

# The "Minor Prophets" in their Historical Periods

## 8<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.

### ASSYRIAN DOMINANCE

Jonah <sup>1</sup>	780 B.C.
Amos <sup>2</sup>	760 B.C.
Hosea <sup>3</sup>	750-725 B.C.
Micah <sup>4</sup>	735-700 B.C.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.

Zephaniah	630-625 B.C.
Nahum <sup>5</sup>	615 B.C.

### BABYLONIAN DOMINANCE BEGINS WITH THE FALL OF NINEVEH IN 612 B.C.

Joel	609 B.C.
Habakkuk	605 B.C.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.

### THE BABYLONIAN EXILE BEGINS

Obadiah <sup>6</sup>	586 B.C.
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### PERSIAN DOMINANCE BEGINS WITH THE FALL OF BABYLON IN 539 B.C.

#### THE POST-EXILIC PERIOD BEGINS

Haggai <sup>7</sup>	520 B.C.
Zechariah <sup>7</sup>	520-518 B.C.
Malachi <sup>7</sup>	433 B.C.

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<sup>1</sup>Though Assyria was the dominant world power, a series of weak rulers left the nations weakened from around 800-745 B.C. Therefore, the repentance and revival that broke out when Jonah preached is very understandable.

<sup>2</sup>The weakness of Assyria mentioned above resulted in an opportunity for Israel and Judah to experience a "Second Golden Age." The "First Golden Age" had occurred under David and Solomon. Unfortunately, the economic prosperity was attended by moral decline, a superficial religious fervor, and an increase in social injustice.

<sup>3</sup>Hosea was the first of Israel's prophets to use the husband-wife relationship as a paradigm for the relationship between God and His people.

<sup>4</sup>Micah was blessed to give the prophecy of Christ's birth in Bethlehem, 5:2.

<sup>5</sup>Nahum prophesied just before the destruction of Nineveh in 612 B.C., 2:8.

<sup>6</sup>Obadiah is probably the only 'Minor Prophet' of the Exilic Period.

<sup>7</sup>Haggai and Zechariah were contemporaries; both had as their main concern the rebuilding of the temple. Malachi reflects a later Post-Exilic time.