

Adult Class  
Wednesday, June 8, 2011

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**The Story of the Bible**  
Connecting the Dots

## The Time Periods...

- Before the Flood
- The Flood
- The Scattering of the People
- The Patriarchs
- The Exodus
- Wandering in the Wilderness
- Invasion and Conquest of the Land
- The Judges
- The United Kingdom
- The Divided Kingdom
- Judah Alone
- The Captivity

### The Time Periods...

Before the Flood  
Genesis 1 – Creation  
Genesis 5 – Generations

The Flood  
Genesis 6 – Warning of the Flood  
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Scattering of the People  
Genesis 9 – Command to fill the earth  
Genesis 11 – Tower of Babel, forced scattering – Generations of Shem to Abraham

The Patriarchs  
Genesis 12 – Abraham introduced, promise given to him  
Genesis 50 – Joseph dies in Egypt

The Exodus  
Exodus 1 – People in bondage in Egypt  
Numbers 13 – People lose their faith (spy incident)

Wandering in the Wilderness  
Numbers 14 – God curses the people to wander for 40 years.  
Joshua 5 – Commander of the Lord's army appears to Joshua

Invasion and Conquest of the Land  
Joshua 6 – Jericho  
Joshua 24 – Death of Joshua

The Judges  
Judges 1 – Summary of the time period  
1 Samuel 9 – Demand for a king

The United Kingdom  
1 Samuel 10 – Saul anointed first king of Israel  
1 Kings 12 – Kingdom splits after Rehoboam's unwillingness to listen to the people

The Divided Kingdom  
1 Kings 13/2 Chronicles 10 – Israel begins its rebellion under king Jeroboam  
2 Kings 17/2 Chronicles 31 – Assyria destroys and captures Israel (Northern tribes)

Judah Alone  
2 Kings 18/2 Chronicles 31 – Israel taken by Assyria  
2 Kings 25/2 Chronicles 36 – Judah taken by Babylon

The Captivity  
Return from Captivity  
Years of Silence

## The Captivity...

- ⦿ After years of disobedience, God finally has allowed the nation of Judah to be destroyed by foreign nations, specifically Babylon led by King Nebuchadnezzar.
- ⦿ This time period contains no “history” books as we are accustomed to reading. There are several books of prophecy written during this time period, however.
- ⦿ The time period concludes after Babylon is destroyed by the Medo-Persians, and King Cyrus then allows the “Jews” to return back to their land.

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## The Captivity...

- The Books of The Captivity

- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel

} Major Prophets

## The Books of The Captivity

## Themes of Prophecy

- ◉ Repentance
- ◉ “The Day of the Lord”
- ◉ God’s concern for all nations
- ◉ The Messiah
- ◉ A new kingdom

### Themes of Prophecy

#### Repentance

- God never ceases to chastise his people
- God warns the people that without repentance, disaster was soon to follow
- God extends mercy to His people, as long as they repent of their wickedness

#### “The Day of the Lord”

- A day of reckoning that comes for all individuals and nations
- For the evil, it is a day of judgment; for the righteous, it is a day of deliverance
- There have been many “days of the Lord” throughout history, so it is important to understand what is meant by this idea

#### God’s concern for all nations

- God does not simply demand Israel to behave properly while allowing all of the other nations of the world to act as they like
- God also calls the nations of the world to repentance, promising disaster if they do not comply with His demands

#### The Messiah

- Someone is coming to ultimately save God’s people
- There is a great deal of prophecy about the Messiah, looking, of course, to Jesus and the events that would surround his life and death
- Often referred to as a king or high priest, etc.

#### A new kingdom

- Hand in hand with the idea of a Messiah is the idea of a new kingdom
- Different images of this kingdom include a mountain, a grand temple, etc.
- The new kingdom ultimately refers to the establishment of the church as God’s “spiritual” Israel

## The Captivity...

### ◉ Lamentations

- Included in the “Major Prophets” section because it is highly probable that Jeremiah wrote this book
- Each chapter is an individual poem, each written as a Hebrew accrostic (each verse begins with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet)
- As the title of the book implies, it is a lamentation of the destruction of Jerusalem because of its sin
- The author also emphasizes God’s patient love for man
- Judah’s proper response should be repentance
- The author finally begs for God to restore His people

### **The Captivity...**

#### Lamentations

Included in the “Major Prophets” section because it is highly probable that Jeremiah wrote this book – 2 Chronicles 35:25

Each chapter is an individual poem, each written as a Hebrew accrostic (each verse begins with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet) – note 22(66) verses per chapter

As the title of the book implies, it is a lamentation of the destruction of Jerusalem because of its sin – Lamentations 2:17

The author also emphasizes God’s patient love for man – Lamentations 3:22-23

Judah’s proper response should be repentance – Lamentations 3:40-42

The author finally begs for God to restore His people – Lamentations 5:19-22

## The Captivity...

### ○ Ezekiel

- Ezekiel gives many prophecies while he and other Israelites are exiled to the Chebar River (2<sup>nd</sup> invasion)
- Ezekiel is given the title of “watchman.” He is simply instructed to warn the people of the need to repent; it is up to them to respond.
- He describes how the glory of the Lord left the desecrated temple that it once entered in a cloud.
- Numerous other nations are condemned
- Throughout, there is a constant reminder that God will restore His people. Both physically and, further into the future, spiritually as the church.

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## The Captivity...

### ○ Daniel

- Daniel describes the events of his life through the book, all of which take place in foreign lands (Babylonian, and later, Medo-Persian)
- Daniel heavily emphasizes the fact that, ultimately, Heaven rules, and not man.
- The church is prophesied about especially in chapter 2, through the vision of the statue with many metals.
- We are familiar with many of the stories in this book.
- Chapter 5 describes the end of the Babylonian empire
- Chapters 7-12 describe historical events to come.

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