

Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot. And they sparkled like burnished bronze. Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another. Each one of them went straight forward, without turning as they went. As for the likeness of their faces, each had a human face.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)
Vision of the Heavenly Chariot (1:4-14)

The four had the face of a lion on the right side, the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four had the face of an eagle. Such were their faces. And their wings were spread out above. Each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. And each went straight forward.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)
Vision of the Heavenly Chariot (1:4-14)

Wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches moving to and fro among the living creatures. And the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. And the living creatures darted to and fro like the appearance of a flash of lightning.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Vision of the Heavenly Chariot (1:4-14)

And the living creatures darted to and fro, like the appearance of a flash of lightning.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking. (Ezekiel 1:28b)



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Restoration of Israel (36:22-32)

“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Restoration of Israel (36:22-32)

And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Restoration of Israel (36:22-32)

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.



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Horizontal lines for writing notes.

The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Restoration of Israel (36:22-32)

And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you. I will make the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field abundant, that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations.



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The Books of the Prophets

Ezekiel (Yekhezqel)

Restoration of Israel (36:22-32)

Then you will remember your evil ways, and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominations. It is not for your sake that I will act, declares the Lord GOD; let that be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel.



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Daniel (Dani'el)

- ❖ Among the "Writings" (Ketuvim) in the Hebrew order
- ❖ Time period: from the exile through Persian rule

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Daniel (Dani'el)

Great stories

- ❖ Food
- ❖ Lion's den
- ❖ Fiery furnace
- ❖ Nebuchadnezzar becomes a beast
- ❖ The writing on the wall

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Daniel (Dani'el)

- ❖ Some apocryphal writing
- ❖ Son of Man (ch 7)



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The Books of the Prophets

Daniel (Dani'el)

I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

(Daniel 7:13-14)



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Daniel (Dani'el)

- ❖ Some apocryphal writing
- ❖ Son of Man (ch 7)
- ❖ Predicts time of Messiah (ch 9)
- ❖ Resurrection & judgment (Ch 12)



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The Books of the Prophets

Daniel (Dani'el)

At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. (Daniel 12:1-3)


