

## Handout: 2 Kings Lesson 6

The literary prophets to the Northern and Southern Kingdoms in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC: Jonah son of Amittai: Jonah was a Galilean from Israel whose prophetic ministry was during the reign of Jeroboam II of Israel. He was also sent to the Assyrian capital of Nineveh.

Hosea son of Beeri: Hosea was a native of the Northern Kingdom. His prophetic ministry was during the reigns of kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah kings of Judah and Jeroboam II of Israel.

Amos the shepherd of Tekoa: Amos' prophetic ministry was during the reigns of kings Uzziah of Judah and Jeroboam II of Israel. He was from Judah but he was sent to prophesy against the Northern Kingdom and was a contemporary of Hosea.

Isaiah son of Amoz: Isaiah was from Judah. His prophetic ministry began in the year of King Uzziah's death and continued into the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah kings of Judah.

Micah of Moresheth: Micah was a Judean. His prophetic ministry was during the reigns of kings Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah of Judah. He was a contemporary of Hosea and for a longer period of Isaiah.

Jonah was a Galilean who came from a town about fifteen miles west of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus will speak of Jonah more than any of the other Old Testament prophets. Jesus mentions Jonah 6 times in 5 verses in Matthew's Gospel:

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| 1. Matthew 12:39              | <i>"The only sign it will be given is the sign of the prophet Jonah."</i>   |
| 2. Matthew 12:40              | <i>"For Jonah remained in the belly of the sea-monster for 3 days and 3 nights, so will the Son of man be in the heart of the earth for 3 days and 3 nights."</i>   |
| 3. & 4. Matthew 12:41 (twice) | <i>"On judgment day the men of Nineveh will appear against this generation and they will be its condemnation, because when Jonah preached they repented; and look, there is something greater than Jonah here."</i> |
| 5. Matthew 16:4               | <i>"It is an evil and unfaithful generation, and the only sign it will be given is the sign of Jonah."</i>  |
| 6. Matthew 16:17              | <i>Jesus replied, "Simon son of Jonah, you are a blessed man because it was no human agency who revealed this to you but my Father in heaven."</i>  |

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus mentions Jonah 4 times in 3 verses:

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| 1. Luke 11:29      | <i>The crowds got even bigger and he addressed them, "This is an evil generation, it is asking for a sign. The only sign it will be given is the sign of Jonah."</i> |
| 2. Luke 11:30      | <i>"For just as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of man be a sign to this generation."</i>  |
| 3. & 4. Luke 11:32 | <i>"On judgment day the men of Nineveh will appear against this</i>  |

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|  | <i>generation and be its condemnation, because when Jonah preached they repented, and look, there is something greater than Jonah here.”</i> |
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The sins against Yahweh and His covenant for which the Northern tribes were condemned:

1. They acknowledged other gods.
2. They did not show Yahweh reverence.
3. They offered illicit worship at sites other than the Temple in Jerusalem.
4. They made idols and established worship sites for false gods.
5. They would not listen to God's prophets.
6. They despised God's laws and His covenant.
7. They offered human sacrifice.
8. They practiced divination and sorcery.
9. They behaved like the Canaanites and Amorites that God had allowed them to cast out of the land.

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