



The Tombs of the Prophets

Matthew 23:29-37

Matthew 23:29-33

- “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, 30 and say, If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. 31 Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. 32 Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers' guilt. 33 Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?”

Matthew 23:34-37

- “Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, 35 that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. 36 Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. 37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!”

The Tombs of the Prophets

- 133 named prophets
- 626 unnamed prophets
- 759 total prophets mentioned in the Bible
- Of these, there were 40 writing prophets inspired to write scripture, including Moses, David, and Solomon
 - Four major prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel;
 - 12 minor prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

The Tombs of the Prophets

- There were far more unnamed speaking prophets than named writing prophets
 - Judges 6:7-10 - “And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD because of the Midianites, 8 that the LORD sent a prophet to the children of Israel, who said to them, Thus says the LORD God of Israel: I brought you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of bondage; 9 and I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. 10 Also I said to you, I am the LORD your God; do not fear the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But you have not obeyed My voice.”

The Tombs of the Prophets

- 2Peter 1:20-21 - “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

Prophets Of The Old Testament Who Spoke With, Or On Behalf Of, God

- Abraham - Gen 11:26 - 25:10
- Isaac - Gen 21:1 - 35:29
- Jacob - Gen 25:21 - 49:33
- Moses - Ex. 2:1 - Deut. 34:5
- Aaron - Ex. 4:14 - Num. 33:39
- Joshua - Ex. 17:9-14, 24:13; Joshua 24:29
- Phinehas - Ex. 6:25; Num. 25:7-25:11, 31:6
- Eli - 1Sam. 1:9 - 4:18
- Samuel - 1Sam. 1:1 - 25:1
- Gad - 1Sam 22:5; 2Sam 24:11-19
- Nathan - 2Sam. 7:2-17, 12:1-25
- Daniel - The Book of Daniel
- David - 1Sam. 16:1 - 1Kings 2:11
- Solomon - 2Sam. 12:24; 1Kings 1:10 - 11:43
- Iddo - 2Chron. 9:29, 12:15, 13:22
- Michaiah son of Imlah - 1Kings 22:8-28; 2Chron. 18:7-27
- Obadiah - The Book of Obadiah
- Ahiyah the Shilonite - 1Kings 11:29-30, 12:15, 14:2-18, 15:29

Prophets Of The Old Testament Who Spoke With, Or On Behalf Of, God

- Jehu son of Hanani - 1Kings 16:1-7; 2Chron. 19:2, 20:34
- Azariah son of Oded - 2Chron. 15
- Jahaziel the Levite - 2Chron. 20:14
- Eliezer son of Dodavahu - 2Chron. 20:37
- Hosea - The Book of Hosea
- Amos - The Book of Amos
- Micah - The Book of Micah
- Elijah - 1Kings 17:1 - 21:29
- Elisha - 2Kings 2:1 - 13:21
- Jonah son of Amittai - The Book of Jonah
- Isaiah - The Book of Isaiah
- Joel - The Book of Joel
- Nahum - The Book of Nahum
- Habakkuk - The Book of Habakkuk
- Zephaniah - The Book of Zephaniah
- Uriah - Jer. 26:20-23
- Jeremiah - The Book of Jeremiah
- Ezekiel - The Book of Ezekiel
- Shemaiah - 1Kings 12:22-24; 2Chron. 11:2-4, 12:5-15

Prophets Of The Old Testament Who Spoke With, Or On Behalf Of, God

- Barukh - Jer. 32, 36, 43, 45
- Seraiah - Jer. 51:61-64
- Haggai - The Book of Haggai
- Zechariah - The Book of Zechariah
- Malachi - The Book of Malachi
- Mordecai - The Book of Esther
- Oded father of Azariah - 2Chron. 15:8
- Zacharias - Luke 1
- Simeon - Luke 2:25-35
- Female Prophets:
- Sarah - Gen 11:29 - 23:20
- Miriam - Ex. 15:20-21; Num. 12:1 - 12:15, 20:1
- Deborah - Judges 4:1 - 5:31
- Hannah - 1Sam. 1:1 - 2:21
- Abigail - 1Sam 25:1 - 25:42
- Huldah - 2Kings 22:14-20
- Esther - The Book of Esther
- Anna - Luke 2:36-38

The Work Of The Prophets

- Isaiah was sent to Judah.
 - “To whom will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One” (Isa. 40:25).
- Jeremiah was sent to Judah.
 - “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as the potter does? declares the Lord. Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel” (Jer. 18:6).
- Ezekiel was sent to the Judean Exiles in Babylon.
 - “I saw the glory of the God of Israel coming from the east. His voice was like the roar of rushing waters, and the land was radiant with his glory” (Ez. 43:2).

The Work Of The Prophets

- Daniel was sent to the Exiles.
 - “The rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth” (Daniel 2:35).
- Hosea was sent to Israel.
 - “How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? ... My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused” (Hosea 11:8).
- Joel was sent to Judah.
 - “Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning” (Joel 2:12).

The Work Of The Prophets

- Amos was sent to Israel in the north.
 - Theme text: “Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria” (Amos 6:1).
- Obadiah was sent to Edom.
 - Theme text: “Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the Lord” (Obadiah 4).
- Jonah was sent to Nineveh, the Assyrian capital.
 - “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown! ... Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it” (Jonah 3:4, 10).

The Work Of The Prophets

- Micah was sent to Judah.
 - “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).
- Nahum was sent to Nineveh about 100 years after Jonah.
 - “The Lord has given a command concerning you, Nineveh. You will have no descendants to bear your name” (Nahum 1:14).
- Habakkuk was sent to Judah.
 - “Though it linger, wait for it. It will certainly come, and will not delay” (Hab. 2:3).

The Work Of The Prophets

- Zephaniah was sent to Judah.
 - “The great day of the Lord is near, near and coming quickly” (Zeph. 1:14).
- Haggai was sent to the Remnant that returned from exile.
 - “Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while God's house remains in ruins?” (Haggai 1:4).
- Zechariah was sent to the Remnant with Haggai.
 - “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty” (Zech. 4:6).
- Malachi was sent to the Remnant.
 - “Return to me and I will return to you, says the Lord” (Mal. 3:7).

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- Isaiah was killed by Manasseh the son of Hezekiah with a wooden saw; he was buried before the outfall of the waters which Hezekiah concealed by Siloam.
- Jeremiah was stoned by the Jews as an exile in Egypt, because he rebuked them for worshiping idols; and the Egyptians buried him by the side of Pharaoh's palace. He was loved and respected by the Egyptians more than the Jews.
- Ezekiel was killed by the chief of the Jews in the land of the Chaldeans, because he rebuked him for worshiping idols. He was buried in the grave of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah.
- Daniel died of old age in Elam in Babylon and was buried in Shushan fortress.

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- Hosea died in peace, and was buried in his own land.
- Joel the son of Bethuel was struck by Ahaziah the son of Amaziah with a staff on his head; and while his life was yet in him, they brought him to his own land, and after two days he died.
- Amos was tortured by the priest of Bethel who afterwards killed him.
- Obadiah became a disciple of Elijah and was persecuted by Ahab, because he forsook the king's service and went with Elijah. He later died alone of old age.
- Jonah the son of Amittai was from Gath. He died two years after Judah returned from Babylon, and was buried in the cave of Kainân.
- Micah the Moreshite was killed by Joram the son of Ahab.

The Tombs Of The Prophets

- Nahum died in peace, and was buried in his own country.
- Habakkuk was killed by Jews who stoned him in the streets of Jerusalem.
- Zephaniah died in peace in his own land.
- Haggai died in peace in Judah.
- Zechariah died as a very old man and was buried by Haggai.
- Malachi died in peace in his own land.
- Elijah, son of Shôbâkh of Tishbae, was taken up in a chariot to heaven.
- Elisha died in peace but was buried in in obscurity in Samaria.
- Nathan died in peace.

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- Ahijah was killed by a lion, and he was buried under an oak at Shilo in Samaria.
- Ezra died in peace in his own land.
- Zechariah the son of Berachiah the priest was killed by Joash the king between the top of steps to the altar and the altar itself, and Joash sprinkled his blood on the horns of the altar, and the priests buried him. From that day God forsook the temple, and angels were never again seen in it.

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- 1Peter 1:10-12 - “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven--things which angels desire to look into.”

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- 2Chron. 20:14-17 - "Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. 15 And he said, Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's. 16 Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. 17 You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you."

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- 2Chron. 20:18-22 - “And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. 19 Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high. 20 So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper. 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: Praise the LORD, For His mercy endures forever. 22 Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.”