

Lecture 8- Post exilic Prophets

Post-exilic prophets begins with a focus on the establishment of the temple Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi

Question:

Was the spirit of prophesy removed after the days of Malachi?

Classic Description of Period- 400 years of silence; However Malachi could have been written as late as 430 BC and the prophetess Anna would have been alive as early as 90 BC so that would only give a little over 340 years.

Asaph and His Descendants: 1000 BC to 430 BC

1 Chron 15:19- ¹⁹ So the singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, *were appointed* to sound with cymbals of brass

1 Ch 25:1

Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:

2 Chron 29:³⁰ Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto the Lord with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped

2 Chron 35:¹⁵ And the singers the sons of Asaph *were* in their place, according to the commandment of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun the king's seer; and the porters *waited* at every gate; they might not depart from their service; for their brethren the Levites prepared for them. ¹⁶ So all the service of the Lord was prepared the same day, to keep the passover, and to offer burnt offerings upon the altar of the Lord, according to the commandment of king Josiah

Ezra 2:41; Ne 11:17–18

הֶרֶשׁ III₁ pr.n.m. **Heresh**, Levite and descendant of Asaph, who settled in Jerusalem after the exile, <nom cl> בֶּן־אָסָף ... הֶרֶשׁ *Heresh was ... a son of Asaph* 1 C 9:15.

(נְתַנְאֵל, *nethan'el*). A priest and descendant of Asaph who blew the trumpet at the dedication of the new walls of Jerusalem following the Babylonian exile (Neh 12:36).

Bakbukiah (Heb. *baqbuqyâ*)

A Levite (Neh. 11:17) and descendant of Asaph the musician. One of the returning exiles designated by lot to live at Jerusalem, he was a gatekeeper and the leader of a group of temple singers (Neh. 12:9, 25).

Ezr 3:¹⁰ And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the Lord, after the ordinance of David king of Israel. ¹¹ And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because *he is good*, for his mercy *endureth* for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. ¹²

Prophetess Noadiah (Neh. 6:14)-

My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

Span of about 400 years from Malachi to John the Baptist- Classically referred to as “the 400 years of silence.” During this time some of the books of the apocrypha were written... Most notable in terms of influence was Maccabees

Time of further spiritual decline- influenced by the Grecian Oppression most notably Antiochus IV

Beneath the surface there were those like

Simeon - ²⁵ And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name *was* Simeon; and the same man *was* just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost *was* upon him. ²⁶

Lk 2:25–26

Anna- ³⁶ And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; ³⁷ And she *was* a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day.

Lk 2:36–37)

Final Prophet before the beginning of the New Covenant was John the Baptist the cousin of Jesus.