

Be Genuine

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a light pink t-shirt, stands against a plain grey background. She is holding two balloons. The balloon in her right hand has a sad face drawn on it, and she is looking at it with a serious expression. The balloon in her left hand has a happy face drawn on it, and she is looking at it with a smile.

Malachi

Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore
BibleStudyDownloads.org

hyp·o·crite

(hip'ə krit)

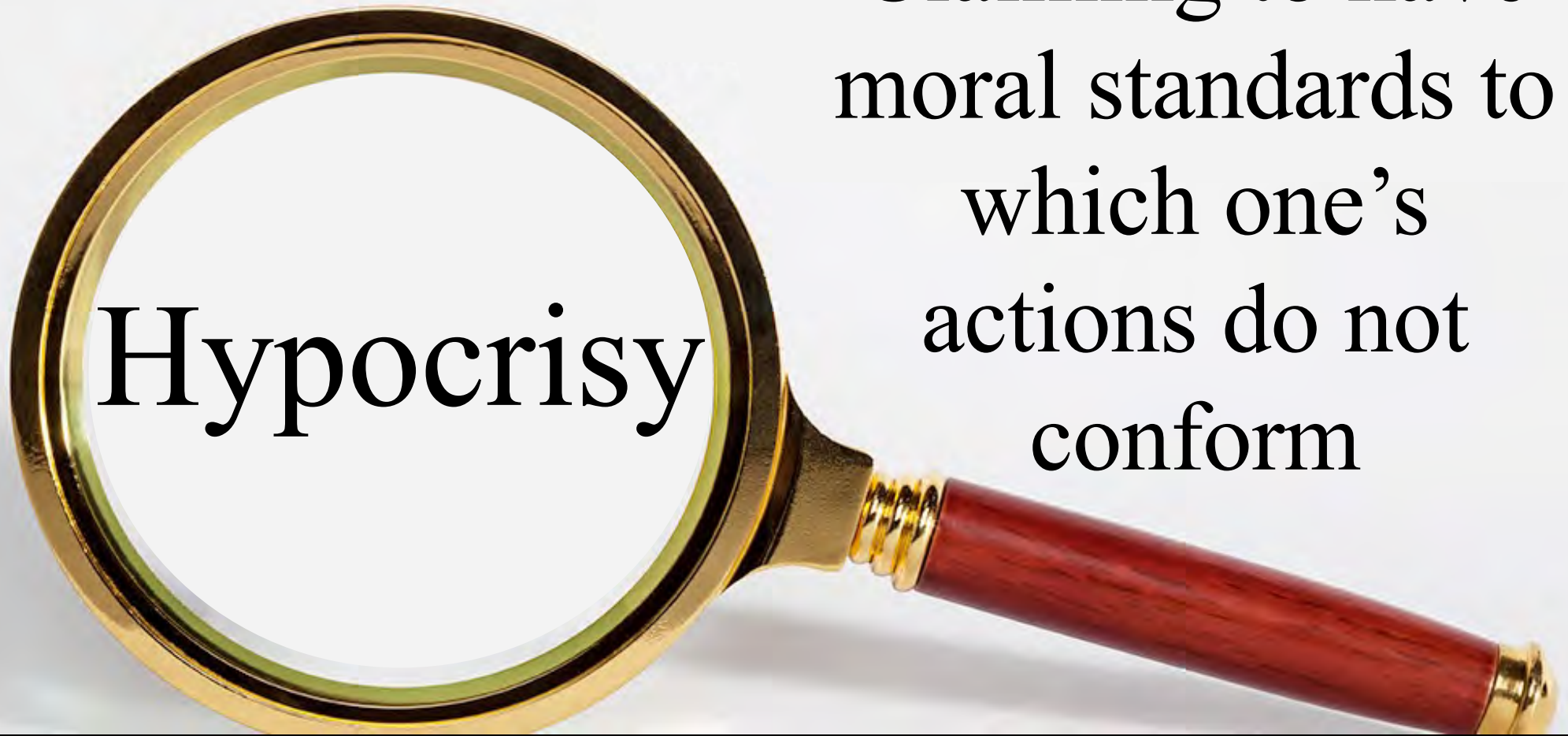
Function: *noun*

Meaning:

- 1. a person who puts on a false appearance of virtue or religion**
- 2. a person who acts in contradiction to his or her stated beliefs or feelings**

**If you don't walk the talk,
it's probably best not to talk the talk**

Claiming to have
moral standards to
which one's
actions do not
conform



Hypocrisy

Hypocrites (Greek stage term)

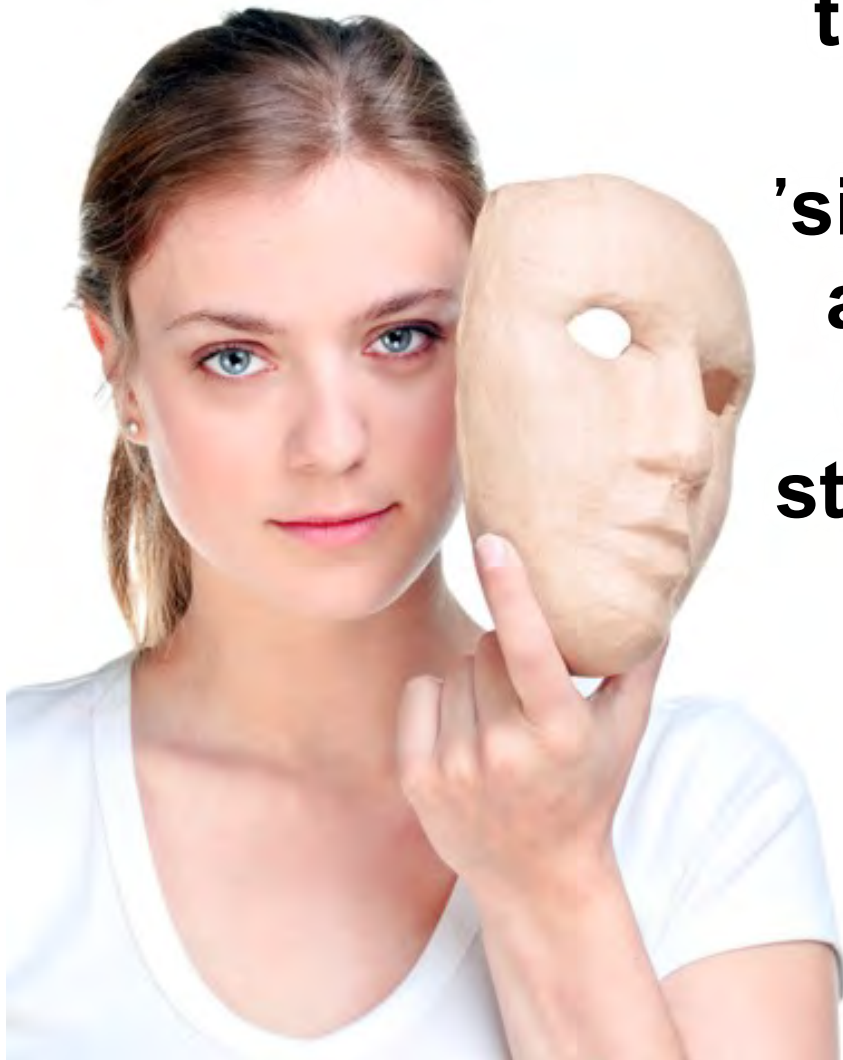


Pharisee Hypocrisy



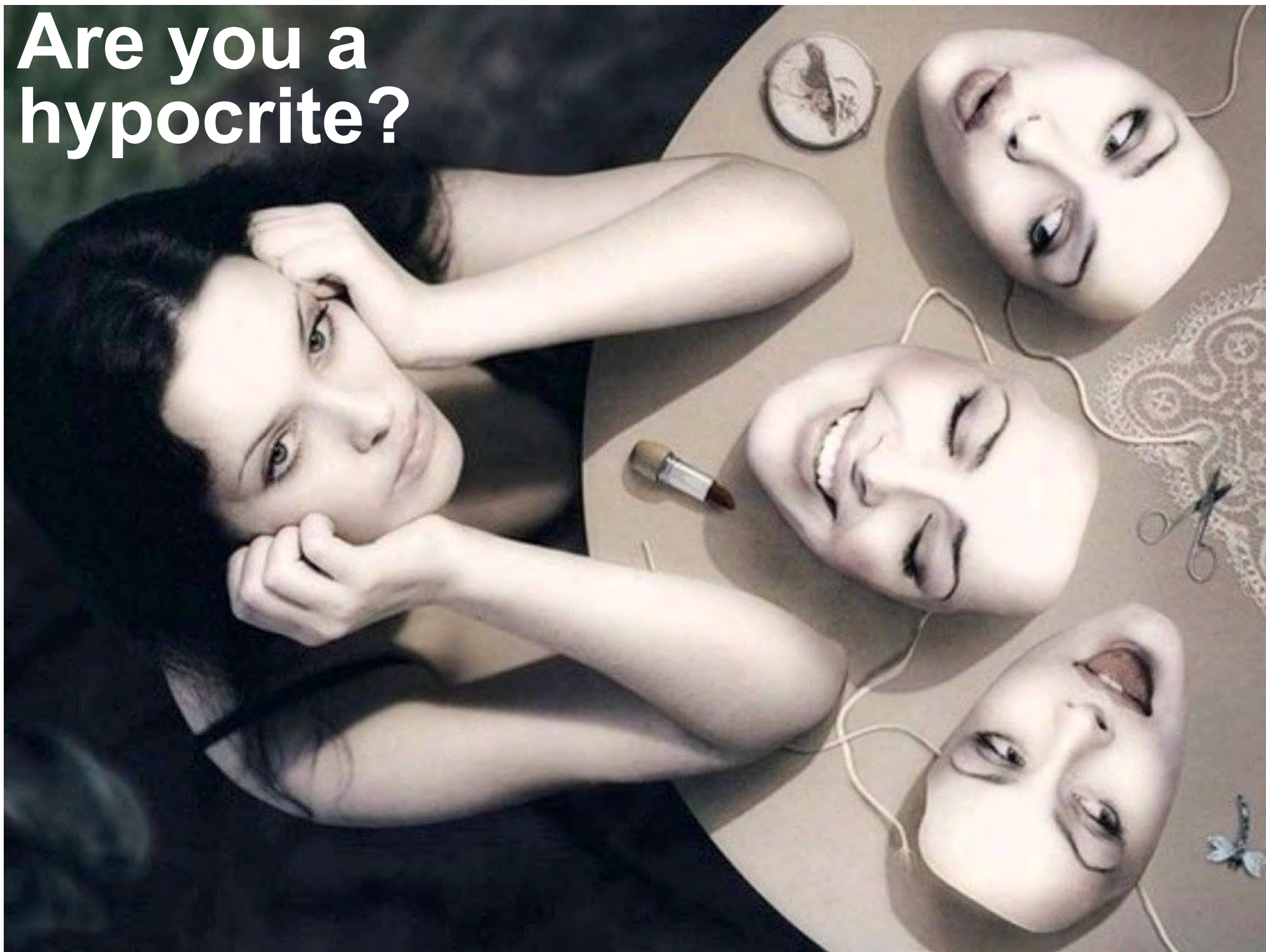
Hypocrisy

J. Harold Greenlee and Allan R. Killen, "Hypocrisy, Hypocrite,"
Wycliffe Bible Dictionary



"The meaning of the words, 'hypocrite' and 'hypocrisy,' as used in the Bible by our Lord Jesus Christ (primarily directed toward the 'religious' leaders of the day) implies more than a 'simple pretense' or 'acting out as a stage-player.' It embodies... a determined effort to enforce a standard of conduct upon others, which conduct the enforcer knowingly and deliberately refuses to apply to himself—hence, action born of full knowledge and evil intent."

**Are you a
hypocrite?**





HOW CAN YOU BE...?



Background to Malachi



Timeline

**United
Kingdom**

**Divided
Kingdom**

**Solitary
Kingdom**

**Post-
Exile**

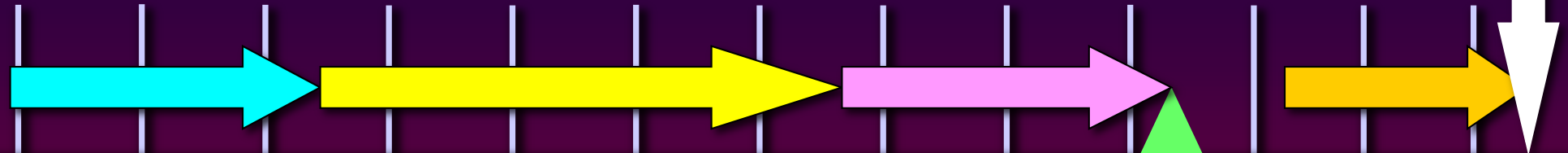
1050-930

930-722

722-586

536-425

430



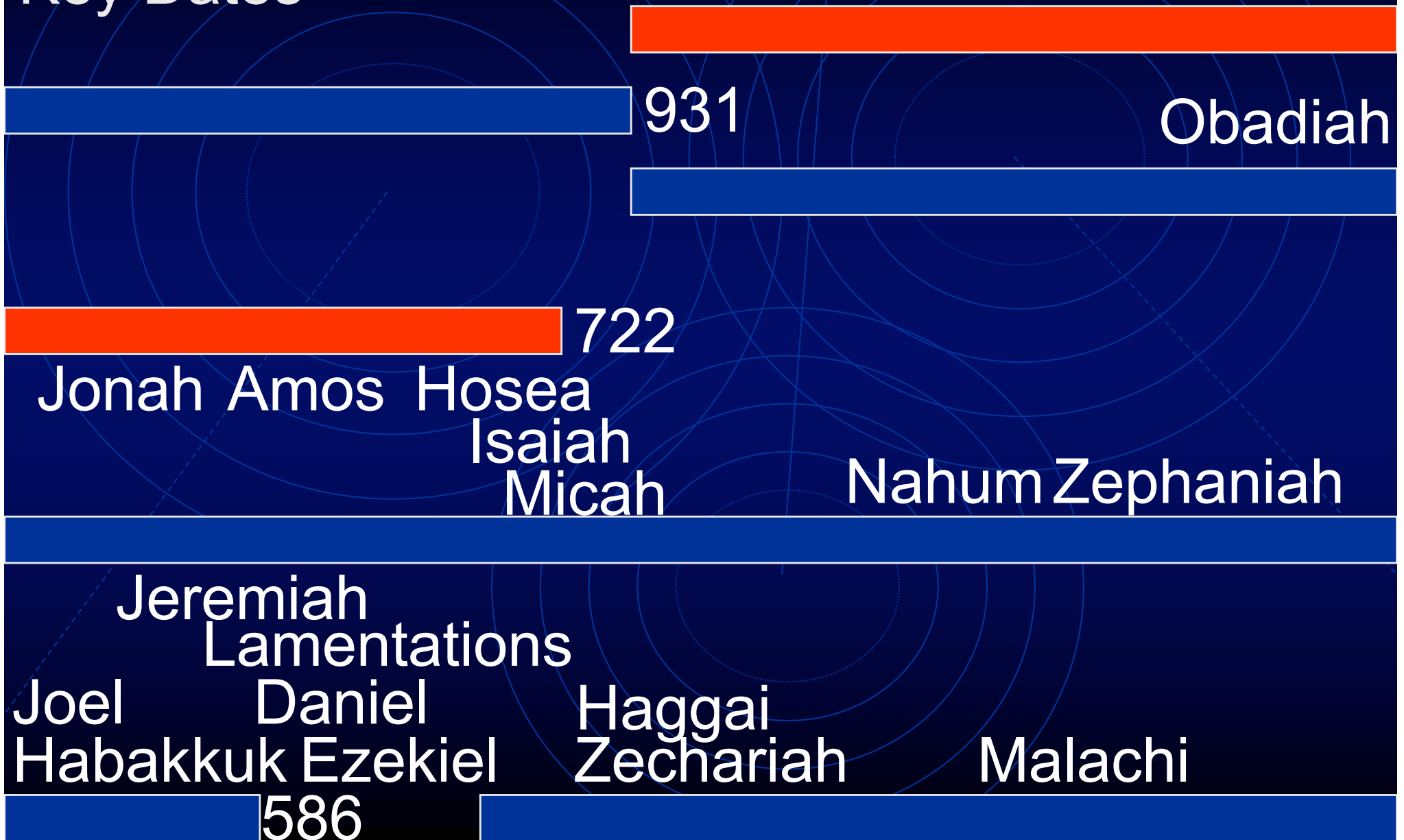
1	1												
0	0	9	9	8	8	7	7	6	6	5	5	4	
5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	5	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Exile 586-536

Placing the Prophets

342

Key Dates





The Biblical Bookshelf

Chronology of Ezra-Nehemiah



MEN

Zerubbabel

537-516

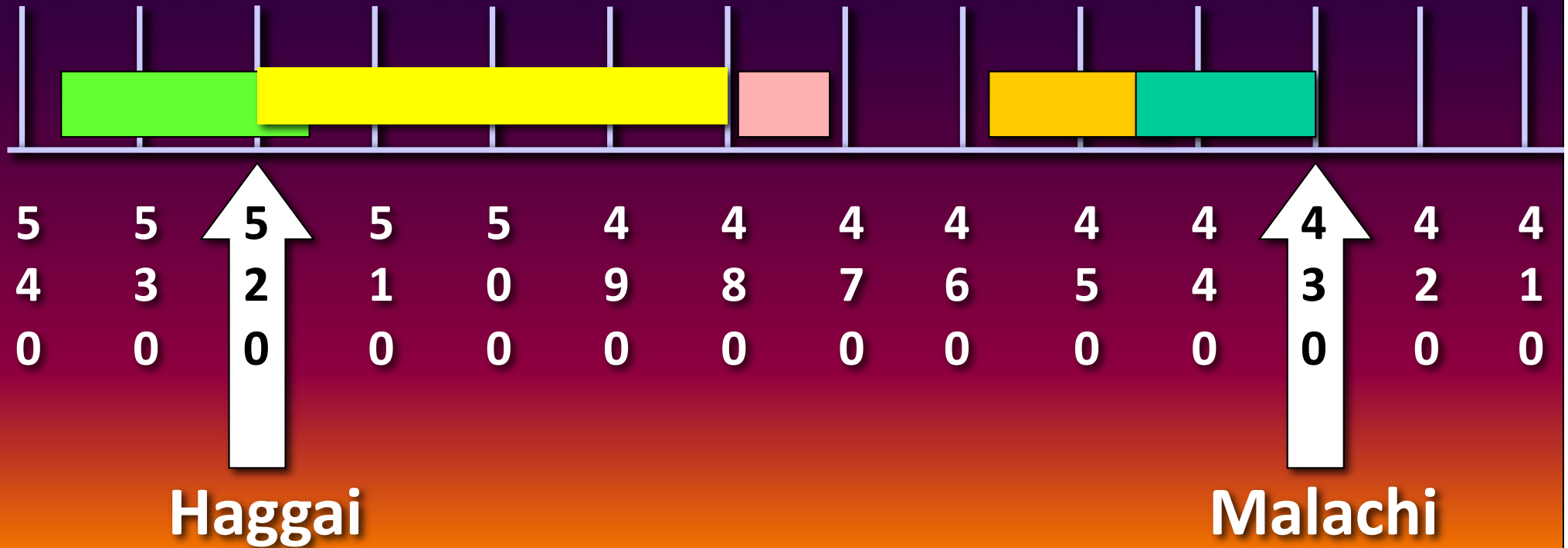
Zechariah

520-480

Esther
479-473

Ezra
457-444

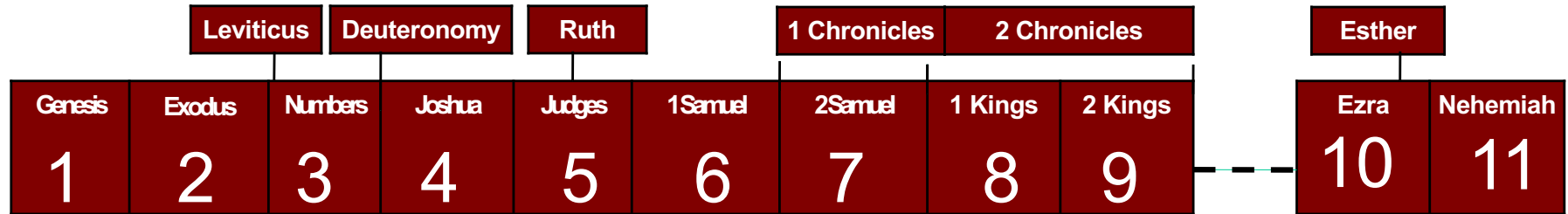
Nehemiah 444-430



Integration of the Old Testament

43

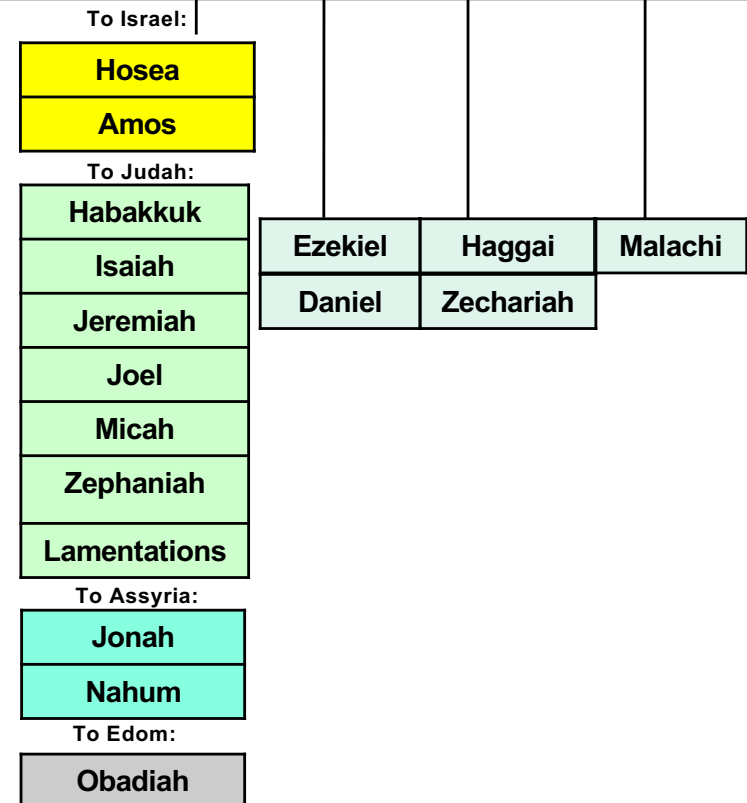
Historical



Poetical



Prophetical



Hosea

Loyal

Joel

Disciplined

Amos

Just

Obadiah

Humble

Be...

Jonah

Caring

Micah

Generous

Nahum

Patient

Habakkuk

Amazed

Isaiah

Hopeful

Haggai

Restored

Zechariah

Encouraged

Malachi

Genuine



Hosea was chosen by God to be an example to the people of Israel. His wife was unfaithful, but just like God he never stopped loving her and always looked for her whenever she left him.



Joel prophesied during a time when the land of Israel had suffered from a great plague of locust. Joel proclaims this as a sign from God as a precursor to the Day of the Lord.



Amos was a sheep breeder and a tender of fig trees by trade, but God used him to bring a powerful word of correction to Israel and the surrounding nations.



Obadiah is the shortest book in the old testament with only 21 verses. The book is a proclamation of judgment against Edom for aiding the Babylonians in their siege against Jerusalem.



Jonah is the most famous of the minor prophets because a giant sea animal was used to set him back on course after going astray. His mission was to tell the people of Nineveh to repent of their wrongdoings.

Micah in 1:8 lamented without wearing clothes in order to illustrate the severity of the destitution and captivity that was coming. This method was also used by Isaiah at times (Isaiah 20:2-3).



Nahum predicts the destruction of Nineveh the great capital of the Assyrian empire. Evidently the reforms introduced by Jonah did not last long.



Habakkuk identifies himself as a psalmist and musician by ending his book with a hymn of redemption and grace to be played on stringed instruments by the temple worship leaders.



Zephaniah contains a series of stern judgments directed toward Israel, Judah, and her neighbors for permitting idolatry and other sins in the land.



Haggai makes his chief concern restoring the temple of the Lord. Despite the Hebrew's return from captivity, the temple had not yet been fully rebuilt.



Zechariah like Ezekiel received vivid prophesies in the form of highly symbolic visions. Some of the imagery includes flying scrolls, olive trees, and angels. There are several Messianic passages as well.



Malachi is a reformer who directs his message toward corrupt priests and those who withhold their offerings from the Lord. Malachi is the last book before the New Testament.

—A Preaching Series on the Minor Prophets—

JUDGMENT

IDOLATRY

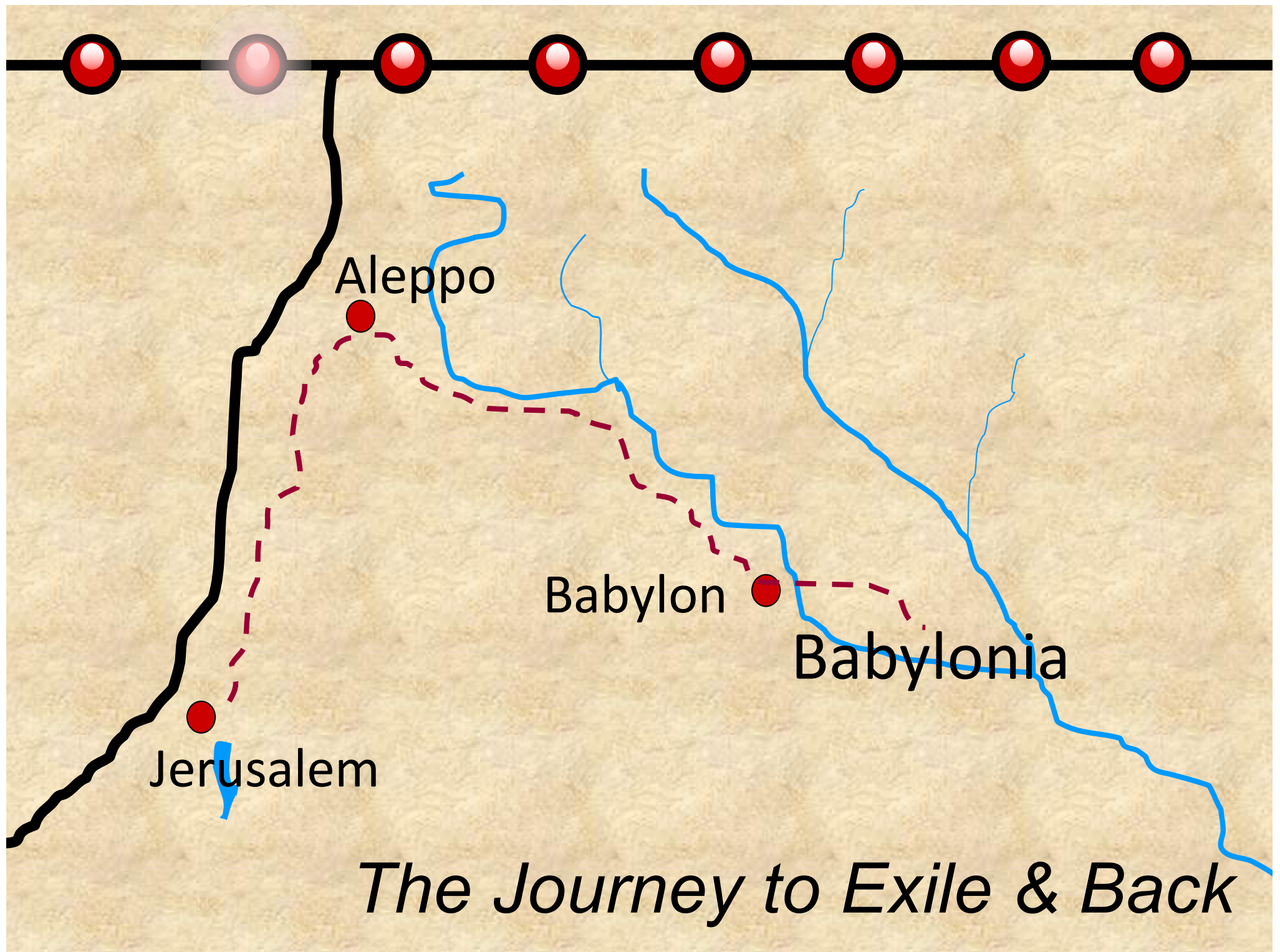
WRATH

EDZÆNK I Æ L

PUNISHMENT

SIN

DISOBEDIENCE



Timeline of the Exile

605 ← **70 Years** → 536

Ezekiel 592-572 (20)

Daniel 605-537 (68)

Jeremiah 626-586 (40)

Belshazzar 550-539 (11)

Nabonidus 555-539 (16)

Neriglissar 559-555 (4)

Evil-Merodach 561-560 (1)

Nebuchadnezzar 605-561 (44)

Nabopolassar 630-605 (25)

Babylonian kings
Prophets

650

600

550

500 BC

The Postexilic Era

295
296
560

 Temple work

Prophets:

Haggai
Zechariah

Malachi

605

586

539

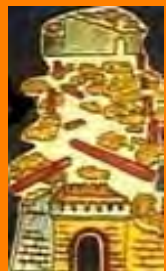
536

520

516

483-473

444-425



Others:

Zerubbabel

Esther Ezra

Nehemiah

Persian Kings:

Cyrus

Darius

Xerxes

Artaxerxes

Malachi

Dr. Rick Griffith, Singapore Bible College
BibleStudyDownloads.org



"Hearts of Stone"



Characteristics

The Man Malachi

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1. No biographical info in the Bible
2. Name (1:1; 3:1) could be a proper noun (Malachi) or a common noun (my messenger)

מַלְאכִי



B. The Book

1. Date/Occasion

- during the Persian period
- a century after Temple in 516 BC
- postexilic prophets 100 years

earlier:

Haggai & Zechariah

2. Historical Context

- Period of tension
- No greatness of God's Kingdom after the temple
- No sign of God's presence and blessing
- People did not conform to God's expectations
- They were not zealous for the Lord
- They failed to tithe
- They divorced their wives
- They married foreign women
- They offered maimed and diseased animals
- The priests accepted these sacrifices for God

3. Purpose

- To restore the people to a right relationship with God (Van Gemeren)
- To rebuke Israel's sin to exhort the people to leave their sinful lifestyle in exchange for blessing in the Kingdom (Griffith)
- To rekindle the faith of a discouraged people and set forth the continuing demands of the covenant upon those who truly know God (Leggett)

Audience

- Time: third or fourth generation Jews after the return from exile 100 years earlier
- Their Expectations: fulfillment of the glory of the new temple under Messiah in the kingdom
- Reality: disillusioned, discouraged, and doubting people experiencing poverty and drought

HOW CAN YOU BE...?



***TWO WAYS TO AVOID
HYPOCRISY***

Warning of Judgment for Hypocrisy

659

Chapters 1–3			Chapter 4		
Present Rebuke of Seven Sins			Future Blessing		
Pollution of the Nation			Promise to the Nation		
1:1–3:18	Israel's 7 Questions	God's 7 Responses	Day of Judgment	Obey Law	Heed Elijah
1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	Election	4:1-3	4:4	4:5-6
1:6–2:9	"How have we despised Your name?"	Unacceptable sacrifices			
2:10-16	"Why do You despise our offerings?"	Divorce			
2:17–3:7a					
3:7b-8a		Stop robbing Me			
3:8b-12	"How have we robbed You?"	Withholding tithes			
3:13-18	"How have we blasphemed You?"	Materialistic motives			

Warning of Judgment for Hypocrisy

Jerusalem in ca. 425 BC

HOW CAN YOU BE GENUINE?



Malachi 1–3

1:2 "How have you loved us?"

1:6 "How have we shown contempt for your name?"

1:7 "How have we defiled you?"

2:14 "Why don't you accept offerings?"

2:17 "How have we wronged you?"

3:7 "How are we to return?"

3:8 "How can we answer you?"

3:13 "What have we said against you?"

EXCUSES! EXCUSES!

Key Word

659
343

Hypocrisy

Malachi

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command

Our Excuse

God's Answer

**Appreciate
1:1-5**

**"How have you loved
us?"**

**"I chose you but you
despise me."**

What Would You Give a King?



Malachi 1

Apathy

**“The worst sin towards
our fellow creatures is
not to hate them, but to
be indifferent to them”**


George Bernard Shaw

A man wearing a black beanie and a dark jacket is positioned on the right side of the frame, looking back over his right shoulder towards the camera. The background is a vast, flat, green field under a pale, overcast sky. In the distance, a single, leafless tree stands alone. The overall mood is contemplative and somber.

**How can you
worship God
without
apathy?**

Privilege 1:1-5						
Introduction 1:1 Love 1:2-5	1	2	3	4	5	6
Past 1:1-5						
Respond to God's Covenant Love						430 B. C.

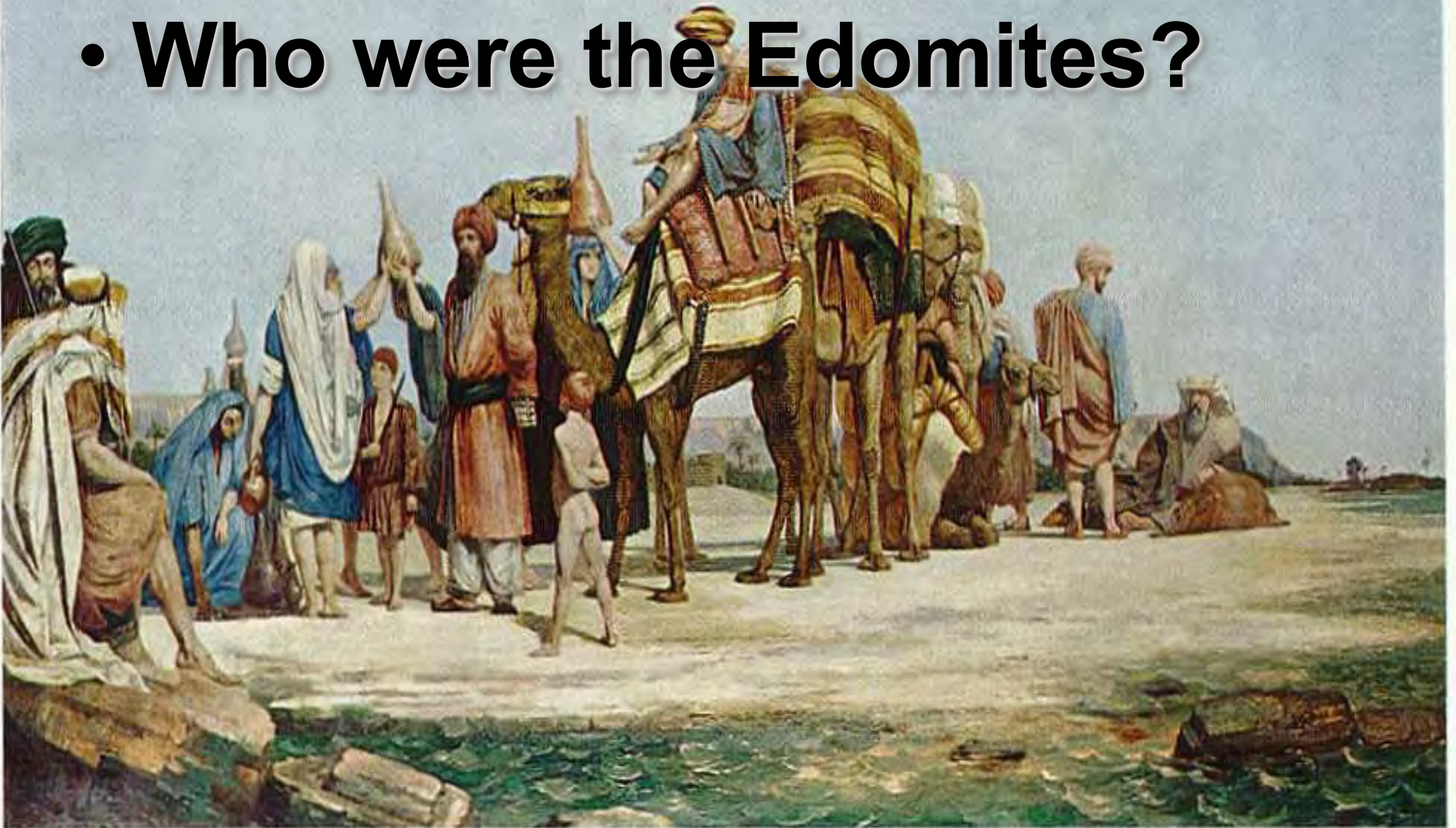
430 B. C.

A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a vast, swirling cloud formation in the sky, resembling a giant's foot or a massive storm system. The clouds are illuminated with warm, golden light, contrasting with the deep blue of the sky. Below the clouds, a rugged mountain valley is visible, with steep slopes and a winding path. The overall scene conveys a sense of awe and divine presence.

**Appreciate: God
chose you for
blessing (1:1-5).**

Key Questions:

- **Where was Edom?**
- **Who were the Edomites?**



God chose Jacob over Esau



Genesis 27



Geography

Jacob

Israel

Esau

Edom

GOD CHOSE EVEN APATHETIC JEWS

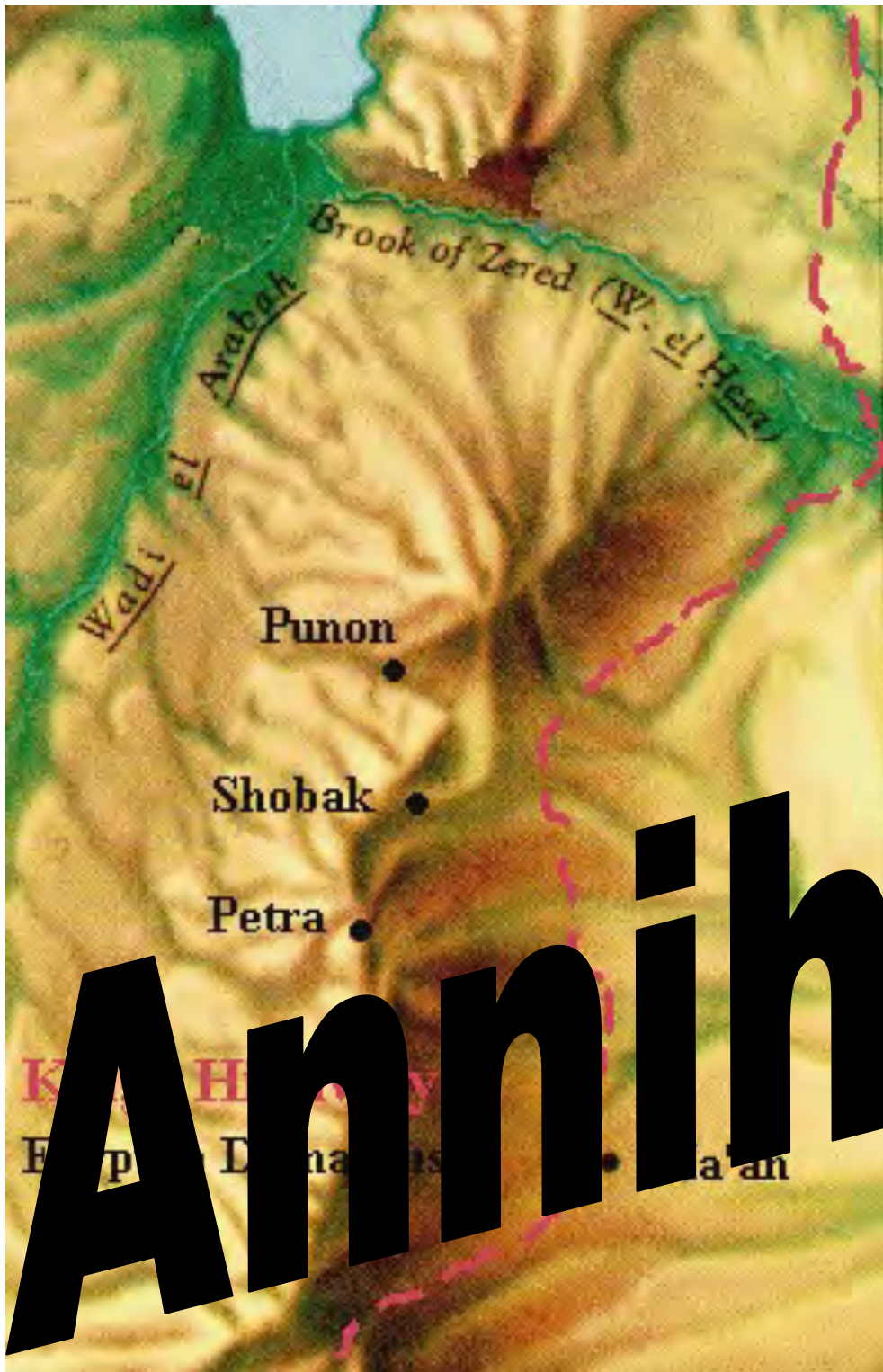


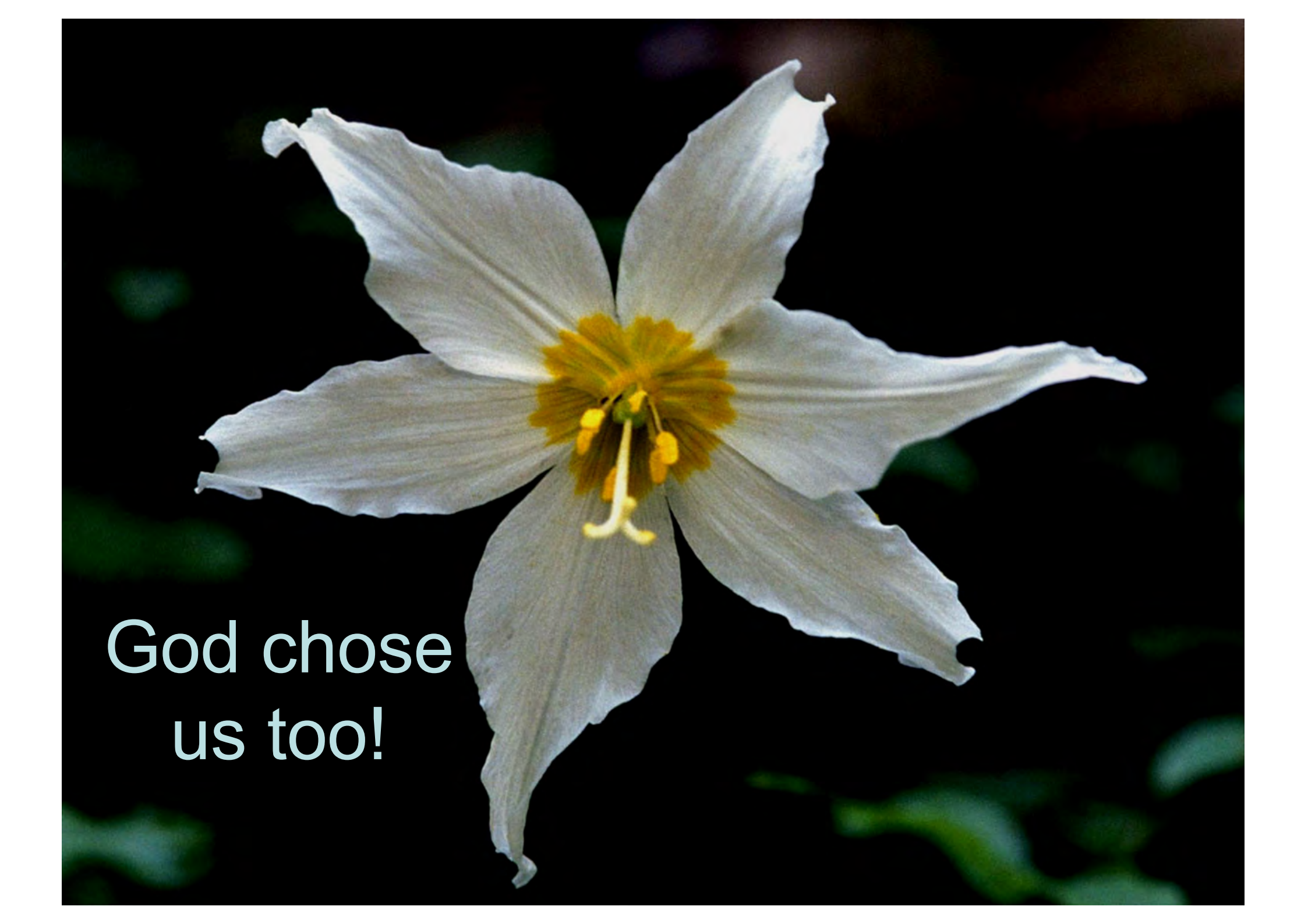


Israel was restored but
Nabateans finished off
the final remnant of
Edomites in 312 BC

Annihilated

Idumea, or Edom,
ceased to be.



A close-up photograph of a single white flower with five petals, each showing delicate veining. The center is a vibrant yellow, composed of numerous stamens and a central pistil. The flower is set against a dark, blurred background of green foliage.

God chose
us too!

He loves me, He loves me not...?





Election in Ephesians 1

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he **chose** us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he **predestined** us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will--



Election in Ephesians 1

¹¹In him we were also **chosen**, having been **predestined** according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.

Privilege 1:1-5		Problems 1:6–3:12					
<i>Introduction 1:1</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	<i>Love 1:2-5</i>	<i>Honor 1:6–2:9</i>					
Past 1:1-5		Present 1:6–2:16					430 BC
Respond to God's Covenant Love							

430 BC

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."

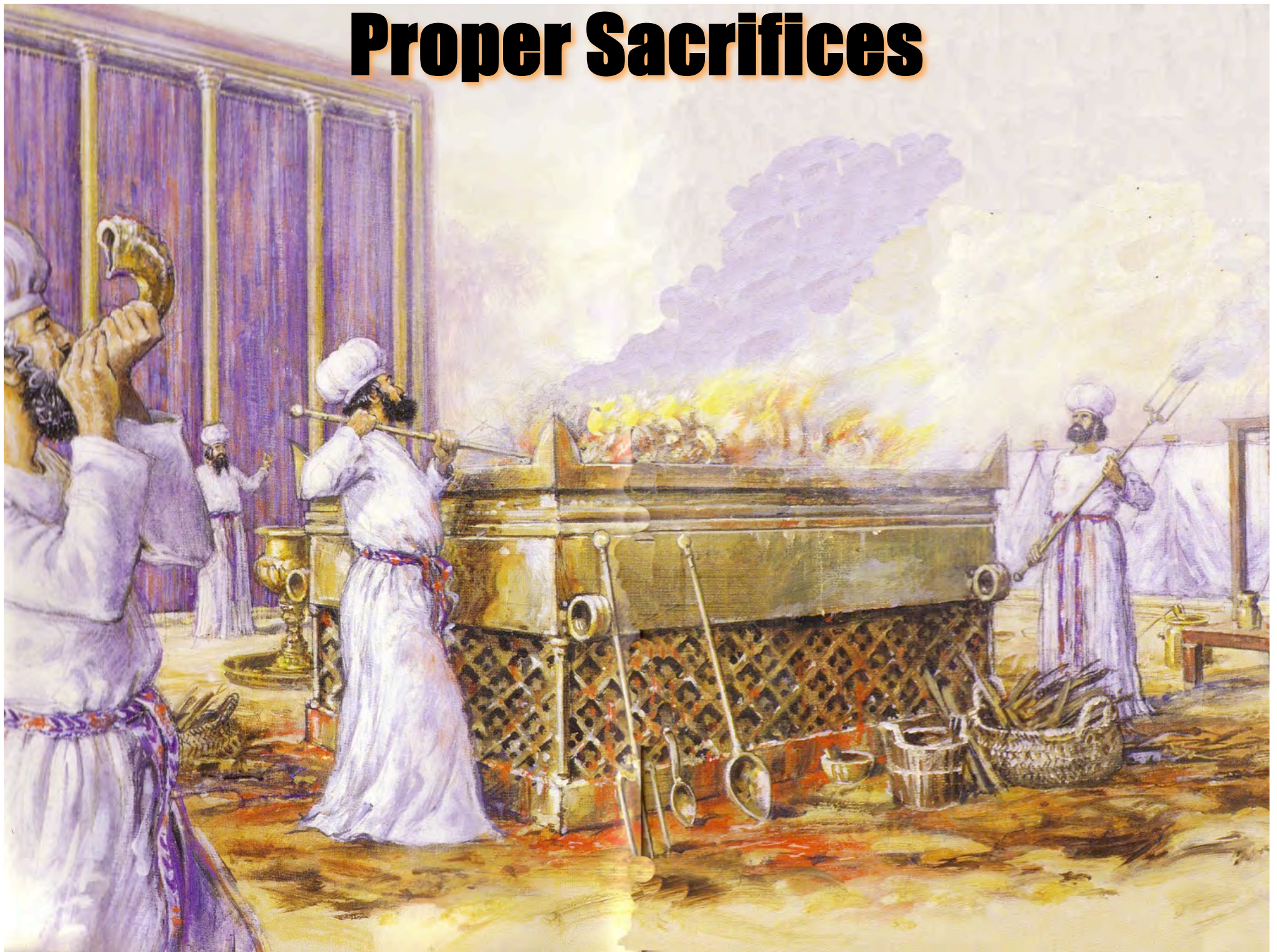
Give your **best to him
(1:6-14).**



How to give God your best in worship:

- Evaluate your **actions** during worship

Proper Sacrifices





Oracle Against Priests

-Oracle against Jerusalem priests for their unfaithfulness to the covenant:

- They ignored the Sinai Covenant***
- They profaned the sacrificial system***
- They violated the covenant with Levi***

**One day
at SBC...**



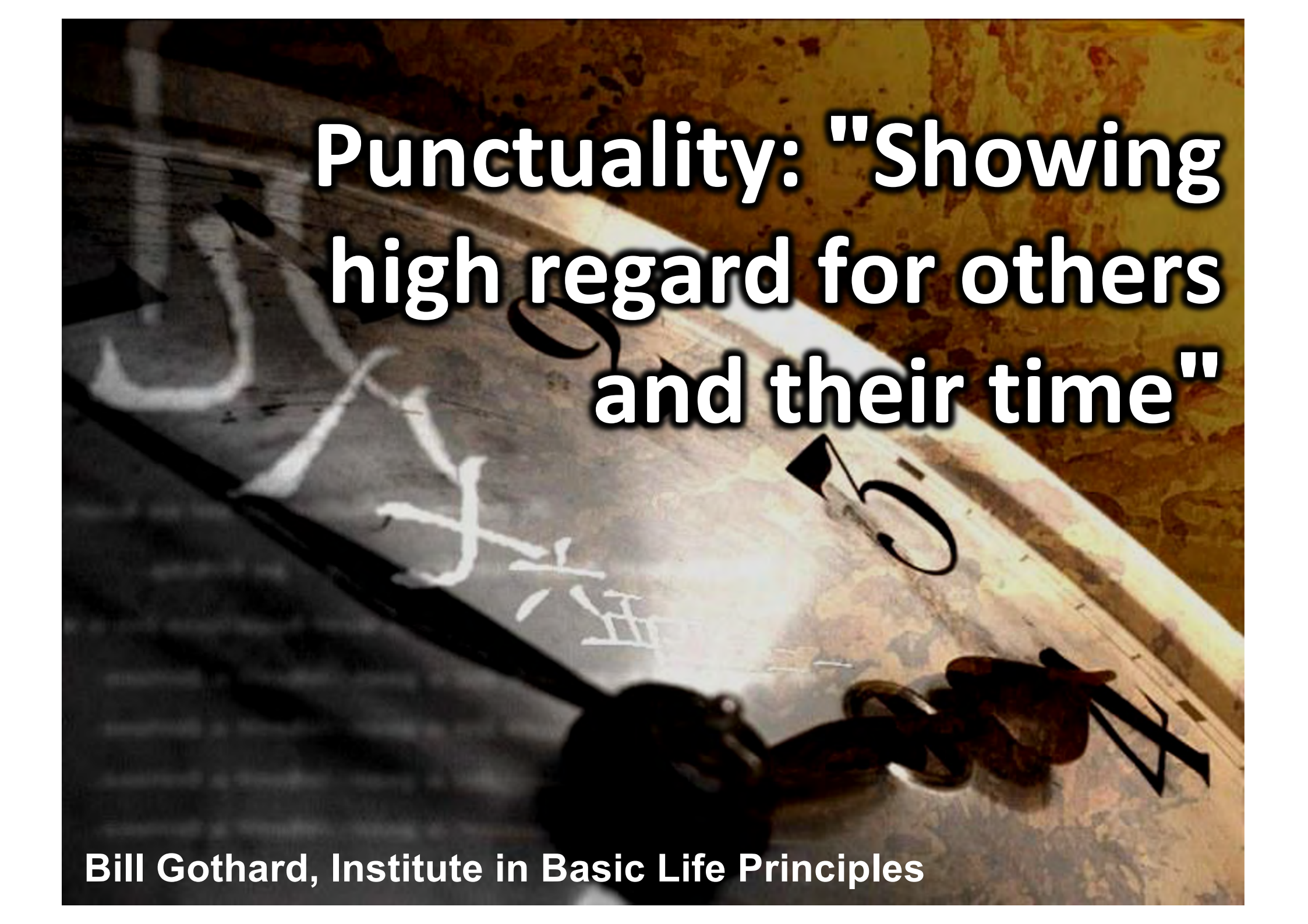


Would you
give our PM
junk?



How to give God your best in worship:

- Evaluate your **actions** during worship
- Evaluate your **attitudes** during worship

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly angled photograph of an old, weathered book. The pages are yellowed and stained with brown spots. On the left page, there is some faint, white calligraphic writing. On the right page, a black quill pen is resting on the surface, with its tip pointing towards the bottom right. The overall lighting is warm and somewhat dim, giving it an antique feel.

**Punctuality: "Showing
high regard for others
and their time"**

Bill Gothard, Institute in Basic Life Principles

**What is God saying to
apathetic people today?**





*Summing Up
Malachi 1....*

God gave
you His
best...

So give Him
your **best!**

Privilege 1:1-5		Problems 1:6–3:12					
<i>Introduction 1:1</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	<i>Love 1:2-5</i>						
	<i>Honor 1:6–2:9</i>						
	<i>Duty 2:10-16</i>						
Past 1:1-5 Present 1:6–2:16							
Respond to God's Covenant Love							430 BC

430 BC

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."
Bond 2:10-16	"Why do you despise our offerings?"	"You divorce your wives."

Malachi 2:10-16

4. Third Disputation (2:10-16) Dispute about faithlessness

- You have polluted me**
- How have we polluted you?**
- You offered me defiled food and blemished animals**
- Oracle against people of Judah re: unfaithfulness to their marriage covenant: they intermarry with pagan women or divorce their wives**

**"I hate divorce!"
(Malachi 2:16)**



"I hate divorce!" (Malachi 2:16)



Privilege 1:1-5		Problems 1:6–3:12					
<i>Introduction 1:1</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	<i>Love 1:2-5</i>	<i>Honor 1:6–2:9</i>	<i>Duty 2:10-16</i>	<i>Hope 2:17–3:6</i>			
Past 1:1-5 Present 1:6–2:16		Future 2:17–4:6					
Respond to God's Covenant Love							

430 BC

430 BC

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."
Bond 2:10-16	"Why do you despise our offerings?"	"You divorce your wives."
Wait 2:17–3:7a	"Why aren't you just?"	"Messiah will judge—so repent."

Key Verses

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“You have wearied the LORD with your words. ‘How have we wearied him?’ you ask. By saying, ‘All who do evil are good in the eyes of the LORD, and he is pleased with them’ or ‘Where is the God of justice?’ ‘See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the LORD you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,’ says the LORD Almighty”

Malachi 2:17–3:1

Privilege 1:1-5		Problems 1:6–3:12					
<i>Introduction 1:1</i> <i>Love 1:2-5</i> <i>Honor 1:6–2:9</i> <i>Duty 2:10-16</i> <i>Hope 2:17–3:6</i> <i>Obedience 3:7-12</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
						430 BC	
Past 1:1-5		Present 1:6–2:16		Future 2:17–4:6			
Respond to God's Covenant Love							

430 BC

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."
Bond 2:10-16	"Why do you despise our offerings?"	"You divorce your wives."
Wait 2:17–3:7a	"Why aren't you just?"	"Messiah will judge—so repent."
Repent 3:7b-8a	"How can we repent?"	"Stop robbing me."

5. Fourth Disputation (2:17–3:5): Dispute about God's Justice

- You have wearied me.**
- How have we wearied you?**
- By not only trying to make evil good, but by implying that I delight in evil because I do not dispense immediate justice.**
- *Oracle against the people of Judah re: unfaithfulness to the covenant: they are unrighteous and unjust; the Day of the Lord will judge all evildoers and them.***

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."
Bond 2:10-16	"Why do you despise our offerings?"	"You divorce your wives."
Wait 2:17–3:7a	"Why aren't you just?"	"Messiah will judge—so repent."
Repent 3:7b-8a	"How can we repent?"	"Stop robbing me."
Give 3:8b-12	"How have we robbed you?"	"No tithe—that blasphemes me."

6. Fifth Disputation (3:6-12)

Dispute about Repentance

3:6-12

- You have robbed me
 - How have we robbed you?
 - In unpaid tithes
-
- *Oracle against the people of Judah re: their unfaithfulness to the covenant: they fail to provide tithes and adequate offerings to God; promise of great blessing for the faithful (upon arrival of Day of the Lord)*



Art by Carlos S biblearts.blogspot.com

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it'" (Malachi 3:10 NIV).

Privilege 1:1-5		Problems 1:6–3:12					Promise 3:13–4:6
<i>Introduction 1:1</i>	<i>Love 1:2-5</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6
		<i>Honor 1:6-2:9</i>					
		<i>Duty 2:10-16</i>					
		<i>Hope 2:17-3:6</i>					
		<i>Obedience 3:7-12</i>					
		<i>Reverence 3:13–4:3</i>					
Past 1:1-5		Present 1:6–2:16		Future 2:17–4:6			
Respond to God's Covenant Love							

430 BC

430 BC

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."
Bond 2:10-16	"Why do you despise our offerings?"	"You divorce your wives."
Wait 2:17–3:7a	"Why aren't you just?"	"Messiah will judge—so repent."
Repent 3:7b-8a	"How can we repent?"	"Stop robbing me."
Give 3:8b-12	"How have we robbed you?"	"No tithe—that blasphemes me."
Respect 3:13-18	"How have we blasphemed you?"	"Your motive to give is to get."

7. Sixth Disputation (3:13-18)

Dispute about Speaking Against God

3:13-18

- You have spoken against me.
- What have we spoken against you?
- In saying it is vain to serve me unless I bless you with immediate prosperity
- *Oracle against the people of Judah regarding their unfaithfulness to the covenant: they fail to fear and honour God. It includes a warning of the coming of the Day of the LORD.*

**This church
is not full of
hypocrites.**

There's always room for more.

Romans 3:10 "No one is righteous—not even one"

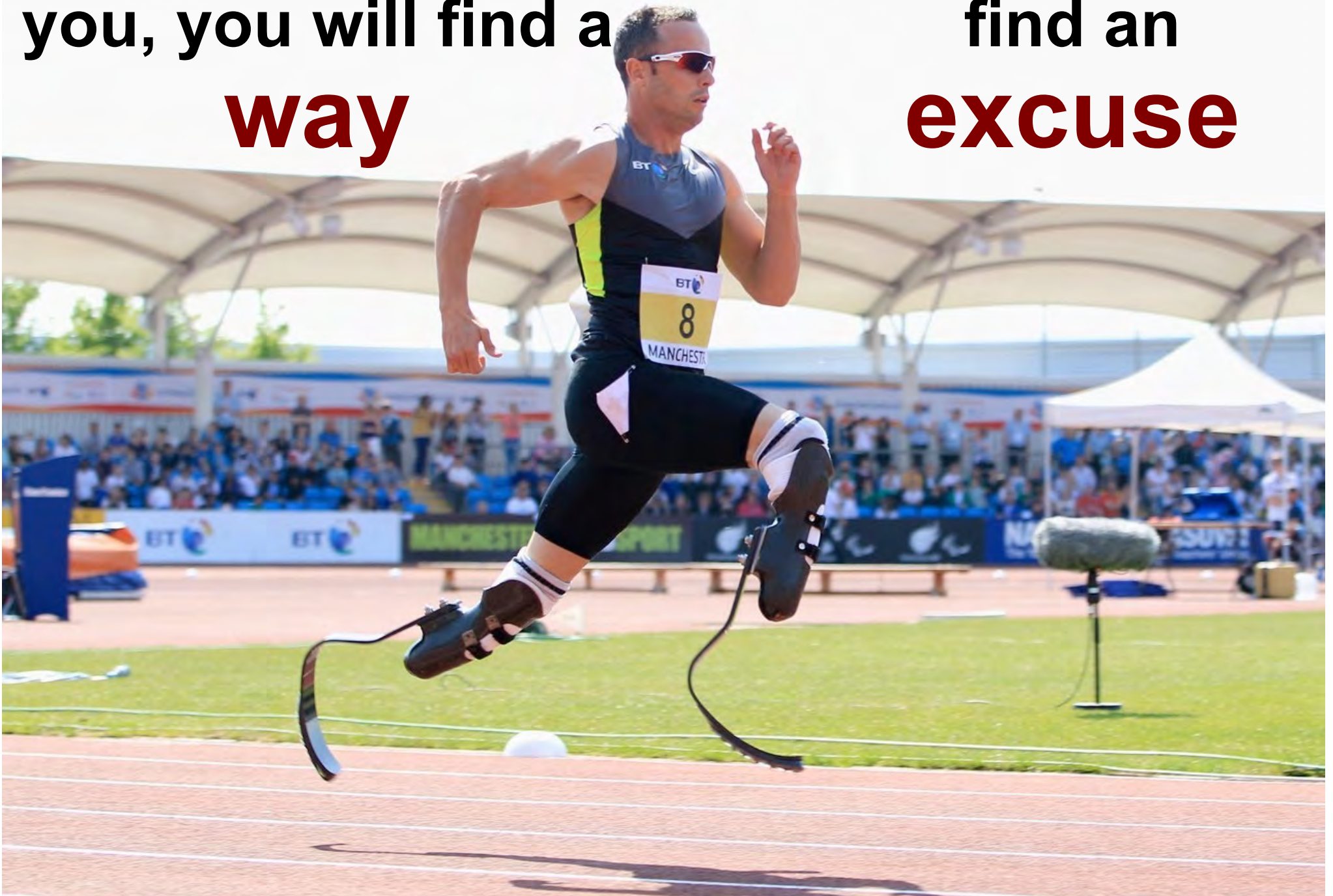
Who are you, really?



Identity crisis.

If it is important to
you, you will find a
way

If not, you'll
find an
excuse



**SOMETIMES WE DON'T EVEN
GET TO THE STARTING LINE**



“I DON'T HAVE TIME!”



"Lord, take all my excuses..."



HOW CAN YOU BE...?



***TWO WAYS TO AVOID
HYPOCRISY***

HOW CAN YOU BE GENUINE?



Malachi 1–3

II. Consider your **future.**



Malachi 4

Privilege 1:1-5		Problems 1:6–3:12					Promise 3:13–4:6
<i>Introduction 1:1</i>		1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Love 1:2-5</i>							
<i>Honor 1:6-2:9</i>							
<i>Duty 2:10-16</i>							
<i>Hope 2:17-3:6</i>							
<i>Obedience 3:7-12</i>							
<i>Reverence 3:13–4:3</i>							
<i>Summary 4:4-6</i>							
Remember the Law 1:1–2:16							
Past 1:1-5 Present 1:6–2:16		Future 2:17–4:6					
Respond to God's Covenant Love							

430 BC

430 BC

8. Conclusion (ch. 4)

-A summary of two main themes:

*-the need to **keep the Law** of Moses
(primary themes of disputations #1-3)*

and

*-the need to **be prepared** for the coming Day
of the LORD
(primary themes of disputations #4-7)*

***"But for you who fear my name,
the Sun of Righteousness will rise
with healing in his wings."***

Malachi 4:2 NLT



THE DAY OF JUDGMENT IS COMING, BURNING LIKE A FURNACE
The arrogant and the wicked will be burned up like straw on that day
But for you who fear my name

THE SON OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
WILL RISE WITH HEALING
IN HIS WINGS

and you will go free
leaping with joy like calves
let out to pasture

Malachi 4:2b

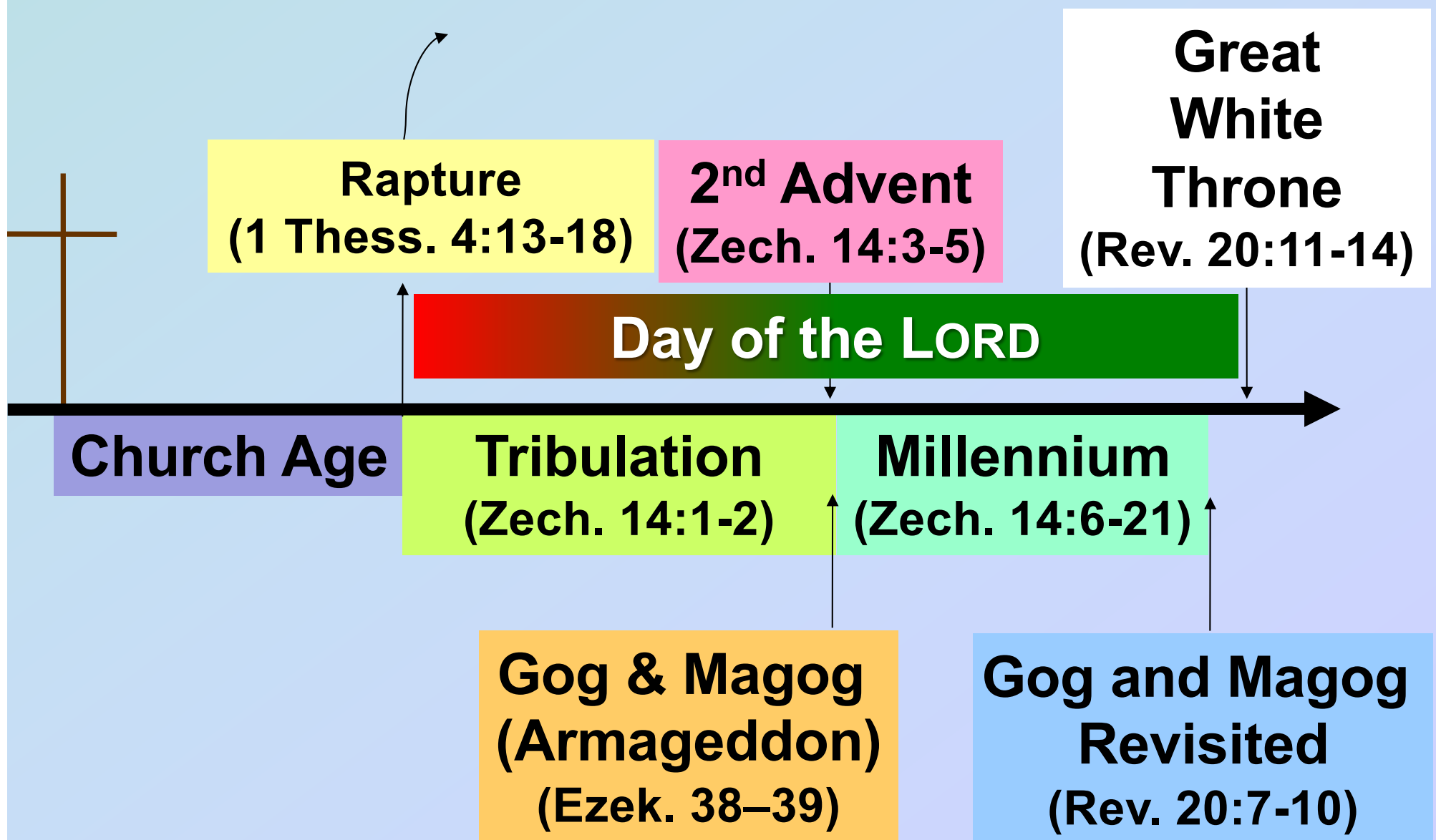
***"...you will go
free, leaping with
joy like calves let
out to pasture."***



Malachi 4:2b

A Timeline of the Future

437



The Big Ten (Malachi 4:4)



לא תדצח

לא תנאף

לא תנכ

לא תענה

לא תחמד

אנכי יהוה

לא יהיה

לא תשא את

שם את יום

שבד את אבניך

Wherefore take **Be** the whole armour
of God, that ye may be able to withstand
the evil day, and having done all, to
stand. Take the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to
quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
And take the sword of the spirit, which is the word of
God: Praying always with all prayer and
supplication, watching thereunto with thanksgiving and
supplication for all saints;

Prepared!

Keep the

faith!

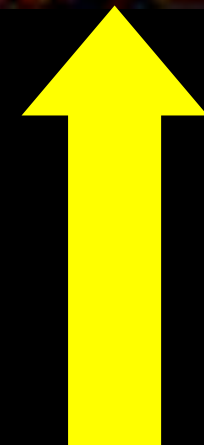
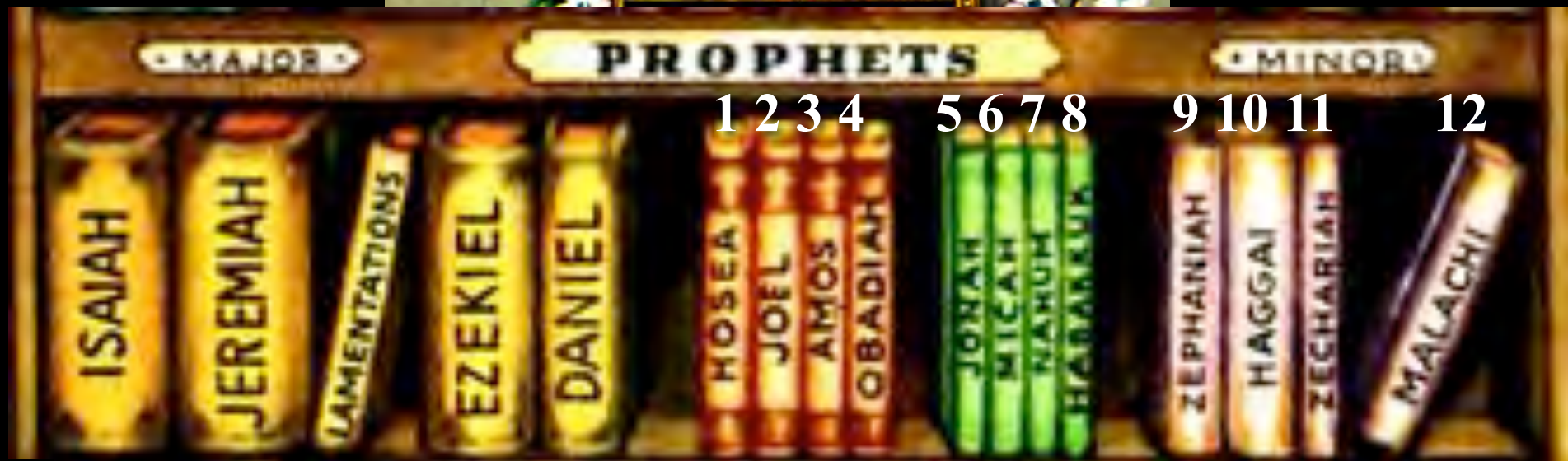
Obey!

Repent!



Application

Malachi Ends "The Twelve"



Malachi Kingdom Statement

343

**Judah must repent of hypocrisy
(1–3) for blessing in the messianic
kingdom (4).**



Malachi

Summary Statement

The LORD rebukes the **hypocrisy of postexilic Jews by answering their defensive questions so they will prepare for the coming judgment and blessing by leaving their sin and returning to Him.**

HOW CAN YOU BE...?



***TWO WAYS TO AVOID
HYPOCRISY***

Main Idea of Malachi



**Stop
making
excuses** **and** **consider
your
future.**

HOW CAN YOU BE GENUINE?



Malachi 1–3

II. Consider your **future.**



Malachi 4

Hypocrisy

**Every veil
secretly desires
to be lifted,
except the veil of
hypocrisy.**

—Richard Garnett



HOW CAN YOU BE GENUINE?

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a white rectangular sign. The hand is positioned with the thumb and index finger gripping the top edge of the sign. The person is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue.

**STOP
MAKING
EXCUSES**

How to Curb Hypocrisy

659

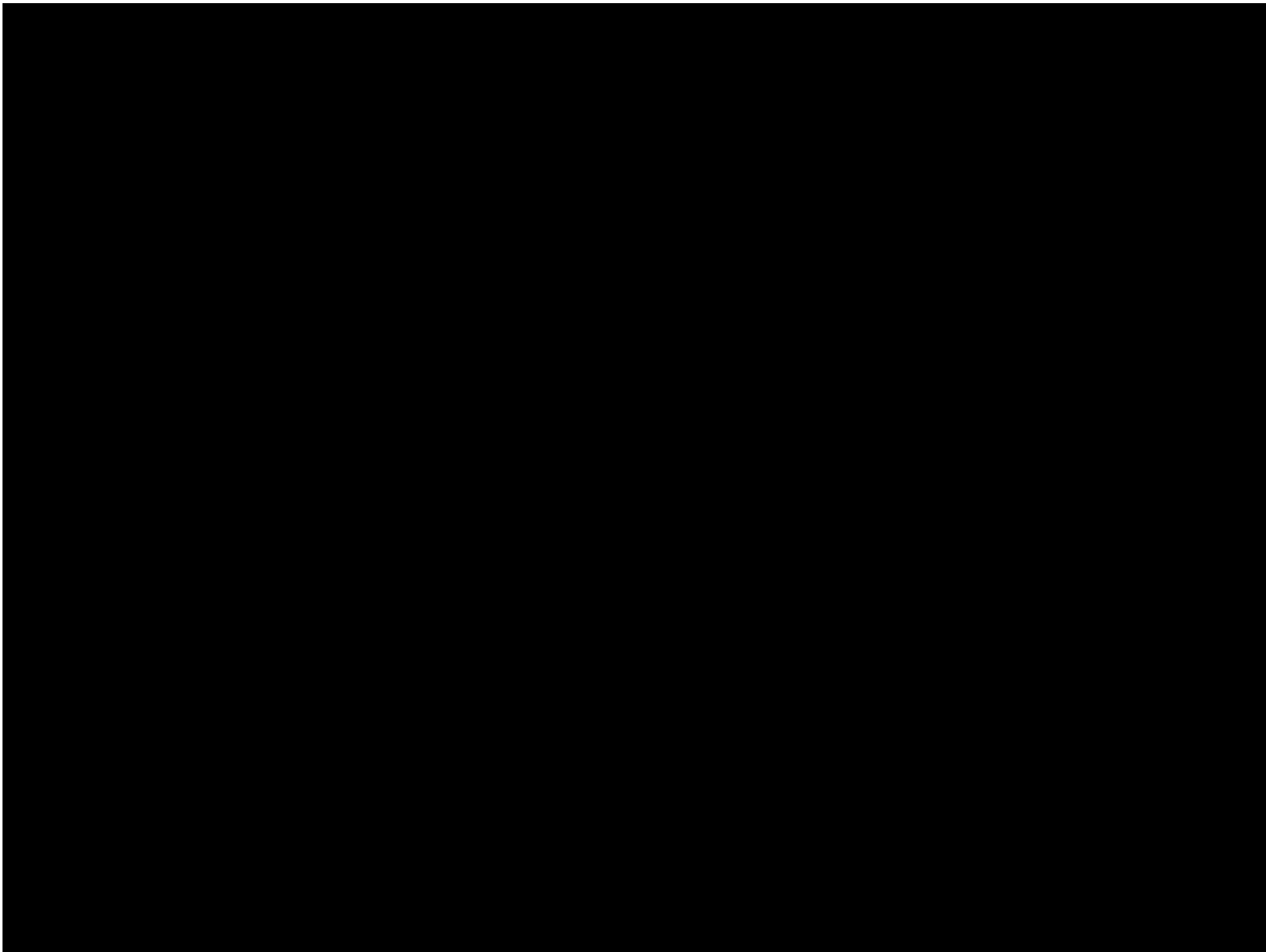
Command	Our Excuse	God's Answer
Appreciate 1:1-5	"How have you loved us?"	"I chose you but you despise me."
Honor 1:6–2:9	"How have we despised your name?"	"You offer lousy sacrifices."
Bond 2:10-16	"Why do you despise our offerings?"	"You divorce your wives."
Wait 2:17–3:7a	"Why aren't you just?"	"Messiah will judge—so repent."
Repent 3:7b-8a	"How can we repent?"	"Stop robbing me."
Give 3:8b-12	"How have we robbed you?"	"No tithe—that blasphemes me."
Respect 3:13-18	"How have we blasphemed you?"	"Your motive to give is to get."

Applying Malachi

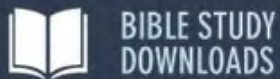
- 1. Christians belong to the godly seed.**
- 2. Acceptable worship requires an acceptable lifestyle.**
- 3. God hates divorce. Jesus agrees.**
- 4. Christians have Jesus, who will bring judgment and purification. Repent and obey while you await his return.**

Applying Malachi

- 5. God desires to bless us. Bless Him, His servants and those who are in need.**
- 6. Do not rob God of what he has loaned you.**
- 7. Check your motive for giving.**



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A large banner image showing a close-up of a person's hands holding an open, small, black leather-bound book with yellowed pages. The book has a small gold cross emblem on the front cover.

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