

OLD TESTAMENT

GOD'S SAVING PLAN

SII-2020

THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN
OLD AND NEW

“Do you not understand all these things? ... then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.”

—Jesus of Nazareth ... Mt 13:51-52

SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING

AND

GOSPEL

The weekly Bible Study



RELATIONSHIPS

- ❖ The *First* Reading is always related to the Gospel.
 - ❖ The First reading sheds light on the Gospel, and therefore on God's plan and often more particularly on Jesus by way of allegory or prophecy.
 - ❖ The *Responsorial Psalm* often advances the same theme.
- ❖ The *Second* Reading - one of the Epistles is generally unrelated except by coincidence or on special Solemnity Liturgies.

EXERCISE CHECKLIST

- ❖ Why did the church pick THIS Old Testament reading for this Gospel?
 1. What is the obvious connection to God's continuing Plan?
 2. Does this reading tell me more about God and/or Jesus?
 3. Does it illuminate how I ought to live?
 4. Does it inform me further of God's ultimate plan for me?

EXERCISE CHECKLIST

CCC 115-117

- ❖ Why did the church pick THIS Old Testament reading for this Gospel?

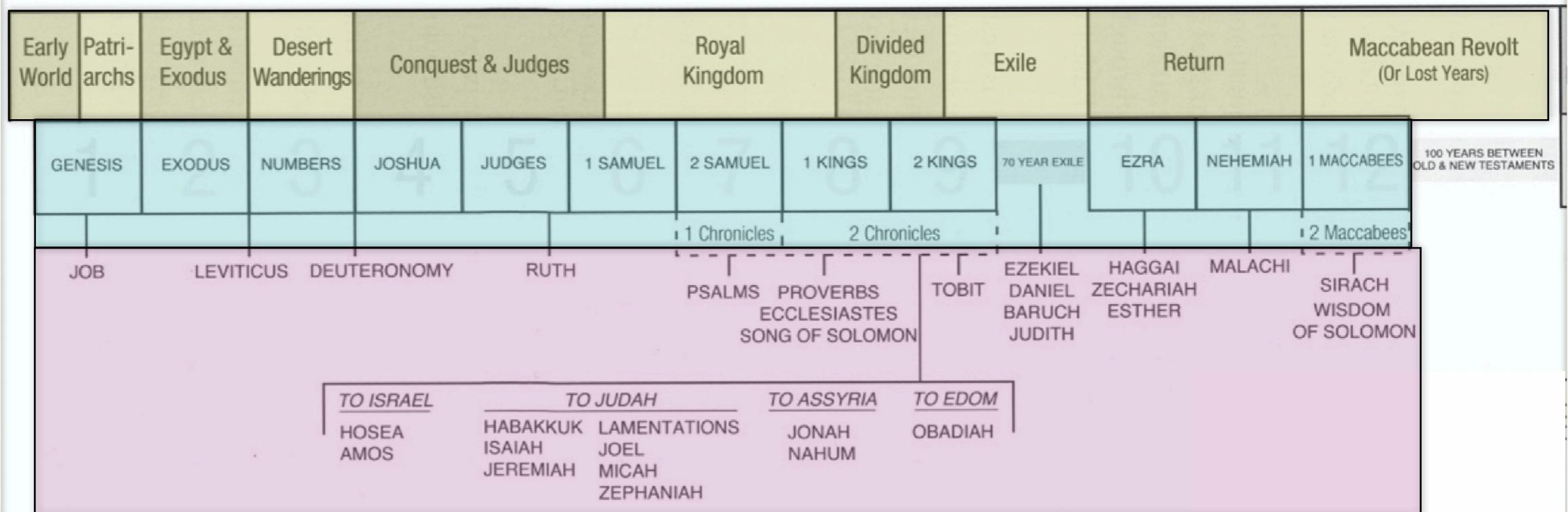
1. What is the obvious connection to God's continuing Plan? Literal intent of the Author
2. Does this reading tell me more about God and/or Jesus? Allegorical
3. Does it illuminate how I ought to live? Moral
4. Does it inform me further of God's ultimate plan for me? Anagogical

REVIEW



CONNECTING THE DOTS

NARRATIVE AND SUPPLEMENTAL BOOKS*

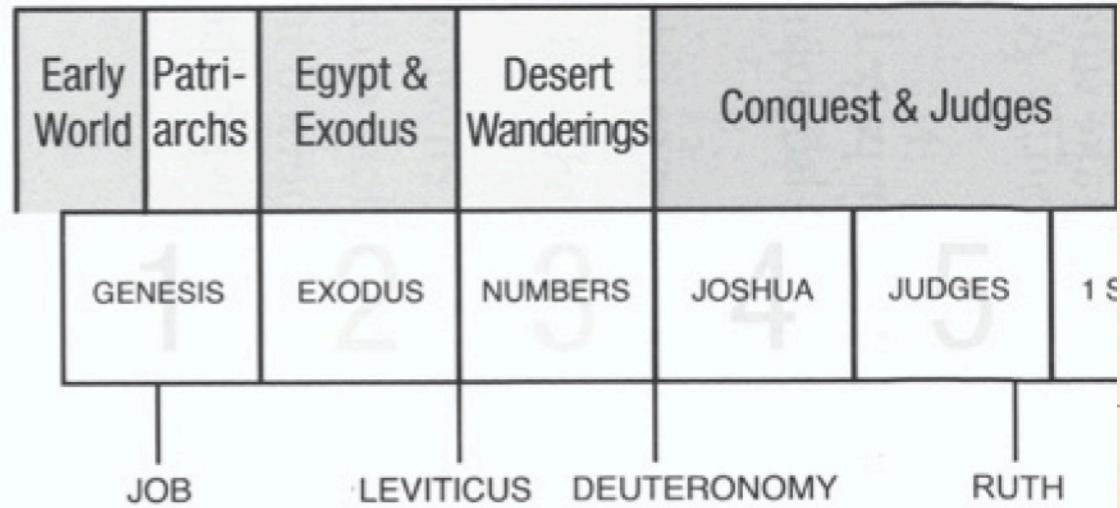


Periods of History

Hebrew Timeline

Writings

TORAH



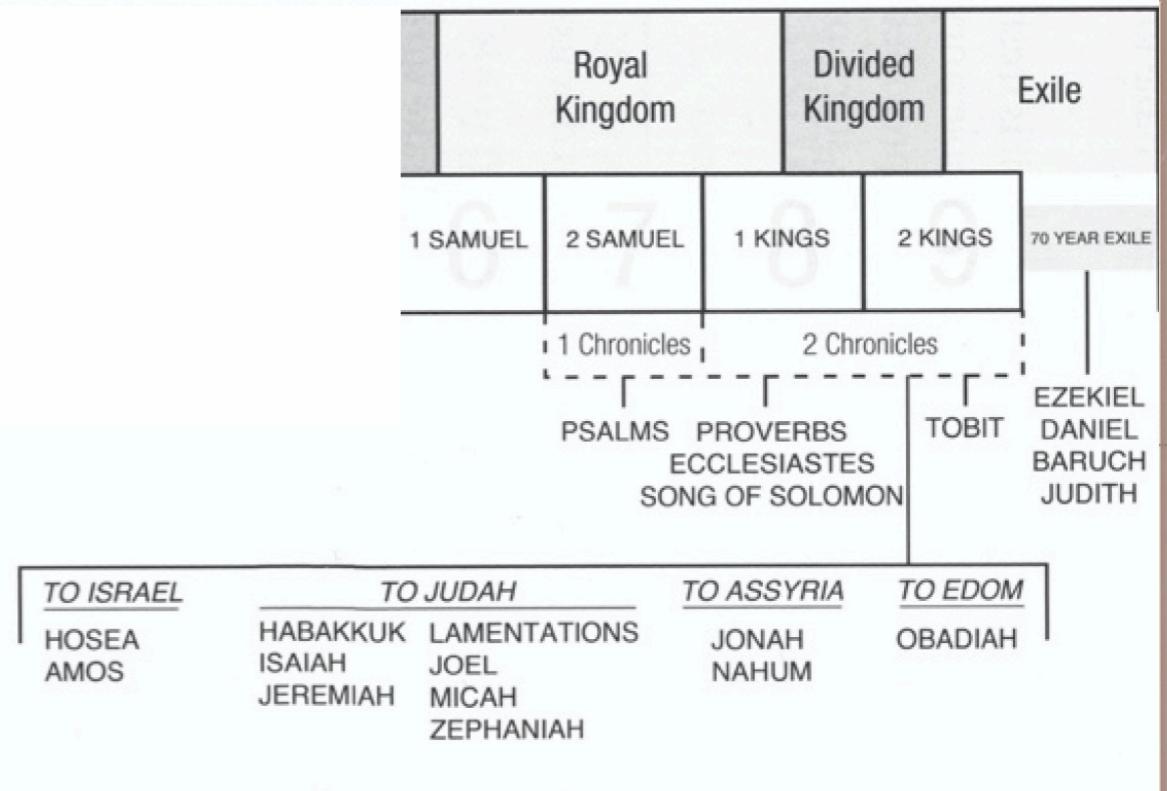
- ❖ **Torah** - God's Creation of Man and all there is.
- ❖ **Image and Likeness**
- ❖ God's selection of Israel as His, through Patriarchs
- ❖ God of persons not places.
- ❖ **Covenant Theology**
- ❖ God Blesses and Chastises sin
- ❖ Slavery of Egypt and Exodus
- ❖ **Moses** - type of Jesus
- ❖ Passover - First Feast
- ❖ God gives His explicit LAW

- ❖ **Golden calf** - attachment to Egypt (sin) not God
- ❖ **Aaron & Clerical Priesthood**
- ❖ Desert wanderings symbolic
- ❖ **Sacrificial system**
- ❖ Levitical Offerings (Ch 1-7)
- ❖ **Feasts and Torah** = liturgical calendar of the Israelites
- ❖ Conquest of the Promised Land
- ❖ Judges - fall and restoration

HISTORICAL

❖ KINGS and CHRONICLES

- ❖ 1 Samuel = Saul
- ❖ 2 Samuel = David
- ❖ 1 Kings = Solomon and others
- ❖ 1Ki 12:16 - Kingdom Schism
- * 1Ki 13 - Jeroboam withered hand
(cf. Mk 13:1)
- ❖ Elijah - during Ahab & Jezebel
1Ki 16:29 - ; 2Ki 1 (cf Mk 1:6)
- ❖ Elisha - Double portion - 2Ki 2
 - * -2Ki 4:42 - Multiplication Loaves
 - * -Relic 2Ki 13
- ❖ 2 Kings = Other Kings
 - * -Gebirah and Vizier offices



- * -2Ki 17:24 Five gods/Baals, Jn 4
- ❖ 2Ki 18 - Judah 721 BC+
- ❖ 2Ki 24 - Babylon exile 586 BC
- * I & 2 Chronicles - mirrors the Books of Kings - *more Liturgy* oriented (-ch24 - lots for incense)
 - * Anephoneseo - used with Ark in 1Chr 15:28
 - * -1Chr 29:11 = basis for Our Father (protestant - liturgy)

THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

PROPHETS TO ISRAEL

ISRAEL

Samaria

Mediterranean Sea

THE NORTHERN KINGDOM

Jerusalem

JUDAH

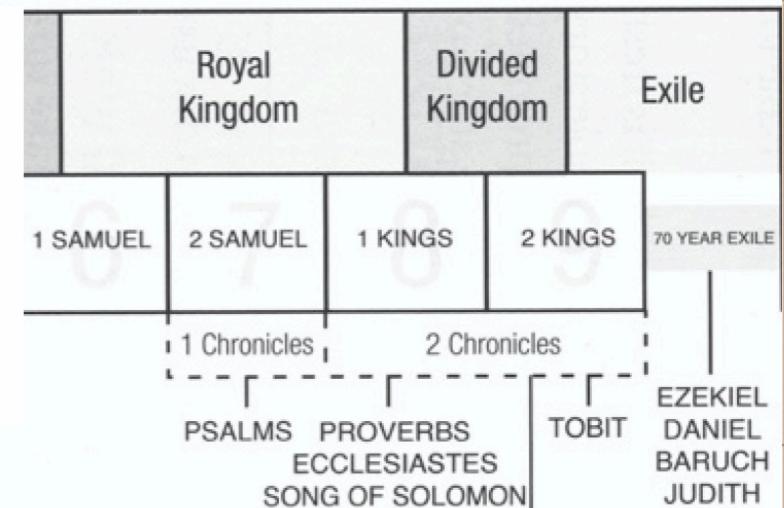
Dead
Sea

Lake
Galilee

HOSEA

❖ **HOSEA** - North 30-40 yrs before the Dispersion.

- * married to unfaithful Gomer
- ❖ He understood how God felt in that the North was guilty of Idolatry
- * God the Bridegroom
- * Jesus and Samaritan woman *in Hos 2:18-20,21-22*
- ❖ Love not sacrifice desired Hos 6:4-6
- ❖ Theme: God will punish “unfaithfulness” with a Dispersion

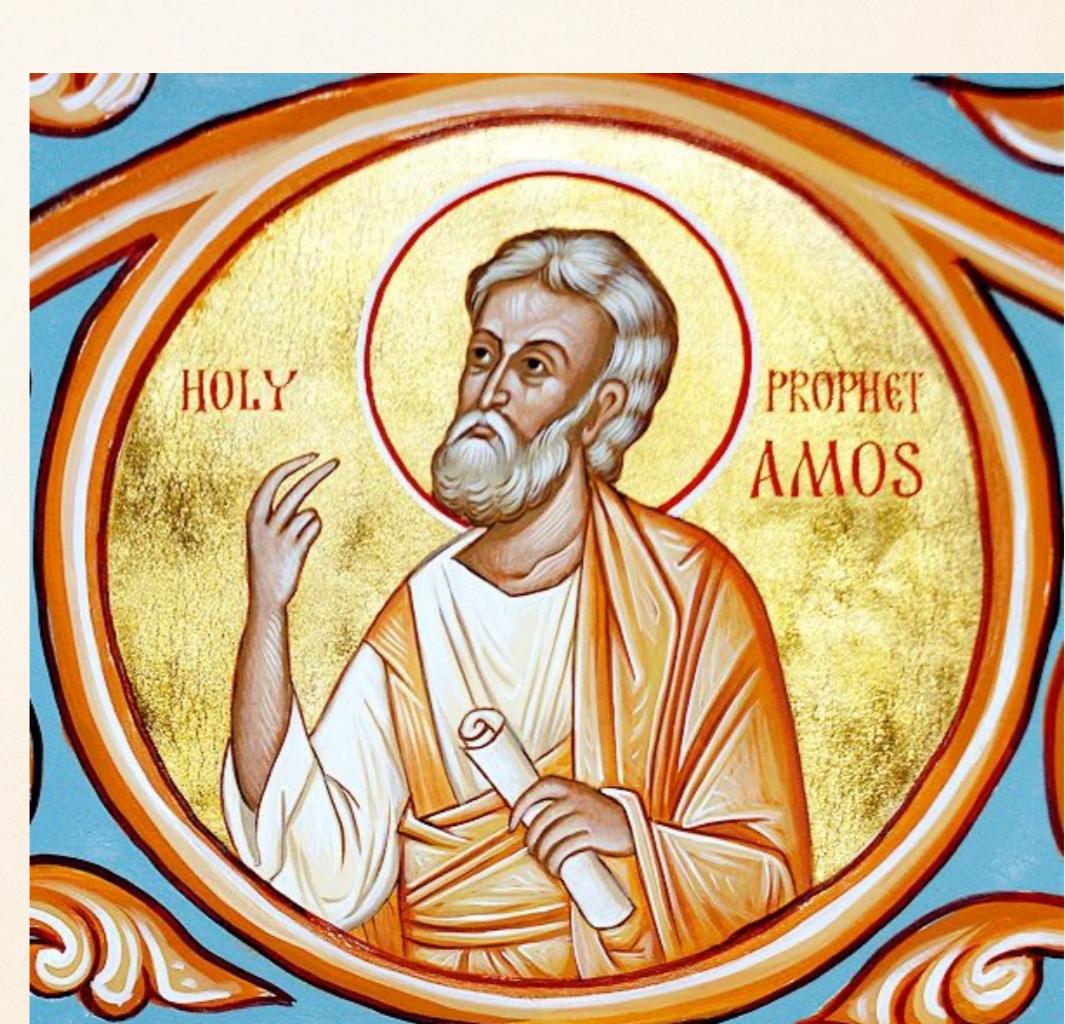
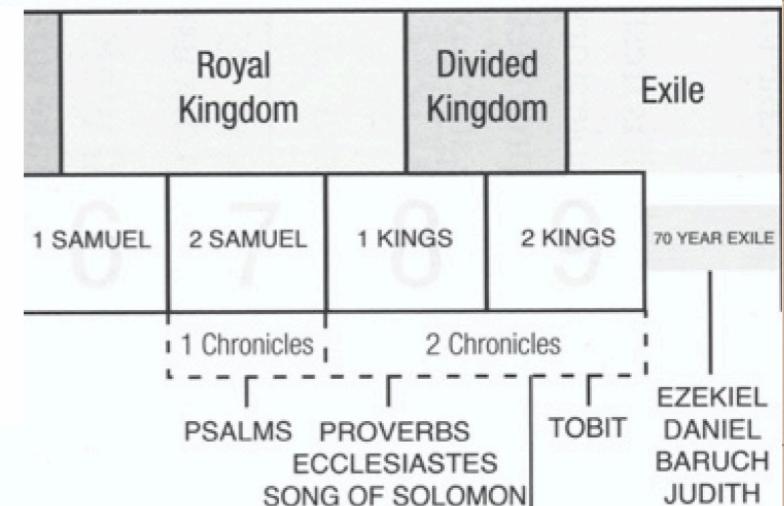


- * Mt 2:15 (Hos 11:1) “Out of Egypt, I called out my son.”
- * Hos 14:2 quoted on Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur:
 - ~ “Return, O Israel, to the Lord, your God; you have collapsed through your guilt.”

AMOS

- ❖ **AMOS** - North - contemporary of Hosea the prophet

- ❖ Like Hosea - condemns Israel (Am 2:6-16) **very damning**
 - ❖ “I will crush you into the ground as a wagon crushes when laden with sheaves.”
- ❖ Like Hosea - **condemns the sacrifices of hypocrisy.**
 - ❖ (Am 5:21-24) “I spurn your feasts ... offerings I will not accept ... away with your noisy songs ... sacrifices, .. let justice surge like water.



THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

PROPHETS TO JUDAH

ISRAEL

Samaria

Mediterranean Sea

JUDAH

Jerusalem

Dead
Sea

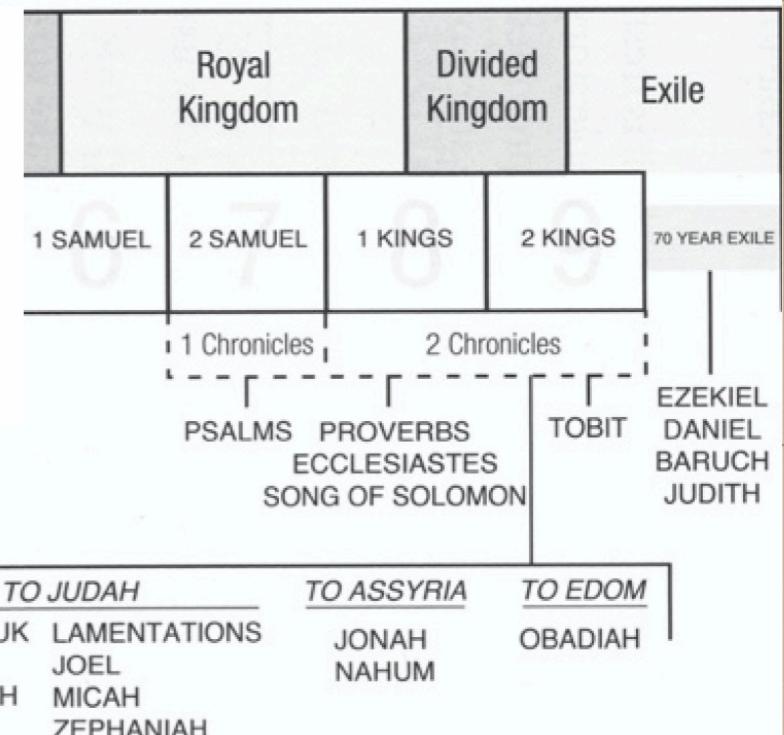
THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM

Lake
Galilee

HABAKKUK

❖ HABAKKUK - South

- * Trust God. Consolation theme. A book of Hope.
- ❖ Almost nothing is known of him and his life
- ❖ Before Babylonian Exile
 - * Context: Judah in fear of Babylonian invasion. (20 years before it happens)
- * Hab 2:4 “The rash man has no integrity; but the just man, because of his faith, shall live.”



So will bandits find
no place to hide.
They will be exposed to the enemy.
Their fortresses are like fig trees
in fruit bearing season;
when their fruit is ripe,
the figs fall into the mouth of the
eater.
Your troops—
they are all women!

Your people are scattered on the
mountains,
with no one to gather them.
¹⁹Nothing can heal your wound;
your injury is fatal.
Everyone who hears the news about
you
claps his hands at your fall,
for who has not felt
your endless cruelty?

Habakkuk

oracle that Habakkuk the prophet
lived.

Habakkuk's Complaint

“O LORD, must I call for
help? Why do you not listen?
Why do you not save?
Why do you not let me look at
injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong?”

new No Amon

b9 That is, the

Destruction and violence are before
me;

there is strife, and conflict abounds.

⁴Therefore the law is paralyzed,
and justice never prevails.
The wicked hem in the righteous,
so that justice is perverted.

The LORD's Answer

“Look at the nations and watch—
and be utterly amazed!

new No Amon

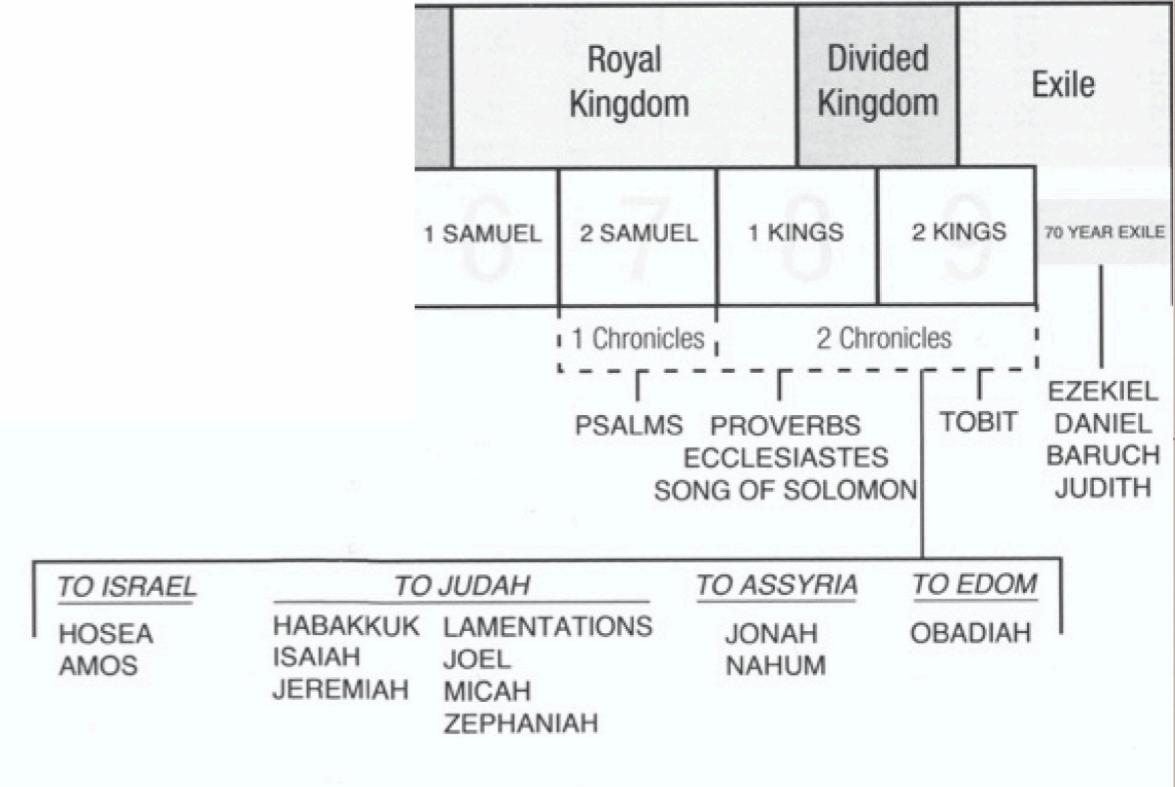
b9 That is, the

ISAIAH

- ❖ ISAIAH - South

- ❖ Theme: Trust God not alliances

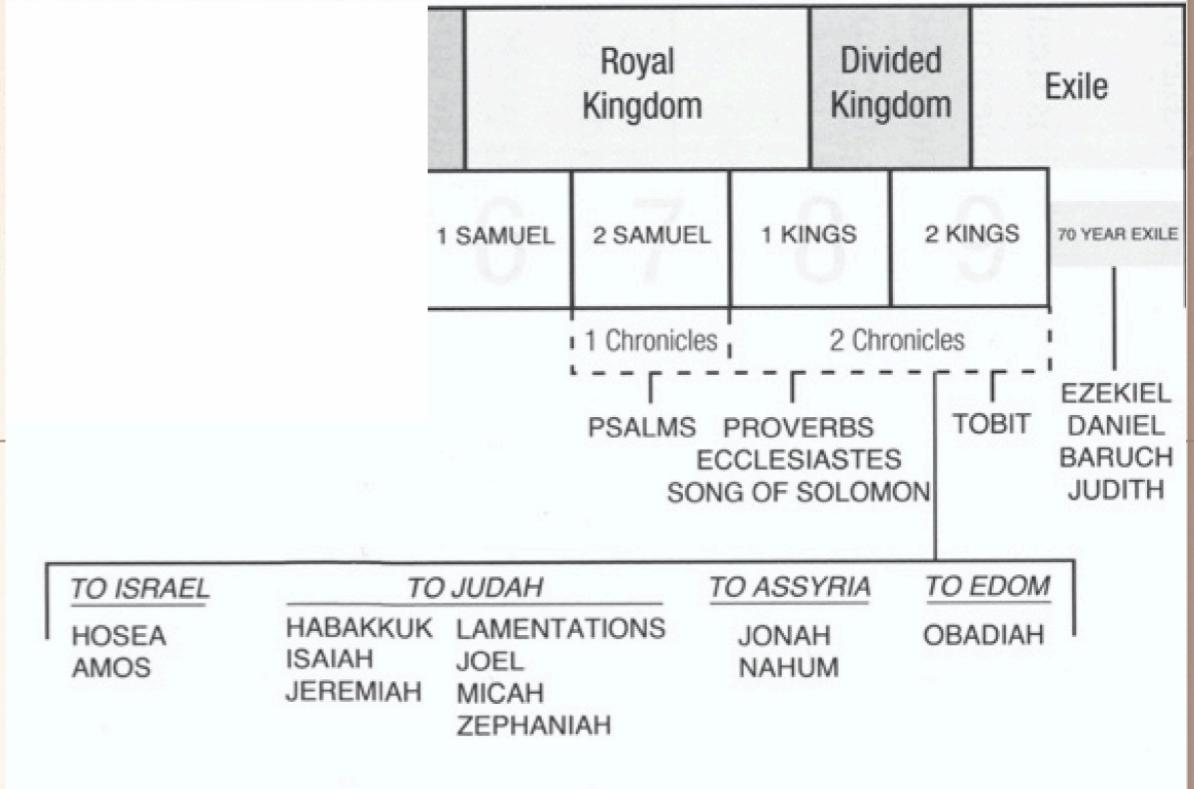
- ❖ 50 years of ministry
- ❖ Prophesied under 4 Kings
- ❖ Prophecies: *Greatest number that are typological of Jesus.*
 - ❖ Is 7:14 Virgin birth
 - ❖ Is 9 - Restoration, Advent
 - ❖ Is 10 - Remnant preserved
 - ❖ Is 11 - Spirit of Lord will be upon Messiah
 - * Is 14 - Allegory of Satan
 - ❖ Is 22 - Shebna & Eliakim



- ❖ Is 29 - Jerusalem will fall
- ❖ Is 33 - God will restore
- * Is 35 - Messianic - blind will see, lame shall leap ...
- * Is 40 - A voice in wilderness
- * Is 42-45 - Only One God
- ❖ Is 45 - Cyrus will restore
- * Is 52-53 Suffering Servant
- * Is 56 - Temple house prayer
- ❖ Is 62 - Jerusalem Lord's Bride

JEREMIAH

- ❖ **JEREMIAH - South**
- ❖ Came after but overlapped Isaiah
- ❖ Oversaw the fall of Judah
- * Supported reforms of Josiah a devout king. Idolatry before and after Josiah, then exile 20 yrs later
 - * Jer 1:5 - “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you”
 - ❖ Compares Judah decay to same as Israel suffered.
 - * Jer 7:11 - The Lord’s house has become a den of thieves

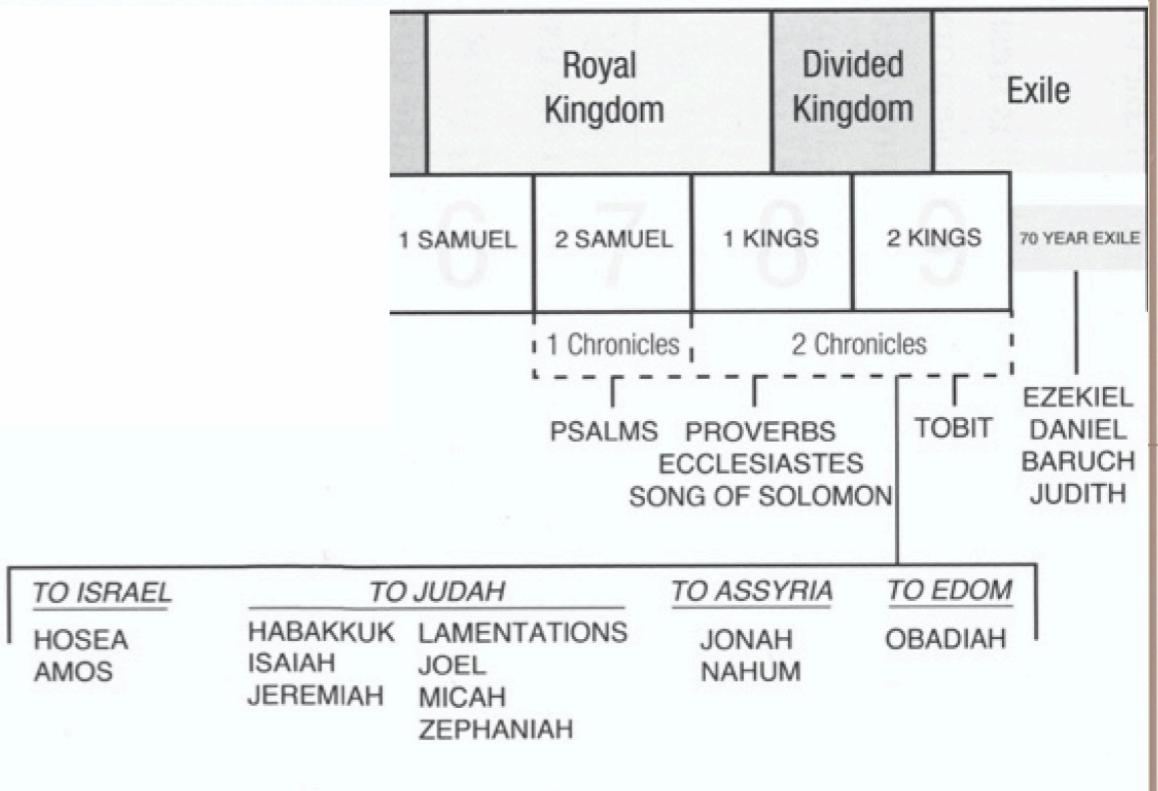


- * **Circumcision of the flesh does not matter need circumcision of the heart.** (cf. Rom 2:28-29)
- * Jer 13:18 **Gebirah and King deposed. Judah Exiled**
- ❖ Jer 18 - Potter creates different vessels
- Jer 30-31 Restoration and NEW covenant promise!**

JOEL

◆ JOEL - South

- * Minor Prophet - The difference between Major and Minor is defined by quantity of writing not measure of influence
- ◆ A **locust infestation affected Judea** after the Jews returned from the Babylonian Exile.
- ◆ Locusts were 1 of the 10 plagues in **Egypt**. (Ex 10). All their crops were destroyed.
- ◆ Locusts also used in **Rev 9** as destroyers of enemies of God.



- * Theme is **eschatological** - the Day of the Lord (JL 2).
- * Most quoted Joel Ch 3 - by St Peter on Pentecost.
 - * God will pour out His spirit upon all mankind. All sons and daughters will prophesy. ... **Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**
- Acts 2:17,21 [Gentiles included]



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LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY

YEARS 1 & 2 | ROMAN MISSAL |

LECTIONARY

First Reading Joel 2:12–18

Response Psalm 51:3a

Psalm Psalm 51:3–6ab, 12–14,
17

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20–
6:2

Gospel Acclamation Psalm 95:8

Gospel Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18

▼ LITURGY

Catholic Daily Readings

Friday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time, Year 1

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

Saturday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time, Year 1

Thursday of the Third Week of Lent

Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent

Wednesday of the First Week of Lent

Ash Wednesday

Pentecost Vigil, Simple Form

Pentecost Vigil, Extended Form

Search results for 'Joel' in
Passage guide. Clicked *Liturgy*

MICAH

- ❖ MICAH - South

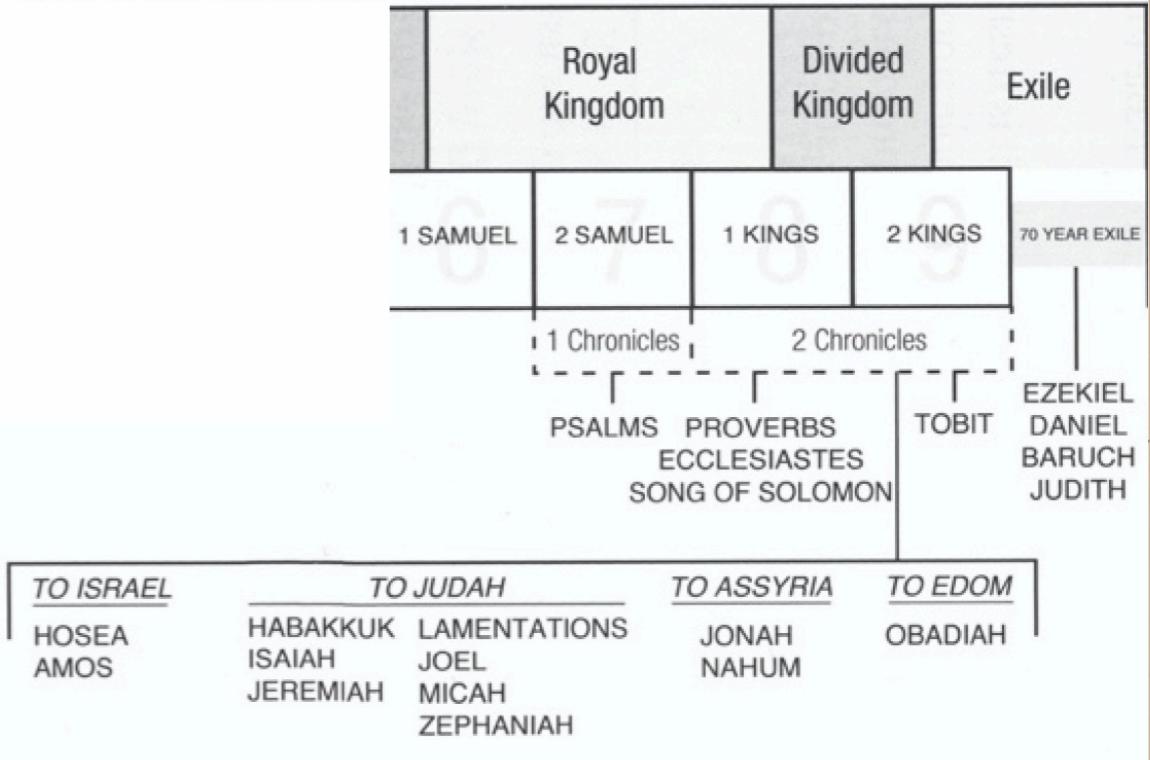
- ❖ Another prophet that chastises Judah for its sins.

- * Influenced King Hezekiah - at a time when Assyria threatened to overrun Judah. (Mi 5:4)

* Perhaps most famous for his prophesy that BETHLEHEM would be birthplace of Messiah. (Micah 5:1)

- ❖ Prophesies - Same time as Isaiah

- * Mi 5:4 - Messiah will shepherd God's remnant of Jacob. (cf 5v7)



- ❖ Mi 4:4 - Remembered by Jesus along with Ze 3:10 regarding **Nathaniel** sitting under the 'fig tree.' Jn 1:48

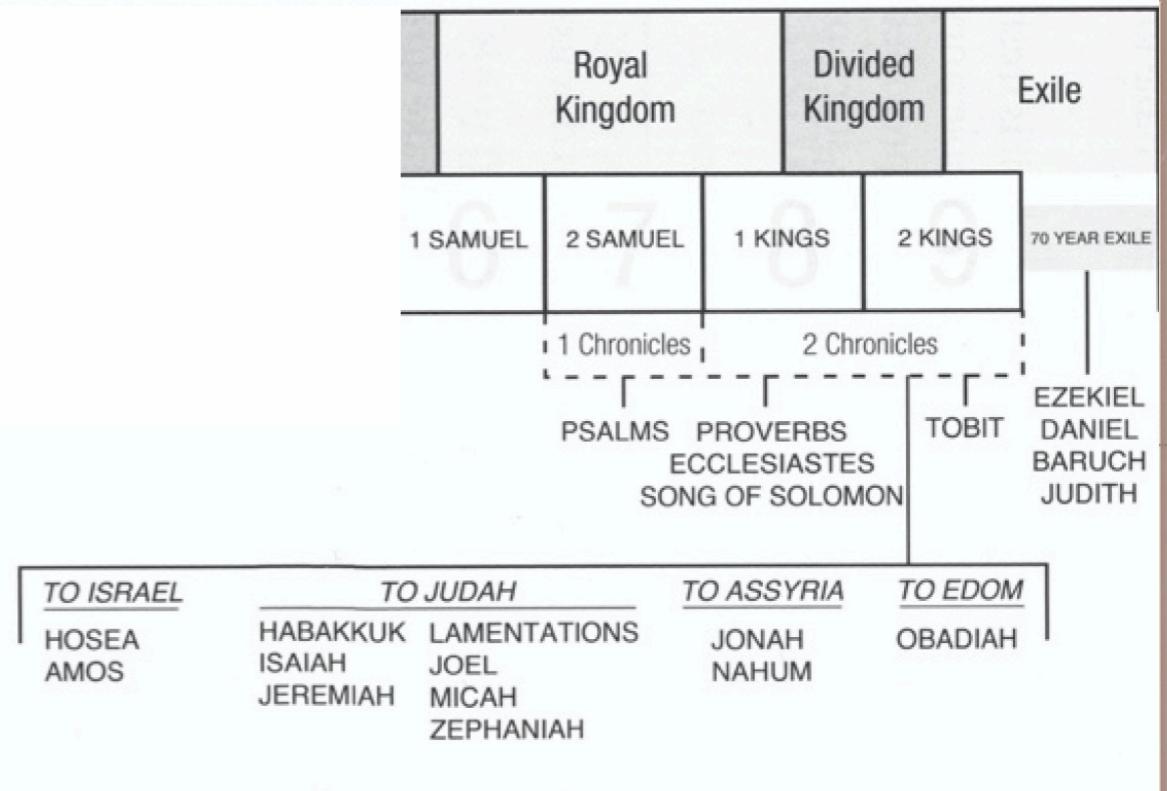
- * Mi 4:6-7 - God will **gather** the lame, outcasts and the **remnant** and will be **King over them forever**.

- ❖ Mi 4:10 - Judea shall exile in Babylon but be rescued.

- * Theme - Restoration of all Israel

ZEPHANIAH

- ❖ ZEPHANIAH - South
- ❖ Again a prophet that chastises Judah for its sins.
- * **Eschatological**
 - ❖ **The Day of the Lord**
 - ❖ A day of *Judgment*
 - ❖ Consistent with Messiah but not exclusive
 - ❖ *Wars, Earthquakes* etc..
 - ❖ Along with the *sun* will darken, the *stars* will fall from the sky
 - ★ Your time is up



✓ Zeph 3:14-18 - Often read during **feast of the Visitation BVM** (May 31 yearly). Here, **Catholic typology** suggests that the joy of Daughter Zion, who is also Daughter Jerusalem, is indicative of the Joy of the Virgin Mary because “**The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst.**” (v. 15)

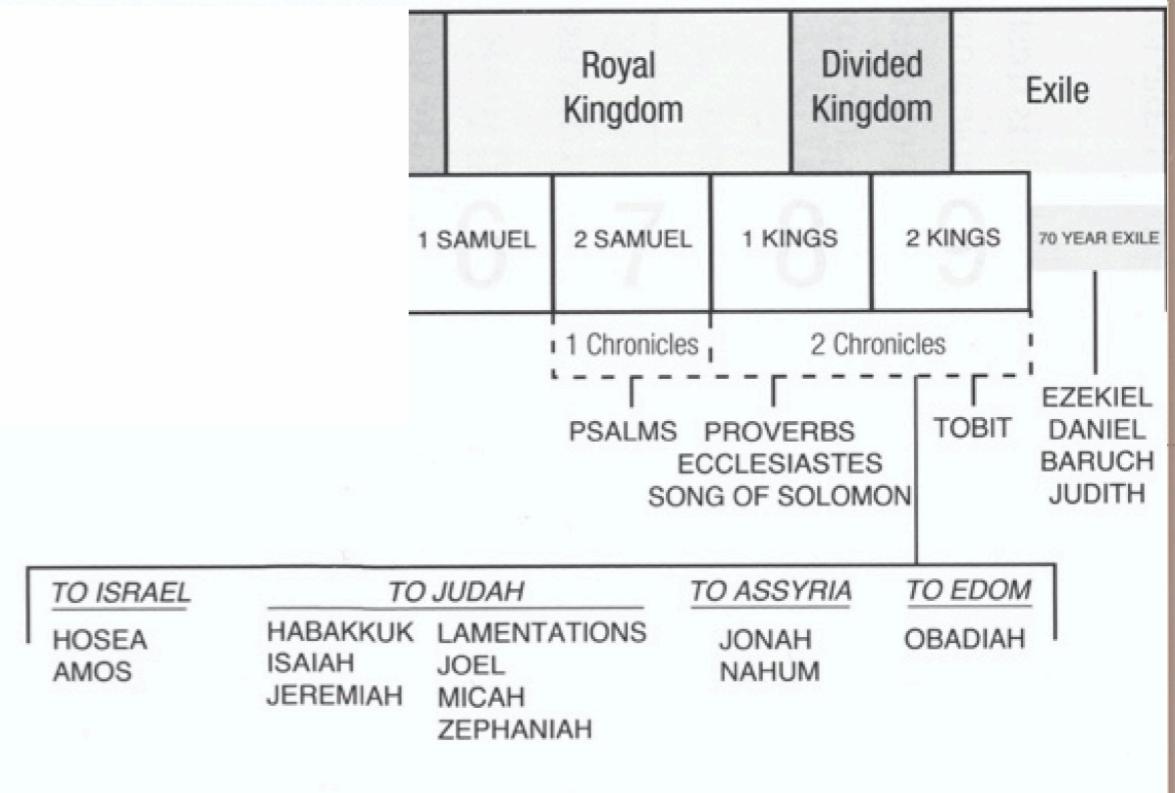
Assyrian Empire, 650 B.C.

PROPHETS TO ASSYRIA



JONAH

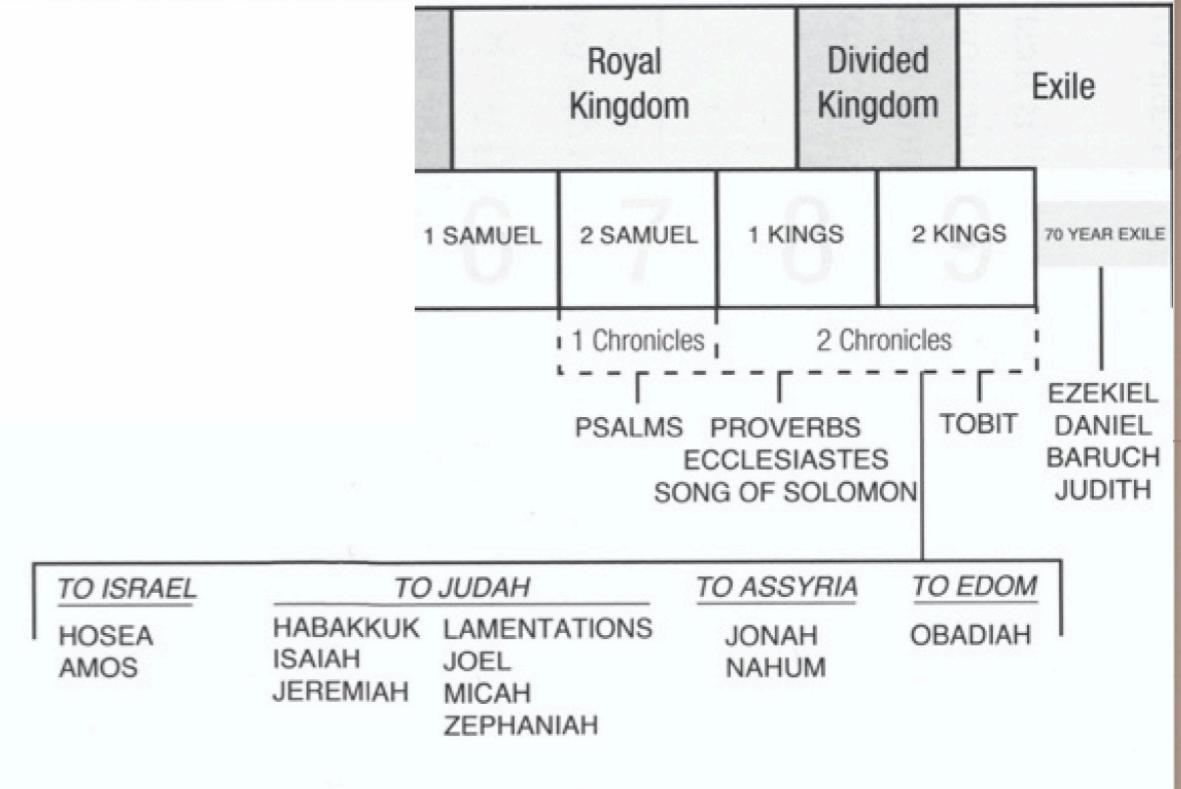
- ❖ **JONAH** - A prophet to Assyria
- * Called by God to preach in Ninevah - modern day Mosul (former headquarters of ISIS)
 - ❖ Assyria was threatening to take over Israel and Judah
- * Jonah: preach to Assyrians, cause them to repent and be spared.
- Jonah was a patriot.** He surmised that if Assyria repented, God would relent, but ... *in the future*, they would change their heart ❤ and later destroy Israel.



- ★ **Storm at Sea - God preserves**
 - ❖ Jonah is cause, but rescued by God in a sea monster (whale)
 - Three days in belly
- ★ **Preaches Ninevah - conversion**
 - ❖ After 1 generation (40 yrs) Assyria destroys Israel.
- **Two signs of Jonah:** Three days + destruction (Mt 12:41 + Mt 16:4)

NAHUM

- ❖ NAHUM - A prophet to Assyria
- Unique at prophesying regarding the fall of Assyria as Babylon becomes the new world power.
 - * The book expresses the joy of the prophet that Assyria, particularly centered at Ninevah, will be destroyed.
 - * God's judgment befalls Assyria. God permitted Assyria as His instrument to effect judgment on the Northern Kingdom (10 tribes) but that did not ...



- * ... insulate Assyria from God's subsequent judgment for the evil perpetrated.
- Theme: God permits evil but punishes the evil doer.
- ❖ locusts again make their appearance (Nahum 3:15). *Symbolism of destruction.* Harsh description of destruction reserved for an evil empire.

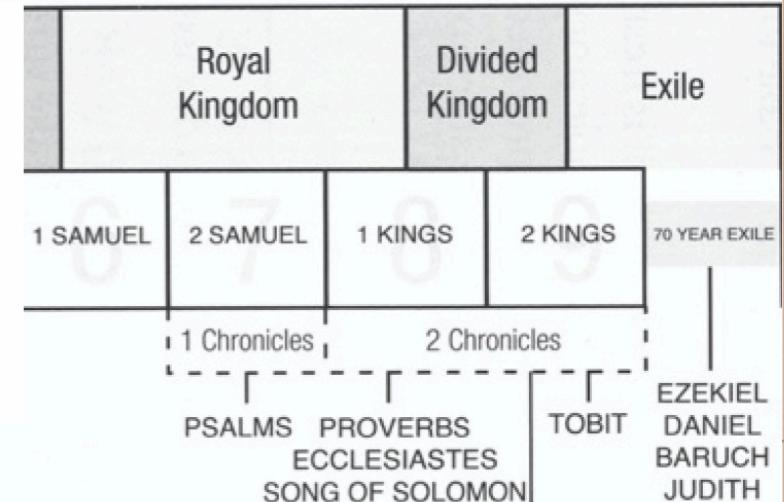
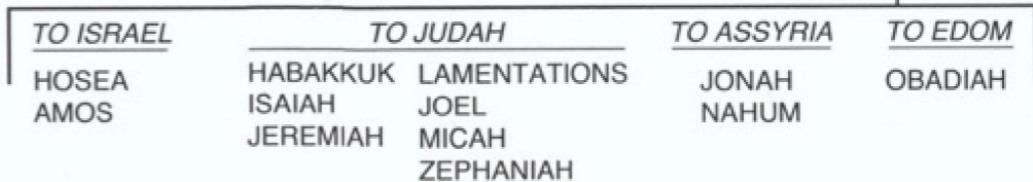
PROPHET TO THE KINGDOM OF EDOM



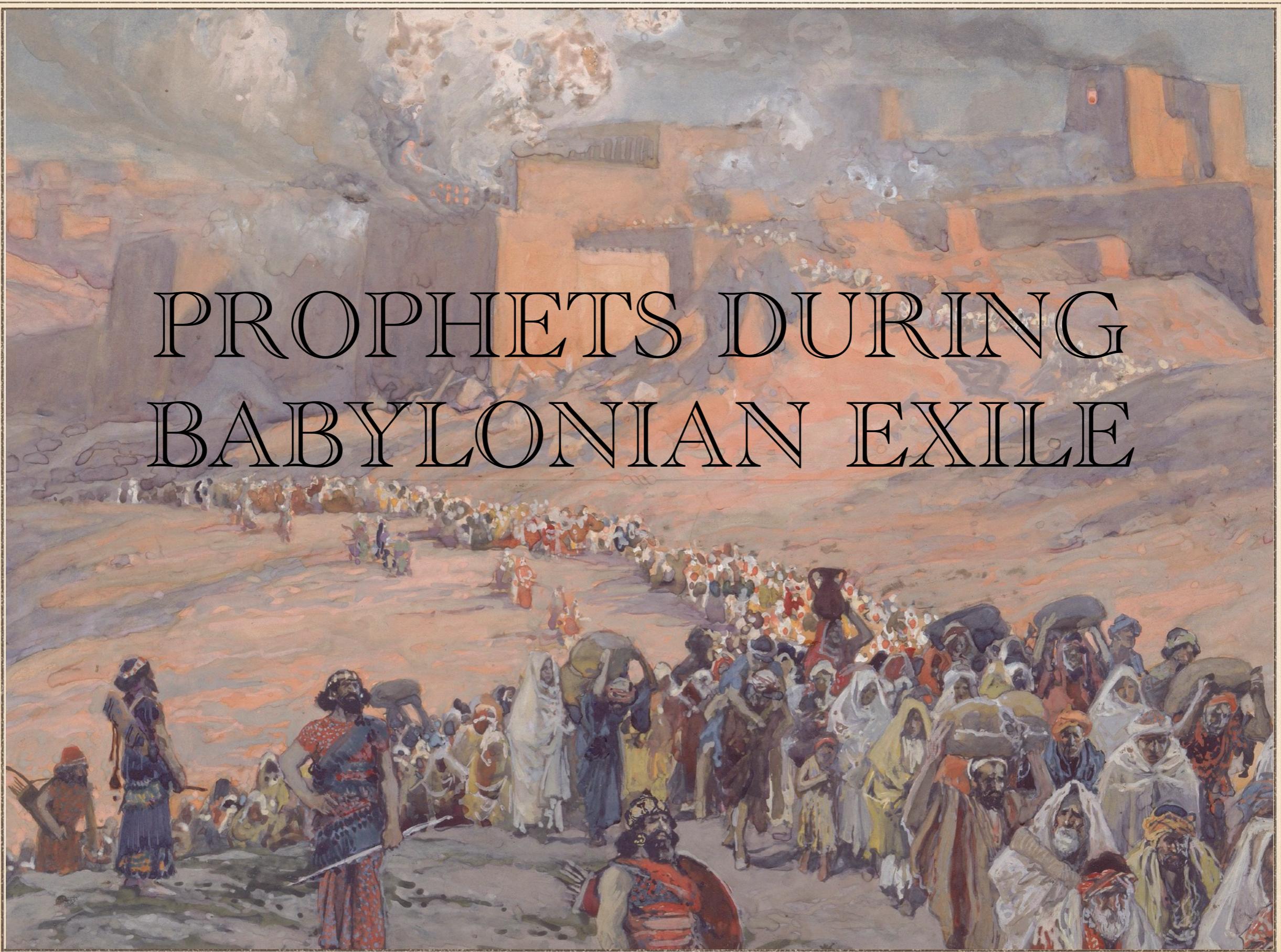
PROPHET
OBADIAH

OBADIAH

- ❖ **OBADIAH** - A prophet to Edom
- * Unique mission. Edom is the Kingdom of Esau, brother of Jacob
- ❖ Edom infiltrated Southern Judea, during the time that Judah left a vacuum having been subjected to the Babylonian Exile.
- * Obadiah - (slave of Yah) or in Arabic the same as Abdullah (slave of Allah), condemned the Edomites for their terror in their occupation.
 - During the time of Jesus - Edomites still exercised some influence southern Judea.
 - King Herod the Great was an Edomite!



PROPHETS DURING BABYLONIAN EXILE



EZEKIEL

- ❖ Ezekiel - A prophet in Exile
 - ❖ Exiled in Babylon during the first of three exile waves circa 597AD
 - ◆ Priest and Prophet
 - ❖ Foresaw a return after a period of purgation in Exile, including the restoration of the Temple.
 - * Wrote while in Exile.
 - * Like Isaiah has a vision of heaven during his call - seeing seraphim with faces of a man, lion, ox and eagle - these images often attributed to the Gospel writers.
- Ez 3:18-19 Duty to warn those who are in sin, otherwise die with sinner.
 - Ez 18:24-28 Virtuous deeds forgotten when return to sin.
 - Ez 11:19 & Regeneration of People in 36:16-29
 - Baptism allusion
 - ❖ Sprinkle clean water and wash your impurities
 - ❖ New heart and New Spirit
 - ❖ so you can observe God's decrees
 - * Ez 28 - Typology of Satan (cf. Is 14)

EZEKIEL

The Glory of the Lord leaves the Temple - Ez 10:18-19a. There was a belief at the time of Ezekiel that the Temple would never be destroyed, because it was the House of God, and He was present in the Temple.

- ◆ Some therefore would not heed the warning that if they did not repent, Jerusalem would be destroyed.
- ❖ Jews still today lament the loss of the Glory of God while praying at the Western Wall



- Ez 15 - **Parable of the Vine** - Must produce fruit. (cf Isaiah 15 and Jesus in John 15)
- Ez 34 - **Parable of the Shepherds.** God, Himself, will shepherd His flock. 34:11
- Ez 34:17-25 - **Separation of Rams and Goats** (Mt 25)
 - ◆ 1 Shepherd 1 flock - 34:23-25

DANIEL

- ❖ Daniel - A prophet in Exile
- * Daniel did not write Daniel. This is Apocalyptic literature.
 - ❖ Gk *Apocalypsis*, literally unveiling or Revelation.
- ❖ Therefore, it is not a warning about what will happen if things don't change, but a revelation of what has been preordained. Symbolic language prevails.
- * Dn 7 - Vision of 4 beasts (kingdoms): Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Greek then Roman

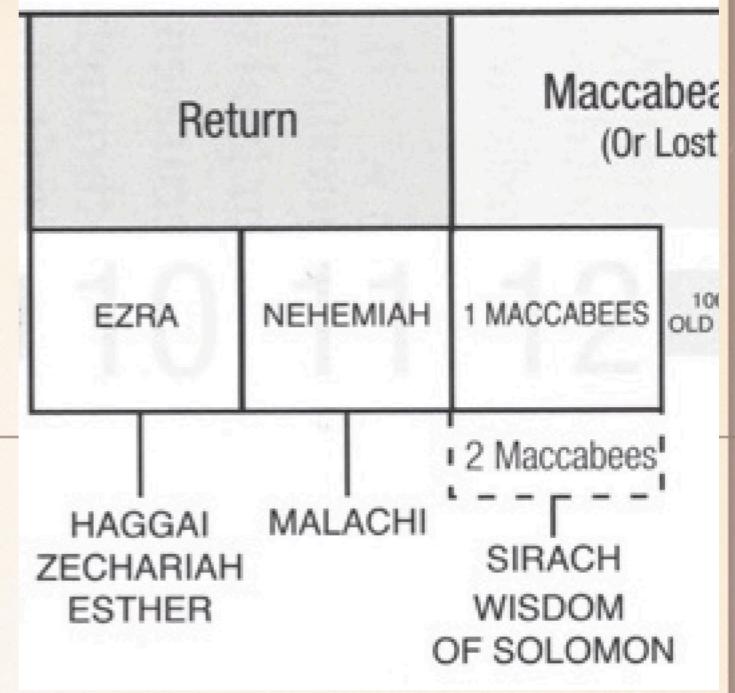
- * Dn 7:9-14 - The Ascension of Jesus viewed from heaven.
- Dn 7:21-27 - The ultimate victory of the Church over the fourth beast: Roman Empire.
 - ◆ This section probably prompted by Peter & Paul to know they had to go to Rome. cf.:Acts 23:11
- * Dn 9:24 Seven weeks of 70 yrs (490 yrs) for Messiah to come.
- * Dn 10:13 - Michael ONE of the chief Princes came to help.
- * Dn 12:2 - First concept of Eternal Life and damnation, though NO Jew believed a son of Abraham could be lost.

RETURN FROM EXILE

REBUILDING THE TEMPLE



EZRA & NEHEMIAH



- ❖ Ezra & Nehemiah - Return from Exile
- ❖ God moves the heart of Cyrus the Persian king to rebuild the temple.
- The Jews can not have a king upon their return, because Cyrus is their king.
- ✓ Priests become authority figures
 - ❖ Samaritans oppose the building of the temple, but King Darius II continues the funding.
 - ❖ God commissions Ezra, the priest and scribe to return to Jerusalem.

- * Ezra rekindles the laws of God and instructs the ignorant.
- * Ezra condemns mixed marriages with non-Jewish women, and orders them dissolved.
- * Nehemiah - cupbearer to King Artaxerxes made governor of Judea
- * Nehemiah takes charge of rebuilding the walls of the Temple of Jerusalem. Finished 454BC

ZECHARIAH

	Return	Maccabees (Or Lost)
EZRA	NEHEMIAH	1 MACCABEES 10 OLD
HAGGAI ZECHARIAH ESTHER	MALACHI	2 Maccabees
		SIRACH WISDOM OF SOLOMON

- ❖ Zechariah - Return from Exile Priest and Prophet (520BC)
- ❖ Probably lived through the reign of Xerxes I (King of Persia) who made Esther queen of persia
- * Before Ezra and Nehemiah
- ❖ Contemporary of Haggai
- ❖ Some say he wrote as a miniature Isaiah - messianic
- Zec 3:6-10 - images the call of Nathaniel in John's Gospel
 - ❖ Joshua, High Priest; nezer; guile; sit under fig tree

- ❖ Zer 6:12-13 - The Nezer hall sprout, ...and rule from Throne
- * Zec 9:9-10 - Your king shall come to you, a just savior is he, Meek and riding on an ass... His dominion shall be to the ends of the Earth.
- * Zec 11 - Allegory of the Shepherds - 30 pieces of silver the price for God's shepherd
- * Zec 12:10 - They shall look on Him whom they have pierced, mourn for him as one mourns for an only son.

HAGGAI

Return	Maccabees (Or Lost)
EZRA	NEHEMIAH
1 MACCABEES	10 th OLD
HAGGAI	2 Maccabees
ZECHARIAH	SIRACH
ESTHER	WISDOM OF SOLOMON

- ❖ Haggai - Prophet who extorted the rebuilding of the Temple after the exile return
- ❖ Year I - Thursday 25th Week Ordinary time (Hag 1:1-8)
 - ◆ Not now has the time come to rebuild the house of the Lord. Is it time for you to dwell in your own paneled houses while this house (the Temple) lies in ruins?
 - ❖ *An exhortation to give and contribute to build the House of the Lord.*

- ❖ Year I - Friday 25th Week Ordinary time (Hag 2:1-9)
 - ◆ Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem like nothing in your eyes?
 - * Greater will be the future glory of this house than the former, says the Lord of Hosts.
 - * This Temple will not be rebuilt by a king, but by Priests!

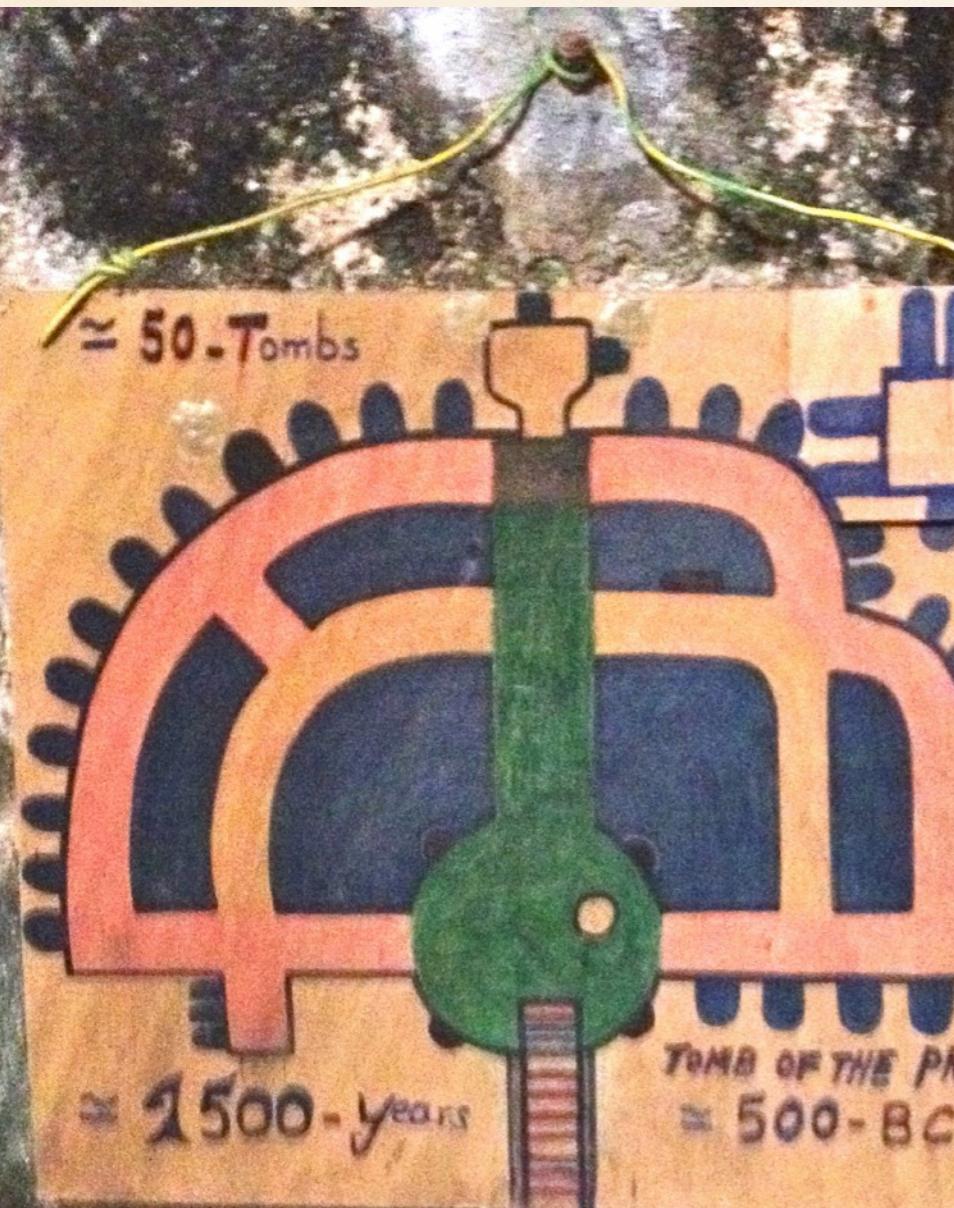
MALACHI

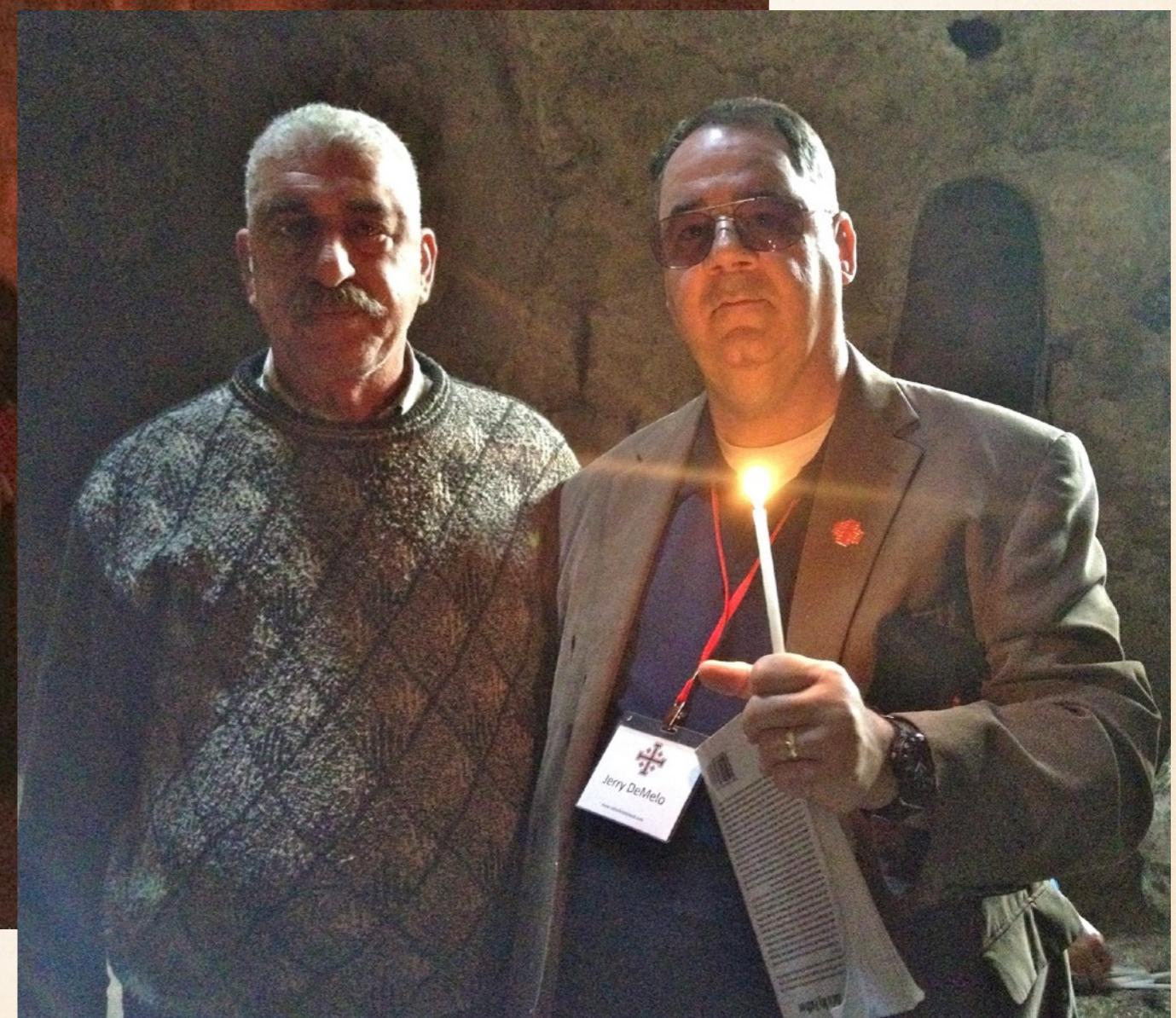
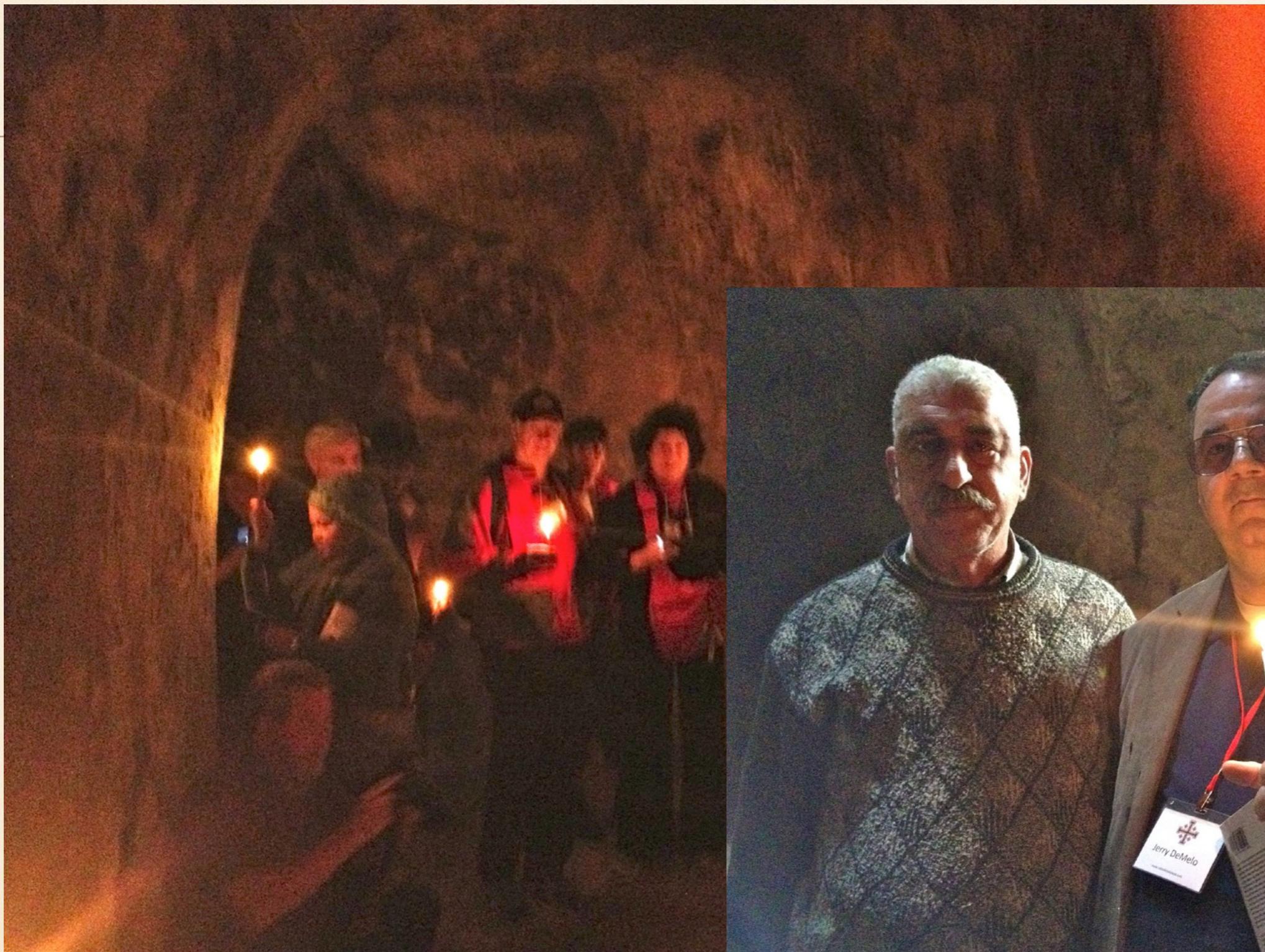
	Return	Maccabees (Or Lost)
EZRA	NEHEMIAH	1 MACCABEES ^{100 OLD}
HAGGAI ZECHARIAH ESTHER	MALACHI	2 Maccabees
		SIRACH WISDOM OF SOLOMON

- ❖ Malachi - Prophet after Temple rebuilt. Speaks of corrupted temple sacrifices (cf 1:9)
- ✓ Prophesy of the MASS - Mal 1:11 - *From the rising of the sun, even to its setting,... and everywhere they bring sacrifice to my name, and a pure offering.*
- Mal 2 - 8-14 Sins of priests who break faith with each other, caused many to falter with their instruction, and profane the temple (Mt 23 generally)

- ❖ Mal 3 - Most important section
 - * Prophesy of St John the Baptist.
 - ◆ 3:1 “I am sending a messenger to prepare the way before me, and suddenly there will come to the Temple, the Lord whom you seek.”
 - ◆ 3:23 “I am sending you Elijah the prophet, before the day of the Lord comes.”
 - ✓ Mt 11:14 - John is Elijah







MACCABEAN REVOLT



This year, ended 18 Dec - same day as Feast of Prophet Malachi

MACCABEAN REVOLT

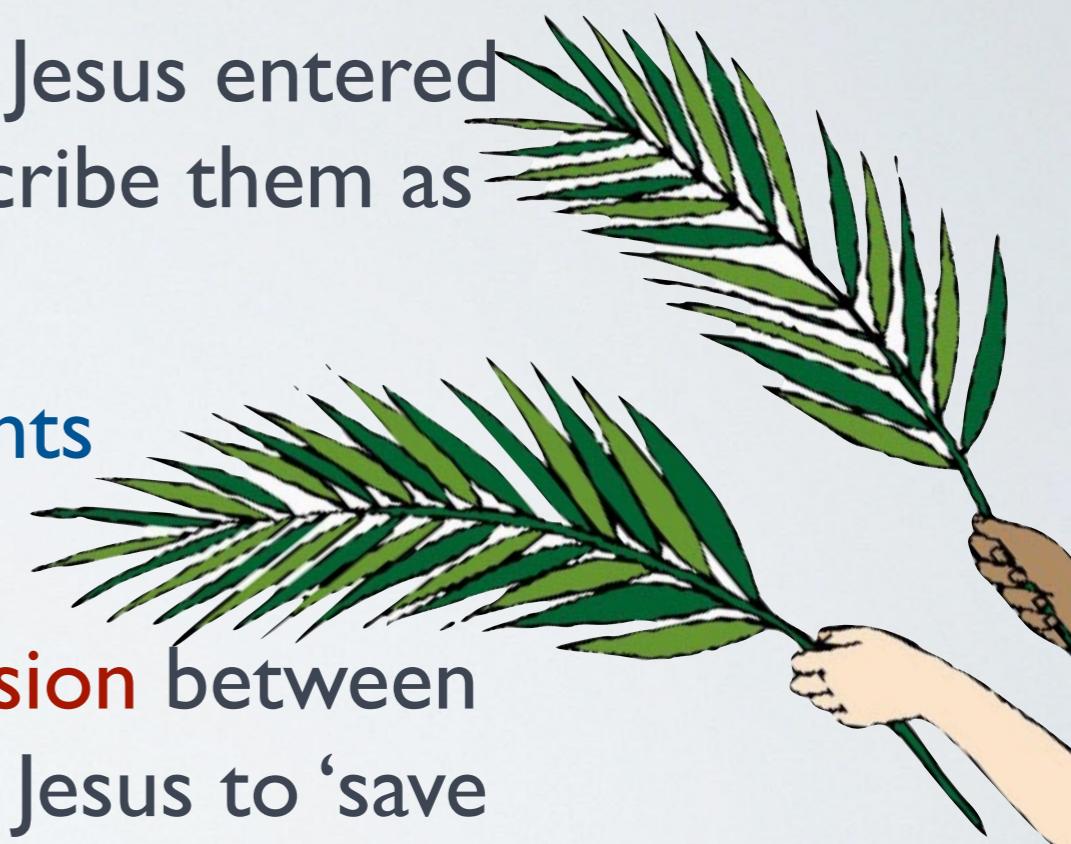
- ❖ 167-160 BC -the Jewish revolt against the Seleucid Empire and Hellenistic influence in Judaism.
- **Antiochus IV** - Suspended Jewish laws, forbade circumcision, slaughtered and pillaged many. He desecrated the temple by spilling Pigs blood into the Holy of Holies.
 - ▶ Ultimately **Mattathias** and his sons (**Judas Maccabees**) led a revolt against the tyranny.
- 1st Maccabees Chs 1-4 - is the **Story of Hannukah**.
- * Ch 4: 50-59 - description of feast. Cleansed and purified by priests, incense on altar, re-established sacrifices, songs, harps and flutes celebrated. Lamps burned for 8 days.
- ✓ v.59 *Judas decreed that the days of the dedication of the altar should be observed with joy every year for 8 days on the 25th of Kislev (9th month) same date Antiochus began his desecration.*
- ★ **Oral tradition or Scripture?**
Jn 10:22 Jesus celebrated it.

MACCABEAN REVOLT

- ❖ **2nd Maccabees** Unlike 1st Macc written in Greek.
- ❖ Ch2: 1-8 - story of Jeremiah and hiding the ark of the Covenant into the Mountain
- * 2Mac7 - Story of the **Mother** and her **7 sons**. Is part of the Hanukkah liturgy for Jews even today. (v.9 - The King of the World will raise us up to live again forever. (v.14 - Mentions martyrdom better than compromise, for whom there will be no resurrection to life **
- * ** Mt 22:28 Wife 7 husbands, at resurrection whose wife will she be
 - ➡ Creatio ex nihilo (ch 7:18)
 - ➡ Expiation of sin for the dead (ch 12:38-46 Purgation)
 - ➡ Communion of Saints - Onias the former High Priest appears 10 years after his death to Judas Maccabeus to remain confident, not fear the enemy.
Then Jeremiah appears, and Onias announces that Jeremiah, is fervently praying for them and their victory. (2 Mac 15

JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM

- Palm Branches - Only **John** tells us that the people waived **Palm Branches**, as Jesus entered Jerusalem. The other Gospels describe them as leafy branches from nearby trees.
 - * What does John see that he wants to tell us?
- John wants to **highlight the tension** between the **Priests** who wanted to kill Jesus to ‘save their nation’ and **Jesus disciples** who had come to believe in Jesus because He raised Lazarus. The people want Jesus to be their King.

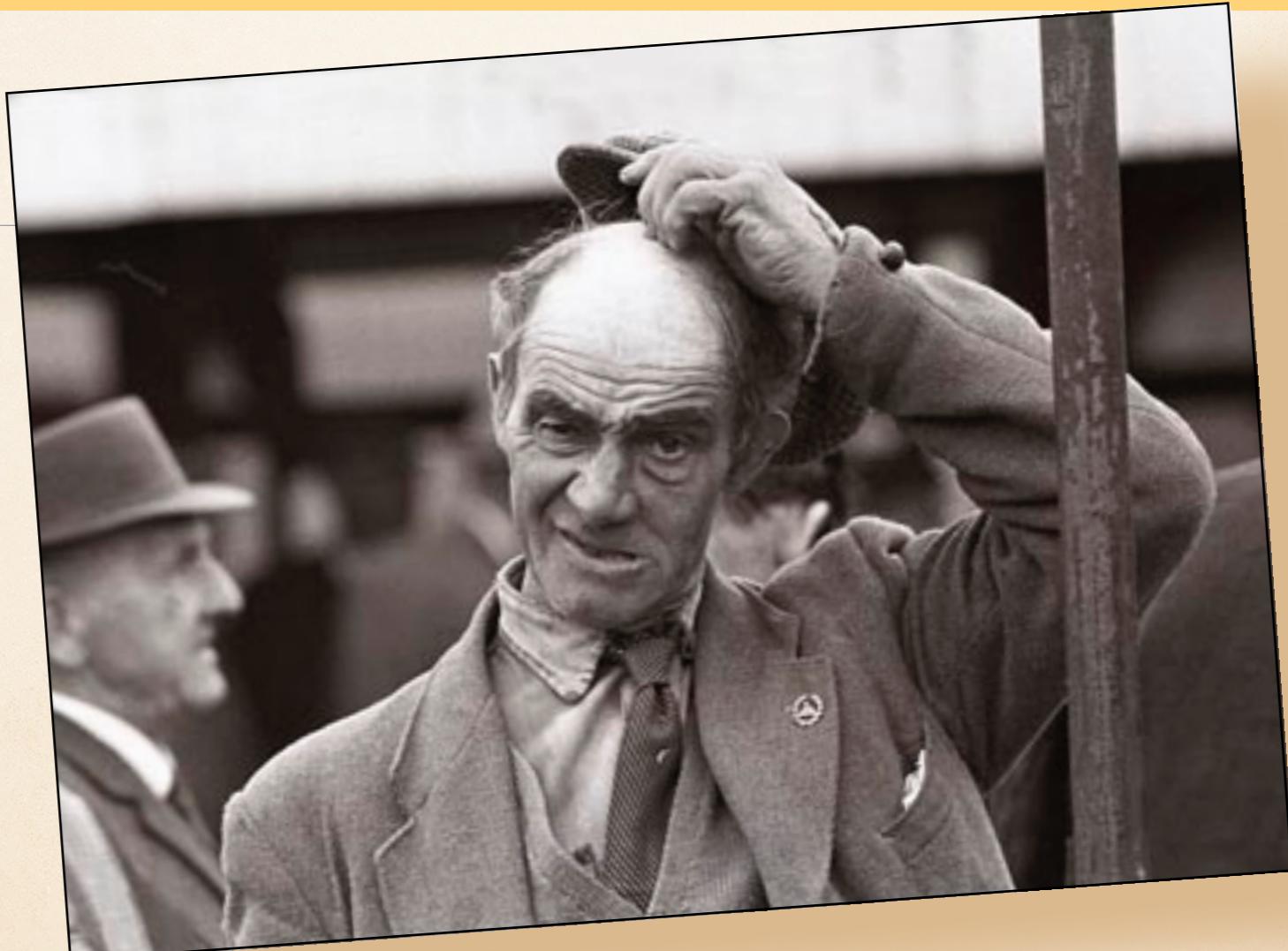


PALMS

- During the time of the Maccabean revolt, Palm Branches were the symbol of patriotism.
- ★ The equivalent of flying the Stars and Stripes is to us as Americans.
 - St John describes the chant of the people explicitly using the title for Jesus as the “King of Israel.”
- Now you know why the priests tell Jesus, to shut his people up! They worry the Romans will retaliate to a claim of a new King.
- The People chant Ps 118 - A Passover psalm. Hosanna - Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. *Hosanna means “save us”*



QUESTIONS?



OLD TESTAMENT

GOD'S SAVING PLAN