Lecture 16 – Eighth Century Prophets to Judah

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” Micah 5:2

Key Terms
Covenant, mediator, servant, redeemer

Objectives
To evaluate the covenant role of the prophets to Judah

Eighth Century Prophets to Judah

I. Micah

   A. His covenantal framework
      1. Emphasis on controversy/lawsuit (Micah 1:2)
      2. Does the concept of lawsuit contradict the sovereignty of Yahweh?

   B. Elements of covenant in Micah
      1. Witnesses (Micah 1:2)
      2. Stipulations (Micah 6:6-8)
      3. Curse (Micah 1:3-6, 5:6-15; 6:9-16)
      4. Stipulations broken (Micah 2:1-11, 3:1-12)
      5. Continuity (Micah 2:12, 13)
      6. Goal: Peace (Micah 4:1-5)
      7. Blessings (Micah 4:6-13)
      8. Davidic mediator (Micah 5:1-5)
      9. Judgment’s misery (Micah 7:1-6)
     10. Eschatological certainty (Micah 7:7-17)
     11. Character of Yahweh – historical resume (Micah 7:18-19)

II. Isaiah: Unified Book, Two Main Historical Periods

   A. Kingdom oriented
      1. Isaiah of royal family
      2. Davidic kingdom (Isaiah 7:9; 55)
      3. Eternal kingdom (Isaiah 11; 35; 62-66)
      4. Character attributes of covenant-making-and-keeping God

   B. Covenant aspects
      1. The legal relationship (Isaiah 1; 50:1; 54:6)
      2. The role of the Davidic house (Isaiah 7; 9; 55)
      3. Agent of the covenant (Isaiah 42:6, 49:8)
      4. Continuity of the covenant (Isaiah 55:3)
      5. Sign of the covenant: Sabbath (Isaiah 56:4, 6) and Spirit (Isaiah 59:21; 61:1-3)
      6. Consummation: Peace (Isaiah 61:8)

   C. Mediator of the covenant
      1. Davidic house (Isaiah 7-9)
      2. Branch (Isaiah 11)
      3. Servant
         a. Individual and collective (Isaiah 40-52)
         b. Royal (Isaiah 52:13)
         c. Priestly suffering (Isaiah 52:14-53:12)