

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

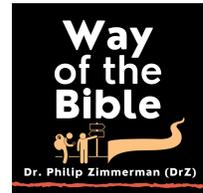
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



Welcome to Episode #062 of Way of the Bible podcast. This is our sixth of eight episodes in our mini-series entitled, Major and Minor Prophets | Isaiah to Malachi. On this episode we're going to look at the last six books of the minor prophets, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

Covering six books on one episode is going to require just brief touches of huge nuggets of prophetic text in each book. Hopefully you will be encourage to pick up your Bible and read them.

We'll be covering a lot of scripture that has great significance in the study of eschatology or the end times. While I could comment on how each of these passages fits into the end times puzzle, I'll save that for another mini-series where I can show how all the pieces together from the book of Revelation. If you're interested in chasing some of these down on your own, just download the show notes and put the passages into a google search with a phrase something like, eschatological meaning.

Up first is the three-chapter book of Nahum. Nahum is thought have been a prophet in Judah around the time of the Babylonian conquest of Judah. His prophecy is directed to the fall on Nineveh. A few generations after Nineveh repented because of the preaching of Jonah in their streets, the Assyrian empire conquered Egypt and destroyed the northern kingdom of Israel and much of Judah on their way.

Nahum lets the reader know up front God is the one who watches over Israel and Judah and is not happy with what the Assyrians did on their way through His land. He encourages Judah by saying, **Nahum 1:12-15** – *Thus says the LORD, "Though they are at full strength and many, they will be cut down and pass away. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more. 13 And now I will break his yoke from off you and will burst your bonds apart." 14 The LORD has given commandment about you [Nineveh]: "No more shall your name be perpetuated; from the house of your gods I will cut off the carved image and the metal image. I will make your grave, for you are vile." 15 Behold, upon the mountains, the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace! Keep your feasts, O Judah; fulfill your vows, for never again shall the worthless pass through you; he is utterly cut off.*

God gives his reason for destroying Niveveh in **Nahum 2:2** – *For the LORD is restoring the majesty of Jacob as the majesty of Israel, for plunderers have plundered them and ruined their branches.*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

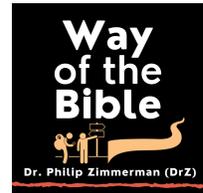
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



Nahum then goes on to describe what the destruction of the capital of the empire will look like, ending with **Nahum 2:10-13** – *Desolate! Desolation and ruin! Hearts melt and knees tremble; anguish is in all loins; all faces grow pale! 11 Where is the lions' den, the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion and lioness went, where his cubs were, with none to disturb? 12 The lion tore enough for his cubs and strangled prey for his lionesses; he filled his caves with prey and his dens with torn flesh. 13 Behold, I am against you, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will burn your chariots in smoke, and the sword shall devour your young lions. I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers shall no longer be heard.*

Nahum again presents charges against Nineveh and notes God's anger. **Nahum 3:5-7** – *Behold, I am against you, declares the LORD of hosts, and will lift up your skirts over your face; and I will make nations look at your nakedness and kingdoms at your shame. 6 I will throw filth at you and treat you with contempt and make you a spectacle. 7 And all who look at you will shrink from you and say, "Wasted is Nineveh; who will grieve for her?" Where shall I seek comforters for you?*

Nahum describes the aftermath of Nineveh in **Nahum 3:17-19** – *Your princes are like grasshoppers, your scribes like clouds of locusts settling on the fences in a day of cold—when the sun rises, they fly away; no one knows where they are. 18 Your shepherds are asleep, O king of Assyria; your nobles slumber. Your people are scattered on the mountains with none to gather them. 19 There is no easing your hurt; your wound is grievous. All who hear the news about you clap their hands over you. For upon whom has not come your unceasing evil?*

As a note before we continue, God does not let the guilty go unpunished. If we do not see their punishment in this life, as was the case for tens or hundreds of thousands killed by the Assyrians, be certain, that punishment is individually rendered on the other side. Problem is all of humanity is guilty and deserving of punishment. God provided the fix to this problem for those who are redeemed by their faith in God. Much more on that later.

Habakkuk prophesied in Judah during the southern kingdoms ravaging by Babylon. In his three chapter book, As he starts his writing, Habakkuk appears perplexed by the extent of God's wrath against his own people. God explains to Habakkuk he has raised up the wicked Babylonians as his tool for destroying the destroyers, and they will be ruthless until it is complete.

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

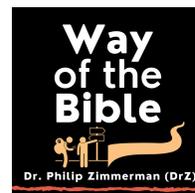
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



Habakkuk makes a complaint similar to what many even today make about God when reading such thing. **Habakkuk 1:12-13, 17** – *Are you not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment, and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof. 13 You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong, why do you idly look at traitors and remain silent when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he? ...17 Is he then to keep on emptying his net and mercilessly killing nations forever?*

**Habakkuk 2:2-5** – *And the LORD answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. 3 For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. 4 “Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.*

The LORD goes on to explain to Habbauk the many failing sins of man to amass great gain but in the end reap destruction. These include wine, greed, theft, gains from evil works, murder, seduction, and idolatry. The LORD notes to Habakkuk, nothing a man does is outside the sight or mind of God, and that there is a day to pay the piper.

Habakkuk 2:13-14, 20 – *Behold, is it not from the LORD of hosts that peoples labor merely for fire, and nations weary themselves for nothing? 14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ... 17 But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.”*

Most of the third chapter of Habakkuk is a prophetic prayer that points to the time of the end when God will judge the nations. **Habakkuk 3:2-16** – *O LORD, I have heard the report of you, and your work, O LORD, do I fear. In the midst of the years revive it; in the midst of the years make it known; in wrath remember mercy. 3 God came from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His splendor covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.4 His brightness was like the light; rays flashed from his hand; and there he veiled his power. 5 Before him went pestilence, and plague followed at his heels. 6 He stood and measured the earth; he looked and shook the nations; then the eternal mountains were scattered; the everlasting hills sank low. His were the everlasting ways. 7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble. 8 Was your wrath against the rivers, O LORD? Was your anger against the rivers, or your indignation against the sea, when you rode on your horses, on your chariot of salvation? 9 You stripped the sheath from your bow, calling for many arrows. Selah You split the earth with rivers. 10 The mountains saw you and writhed; the raging waters swept on; the deep gave forth its voice; it lifted its hands on high. 11 The sun and moon stood still in their*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

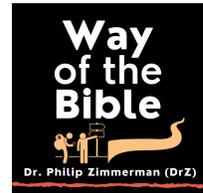
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



*place at the light of your arrows as they sped, at the flash of your glittering spear. 12 You marched through the earth in fury; you threshed the nations in anger. 13 You went out for the salvation of your people, for the salvation of your anointed. You crushed the head of the house of the wicked, laying him bare from thigh to neck. Selah 14 You pierced with his own arrows the heads of his warriors, who came like a whirlwind to scatter me, rejoicing as if to devour the poor in secret. 15 You trampled the sea with your horses, the surging of mighty waters. 16 I hear, and my body trembles; my lips quiver at the sound; rottenness enters into my bones; my legs tremble beneath me. Yet I will quietly wait for the day of trouble to come upon people who invade us.*

There is a lot in that passage we'll cover on another mini-series, but here again we have another prophet speaking of God coming to judge the nations. And until then Habakkuk accepts he will be waiting quietly until the invaders are punished.

Habakkuk ends with something that we can all mediate upon and take to heart in the coming days. **Habakkuk 3:17-19** – *Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, 18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. 19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places.*

Three chapters seems to be a streak that our next book Zephaniah is going to keep intact. Zephaniah prophesied during the reign of Judah's King Josiah son of Amon and was the great-great-grandson of King Hezekiah. So he and King Josiah were distinctly related. Zephaniah majors on the coming day of the Lord and the Lord's coming to stay as King.

While the following passage may have some application to the invasion by Babylon, the extent of what is being described is global and has not yet been. **Zephaniah 1:2-18** – *"I will utterly sweep away everything from the face of the earth," declares the LORD. 3 "I will sweep away man and beast; I will sweep away the birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, and the rubble with the wicked. I will cut off mankind from the face of the earth," declares the LORD. 4 "I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off from this place the remnant of Baal and the name of the idolatrous priests along with the priests, 5 those who bow down on the roofs to the host of the heavens, those who bow down and swear to the LORD and yet swear by Milcom, 6 those who have turned back from following the LORD, who do not seek the LORD or inquire of him." 7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. 8 And on the day of the*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

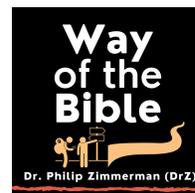
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



LORD's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. 9 On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. 10 "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. 11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' 13 Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring distress on mankind, so that they shall walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the LORD; their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them on the day of the wrath of the LORD. In the fire of his jealousy, all the earth shall be consumed; for a full and sudden end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The second chapter opens with window of hope and then tells of the destruction to be visited upon the nations surrounding Judah. **Zephaniah 2:1-3** - Gather together, yes, gather, O shameless nation, 2 before the decree takes effect—before the day passes away like chaff—before there comes upon you the burning anger of the LORD, before there comes upon you the day of the anger of the LORD. 3 Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, who do his just commands; seek righteousness; seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the anger of the LORD.

The LORD describes at the beginning of the third chapter how the apostasy in Jerusalem remains even after he has destroyed all their enemies. In response the LORD says, **Zephaniah 3:8** – "Therefore wait for me," declares the LORD, "for the day when I rise up to seize the prey. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out upon them my indignation, all my burning anger; for in the fire of my jealousy all the earth shall be consumed.

Following this judgement is coming a day that would surprise the apostate in Israel. **Zephaniah 3:9-13** – "For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of the LORD and serve him with one

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

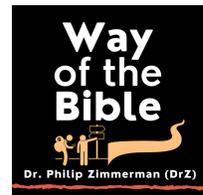
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



accord. 10 From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers, the daughter of my dispersed ones, shall bring my offering. 11 "On that day you shall not be put to shame because of the deeds by which you have rebelled against me; for then I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain. 12 But I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD, 13 those who are left in Israel; they shall do no injustice and speak no lies, nor shall there be found in their mouth a deceitful tongue. For they shall graze and lie down, and none shall make them afraid."

Zephaniah then lets the reader know, He's coming back! **Zephaniah 3:14-20** – Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! 15 The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. 16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. 17 The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. 18 I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. 19 Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. 20 At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

Haggai our next prophet breaks the three chapter streak with a two chapter book. He prophecies during the period of Ezra and the reign of King Darius of Medo/Persia at a time when construction of the temple in Jerusalem had been stopped. While work at the temple had stopped, the returned remnant began to focus on the building of their own structures.

God had Haggai remind the people of the importance of putting God's house before their own. God notes the failure of their crops and lack of clothing and income are a result of God withholding the rain in the same manner the people withheld finishing his temple. Haggai 1:14-15 – And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people. And they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God, 15 on the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

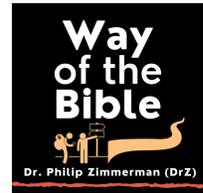
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



The people who had seen the former glory of the temple saw the ruins on which a new foundation was being made and thought it would never be the same. God provides them encouragement. Haggai 2:4-9 – *Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, declares the LORD. Be strong, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land, declares the LORD. Work, for I am with you, declares the LORD of hosts, 5 according to the covenant that I made with you when you came out of Egypt. My Spirit remains in your midst. Fear not. 6 For thus says the LORD of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. 7 And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts. 8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the LORD of hosts. 9 The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the LORD of hosts.*”

And while they still hadn't seen any change in their condition, God told them to note the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the ninth month when the cornerstone was laid. **Haggai 2:19** – *...from this day on I will bless you.*”

On this same 24<sup>th</sup> day of the ninth month the LORD made a promise concerning Zerubbabel. Haggai 2:21-23 – *“Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I am about to shake the heavens and the earth, 22 and to overthrow the throne of kingdoms. I am about to destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations, and overthrow the chariots and their riders. And the horses and their riders shall go down, every one by the sword of his brother. 23 On that day, declares the LORD of hosts, I will take you, O Zerubbabel my servant, the son of Shealtiel, declares the LORD, and make you like a signet ring, for I have chosen you, declares the LORD of hosts.”* We will see this fulfilled in the millennial kingdom to come.

This new temple is often referred to as Zerubbabel's temple who was a descendant of David. The temple was desecrated in 169 BC by Antiochus Euphianes. In 19 BC Herod the great began restoration of this temple. Restoration and expansion of the temple was near completion when the Romans completely leveled the temple in 70 AD. There are two more temples anticipated in Scripture which we'll discuss on a future mini-series.

Zechariah breaks the short book mold with a mammoth work of fourteen chapters. It is overflowing end to end with significant prophetic text including eight visions, four messages, and two burdens. This is a very significant book in terms of eschatology, the study of the end times.

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

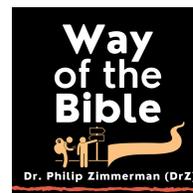
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



A contemporary of Haggai the prophet. He prophesied to the returned remnant in Jerusalem both during the construction of Zerubbabel's temple as well as after. The first eight chapters were likely written to the remnant to encourage them as they rebuilt the temple. The last six chapters were likely written after completion of the temple in anticipation of the rise of Greece, the coming of and rejection of Messiah, and the final coming of the LORD to establish his rulership in a new kingdom.

Zechariah starts with a call for repentance and a rejection of the idolatries and apostasy of their forefathers. He then recounts visions and a conversation with an angel about four horsemen, four horns, and four craftsman he saw in his visions. He is told the horses and horsemen were sent out by the LORD to patrol the whole earth. They noted at the end of their patrol the whole earth was at peace. To which God responded through the angel to Zechariah, **Zech. 1:14-17** - *'Cry out, Thus says the LORD of hosts: I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion. 15 And I am exceedingly angry with the nations that are at ease; for while I was angry but a little, they furthered the disaster. 16 Therefore, thus says the LORD, I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy; my house shall be built in it, declares the LORD of hosts, and the measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem. 17 Cry out again, Thus says the LORD of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity, and the LORD will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.'*

Zechariah has a vision of four horns and four craftsman. The angel told him the four horns were the those who scattered Israel, Judah, and Jerusalem and the four craftsman were sent to terrify and tear down those who used their power to scatter Judah.

Zechariah has a vision of a man with a measuring line. He asked what the man was doing and he said measuring the length and width of Jerusalem. Another angel joined the first who spoke with Zechariah and told him, **Zech. 2:4-5** – *Run, say to that young man, 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and livestock in it. 5 And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the LORD, and I will be the glory in her midst.'*

The second angel noted to Zechariah that those who touch Judah touches the apple of God's eye. The angel tells the remnant God spread to the four heavens in the north and those remaining in Babylon to return to home. **Zech. 2:10-13** – *Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the LORD. 11 And many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. 12 And the LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

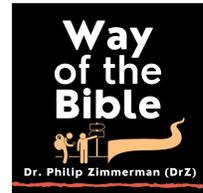
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



choose Jerusalem." 13 Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

Zechariah then has a vision of Joshua the high priest and a foreshadowing of the coming messiah. **Zech. 3:1-10** – Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" 3 Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. 4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." 5 And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by. 6 And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, 7 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. 8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. 9 For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. 10 In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."

Zechariah then had a vision of a golden lamp stands and two olive trees. When Zechariah asked for clarification of what these were the angel talking with him said, **Zech 4:6** – "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts. The angel then told him, **Zech. 4:10** "These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range through the whole earth." Regarding the olive trees, the angel said, **Zech. 4:14** – "These are the two anointed ones who stand by the Lord of the whole earth."

Zechariah then saw a vision of a flying scroll. The angel told him, **Zech. 5:3** – "This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole land. For everyone who steals shall be cleaned out according to what is on one side, and everyone who swears falsely shall be cleaned out according to what is on the other side. What's written on the scroll will consume the timber and stones of those to whom it is sent.

Zechariah then saw a vision of a woman sitting under a leaden covered in a basket. He was told the woman was all the iniquity in the whole land and was called wickedness.

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

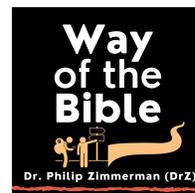
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



The basket was lifted up by a stork to be taken to Shinar where a house would be built for it. And once complete the basket will be put down on its base.

Zechariah then has a vision of four chariots coming out between two bronze mountains. The chariot horses were red, black, white, and dappled. They were to be sent to the four winds of heaven, after presenting themselves to the LORD. The black horse followed by the white horse were to go to the north country and the dappled horse to the south. The LORD sent them out to patrol the whole earth and His Spirit was set at rest by those that went to the north.

Zechariah is then told to take some witnesses who just arrived from Babylon, make a crown of silver and gold, and set the crown on the head of Joshua, the son of Jehozadak the high priest. **Zech. 5:12-13** - *And say to him, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD. 13 It is he who shall build the temple of the LORD and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both."* This is messianic reminder reminiscent of the branch in **Jeremiah 23:6** - *"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.*

Zechariah tells the people four messages of the LORD for the people in chapters 7 and 8. The LORD rebukes their hypocrisy. He instructs them to repent of disobedience. He promises a restoration of Israel. And He tells the people to rejoice in the future of Jerusalem and Judah.

Beginning in chapter 9 to the end are messianic prophecies of the first and second coming of Jesus. Zechariah begins by warning of judgment coming to the surrounding nations. Then he turns to the coming messiah. **Zech. 9:9-12** - *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

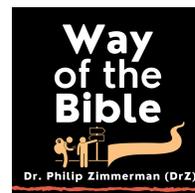
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



The LORD is against the false shepherds who lead his people astray. **Zech. 10:3-4** – “My anger is hot against the shepherds, and I will punish the leaders; for the LORD of hosts cares for his flock, the house of Judah, and will make them like his majestic steed in battle. 4 From him shall come the cornerstone, from him the tent peg, from him the battle bow, from him every ruler—all of them together.

The LORD is going to regather his people. **Zech. 10:6, 8-10** – “I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them. ... 8 “I will whistle for them and gather them in, for I have redeemed them, and they shall be as many as they were before. 9 Though I scattered them among the nations, yet in far countries they shall remember me, and with their children they shall live and return. 10 I will bring them home from the land of Egypt, and gather them from Assyria, and I will bring them to the land of Gilead and to Lebanon, till there is no room for them.

Regathered in the land followed by 400 years of prophetic silence, the shepherds of Judah and Jerusalem chased after riches and honor, once again forsaking the LORD and leading the people astray. So the LORD devoted the people and the land to destruction, this time sending Jesus as their shepherd (see John 10:11) to deliver the message. **Zech. 11:7-14** – So I became the shepherd of the flock doomed to be slaughtered by the sheep traders. And I took two staffs, one I named Favor, the other I named Union. And I tended the sheep. 8 In one month I destroyed the three shepherds [priests, rabbis, and pharisees]. But I became impatient with them, and they also detested me. 9 So I said, “I will not be your shepherd. What is to die, let it die. What is to be destroyed, let it be destroyed. And let those who are left devour the flesh of one another.” 10 And I took my staff Favor, and I broke it, annulling the covenant that I had made with all the peoples. 11 So it was annulled on that day, and the sheep traders, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the LORD. 12 Then I said to them, “If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.” And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. 13 Then the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter. 14 Then I broke my second staff Union, annulling the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

Read all of Matthew 23 and you'll see Jesus breaking of the favor staff. The last verse of Matthew 23 is verse 39 that says, *For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

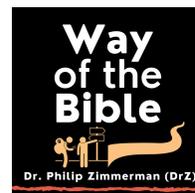
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



Jesus entered into a New Covenant in the upper room with his disciples the night he was betrayed by Judas for 30 pieces of silver. **Luke 22:20** – *And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. Jesus accomplished what he was sent to do as a servant on the cross and by his resurrection from the dead. The gospel is for the Jew first and also for the gentile.*

Paul tells us in Romans **11:25-32** – *Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. 26 And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, "The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob"; 27 "and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins." 28 As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. 29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30 For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, 31 so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. 32 For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.*

There is a time, and perhaps soon, when the fullness of the gentiles has come in. When this happens, God will again turn to regather his people and judge the world. Jews began regathering in Israel and Jerusalem in 1948. While considered a Jewish nation, they are far still from God and not partakers in the New Covenant. Zechariah indicates God is going to send them another shepherd who will be the opposite of Jesus. The anti-Jesus, the anti-Christ. **Zech. 11:15-17** – *Then the LORD said to me, "Take once more the equipment of a foolish shepherd. 16 For behold, I am raising up in the land a shepherd who does not care for those being destroyed, or seek the young or heal the maimed or nourish the healthy, but devours the flesh of the fat ones, tearing off even their hoofs. 17 "Woe to my worthless shepherd, who deserts the flock! May the sword strike his arm and his right eye! Let his arm be wholly withered, his right eye utterly blinded!"*

Zechariah 12 is viewed by many eschatologists to be reflective of the climax of the coming great tribulation when God rescues remnant Israel from the nations of the world under the leadership of the anti-christ are about to capture Jerusalem. As the people recognize the battle for Jerusalem looks bleak, the jews will gather for three days of fervent repentance and prayer to God. On the third day, God will awaken all the Jews to the reality that Jesus is the Messiah and fulfill what Jesus spoke in **Matthew 23:39** - *For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

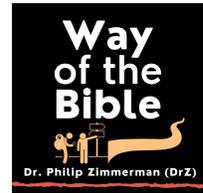
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



**Zechariah 12:1-11** – *The oracle of the word of the LORD concerning Israel: Thus declares the LORD, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the spirit of man within him: 2 “Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah. 3 On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who lift it will surely hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth will gather against it. 4 On that day, declares the LORD, I will strike every horse with panic, and its rider with madness. But for the sake of the house of Judah I will keep my eyes open, when I strike every horse of the peoples with blindness. 5 Then the clans of Judah shall say to themselves, ‘The inhabitants of Jerusalem have strength through the LORD of hosts, their God.’ 6 “On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a blazing pot in the midst of wood, like a flaming torch among sheaves. And they shall devour to the right and to the left all the surrounding peoples, while Jerusalem shall again be inhabited in its place, in Jerusalem. 7 “And the LORD will give salvation to the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not surpass that of Judah. 8 On that day the LORD will protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the LORD, going before them. 9 And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. 10 “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. 11 On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.*

**Zechariah 13:1** – *On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.*

Zechariah indicates this cleansing is going to be costly. **Zech. 13:7-9** – *Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who stands next to me,” declares the LORD of hosts. “Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones. 8 In the whole land, declares the LORD, two thirds shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive. 9 And I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested. They will call upon my name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘They are my people’; and they will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’”*

Zechariah 14 describes the coming day of the LORD. **Zech 14:1-21** – *Behold, a day is coming for the LORD, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. 2 For I*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

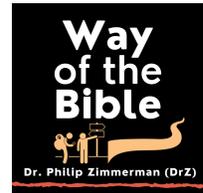
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



*will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. 4 On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. 5 And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. 6 On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. 7 And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the LORD, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light. 8 On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea.[fn] It shall continue in summer as in winter. 9 And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one. 10 The whole land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem shall remain aloft on its site from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses. 11 And it shall be inhabited, for there shall never again be a decree of utter destruction. Jerusalem shall dwell in security. 12 And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths. 13 And on that day a great panic from the LORD shall fall on them, so that each will seize the hand of another, and the hand of the one will be raised against the hand of the other. 14 Even Judah will fight at Jerusalem.[fn] And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be collected, gold, silver, and garments in great abundance. 15 And a plague like this plague shall fall on the horses, the mules, the camels, the donkeys, and whatever beasts may be in those camps. 16 Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths. 17 And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. 18 And if the family of Egypt does not go up and present themselves, then on them there shall be no rain;[fn] there shall be the plague with which the LORD afflicts the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths. 19 This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths. 20 And on that day there shall be inscribed on the bells of the horses, "Holy to the LORD." And the pots in the house of the LORD shall be as the bowls before the altar. 21 And every*

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

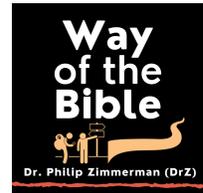
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



*pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holy to the LORD of hosts, so that all who sacrifice may come and take of them and boil the meat of the sacrifice in them. And there shall no longer be a trader in the house of the LORD of hosts on that day.*

And now to our final minor prophet Malachi and his 4 chapter book. Malachi prophesied in the days of Nehemiah when the exiles had returned to the land. Malachi was the last of God's prophets recorded in the OT. It would be 400 years before another prophet of God appeared in Israel by the name of John, the baptizer.

Malachi opens with telling of God's love for Israel followed immediately at God's disgust with the priests who offer lame animals for sacrifice. The LORD goes on to rebuke and chastise the priests for their instruction had caused many to stumble and they corrupted the covenant God had made with Levi. **Malachi 2:5-7** – *My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me. He stood in awe of my name. 6 True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. 7 For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts*

The LORD openly rebukes Judah as well for forsaking God and marrying daughters of a foreign god (women outside of Israel). And for being faithless and divorcing the wives of their youth. **Malachi 2:14-16** – *though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. 15 Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves<sup>[fn]</sup> in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. 16 "For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers<sup>[fn]</sup> his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless."*

Malachi opens the third chapter with a warning concerning the coming day of the LORD. **Malachi 3:1-2** – *"Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. 2 But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?"*

He then goes on to describe the robbery of God by tithes and offerings withheld from the temple has been reward by God's lack of blessing. The LORD challenges the people to test him in his blessing of far more than their generosity in giving.

## SHOWNOTES

### Podcast Episode: 6 of 8

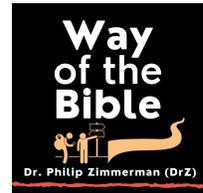
Episode #062

Minor Prophets Part 2 | Nahum to Malachi

### Mini-Series 8

Major and Minor Prophets

Isaiah to Malachi



Malachi ends with a description of the day of the LORD. **Malachi 4:1-5** – *For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. 3 And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. 4 “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. 5 “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. 6 And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”*

And that ends our overview of the last six minor prophets Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. I hope now you clearly see the prophetic texts are indicating the Lord Jesus is returning to bring the remnant of Israel into the New Covenant. After which Jesus will establish his millennial kingdom and rule the world from Jerusalem.

Join me on our next episode where I had the opportunity to speak with Boyd Bailey. Boyd is the president of the Georgia chapter of the National Christian Foundation and the founder of Wisdom Hunters, a ministry whose daily devotional emails help more than 100,000 readers connect with Christ. We'll be talking about wisdom...

Thank you for listening.

Subscribe, Follow, Rate, and Review

Show notes and other resources found on [WayoftheBible.com](http://WayoftheBible.com)

Join me on the Path Write me a note

Simply Believe God and Follow Jesus

Live as a child of light overflowing with living water in the will of God

- Joyful always, Praying Continually, and Thankful in all circumstances

Be blessed my brothers and sisters