

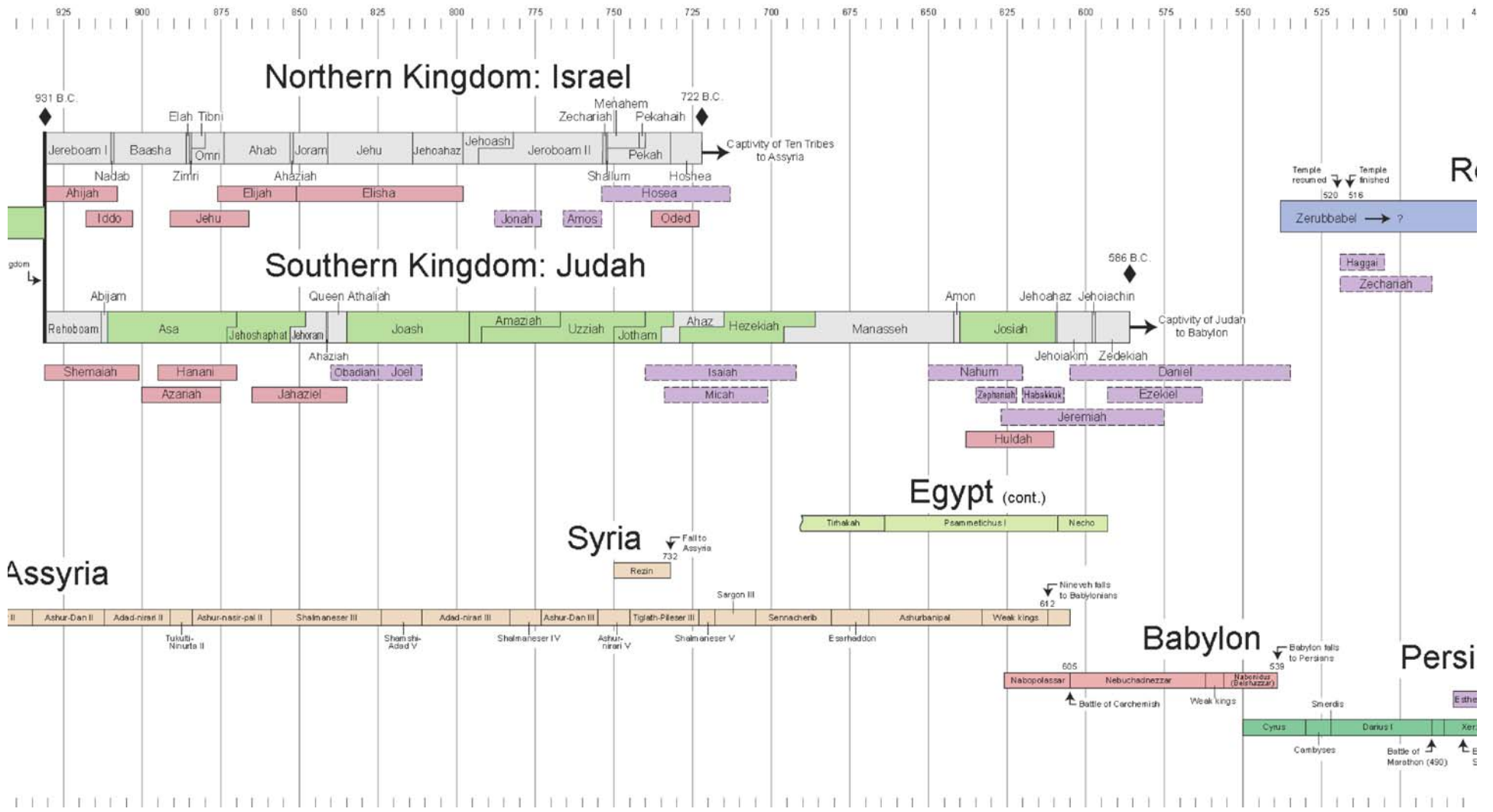
**God Speaks to a People at Ease**  
**Studies in Jonah, Amos, Hosea**

**Salvation is of the LORD**  
**Lesson 1**  
**Jonah 1-2**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*  
*September 4, 2016*

# The Minor Prophets

- ▶ Hebrew Bible – 24 books; Christian O.T. – 39 books
- ▶ Single books: Ezra/Nehemiah, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, 12 minor prophets
- ▶ Major Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah/Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
- ▶ Minor Prophets:
  - To Israel: Jonah, Amos, Hosea
  - To Judah: Joel, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah
  - To Post-exile Israel: Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi



# Jonah

- ▶ A rebellious prophet
- ▶ God's work of salvation
- ▶ Key verse: Jonah 2:9b – “Salvation is from the LORD”
- ▶ Jonah 1-2
  - God's call (1:1-2)
  - God's pursuit (1:3-17)
  - Jonah's prayer (2:1-10)

# God's Call (1:1-2)

- ▶ “The Word of the LORD came to Jonah . . .”
- ▶ “Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it”
  - Forgotten role of Israel
  - The reluctance of the godly (Jonah, early church and Peter)
- ▶ Predicts a future age



# God's Pursuit (1:3-17)

- ▶ Jonah fled from the face of God (1:2, 3, 10; 2:4)
  - Psalm 139:1-3; 7-12 – no escape
  - A deliberate attempt
- ▶ The LORD hurled a great wind (1:4)
- ▶ Psalm 107:1, 23-31, 43; 136 – His lovingkindness
- ▶ Is this the wrath of God?
- ▶ Proverbs 3:11-12 – the “instruction of the LORD”

# Sailors Fear – Jonah Sleeps (1:5-7)

- ▶ Sailors feared death, not God (Rom 1:18f)
- ▶ Sailors prayed to their gods and threw out cargo (1:5)
- ▶ Jonah's spiritual dullness – presumptive peace (1:5)
- ▶ The call of the captain (1:6)
- ▶ The sailors cast lots (1:7)
  - Proverbs 16:33 – . . . every decision from the LORD
  - God's loving-kindness for Jonah and the sailors

# Jonah's 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey (1:8-14)

- ▶ A dual project – for Jonah and by Jonah
- ▶ A strange witness
  - A Hebrew
  - Fear the LORD God of heaven – Creator of all
  - Trying to escape Him
- ▶ A strange response: What must we do to be saved?
- ▶ A strange answer: murder!



# The Sailors Pray (1:14-16)

- ▶ They accepted the Word of the prophet of God
- ▶ They accepted the sovereign mercy of God
- ▶ They threw Jonah into the sea
- ▶ The storm ceased
- ▶ They feared the LORD greatly
  - Offered a sacrifice
  - Made vows

# The LORD Appointed a Great Fish (1:17)

- ▶ A wonderful act
- ▶ A typical act – the death and resurrection of Christ (Matt 12:40; 16:4)
- ▶ A saving act

# Jonah's prayer (2:1-10)

## ▶ Jonah's faith (2:1-2)

- Finally, Jonah calls upon the LORD
- Called out of distress – from the depth of Sheol
- No other option for a believer
- Confidence that the LORD hears those who call upon Him
- No personal basis for God to hear or respond

## **Jonah's Distress (2:3-6)**

- ▶ God cast him into the sea – expelled from God's sight
- ▶ Buried in the depths of the sea
- ▶ Jonah called for help
- ▶ God answered
- ▶ Psalm 18 – God delivers the righteous
- ▶ You have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God

# Jonah's God (2:7-10)

- ▶ Jonah remembered God (Ps 25:4-7)
- ▶ Prayer came to the LORD in His holy temple (Ps 138:2-3)
- ▶ "vanities of worthlessness" (2:8)
- ▶ Lovingkindness of God (2:8)
- ▶ Comes with sacrifice
- ▶ Comes with thanksgiving
- ▶ Salvation is from the LORD – God spoke to the fish



# SALVATION IS OF THE LORD

- ▶ God begins a good work
- ▶ God continues and completes this good work
- ▶ God's ways directed by His lovingkindness
  - Exodus 15:13 – lovingkindness of God leads His people
  - Psalm 23:6 – lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life . . .
- ▶ No condemnation (Romans 8:1)