## ZEPHANIAH

- **Big Idea:** Zephaniah forces us to hold two aspects of God's character at once—His justice and His love—to see that together they contain the future hope for our world.
- Jesus in Zephaniah: The Forgiving God Among Us

## • HAGGAI

- **Big Idea:** Our choices matter, and God has chosen to work out His purposes through the faithfulness and obedience of His people. This reality invites reflection and humility and prompts action rooted in the hope of God's coming Kingdom.
- Jesus in Haggai: The Glory of the Second Temple

# • ZECHARIAH

- **Big Idea:** Zechariah invites us to look above the chaos and hope for God's Kingdom to come, motivating faithfulness in the present moment. That's the challenge Zechariah offers to all generations of God's people.
- Jesus in Zechariah: The Branch & Breaker of Mt. Olivet

# MALACHI

- Big Idea: Malachi's oracles are an indictment of the human condition and Israel's selfishness and sin. This book reiterates God's promise that He will one day send a Messenger and personally confront evil, restore His people, and bring His healing justice.
- Jesus in Malachi: The Messenger, the Refiner's Fire

# **BIG PICTURE CLASS - BIBLE OVERVIEW**

# The Prophets - "Nevi'im"

# • JOSHUA

- **Big Idea:** Israel enters the land of Canaan, fulfilling God's promise to Abraham, and Joshua instructs Israel to live according to the covenant.
- Jesus in Joshua: Our Great Captain, our Land of Rest

## JUDGES

- **Big Idea:** The book of Judges explores humanity's tendency to trust themselves over God and do what is right in their own eyes. This habit highlights humanity's need for God's grace and a future King who will rescue people from their selfcenteredness.
- Jesus in Judges: The One True Judge, our Savior

# • 1 & 2 SAMUEL

- **Big Idea:** Despite Saul and David's evil, God has been at work, carrying out His purposes. The hope for a future Messiah reaches beyond David, who will bring God's Kingdom and blessing to all nations.
- Jesus in Samuel: The Root of Jesse, the Son of David
- 1 & 2 KINGS
  - **Big Idea:** Israel's prophets labor to turn people from idolatry and injustice, but the people refuse. God allows them to face the consequences of their decisions, and despite Israel's exile, a hopeful remnant suggests that God has not abandoned His promise to David.
  - Jesus in Kings: The Heir to Solomon's throne, the Righteous King
- ISAIAH
  - **Big Idea:** God's acts of justice do not mean He is abandoning His covenant promises. He will renew creation and establish His Kingdom here on Earth as it is in Heaven.
  - Jesus in Isaiah: The Suffering Servant, the New-Covenant God

#### • JEREMIAH

- **Big Idea:** God has not abandoned His people or His promise to provide a future king from David's line. The book of Jeremiah gives a sober evaluation of Israel's past with a hopeful glance into their future.
- Jesus in Jeremiah: The Weeping Prophet, the Fountain of Living Water

## • EZEKIEL

- Big Idea: Out of the darkness of humanity's evil emerges a future full of hope. There will be restored humans in a new world animated by God's life-giving Spirit and permeated with God's love and justice.
- Jesus in Ezekiel: The Cleansing Priest

## • THE BOOK OF THE TWELVE

#### HOSEA

- **Big Idea:** While God brings just judgment against human evil, He does not intend to harm. Hosea's message to future generations is that God's love is unbreakable and His ultimate purpose is to heal and save.
- Jesus in Hosea: The Faithful Husband, the Redeemer
- JOEL
  - **Big Idea:** God longs to show mercy to Israel if they admit and confess their sin. One day, God will defeat evil, both in our world and inside ourselves, bringing His healing presence to make all things new.
  - Jesus in Joel: The Savior & Giver of the Holy Spirit

#### AMOS

- **Big Idea:** Though God confronts humanity's evil, His longterm purpose is to restore creation and create a new family. Amos' words are a call to embrace the true worship of God that should always include acts of justice, righteousness, and love for one's neighbor.
- Jesus in Amos: The Righteous Judge Yahweh

## OBADIAH

- **Big Idea:** The pride and betrayal of the people of Edom become an example of the human condition and the ways in which people betray one another and harm God's good world. God will deal with the evil in our world and bring all nations into His Kingdom of peace.
- Jesus in Obadiah: The King of Victorious Israel

# • JONAH

- **Big Idea:** God's kindness and mercy extend to Jonah's enemies, the Ninevites. Ultimately, God's invitation is for Jonah to love his enemy as God does.
- Jesus in Jonah: The Forgiving God & Obedient Prophet
- MICAH
  - **Big Idea:** God's judgment can be a source of hope because His covenant love and promises are more powerful than human evil. God's ultimate purpose is not to destroy but to save and redeem.
  - . Jesus in Micah: The Ruler from Bethlehem & Sin-Caster
- NAHUM
  - **Big Idea:** God grieves over death, but His goodness and justice compel Him to orchestrate the downfall of oppressive, destructive nations. The book invites readers to humble themselves before God and trust that He will confront every oppressor.
  - Jesus in Nahum: The World-Reigning King & Peacemaker

## • HABAKKUK

- Big Idea: Habakkuk sees the darkness of the world as an invitation to have faith in God's promise to one day set things right. Living with such faith means trusting that God loves this world and works to one day eradicate all evil forever.
- Jesus in Habakkuk: The Anointed Crusher of Evil's Head