

Introduction to Prophets and their role:

- Earlier prophets (Samuel, Elijah, etc.) focused on the reigning king and his administration
- “Literary Prophets” (prophets whose writings are within the canon of scripture) focused on:
 - a. Identified people groups (i.e. nations) to whom prophecy is being addressed
 - b. God’s wrath and warning of approaching judgment for their sin (servings other gods in addition to Yahweh)
 - c. A call to repentance
 - d. A proclamation of God’s salvation if they will turn to Him as the One true God (Yahweh, LORD Jehovah)

Major and Minor “Literary Prophets” in the Old Testament (see Note 1)			
Year (BC)	Prophet and Audience (Within Scripture Canon)	Kings of Judah (Divided Southern Kingdom)	Kings of Israel (Divided Northern Kingdom)
950-900	God uses a variety of priests and prophets (e.g. Elijah & Elisha) to warn of God’s judgment as Israel and Judah drift further away from Yahweh (LORD, Jehovah); the one true God versus the existing culture of polytheism	Israel divides into two kingdoms (931 BC) See Notes 2 and 4. Rehoboam 1Kgs 11-14, 2Chr 9-12 Abijah 1Kgs 14-15, 2Chr 12-14 Asa 1Kgs 15, 2Chr 14-16	Israel divides into two kingdoms (931 BC) See Notes 2 and 3. Jeroboam 1Kgs 11-14, 2Chr 9-13 Nadab 1Kgs 15
900-850		Asa 1Kgs 15, 2Chr 14-16 Jehoshaphat 1Kgs 22, 2Chr 17-21 Jehoram/Joram 2Kgs 8, 2Chr 21	Baasha 1Kgs 15-16, 2Chr 16 Elah 1Kgs 16 Zimri 1Kgs 16 Omri 1Kgs 16 Ahab 1Kgs 16-22, 2Chr 18 Ahaziah 1Kgs 22, 2Kgs 1, 2Chr 20
850-800		Jehoshaphat 1Kgs 22, 2Chr 17-21 Jehoram/Joram 2Kgs 8, 2Chr 21 Ahaziah 2Kgs 8-9, 2Chr 22 Queen Athaliah 2Kgs 11, 2Chr 22-23 Joash 2Kgs 11-12, 2Chr 22-24	Joram/Jehoram 2Kgs 3, 2Chr 22 Jehu 2Kgs 9-10, 2Chr 22
800-750	Jonah . To Nineveh (Assyria) Amos . To Israel Isaiah . To Israel & Judah Hosea . To Israel	Joash 2Kgs 11-12, 2Chr 22-24 Amaziah 2Kgs 12; 14, 2Chr 24-25 Uzziah/Azariah 2Kgs 15, 2Chr 26	Jehoahaz 2Kgs 13 Jehoash 2Kgs 13-14, 2Chr 25 Jeroboam II 2Kgs 14 Zechariah 2Kgs 14-15 Shallum 2Kgs 15
750-700	Isaiah . To Israel & Judah Hosea . To Israel Micah . To Judah	Uzziah/Azariah 2Kgs 15, 2Chr 26 Jotham 2Kgs 15, 2Chr 26-27 Ahaz/Jehoahaz 2Kgs 16, 2Chr 27-28	Menahem 2Kgs 15 Pekahiah 2Kgs 15 Pekah 2Kgs 15, 2Chr 28 Hoshea 2Kgs 15-17 Israel falls to Assyrians (722 BC) 2Kgs 17
700-650	Isaiah . To Judah Micah . To Judah Nahum . To Nineveh (Assyria)	Hezekiah 2Kgs 18-20, 2Chr 28-32	These ten tribes of Israel fade into obscurity and are lost from historical record

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650-600	<u>Nahum</u> . To Nineveh (Assyria) <u>Jeremiah</u> . To Judah <u>Zephaniah</u> . To Judah <u>Daniel</u> . To Exiles in Babylonia and Persia <u>Habakkuk</u> . To Judah	<u>Hezekiah</u> 2Kgs 18-20, 2Chr 28-32 <u>Manasseh</u> 2Kgs 21, 2Chr 32-33 <u>Amon</u> 2Kgs 21-26, 2Chr 33 <u>Josiah</u> 2Kgs 21-23, 2Chr 33-35 <u>Jehoahaz/Shallum</u> 2Kgs 23-34, 2Chr 36 <u>Jehoiakim/Eliakim</u> 2Kgs 23-24, 2Chr 36 1st Deportation to Babylon (605 BC) 2Kgs 24, 2Chr 36	These ten tribes of Israel fade into obscurity and are lost from historical record
600-550	<u>Jeremiah</u> . To Judah <u>Ezekiel</u> . To Exiles in Babylonia <u>Daniel</u> . To Exiles in Babylonia and Persia <u>Habakkuk</u> . To Judah <u>Obadiah</u> . To Edom (Esau’s descendents)	<u>Jehoiakim/Eliakim</u> 2Kgs 23-24, 2Chr 36 <u>Jehoiachin/Jeconiah</u> 2Kgs 24, 2Chr 36 2nd Deportation to Babylon (597 BC) 2Kgs 24, 2Chr 36 <u>Zedekiah/Mattaniah</u> 2Kgs 24-25, 2Chr 36 Judah falls to Babylon (586 BC) 2Kgs 25, 2Chr 36	
550-500	<u>Daniel</u> . To Exiles in Babylon and Persia <u>Zechariah</u> . To Judah <u>Haggai</u> . To Judah	Babylon falls to Persia (539 BC) Exiles begin return to Jerusalem (538 BC) Governor Sheshbazzar <i>Ezra 1</i> Governor Zerubbabel <i>Ezra 3-5</i> Zerubbabel is grandson of Jehoiachin Temple Rebuilt (536-516 BC) <i>Ezra 6</i>	
500-450	<u>Malachi</u> . To Judah <u>Joel</u> . To Judah	<u>Ezra</u> (priest and scribe) <i>Ezra 7-10, Neh 8</i>	
450-400		Governor Nehemiah <i>Neh 1-13</i>	

Notes:

1. Table Columns
 - a. Year: 50 year period in which the prophet is active (not necessarily active for the entire period). Half century periods are for organizational purposes.
 - b. Prophet: Identifies prophet with their audience (people group to which prophecy is intended)
 - c. Kings of Judah/Israel. Name *Biblical reference*
 - i. Scripture assesses each king based on their godliness, obedience, and reverence to Yahweh; independent of administrative record.
 - ii. Each king considered as “good” is highlighted with **Dark Blue**,
 - iii. Each king considered as “bad” is highlighted with **Dark Magenta**
2. Untangling terminology: Israel (Jacob’s offspring) consisted of 12 tribes until the God-gifted land was divided into two kingdoms (northern & southern). Thereafter, references to Israel or Ephraim consist of the Northern Kingdom (see Note 3). Various passages that recite God’s covenant promises and God’s deliverance from Egyptian captivity refer to all Israel’s tribes; correct interpretation is context specific.
3. Divided Northern Kingdom (called Israel) included Asher, Dan, Ephraim, Gad, Issachar, Manasseh, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon, Zebulun, and some Levites.
4. Divided Southern Kingdom (called Judah) included Judah and Benjamin, and some Levites. Also includes the temple, temple priests, temple staff and the city of Jerusalem.

Source material:

- “Walk Thru the Bible Handouts”, Walk Thru the Bible Ministries; 1979
- “Encountering the Old Testament”, 3rd Edition, Baker Publishing Group; 2015
- “Rose Book of Bible Charts, Map, and Time Lines”, 10th Edition; Hendrickson Publishers and Rose Publishing; 2005