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# ON THE EMMAUS ROAD

SESSION 8 - DANIEL - MALACHI



<sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup> But their eyes were kept from recognizing him... <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. **LUKE 24**

# OLD TESTAMENT

- The Bible is a STORYLINE that reveals God's unfathomable love for His creation.
- For everything written in the past was written to teach us, so that with the encouragement of the *Tanakh* we might patiently hold on to our hope. Romans 15:4

# DANIEL

- A storehouse of amazing prophecy, this book lays the groundwork upon which many other prophecies are built. For example, in the book of Revelation, John writes as if the reader is familiar with Daniel's predictions, which serves as a backdrop for some of John's prophecies. "Daniel is to the OT what the book of Revelation is to the NT;" writes Warren Wiersbe, "in fact, we cannot fully understand one without the other."
- There are numerous messianic prophecies in Daniel. Jesus is the Stone "cut by no human hand" that will crush the kingdom of this world upon His return (Dan 2:34, 35, 44, fulfilled in Luke 1:33). He is the Son of Man who "was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed (Dan 7:13, 14, fulfilled in Matt 26:27-29). Furthermore, His kingdom "shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High" (Dan 7:27, fulfilled in Luke 1:33).

# DANIEL

- 70 Weeks of Daniel ... WOW! Unbelievable, the exact date of Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem.
- It's astonishing that a prediction made hundreds of years before Jesus was born could be accurate.
- Daniel's dream in chapter 7 involves the Anti-Christ and other matters, but it also predicts Jesus' everlasting kingdom.
- Many see verses 12:1-2 - describing the final resurrection of the just and unjust — as a prophecy of Jesus judging people for eternal life and eternal punishment, as described in John 5:28-29. Additionally, some regard God's protection of Daniel's friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego from the fiery furnace and His defense of Daniel in the lion's den as foreshadowing of the salvation Jesus offers us.

# EZEKIEL

- This book demonstrates God's sovereignty. He will accomplish His salvation purposes for mankind through His chosen nation of Israel, and He will restore Israel itself despite its recurring disobedience. God says He will turn His face from Israel (7:22), yet He will not hide His face from them anymore (39:29).
- Messianic prophecies fill the Book of Ezekiel, including the following: a tree planted by God, a tender twig that becomes a stately cedar on a lofty mountain (Ez 17:22-24 fulfilled in Matt 13:31-32); the humble exalted; the rightful king (Ez 21:26-27 fulfilled in Luke 1:52); the good and faithful shepherd (Ez 34: 23-24 fulfilled in John 10:11); the great purification (Ez 36:25-36 fulfilled in John 1:25-28); and the great resurrection and gift of the Spirit (Ez 37:1-14 fulfilled in John 20 and Acts 2:33). Many also see the prophecies of Ez 44-48 as pertaining to the second coming of Jesus.

# EZEKIEL

- The book of Ezekiel is Jesus-directed in many other respects. Ezekiel addresses the Davidic kingship, with his oracles of doom against those currently occupying David's throne; his oracles of hope for a future Davidic dynasty that would rule over God's people regathered from exile (Ez 17:22-24; 29:21); and his visions of a prince and his future successors, who would be stewards of the new Temple, administer social justice, and correct the Davidic dynasty's past abuses of the people.
- Finally, like Jeremiah, Ezekiel announces the New Covenant, predicting that one day God will inaugurate a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, and that God will give His people a new heart and a new birth (Ez 34:25-31 fulfilled in John 3:1-16).

# HAGGAI

- Haggai attaches profound importance to rebuilding the Temple. It's no mere symbolic exercise, but an integral part of the messianic program God had promised through His prophets and His covenants. Gerard Van Groningen explains that if "the messianic promises concerning the royal Person of the Davidic house and the kingdom were to be realized, it was necessary that the remnant of the covenant people do their part. They were to build the temple, the symbol of Yahweh's presence with them and the type of him who was to come and dwell among them (John 1:14-18).
- The Temple is a symbol of God's presence, to be sure, but it's much more. It's an important and ongoing reminder of God's special relationship with His people.
- Haggai's announcements make clear that God is not only still present among His people, but also that His covenants remain in full force and effect.

# HAGGAI

- We Christians readers of the OT must be forever mindful, as we've stressed repeatedly, that in the Bible God not only unfolds the progressive revelation of His salvation history, but that He is always superintending history and directing it toward its final conclusion in Jesus. We Believers have an advantage over our OT brothers in that we have read the rest of the story, and we also have the entire OT laid out before us in a way that demonstrates the continuity and integrity of God's plan — both in revelation and in actual history. Haggai's admonitions to the Jewish remnant concerning God's covenant promises are important for us to remember, constituting another example of the OT relevance today.

# HAGGAI

- There is also a foreshadowing of the Messiah in Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah and descendant of David who led the first band of Israelites back to the land and helped erect the Temple's altar and its foundation. In Haggai 2:23, Zerubbabel is referred to with a messianic title, "My Servant" (cf 2 Sam 3:18; 1 Kings 11:34; Isaiah 42:1-9; Ez 37:24,25). That verse has further messianic significance because God tells Zerubbabel He will make him like a signet ring, "for I have chose you." What makes Zerubbabel unique in the Davidic line is that he resumes and reestablishes the line after its interruption by the exile. He thereby becomes like a signet ring in the center of the messianic line that seals both branches together. Significantly, Zerubbabel is in the line of Jesus on both Joseph's side and Mary's side.

# ZECHARIAH

- The name Zechariah means “The Lord Remembers,” signifying that God has not forgotten His people despite their conquest by a foreign empire. God is always present with His people even if their difficult circumstances make it seem otherwise. Zechariah encourages the people spiritually as they re-emerge in the Temple project (see Ezra 5:2), promising them future blessings on the nation including the coming Messiah. As John MacArthur puts it, Haggai “was used to start the revival, while Zechariah was used to keep it going strong with a more positive emphasis, calling the people to repentance and reassuring them regarding future blessings. Indeed, MacArthur deems Zechariah the most messianic book in the OT.

# ZECHARIAH

- The book's messianic prophecies include: God living among His people and dwelling in their midst (Zech 2:10-13, fulfilled in Rev 21:3, 24); a new priesthood (Zech 2:3:8, fulfilled in 1 Peter 2:5); Jesus as the enthroned High Priest (Zech 6:12-13, fulfilled in Hebrews 5:5-10); Jesus riding on a donkey during the Triumphal Entry (Zech 9:9-12, fulfilled in Matt 21:4-6); He is the Lord who shall save His flock (Zech 9:16, fulfilled in John 3:16); betrayed by a friend and sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zech 11:12-13, fulfilled in Matt 26:14-15); the money was used to buy the potter's field (Zech 11:12-13, fulfilled in Matt 27:9-10); His body was pierced (Zech 12:10, fulfilled in John 19:34,37); and He is the Shepherd Who was smitten and the sheep were scattered (Zech 13:1, 6-7, fulfilled in Matt 26:31).

# ZECHARIAH

- In this book Jesus is portrayed in His first and second coming as Servant and King, Man and God. Zechariah further anticipates Jesus in the following passages: He is seen as the Angel of the Lord Who commands the salvation of His people (Zech 3:1-5; Rev 10); the Righteous Branch (Zech 3:8, 6:12,13); the Servant of God Whom He shall bring forth (Zech 3:8; Mark 10:45); The Foundation Stone with seven eyes upon which God's Church and kingdom is built and Who will remove the iniquity of the land (Zech 3:9, 1 Cor 3:10-11); the King-Priest (Zech 6:13) the humble King (Zech 9:9, 10); the cornerstone, tent peg and battle bow (Zech 10:4); the Good Shepherd (Zech 11:4-13); the cleansing fountain and Savior of Israel, whose blood covers the sins and uncleanness of the people (Zech 13:1); and the coming Judge and righteous King (Zech 14) Who shall stand on Mount Olive when He returns (Zech 14:4; Acts 1:6-11).

# MALACHI

- In Malachi the people accuse God of allowing the righteous to suffer and the evil to prosper. Intending to indict God's fairness and justice, they indict themselves instead, for the responses reveal their impure hearts and the abject superficiality. Are they only serving God for what they can get out of the bargain? Do none of their actions flow from love and obedience? Is it all a matter of cynical negotiation to them by which they will obey God only as long as there's something to be gained?
- Christians today should take Malachi's message to heart — we must not be selfish, calculating, and shortsighted. Our faith must be properly motivated. Malachi speaks to us as Christians concerning our own spiritual apathy.

# MALACHI

- Malachi has several key messianic prophecies, including vs 3:1: The Messiah would be preceded by a forerunner, a messenger who will prepare the way before Him. This is fulfilled by John the Baptist.
- The reference in 4:2 to "the sun of righteousness" is taken by some to be a messianic prophecy.
- God's dealing with Israel in OT times and His record of those dealings in the OT were the indispensable precursor for the arrival on earth of God Himself - our Savior, Jesus. When Jesus arrived, His path had been laid by His many forerunners who, in ways sometimes clear and other times vaguely implied, had foretold of His coming, and the glories He would bestow on all the nations of the world.

# CONCLUSION

- When I began studying the Bible years ago, eager to get a sense of its recorded history and unifying themes, I tried various approaches to hasten the process and mostly came up short. It wasn't that the Bible was incomprehensible, it's that I was impatient - too anxious to master it like other books I'd set out to study. But the Bible is not like any other book. What eventually unlocked the mystery of Scripture for me was learning that the OT, too, is centered on Jesus. Once that became clear, I truly began to understand the Bible.

# CONCLUSION

- Indeed, as we study the OT through out NT lenses and with our eyes focused on Jesus, we see His image in the portraits, the types, the Christophanies, the OT offices, His work in creating and sustaining the universe, His redemption activities on behalf of the Israelites, His names and titles, and in the stunning messianic prophecies. We see that God's promises and covenants are fulfilled in Him. With the benefit of NT revelation we now see Him clearly in every OT book, which enlivens us, renews our faith and magnifies our gratitude for our Savior, Who created us for an eternal, personal, loving relationship with Himself.

- Remember the overwhelming majority of this study is taken from David Limbaugh's book: 'The Emmaus Code'.

