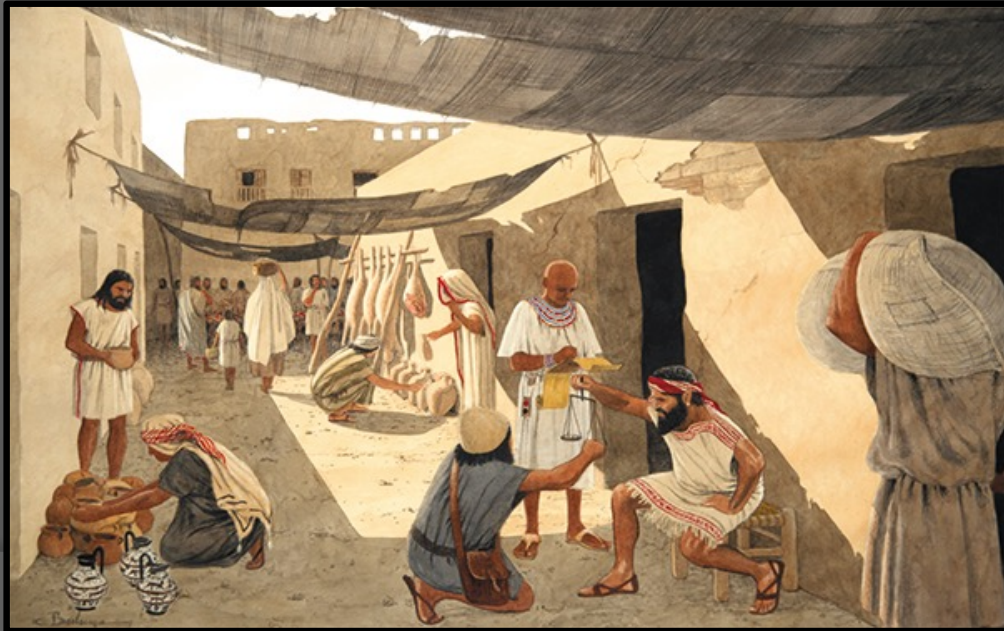
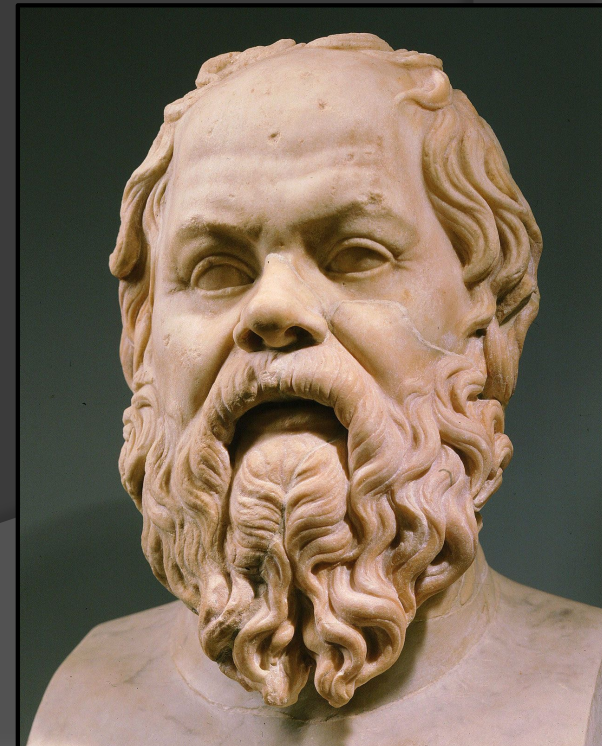


THEN AND NOW



Bad Times Today?

- *“The children now love luxury; they have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love chatter in place of exercise. Children are now tyrants ... They contradict their parents, ... and tyrannize their teachers.”*
- Socrates 400 B.C.



Bad Times Today?

- *“That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which it may be said, ‘See, this is new’? It has already been in ancient times before us.”*
- Solomon 950 B.C.
Eccl. 1:9-10



Can we learn from history?

- *“History doesn’t repeat itself, but it often rhymes.”* Samuel Clements (Mark Twain)
- *“Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it”* Winston Churchill, George Santaya
- *“Life is divided into three terms – that which was, which is, and which will be. Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present, to live better in the future”* William Woodsworth

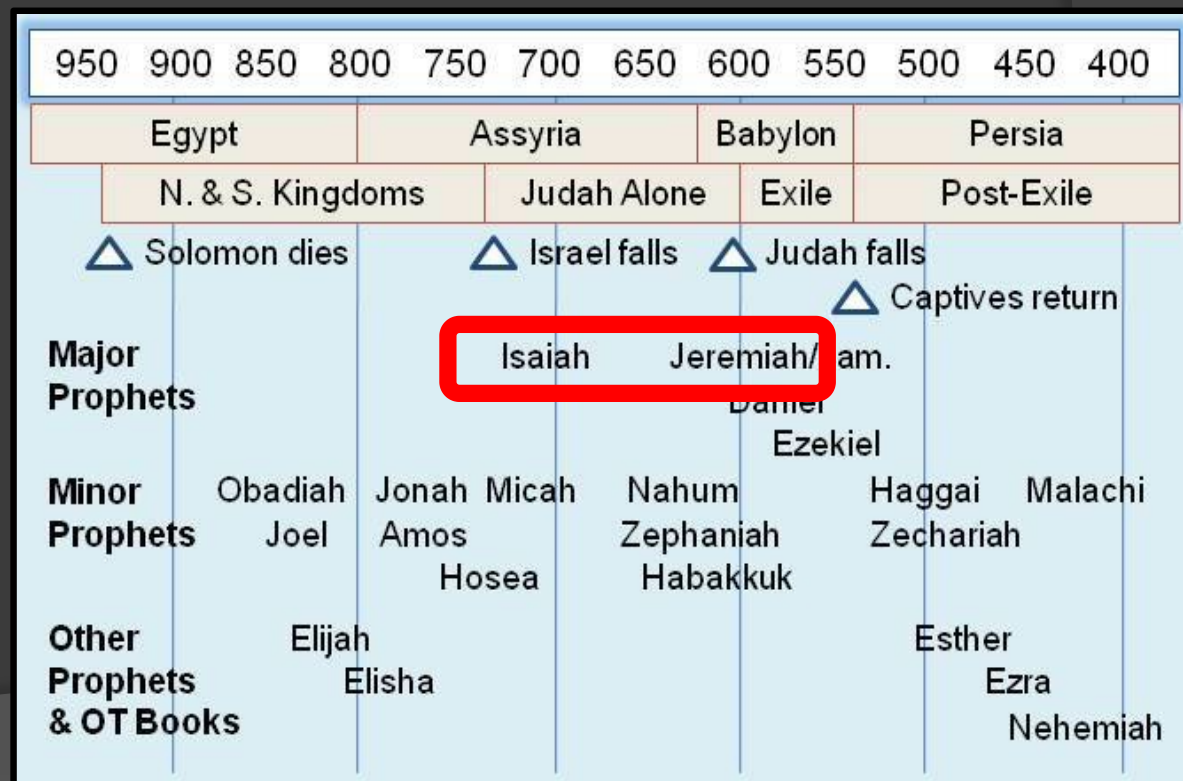
Can we learn from history?

◎ 1 Cor. 10:1-11

- “1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ... 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased ... 6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ... 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”

Historical Setting

- God's "chosen people" – 2000 B.C.
 - Cycles of faithfulness and apostasy
- Isaiah – 700 B.C.
 - Sent to prophesy against unfaithful Israel (before their fall to Assyria) and Judah
- Jeremiah – 600 B.C.
 - Sent to prophesy against unfaithful Judah (before their fall to Babylon)



Charges Against Israel by Isaiah

- Lack knowledge (of God and His word) – Isa. 5:13; 17:10; 43:21-24 56:10
- Lovers of pleasure, alcohol – Isa. 47:8; 5:22; 28:7
- Wise in own eyes - Isa. 3:8; 5:21; 65:2
- Rulers lead people astray, injustice toward guilty and innocent – Isa. 5:23; 9:16
- Rebellious, proclaim their sin like Sodom, they do not hide it – Isa. 3:9
- Call evil good and good evil - Isa. 5:20; 32:8
- Run to evil & shed blood – Isa. 9:17; 59:7

Charges Against Judah by Jeremiah

More of the same...

- Spoken falsely that God will do nothing – Jer. 5:12; 23:17
- Forsaken God to worship idols – Jer. 1:16; 4:22; 26:4
- Walk in own counsel - Jer. 7:24, 26; 8:8; 11:8
- Unrestrained, rebellious, unashamed to commit abominations - Jer. 3:13,25; 5:23-24; 6:15,28; 7:9-10; 14:10
- Deceivers, slanderers, speak falsehood – Jer. 9:3-5

Then and Now...

- ⊙ Lack of knowledge about God & His word
 - Religious denominations
 - Judeo-Christian ethics
 - Public school prayer
- ⊙ Lovers of pleasure – modern “idolatry” Col. 3:5
 - Materialism
 - Entertainment
 - Alcohol, drugs
 - Pornography



Then and Now...

- ◎ Wise in own eyes
 - Evolution
 - Humanism
 - Situation ethics
 - Liberalism
- ◎ Rulers lead astray
 - No-fault divorce
 - Gay marriage
 - Legalization of drugs, gambling
 - Political corruption

BE NOT WISE IN YOUR
OWN EYES; FEAR THE LORD
AND TURN AWAY FROM
EVIL.

- *PROVERBS 3:7*



Then and Now...

- ◎ Proclaim sin like Sodom, calling evil good
 - “Pro-choice”
 - “Pride” month
 - “Gender affirming care”
- ◎ Calling good evil, slander
 - Racist, sexist, fascist, homophobic, transphobic
 - Concerned parents
“domestic terrorists”
- ◎ Run to evil & shed blood
 - Riots, arson, looting
 - Abortion



As a Result

◎ Isa. 13:9-13

- *Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it.*

◎ Northern nation of Israel destroyed 720 B.C.

- Taken captive by Assyria and scattered, never to return

◎ Southern nation of Judah destroyed 587 B.C.

- Along with Jerusalem and the temple
- Taken captive by Babylon for at least 70 years



Lessons - God's mercy

- ◎ After repeated attempts to reach out to them
 - 6 *"...the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, ..."* Ex. 34:6-7
 - *"I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?"* Ezek. 33:11
 - *"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!"* Matt. 23:37

Lessons – Salvation via the Messiah

◎ Isa 7:14

- *14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.*

◎ Isa 9:6-7

- *6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of [His] government and peace [There will be] no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever.*

Lessons - Salvation via the Messiah

◎ Jer. 31:33-34

- *33 "But this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*
- Heb. 8-10
 - Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant

Lessons - God can deal with nations

◎ Jer. 18:7-10

- *7 "The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy [it], 8 "if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it. 9 "And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant [it], 10 "if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.*

◎ Prov. 14:34

- *Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.*

Lessons – Not lamenting the past

● Eccl. 7:10

- *Do not say, “Why were the former days better than these?” For you do not inquire wisely concerning this.*



Conclusion – Be faithful regardless

◎ Matt. 5:14

- *You are the light of the world....*

◎ Phil. 2:14-15

- *Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,*

MinTools.com

**You are the light
of the world ...**

**let your light shine
before others that
they may see your
good deeds
and glorify
your Father
in heaven.**



Matt. 5:14-16

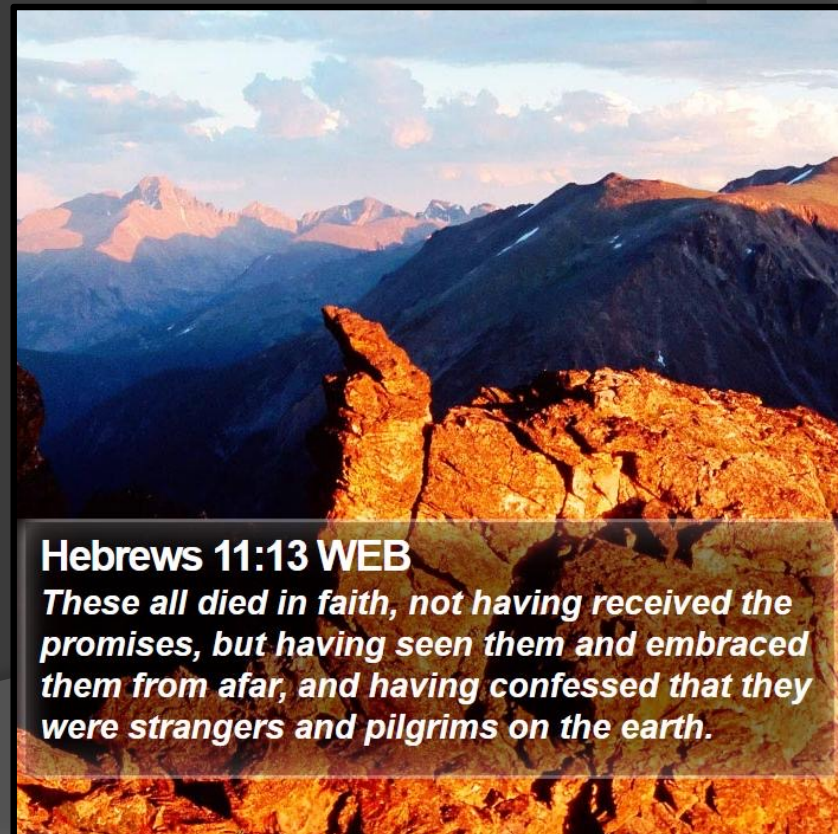
Conclusion – Be faithful regardless

◎ 1 Pet. 2:11-12

- *Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, ...*

◎ Gal. 6:9; 2 Thes. 3:13

- *And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*



Hebrews 11:13 WEB

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them and embraced them from afar, and having confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

