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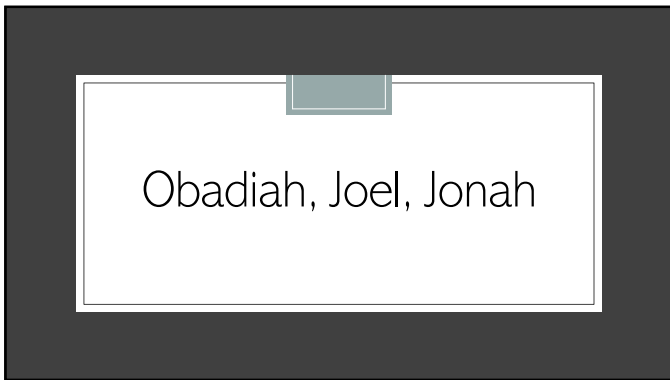
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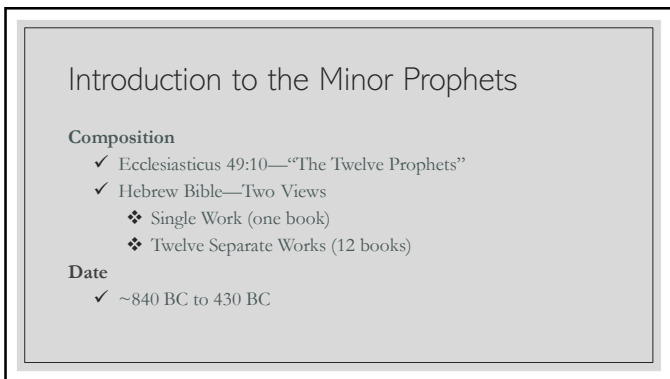
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Introduction to the Minor Prophets

✓ Obadiah	✓ Zephaniah
✓ Joel	✓ Habakkuk
✓ Jonah	✓ (Jeremiah)
✓ Amos	✓ (Ezekiel)
✓ Hosea	✓ Haggai
✓ Micah	✓ Zechariah
✓ (Isaiah)	✓ Malachi
✓ Nahum	

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Introduction to the Minor Prophets

**Themes**

- ✓ The Day of Yahweh
- ✓ Sin of Israel and Judah
- ✓ Judgement of Israel and Judah
- ✓ Restoration of Israel and Judah
- ✓ Judgement of the Nations

**Purpose**

- ✓ Israel's restoration will come after the Day of the Lord, the Lord's Day of Judgment

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Introduction to Obadiah

**Title**

- ✓ Hebrew = *Obadyah* (עֲבַדְיָהוּ; "Obadiah; Slave of Yahweh")
- ✓ Greek = *Abdiou* (ΑΒΔΙΟΥ; "of Obadiah")

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Introduction to Obadiah

**WHO—Authorship**

- ✓ Obadiah (1:1)

**WHO—Audience**

- ✓ Edom (for Israel's benefit)

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Introduction to Obadiah

**WHEN**

- ✓ Approximately 840 BC
- ✓ About 100 years after Solomon wrote Ecclesiastes and died.
- ✓ Joel comes after Obadiah (Joel 2:32; cf. Obad 17)

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Introduction to Obadiah

**WHERE**

- ✓ Hard to know for sure. Perhaps Jerusalem? Perhaps in the land of Edom?
- ✓ Judah had successfully kept Edom under its rule for centuries (1 Kings 22:47; cf. Gen 25:23)
- ✓ Soon after Solomon passes off the scene, Edom revolts against Israel and sets up an independent kingdom
- ✓ King Jehoram reigned for Judah—his worship of other gods sparked the Philistines and Arabians to attack (2 Chr 21:12–17).
- ✓ Edom raids Jerusalem after the attack (Obad 10–11)

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Introduction to Obadiah

**WHY**

To declare to Edom (and for the benefit of Israel) that in light of their indifference to help Judah in its time of greatest need, and because they joined in the spoils of war, God will prove His exclusive love for Israel by destroying Edom, thereby triggering the worldwide judgement of the Day of the Lord.

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Introduction to Obadiah

**HOW—Terminology**

- ✓ Edom (or Esau; 1:1, 6, 8 (2x), 9, 18 (2x), 19, 21)
- ✓ Servant (or Slave; the word does not occur in the book, but is part of the title as Obadiah's name—"Who is God's true Servant?")
- ✓ Day of Yahweh (1:15)
- ✓ Mountain (1:8, 9, 16, 17, 19, 21 (2x))

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Introduction to Obadiah

**HOW—Literary Structure**

- ✓ God's Recompense on Edom (1:1–9)
- ✓ God's Warning to Edom (1:10–14)
- ✓ God's Judgement on the World—the Day of Yahweh (1:15–21)

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Introduction to Joel

**Title**

- ✓ Hebrew = *Yoel* (יְאוֹל; “Joel; Yahweh is God”; see 2:27; 3:17)
- ✓ Greek = *Ioel* (ΙΩΗΛ; “Joel”)

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Introduction to Joel

**WHO—Authorship**

- ✓ Joel, the son of Pethuel (1:1)

**WHO—Audience**

- ✓ Israel (with a view to the world)

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Introduction to Joel

**WHEN**

- ✓ Joel likely ministered between 835–796 BC (though debated)
- ✓ Perhaps written around 830 BC.
- ✓ Mention of Judah implies a split kingdom and before the exile (3:1, 6, 8, 18, 19, 20)
- ✓ No king mentioned (rare for prophets). Implies minority rule of Joashin Judah where Jehoiada the priest was acting more as ruler (2 Kings 11:4).
- ✓ Foes are Phoenicians, Philistines, Edomites, Egyptians, not Assyrians, Babylonians, or Persians.
- ✓ Amos (c. 755 BC) quotes Joel (Amos 9:13; cf. Joel 3:18; Amos 1:2; cf. Joel 3:16) and may have used Joel as a sermon text for his message.

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### Introduction to Joel

**WHERE**

- ✓ Probably from Jerusalem as a prophet to Jerusalem.
- ✓ Wicked Queen Athaliah was “reigning” (2 Kings 11:1 – 12:3)—sin is rampant and repentance is needed (cf. Joel 2:12–17)
- ✓ Seed of Israel nearly goes extinct (cf. Gen 3:15), but God will have mercy (Joel 2:18)

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### Introduction to Joel

**WHY**

To foretell that the Day of Yahweh is coming and will accumulate through the ages and finally erupt against all the nations, including Judah and Israel, but true Israel will be shown mercy.

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### Introduction to Joel

**HOW—Terminology**

- ✓ “Yahweh is God” (2:27; 3:17)
- ✓ Day of Yahweh (1:15; , 2:1, 11; 2:31; 3:14)
- ✓ Zion (2:1, 15, 32; 3:16, 17, 21)
- ✓ Jerusalem (2:32; 3:1, 6, 16, 17, 20)
- ✓ Mountain (2:1, 2 , 5; 2:32; 3:17, 18)
- ✓ Edom (3:19—only occurs once, but is callback to Obadiah)

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Introduction to Joel

**HOW—Literary Structure**

- ✓ The Destruction of the Day of Yahweh (1:1 – 2:11)
- ✓ The Compassion on the Day of Yahweh (2:12–27)
- ✓ The Signs of the Day of Yahweh (2:28–32)
- ✓ The Global Judgement of the Day of Yahweh (3:1–21)

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Introduction to Jonah

**Title**

- ✓ Hebrew = *Yonah* (יֹנָתַן; “Jonah; Dove”)
- ✓ Greek = *Ionas* (ΙΩΝΑΣ; “Jonah”)

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Introduction to Jonah

**WHO—Authorship**

- ✓ Jonah, the son of Amittai (1:1)
- ✓ From Gath-Hepher in the territory of Zebulun (2 Kings 14:25)

**WHO—Audience**

- ✓ Israel

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### Introduction to Jonah

**WHEN**

- ✓ Jonah ministered around 800 BC
- ✓ During the reigns of Joash, king of Judah, and Jehoahaz, king of Israel
- ✓ Jonah is responsible for prophesying that Jeroboam II of Israel would recapture much land for Israel (2 Kings 14:25).
- ✓ Gleason Archer calls him a true “patriot” of Israel (*A Survey of Old Testament Introduction*, 341), which makes sense given his hatred of the Ninevites

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### Introduction to Jonah

**WHERE**

- ✓ Perhaps from Gath-Hepher, where Jonah was from.
- ✓ King Joash reigns on the throne in Judah and Jehoahaz in Israel.
- ✓ Northern Israel regularly afflicted and enslaved by the Arameans, but Jehoahaz cried out to Yahweh, and He saved them (2 Kings 13:1–9).
- ✓ Judah under the reign of Joash—barely escaped extinction of the seed (cf. Gen 3:15)
- ✓ Both instances demonstrate God’s faithfulness to preserve His people despite their sin.

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### Introduction to Jonah

**WHY**

To showcase the compassion of God even to the vilest of nations and prove to Jonah and to Israel that God’s mercy is available even to the Gentiles—thereby signifying that Jews need just as much mercy as Gentiles for their sins.

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Introduction to Jonah

**HOW—Terminology**

- ✓ Evil (Bad; 1:2, 7, 8; 3:8, 10; 4:1 (2x), 2, 6)
- ✓ Anger and Heated Anger (3:9; 4:1, 2, 4, 9 (2x))
- ✓ Fear (1:5, 9, 10 (2x), 16 (2x))
- ✓ Appoint (i.e. sovereign acting; 2:1; 4:6, 7, 8)
- ✓ Gracious & Compassionate (4:2; cf. Exod 34:6)
- ✓ “Salvation belongs to Yahweh” (2:9)—therefore, He can extend it to whomever He pleases

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Introduction to Jonah

**HOW—Literary Structure**

- ✓ Jonah Runs from Yahweh’s Mercy (1:1–15)
- ✓ Gentile Sailors Turn to Yahweh (1:16)
- ✓ Salvation Belongs to God Alone (2:1–9)
- ✓ Gentile Ninevites Turn to Yahweh (2:10 – 3:10)
- ✓ Jonah Despises Yahweh’s Mercy (4:1–11)

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