

The Twelve

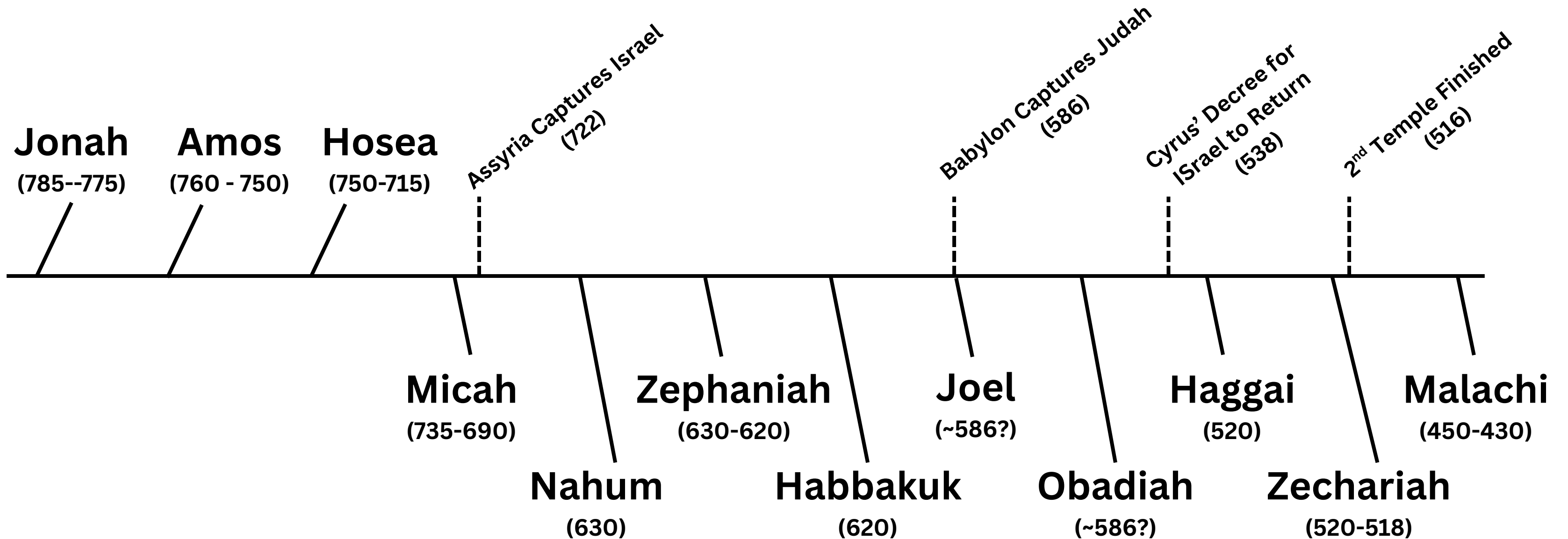


A STUDY ON THE MINOR PROPHETS

CORE TRAINING - WED NIGHTS

FALL 2026

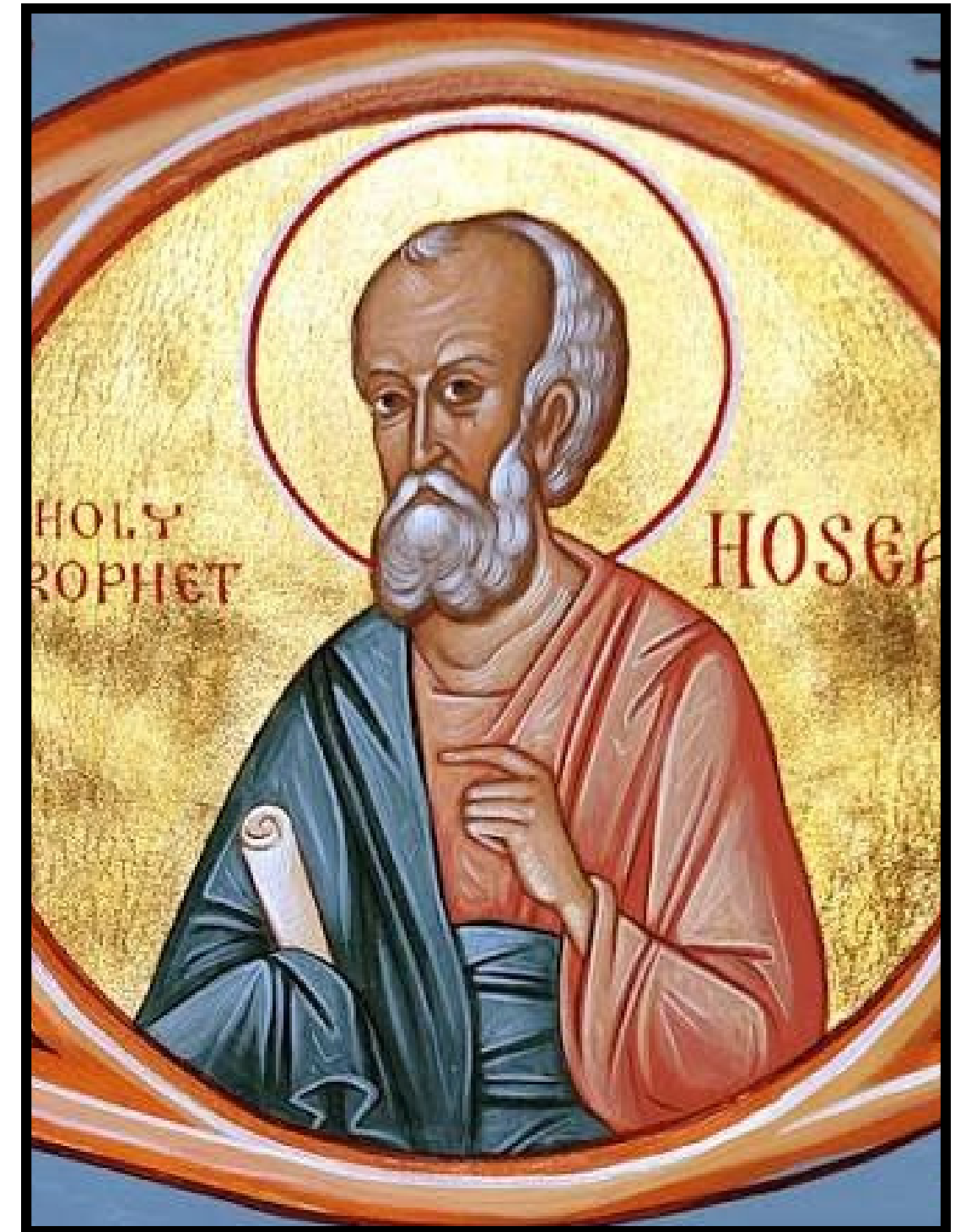
Prophets to Israel



Prophets to Judah

Authorship of Hosea

- Hosea is mentioned as the author in 1:1
- We are told that Hosea is the son of Beerli. The only other reference other Beerli in scripture is in Gn 26:34.
- The only other details we can gain of the person of Hosea come from his wife and kids.
- The name Hosea means “salvation.”



Date of Hosea



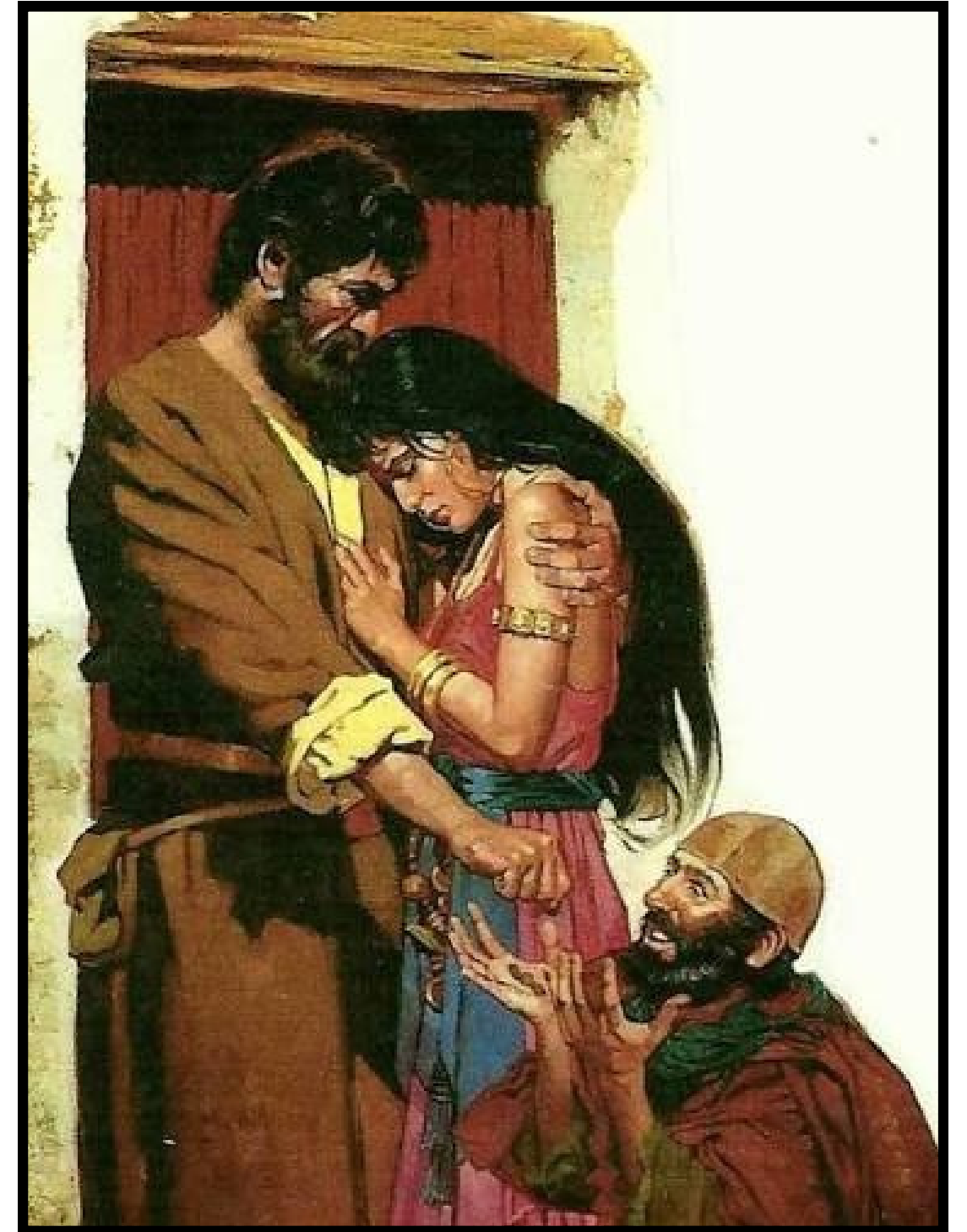
- Hosea places himself within the reigns of four different Judean kings (Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah) and one Israelite king (Jeroboam II).
 - Uzziah began reigning in 767BC
 - Jeroboam II died in 753BC
 - Therefore, Hosea's ministry began sometime between 767-753BC.
- Hezekiah's reigned solely in Judah between 715-686BC. Therefore, Hosea's ministry ended sometime between these dates.

Kings of Israel

- Jeroboam (931-910)
- Nadab (910-909)
- Baasha (909-886)
- Elah (886-885)
- Zimri (885)
- Omri (885-874)
- Ahab (874-853)
- Ahaziah (853-852)
- Joram (852-841)
- Jehu (841-814)
- Jehoahaz (814-798)
- Jehoash (798-782)
- Joeroboam II (793-753)
- Zechariah (753)
- Shallum (752)
- Menahem (752-742)
- Pekahiah (742-740)
- Pekah (752-732)
- Hoshea (732-722)

Audience of Hosea

- Amos writes to the northern nation of Israel who will soon be exiled in 722BC by Shalmaneser V.
- Under Jeroboam II the nation of Israel experienced a time of great prosperity
 - territories were enlarged
 - wealth was expansive
 - military was superior
 - economy was booming
- In 743BC the Assyrian king Tiglath-pileser III marched on Israel but did not capture it. Instead, he enacted a heavy tribute on Israel.



Interpreting Hosea

- To understand Hosea one must know the geography, regional politics and current religious status of Israel.
- One must also grapple with Hosea's use of imagery and how it helps the reader understand the overall message of the book.



Interpreting Hosea

- Gomer's promiscuity and its interpretation within the context of judgment is a source of debate. There are generally three ways to interpret her promiscuity:
 - The marriage never really happened but is to be understood as simply symbolic of the relationship between Israel and Yahweh.
 - The marriage did happen and Gomer was promiscuous previous to her marriage to Hosea.
 - The marriage did happen, but Gomer was chaste before the marriage and then engaged in adultery after the marriage.



Structure of Hosea

- Organizing the book of Hosea has been notoriously difficult to do.
- A simple organization of Hosea consists of the following:
 - Ch. 1-3 - Hosea's marriage to Gomer
 - Ch. 4-14 - Israel's unfaithfulness and coming judgment

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