

- He fires them with the message 'I am about to shake the nations' (Hag 2:6-7), kingdoms would be overthrown.
- The personal message to Zerubbabel (2:20-23)
- But he was actually quite successful! (1:14-15)
- The temple was finished with much rejoicing (Ezra 6:13-18)

### **But more disappointment would follow**

- Life's elusive goals and our contentment. "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world." (C.S. Lewis)
- The older people remembered the former temple and were disappointed with the new one (Ezra 3:12; Hag 2:3)
- The throne of David was not re-established, the Shekinah glory did not return.
- There was no lasting peace.

### **Future fulfilment**

- The shaking of the nations. (Haggai 2:6; Hebrews 12:28-29; Matthew 24:29)
- The Temple and its greater glory (John 2:19; Eph 2:16-22; Matt 16:18; 1 Cor 3:10-17)
- Zerubbabel (Haggai 2:21-23; Matthew 1:12 & Luke 3:27) as in the promise to Abraham in Genesis 18:18 'Abraham shall become a great nation and nations of the earth blessed through him'

### **Zechariah**

- A priest and a contemporary of Haggai (Neh 12:4)
- Apocalyptic visions
- Prophecies of greatness for Zion (1:17; 2:1-5); Gentiles (2:11; 8:22; , Zerubbabel (4:1-6; 10-14; 6:9-15)
- The seven visions
- The most 'messianic' of the prophets.
- Main theme: encouragement because of glorious future.
- The universal worship of the king (14:16-19)
- The Trinity in Zechariah 14:9 Hebrew word '*echad*' for 'one'

### **Malachi**

- No mention of people, places or dates 'my messenger' but contemporary of Nehemiah
- Many similarities between Malachi's message and Nehemiah's reforms
- Priests, Sabbath, tithes, divorce, exploiting the weak, cheating employees, lines separating Jews from pagans being blurred.
- A series of rhetorical questions. 'Yet you say – how do we say'
- His message resonates with a few, 'the faithful remnant' (3:16)
- The messenger (3:1; Matthew 11:14; Luke 1:17)

### **Conclusion**

- A gloomy picture of disappointment, disillusionment, disobedience – lessons from the past had not been learned.
- Yet a message of hope shines through
- The fulfilment: then, now or in the future, and through Israel or the Church?