

Bible Overview: understanding the message in the different books of the Bible.

Video 8—The Prophets: Isaiah – Malachi

What does this part of the Bible tell us about each of the following?

1. Why did God send the prophets to the Israelites?
2. Who was the prophet sent to Nineveh who ran away from God's command and was saved from a storm when the Lord sent a giant fish to swallow him?
3. Who was the last of the OT writing prophets?

The Prophets: Isaiah thru Malachi

In some ways the writings of the prophets (one who speaks for God) of the Old Testament are similar to the New Testament Epistles. The prophets take what God had already revealed in the books of Moses (Genesis-Deuteronomy) and expand, explain, and apply it to the life of the people. Like every other book of the Bible, the heart of the message of the prophets is centered on God's mercy in sending the promised Savior. So that fallen man might realize and recognize their desperate need for Jesus, the prophets also need to address the unbelief and impenitence of the people. Many of the prophets, especially Isaiah, have beautiful pictures of the Christ, foretold centuries in advance. Note how when a prophet speaks of the saving work of Jesus, it is almost always accompanied by a beautiful picture of peace, describing the results of the Savior's work for the people.

Memorable verses from this section:

Micah 5:2-4: ²"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. " ³Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

Zechariah 9:9-10: ⁹Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.