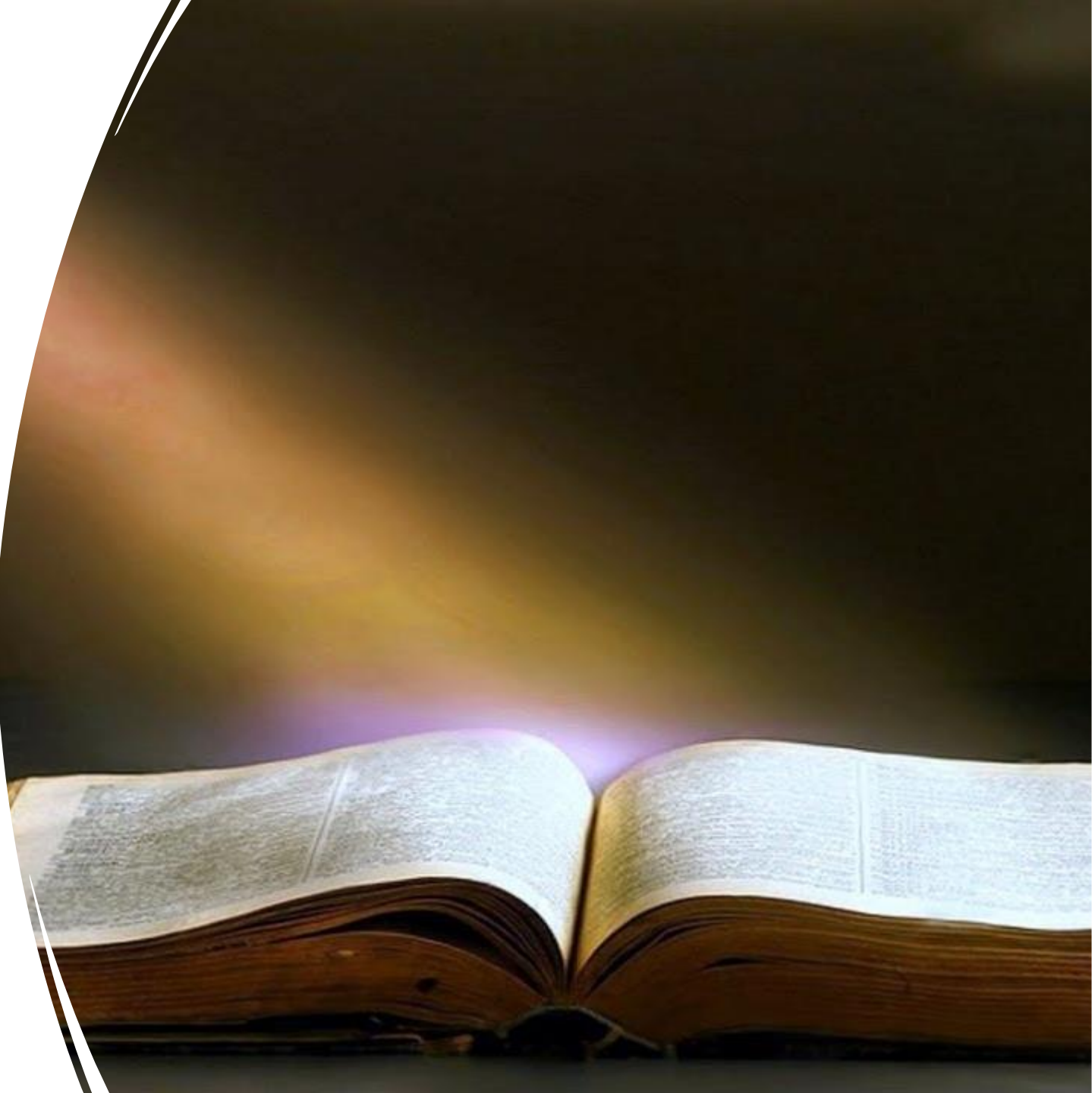


The Prophets

Introduction & Overview

Introduction....

- We have travelled a bit through the Bible from the Beginning and we now have a better understanding of a recycling pattern.
- God makes Man in His image and has a great and good plan for Mankind which Humans can embrace by choice.
- Human beings however choose their own plan rather than God's offer, collude with the enemy and things fall apart.
- God comes in to rescue Man from total destruction, from the Garden, to the Flood, to the Tower of Babel...
- God chooses a Man Abraham to begin a bridge to allow Jehovah to come into the Earth to rescue Man from themselves and the enemy.
- Man and the enemy collude in cycles to mess up God's loving plan of Salvation and thus we have the History of Genesis to Kings.



Introduction...

- The Book of Kings describes Man's repetitive attempts to mess up the Chosen Nation of Israel through whom the Human Messiah will come.
- As things get really bad, God sends Messengers called Prophets to Remind the Nation about His plan and Covenant with them.
- The Prophets call the people to Remembrance and Repentance and Renewal.
- This whole section is a reflection of what the Prophets said to the people and why; as well as the context of their actions and words.



Introduction...

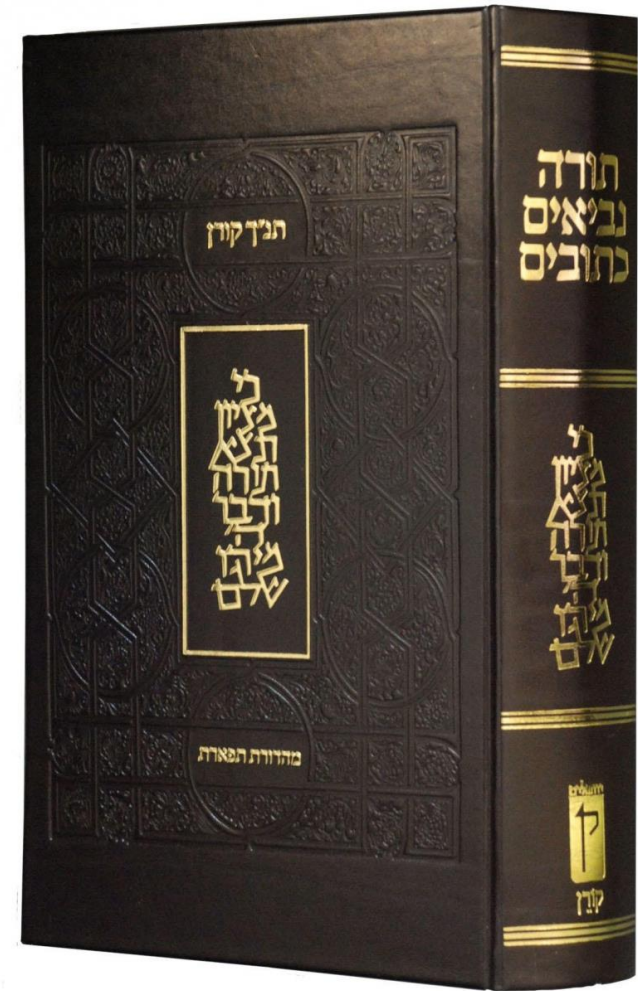
- Prophecy was speaking on behalf of God to the people.
- PAST – Reminding people of what the Lord had agreed to do, His Covenant and spoken Law especially from the Book of Exodus.
- PRESENT – Calling out Disloyalty to God in the current situation. Or Disregarding the Law. Calling out injustice or oppression of others or suffering resulting from Disobedience to God.
- FUTURE – Promises of the Future either good or bad coming to pass. Proclaiming what God says would happen as well as declaring a Golden era in the future when all suffering and oppression will end.



prophecy

Introduction

- The Canon of the Old Testament included what was known as the TENAKH which was an acronym for The Torah, The Prophets and The Writings.
- The Prophets according to the Jewish scriptures included the following:
- Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, The Twelve (minor prophets)
- Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.



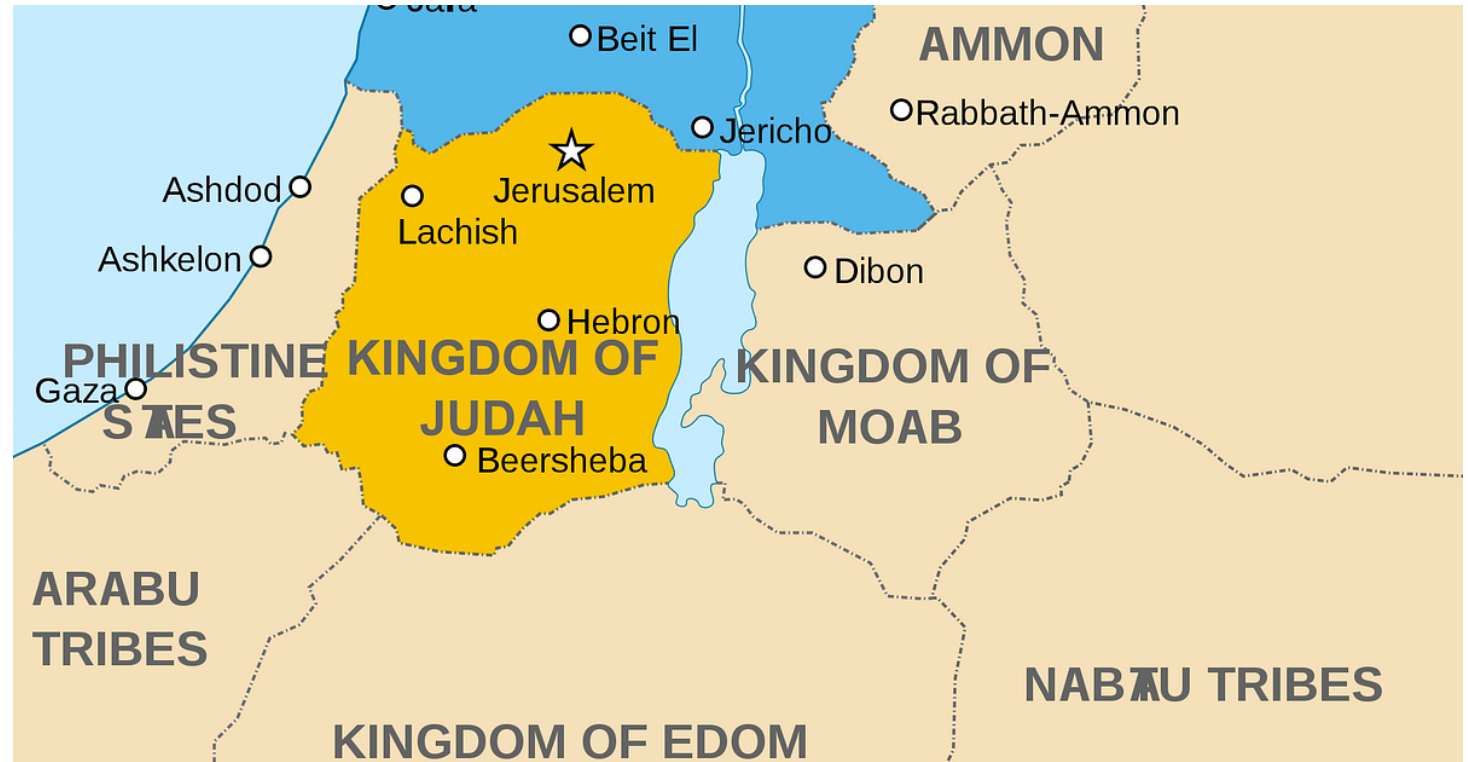
Introduction...

- Major Themes....
- Israel's LAND....How they obtained the Promised Land and lost it.
- Court Case; God vs Nations
- Court Case God vs Israel
- God's Judgement on Israel on the Nations and Israel
- Israel Restored...Messiah
- Eden Restored... Man and God reconciled together as in the Beginning.



Introduction...

- There are FOUR timelines that give context to ALL the Prophetic books and what they said and continue to say even to us:
 1. – The Divided Kingdom
 2. – Judah Alone
 - 3 – Judah in Exile
 - 4 – Post Exile



A. The Divided Kingdom...

- The Kingdom splits into two and co-exist for about 200years. Within that time, we have the following prophets speaking which become part of Scripture:
- Obadiah – Speaks to Edom
- Joel – Impending disaster
- Amos – the nations & Israel
- Jonah – Assyria – Nineveh
- Isaiah - Messianic
- Micah- judgement & redemption
- Hosea – Judgement & redemption
- God is warning both Israel and Judah



B. Judah Alone (Israel in Captivity)

- Israel (the ten northern tribes) are dealt with by the Assyrian empire and taken away into captivity around 733 BC
- God then sends Judah the Southern Kingdom Prophets to warn them! For another 100+ years.
- The prophets are
 - Habbakuk
 - Zephaniah
 - Nahum -



C. Judah in Exile

- Judah as a nation did not learn from what happened to Israel and did not listen to the prophets.
- The prophets who spoke during this time were:
- Jeremiah – watches things fall apart and taken into captivity
- Lamentations – A sigh over exile
- Daniel – During the exile
- Ezekiel – Prophet in Babylon



D. Post Exile

- As Judah returns from Babylon, these prophets speak to the returning Jews:
- Ezra (Scroll of Zerubabel)
- Haggai
- Zecharia
- Esther
- Nehemiah
- Malachi
- Chronicles -Reflection on everything from Adam to the Captivity in Babylon.



Next Week...

