

Old Testament Overview

Hosea – Micah

(Mi 5:2-4)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
 - a. Greeting...
2. Series on the "Old Testament Overview."
3. We have been from Genesis – Daniel and we continue tonight with our Overview of the Bible.
 - a. Tonight we will be going over Hosea – Micah.
4. This is half of the Minor Prophets section of the O.T.
 - a. Of course these prophets were not minor in what they accomplished but are minor in size compared to many of the other prophets' books.

I. Hosea

A. History

1. Preached to the Northern Kingdom.
 - i. Same time as Isaiah and Micah.
2. Jereboam II was king when Hosea started his prophetic career
 - i. He was a prophet for 50yrs.
3. Hosea preached during a time of spiritual derogation but material Wealth.
4. Hosea preached about the Assyrian conquest of Israel and God used Hosea's marriage to represent this fact.

B. Outline

1. **(1-3)** Hosea's marriage to Gomer
2. **(4-14)** God's marriage to Israel
 - i. Judgment for Israel's sins – **4-10**
 - ii. God's love for Israel & His willingness to restore her – **11-14**

C. Lessons Learned

1. You can't be too bad to come back to God
 - i. Israel...
 - a. Swore, lied, killed, stole, fornicated, drank alcohol, prostituted, and worshiped idols.
 - b. **I Co 6:9-10** "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."¹

¹ All Scripture is taken from the NKJV unless otherwise noted.

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- ii. God...
 - a. Said repent and return to God's good graces.
 - b. **I Co 6:11** "And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."

II. Joel

A. History

- 1. Joel's name means The Lord is God.
- 2. Probably preached in the 9th century B.C.
 - i. During King Joash's reign 835 B.C.
- 3. Joel preaches to Judah and deals with a drought and a locust plague.
 - i. Preaches that these are God's way of showing His displeasure with them.
 - ii. The plagues represent divine disfavor, punishment for sins, and incentive to repent.

B. Outline

- 1. **(1:1-2:17)** Devastation
- 2. **(2:18-3:21)** Deliverance

C. Lessons Learned

- 1. There "day of the Lord"
 - i. Key phrase for book of Joel
 - a. **Jl 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14**
 - ii. This is dealing with Babylon's eventual destruction of Judah.
 - a. For those that head Joel they needed to prepare for this day.
 - b. Those like Jeremiah did just that and were ready.
- 2. Our "day of the Lord"
 - i. Second coming
 - a. **I Th 4:13-18** "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words."

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- ii. We must be prepared for it.
 - a. **I Th 5:2** "For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night."
 - b. **I Th 5:4** "But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief."

III. Amos

A. History

1. Named after the shepherd who became prophet.
2. Amos lived in a small town name Tekoa 10 miles south of Jerusalem.
 - i. He was a shepherd and tree tender – **1:1; 7:14**
3. Although from the Southern Kingdom God called him to preach to the Northern Kingdom.
 - i. Preached mostly in Bethel to King Jereboam II and the people there.
4. Amos met with strife at every corner and was even accused of trying to overthrow the government.

B. Outline

1. **(1-2:5)** Judgments directed against the nations of Judah
2. **(2:6-6:14)** Judgments directed against Israel
3. **(7-9)** Prophetic visions of Israel's calamity
 - i. Future blessings – **9:11-15**

C. Lessons Learned

1. Anyone & everyone can teach God's Word
 - i. Just a shepherd and tree tender.
 - a. Not a "scholar."
 - ii. Became a prophet of God.
 - a. One called for a purpose...to advocate for God.
 - iii. We all can be advocates for God.
 - a. No matter what our background
 1. **Ga 3:28** "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

IV. Obadiah

A. History

1. Named after the prophet whom is the main person in the book.
2. There are 12 people in the O.T. named Obadiah.
 - i. We know nothing of this Obadiah's personal life.
3. The time of this book fits most likely between 840 & 586 B.C.
4. What we do know is that Obadiah taught against the Edomites.
 - i. The decedents of Esau, Jacobs twin brother.
 - ii. The Edomites had been a thorn in Israel's side since the beginning.
 - iii. They were settled south of the Dead Sea in the vicinity of Mt. Seir.

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6. Obadiah preached the “Day of the Lord” as well to Edom vs **15**.
- B. Outline
1. **(1-9)** Doom pronounced upon Edom
 2. **(10-14)** The reason for Edom’s doom
 3. **(15-21)** The destruction described
- C. Lessons Learned
1. Do Not Mess With God’s People
 - i. Edom was always fighting Israel & helping them to fall into sin.
 - ii. We cannot cause brethren to fall and get away with it.
 - iii. We are supposed to encourage God’s people not help them stumble.
 - a. **Ps 105:12-15** "When they were few in number, Indeed very few, and strangers in it. 13 When they went from one nation to another, From one kingdom to another people, 14 He permitted no one to do them wrong; Yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes, 15 Saying, “Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm.”"
 - b. **Mt 18:5-6** "Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. 6 “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."
 - c. **II Th 1:6-9** "since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power"

V. Jonah

- A. History
1. Named after the main person of the book.
 2. Lived during King Jereboam II of the Northern Kingdom.
 3. During the time of Jonah Assyria was a powerhouse and a dominant political entity.
 - i. Yet they would fall in simply a century and a half.
 4. Here is one of the few places where a Jewish prophet is “sent” to preach to a Gentile country.

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B. Outline

1. (1) Evading preaching responsibilities
2. (2) Repenting and turning back to God
3. (3) Preaching to Nineveh
4. (4) Regrets preaching & Nineveh saved

C. Lessons Learned

1. God loves everyone Jew & Gentile.
 - i. **Jh 4:2** "So he prayed to the LORD, and said, "Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm."
 - ii. **I Jn 4:19** "We love Him because He first loved us."
 - iii. **Ro 5:8** "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
 - iv. **Ro 2:11** "For there is no partiality with God."

VI. Micah

A. History

1. Name means "who is like the Lord."
2. Micah lived in Moresheth in southwest Palestine.
3. Micah lived through 3 Judean kings.
 - i. Jotham, Ahaz, & Hezekiah
4. Micah preached mostly to the common people of the time.
 - i. His main concerns were about the social ills and injustices of those who were in a position to mistreat others.
5. Micah alternates often between doom and hope.

B. Outline

1. (1) Announcement of the destruction of Israel & Judah
2. (2-3) The cause of destruction...sin
3. (4:1-8) The ultimate solution: church of Christ
4. (4:9-5:1) The immediate result: Babylon captivity
5. (5:2-15) The ultimate deliverer: Jesus Christ
6. (6:1-7:10) God's indictment of Israel's history of disobedience
7. (7:11-20) Restoration & blessings

C. Lessons Learned

1. The Christ is the solution to mans sin problem.
 - i. Christ can convict us – **He 4:12**
 - ii. Christ can forgive us – **I Co 15:3**
 - iii. Christ can keep us for eternity – **I Jn 5:13**

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CONCLUSION

1. One thing that is evident over and over in these books is the overwhelming commitment to do what God asks of them, except Jonah.
 - a. They taught and taught until no one listened and then they taught some more.
2. Question: If there was going to be a book written about you and your life would this be something that stood out to others?
 - a. Can people look at your life and see you are committed to God?
3. Invitation
 - a. God's Plan of Salvation
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**