

The Major Prophets Pt2

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Pastor Marvin Nemitz

Series: Navigating the Prophetic

Text: Lamentations 3:22-23

Lamentations

This book was written by the prophet Jeremiah and was originally part of the book of Jeremiah and was separated to be read at one of the feasts of Israel. Only 5% is prophetic. It is an accounting of God's former prophecies coming to pass.

This is Jeremiah weeping over the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple by the Babylonians. 1:1-3, 1:8 It is a book about sorrow brought on by sin and ignoring God's warnings. We look at this book prophetically because it speaks to us today.

Lessons we can learn from Lamentations:

- Much suffering is the result of sin. 1:5, 2:14, 3:42, 4:13, 5:16
The suffering of Jerusalem was not by chance, it was due to the wrath of God provoked by sin. 2:1-3 God was dealing with their spiritual condition and they were supposed to take it personally.
- God will make sure we know when our suffering is from Him and not man. The Babylonians were simply a tool in the hand of God. 1:13,15, 3:1, 37-38
- God uses suffering to direct us to Himself. 3:26-32, 40-50
- Suffering, tears and prayer belong together. The best way to survive grief is to express it. When we suffer we are to pour out our hearts to God with all the frustration, grief and pain. Our prayers can be detailed and filled with emotion and repentance. 2:20-21, 3:55-58
- Even in distress, our prayers are to look to God in hope. 3:21-24 When God brings us to a place of sorrow we are to accept it with patience knowing it will end when His will is accomplished.
- When Christians turn their back on God after having received great blessing it is a serious matter in His sight. Sin may seem enjoyable for a moment but in the end it robs us of joy and peace. 5:15-19

Ezekiel

His name means 'God strengthens' or 'strengthened by God'.

There are sixty-six specific prophecies making this book 65% prophecy.

The key theme is found in a phrase that is used 63 times "shall know that I am the Lord"
6:10,13, 7:4, 13:9, 16:62, 34:27, 37:11-14

Lessons we can learn from Ezekiel:

- When God speaks, His **word** will come to pass. **12:25** The phrase, “word of the Lord came”, is found fifty times in Ezekiel.
- When God instructs you to do a work He will fill you with His **Spirit**. Whether people accept or reject the message will not diminish the recognition of God’s hand on our life. **1:28-2:7**
- After God fulfills His word to discipline a nation or a person, His desire is to **restore** them to Himself and give them a blessed life. **36:24-30**
- Although God judged Israel as a nation we learn that each person is **responsible** for the way they live. **14:12-14, 18:20-32**
- When we turn from our sin God gives us a new **heart** and His Spirit. **36:26-28**
- We can learn to speak to the dry and lifeless areas of our life, God specializes in bringing **life** in place of death. **37:1-6**
- As Christians we are to steadily move into the **deeper** things of God until we are completely surrendered to His direction and flow. **47:1-5**

Daniel

Means ‘God is my **Judge**’. This book is one of the most significant prophecy books in the Old Testament. A proper understanding of Daniel assists in a proper understanding of the book of **Revelation**. Chapter 9 is pivotal and is known as Daniel’s Seventy Weeks of Years. Fifty-eight separate prophecies are given making Daniel **49%** prophecy.

The purpose of Daniel is to establish that the God of **Israel** is the only true God and is in control of the destiny of all nations. He raises up and brings down as He wills. **2:20-22**

Christ is revealed as:

- The fourth Man in the **fire** **3:25-27**
- Our soon coming **King** **7:13-14, 2:44**

Lessons we can learn from Daniel:

- We are to live our lives in such a way that there is no **compromise**. This preserves our testimony and opens opportunities for God to display His power. **1:8, 3:14-18, 6:3, 13, 16-17, 19-22**
- God is superior in all power over all attempts of the **occult** to interpret spiritual mysteries. **1:17-20, 5:8-12**
- Those who know God’s word will spend time with Him in **prayer**. **9:3**
Those who do will find themselves in **intercession** for His will to be accomplished and for those who sin to be forgiven. **9:4-19**
- God will reveal His **wisdom** concerning the end, only those who will be purified and refined will understand. **12:9-10**