

The Minor Prophets
"Introduction"

2 Peter 2:19-21

19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,

20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.

21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Outline -- AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MINOR PROPHETS

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- 1) "Minor" = Shorter ... not "less important"
- 2) Written primarily to two groups of people concerning 3 major historical events (Division of the nation, the fall of the Israel, the fall of Judah)
- 3) They can be hard to read
- 4) This is one of the least-known parts of the Bible
- 5) There are 12 of them

6 QUESTIONS WE WILL ASK EACH BOOK

- 1) What is the historical context?
- 2) Who are the main people and themes? What is going on?
- 3) How does this fit into the larger story of the Bible?
- 4) What does this book reveal about God? About humans?
- 5) What can we take away and apply?
- 6) If you only had this book, how would you use it to share the gospel?

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Questions to think about:

- 1) Why are these 12 books referred to as the "minor" prophets? What is minor about them?
- 2) Why do you think this is one of the lesser-known parts of the Bible – what is it about these books that makes people avoid them?
- 3) How can a book written to people thousands of years ago of a different faith and from a different part of the world matter for us in 2020? Why is it good for you to study the Minor Prophets?

Next Week: "Obadiah: Judgement Day"