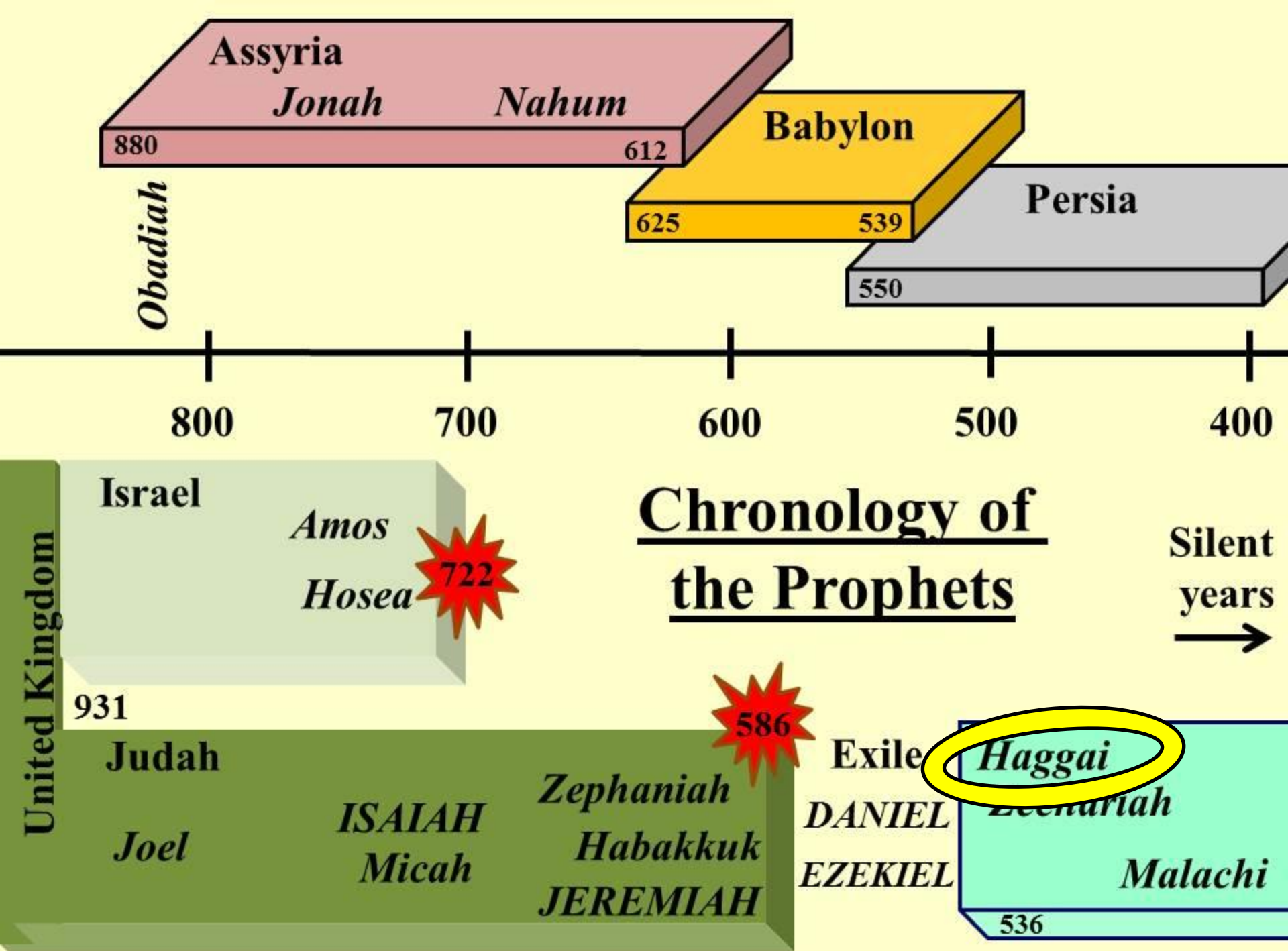




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Haggai

- **A large group of exiles returned in 539 BC under the edict of Cyrus and they began rebuilding the altar and laying the foundation for the temple.**
- **The work then stopped as the people built their homes and worked on their farms.**
- **19 years later the work on the temple had gone no further; meanwhile the people have regularly experienced drought and poor harvests.**

(Ezra 1-6 is the background to Haggai's ministry).

Haggai

- **The book is organized around four messages encouraging God's people to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.**
- **These messages were given over a four-month period during the second year of the reign of Darius of Persia. (520 BC).**
- **The four "words" are addressed to Zerubbabel the governor, Joshua the priest and the people in Jerusalem.**

Haggai

First Word (1:1-11)

Recent droughts and poor harvests are connected to the returned exiles' failure to build God's temple (though they had already built their own homes).

Haggai

Second Word (1:12-2:9)

The glory of the new temple will surpass the first.

(The temple is God's special place of presence).

Haggai

Third Word (2:10-19)

God promises to bless them “from this day on.”

Haggai

Fourth Word (2:20-23)

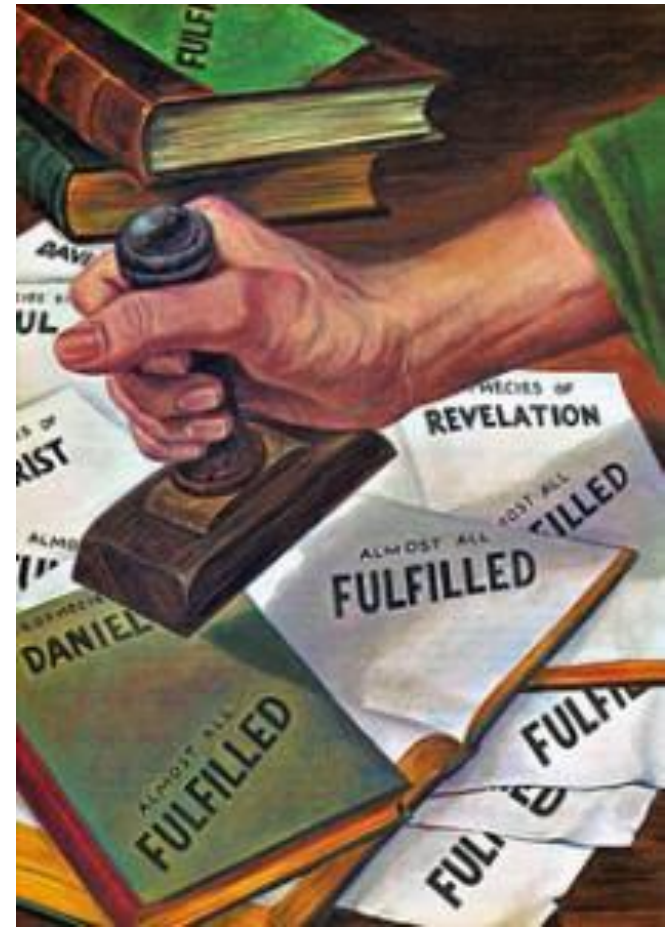
God assures Zerubbabel that he will be with him.

Haggai

- **There are frequent tensions found in the prophetic tradition between present realities and the glorious future of God.**
- **The one (present hope) is spoken in light of the other (future glory).**
- **Note how this occurs in Haggai with both the temple (2:15, 6-9) and Zerubbabel (2:20-22, 23).**

Haggai

- The second temple will exceed the glory of the first.
- **FULFILLED** when Jesus assumes the role of the temple while standing in the courts of the temple - John 2:12-22.



Haggai

- Zerubbabel, heir of David's throne, but a vassal governor of Judah under Persian rule, is promised a future where he will overthrow the worldly powers and become God's "signet ring."
- **FULILLED** in David's greater Son, Jesus.



Haggai

- Haggai reminds us that God's people are to be identified as a people of God's presence - (the role of the temple).
- **FULFILLED** in the coming of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

