The Twelve Minor Prophets

Hoseah Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zachariah Malachi

In Large Print English

JBI International, Inc.

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Minor Prophets, Book 1

The Book of Hoseah

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Chapter 1

1. The word of the Lord that came to Hoshea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

2. When the Lord spoke at first through Hoshea, the Lord said to Hoshea: Go, take a wife of harlotry and children of harlotry, for the land has committed great harlotry, departing from the Lord.

3. So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; who conceived, and bore him a son.

4. And the Lord said to him, Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will cause the kingdom of the house of Israel to cease.

5. And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.

6. And she conceived again, and bore a daughter. And God said to him, Call her name Unpitied, (Lo-Ruhamah); for I will no more have mercy upon

the house of Israel; but I will completely take them away.

7. But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the Lord their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, nor by horses, nor by horsemen.

8. And when she had weaned Unpitied, she conceived, and bore a son.

 Then God said, Call his name Not my people, (Lo-Ammi), for you are not my people, and I will not be your God.

Chapter 2

1. And the number of the people of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor counted; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said to them, You are not my people, there it shall be said to them, You are the sons of the living God.

2. Then shall the people of Judah and the people of

Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up from the land; for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

3. Say to your brothers, My people, (Ammi); and to your sisters, Pity, (Ruhama).

4. Plead with your mother, plead; for she is not my wife, nor am I her husband; let her therefore put away her harlotry away from of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts;

5. Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst.

6. And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they are the children of harlotry.

7. For their mother has played the harlot; she who conceived them has done shamefully; for she said, I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.

8. Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns, and make a wall against her, that she shall not find her paths.

9. And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but she shall not find them; then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then it was better for me than now.

10. For she did not know that it was I who gave her grain, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they used for the Baal.

11. Therefore I will return, and take back my grain in its time, and my wine in its season, and will recover my wool and my flax which were to cover her nakedness.

12. And now will I uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her from my hand.

13. I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

14. And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, about which she said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me; and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.

15. And I will punish her for the days of the Baalim, on which she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, says the Lord.

16. Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her.

^{17.} And I will give her vineyards from there, and the valley of Achor for a gate of hope; and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came out of the land of Egypt.

18. And it shall be at that day, says the Lord, that you shall call me My husband ("Ishi"); and shall no more call me My master ("Baali").

19. For I will take away the names of Baalim from her mouth, and they shall no more be mentioned by their name.

20. And in that day I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the birds of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground; and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them lie down safely.

21. And I will betroth you to me for ever; I will betroth you to me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in grace, and in mercies.

22. I will betroth you to me in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

23. And it shall come to pass in that day, I will answer, says the Lord, I will answer the heavens, and they shall answer the earth;

24. And the earth shall answer the grain, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall answer Jezreel.

25. And I will sow her to me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her who had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them who were not my people, You are my people; and they shall say, You are my God.

Chapter 3

1. Then said the Lord to me, Go again, love a woman who is beloved of a lover, and an adulteress; even as the love of the Lord toward the people of Israel,

who look to other gods, and love cakes of raisins.

2. So I bought her for me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for a homer of barley, and a letekh of barley;

3. And I said to her, You shall remain as mine for many days; you shall not play the harlot, and you shall not be for another man; so will I also be for you.

4. For the people of Israel shall remain many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without a pillar, and without an ephod, and without teraphim;

5. Afterwards shall the people of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days.

Chapter 4

1. Hear the word of the Lord, people of Israel; for the Lord has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, no mercy, no knowledge of God in the land.

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2. There is swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery; they break all bounds, and blood leads to blood.

3. Therefore shall the land mourn, and everyone who dwells in it shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the birds of heaven; the fishes of the sea shall also be taken away.

4. Yet let no man strive, and let none accuse; for your people are like those who strive with the priest.

5. Therefore you shall fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with you in the night, and I will destroy your mother.

6. (K) My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you shall not be a priest to me; seeing that you have forgotten the Torah of your God, I will also forget your children.

7. As they were increased, so they sinned against me; therefore will I change their glory into shame.

8. They feed on the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity.

9. And it shall be, like people, like priest; and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them for their doings.

10. For they shall eat, and not have enough; they shall commit harlotry, and shall not increase; because they have ceased to take heed to the Lord.

11. Harlotry and wine and new wine take away the heart.

12. My people ask counsel of a piece of wood, and their staff declares to them! For the spirit of harlotry has caused them to err, and they have left their God to play the harlot.

13. They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and terebinths, because their shadow is good; therefore your daughters shall commit harlotry, and your brides shall commit adultery.

14. I will not punish your daughters when they commit harlotry, nor your brides when they commit adultery; for they themselves go aside with harlots, and they sacrifice with cult prostitutes; therefore the people

who do not understand shall fall.

15. Though you, Israel, play the harlot, let not Judah also be guilty; and do not come to Gilgal, nor go up to Beth-Aven, nor swear, As the Lord lives.

16. For Israel is stubborn as a stubborn heifer. Shall the Lord now feed them like a lamb in a large pasture?

17. Ephraim is joined to idols; let him alone.

18. Their drunken bout is over; their harlotry is done; they have had their fill of love; their shield is disgrace.

19. The wind has bound her up in its wings, and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

Chapter 5

1. Hear this, O priests; and listen, O house of Israel; and give ear, O house of the king; for yours is the judgment, because you have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor.

2. And the revolters are deep dyed in slaughter, and I am rejected by them all.

3. I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hidden from me; for now, O Ephraim, you commit harlotry, and Israel is defiled.

4. Their doings do not permit them to return to their God; for the spirit of harlotry is in the midst of them, and they have not known the Lord.

5. And the pride of Israel testifies to his face; therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them.

6. They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the Lord; but they shall not find him; he has withdrawn himself from them.

7. They have dealt treacherously against the Lord; for they have fathered alien children; now a month shall devour them with their portions.

8. Blow the shofar in Gibeah, and the trumpet in Ramah; cry aloud in Beth-Aven. They are after you, O Benjamin.

9. Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke;

among the tribes of Israel I have made known that which shall surely be.

10. The princes of Judah are like those who remove the landmark; therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.

11. Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after a command.

12. Therefore I will be to Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rottenness.

13. When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb; but he is not able to heal you, nor cure you of your wound.

14. For I will be to Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah; I will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall save him.

15. I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face; in their affliction they will seek me saying,

Chapter 6

1. Come, and let us return to the Lord; for he has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck, and he will bind us up.

2. After two days he will revive us; in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

3. Let us know, let us follow on to know the Lord; his going forth is sure as the morning; and he shall come to us as the rain, as the latter rains that water the earth.

4. O Ephraim, what shall I do to you? O Judah, what shall I do to you? For your goodness is like the morning mist, and like the dew that early goes away.

5. Therefore have I hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth; and your judgments are as the light that goes forth.

6. For I desired loyal love, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

7. But they like Adam have transgressed the covenant; there have they dealt treacherously against me.

8. Gilead is a city of those who work iniquity, and it is polluted with blood.

9. And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so does the company of priests; they murder on the way to Shechem; for they commit lewdness.

10. (K) I have seen a horrible thing in the house of Israel; there is harlotry in Ephraim, Israel is defiled.

11. Also, O Judah, he has set a harvest for you. WhenI would have returned the captivity of my people,

Chapter 7

1. When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was uncovered, and the wickedness of Samaria; for they commit falsehood; and the thief comes in, and the bandits rob outside.

2. And they do not consider in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness; now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.

3. They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies.

4. They are all adulterers, like a heated oven, whose baker ceases to stock the fire, from the kneading of the dough, until it is leavened.

5. On the day of our king, the princes became sick with the heat of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.

6. For they have made ready their heart like an oven, while they lie in wait; their baker sleeps all the night; in the morning it burns as a flaming fire.

7. They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings have fallen; there is none among them who calls to me.

8. Ephraim mixes himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.

9. Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knows it not; yes, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knows not.

10. And the pride of Israel testifies to his face; and they do not return to the Lord their God, nor seek

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him for all this.

11. Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart; they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria.

12. As they go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down like the birds of the sky; I will chastise them, as their congregation has heard.

13. Woe to them, for they have fled from me! Destruction to them, because they have transgressed against me! I would have redeemed them, but they have spoken lies against me.

14. And they have not cried to me with their heart, but they howl upon their beds; they assemble themselves for grain and wine, and they rebel against me.

15. Though I have trained them and strengthened their arms, yet they plan mischief against me.

16. They turn to them, but to no avail; they are like a deceitful bow; their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue; this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

Chapter 8

1. Set the shofar to your mouth. He shall come like an eagle against the house of the Lord, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my Torah.

2. Israel shall cry to me, My God, we know you.

3. Israel has cast off the thing that is good; the enemy shall pursue him.

4. They have set up kings, but not by me; they have made princes, and I knew it not; they have made themselves idols from their silver and gold, that they may be cut off.

5. Your calf, O Samaria, has cast you off; my anger is kindled against them; how long will it be before they attain to innocency?

6. For from Israel was it also; the workman made it; it is not God; but the calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces.

7. For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the stormy wind; it has no stalk; the bud shall yield

no meal; if, perhaps, it yields, strangers shall swallow it up.

8. Israel is swallowed up; now shall they be among the nations like a useless vessel.

9. For they have gone up to Assyria, a wild ass alone by himself; Ephraim has hired lovers.

10. Though they have hired among the nations, now will I gather them, and in a little while they will tremble at the burden of a king and princes.

11. Because Ephraim has multiplied altars for sinning, the altars have become to him altars for sinning.

12. (K) Though I write for him the great things of my Torah, they are regarded as a strange thing.

13. As for the sacrifices that they burn for me, let them slaughter the flesh and it; but the Lord does not desire them; now will he remember their iniquity, and punish their sins; they shall return to Egypt.

14. For Israel has forgotten his Maker, and builds palaces; and Judah has multiplied fortified cities; butI will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour their palaces.

Chapter 9

1. Rejoice not, O Israel, for joy, as other people; for you have played the harlot, against your God; you have loved a harlot's hire upon every threshing floor.

2. The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail her.

3. They shall not dwell in the Lord's land; but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean food in Assyria.

4. They shall not offer wine offerings to the Lord, nor shall they be pleasing to him; their sacrifices shall be to them as the bread of mourners; all who eat of it shall be polluted; for their bread shall be for their hunger only; it shall not come into the house of the Lord.

5. What will you do on the solemn day, and on the day of the feast of the Lord?

6. For, behold, they are gone from destruction; Egypt

shall gather them up, Memphis shall bury them; nettles shall possess their precious things of silver; thorns shall be in their tents.

7. The days of punishment have come, the days of reward have come; Israel shall know it; the prophet is a fool, the man of the spirit is mad, because of the multitude of your iniquity, and the great hatred.

8. The prophet is the watchman of Ephraim, with my God; a fowler's snare is in all his ways, and enmity in the house of his God.

9. They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah; therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will punish their sins.

10. I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the first ripe fruit in the fig tree at her first season; but when they came to Baal-Peor, they dedicated themselves to that shame; and they became abominable like the thing which they loved.

11. As for Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like a bird, no birth, no pregnancy, no conception.

12. Though they bring up their children, I will bereave

them, that there shall not be a man left; woe also to them when I depart from them!

13. Ephraim, as I saw Tyre, is planted in a pleasant place; but Ephraim shall bring forth his children to the murderer.

14. Give them, O Lord; what will you give? give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

15. All their wickedness is in Gilgal; for there I hated them; for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of my house, I will love them no more; all their princes are rebellious.

16. (K) Ephraim is struck, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit; though they bring forth, yet I will slay even the beloved fruit of their womb.

17. My God will cast them away, because they did not listen to him; and they shall be wanderers among the nations.

Chapter 10

1. Israel is an empty vine, how should he bring forth fruit to himself? as his fruit increased, so has he multiplied his altars; the more goodly was his land, the more he improved his pillars.

2. Their heart is divided; now shall they be found guilty; he shall break down their altars, he shall destroy their pillars.

3. For now they shall say, We have no king, because we did not fear the Lord; what then should a king do for us?

4. They have spoken mere words, swearing falsely in making a covenant; this judgment springs up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.

5. The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Beth-Aven; for its people shall mourn over it, and its priests who rejoiced on it, for its glory, because it is departed from it.

6. It shall also be carried to Assyria for a present to king Jareb; Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel

shall be ashamed of his own counsel.

7. As for Samaria, her king is cut off like foam upon the water.

8. The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed; the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us.

9. O Israel, you have sinned from the days of Gibeah; there they remained; Shall not war overtake them, these children of iniquity, as in Gibeah?

10. (K) When I so desire I will chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they are harnessed for labor in their two furrows.

11. And Ephraim is like a well trained heifer, that loves to tread out the grain; but I passed over her fair neck; I will make Ephraim ride; Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods.

12. Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, till he comes and rains righteousness upon you.

13. You have plowed wickedness, you have reaped iniquity; you have eaten the fruit of lies; because you trusted in your way, in the multitude of your mighty men.

14. Therefore a tumult shall arise among your people, and all your fortresses shall be destroyed, as Shalman destroyed Beth-Arbel in the day of the battle; the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children.

15. So shall Beth-EI do to you because of your great wickedness; at dawn shall the king of Israel be cut off completely.

Chapter 11

1. When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

2. As they called them, so they went from them; they sacrificed to the Baalim, and burned incense to carved idols.

3. I taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

4. I drew them with human cords, with bands of love; and I was to them like those who take off the yoke from their jaws, and I laid food to them.

5. He should not have returned to the land of Egypt, nor should an an Assyrian have been his king. Because they refused to return,

6. The sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of their own counsels.

7. And my people are bent on turning away from me; though they called them to rise, none at all would raise himself.

8. How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I turn you over, Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I set you as Zeboim? My heart is turned inside me, all my compassion is kindled.

9. I will not execute the fierceness of my anger, I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in your midst; and I will not enter

into the city.

10. They shall walk after the Lord; he shall roar like a lion. When he shall roar, then the children shall come trembling from the west.

11. They shall tremble like a bird from Egypt, and like a dove from the land of Assyria; and I will place them in their houses, says the Lord.

Chapter 12

 Ephraim surrounded me with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit; but Judah still rules with God, and is faithful with the holy ones.

2. Ephraim guards the wind, and follows after the east wind; he daily increases lies and desolation; and they make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried to Egypt.

3. The Lord has also a controversy with Judah, and will punish Jacob according to his ways; according to his doings will he reward him.

4. He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had strove with God;

5. And he strove with an angel, and prevailed; he wept, and made supplication to him; he found him in Beth-El, and there he spoke with us;

6. And the Lord is the God of hosts; the Lord is his name.

7. Therefore turn to your God; keep loving kindness and judgment, and wait on your God continually.

8. As for the trader, the scales of deceit are in his hand; he loves to oppress.

9. And Ephraim said, I have become rich, I have found wealth for myself; in all my labors they shall find no iniquity in me that was a sin.

10. And I, who am the Lord your God from the land of Egypt, will yet make you dwell in tents, as in the days of the appointed feast.

11. I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used parables through the prophets.

12. Gilead is iniquitous; they have become mere vanity; they sacrifice bulls in Gilgal; their altars are like heaps in the furrows of the fields.

13. And Jacob fled into the country of Aram, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.

14. And by a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.

15. Ephraim provoked him to anger most bitterly; therefore shall he leave his blood guilt upon him, and the Lord shall requite his reproach on him.

Chapter 13

1. When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he became guilty through the Baal, he died.

2. And now they sin more and more, and have made for themselves molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of craftsmen; they say of them, Let the men

who sacrifice kiss the calves.

3. Therefore they shall be like the morning mist, and like the dew that passes away early, like the chaff that is driven by the wind out of the floor, and like the smoke from the chimney.

4. And I am the Lord your God from the land of Egypt, and you know no god but me; for there is no savior beside me.

5. I knew you in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.

6. According to their pasture, they became full; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore they have forgotten me.

7. Therefore I will be to them as a lion; as a leopard by the way will I observe them;

8. I will meet them like a bear that is bereaved of her cubs, and will tear their closed up heart, and there I will devour them like a lion; the wild beast shall tear them.

9. O Israel, you have destroyed yourself; for you are against me, against your help.

10.1 will be your king. Who will save you in all your cities? And your judges, of whom you said, Give me a king and princes?

11. I gave you a king in my anger, and took him away in my wrath.

12. The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is kept in store.

13. The pangs of a laboring woman shall come upon him; he is an unwise son; for he should not tarry where children break forth.

14. Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol? Shall I redeem them from death? O death, where are your plagues? O Sheol, where is your destruction? Compassion shall be hidden from my eyes.

15. Though he may flourish like the reed grass, an east wind shall come, the wind of the Lord shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up; it shall strip his treasure of all precious vessels.

Chapter 14

1. Samaria shall be found guilty; for she has rebelled against her God; they shall fall by the sword; their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their pregnant women shall be ripped up.

2. O Israel, return to the Lord your God; for you have stumbled in your iniquity.

3. Take with you words, and turn to the Lord; say to him: Forgive all iniquity, and receive us graciously; so will we offer the words of our lips instead of calves.

4. Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses; nor shall we say any more to the work of our hands, You are our gods; for in you the orphan finds mercy.

5. I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for my anger is turned away from him.

6. I will be as the dew to Israel; he shall flower like the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

7. His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like the Lebanon.

8. Those who dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive like the grain, and blossom like the vine; their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

9. Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I answer him, and look on him; I am like an evergreen cypress tree. From me comes your fruit.

10. Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is prudent, let him know them; for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just walk in them; but the transgressors shall stumble in them. **Minor Prophets, Book 2**

The Book of

Joel

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Chapter 1

1. The word of the Lord that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

2. Hear this, you old men, and give ear, all you inhabitants of the land. Has such a thing been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

3. Tell you your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

4. That which the cutting locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten; which the swarming locust has left, the hopping locust has eaten; and that which the hopping locust has left, the destroying locust has eaten.

5. Awake, you drunkards, and weep; and howl, all you drinkers of wine, because of the new wine, for it is cut off from your mouth.

6. For a nation has come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he has the fangs of a lioness.

7. He has laid my vine waste, and splintered my fig tree; he has made it clean bare, and thrown it down; its branches are made white.

8. Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

9. The meal offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the Lord; the priests, the Lord's ministers, mourn.

10. The field is wasted, the land mourns; for the grain is wasted; the new wine is dried up, the oil languishes.

11. Be you ashamed, O you farmers; howl, O you vine dressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field has perished.

12. The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languishes; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, all the trees of the field, are withered; because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

13. Gird yourselves, and lament, you priests; howl, you ministers of the altar; come, lie all night in sackcloth, you ministers of my God; for the meal

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offering and the drink offering is withheld from the house of your God.

14. Sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry to the Lord.

15. Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

16. Is not the food cut off before our eyes, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

17. The seed is shrivels under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the grain is withered.

18. How do the beasts groan! The herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yes, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.

19. O Lord, to you I cry; for the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame has burned all the trees of the field.

20. The beasts of the field cry also to you; for the waters streams have dried up, and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Chapter 2

1. Blow the shofar in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain; let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the Lord comes, for it is near at hand;

2. A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness. Like twilight spread upon the mountains; a great and mighty people; there has never been the like, nor shall be any more after them, through the years of many generations.

3. A fire devours before them; and behind them a flame burns; the land is like the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; and nothing escapes them.

4. The appearance of them is like the appearance of horses; and like horsemen they run.

5. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, like a strong people set in battle array.

6. At their presence the people are in anguish; all faces are covered with blackness.

7. They run like mighty men; they climb the wall like men of war; and they march everyone on his ways, and they do not break their ranks;

8. Nor does one thrust another; they walk everyone in his path; and when they burst through the weapons, they are not wounded.

9. They run to and fro in the city; they run upon the wall, they climb up into the houses; they enter by the windows like a thief.

10. The earth quakes before them; the heavens tremble; the sun and the moon are dark, and the stars withdraw their shining;

11. And the Lord utters his voice before his army; for his camp is very large; for he who executes his word is strong; for the day of the Lord is great and very awesome; and who can abide it?

12. Yet even now, says the Lord, turn to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning;

13. And tear your heart, and not your garments, and turn to the Lord your God; for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repents of the evil.

14. Who knows if he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him; a meal offering and a drink offering to the Lord your God?

15. Blow the shofar in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly;

16. Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts; let the bridegroom go out of his room, and the bride out of her chamber.

17. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the vestibule and the altar, and let them say, Spare your people, O Lord, and give not your heritage to reproach, that the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the people, Where is their God?

18. Then will the Lord was zealous for his land, and pitied his people.

19. And the Lord answered and said to his people, Behold, I will send you grain, and wine, and oil, and you shall be satisfied with that; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations;

20. But I will remove far off from you the northerner, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the eastern sea, and his rear toward the western sea, and his stench and foul smell shall rise, though he has done great things.

21. Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice; for the Lord will do great things.

22. Be not afraid, you beasts of the field; for the pastures of the wilderness shall spring, for the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and the vine yield their strength.

23. Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given you the first rain in due measure, and he has brought down for you the rain in the first month, the former rain, and the latter rain.

24. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats

shall overflow with wine and oil.

25. And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten, the hopping locust, and the destroying locust, and the cutting locust, my great army which I sent among you.

26. And you shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you; and my people shall never be ashamed.

27. And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else; and my people shall never be ashamed.

Chapter 3

1. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions;

2. And also upon the servants and upon the maidservants in those days will I pour out my spirit.

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3. And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

4. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the awesome day of the Lord come.

5. And it shall come to pass, that whoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the remnant those whom the Lord shall call.

Chapter 4

1. (K) For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring back the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

2. I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will enter into judgment with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and have divided my land. 3. And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

4. And also, What are you to me, O Tyre, and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia? Are you paying me back for something? If you are paying me back, swiftly and speedily I will return your deed upon your own head;

5. Because you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly treasures;

6. And the people of Judah and the people of Jerusalem have you sold to the Yavanim, removing them far from their own border.

7. Behold, I will raise them from the place where you have sold them, and will return your deed upon your own head;

8. And I will sell your sons and your daughters to the hand of the people of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off; for the Lord has spoken it.

 Proclaim this among the nations; Prepare war, stir up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up;

10. Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak say, I am strong.

11. Hasten and come, all you nations, and gather yourselves together around; cause your mighty ones to come down, O Lord.

12. Let the nations be stirred up, and come to the valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the nations around.

13. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe; come, tread down; for the press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

14. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision; for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

15. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining.

16. And the Lord roars out of Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth

shake; but the Lord will be a refuge for his people, and a fortress for the people of Israel.

17. And you shall know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain; then shall Jerusalem be holy, and no strangers shall pass through her any more.

18. And it shall come to pass on that day, that the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the streams of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall issue from the house of the Lord, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

19. Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence done against the people of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

20. But Judah shall remain for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

21. For though I have acquitted them, I have not acquitted those who shed their blood. And the Lord dwells in Zion.

Minor Prophets, Book 3

The Book of

Amos

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Chapter 1

1. The words of Amos, who was among the herdsmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

2. And he said: The Lord will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the pastures of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

3. Thus says the Lord: For three transgressions of Damascus I will turn away its punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away its punishment, because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron,

4. But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Ben-Hadad.

5. And I will break the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the Valley of Aven, and him who

holds the scepter from the house of Eden; and the people of Aram shall go into exile to Kir, said the Lord.

6. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of Gaza, I will turn away its punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away its punishment; because they carried away into exile a complete captivity, to deliver them to Edom.

7. But I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza, which shall devour its palaces;

8. And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and him who holds the scepter from Ashkelon, and I will turn my hand against Ekron; and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, says the Lord God.

9. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of Tyre I will turn away its punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away its punishment; because they delivered a complete captivity to Edom, and did not remember the brotherly covenant;

10. But I will send a fire upon the wall of Tyre, which shall devour its palaces.

11. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of Edom I will turn away its punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away its punishment; because he pursued his brother with the sword, and cast off all pity, and his anger tore perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever;

12. But I will send a fire upon Teman, which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah.

13. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of the Ammonites I will turn away their punishment, but for the fourth, I will not turn away their punishment; because they have ripped up the pregnant women of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border;

14. And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah, and it shall devour its palaces, with shouting in the day of battle, with a tempest in the day of the stormy wind;

15. And their king shall go into exile, he and his princes together, says the Lord.

Chapter 2

1. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of Moab I will turn away his punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away his punishment; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime;

2. And I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kirioth; and Moab shall die amidst tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the shofar;

3. And I will cut off the judge from his midst, and will slay all its princes with him, says the Lord.

4. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of Judah I will turn away his punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away his punishment; because they have despised the Torah of the Lord, and have not kept his commandments; and their lies, after which their fathers walked, have led them astray;

5. But I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.

6. Thus says the Lord; For three transgressions of

Israel I will turn away his punishment, but for the fourth I will not turn away its punishment; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes;

7. They pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the humble; and a man and his father will go in to the same girl, to profane my holy name;

8. And they lay themselves down by every altar upon clothes taken in pledge, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.

9. And I destroyed the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and who was strong like the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath.

10. Also I brought you out from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.

11. And I raised up some of your sons for prophets, and some of your young men for Nazirites. Is it not so, O people of Israel? says the Lord.

12. But you gave the Nazirites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophesy not.

13. Behold, I will press you down in your place, as a cart full of sheaves presses down.

14. Therefore the flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not strengthen his force, nor shall the mighty save himself;

15. Nor shall he stand who handles the bow; and he who is swift of foot shall not save himself; nor shall he who rides the horse save himself.

16. And he who is courageous among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day, says the Lord.

Chapter 3

1. Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,

2. Only you have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

3. Can two walk together, unless they are in agreement?

4. Does a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Does a young lion cry out of his den, if he has taken nothing?

5. Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, if there is no trap for it? Does a snare spring up from the ground, when it has taken nothing?

6. Shall a shofar be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall evil befall a city, unless the Lord has done it?

7. Surely the Lord God will do nothing, without revealing his secrets to his servants the prophets.

8. The lion has roared, who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken, who can but prophesy?

9. Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod, and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say: Assemble yourselves upon the mountains of Samaria, and behold the great tumults in its midst, and the oppressed in its midst.

10. For they do not know how to do right, says the

Lord, those who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.

11. Therefore thus says the Lord God; An adversary there shall be and shall surround the land; and he shall bring down your strength from you, and your palaces shall be plundered.

12. Thus says the Lord; As the shepherd rescues out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear; so shall the people of Israel who dwell in Samaria be rescued with the corner of a bed, and the corner of a couch.

13. Hear, and testify in the house of Jacob, says the Lord God, the God of hosts,

^{14.} That on the day that I punish Israel for its transgressions, I will also punish the altars of Beth-EI; and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the ground.

15. And I will strike the winter house with the summer house; and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall come to an end, says the Lord.

Chapter 4

1. Hear this word, you cows of Bashan, who are in the mountain of Samaria, who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, who say to their masters, Bring, that we may drink!

2. The Lord God has sworn by his holiness, that, behold, the days shall come upon you, that he will take you away with hooks, and your remnant with fish hooks.

3. And you shall go out through the breaches, everyone straight before her; and you shall be cast away into Harmon, says the Lord.

4. Come to Beth-El, and transgress; to Gilgal and multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithes after three days;

5. And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving of that which is leavened, and proclaim free will offerings, publish them; for this you like to do, O you people of Israel, says the Lord God.

6. And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all

your cities, and lack of bread in all your places; yet you did not return to me, says the Lord.

7. And I also withheld the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest; and I made it rain upon one city, and did not make it rain upon another city; one field was rained upon, and the field on which it did not rain withered.

8. So two or three cities wandered to one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied; yet you did not return to me, says the Lord.

9. I have stricken you with blasting and mildew; when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the cutting locust devoured them; yet you did not return to me, says the Lord.

10. I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt; your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stench of your camps come up to your nostrils; yet you did not return to me, says the Lord.

11. I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were as a brand plucked out of the burning; yet you did not return to me, says the Lord.

12. Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; and because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel.

13. For, behold, he who forms the mountains, and creates the wind, and declares to man what is his thought, who makes the morning darkness, and treads on the high places of the earth, the Lord, the God of hosts, is his name.

Chapter 5

1. Hear you this word which I take up against you, a lamentation, O house of Israel.

2. The virgin of Israel has fallen; she shall rise no more; she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up.

3. For thus says the Lord God; The city that went forth

a thousand shall have a hundred left, and that which went forth a hundred shall have ten left for the house of Israel.

4. For thus says the Lord to the house of Israel, Seek me, and you shall live;

5. But do not seek Beth-El, and do not enter into Gilgal, or pass over to Beersheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into exile, and Beth-El shall come to nothing.

6. Seek the Lord, and you shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and none will be there to quench it in Beth-El.

7. You who turn judgment to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the ground,

8. Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns the deep darkness into morning, and makes the day darken into night; who calls for the waters of the sea, and pours them out upon the face of the earth. The Lord is his name;

9. Who sends forth destruction against the strong, the destruction that comes against the fortress.

10. They hate him who rebukes in the gate, and they loathe him who speaks uprightly.

11. Therefore, since you trample upon the poor, and you take from him exactions of wheat, you have built houses of cut stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink wine of them.

12. For I know your many transgressions, and your mighty sins; you who afflict the just, you who take a bribe, and turn aside the poor at the gate.

13. Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time.

14. Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as you have spoken.

15. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

16. Therefore the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord, said thus; Wailing shall be in all streets; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they

shall call the farmer to mourning, and to wailing those who are skilled in lamentation.

17. And wailing shall be in all vineyards; for I will pass through you, says the Lord.

18. Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light.

19. As if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned with his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

20. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light? Very dark with no brightness in it?

21. I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell the sacrifices of your solemn assemblies.

22. Though you offer me burnt offerings and meal offerings, I will not accept them; nor I will regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

23. Take away from me the noise of your songs; for I will not listen to the melody of your lutes.

24. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

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25. Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings during the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel? 26. But you shall carry Sikuth your king, and Kiyun, your images, your star-god, which you made for yourselves.

27. And I will cause you to go into exile beyond Damascus, says the Lord, whose name is the God of hosts.

Chapter 6

1. Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who trust in the mountain of Samaria, who are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel come!

2. Pass to Calneh, and see; and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are they better than these kingdoms? Or are their border greater than your border?

3. O, you who put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near!

4. Who lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the midst of the stall;

5. Who pluck the strings of the flute, and, like David, devise for themselves instruments of music;

6. Who drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest ointments; but they are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph.

7. Therefore now shall they go into exile at the head of the exiles, and the revelry of those who stretched themselves shall pass away.

8. The Lord God has sworn by himself, says the Lord the God of hosts, I loathe the pride of Jacob, and hate his palaces; therefore I will deliver up the city with all that is in it.

9. And it shall come to pass, if ten men remain in one house, they shall die.

10. And if a man's uncle, he who burns him, shall take him up, to bring the bones out of the house, and shall say to him who is in the innermost parts of the house: Is there still any with you? And he shall say:

No. And he shall say: Silence! We must not mention the name of the Lord.

11. For, behold, the Lord commands, and he will strike the great house into fragments, and the little house into bits.

12. Do horses run upon the rock? Does one plow there with oxen? For you have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into wormwood;

13. You who rejoice over nothing, who say, Have we not taken, by our own strength, horns for ourselves?

^{14.} For, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, says the Lord the God of hosts; and they shall afflict you from the entrance of Hemath to the brook of the Arabah.

Chapter 7

1. Thus the Lord God showed me; and, behold, he was forming locusts in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, behold, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings.

2. And it came to pass, that when they finished eating the grass of the land, I said, O Lord God, forgive, I beseech you! How shall Jacob stand? He is so small!

3. The Lord repented concerning this; It shall not be, said the Lord.

4. Thus the Lord God showed me; and, behold, the Lord God called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part.

5. Then I said, O Lord God, cease, I beseech you! How shall Jacob stand? He is so small!

6. The Lord repented concerning this. This also shall not be, said the Lord God.

7. Thus he showed me; and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand.

8. And the Lord said to me: Amos, what do you see?
And I said, A plumb line. Then said the Lord, Behold,
I will set a plumb line in the midst of my people
Israel; I will never again pass by them;

9. And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and

the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

10. Then Amaziah the priest of Beth-El sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words.

11. For thus said, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led into exile away from his land.

12. Also Amaziah said to Amos, O you seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there;

13. But never again prophesy at Beth-El; for it is the king's sanctuary, and the royal house.

14. Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I am not a prophet, nor am I a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees;

15. And the Lord took me while I followed the flock, and the Lord said to me: Go, prophesy to my people Israel.

16. And therefore hear the word of the Lord; You say, Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.

17. Therefore thus says the Lord; Your wife shall be a harlot in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be divided by line; and you shall die in an unclean land; and Israel shall surely go to exile away from its land.

Chapter 8

1. Thus the Lord God showed me; and, behold, a basket of summer fruit.

2. And he said: Amos, what do you see? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the Lord to me: The end has come upon my people of Israel; I will never again pass by them.

3. And the songs of the temple shall be wailings in that day, said the Lord God; many will be the dead bodies; they shall be cast out in every place. Silence!

4. (K) Hear this, O you who swallow up the needy, so as to destroy the poor of the land,

5. Saying: When will the new moon be over, so that we may sell grain? And the sabbath, so that we may set forth wheat to make the ephah measure small and to make the shekel great, and to deal with deceitful scales.

6. That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

7. The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their doings.

8. (K) Shall not the land tremble for this, and everyone mourn who dwells in it? And it shall all rise up like the River; and it shall overflow and sink down like the river of Egypt.

9. And it shall come to pass in that day, says the Lord God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day;

10. And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every

head; and I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and its end like a bitter day.

11. Behold, the days come, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord;

12. And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.

13. In that day all the pretty virgins and young men shall faint for thirst.

14. Those who swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, As your god, O Dan, lives, and, As the road to Beersheba lives, they shall fall, and never rise up again.

Chapter 9

I saw the Lord standing upon the altar; and he said,
Strike the capitals, that the thresholds may shake;
and break them in pieces over all their heads; and I

will slay the last of them with the sword; not a single one of them shall flee away, and not a single one of them shall escape.

2. Though they dig into Sheol, from there shall my hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, from there will I bring them down;

3. And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out from there; and though they hide from my sight at the bottom of the sea, there will I command the serpent, and it shall bite them;

4. And though they go into captivity before their enemies, there will I command the sword, and it shall slay them; and I will set my eyes upon them for evil, and not for good.

5. And the Lord God of hosts is he who touches the land, and it shall melt, and all who dwell in it shall mourn; and all of it shall rise up like the River; and sink down like the River of Egypt.

6. It is he who builds his upper chambers in the heavens, and has founded his vault upon the earth;

it is he who calls for the waters of the sea, and pours them out upon the face of the earth; The Lord is his name.

7. Are you not like the Kushites to me, O people of Israel? says the Lord. Did I not bring Israel out of the Iand of Egypt? And the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Arameans from Kir?

8. Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; except that I will not completely destroy the house of Jacob, says the Lord.

9. For, behold, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like grain is sifted in a sieve, yet not even the least grain shall fall upon the earth.

10. All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, who say: Evil shall not overtake or meet us.

11. In that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and repair its breaches; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will rebuild it as in the days of old;

12. That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and

of all the nations, who are called by my name, says the Lord who does this.

13. Behold, the days come, says the Lord, when the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.

14. And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink their wine; they shall also make gardens, and eat their fruit.

15. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be plucked up out of their land which I have given them, says the Lord your God.

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Minor Prophets, Book 4

The Book of **Obadiah**

In Large Print English

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Chapter 1

1. The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord God concerning Edom; We have heard tidings from the Lord, and an ambassador has been sent among the nations, Arise! Let us rise up against her in battle!

2. Behold, I will make you small among the nations; you shall be greatly despised.

3. The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; who said in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

4. Though you soar aloft like the eagle, and though you set your nest among the stars, from there will I bring you down, says the Lord.

5. If thieves came to you, if robbers by night, how are you cut off!, would they not have stolen till they had enough? If the grape gatherers came to you, would

they not leave some grapes?

6. How Esau has been pillaged! His hidden things sought out!

7. All the men of your confederacy have driven you to the border; the men who were at peace with you have deceived you, and prevailed against you; those who eat your bread have laid a trap under you; there is no understanding of it.

8. Shall I not in that day, says the Lord, destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the Mount of Esau?

9. And your mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, so that every man from Mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

10. For your violence against your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off for ever.

11. On the day that you stood aloof, on the day that strangers carried away his wealth, and foreigners entered his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, you were like one of them.

12. But you should not have looked in the day of your brother, in the day of his misfortune; nor should you have rejoiced over the people of Judah in the day of their destruction; nor should you have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

13. You should not have entered the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; nor should you have been among those who looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity;

14. Nor should you have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his who escaped; nor should you have delivered up those of his who remained in the day of distress.

15. For the day of the Lord is near upon all the nations. As you have done, it shall be done to you; your reward shall return upon your own head.

16. For as you have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the nations drink continually; indeed, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.

17. But upon Mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their own possessions.

18. And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau stubble, and they shall burn them and consume them; and none shall remain of the house of Esau; for the Lord has spoken it.

19. And they of the Negev shall possess the Mount of Esau; and they of the Shephelah the land of the Philistines; and they shall possess the field of Ephraim, and the field of Samaria; and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.

20. And this exiled host of the people of Israel, who are among the Canaanites, as far as Zarephath; and the exiles of Jerusalem, who are in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the Negev.

21. And saviors shall ascend Mount Zion to judge the Mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the Lord's.

Minor Prophets, Book 5

The Book of Jonah

In Large Print English

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Chapter 1

1. And the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

2. Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.

3. But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Jaffa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare for it, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish away from the presence of the Lord.

⁴. But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship seemed likely to break up.

5. Then the sailors were afraid, and cried each one to his own god, and they threw the wares that were in the ship to the sea, to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the interior of the ship; and had lain down, and was fast asleep.

6. So the ship's captain came to him, and said to him, What do you mean, O sleeper? Arise! Call upon your God! Perhaps God will give a thought to us, that we do not perish.

7. And they said to one another, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

8. Then they said to him, Tell us, we beg you, for whose cause is this evil upon us? What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?

9. And he said to them, I am a Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who has made the sea and the dry land.

10. Then the men were very afraid, and said to him, Why have you done this? For the men knew that he had fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

11. Then they said to him, What shall we do to you, that the sea may calm down for us? For the sea

grew more and more tempestuous.

12. And he said to them, Take me up, and throw me into the sea; then the sea will calm down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great tempest is upon you.

13. Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it back to land; but they could not; for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them.

14. And they cried to the Lord, and said, We pray you,O Lord, we pray you, let us not perish for this man'slife, and lay not upon us innocent blood; for you, OLord, have done as it pleased you.

15. So they took Jonah up, and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging.

16. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the Lord, and made vows.

Chapter 2

1. And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up

Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

2. Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish,

3. And said, I cried to the Lord out of my distress, and he heard me; from the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

4. For you cast me into the deep, in the heart of the seas; and the floods surrounded me; all your billows and your waves passed over me.

5. Then I said, I am cast out from your presence; yet I will look again toward your holy temple.

6. The waters surrounded me, even to the soul; the depth closed around me, the weeds were wrapped around my head.

7. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars closed on me for ever; yet have you brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God.

8. When my soul fainted inside me I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, to your holy temple.

9. Those who pay regard to lying vanities forsake their loyalty.

10. But I will sacrifice to you with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that which I have vowed. Salvation belongs to the Lord.

11. And the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

Chapter 3

1. And the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying: Arise!

2. Go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I bid you.

3. And Jonah arose, and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. And Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in extent.

⁴. And Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Another forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

5. And the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

6. And word came to the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he took off his robe, and covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

7. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying: Neither man, beast, herd or flock should taste anything! They should not feed nor drink water!

8. And let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

9. Who can tell if God may yet turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, so that we perish not?

10. And God saw their doings, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, which he had said that he would do to them; and he did not do it.

Chapter 4

1. And this displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

2. And he prayed to the Lord, and said, I pray you, O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I hastened to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and that you repent of the evil.

3. Therefore now, O Lord, take, I pray you, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

4. Then says the Lord, Do you do well to be so angry?

5. And Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there he made himself a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he should see what would become of the city.

6. And the Lord God appointed a castor oil plant, and made it grow over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to save him from his distress. And

Jonah was exceedingly glad of the plant.

7. And, when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm, and it attacked the plant so that it withered.

8. And it came to pass, when the sun rose, that God appointed a hot east wind; and the sun beat down upon the head of Jonah, so that he fainted, and wished to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

9. And God said to Jonah: Do you do well to be so angry for the plant? And he said: I do well to be so angry, even to death.

10. Then the Lord said, You had concern for the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night;

11. And should I not spare Nineveh, that great city, where there are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle? **Minor Prophets, Book 6**

The Book of Micah

In Large Print English

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Chapter 1

1. The word of the Lord that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

2. Hear, all you people; listen, O earth, and all that is in it; and let the Lord God be witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple.

3. (K) For, behold, the Lord comes out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.

4. And the mountains shall melt under him, and the valleys shall be split, like wax before the fire, and like the waters that are poured down a steep place.

5. All this is for the transgression of Jacob, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria? And what are the high places of Judah? Are they not Jerusalem?

6. Therefore I will turn Samaria into a heap of rubble in the field, and a place for planting vines; and I will pour down her stones into the valley, and I will uncover her foundations.

7. And all her carved idols shall be beaten to pieces, and all her hires shall be burned with the fire, and all her idols will I lay desolate; for she gathered them from the hire of a harlot, and to the hire of a harlot they shall return.

8. (K) For this I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked; I will make a wailing like jackals, and a mourning like owls.

9. For her wound is incurable; for it has come to Judah; it has reached the gate of my people, to Jerusalem.

10. (K) Do not declare it in Gath! Do not weep at all! In Beth-Leaphrah roll yourself in the dust.

11. Pass away, you inhabitant of Saphir, in nakedness and in shame; the inhabitant of Zaanan did not come forth to the mourning of Beth-HaEzel; he will take from you his standing place.

12. For the inhabitant of Maroth waited anxiously for good tidings; but evil came down from the Lord to the gates of Jerusalem.

13. O you inhabitant of Lachish, harness the chariot to the steed; she was the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion; for in you were found the transgressions of Israel.

14. Therefore you shall give presents to Moresheth-Gath; the houses of Achzib shall be a deceit to the kings of Israel.

15. (K) Yet I will bring a heir to you, O inhabitant of Mareshah; the glory of Israel shall come to Adullam.

16. Make yourself bald, and cut off your hair for the children of your delight; make your head bald like a vulture; for they shall go from you into exile.

Chapter 2

1. Woe to those who devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in the power of their hand.

2. And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away; they oppress a man and his house, a man and his heritage.

3. Therefore thus says the Lord: Behold, against this family I devise an evil, from which you shall not remove your necks; nor shall you go haughtily; for it will be an evil time.

4. In that day they shall take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We are utterly ruined; he changes the portion of my people; how he removes it from me; and divides our fields among renegades.

5. Therefore you shall have none to cast the line by lot in the congregation of the Lord.

6. Do not preach, thus they preach, they should not preach concerning such things; that they shall not take shame.

7. O you who are named the house of Jacob, is the spirit of the Lord impatient? Are these his doings? Do not my words do good to him who walks uprightly?

8. And against my people he raises him up as an enemy; you pull the robe from the front of the garment of those who pass by safely returning from war.

9. You cast out the women of my people from their pleasant houses; you take my glory away for ever from their children.

10. Arise, and depart; for this is not your rest; because of its uncleanness, it shall destroy with a grievous destruction.

11. If a man, walking in wind and falsehood, would lie, saying, I will preach to you of wine and of strong drink, even he would be the preacher of this people!

12. I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of you; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together like sheep in a fold, like a flock in the midst of their pasture; they shall make a great noise because of the multitude of men.

13. He who opens the breach will go up before them; they will break in and pass through the gate, and go out by it; and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord at their head.

Chapter 3

1. And I said, Hear, I beg you, O heads of Jacob, and you princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know justice?

2. (K) You who hate the good, and love the evil; who tear off their skin from them, and their flesh from off their bones;

3. Who eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as if for the pot, like meat inside the cauldron.

4. Then shall they cry to the Lord, but he will not answer them; he will hide his face from them at that time, because they have behaved ill in their doings.

5. Thus says the Lord concerning the prophets who lead my people astray; who cry Peace, when they bite with their teeth, but prepare war against him who puts nothing into their mouths.

6. Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision; and it shall be dark to you, without divination; and

the sun shall go down upon the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.

7. Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded; yes, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer from God.

8. But truly I am full with power by the spirit of the Lord, and with judgment, and with might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

9. Hear this, I beg you, you heads of the house of Jacob, and rulers of the house of Israel, who loathe justice, and pervert all equity.

10. Who build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11. Their heads judge for bribes, and their priests teach for hire, and their prophets divine for money; yet they lean upon the Lord, and say: Is not the Lord among us? No evil can come upon us!

12. Therefore, because of you, Zion shall be plowed like a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps of rubble, and the mountain of the house like the high places of the forest.

Chapter 4

1. But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow to it.

2. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for Torah shall go forth from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3. And he shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide concerning far away strong nations; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor shall they learn war any more.

4. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken it.

5. For let all people walk everyone in the name of his

god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

6. In that day, says the Lord, I will assemble her who limps, and I will gather her who is driven out, and her whom I have afflicted;

7. And I will make her who limps a remnant; and her who was cast off, a strong nation; and the Lord shall reign over them in Mount Zion from this time forth, and for evermore.

8. And you, O tower of the flock, the fortress of the daughter of Zion, to you shall it come, the former dominion shall come; the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.

9. And why do you cry out aloud? Is there no king in you? Has your counsellor perished that pangs have seized you like a woman in labor?

10. Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in labor; for now shall you go out of the city, and you shall dwell in the field, and you shall go to Babylon; there shall you be rescued; there the Lord shall redeem you from the hand of

your enemies.

11. And now many nations are gathered against you, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eyes look upon Zion.

12. But they know not the thoughts of the Lord, nor do they understand his plan, that he has gathered them as sheaves to the threshing floor.

13. Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion; for I will make your horn iron, and I will make your hoofs bronze; and you shall beat in pieces many people; and I will consecrate their gain to the Lord, and their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth.

14. And gather yourself in troops, O daughter of troops; he has laid siege against us; they shall strike the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

Chapter 5

1. But you, Beth-Lehem Ephratah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall he come forth to me, he who is to be ruler in

Israel; and his origin is from ancient time, from days of old.

2. Therefore he will give them up, until the time when she who labors has brought forth; then the remnant of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

3. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God; and they shall abide; for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

4. And this shall be peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land; and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against seven shepherds, and eight princes of men.

5. And they shall rule the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod with the keen blade; thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he comes into our land, and when he treads inside our borders.

6. And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people like dew from the Lord, like the showers upon the grass, that do not delay for man,

nor wait for the sons of men.

7. And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations in the midst of many peoples like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep; which, if it goes through, treads down, and tears in pieces, and no one can save.

8. Your hand shall be lifted up upon your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.

9. And it shall come to pass in that day, says the Lord, that I will cut off your horses out of your midst, and I will destroy your chariots.

10. And I will cut off the cities of your land, and throw down all your fortresses;

11. And I will cut off witchcraft from your hand; and you shall have no more soothsayers;

12. Your carved idols also I will cut off, and your pillars from your midst; and you shall bow down no more to the work of your hands.

13. And I will pluck up your Asherim from your midst; and I will destroy your cities.

14. And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the nations, such as they have not heard.

Chapter 6

1. Hear now what the Lord said; Arise, contend before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

2. Hear, O mountains, the Lord's controversy, and you strong foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

3. O my people, what have I done to you? And in what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴. For I brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

5. O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab planned, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim to Gilgal; that you may know the righteousness of the Lord.

6. With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with one year old calves?

7. Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8. He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love loving mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

9. The Lord's voice cries to the city, and the man of wisdom shall see your name; hear the rod, and who has appointed it.

10. Are there yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure that is abominable?

11. Shall I count myself pure with wicked scales, and with a bag of deceitful weights?

12. For its rich men are full of violence, and its inhabitants have spoken spoken lies, and their

tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

13. Therefore also I will make you sick by smiting you, making you desolate because of your sins.

14. You shall eat, but not be satisfied; and your sickness shall be in your inward parts; and you shall conceive, but shall not deliver; and that which you deliver I will give up to the sword.

15. You shall sow, but you shall not reap; you shall tread the olives, but you shall not anoint yourself with oil; you shall tread grapes, but shall not drink wine.

16. For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all the doings of the house of Ahab, and you walk in their counsels; that I should make you a desolation, and its inhabitants a hissing; therefore you shall bear the reproach of my people.

Chapter 7

1. Woe is me! For I am like the last of the summer fruits, like the grape gleanings of the vintage; there is no

cluster to eat, no first ripe fruit which my soul desires.

2. The good man has perished from the earth; and there is no one upright among men; they all lie in wait for blood; each man hunts his brother with a net.

3. The hands are upon that which is evil, the prince asks, and the judge asks for payment; and the great man utters the evil desire of his soul; thus they weave the web.

4. The best of them is like a brier; the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge; the day of your watchmen and your punishment comes; now shall their confusion come.

5. Do not trust your friend; do not put your confidence in a guide; guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your bosom.

6. For the son dishonors the father, the daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house.

7. Therefore I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

8. Rejoice not against me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light to me.

9. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause, and executes judgment for me; he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness.

10. Then my enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her, she who said to me, Where is the Lord your God? My eyes shall behold her; now she will be trodden down like the mire of the streets.

11. A day for the building of your walls! In that day the decree shall be removed far away.

12. In that day they will come to you from Assyria, and from the cities of Mazor, and from Mazor to the river, and from sea to sea, and from mountain to mountain.

13. However the land shall be desolate because of those who dwell in it, for the fruit of their doings.

14. Shepherd your people with your staff, the flock of your heritage, who dwell alone in the forest, in the

midst of Carmel; let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old.

15. As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt I will tell him marvelous things.

16. The nations shall see and be ashamed of at all their might; they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.

17. They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall come trembling out of their holes like the crawling things of the earth; they shall be afraid of the Lord our God, and shall fear because of you.

18. Who is a God like you, who pardons iniquity, and passes over the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He does not retain his anger for ever, because he delights in mercy.

19. He will again have compassion upon us; he will suppress our iniquities; and you will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20. You will show truth to Jacob, and loving mercy to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

Minor Prophets, Book 7

The Book of **Nahum**

In Large Print English

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Chapter 1

1. The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

2. The Lord is a jealous and revenging God; the Lord revenges, and is full of wrath; the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries, and keeps wrath for his enemies.

3. (K) The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will by no means acquit the wicked; the way of the Lord is in the tempest and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

^{4.} He rebukes the sea, and makes it dry, and dries up all the rivers; Bashan languishes, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languishes.

5. The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is aroused at his presence, and the world, and all who dwell in it.

6. Who can stand before his indignation? And who

can abide in the fierceness of his anger? His fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken asunder by him.

7. The Lord is good, a fortress in the day of trouble; and he knows those who trust in him.

8. But with an overflowing flood he will make a complete end of her place, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

9. What do you plan against the Lord? He will make a complete end; affliction shall not rise up the second time.

10. Like entangled thorns, drunken as with their drink, they are consumed like dry stubble.

11. There is one come out of you, who plotted evil against the Lord, and counselled villainy.

12. Thus says the Lord: Though they are at peace, and many, they will be cut down, and it shall pass away. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more.

13. And now I will break his yoke from off you, and will burst your bonds asunder.

14. And the Lord has given a commandment concerning you, that your name shall no more be sown. From the house of your gods I will cut off the carved idol and the molten image. I will make your grave; for you are vile.

Chapter 2

1. (K) Behold upon the mountains the feet of him who brings good tidings, who announces peace! O Judah, keep your feasts, perform your vows; for the wicked one shall no more pass through you; he is completely cut off.

2. The shatterer has come against you; guard the ramparts, watch the road, make your loins strong, fortify your power mightily.

3. For the Lord restores the pride of Jacob, like the pride of Israel; for plunderers have stripped them, and ruined their vine branches.

4. The shield of his mighty men is red, the brave men are in scarlet; the chariots glitter with steel fire in the

day of his preparation, and the spears of cypress wood are brandished.

5. The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the squares; they seem like torches, they dart like lightning.

6. (K) He remembers his brave men; they stumble in their walk; they make haste to its wall, and the screen is prepared.

7. The gates of the rivers are opened, and the palace is in dismay.

8. It is set up, she is uncovered, she is carried away, and her maidens moan like doves, beating on their breasts.

9. But Nineveh is like an old established pool of water; yet they shall flee away. Halt, halt, they cry; but none turns back.

10. Plunder the silver, plunder the gold; for there is no end of treasure; there are precious vessels in abundance.

11. She is empty, and void, and waste; and the heart faints, and the knees knock together, and anguish is

in all loins, and all their faces are covered with blackness.

12. Where is the lion's den, and the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion walked, and the lion's cub, and none made them afraid?

13. The lion tore in pieces enough for his cubs, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with torn flesh.

14. Behold, I am against you, says the Lord of hosts, and I will burn her chariots in smoke, and the sword shall devour your young lions; and I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers shall no more be heard.

Chapter 3

1. Woe to the bloody city! It is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departs not;

2. The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the prancing horses, and of the jumping chariots.

3. (K) The horseman leaps up with his bright sword and glittering spear; and there is a multitude of slain, and a heap of carcasses; and there is no end of dead bodies; they stumble over the dead bodies.

4. Because of the numerous harlotries of the charming and bewitching harlot, who sells nations through her harlotry, and families through her witchcraft.

5. Behold, I am against you, says the Lord of hosts; and I will lift your skirts over your face, and I will show the nations your nakedness, and the kingdoms your shame.

6. And I will cast abominable filth upon you, and make you vile, and will make you like dung.

7. And it shall come to pass, that all those who look upon you shall flee from you, and say, Nineveh is laid waste; who will bemoan her? Where shall I seek comforters for you?

8. Are you better than No-Ammon, that was situated among the rivers, waters surrounding her, whose rampart was the sea, and her wall was from the

sea?

9. Kush was her strength, and Egypt without limit; Put and Lubim were your helpers.

10. Yet she was carried away, she went into captivity; her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of every street; and they cast lots for her honorable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

11. You also shall be drunken; you will be dazed, you will also seek a refuge from the enemy.

12. All your fortresses shall be like fig trees with the first ripe figs; if they are shaken, they fall into the mouth of the eater.

13. Behold, your people in your midst are women; the gates of your land shall be set wide open to your enemies; the fire shall devour your bars.

14. Draw waters for the siege, fortify your fortresses; go into the clay, and tread the mortar, take hold of the brick mould.

15. There shall the fire devour you; the sword shall cut you off, it shall eat you up like the locust; be swept

away as with the locust, be swept away as with the swarming locust.

16. You have multiplied your merchants more than the stars of heaven; the locust spreads its wings and flies away.

17. Your crowned ones are like the locusts, and your captains like the swarms of grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, but when the sun arises they fly away, and no one knows the place where they are.

18. Your shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria; your nobles are at rest; your people are scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathers them.

19. There is no healing of your breach; your wound is grievous; all who hear the report about you clap the hands over you; for upon whom has not your wickedness passed unceasingly?

Minor Prophets, Book 8

The Book of Habakkuk

In Large Print English

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Chapter 1

1. The burden which Habakkuk the prophet saw.

2. O Lord, how long shall I cry, and you will not hear? I cry out to you Violence!, and you will not save?

3. Why do you show me iniquity, and cause me to behold mischief? For destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

4. Therefore the Torah is slacked, and justice never goes forth; for the wicked surrounds the righteous; so that justice goes forth perverted.

5. Behold among the nations, and regard, and be struck with amazement; for I will perform a deed in your days, that you will not believe if told.

6. For, behold, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, who shall march through the width of the land, to possess the dwelling places that are not theirs.

7. They are terrible and dreadful; their justice and

their dignity proceed from themselves.

8. Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than evening wolves; and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly like a vulture hastening to devour.

9. They shall all come for violence; their faces set towards the east; and they shall gather captives like sand.

10. And they shall scoff at kings, and make sport of princes; they shall laugh at every fortress, for they heap up dust, and take it;

11. Then he shall sweep by like the wind and go on, bearing his guilt; his strength is his god.

12. Are you not from everlasting, O Lord my God, my Holy One? We shall not die, O Lord. You have ordained them as a judgment; and you, O Rock, have established them for chastisement.

13. Your eyes are too pure to behold evil, you can not look on iniquity. Why do you look upon those who deal treacherously, and are silent when the wicked

swallows the man more righteous than he?

14. And do you make men like the fishes of the sea, like the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?

15. He brings them all up with the hook, he catches them in his net, and gathers them in his drag; therefore he rejoices and is glad.

16. Therefore he sacrifices to his net, and burns incense to his drag; because by them his portion is fat, and his food abundant.

17. Shall he therefore empty his net, and unceasingly not spare to slay the nations?

Chapter 2

1. I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say to me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

2. And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tablets, so that he

who reads it may run.

3. For the vision is still for an appointed time, and it speaks concerning the end, and does not lie; though it seems slow, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not come late.

Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright in him;
 but the just shall live by his faith.

5. And though wine is treacherous, the arrogant man shall not abide, who widens his soul like Sheol; and he, like death, cannot be satisfied; for he has gathered to himself all the nations, and collected all peoples as his own.

6. Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him who increases that which is not his! For how long? And to him who loads himself with property taken in pledge!

7. Shall not your creditors rise up suddenly against you, and those awake who will make you tremble, and you shall be booty for them?

8. Because you have plundered many nations, all the

remnant of the peoples shall plunder you; for the blood of men, and for the violence to the land, to the city, and to all who dwell in it.

9. Woe to him who gets evil gain for his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be safe from the power of evil!

10. You have plotted shame to your house by cutting off many peoples, and have sinned against your soul.

11. For the stone shall cry out from the wall, and the beam from the timber shall answer it.

12. Woe to him who builds a town with blood, and establishes a city by iniquity!

13. Behold, is it not of the Lord of hosts that the peoples labor only for fire, and the nations weary themselves only for vanity?

14. For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

15. Woe to him who gives his neighbor drink, adding your venom to it, and makes him drunken also, that you may look on their nakedness!

16. You are filled with shame instead of glory; drink yourself also, and stagger; the cup of the Lord's right hand shall be turned to you, and shameful disgrace shall be on your glory.

17. For the violence done to Lebanon shall cover you, and the destruction of the beasts will terrify them, because of men's blood, and for the violence to the land, to the city, and to all who dwell in it.

18. What use is there in a carved idol whose maker has shaped it, a molten image, and a teacher of lies, that its maker should trust in his own work when he makes dumb idols?

19. Woe to him who says to the wood, Awake! To the dumb stone, Arise! Can it teach? Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in it.

20. But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Chapter 3

1. A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, according to Shigionoth.

2. O Lord, I have heard your report, and I was afraid; O Lord, revive your work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

3. God comes from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.

4. And his brightness is like the light; rays flash from his hand, and there is his power hidden.

5. Before him goes pestilence, and burning coals go forth at his feet.

6. He stands, and shakes the earth; he beholds, and causes the nations to tremble; and the everlasting mountains are dashed in pieces, the everlasting hills bow; his ways are as of old.

7. I saw the tents of Kushan in affliction; and the curtains of the land of Midian trembled.

8. Is the Lord displeased against the rivers? Is your anger against the rivers? Is your wrath against the sea, that you rode upon your horses, your chariots of salvation?

9. Your bow is stripped naked, according to the oaths that you addressed to the tribes. Selah. You cleaved the earth with rivers.

10. The mountains saw you, and they trembled; the raging waters passed by; the deep uttered its voice, and lifted up its hands on high.

11. The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; at the light of your arrows as they speed, and at the shining of your glittering spear.

12. You marched through the land in indignation, you threshed the nations in anger.

13. You come forth for the salvation of your people, for the salvation of your anointed; you have crushed the head out of the house of the wicked, uncovering it from the foundation to the neck. Selah.

14. You pierced with his own shaft the head of his warriors, who came like a stormy wind to scatter me; their rejoicing was like devouring the poor secretly.

15. You walked through the sea with your horses, through the heap of great waters.

16. When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered

at the sound; rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled where I stand, that I should wait for the day of trouble; when he comes up against the people who invade us.

17. Although the fig tree shall not blossom, nor shall fruit be in the vines; the produce of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no food; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls;

18. Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

19. The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like those of a deer, and he guides me upon my high places. To the choirmaster on my stringed instruments.

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Minor Prophets, Book 9

The Book of **Zephaniah**

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Chapter 1

1. The word of the Lord which came to Zephaniah the son of Kushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

2. I will utterly consume all things from off the face of the earth, says the Lord.

3. I will consume man and beast; I will consume the birds of the sky, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling blocks with the wicked; and I will cut off man from off the face of the earth, says the Lord.

4. I will also stretch out my hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the idolatrous priests with the priests;

5. And those who worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and those who worship and who

swear by the Lord, and who swear by Malcham;

6. And those who are turned back from the Lord; and those who have not sought the Lord, nor inquired of him.

7. Hold your peace at the presence of the Lord God; for the day of the Lord is at hand; for the Lord has prepared a sacrificial feast, he has consecrated his guests.

8. And it shall come to pass on the day of the Lord's sacrificial feast, that I will punish the princes, and the king's children, and all those who are clothed with foreign attire.

9. And on the same day also I will punish all those who leap on the threshold, who fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit.

10. And it shall come to pass on that day, says the Lord, that there shall be the noise of a cry from the Fish Gate, and a wailing from the Second Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills.

11. Howl, you inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the trading people are cut down; all those who weigh

silver are cut off.

12. And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men who are settled on their lees; who say in their heart, The Lord will not do good, nor will he do evil.

13. Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation; they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink their wine.

^{14.} The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hastens fast, the sound of the day of the Lord; the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.

15. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of ruin and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

16. A day of the shofar and alarm against the fortified cities, and against the high towers.

^{17.} And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the Lord; and their blood shall be poured out

like dust, and their flesh like dung.

18. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to save them in the day of the Lord's wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy; for he shall make an end, a sudden end, of all who dwell in the land.

Chapter 2

1. Gather yourselves together, gather together, O undesired nation!

2. Before the decree is brought forth, before the day when you pass away like chaff, before the fierce anger of the Lord comes upon you, before the day of the Lord's anger comes upon you.

3. Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth, who have performed his judgment; seek righteousness, seek humility; it may be that you shall be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger.

4. For Gaza shall be forsaken, and Ashkelon shall be a desolation; they shall drive out Ashdod at the noon

day, and Ekron shall be rooted up.

5. Woe to the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Kherethites! The word of the Lord is against you; O Canaan, land of the Philistines, I will destroy you, so that there shall be no inhabitant.

6. And the sea coast shall be pastures and meadows for shepherds, and folds for flocks.

7. (K) And it shall be an allotment for the remnant of the house of Judah; they shall feed there; in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening; for the Lord their God shall remember them, and restore their captivity.

8. I have heard the taunt of Moab, and the reviling of the Ammonites, how they have taunted my people, and magnified themselves against their border.

9. Therefore as I live, says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be like Sodom, and the Ammonites like Gomorrah, the breeding place of nettles, and salt pits, and a desolation for ever; the remnant of my people shall plunder them, and the survivors of my people shall possess them.

10. This shall they have for their pride, because they have taunted and magnified themselves against the people of the Lord of hosts.

11. The Lord will be terrible to them; for he will famish all the gods of the earth; and men shall worship him, everyone from his place, all the islands of the nations.

12. You Kushites also, you shall be slain by my sword.

13. And he will stretch out his hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like a wilderness.

14. And flocks shall lie down in her midst, all the beasts of the nations; both the little owl and the great owl shall lodge in its capitals; their voice shall sing in the window; desolation shall be in the threshold; for he shall lay bare the cedar work.

15. This is the joyful city that dwelt secure, that said in her heart, I am, and there is none beside me. What a desolation has she become! A place for beasts to lie down in! Every one who passes by her shall hiss, and gesture with his hand.

Chapter 3

1. Woe to her who is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!

2. She did not obey the voice; she did not accept correction; she did not trust in the Lord; she did not draw near her God.

3. Her princes inside her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw no bones in the morning.

4. Her prophets are worthless and treacherous persons; her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the Torah.

5. The just Lord is in her midst; he will not do iniquity; every morning he brings his judgment to light, he does not fail; but the unjust knows no shame.

6. I have cut off nations; their pinnacles are desolate;I made their streets waste, so that none passes by;their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man,

there is no inhabitant.

7. I said, Surely you will fear me, you will accept correction; then her dwelling would not have been cut off, according to all that I had threatened to bring upon her. But they were up early, and corrupted all their doings.

8. Therefore wait for me, says the Lord, until the day that I rise up to the prey; for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them my indignation, my fierce anger; for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

9. For then I will convert the peoples to a clear language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one accord.

10. From beyond the rivers of Kush my suppliants, the daughter of my dispersed ones, shall bring my offering.

11. On that day you shall not be ashamed for all your doings, by which you have transgressed against me; for then I will remove from your midst those who

rejoice in your pride, and you shall no more be haughty in my holy mountain.

12. And I will leave in your midst a poor and lowly people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord.

13. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth; for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

14. Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

15. The Lord has taken away your judgments, he has cast out your enemy. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall not see evil any more.

16. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Do not fear, O Zion! Let not your hands be slack.

17. The Lord your God is in your midst; a mighty one who saves, he will rejoice over you with joy; he will be silent in his love, he will joy over you with singing.

18. I will gather those who mourn far away for the solemn assembly, who were of you, who had borne

for you the burden of insult.

19. Behold, at that time I will undo all who afflict you; and I will save her who limps, and gather her who was driven out; and I will get praise and fame to those who have been put to shame in all the earth.

20. At that time I will bring you back, and at that time I will gather you; for I will make you a name and a praise among all the people of the earth, when I restore your captivity before your eyes, says the Lord.

Minor Prophets, Book 10

The Book of Haggai

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Chapter 1

1. In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,

2. Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say that the time has not yet come, the time that the Lord's house should be built.

3. Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying,

4. Is it time for you, yourselves, to dwell in your well timbered houses, while this house lies in ruins?

5. And therefore thus says the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

6. You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but you have not enough; you drink, but you are not

filled with drink; you dress yourself, but there is no warm; and he who earns wages earns wages to put it into a bag with holes.

7. Thus says the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

8. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, says the Lord.

9. You looked for much, and, behold, it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? says the Lord of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, and everyone of you runs to his own house.

10. Therefore the heaven above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce.

11. And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the grain, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground brings forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labor of the hands.

12. Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the

remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him, and the people feared before the Lord.

13. Then Haggai the Lord's messenger spoke the Lord's message to the people, saying, I am with you, says the Lord.

14. And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God,

15. In the twenty fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

Chapter 2

 In the seventh month, in the twenty first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by the prophet Haggai, saying,

2. Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying,

3. Who is left among you who saw this house in her first glory? How do you see it now? Is it not in your eyes as nothing?

4. Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord: and be strong, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land, says the Lord, and work; for I am with you, said the Lord of hosts;

5. According to the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, Egypt, so my spirit remains among you; do not fear.

6. For thus says the Lord of hosts; Yet again in a little while, I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land.

7. And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come; and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts.

8. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts.

9. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than that of the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give peace, says the Lord of hosts.

10. On the twenty fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying:

11. Thus says the Lord of hosts; Ask now the priests concerning the Torah, saying,

12. If one carries consecrated meat in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt touches bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any food, shall it become consecrated? And the priests answered and said, No.

13. Then said Haggai, If one who is unclean by a dead body touches any of these, does it become unclean?And the priests answered and said, It does become unclean.

14. Then Haggai answered, and said: So it is with this people, and so it is with this nation before me, says

the Lord: and so it is with every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean.

15. And now, I pray you, consider from this day onward. Before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the Lord;

16. Since they were, when one came to a heap of twenty measures, there were but ten; when one came to the wine vat to draw out fifty measures of the press, there were but twenty.

17. I struck you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labors of your hands; yet you did not turn to me, says the Lord.

18. Consider now from this day onward, from the twenty fourth day of the ninth month, from the day when the foundation of the temple of the Lord was laid, consider it.

19. Is the seed yet in the barn? Do the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, still not bring forth? From this day on I will bless you.

20. And again the word of the Lord came to Haggai on the twenty fourth day of the month, saying:

^{21.} Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I will shake the heavens and the earth;

22. And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those who ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, everyone by the sword of his brother.

23. On that day, says the Lord of hosts, I will take you, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, says the Lord, and will make you like a signet ring; for I have chosen you, says the Lord of hosts.

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Minor Prophets, Book 11

The Book of **Zachariah**

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Chapter 1

 In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the the Lord came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying:

2. The Lord has been much displeased with your fathers.

3. Therefore say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts; Turn to me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will turn to you, said the Lord of hosts.

4. (K) Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets cried out, Thus says the Lord of hosts; Turn now from your evil ways, and from your evil doings; but they did not hear, nor did they listen to me, says the Lord.

5. Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live for ever?

6. But my words and my statutes, which I

commanded my servants the prophets, did they not take hold of your fathers? So that they repented and said: As the Lord of hosts intended to do to us, according to our ways, and according to our doings, so has he dealt with us.

7. On the twenty fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying:

8. I saw in the night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees in the glen; and behind him were red, sorrel, and white horses.

9. Then I said, O my lord, what are these? And the angel who talked with me said to me, I will show you what these are.

10. And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the Lord has sent to walk to and fro in the earth.

11. And they answered the angel of the Lord who

stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sits still, and is at rest.

12. Then the angel of the Lord answered and said, O Lord of hosts, how long will you not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which you have had indignation these seventy years?

13. And the Lord answered the angel who talked with me with good words and comfortable words.

^{14.} And the angel who talked with me said to me, Proclaim, saying: Thus says the Lord of hosts; I am zealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great zeal.

15. And I am very much displeased with the nations that are at ease; for I was only a little angry, and they furthered the affliction.

16. (K) Therefore thus says the Lord: I have returned to Jerusalem with mercies; my house shall be rebuilt in it, says the Lord of hosts, and a measuring line shall be stretched over Jerusalem.

17. Proclaim further, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts; My cities shall again overflow with prosperity;

and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

Chapter 2

1. Then I lifted up my eyes, and saw, and behold four horns.

2. And I said to the angel who talked with me, What are these? And he answered me, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.

3. And the Lord showed me four craftsmen.

4. Then I said: What are these coming to do? And he spoke, saying, Those were the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man could lift up his head; but these have come to terrify them, to cast down the horns of the nations, which lifted up their horn against the land of Judah to scatter it.

5. I lifted up my eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand.

6. Then said I, Where are you going? And he said to me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width, and what is its length.

7. And, behold, the angel who talked with me goes out, and another angel goes out to meet him,

8. And said to him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and cattle in it;

9. And I, says the Lord, will be to her a surrounding wall of fire, and the glory in her midst.

10. Ho! ho! Flee from the land of the north, says the Lord; for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of the heaven, says the Lord.

11. Ho! Escape, O Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon.

12. For thus says the Lord of hosts; because of his honor he sent me to the nations which plundered you; for he who touches you touches the apple of his eye.

13. For, behold, I will shake my hand upon them, and

they shall become plunder to those who served them; and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me.

14. Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion; for, behold, I come, and I will dwell in your midst, says the Lord.

15. And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you.

16. And the Lord shall inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

17. Be silent, all flesh, before the Lord; for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

Chapter 3

 And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to thwart him.

2. And the Lord said to Satan, The Lord rebukes you,

O Satan; the Lord that has chosen Jerusalem rebukes you. Is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

3. And Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

4. And he answered and spoke to those who stood before him, saying, Remove the filthy garments from him. And to him he said, Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will dress you in festive garments.

5. And I said, Let them set a pure mitre upon his head. And they set a pure mitre upon his head, and dressed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by.

6. And the angel of the Lord warned Joshua, saying,

7. Thus says the Lord of hosts; If you will walk in my ways, and if you will keep my charge, and you will also judge my house, and will also guard my courts, then I will give you access among these who stand by.

8. Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you, and your

friends who sit before you; for they are men of good omen; for, behold, I will bring my servant the Branch (Zemach).

9. For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua. Upon one stone are seven facets; behold, I will engrave its inscription, says the Lord of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

10. On that day, says the Lord of hosts, everyone of you shall invite his neighbor under his vine and under his fig tree.

Chapter 4

1. And the angel who talked with me came again, and waked me, like a man who is wakened out of his sleep,

2. (K) And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I have looked, and behold a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl upon its top, and seven lamps on it, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon its top;

3. And there are two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon its left side.4. And I answered and spoke to the angel who talked

with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

5. Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, my lord.

6. Then he answered and spoke to me, saying, This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts.

7. Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forward its headstone, shouting Grace, grace to it.

8. And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

9. The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you.
10. For who has despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the

hand of Zerubbabel. These seven are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

11. Then I answered, and said to him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the lampstand and upon its left side?

12. And I answered again, and said to him, What are these two olive branches which are beside the two golden sprouts, from which the golden oil is poured out?

13. And he answered me and said, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, my lord.

14. And he said, These are the two anointed ones, who stand by the Lord of the whole earth.

Chapter 5

1. Then I turned, and lifted up my eyes, and looked, and behold a flying scroll.

2. And he said to me, What do you see? And I

answered, I see a flying scroll; its length is twenty cubits, and its width ten cubits.

3. And he said to me, This is the curse that goes out over the face of the whole earth; for everyone who steals shall be cut off henceforth, according to it; and everyone who swears falsely shall be cut off henceforth, according to it.

4.1 will send it forth, says the Lord of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him who swears falsely by my name; and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and it shall consume it with its timber and its stones.

5. Then the angel who talked with me went out, and said to me, Lift up now your eyes, and see what is this that goes out.

6. And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah measure going out. And he said, This is their appearance through all the earth.

7. And, behold, the leaden cover was lifted; and there was a woman sitting in the midst of the ephah measure.

8. And he said, This is Wickedness. And he cast her into the midst of the ephah measure; and he cast the weight of lead upon its mouth.

9. Then I lifted up my eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork; and they lifted up the ephah measure between the earth and the sky.

10. Then I said to the angel who talked with me, Where are they taking the ephah measure?

11. And he said to me, To build it a house in the land of Shinar; and when this is prepared, they will set it down there upon its base.

Chapter 6

1. And I turned, and lifted up my eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came four chariots from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of bronze.

2. In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses;

3. And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grizzled, bay horses.

4. Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, What are these, my lord?

5. And the angel answered and said to me, These are the four winds of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth.

6. The black horses which are in it go toward to the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grizzled go toward the south country.

7. And the bay horses went out, and sought to go to walk to and fro through the earth; and he said, Get here, walk to and fro through the earth. And they walked to and fro through the earth.

8. Then he cried to me, and spoke to me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have set my spirit at rest in the north country.

9. And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,

10. Take from the exiles, Heldai, Tobiah, and Jedaiah, who have come from Babylon, and come on that same day, and go to the house of Josiah, son of Zephaniah;

11. And take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest;

12. And speak to him, saying, Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is the Branch (Zemach); and he shall grow up from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord;

13. He shall build the temple of the Lord; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and there shall be a priest before his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

14. And the crowns shall remain, as a memorial to Helem, and to Tobiah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, in the temple of the Lord.

15. And those who are far off shall come and build in the temple of the Lord, and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. And this shall

come to pass, if you will diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God.

Chapter 7

1. And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Darius, that the word of the Lord came to Zechariah on the fourth day of the ninth month, which is Kislev;

2. And Beth-El had sent Sharezer and Regem-Melech, and his men, to entreat the favor of the Lord,

3. And to speak to the priests who were in the house of the Lord of hosts, and to the prophets, saying, Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?

4. And the word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying,

5. Speak to all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, for these seventy years, did you really fast for me?

6. And when you eat, and when you drink, do you not eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?

7. Should you not hear the words which the Lord has proclaimed by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and prosperous, with its cities around her, when the Negev and the Shephelah were inhabited?

8. And the word of the Lord came to Zechariah, saying,

 Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying, Render true judgment, and show loving kindness and compassion every man to his brother;

10. And do not oppress the widow, nor the orphan, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you plot evil against his brother in your heart.

11. But they refused to listen, and turned a stubborn shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

12. And they made their hearts like adamant stone, lest they should hear the Torah, and the words which the Lord of hosts has sent in his spirit by the

former prophets; therefore a great wrath came from the Lord of hosts.

13. And so, as he cried, and they would not hear, the Lord of hosts said: So they cried, and I did not hear; 14. But I scattered them with a stormy wind among all the nations whom they did not know. Thus the land was desolate after them, so that no man passed by nor returned; for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

Chapter 8

1. Again the word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying,

2. Thus says the Lord of hosts; I was zealous for Zion with great zeal, and I was zealous for her with great fury.

3. Thus says the Lord: I have returned to Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; and Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the Holy Mountain.

4. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for the fullness of days.

5. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.

6. Thus says the Lord of hosts: If it is marvelous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvelous in my eyes? says the Lord of hosts.

7. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country;

8. And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

9. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Let your hands be strong, you who hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, who spoke on the day that the foundation of the house of the Lord of hosts was laid, saying that the temple might be built.

10. For before these days there was no wage for man, nor any wage for beast; nor was there any peace to him who went out or who came in, because of the adversary; for I set all men everyone against his neighbor.

11. But now I will not be to the remnant of this people as in the former days, says the Lord of hosts.

12. For there shall be the seed of peace; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her produce, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

13. And it shall come to pass, that as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not fear, but let your hands be strong.

14. For thus says the Lord of hosts: As I intended to do evil to you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, says the Lord of hosts, and I did not relent;

15. So do I intend in these days to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. Do not fear.

16. These are the things that you shall do; Speak every man the truth to his neighbor; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates;

17. And let none of you plot evil in your hearts against his neighbor; do not love false oaths; for all these are things that I hate, said the Lord.

18. And the word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying,

19. Thus says the Lord of hosts: The fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth, and the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth, shall become times of joy and gladness, and cheerful feasts to the house of Judah; therefore love truth and peace.

20. Thus says the Lord of hosts: It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities;

21. And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to entreat the favor of the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts. I will go also.

22. And many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray

before the Lord.

23. Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men from the nations of every language, shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, We will go with you; for we have heard that God is with you.

Chapter 9

1. The burden of the word of the Lord in the land of Hadrach, and Damascus shall be his resting place; when the eyes of man, as of all the tribes of Israel, shall be toward the Lord.

2. And also Hamath which border thereby; Tyre, and Sidon, though it is very wise.

3. And Tyre has built for herself a fortress, and heaped up silver like dust, and fine gold like the mire of the streets.

^{4.} Behold, the Lord will strip of her possessions, and he will strike her power into the sea; and she shall be devoured with fire.

5. Ashkelon shall see it, and fear; Gaza also shall see it, and be very sorrowful, and Ekron shall see that her expectation has been confounded; and the king shall perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

6. And a bastard shall dwell in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.

7. And I will take away his blood from his mouth, and his abominations from between his teeth; and he too shall remain for our God; and it shall be like a clan in Judah; and Ekron like a Jebusite.

8. And I will encamp around my house against any army, against any who passes by and returns; and no oppressor shall pass through them any more; for now have I seen with my eyes.

9. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, your King comes to you; he is just, and victorious; humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass.

10. And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be

cut off; and he shall speak peace to the nations; and his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth.

11. As for you also, because of the blood of your covenant I have sent forth your prisoners out of the pit where there is no water.

12. Return to the fortress, you prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double;

13. For I have bent Judah for me, I have filled the bow with Ephraim, and raised up your sons, O Zion, over your sons, O Javan, and made you like the sword of a mighty man.

14. And the Lord shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth like the lightning; and the Lord God shall blow the shofar, and shall move in stormy winds of the south.

15. The Lord of hosts shall defend them; and they shall devour, and subdue with sling stones; and they shall drink, and be boisterous as through wine; and they shall be filled like bowls, and like the corners of the altar.

16. And the Lord their God shall save them on that day as the flock of his people; for they shall be like the jewels of a crown, shining over his his land.

17. For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the virgins.

Chapter 10

1. Ask rain of the Lord in the time of the latter rain; from the Lord who makes thunder clouds, and gives them showers of rain, and to everyone grass in the field.

2. For the teraphim have spoken vanity, and the diviners have seen a lie, and the dreams have told falsehoods; they give empty comfort; therefore they went their way like a flock, they were afflicted, because there was no shepherd.

3. My anger burns against the shepherds, and I will punish the goats; for the Lord of hosts has remembered his flock, the house of Judah, and has

made them like the magnificent horse in the battle.

4. From them shall come forth the cornerstone, from them the tent peg, from the battle bow, from them every ruler together.

5. And they shall be as mighty men, who trample down their enemies in the mire of the streets in the battle; and they shall fight, because the Lord is with them, and the riders on horses shall be confounded.

6. And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again for I have compassion on them; and they shall be as though I had not cast them off; for I am the Lord their God, and will answer them.

7. And they of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine; and their children shall see it, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the Lord.

8. I will whistle for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them; and they shall increase as they have increased before.

9. And I will sow them among the peoples; and they

shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and shall return.

10. And I will bring them back also from the land of Egypt, and gather them from Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; till there is no room for them.

11. And he shall pass through the sea with affliction, and shall strike the waves in the sea, and all the deeps of the river shall dry up; and the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the scepter of Egypt shall depart away.

12. And I will strengthen them in the Lord; and they shall walk in his name, says the Lord.

Chapter 11

1. Open your doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour your cedars.

2. (K) Wail, O cypress tree; for the cedar has fallen; because the mighty trees are ruined; howl, O you oaks of Bashan; for the thick forest has come down.

3. There is a sound of the howling of the shepherds; for their glory is gone; a sound of the roaring of young lions; for the wilderness along the Jordan is destroyed.

4. Thus says the Lord my God; Feed the flock of the slaughter;

5. Whose owners slay them, and hold themselves not guilty; and they who sell them say, Blessed be the Lord; for I am rich. And their own shepherds do not pity them.

6. For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, says the Lord: but, behold, I will deliver the men everyone into his neighbor's hand, and into the hand of his king; and they shall strike the land, and from their hand I will not save them.

7. And I will feed the flock of slaughter, you, O poorest of the flock. And I took for myself two rods; the one I called Grace (Noam), and the other I called Severity (Hovlim); and I fed the flock.

8. Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and I became impatient with them, and their soul also

detested me.

9. Then I said, I will not be your shepherd; that which dies, let it die; and that which is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat the flesh of one another.

10. And I took my rod, Grace, and broke it, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the peoples.

11. And it was broken on that day; and so the poorest of the flock who paid heed to me knew that it was the word of the Lord.

12. And I said to them, If it seems right to you, give me my wages; and if not, forbear. And they weighed for my wages thirty pieces of silver.

13. And the Lord said to me, Cast it into the treasury, the good price at which I was paid by them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them into the treasury in the house of the Lord.

14. Then I broke my other rod, Severity, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

15. And the Lord said to me, Take once more the instruments of a worthless shepherd.

16. For, behold, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, who shall not take care of those who are cut off, nor shall he seek the young one, nor heal the maimed, nor feed that which stands still; but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear off their hoofs in pieces.

17. Woe to the worthless shepherd who deserts the flock! May the sword strike his arm, and his right eye! Let his arm be dried up, and his right eye blinded!

Chapter 12

1. The burden of the word of the Lord concerning Israel, says the Lord, who stretches out the heavens, and lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man inside him.

2. Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of reeling to all the people around, and it shall also be against Judah in the siege against Jerusalem.

3. And on that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all the peoples; all who

burden themselves with it shall be grievously hurt. And all the peoples of the earth shall be gathered together against it.

4. On that day, says the Lord, I will strike every horse with panic, and its rider with madness; and I will open my eyes upon the house of Judah, and will strike every horse of the nations with blindness.

5. And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem are my strength through the Lord of hosts their God.

6. On that day I will make the governors of Judah like a hearth of fire among trees, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the peoples around, on the right hand and on the left; and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, in Jerusalem.

7. And the Lord shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

8. On that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of

Jerusalem; and he who is feeble among them shall be as David on that day; and the house of David shall be like a divine being, like the angel of the Lord before them.

9. And it shall come to pass on that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

10. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplication; and they shall look towards me, regarding those whom the nations have pierced; and they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only son, and shall be in bitterness over him, as one who is in bitterness for his firstborn.

11. On that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning of Hadad-Rimmon in the valley of Megiddo.

12. And the land shall mourn, every family by itself; the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

13. The family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves;

14. All the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

Chapter 13

1. On that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for cleansing and for sprinkling.

2. And it shall come to pass on that day, says the Lord of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no more be remembered; and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass from the land.

3. And it shall come to pass, that when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother who bore him shall say to him, You shall not live; for you speak lies in the name of the Lord; and his father and his mother who bore him shall pierce him

through when he prophesies.

4. And it shall come to pass on that day, that the prophets shall be ashamed everyone of his vision, when he has prophesied; nor shall they wear a hairy mantle in order to deceive;

5. But he shall say, I am not a prophet, I am a tiller of the soil; for a man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.

6. And one shall say to him, What are these wounds in your hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

7. Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man who is my associate, says the Lord of hosts: strike the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered; and I will turn my hand against the little ones.

8. And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, says the Lord, two thirds shall be cut off and die; but one third shall be left alive.

9. And I will bring this third through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will test them as

gold is tested; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, The Lord is my God.

Chapter 14

1. Behold, the day of the Lord comes, and the plunder taken from you shall be divided in your midst.

2. (K) For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women raped; and half of the city shall go into exile, and the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

3. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

4. And his feet shall stand on that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in its midst toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall be moved toward the north, and half of it toward the

south.

5. And you shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal; yes, you shall flee, like you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah; and the Lord my God shall come, and all the holy ones with you.

6. (K) And it shall come to pass on that day, that there shall not be bright light nor thick darkness;

7. But it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day, nor night; but it shall come to pass, that at evening time there shall be light.

8. And it shall be on that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the eastern sea, and half of them toward the western sea; in summer and in winter shall it be.

9. And the Lord shall be king over all the earth; on that day the Lord shall be one, and his name one.

10. All the land shall be changed like the Arabah from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; and she shall be lifted up, and remain in her place, from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the first gate, to the

Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel to the king's wine presses.

11. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall dwell secure.

12. And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their sockets, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

13. And it shall come to pass on that day, that a great panic from the Lord shall be among them; and they shall lay hold everyone on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor.

14. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the nations around shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and clothing, in great abundance.

15. And such shall be the plague of the horse, of the

mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these camps, as this plague.

16. And it shall come to pass, that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths.

17. And it shall be, that whoever will not come up of all the families of the earth to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, upon them shall be no rain.

18. And if the family of Egypt does not go up, and does not come, they will have no rain. This shall be the plague, with which the Lord will strike the nations that do not come up to observe the Feast of Booths.

19. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations that come not up to observe the Feast of Booths.

20. On that day shall there be inscribed upon the bells of the horses, Sacred to the Lord; and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the basins before the altar.

21. And every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be sacred to the Lord of hosts; and all those who

sacrifice shall come and take of them, and cook in them; and on that day there shall not be merchants any more in the house of the Lord of hosts. **Minor Prophets, Book 12**

The Book of Malachi

In Large Print English

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Chapter 1

1. The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi.

2. I have loved you, says the Lord. Yet you say, How have you loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? says the Lord; yet I loved Jacob,

3. And I hated Esau, and laid waste his mountains and gave his heritage to the jackals of the wilderness.

4. For Edom said: We are impoverished, but we will return and rebuild the desolate places. Thus says the Lord of hosts: They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and The people against whom the Lord has indignation for ever.

5. And your eyes shall see, and you shall say, The Lord will be magnified beyond the border of Israel.

6. A son honors his father, and a servant his master.

If I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name, and you say: How have we despised your name?

7. You offer polluted bread upon my altar; and you say, How have we polluted you? In that you say, The table of the Lord is contemptible.

8. And if you offer the blind for sacrifice, is this not evil? And if you offer the lame and the sick, is this not evil? Offer it now to your governor, will he be pleased with you, or accept your person? says the Lord of hosts.

9. And now, I beg you, beseech God that he will be gracious to us; this has been your doing. Will he show favor to any of you? says the Lord of hosts.

10. O, that were one among you who would shut the doors that you might not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, said the Lord of hosts, nor will I accept an offering from your hand.

^{11.} For, from the rising of the sun until it goes down, my name is great among the nations; and in every

place incense is offered to my name, and a pure offering; for my name is great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

12. But you have profaned it, in that you say, The table of the Lord is polluted; and his fruit, his food, is contemptible.

13. And you said, Behold, what a weariness it is! And you snuffed at it, says the Lord of hosts; and you brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus you brought an offering. Should I accept this from your hand? says the Lord.

14. Let the deceiver be cursed, who has in his flock a male, and yet vows, and sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished; for I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared among the nations.

Chapter 2

And now, O you priests, this commandment is for you.
 If you will not hear, and if you will not lay it to heart, to give glory to my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your

blessings. Indeed I have cursed them already, because you do not lay it to heart.

3. Behold, I will rebuke your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, the dung of your solemn feasts; and you will be taken away with it.

4. And you shall know that I have sent this commandment to you, that my covenant might be with Levi, says the Lord of hosts.

5. My covenant was with him for life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear with which he feared me, and was afraid before my name.

6. The Torah of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips; he walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many away from iniquity.

7. For the priest's lips should guard knowledge, and they should seek the Torah from his mouth; for he is a messenger of the Lord of hosts.

8. But you have turned aside from the way; you have caused many to stumble in the Torah; you have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of

hosts.

9. Therefore I have also made you contemptible and base before all the people, because you have not kept my ways, but have shown partiality in regard to the Torah.

10. Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

11. Judah has dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah has profaned the holiness of the Lord which he loved, and has married the daughter of a foreign god.

12. The Lord will cut off all living offspring from the tents of Jacob, from the man who does this, and from him who brings an offering to the Lord of hosts.

13. And this again you do: you cover the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping, and with sighing, because he will not regard the offering any more, nor receive it with good will from your hand.

14. And you say, Why is this so? Because the Lord has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, yet is she your companion, and the wife of your covenant.

15. And did not God make of you one flesh? So that one should have a spiritual kin? And what does that one flesh seek? A godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not be faithless to the wife of your youth.

16. For to send her away is hateful, says the Lord, the God of Israel, and covering one's garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts; therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not be faithless.

17. You have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet you say: How have we wearied him? When you say, Every one who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delights in them; or, Where is the God of justice?

Chapter 3

1. Behold, I send my messenger, and he shall

prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, and the messenger of the covenant, whom you delight in, behold, he shall come, says the Lord of hosts.

2. But who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like the washer's soap;

3. And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and refine them like gold and silver, that they may offer to the Lord an offering in righteousness.

4. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant to the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

5. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the orphan, and who turn aside the foreigner from his right, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

6. For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you sons of Jacob are not consumed.

7. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my ordinances, and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you said, How shall we return?

8. Will man rob God? Yet you have robbed me. But you say, How have we robbed you? In tithes and offerings.

9. You are cursed with a curse; for you have robbed me, this whole nation.

10. Bring all the tithes to the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and test me now with that, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour for you an overflowing blessing.

11. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; nor shall your vine cast her fruit in the field before the time, says the Lord of hosts.

12. And all nations shall call you blessed; for you shall

be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

13. Your words have been strong against me, says the Lord. Yet you say, How have we spoken against you?

14. You have said: It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts?

15. And now we call the arrogant happy; those who work wickedness prosper; even those who tempt God escape.

16. Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another; and the Lord listened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for those who feared the Lord, and who took heed of his name.

17. And they shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, on that day which I appoint as my particular day; and I will spare them, like a man spares his own son who serves him.

18. Then you shall return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him who serves God and him who does not serve him.

19. For, behold, the day comes, it shall burn like an oven; and all the arrogant, and all who do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will not leave them root nor branch.

20. But to you who fear my name the sun of righteousness shall arise with healing in its wings; and you shall go forth leaping like calves from the stall.

21. And you shall trample down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I shall do this, says the Lord of hosts.

22. Remember the Torah of Moses my servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

23. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord;

24. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a curse.