



Minor Prophets, Pt. 1

A Cloud of Witnesses

Session 21

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Effectively practice prophetic hermeneutics by drawing canonical connections between the Book of the Twelve and the Torah, Former Prophets, and/or Wisdom Literature.
- Summarize the messages of each of the minor prophets in one word or phrase.

INTRODUCTION

The minor prophets are notoriously and lamentably underutilized. They are often misinterpreted as excessively bizarre, obscure, and inapplicable to our lives today. This could not be further from the truth! The Book of the Twelve is profoundly theologically rich and in many ways remarkably applicable to our lives today. In order to interpret these books well, it is necessary to keep a few key points in mind:

- 1) These books are meant to be read as a _____.
- 2) These books are set at times when Israel is _____.
- 3) These books are intentionally and thoroughly _____.

HOSEA: HARLOT

Themes:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

JOEL: LOCUSTS

Themes:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

AMOS: PLUMB LINE

Themes:

1. _____

2. _____

OBADIAH: HOUSE

Themes:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

JONAH: WATER

Themes:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

MICAH: MOUNTAIN

Themes:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

PROPHETIC EXEGESIS: *HAGAH* READING

Hagah: Hebrew word for meditative pondering. It is also the word used to describe the growling of a lion or the cooing of a dove. It connotes the idea of murmuring or muttering over something and revolving a concept in your mind until it is worked into your very being.

Practice *hagah* reading of Jonah 2:3-10. Read this passage slowly and attentively. Look for words or ideas that have come up before in the story. Keep a close eye out for references to promises, pictures, and patterns.

HOMEWORK

- Read pp.365-380 in *Old Testament Theology* by Paul House
- Pick one of these prophets: Hosea, Joel, or Micah. Practice *hagah* reading one of them make at least 3 canonical connections to other biblical books or theological ideas.
- Watch The Bible Project's videos on Jonah, Amos, and Obadiah

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