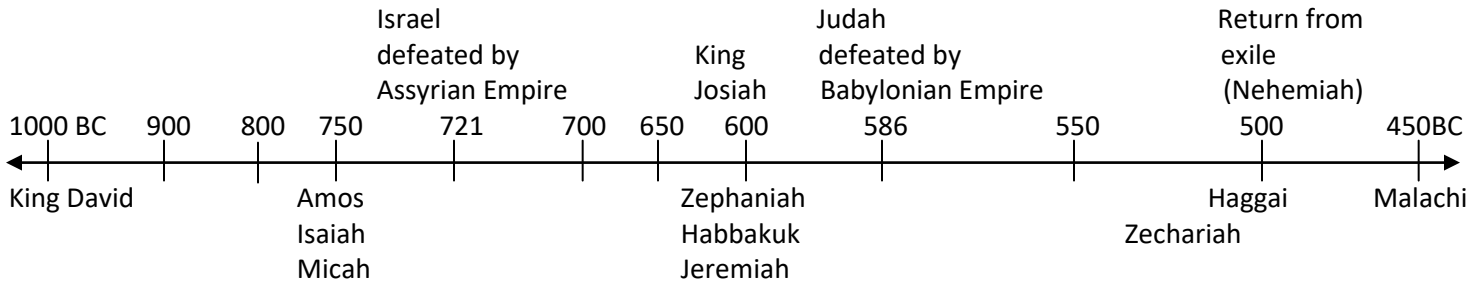


Seeking the Seeker
Zephaniah 1:1 – 2:3

The Word of the Prophets and Apostles: “Thus sayeth the Lord” – Eph 2:20; Zeph 1:1



King Josiah Attempts “Revival” – II Kings 22-23; II Chron 34-35

- religion became popular, but remained impure – Zeph 1:1-13
...double minded (1:5)... indifferent (1:6)... self-serving (1:6)
- God’s people were “stagnant in spirit” – Zeph 1:12
...crusty, hardened, lukewarm hearts – Zeph 1:12; Rev 3:16

God’s Solution: A Meaningful Intervention and a Merciful Invitation – Zeph 1:14 – 2:3

- “the day of the Lord” – Zeph 1:7,10,14,15 et al
...deliberately orchestrated events to confront disordered beliefs and behaviors (“intervention”):
= punishment (for purity) – 3:9; discipline (for humility) – 3:12; judgment (for joy) – 3:14,17; great affliction for great restoration! – 1:14,15; 3:20
...His jealous love (wrath) at work “starving all the gods of the earth” – Zeph 1:15; 2:11
- the “meaning”? “SO THAT YOU MAY SEEK ME!” – Zeph 2:3
 - = “Gather yourselves together before Me and one another” – Zeph 2:1; II Chron 20:4
...“Bend over, go low before Me” – I Pet 5:6
...“Bend over, go low before one another” – Ja 5:16; Acts 19:18
 - = “Be silent in My presence” – Zeph 1:7,14
...“Listen to a voice other than your own” – Ps 46:10
...We are ready for liberation, transformation, restoration... when we stop arguing, blaming, excusing – Ro 3:19
 - = “Seek Me – the One Who’s been seeking you all along” – Zeph 2:3; Jo 17:3
...“I want to know You and be an expression of your life” – Phil 3:8
...Learning Christ – our Way, our Truth, our Life – Jo 14:6; Eph 4:20; Lk 6:40; Heb 1:1-3; Jo 14:9
...He is the reward of those who seek Him – Heb 11:6

(We will find Him... and ourselves hidden in Him – only in Christ! – Zeph 2:3; Col 3:3-4)