

## OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

### Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

#### *Historical context of Haggai & Zechariah:*

- Haggai & Zechariah both prophesied in and around Jerusalem, starting in 520 B.C.
  - encouraged the people to rebuild the Temple
- Timeline
  - 538 B.C. - King Cyrus' decree
  - ~536 B.C. - return and laying foundation of the Temple --> building stopped due to opposition
  - 520 B.C. (second year of King Darius) - encouraged by Haggai & Zechariah, the work of rebuilding
  - March 12, 516 B.C. - the Temple is completed and dedicated (Ezra 6:13-15)

#### **Haggai**

- 4 prophesies during a 4-month span from August 29 to December 18, 520 B.C.
  - I. A call to repentance (1:1-11)
  - II. Promised glory of the new Temple (2:1-9)
  - III. Blessings for a defiled people (2:10-19)
  - IV. A promise to Zerubbabel (2:20-23)

#### *Major Themes and Concepts in Haggai*

- God - His glory; His faithfulness to His people, in spite of their unfaithfulness
- God's people - the consequences of disobedience, and the blessings of obedience

#### *Glimpses of Christ in Haggai*

- Haggai 2:6-7,9

#### **Zechariah**

- Zechariah, son of Berechiah, son of Iddo; from a priestly family (Nehemiah 12:16)
- contemporary with Haggai, but may have ministered for much longer
- Two major sections:
  - Chapters 1-8 - prophecies of more immediate relevance to the post-exilic community
  - Chapters 9-14 - two oracles concerning the coming King and His Kingdom
- Chapters 1-8
  - I. Introduction to Zechariah (1:1)
  - II. A call to repentance(1:1-6)
  - III. 8 visions in the night (1:7-6:8)
    1. A horseman and horses of different colors (1:7-17)
    2. Four horns and four craftsmen (1:18-21)
    3. A man with a measuring line (2:1-13)
    4. A change of clothes for Joshua the high priest (3:1-10)
    5. A golden lampstand (4:1-14)
    6. A flying scroll (5:1-4)
    7. A woman in a basket (5:5-11)
    8. Four chariots (6:1-8)
  - IV. A change of clothes for Joshua, the high priest (6:9-15)
  - V. A question about fasting (7:1-8:23)
  - VI. Oracle 1 (9:1-11:17): The coming King and Shepherd of the sheep
  - VII. Oracle 2 (12:1-14:21): Restoration and exaltation of God's people

### ***Major Themes and Concepts in Zechariah***

- God
  - His faithfulness
  - His sovereignty over the nations and the events of history
- God's people
  - their utter dependence on God
  - a call to repent and return to God

### ***Glimpses of Christ in Zechariah***

- the Branch - A Kingly Priest (6:11-13)
- the King, coming to reign, riding on a donkey (9:9-10; cf. Matt. 21:1-5)
- 30 pieces of silver (11:12-13; cf. Matt. 27:9-10)
- mourning for the one they pierced (12:10; John 19:34-37)
- a fountain for cleansing of sin (13:1)
- the Shepherd struck, the sheep scattered (13:7; cf. Matt. 26:31)

### **Malachi**

- Malachi - name most likely means "my messenger"
- Date uncertain - likely early (or late) 5th century, before (or some time after) the reforms of Ezra & Nehemiah

### ***Summary of the book***

- 1:1 - introduction
- structured around six "disputes" that God has with His people
  1. God's love, unappreciated by His people (1:2-5)
  2. God dishonored by His people and priests (1:6-2:9)
  3. Judah's unfaithfulness to the covenant (2:10-16)
  4. God's justice questioned by His people (2:17-3:5)
  5. God robbed by His people (3:6-12)
  6. God's people's harsh words against Him (3:13-4:6)

### ***Major Themes and Concepts in Malachi***

- God
  - His love for His people, and His faithfulness to them
  - His greatness and worthiness of honor
  - His justice
- God's people
  - their contempt towards God
  - their unfaithfulness to the covenants
  - their need for repentance and return to God

### ***Glimpses of Christ in Malachi***

- The coming of the Lord, preceded by His messenger (3:1-4; cf. Matt. 11:10-11)
- The coming of the Lord, preceded by the prophet Elijah (4:5-6; cf. Mat. 11:13-14; 17:10-13)
  - fulfilled in John the Baptist coming before Jesus Christ