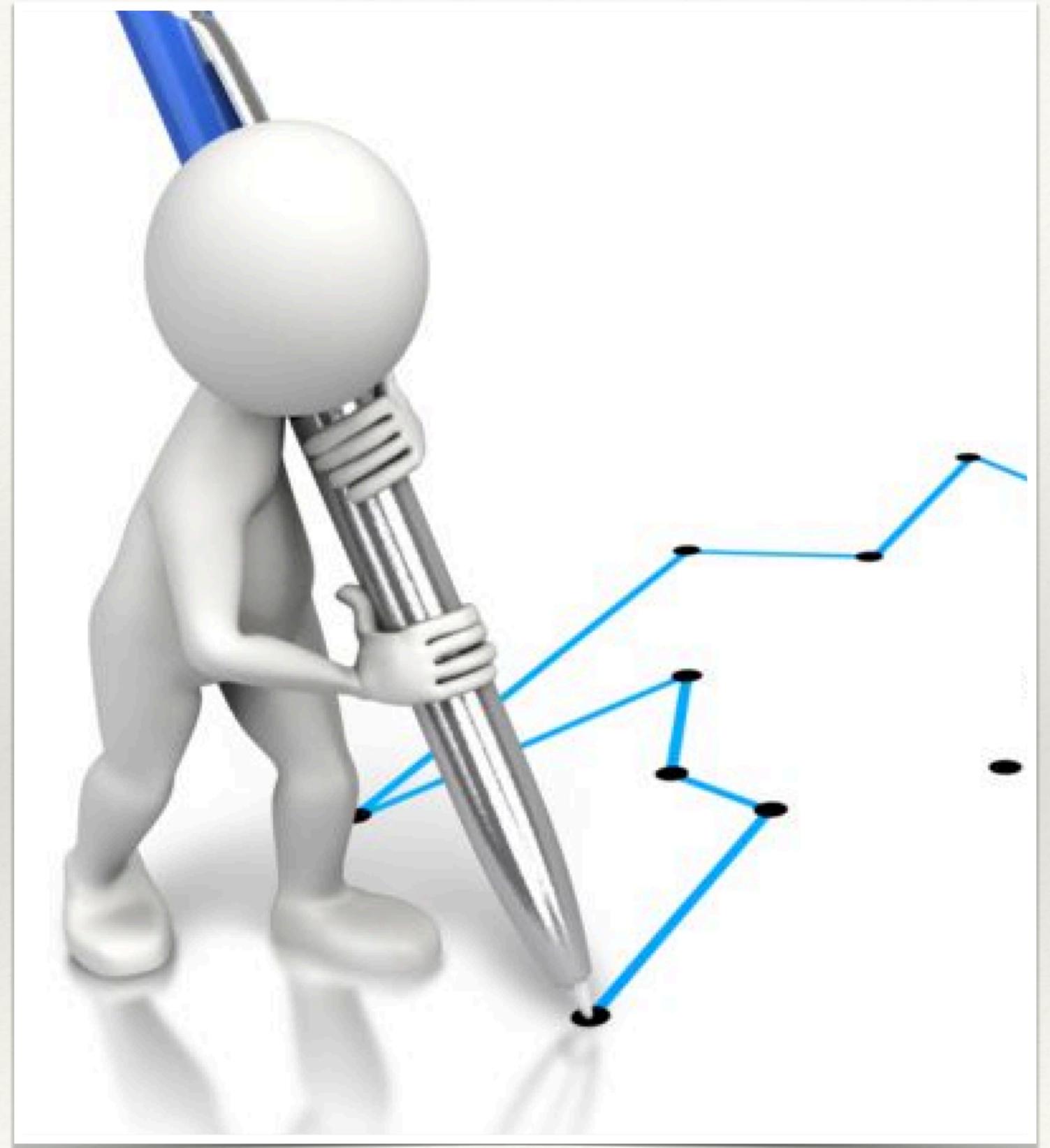


October 15, 2023

Connecting The Dots

The Book of the Twelve

God's Grace and Gift of Hope





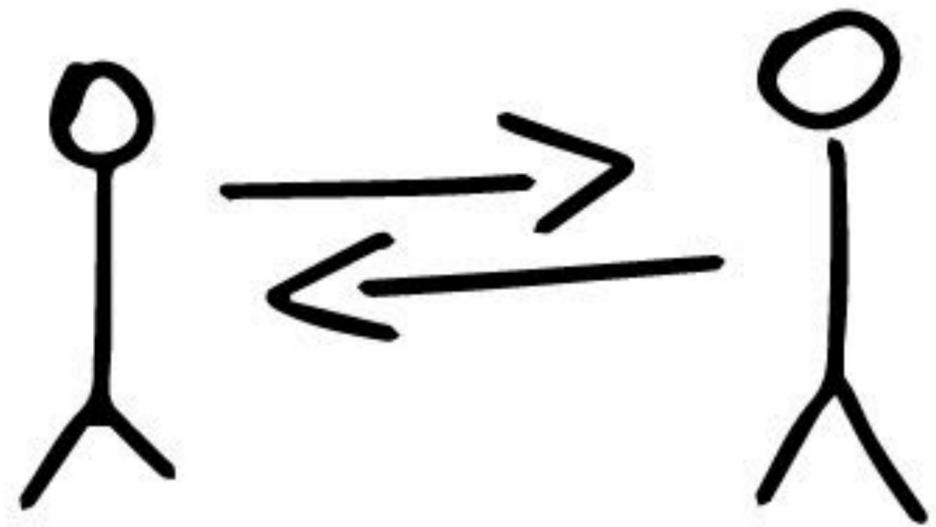
Departures
Départs



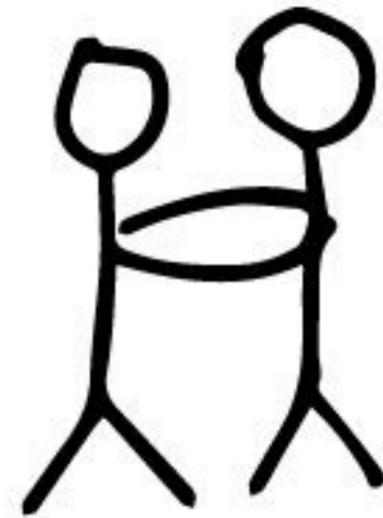
Connections
Correspondances



communicating

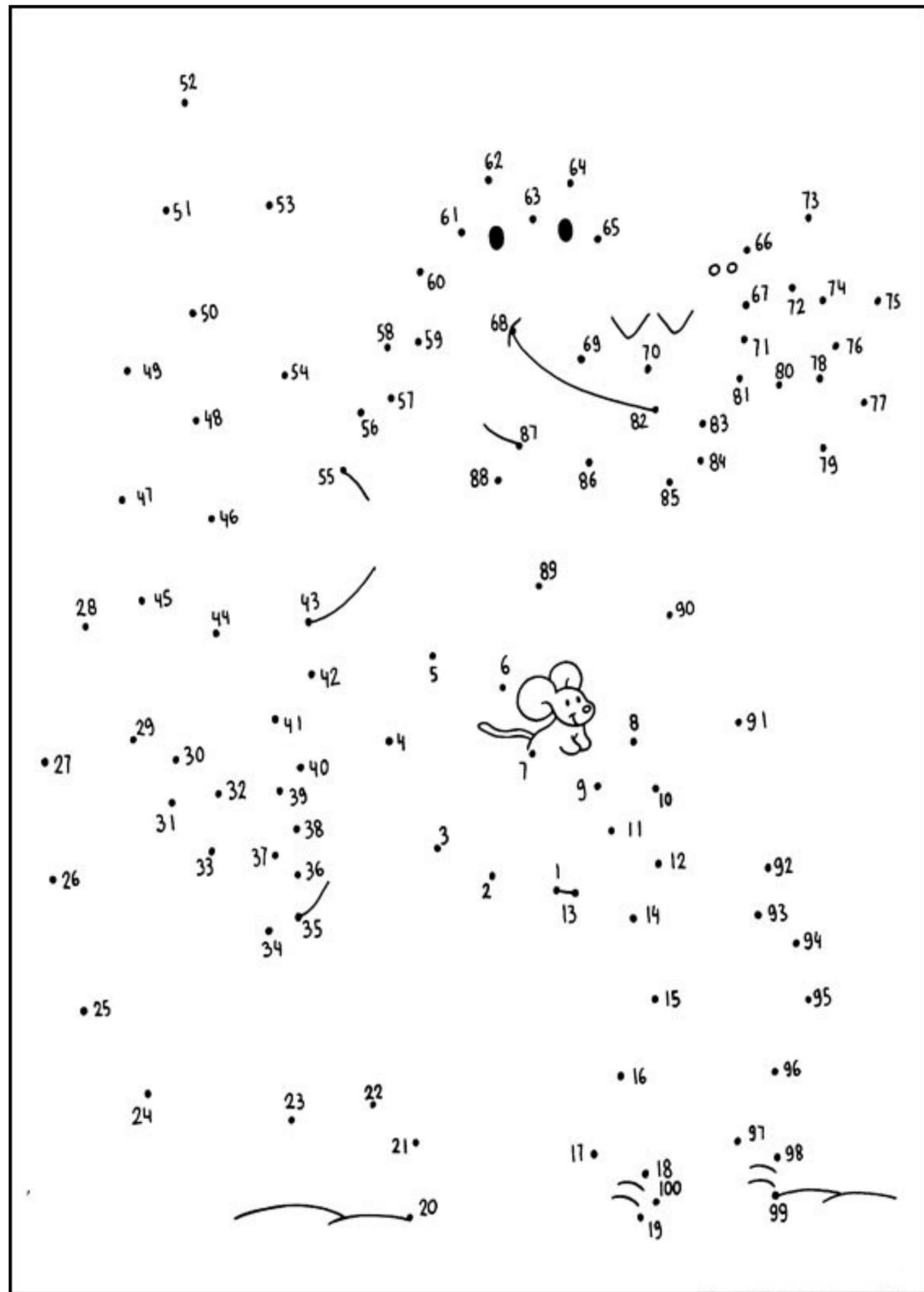


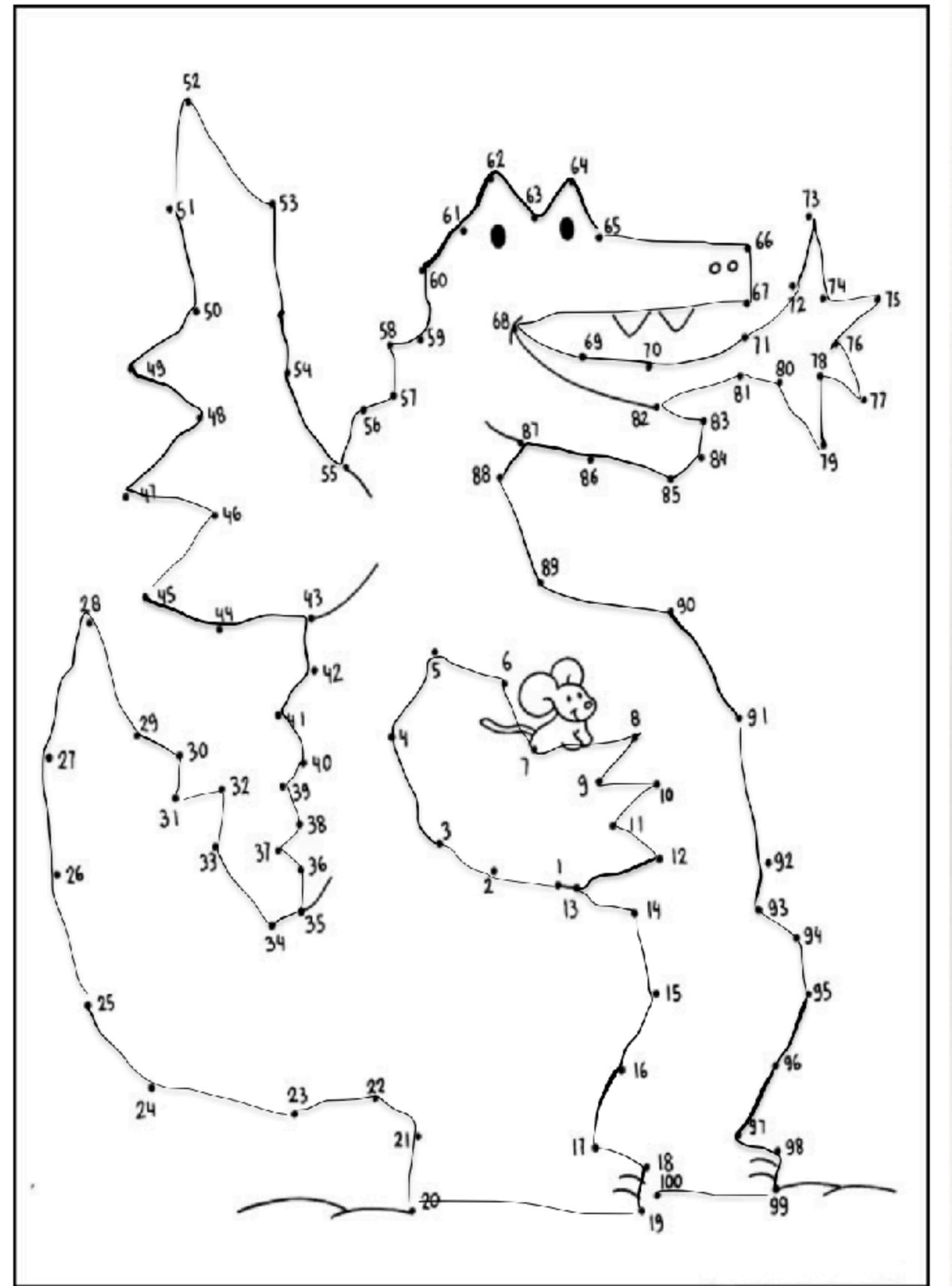
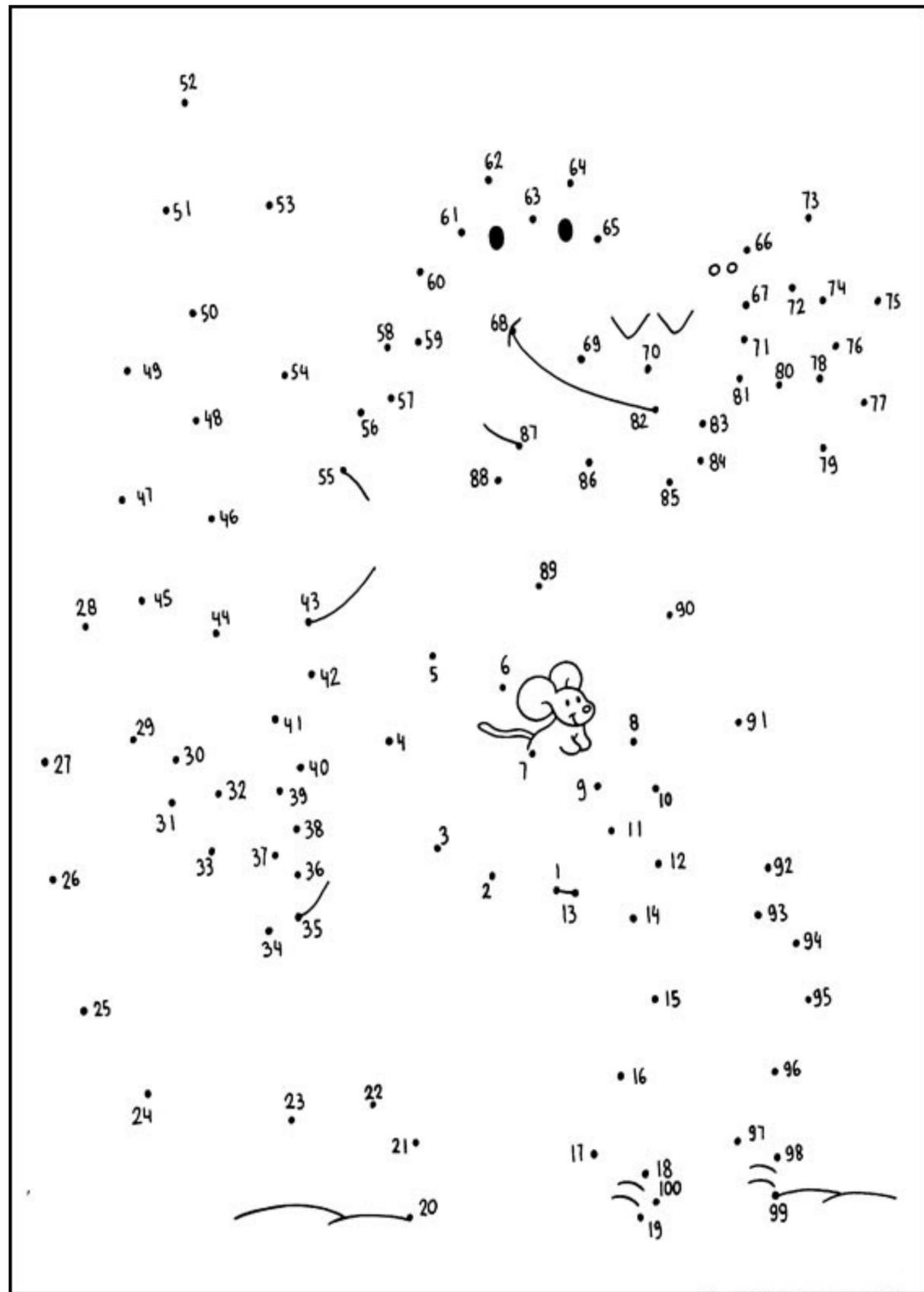
connecting





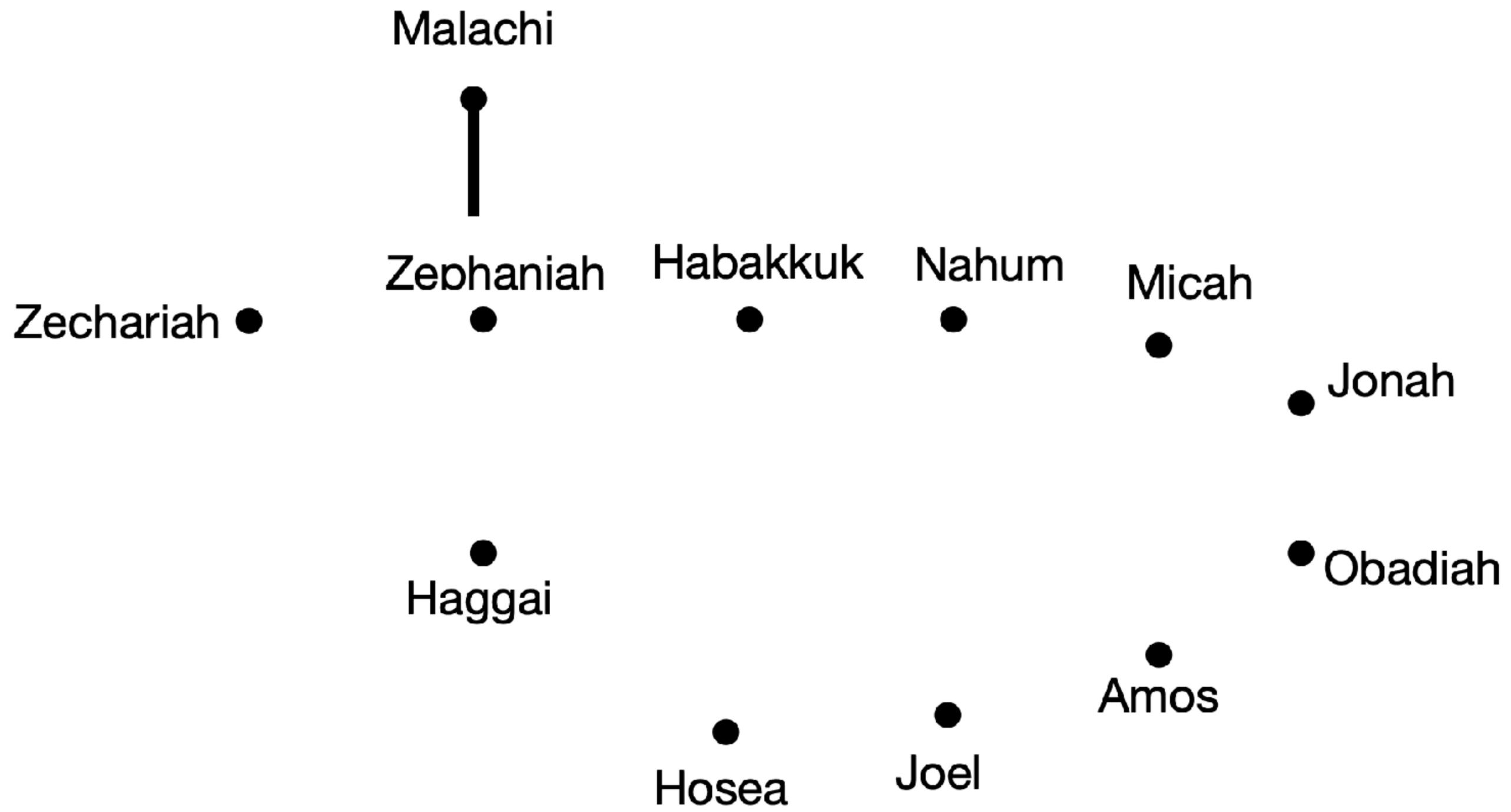












Hosea marries Gomer



Gomer is unfaithful



Hosea and Gomer reconcile



Hosea marries Gomer



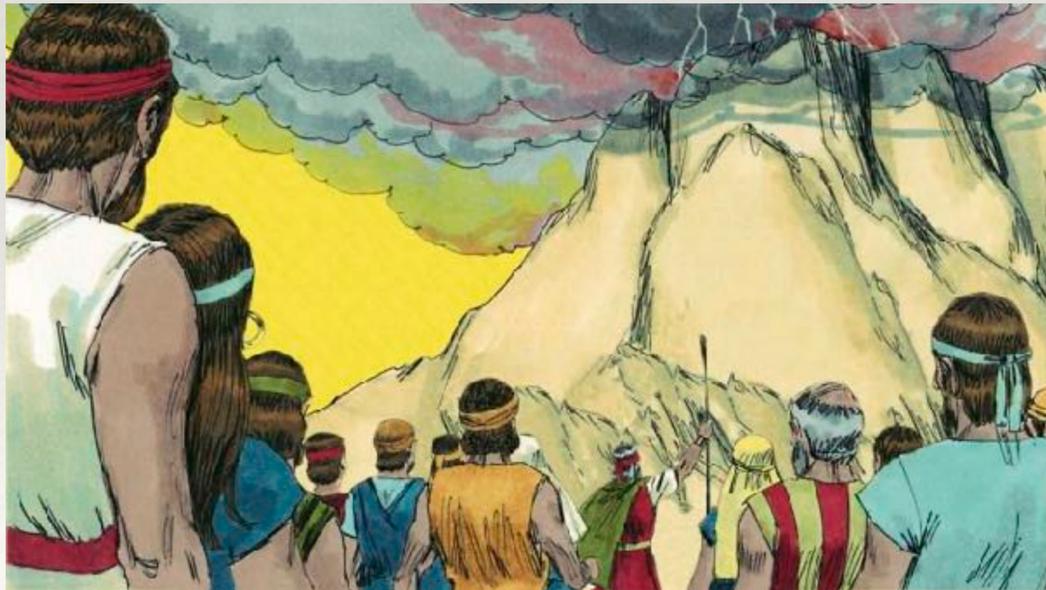
Gomer is unfaithful



Hosea takes Gomer back



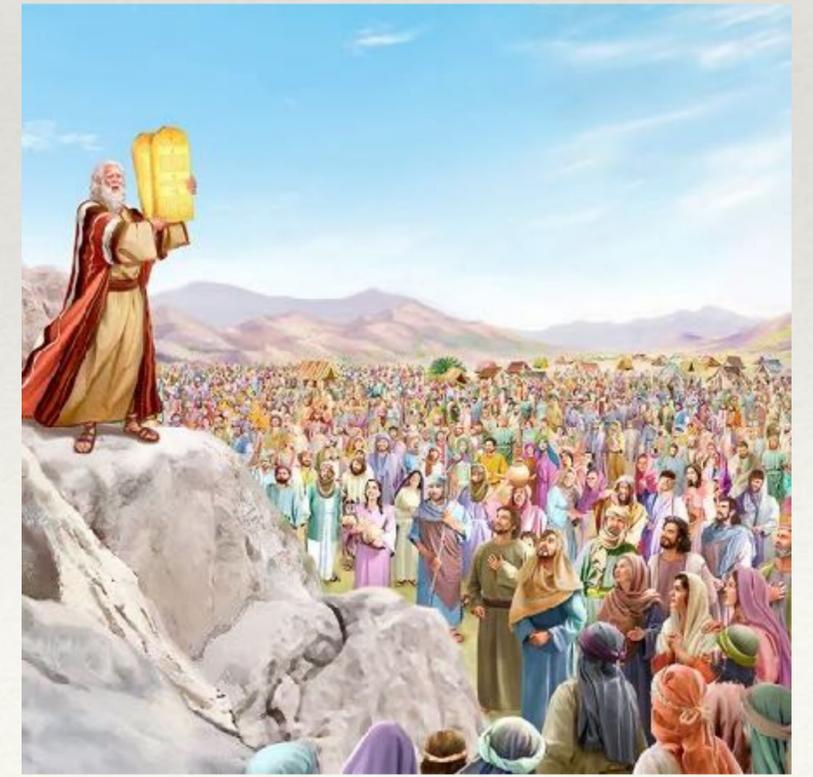
God makes a covenant with Israel

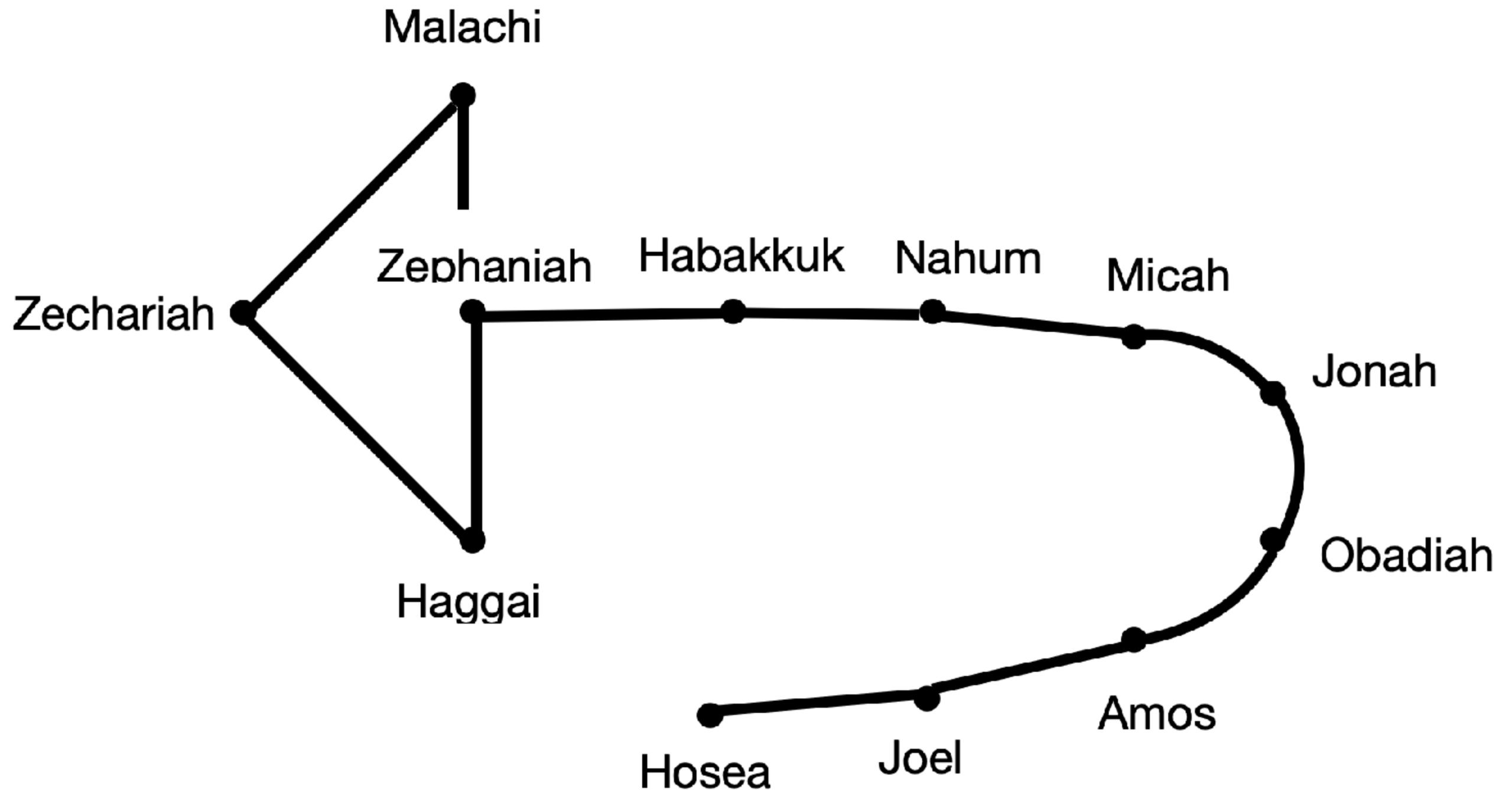


Israel is unfaithful

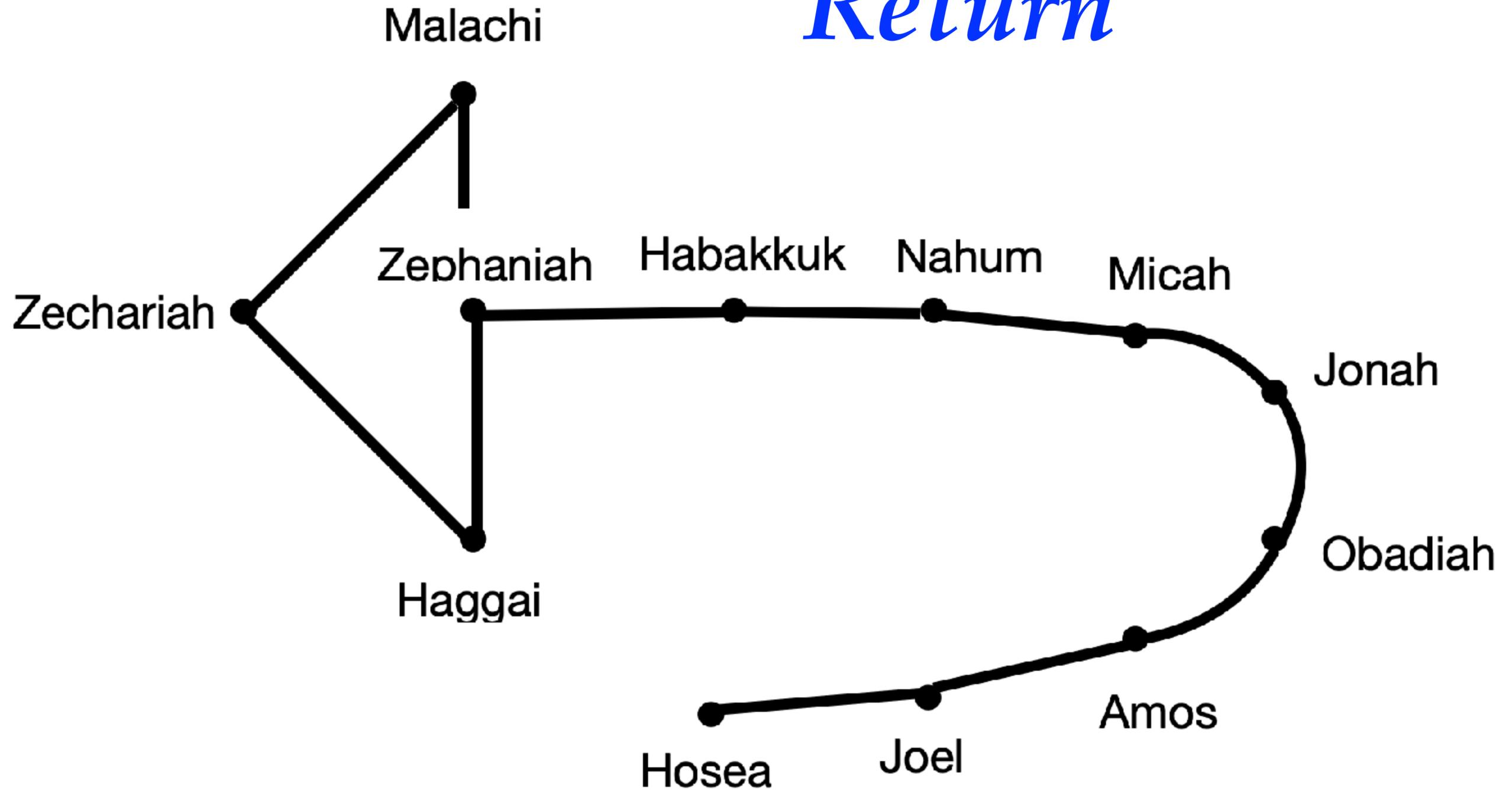


God is merciful





“Return”



Hosea 4:1-3 NLT

Hear the word of the LORD, O people of Israel!
The LORD has brought charges against you, saying:
“There is no faithfulness, no kindness,
no knowledge of God in your land.
You make vows and break them;
you kill and steal and commit adultery.
There is violence everywhere—
one murder after another.
That is why your land is in mourning,
and everyone is wasting away.
Even the wild animals, the birds of the sky,
and the fish of the sea are disappearing.

Hosea 6:1-3 NLT

“Come, let us *return* to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces;
now he will heal us.
He has injured us;
now he will bandage our wounds.
In just a short time he will restore us,
so that we may live in his presence.
Oh, that we might know the LORD!
Let us press on to know him.

Hosea 14:1,4 NLT

Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God,
for your sins have brought you down.
Bring your confessions, and ***return*** to the LORD.
Say to him,
“Forgive all our sins and graciously receive us,
so that we may offer you our praises.

The LORD says,
“Then I will heal you of your faithlessness;
my love will know no bounds,
for my anger will be gone forever.

Amos 5:4-6 NLT

Now this is what the LORD says to the family of Israel:

“Come back to me and live!

Don't worship at the pagan altars at Bethel;
don't go to the shrines at Gilgal or Beersheba.

For the people of Gilgal will be dragged off into exile,
and the people of Bethel will be reduced to nothing.”

Come back to the LORD and live!

Zechariah 1:2-3 NLT

“I, the LORD, was very angry with your ancestors. Therefore, say to the people, ‘This is what the LORD of Heaven’s Armies says: **Return** to me, and I will **return** to you, says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.’

Malachi 3:7 NLT

Now **return** to me, and I will **return** to you,

Joel 2:13 NLT

Return to the LORD your God,

Joel 1:13-14 NLT

Dress yourselves in burlap and weep, you priests!
Wail, you who serve before the altar!
Come, spend the night in burlap,
you ministers of my God.
For there is no grain or wine
to offer at the Temple of your God.
Announce a time of fasting;
call the people together for a solemn meeting.
Bring the leaders
and all the people of the land
into the Temple of the LORD your God,
and cry out to him there.

Joel 2:12-17 NLT

That is why the LORD says,

“**Turn** to me now, while there is time.

Give me your hearts.

Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning.

Don't tear your clothing in your grief,
but tear your hearts instead.”

Return to the LORD your God,

for he is merciful and compassionate,

slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

He is eager to relent and not punish.

Who knows? Perhaps he will give you a reprieve,
sending you a blessing instead of this curse.

Perhaps you will be able to offer grain and wine
to the LORD your God as before.

Blow the ram's horn in Jerusalem!
Announce a time of fasting;
call the people together
for a solemn meeting.
Gather all the people—
the elders, the children, and even the babies.
Call the bridegroom from his quarters
and the bride from her private room.
Let the priests, who minister in the LORD's presence,
stand and weep between the entry room to the Temple and the altar.
Let them pray, "Spare your people, LORD!"

Joel's Prescription for Repentance

dressing in burlap

fasting, weeping, mourning

solemn assembly

prayer

change of heart

Jonah 3:5-9 NLT

The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow.

When the king of Nineveh heard what Jonah was saying, he stepped down from his throne and took off his royal robes. He dressed himself in burlap and sat on a heap of ashes. Then the king and his nobles sent this decree throughout the city:

“No one, not even the animals from your herds and flocks, may eat or drink anything at all. People and animals alike must wear garments of mourning, and everyone must pray earnestly to God. They must **turn** from their evil ways and stop all their violence. Who can tell? Perhaps even yet God will change his mind and hold back his fierce anger from destroying us.”

Joel's Prescription for Repentance

dressing in burlap

fasting, weeping, mourning

solemn assembly

prayer

change of heart

Nineveh's Repentance

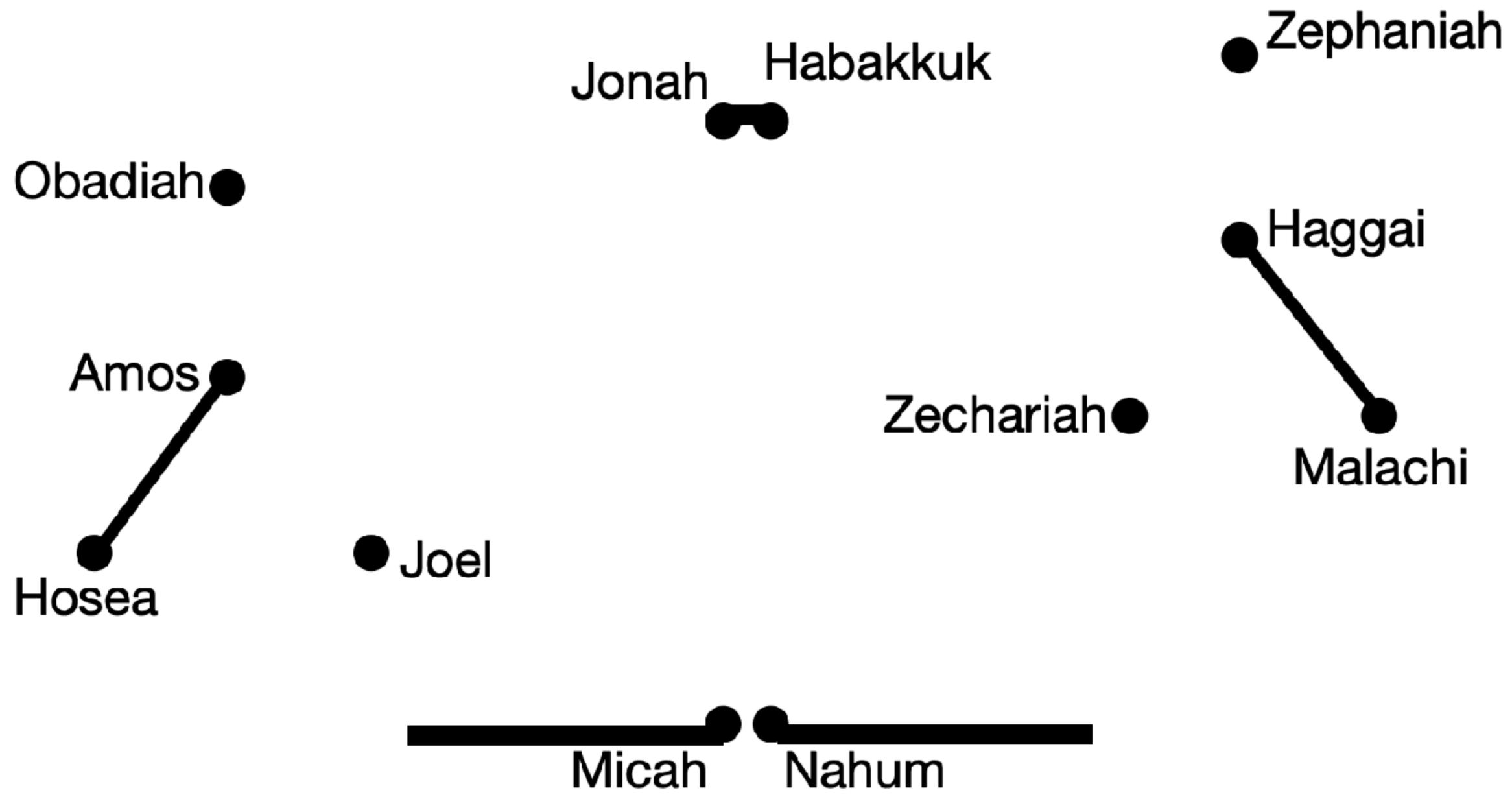
dressing in burlap (even the animals)

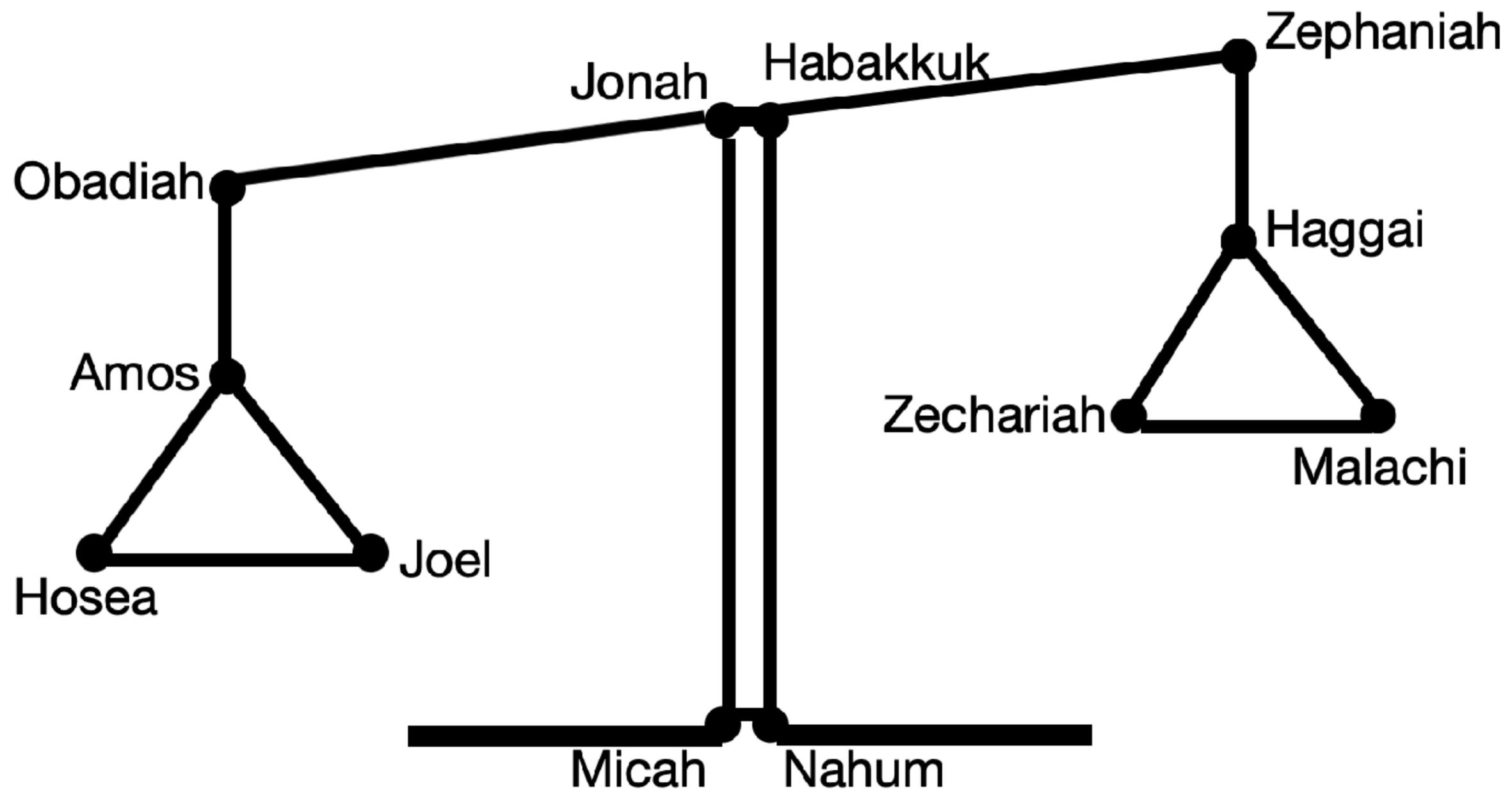
fasting (even the animals)

city-wide decree

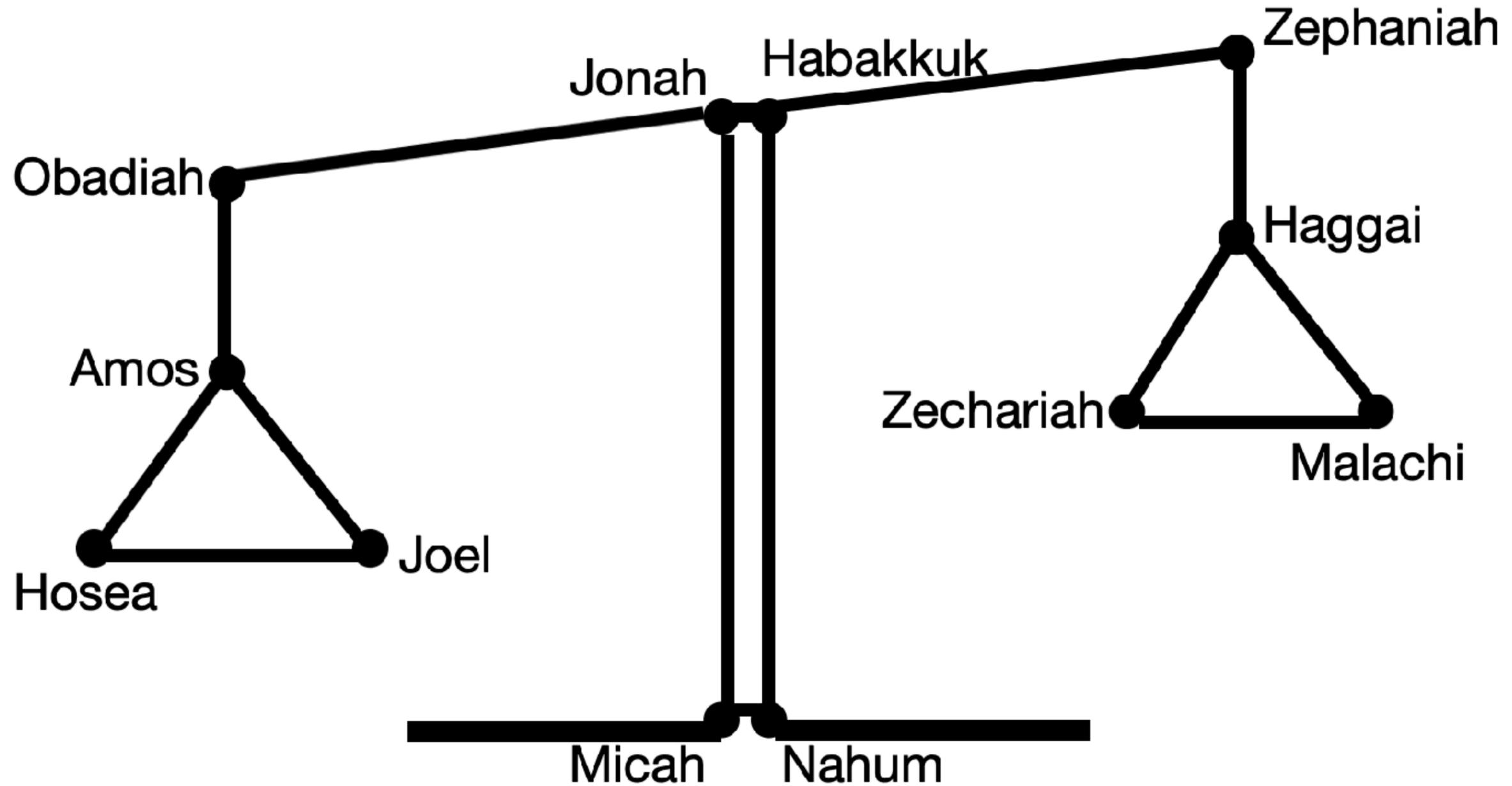
prayer

cessation of violence



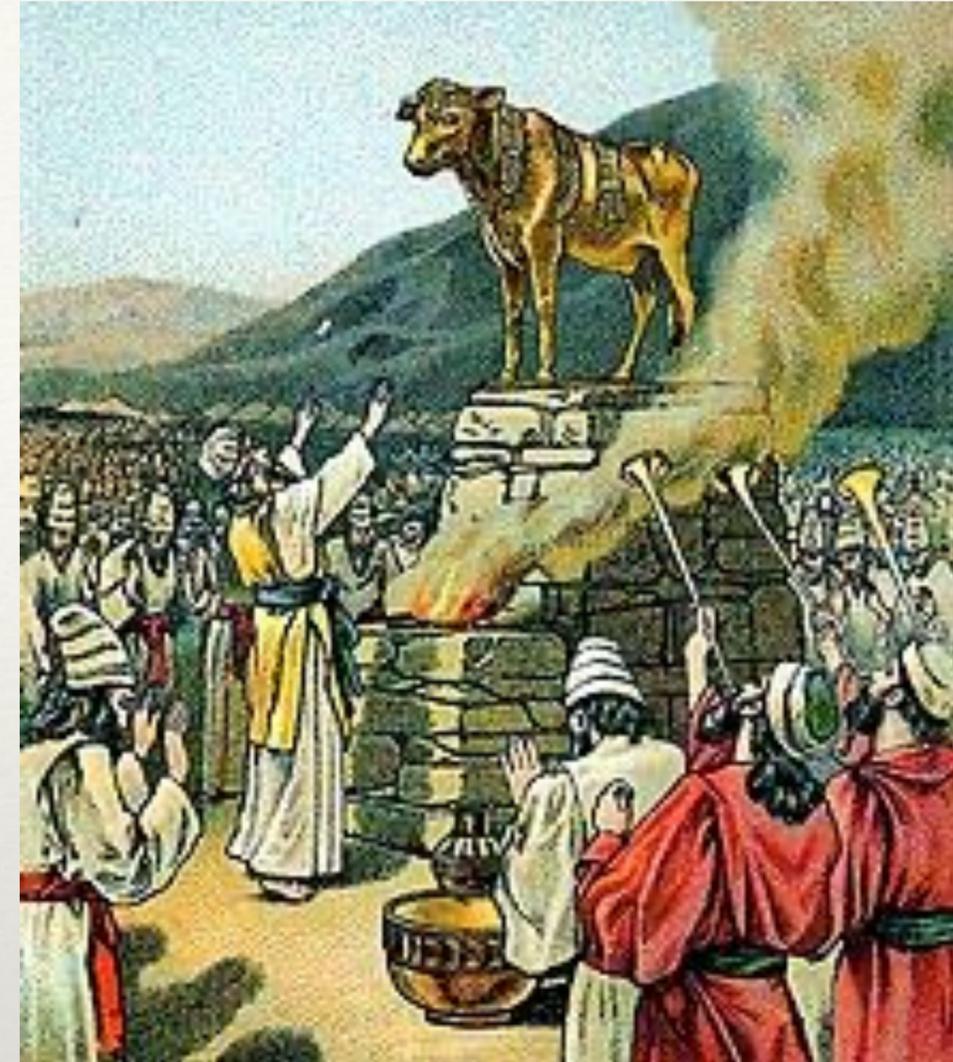


Mercy and Justice



Exodus 34:6,7 NLT

“Yahweh! The LORD!
The God of compassion and mercy!
I am slow to anger
and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.
I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations.
I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin.
But I do not excuse the guilty.
I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren;
the entire family is affected—
even children in the third and fourth generations.”



Joel 2:13 NLT

Return to the LORD your God,
for he is merciful and compassionate,
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.
He is eager to relent and not punish.

Jonah 4:1-2 NLT

“Didn’t I say before I left home that you would do this, LORD? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people.

Nahum 1:2-3 NLT

The LORD is a jealous God,
filled with vengeance and rage.

He takes revenge on all who oppose him
and continues to rage against his enemies!

The LORD is slow to get angry, but his power is great,
and he never lets the guilty go unpunished.

Habakkuk 1:12-13 NLT

O LORD, our Rock, you have sent these Babylonians to correct us,
to punish us for our many sins.

But you are pure and cannot stand the sight of evil.

Will you wink at their treachery?

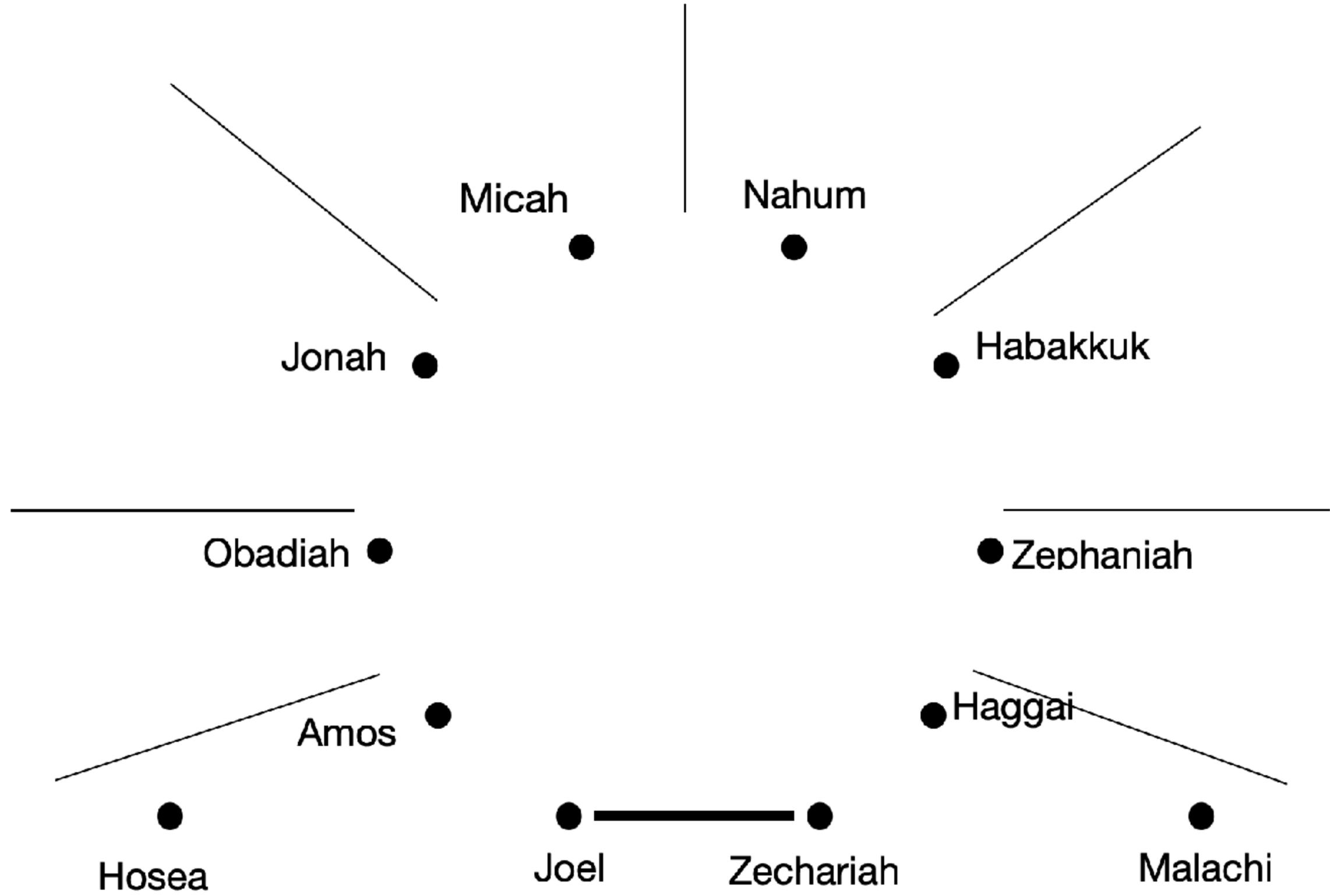
Should you be silent while the wicked
swallow up people more righteous than they?

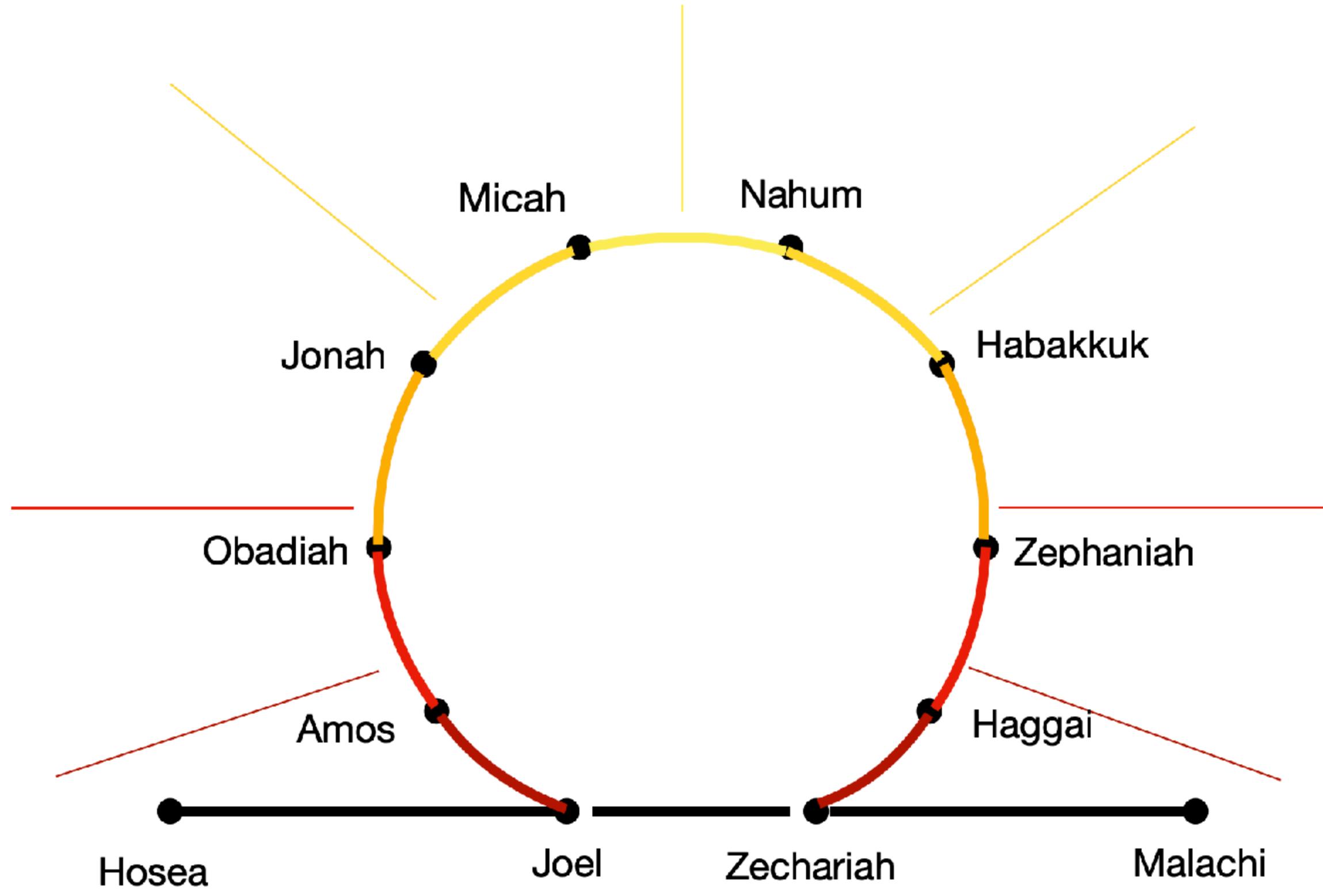
Let God be God

Habakkuk 2:4 and 3:17-19 NLT

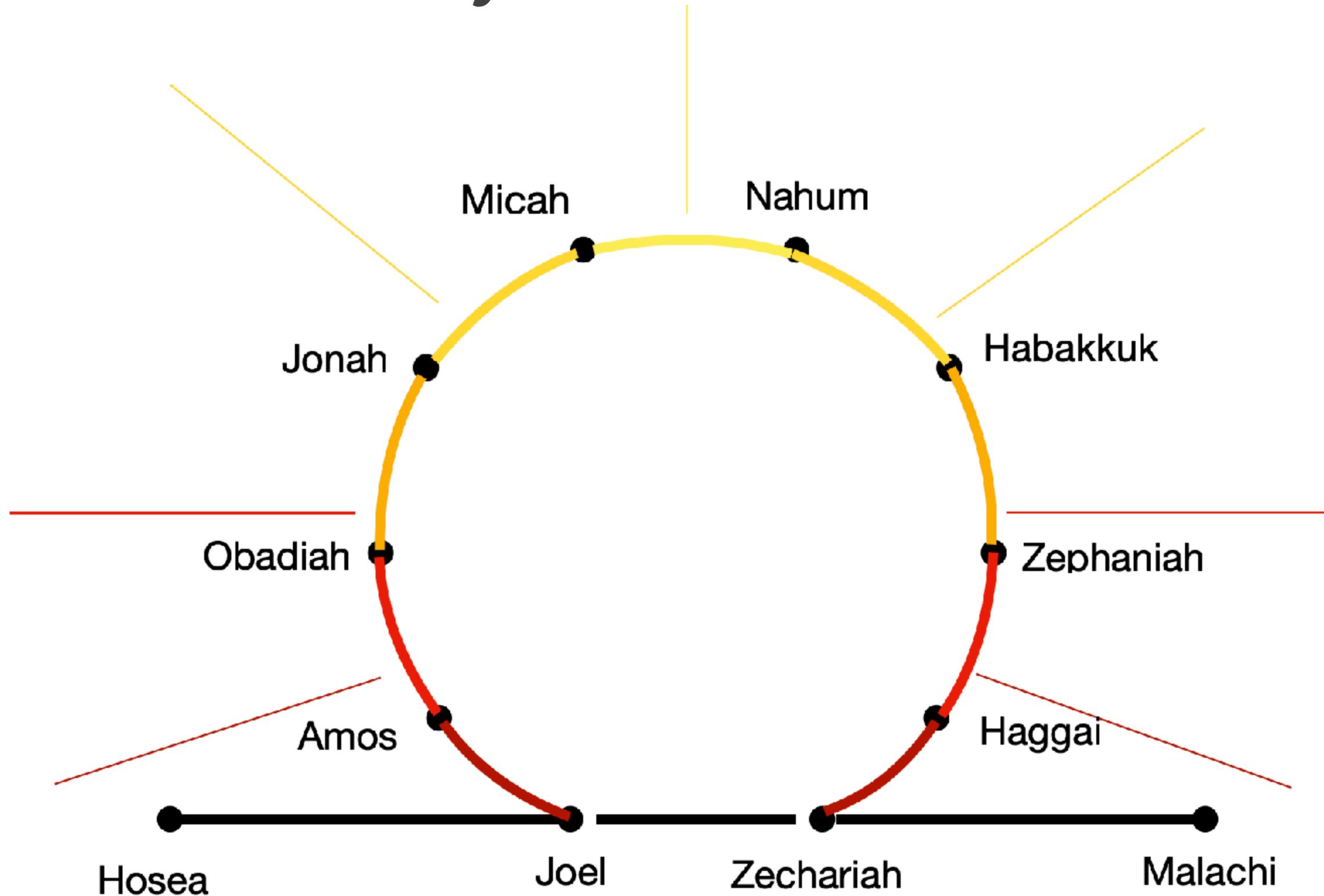
But the righteous will live by their faithfulness to God.

Even though the fig trees have no blossoms,
and there are no grapes on the vines;
even though the olive crop fails,
and the fields lie empty and barren;
even though the flocks die in the fields,
and the cattle barns are empty,
yet I will rejoice in the LORD!
I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!
The Sovereign LORD is my strength!





Day of the Lord



Warning of Coming Judgment

- 18** What sorrow awaits you who say,
 “If only the day of the LORD were here!”
 You have no idea what you are wishing for.
 That day will bring darkness, not light.
- 19** In that day you will be like a man who runs from a lion—
 only to meet a bear.
 Escaping from the bear, he leans his hand against a wall in his
 house—
 and he’s bitten by a snake.
- 20** Yes, the day of the LORD will be dark and hopeless,
 without a ray of joy or hope.
- 21** “I hate all your show and pretense—
 the hypocrisy of your religious festivals and solemn
 assemblies.
- 22** I will not accept your burnt offerings and grain offerings.
 I won’t even notice all your choice peace offerings.
- 23** Away with your noisy hymns of praise!
 I will not listen to the music of your harps.
- 24** Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice,
 an endless river of righteous living.

The Day of the LORD

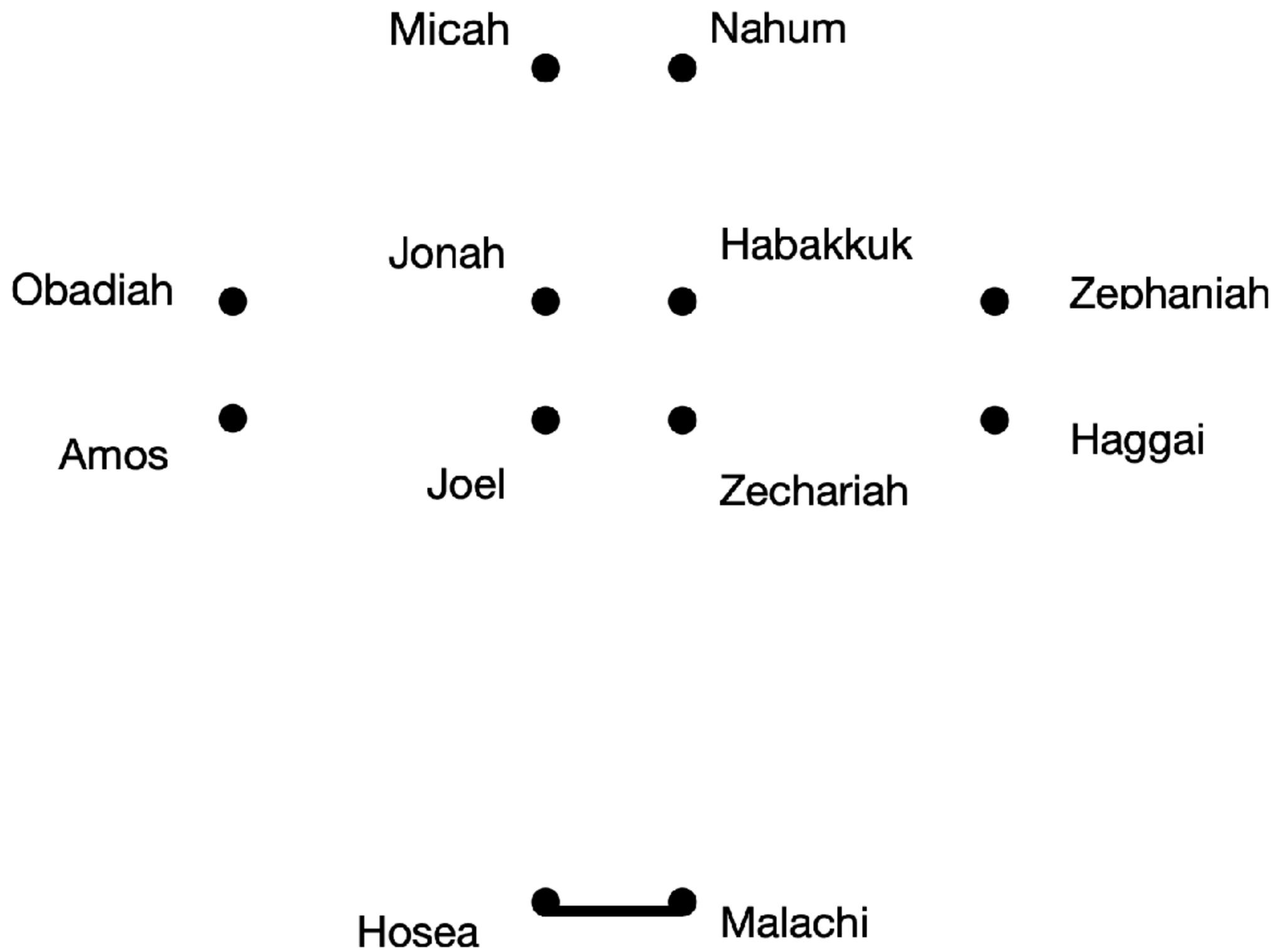
- 18** Woe to you who long
 for the day of the LORD!^v
 Why do you long for the day of the
 LORD?^w
 That day will be darkness,^x not
 light.^y
- 19** It will be as though a man fled from
 a lion
 only to meet a bear,^z
 as though he entered his house
 and rested his hand on the wall
 only to have a snake bite him.^a
- 20** Will not the day of the LORD be
 darkness,^b not light—
 pitch-dark, without a ray of
 brightness?^c
- 21** “I hate,^d I despise your religious
 festivals;^e
 your assemblies^f are a stench to me.
- 22** Even though you bring me burnt
 offerings^g and grain offerings,
 I will not accept them.^h
 Though you bring choice fellowship
 offerings,
 I will have no regard for them.ⁱ

Zephaniah 1:14-16 NLT

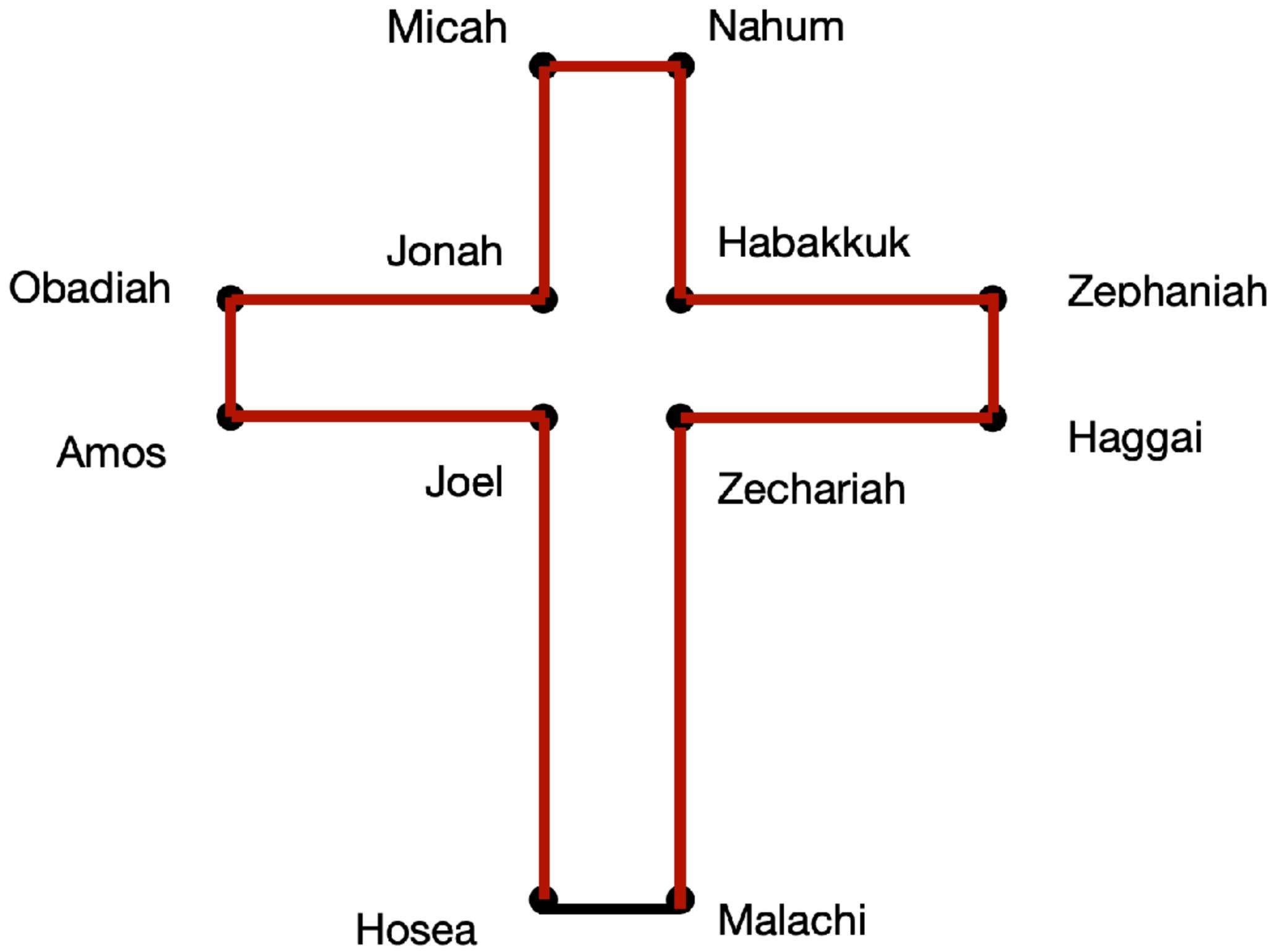
“That terrible day of the LORD is near.
Swiftly it comes—
a day of bitter tears,
a day when even strong men will cry out.
It will be a day when the LORD’s anger is poured out—
a day of terrible distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and desolation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness,
a day of trumpet calls and battle cries.

Zephaniah 3:16-17 NLT

On that day the announcement to Jerusalem will be,
“Cheer up, Zion! Don’t be afraid!
For the LORD your God is living among you.
He is a mighty savior.
He will take delight in you with gladness.
With his love, he will calm all your fears.
He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.”

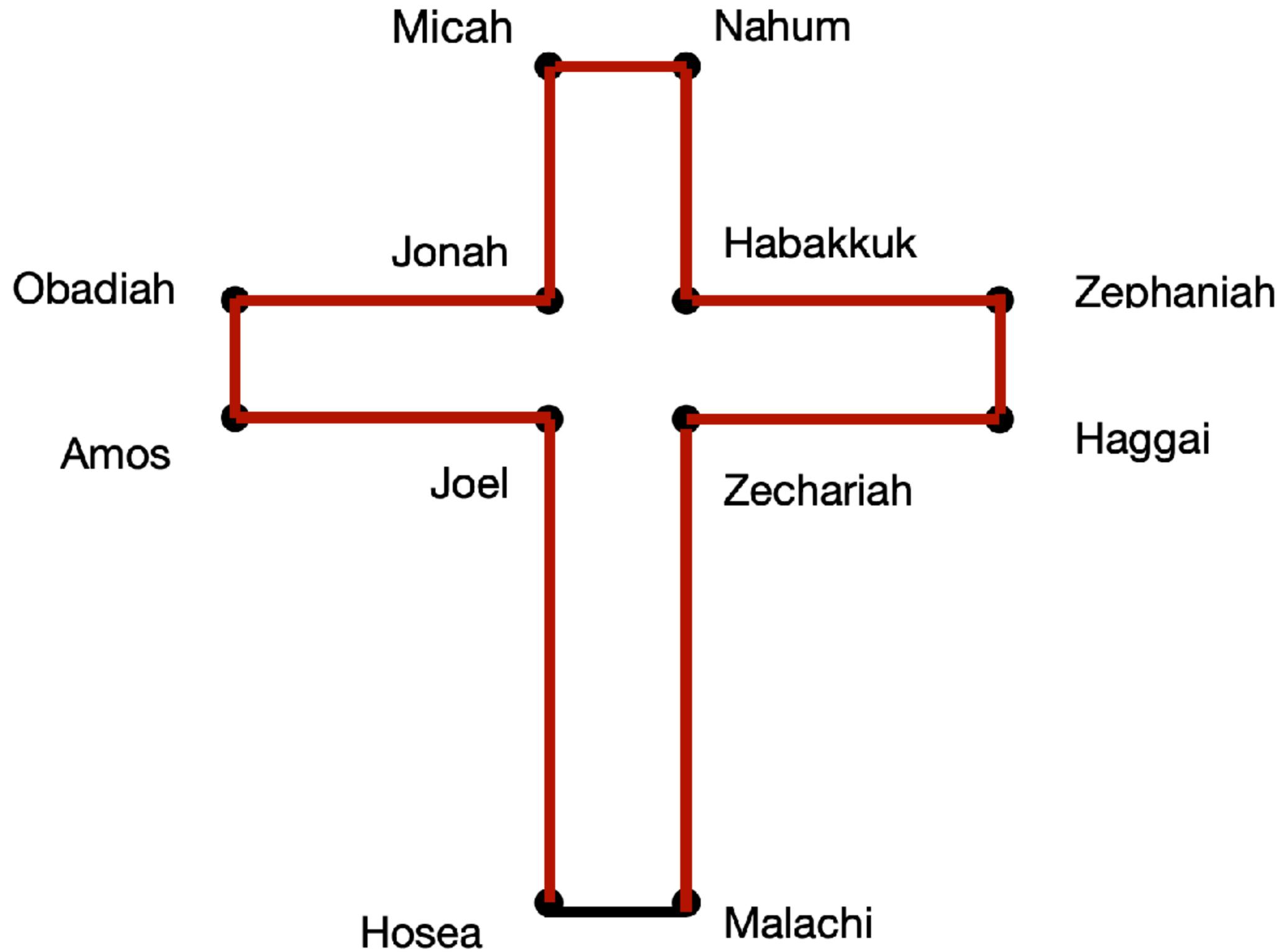


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Jesus

|



Prophet	Connection to Jesus
Micah	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• identifies Bethlehem as the birthplace of a ruler of Israel
Hosea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• picture of redemption
Jonah	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus will display the sign of Jonah
Haggai	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the rebuilt temple will have greater glory
Zechariah	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the coming of a king riding on a donkey
Malachi	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a messenger is to prepare the way

Obadiah 21 NLT

Those who have been rescued will go up to Mount Zion in Jerusalem to rule over the mountains of Edom.
And the LORD himself will be king!”

