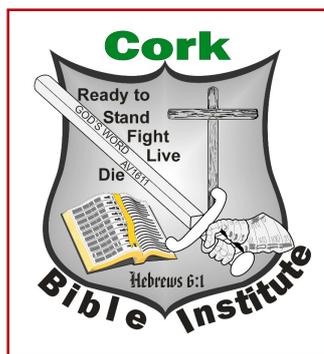


The Bible Companion Series

The Minor Prophets

A Bible-Believing Study Guide

AV 1611 Bible Companion



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Textbook

Only the Bible will be used as our textbook this Semester.

Class Requirements

1. Read through the Minor Prophets TWICE. There are 67 chapters in these twelve small-ish books of the Old Testament. They will need to be read from Hosea through Malachi, TWICE by the end of the Semester. This semester has 15 weeks in it, so that means you need to read 1 to 2 chapters a weekday.
2. Write a two page summary of the LIFE of one of the Minor Prophets: i.e., his background, his burden, the way people responded to his preaching, what God asked of him, etc.
3. Complete the entire class notebook by filling in all the class notes.
4. Attend 80% of the classes (that means at least 12 of the class days). You must have permission to miss any more than 4 days of class.
5. Pass the Final Exam (Greater than 70% to pass).

Introduction to the Minor Prophets

A. Their Importance and Significance

1. Twelve short books from Hosea to Malachi
2. Called 'Minor' Prophets not because of less importance than other prophetic books, but smaller in size. Containing just 67 chapters, they make up just 4% of the Old Testament.
3. Represent some of the most neglected books in the Bible.
4. Are primarily prophetic – foretelling the future, both of coming judgement upon the northern Ten Tribes of Israel, upon Judah, and upon the surrounding nations, as well as future blessings upon the restored nation of Israel.
5. These books, along with Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel all were exciting to the Jewish readers because they focused on how God was working to bring Israel back right through the coming judgment of the mighty Messiah!

B. Their Placement in the Bible

1. _____, right at the end of the Old Testament. Not chronologically. Why?
 - a. They deal with end times and with coming judgment
 - b. They generally skip over the coming of the Saviour from sin, and focus mainly on the coming Messiah and His judgment of sin – which occurs during the Tribulation time period
2. Grouped together, just like several other books are grouped:
 - a. Pentateuch (Gen, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deut) called, "The Books of Moses" (Luke 16:29)
 - b. Poetical books (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon)
 - c. Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
 - d. Pastoral Epistles (1 & 2 Timothy, Titus)
 - e. Major and Minor Prophets - called, "The Prophets" (Luke 24:27)

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE					
OLD TESTAMENT - 39 Books			NEW TESTAMENT - 27 Books		
LAW - 5	POETRY - 5	MAJOR PROPHETS - 5	GOSPELS - 4	PAUL'S LETTERS TO FRIENDS - 4	
GENESIS EXODUS LEVITICUS NUMBERS DEUTERONOMY	JOB PSALMS PROVERBS ECCLESIASTES SONG OF SOLOMON	ISAIAH JEREMIAH LAMENTATIONS EZEKIEL DANIEL	MATTHEW MARK LUKE JOHN	1 TIMOTHY 2 TIMOTHY TITUS PHILEMON	
HISTORY - 12		MINOR PROPHETS - 12	HISTORY - 1		
JOSHUA JUDGES RUTH 1 SAMUEL 2 SAMUEL 1 KINGS 2 KINGS 1 CHRONICLES 2 CHRONICLES EZRA NEHEMIAH ESTHER		HOSEA JOEL AMOS OBADIAH JONAH MICAH NAHUM HABAKKUK ZEPHANIAH HAGGAI ZECHARIAH MALACHI	ACTS		
			PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES - 9	GENERAL LETTERS - 9	
			ROMANS 1 CORINTHIANS 2 CORINTHIANS GALATIANS EPHESIANS PHILIPPIANS COLOSSIANS 1 THESSALONIANS 2 THESSALONIANS	HEBREWS JAMES 1 PETER 2 PETER 1 JOHN 2 JOHN 3 JOHN JUDE REVELATION	

C. Time of their writing: 8th to 6th centuries B.C.

1. Span both the Old Testament and the New Testament – not only an Old Testament office
2. There are seven prophetic periods of prophets in the Bible:
 - a. _____ to Abraham
 - 1) Enoch (Jude 14,15)
 - 2) Noah prophesied of the coming flood (Heb 11:7)
 - b. Abraham to _____ – the time of the Patriarchs
 - 1) Abraham was a prophet (Gen 20:7)
 - 2) Job
 - 3) Jacob
 - 4) Joseph (Gen 49)
 - c. Moses to _____ – the time of the Judges
 - 1) Moses (Dt 34:10)
 - 2) Aaron (Ex 7:1)
 - 3) Baalam
 - 4) A Donkey (2Pet 2:16)
 - d. _____ to Hosea (1Sam 3:1) – the time of the Kings of Israel
 - 1) Samuel (1Sam 3:20)
 - 2) King Saul (briefly, 1Sam 10:11,12)
 - 3) King David (Act 2:30)
 - 4) Gad (1Sam 22:5)
 - 5) Nathan (2Sam 7:2)
 - 6) Ahijah (1Kgs 11:29)
 - 7) Jehu (1Kgs 16:7)
 - 8) Oded (2Chr 15:8)
 - 9) Elijah (1Kgs 18:22)
 - 10) Elisha (1Kgs 19:16)
 - 11) Micaiah (1Kgs 22:13)
 - 12) Isaiah (1Kgs 19:2)
 - e. Hosea to _____
 - 1) Daniel (Matt 24:15)
 - 2) As well as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel
 - 3) All of the twelve Minor Prophets
 - 4) Then it went quiet for 400 years
 - f. _____ Silent Years
 - g. John the Baptist to Acts 1
 - 1) John the Baptist (Mt 11:9)
 - 2) Jesus (John 4:19)
 - 3) John (Revelation)
 - h. Acts 1 to the completion of the Bible – the foundation of the Church
 - 1) With the Holy Spirit showing us "things to come" John 16:13
 - 2) Paul, Barnabas (Acts 13:1)
 - 3) Judas and Silas (Acts 15:32)

- 4) Agabus (Acts 21:10)
 - 5) See 1Cor 12:28; Eph 4:11
 - 6) This period ends with the completion of the Scriptures (1Cor 13:10)
 - i. The Rapture, Through the Tribulation, and into the Millennium (Joel 2:28,29)
 - 1) The 144,000 witnesses with Moses and Elijah in the Tribulation (Mal 4:5)
 - 2) Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy
 - 3) Your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
 - 4) Upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.
 - j. NOTE: After the Tribulation, there will not be any more prophets (Zech 13:2-f). They will not be needed anymore! All will know the Lord (Heb 8:11)!
3. Different titles of prophets:
- a. _____ (1 Sam 9:9)
 - b. _____ (1 Sam 9:8)
4. Their Role (Luke 24:25-27, 44)
- a. To prepare people for the coming Messiah (Acts 3:18)
 - b. To explain that God would restore all things (Acts 3:21)
 - c. To WARN God's people of God's coming judgment (Acts 3:23)! They are not primarily called to BLESS!
 - d. To get people to believe on the Messiah, Jesus (Acts 26:27)
 - e. To be an example of suffering and patience (James 5:10)
 - f. To be thoroughly examined, and if true, then obeyed (1Jn 4:1)

E. A Summary of the Themes of the Minor Prophets

1. Hosea - Israel's Unfaithfulness Towards God
2. Amos - When The Lord Roars From Zion
3. Jonah - It's Hard To Love Your Enemies
4. Joel - The Day of the Lord is at Hand
5. Obadiah - Pride Goeth Before Destruction
6. Micah - Gloom Before Glory
7. Nahum - Righteous Revenge
8. Habakkuk - Run Sinner, Run! Flee from the Wrath to Come!
9. Zephaniah - A Consuming Fire
10. Haggai - Finish What You Start Out To Do
11. Zechariah - The Lord Remembers
12. Malachi - When God Doesn't Bless

F. What To Look For in the Minor Prophets

1. _____ of prophecies - at the First as well as the Second Advent.
2. The absence of the _____.
3. The long-term _____ of God through history: not just the short-term judgements and condemnations.