

## Lesson Twenty-One: The Babylonian Captivity - Daniel 1 - 6

- 1. What did Nebuchadnezzar do? What did the Lord do? 1:1-2 Who were among the captives? 1:6-7 besieged Jerusalem; gave him king & vessels; Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah**
  - 2. What did Daniel purpose? 1:8. What happened to them? 1:17-21  
*not defile himself; God gave skill in literature & wisdom, Daniel understood visions & dreams***
  - 3. When God revealed the king's dream, what did Daniel say? 2:19-23 What did Daniel say to the king? 2:26-30  
*Blessed be the all knowing God; God has revealed to you the future***
  - 4. Tell the dream. 2:31-35. Tell the interpretation. 2:36-45  
*figure in metals; nation will succeed nation until God sends His ruler***
  - 5. What problem did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego face? 3:8-15 What happened to them? 3:16-30  
*refused image worship; cast into fiery furnace***
  - 6. Tell the king's dream. 4:4,5,10-18. Give the interpretation. 4:19-27  
*great tree cut down; Nebuchadnezzar brought low until realize God is ruler of all***
  - 7. What happened to the king? 4:28-33. What was the king to learn? 4:32  
*lived as wild animal until learned God rules in the kingdom of men & gives to who he wants***
  - 8. What was Belshazzar doing? 5:1-4. Then what happened? 5:5,6  
*feasting with vessels from temple; fingers wrote on wall - Mene, Mene, Tekel, & Parsin***
  - 9. What did Daniel say to the king? 5:17-24. Give the interpretation. 5:25-28  
*lifted self against God; God takes kingdom, weighed but found wanting, given to Persians***
  - 10. What happened that night? 5:30,31. What did Darius do? 6:1-3  
*killed, Darius made king; gave Daniel position of authority***
  - 11. What law did the presidents & princes persuade the king to make? 6:4-9 What did Daniel do? 6:10  
*petition only king for 30 days; continued to pray to God as always***
  - 12. Then what was done? 6:11-15. What happened to Daniel? 6:16-23  
*Daniel turned in by enemies; cast in to lions den***
  - 13. What was done next? 6:24 Summarize the king's writing. 6:25-27  
*Daniel's enemies & all they had cast into lion's den; God Rules, God saves his own***
  - 14. Lessons For Today:**
    - A. Note: Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego were taken captive in the first siege against Jerusalem (606 BC) 2Kgs. 24:1-7; Dan. 1:1,2**
    - B. List things God did in Dan. 1-6.**
- Visions of chapter 7&8 during reign of Belshazzar (Chapter 5)***
- C. What lessons may we learn from Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?  
*God cares for those that devote themselves to him***
  - D. What power does God have over nations? What did the Lord say to Pharaoh in Ex. 9:16? Read what Isaiah said about Babylon. Isa. 13:1,17-22  
*All;  
But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth. Ex 9:16***
  - E. Name the four kingdoms represented in the king's dream. Dan. 2:36-43 When was Dan. 2:44,45 fulfilled?  
*Babylonian; Medes & Persians; Greek; Roman; When Christ became King of all - Eph 1:20-23***

## Lesson Twenty-Two: The Restoration (Part One) - Ezra 1 - 6

1. Review: An overview of Old Testament history up to our present study.
2. **Whose word was about to be fulfilled? What did the Lord stir up? When did these things happen? 1:1 Lord thru Jeremiah; spirit of Cyrus; 1st year of reign (vision of Daniel 10 in 3<sup>rd</sup> year)**
3. What proclamation did Cyrus make? 1:1-4. Who rose up? 1:5,6  
*rebuild the temple; fathers of Judah & Benjamin, priests, Levites & others*
4. What was given to those who desired to go build the house of Lord? 1:6-11  
*see verses*
5. What is given in 2:1-60? 2:1,2. How many were in this group? 2:64,65  
*those who returned; 42,360 + 7,337 servants & 200 singers*
6. What did they do first? 3:1-6. After laying the foundations, what did they do? 3:1-11. How did the people react to this? 3:12,13  
*built altar; priests praised God; shouted for joy - wept in sorrow*
7. How was their work hindered? 4:1-7. What resulted? 4:17-24  
*those near discouraged - bribed counselors; king decreed work to stop*
8. Name the prophets in 5:1. What did they do? 5:1. Then what happened? 5:2  
*Haggai & Zechariah; prophesied; Zerubbabel & Jeshua began building again, others followed*
9. Why could other men not make them stop the work? 5:5. When a letter was written to the king (5:6-17), what did the king do? 5:17-6:2  
*God was watching; search was made for decree of Cyrus*
10. After reading Cyrus' decree, what did the king say? 6:6-12 Did the men obey the king's decree? 6:13  
*Let them work, in fact you pay for it; yes*
11. The building of the temple prospered through what? 6:14. By whose commandment was the temple built? 6:14  
*prophesying of Haggai & Zechariah; God, Cyrus, Darius, Artaxerxes*
12. What was offered at the dedication of the temple? 6:16,17. What did they set in their divisions and courses? 6:18  
*see verses*
13. What feast was kept? Who kept this feast? What is the feast called? 6:19-22  
*passover; returned exiles & those who joined in cleansing themselves; of Unleavened Bread*
14. Lessons For Today:
  - A. Ezra 1:1 tells of a prophecy by Jeremiah, find the prophecy. Who was the leader of those who went back to rebuild the temple? 2:1,2 Zerubbabel  
***For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. Jer 29:10***
  - B. What encouragement did the Jews have in doing their work? 5:1-5 List some things which encourage us in our work?  
*prophets & elders, God*
  - C. Was the temple rebuilt without hindrances? List some New Testament examples of things which hindered the work of the Lord.  
*no; Saul, Jews, Romans*
  - D. **The first siege against Jerusalem was about 606 BC. The return under Zerubbabel took place about 536 BC. Which harmonizes with Daniel 9:1,2. (about 70 years of time)**

## Lesson Twenty-Three: The Restoration (Part Two) - Haggai 1 - 2

### 1. Give the date. Who was king? What came? By whom? To whom? 1:1

**1st day 6th month 2nd year of King Darius; Word of Lord by Haggai to Zerubbabel (in Judah)**

### 2. What did the Lord say? 1:2. What question did Haggai ask? 1:3,4

*People say, time has not yet come to rebuild temple; you dwell in fine house, but temple is still in ruins*

### 3. What were they to do? Why? 1:5,6. What were they to do next? 1:7,8

*consider ways; sewn much harvested little, eat but never full, clothed but cold; Build temple*

### 4. What would the Lord do? 1:8. What had they looked for? 1:9. Why had they not received what they looked for? 1:9-11

*take pleasure & be glorified; much; God cursed them because temple not built*

### 5. Then what happened? 1:12. Give Haggai's next words. 1:13

*They obeyed God; I am with you declares the Lord*

### 6. What did the Lord do? What resulted? 1:14. Give the date. 1:15

*stirred up spirit of Zerubbabel, Joshua, remnant; worked on the temple; 24th day 6th month 2nd year of King Darius*

### 7. Give the date. 2:1. What came? By whom? To whom? 2:1,2

**21st day 7th month 2nd year of Darius; word of the Lord by Haggai to Zerubbabel**

### 8. Summarize the next prophecy. 2:3-9

*It looks small, but Glory to come will be greater than Glory before*

### 9. Give the date. 2:10. What came? By whom? 2:10

**24th day 9th month 2nd year of King Darius; Word of the Lord; Haggai**

### 10. What were the priests ask? Give the priest's answer. 2:11,12

*Does holy make plain holy? no*

### 11. Give the next question. Give the answer. 2:13

*Does unclean make clean unclean? yes*

### 12. What conclusion did Haggai reach? 2:14. What were they to do? 2:15-19

*Your work is unclean because you are unclean; Consider God's blessings*

### 13. Give the date. 2:20. What was Haggai to tell Zerubbabel? 2:21-23

**24th day 9th month 2nd year of King Darius; Nations shall fall, you will be important**

### 14. Lessons For Today:

#### A. Name the prophet in this book. Define: prophet. Ex. 4:14-16; 7:1 In speaking for the Lord, a prophet did two things. What were they?

*Haggai; to bubble forth as from a fountain; Taught - Foretold*

#### B. What other prophet spoke to these people? What did he say? Zech. 1:1-6

*return to the Lord, lest he forsake you as he did your fathers*

#### C. How did the people view the present house? (2:3). What did God promise in Haggai 2:7-9? What may we learn from this?

*As nothing; Will fill this house with glory; God matters, not his house*

#### D. What were the people doing? How did God encourage the people to do what he wanted them to do?

What may we learn from this?

*Working for self; promised blessings if worked for him*

#### E. Could this same condition exist among God's people today? If your answer is "Yes," tell how the problem might manifest itself. What other lesson(s) do you see in the book of Haggai?

*Yes; working to raise family, earn living, retirement rather than working for God*

## Lesson Twenty-Four: The Restoration (Part Three) - Esther 1 - 10

- 1. Who was king? Over what did he reign? 1:1 Tell of the king's request and Queen Vashti's refusal. 1:3-12**  
*Ahasuerus; India to Ethiopia; ask her to parade her body before the drunken crowd, she refused*
- 2. What happened to Vashti? 1:19-21. Who became Queen? 2:15-17**  
*Banished from presence of King; Esther the Jew*
- 3. How did Esther treat Mordecai? 2:20. Who saved the king? How? 2:21-23**  
*Obedied as a daughter to father; Mordecai; overheard a plot between two guards, told Esther, who told king*
- 4. Who plotted against the Jews? Why? 3:1-15. What plan was made to save the Jews? 4:4-17**  
*Haman; Mordecai would not bow down to him; Esther speak to king on behalf of Jews*
- 5. Did Esther find favor before the king? 5:1,2. Then what happened? 5:3-8**  
*Yes, requested that king & Haman come to her feast*
- 6. What happened that night? 6:1-3. Then what happened? 6:4-14**  
*Sleepless King read of Mordecai saving him, wanted to honor him; Asked Haman how to honor such a man, Haman thought king wanted to honor him, suggested lead him on horse in king's robes & crown proclaiming honor, king instructed Haman to treat Mordecai such*
- 7. What happened at the banquet? 7:1-6. What was done with Haman? 7:7-10**  
*Esther revealed Haman's plot & king was furious; hung on gallows built to hang Mordecai*
- 8. What happened next? 8:1,2. Then what was done? 8:3-14 What resulted? 8:15-17**  
*king gave Esther Haman's house, gave signet ring to Mordecai, Esther set Mordecai over Haman's house; Esther reminded king of Haman's evil plot, King gave Esther authority to write counter law; Law was written & distributed via king's swift horses, allowing Jews to destroy any people who attacked them & plunder their goods*
- 9. Did the Jews defeat their enemies? 9:1-11. What feast was begun? 9:19-32**  
*yes; Purim*
- 10. What position did Mordecai hold? Did his people accept him? What did he do for his people? 10:1-3**  
*Second in rank from king; yes; sought their welfare & peace*
- 11. Lessons For Today:**
  - A. Find the date of Ahasuerus' third year (1:3). (See a Bible Dictionary, Commentary, or Encyclopedia).**  
**Was the king justified in what he asked Vashti to do? Why?**  
*Barnes – 483 BC; Xerxes of Grecian history; no; Pride & self-worth prompted the action*
  - B. How did Vashti suffer for doing right? What does Mt. 5:10-12 teach? What lessons may we learn from the life of Mordecai?**  
*Lost her position as queen; Those persecuted for righteousness will prevail; blessed for serving God*
  - C. What lessons may we learn from the life of Esther? Why would Mordecai refuse to bow down to Haman? 3:1,2**  
*accepted duty though exalted by men; could be seen as sign of worship*
  - D. What lessons can be learned from Haman? What would have happened if Haman had succeeded in killing all the Jews?**  
*Arrogance & hatred will destroy; God's plans would have been ended*
  - E. Did Mordecai want Esther to do something she thought she could not do? List some things Christians might be challenged to do?**  
*Yes; teach, stand against unjust laws*
  - F. Was the hanging of Haman just? List some actions for which men were put to death under the Law of Moses. What about capital punishment? Gen. 9:6; Rom. 13:1-7; Acts 25:11**  
*yes; see sheet from JB; yes*

## Lesson Twenty-Five: The Restoration (Part Four) - Ezra 7 - 10

1. Review: People whom we have studied, whose faith led them to obey god.
2. **Who was king? 7:1. From whom did Ezra descend? 7:5. What did Ezra do? 7:6**  
**Artaxerxes; Aaron; went from Babylon to Jerusalem**
3. What had Ezra prepared his heart to do? 7:10. Who helped Ezra? How? 7:12-26  
*Study the Law of the Lord, Do It & Teach it to Israel; King; money, vessels, authority*
4. What is given in 8:1-20? 8:1. What took place at the River Ahava? 8:21-23  
*those who went with Ezra; fasting & prayer that God would help them*
5. What was done with the silver, gold and vessels? 8:24-35. How did the king's letter help them when they got to the land of Israel? 8:36  
*given to priests to take to Jerusalem; brought aid from king's servants nearby*
6. What did the princes tell Ezra? 9:1,2. How did Ezra react? 9:3  
*Levites had married foreign women; tore clothes, pulled hair out, sat appalled*
7. Who assembled to Ezra? Why? 9:4. Summarize Ezra's prayer  
*all who feared God because of sin; We're wicked, you bless us, we are more wicked*
8. Who assembled to Ezra? 10:1. What was said to Ezra? 10:2  
*great assembly from Israel; they wept bitterly; we broke faith with God, but can return*
9. Then what was said? 10:3. What encouragement was given to Ezra? 10:4  
*covenant to put away foreign wives & children; we are with you*
10. What did Ezra do? 10:5. What else did he do? 10:6  
*withdrew from temple, fasted, mourned Israel's wickedness*
11. What did Ezra tell the people? 10:9-11. How did the people answer? 10:12-14  
*You have broken faith, confess & do God's will; We will, but give us time*
12. How long did it take to finish the matter? 10:15-17. What group is mentioned in 10:18 as having married strange wives?  
*Two months; sons of the priests*
13. What did the priests agree to do? 10:19. Were they guilty? 10:19  
*put away wives offer ram; yes*
14. What did they offer? Why? 10:19. What did the people listed in 10:20-44 have in common? 10:44  
*ram of flock; for their guilt; married foreign women*
15. Did some of the men have children by the strange wives? 10:44.  
*yes*
16. Lessons For Today:
  - A. **See if you can find the date of Ezra's return from exile (captivity). (Note: Check a Bible Dictionary, Commentary, or Encyclopedia)**  
**about 458 BC**
  - B. What two positions did Ezra have? 7:1-6  
*Priest & Scribe*
  - C. Ezra prepared his heart to do three things. How might he have prepared his heart to do those three things.  
*Prayer, study, desire*
  - D. List the three things he prepared his heart to do. 7:10  
*Study the Law, Do the Law, Teach the Law*
  - E. Should we prepare our hearts and do those three things? If so, how?  
*Yes; prayer, study, desire*
  - F. Define: Guilt (9:19)  
*'âshêm – aw-shame' - guilty; hence presenting a sin offering: - one which is faulty, guilty.*
  - G. When did they become guilty?  
*When they married foreign women*

**H.** How long were they guilty?

*Until they put them away*

**I.** Did the men who married strange women have to put anyone away? 10:3

*yes*

**J.** What standard did they use in solving this problem? 10:3

*Law given by God through Moses*

**K.** Define: "Put Away." (10:3)

*yâtsâ' - yaw-tsaw' - A primitive root; to go (causatively bring) out, in a great variety of applications, literally and figuratively, direct and proximate: - X after, appear, X assuredly, bear out, X begotten, break out, bring forth (out, up), carry out, come (abroad, out, thereat, without), + be condemned, depart (-ing, -ure), draw forth, in the end, escape, exact, fail, fall (out), fetch forth (out), get away (forth, hence, out), (able to, cause to, let) go abroad (forth, on, out), going out, grow, have forth (out), issue out, lay (lie) out, lead out, pluck out, proceed, pull out, put away, be risen, X scarce, send with commandment, shoot forth, spread, spring out, stand out, X still, X surely, take forth (out), at any time, X to [and fro], utter.*

**L.** What hardships may have been brought about by putting strange wives and their children away?

*Women & children would need support; children would not have father*

**M.** What other lesson(s) do you see in Ezra 7-10?

## Lesson Twenty-Six: The Restoration (Part Five) - Nehemiah 1 - 6

**1. Why did Nehemiah weep, mourn, fast, and pray to the God of Heaven? 1:1-4**  
*remnant in trouble, walls of Jerusalem broken & gates destroyed*

**2.** Summarize Nehemiah's prayer. 1:5-11

*Great God, we sinned, you dispersed, we've come back, help me when I talk with king*

**3.** Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king, what did the king ask him? 2:1-2  
*why are you sad in heart*

**4.** Give Nehemiah's answer. 2:3

*My city is in ruins, gates destroyed by fire*

**5.** When the king asked what he wanted, what did Nehemiah say? 2:4-5  
*send me to Judah so that I may rebuild my city*

**6.** What did the king do to help Nehemiah? 2:6-11  
*letters of authority, army officers & horsemen*

**7.** What did Nehemiah do during the night? 2:12-16  
*inspected gates & walls*

**8.** What did Nehemiah say to the people? 2:17-18  
*let us build the wall of Jerusalem*

**9.** What did the people do? 2:18

*Let us rise up and build, prepared for the work*

**10.** Tell about the encounter with their enemies? 2:19-20  
*accused of rebelling against King; God will help us*

**11.** Nehemiah 3:1-32 is Nehemiah's record of what activity?  
*Who repaired what part of wall & gates*

**12.** The Jews had enemies, yet the work went on. Why did it go on? 4:1-6  
*the people had a mind to work*

**13.** How did the Jews protect themselves from their enemies? 4:7-23  
*one half worked while other half stood guard, slept inside walls, kept weapons close*

**14.** What new problem arose? 5:1-5  
*taxes were wearing them down*

**15.** What did Nehemiah do? 5:6-11,13  
*rebuked leaders for placing heavy burden on remnant, ended the taxing*

**16.** What did the nobles and rulers say? 5:12  
*we will restore and require nothing from them*

**17.** What did the enemies want Nehemiah to do? 6:1-2  
*come down and talk*

**18.** How did the enemies react when the wall was finished? 6:15-16.  
*were afraid, lost some of their esteem*

**19.** Lessons For Today:

**A. See if you can find the date of Nehemiah's return.**

**445 BC**

**B.** Why was Judah in the condition described in Nehemiah 1:3? (See Haggai)  
*They were not focusing on God's Work*

**C.** What in Nehemiah 1:1-11 shows Nehemiah's knowledge of the Law of Moses?  
*He speaks of them not keeping the commandments of Moses, God's promise to scatter*

**D.** How did Nehemiah motivate the people to rebuild the walls? 2:17-20  
*Looks, God was with him, King authorized*

**E.** What should motivate us to be active members of this congregation?  
*God with us in our work*

- F.** List the internal problems Nehemiah and the Jews faced and tell what they did about them.  
*can't do it alone, other Jews discouraged them. Nehemiah encouraged them, gave plan*
- G.** List the external problems Nehemiah and the Jews faced and tell what they did about them.  
*nearby nations derided, fought against. Nehemiah ignored, worked with weapons near*
- H.** List some things which contributed to the rebuilding of the walls.  
*encouragement, togetherness, internal competition???*
- I.** How can God's people get more done for the Lord today?  
*Work together, encourage one another, ignore &/or prepare for external forces*
- J.** What qualities in Nehemiah made him a good leader?  
*Trusted in God*



## Lesson Twenty-Seven: The Restoration (Part Six) - Malachi 1 - 4

1. Review: The promises (prophecies) which we have studied that look to the coming of Christ and His Kingdom.
2. Whom had the Lord loved and whom had he hated? 1:1-5 (See Romans 9:10-13)  
*loved Jacob - hated Esau*  
*Romans 9:10-13 And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, 11 though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad--in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls--12 she was told, "The older will serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."*
3. How had the people despised the name of Jehovah? 1:6-8  
*offered blind, lame, & sick for sacrifice*
4. What is the meaning of 1:9-10  
*they needed someone to stop them from offering tainted sacrifice; not pleased with offering*
5. God's name would be great among whom? 1:11  
*the nations*
6. How had the Jews treated the Lord's service? 1:12-14  
*as a means to get rid of their blemished stock; only offered in name, not action*
7. How had the priests violated the covenant God made with Levi? 2:1-10  
*failed to instruct according to God's covenant with people; taught falsely for own gain*
8. How had Judah treated Lord and His altar? 2:11-13  
*idols gods instead of the Lord; weep to God for troubles but not serving Him*
9. What did God hate? 2:14-16  
*faithlessness in marriage*
10. How had they wearied the Lord? 2:17 (Note: Connect 2:17 with chapter 3)  
*delighted in evil & called it good*
11. Describe God's messenger and tell what he would do. 3:1-3  
*a messenger of the covenant; will remove impurities & bring about righteous action of people*
12. What would be the result? Why? 3:4-6  
*Their worship will be accepted; the wicked will be judged & punished*
13. On what condition would God return to them? 3:7  
*If they return to Him*
14. Tell how they robbed God and what would happen if they tithed? 3:8-12  
*by not returning to Him as appointed; blessing till there is no more need*
15. What would God do for those who feared his name and spoke of him? 3:16-18  
*give attention & take as his own, he would spare them*
16. Describe the "day" of which Malachi spoke. 4:1  
*a day of reckoning, cleansing b fire*
17. What would happen to others? 4:2-4  
*be exalted & overcome the wicked*
18. Whom would God send and what would he do? 4:5-6  
*Elijah - turn men to the Lord*
19. Lessons For Today:
  - A. **See if you can find the date of Malachi's prophecy.**  
**420 BC Jamison, Faussett, Brown**
  - B. "I loved Jacob, and I hated Esau..." was said of Jacob and Esau or their Descendants? 1:2-3 (Rom. 9:10-13)  
*descendants*
  - C. How had people treated God?  
*disrespect, as just an old legend followed by parents*

**D.** How had God treated them?

*ignored & punished them for their wickedness*

**E.** Define: "putting away." Malachi 2:16

*H7971 sha lach shaw-lakh' A primitive root; to send away, for, or out (in a great variety of applications): - X any wise, appoint, bring (on the way), cast (away, out), conduct, X earnestly, forsake, give (up), grow long, lay, leave, let depart (down, go, loose), push away, put (away, forth, in, out), reach forth, send (away, forth, out), set, shoot (forth, out), sow, spread, stretch forth (out).*

**F.** Why did God hate "putting away"? Malachi 2:16 (Genesis 2:22-25)

*separated what God had joined*

*Genesis 2:22-25 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

**G.** Two messengers are spoken of in Malachi 3:1, who were they?

*John & Jesus - John would prepare the way, Jesus was messenger of Covenant*

**H.** What kind of healing is spoken of in Malachi 4:2?

*Spiritual healing of the rift between God & Man*

**I.** Who was Elijah of whom Malachi spoke in 4:5,6? (Mt. 11:11-14; 17:10-13)

*John the Immerser*

*Matthew 11:11-14 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, 14 and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. Matthew 17:10-13 And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" 11 He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. 12 But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands." 13 Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.*

**J.** Upon what condition will God return to man? Malachi 3:7

*Malachi 3:7 From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'*