



## Getting started with the minor prophets

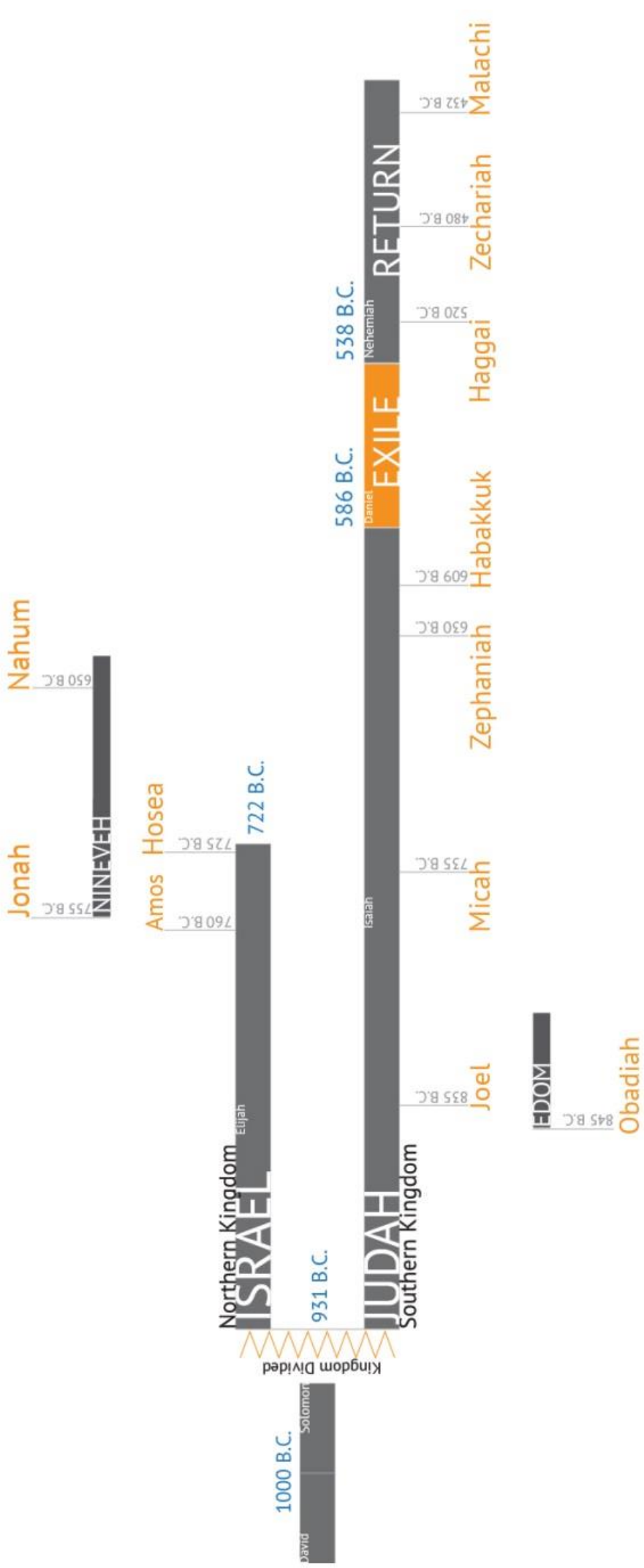
The minor prophets are so called not because their message is less important but because their books are shorter.

A prophet is someone who speaks God's Word. Despite His people's rebellion, God keeps speaking to them. The emphasis of each book is different depending on the exact circumstances – the prophets are explaining past, present and future history from God's point of view; addressing the northern Kingdom of Israel, the southern Kingdom of Judah and even the nations around.

The warnings and promises have deep roots in the OT story so far, particularly linking back to God's promises of blessings and curses (Deut 28). God is in complete control, bringing judgement on sin, rebellion and idolatry, yet working out his purposes to bring salvation to his people and ultimate judgement on His enemies.

In this way, it's another step along the journey pointing us to the Lord Jesus.

<b>Prophet</b>	<b>Theme</b>
Nahum	The LORD will bring inescapable judgement on His enemy.
Habbakuk	Be trustingly joyful because God promises to deliver His people and defeat evil.
Zephaniah	God will judge the sin & rebellion of the world, but there is hope because of the character and promises of God
Haggai	The rebuilding of the LORD's temple will bring about an even greater glory.
Zechariah	The LORD Almighty is King of the whole earth.
Malachi	Know God's love and respond with love!





## RBT Grow Group is on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Bring along some things from your reading of the minor prophets to share with others.

### **Some RBT reading ideas:**

- Meet up once a week to read it with a friend.
- Listen online at [Biblegateway.com](http://Biblegateway.com)
- Write down a verse that struck you that day.
- Encourage someone by texting them a thought from what you've read.

### **Grow 1:1 questions to unlock the passage:**

**What** does this teach me about God?

**How** does this point me to the Lord Jesus and His cross?

**What** does this teach me about myself?

**How** does this help me to pray?

**What** difference will this make to my week?



Here are some questions the Bible wants you to ask of itself. Use these to help you as you read your way through this month's book: (please don't feel like you have to fill in every question in loads of detail. These are a guide to help you learn from what you are reading.)

- What did you learn about Jesus and what it means to trust him? (Luke 24:45-47)
- What did you learn about yourself? (James 1:23 & 2 Tim 3:16-17)
- How were you corrected or rebuked or equipped for every good work? (2 Tim 3:16-17)
- What did you learn from the book that will help you keep going as a follower of Jesus? (Romans 15:4)
- What did you learn that will help you serve and build up the church? (Eph 4:11-16)
- What have you learnt that helps you love the Lord your God with all your heart & with all your soul & with all your mind? (Matt 22:37-40)
- What has helped you love your neighbour as yourself? (Matt 22:37-40)