

THE PROPHETS

The Categories Of The Old Testament Books

The Law

Genesis	Numbers
Exodus	Deuteronomy
Leviticus	

History

Jonah	1 & 2 Kings
Judges	1 & 2 Chronicles
Ruth	Ezra
1 & 2 Samuel	Nehemiah
	Esther

Wisdom

Job	Ecclesiastes
Psalms	Song of Songs
Proverbs	

Prophets

Isaiah	Jonah
Jeremiah	Micah
Lamentations	Nahum
Ezekiel	Habakkuk
Daniel	Zephaniah
Hosea	Haggai
Joel	Zechariah
Amos	Malachi
Obadiah	

Bible prophecy is unique. The Bible is the only book that challenges _____ by foretelling the _____, staking its _____ on the ultimate, certain, and complete fulfillment of its detailed predictions. It has been said that some _____ Old Testament predictions were literally fulfilled at Christ's first coming, and that of the 845 Old Testament quotations that are found in the New Testament, 333 refer to Christ. Some 25 prophecies uttered by various prophets over a period of some _____ years concern the betrayal, trial, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. These were literally fulfilled, although the chances against such fulfillment have been shown to be _____ chance in 33,554,438. If the law of compound probabilities is applied similarly to all 109 predictions fulfilled at Christ's first coming, the chances that they could accidentally be fulfilled in the history of one person is one in _____.

The appearance of a prophet was always a sign that _____ and _____ were predominant in Israel. The prophets raised their voices in protest against the idolatry, _____, and blindness of their times, calling the nation back to God.

It is a mistake to think that a prophet's primary function was to foretell the _____. The prophet did that, of course, but he was first of all a man with a message from God for his _____ generation, a "forthteller" rather than a "foreteller." Often the prophets were statesmen with both insight and foresight, clearly seeing the end result of the dangerous religious and political experiments of their contemporaries. The prophets often did not understand some of their own utterances, for the burdens they delivered sometimes had a fulfillment: an initial and partial fulfillment close to the time the words were uttered, and a later, more complete fulfillment, at a remote date.

They usually spoke from the standpoint of their own people, with the Gentiles being mentioned only to the extent that those other nations would come into conflict with, or blessing through, Israel. The themes of the prophets were many and varied, but apart from the initial, immediate, and partial fulfillment of their predictions, their prophecies focused on two future events: the first (_____) and second (_____) comings of Christ. The prophets

themselves probably could not distinguish between these two comings, and often, too, a message would be given, only to be enlarged upon at a later date by either the same prophet or by another.

Three of the prophets directed their messages to Gentile nations: Obadiah, Jonah, and Nahum—the first to Edom and the other two to Nineveh.

It often happened that the prophet was _____ with the people to whom he delivered the message of God, and sometimes he was bitterly persecuted for his preaching, his message being considered subversive to the national interest, and the prophet himself a traitor. The prophets were the moral conscience of their age.

-John Phillips

The prophets break down in several ways into several categories. The first classification was what is referred to as _____ and _____ Prophets. A writing prophet is one that is credited with being the _____ of a book of the Bible. Of course every prophet we will study is classified as a writing prophet. An example of non-writing prophets would be _____ and _____.

The writing prophets are classified as _____ Prophets or _____ Prophets by the _____ of the book they wrote, not the _____ or _____.

Another way the prophets are classified is by the _____ that they ministered. That all revolves around the _____ of Israel and Judah by both the Assyrian and Babylonian armies. The following chart shows that the writing prophets belong to three main periods of Hebrew history, either before, during, or after the Babylonian captivity.

See Chart Below

THE WRITING PROPHETS			
Century (B.C.)	Preexilic	Exilic	Postexilic
9th	Joel Jonah Amos Hosea		
8th	Isaiah Micah Nahum Zephaniah Habakkuk		
7th	Jeremiah Obadiah	Ezekiel Daniel	
6th			Haggai Zechariah
5th			Malachi

***This also uncovers a challenge in understanding prophecy. As you can tell by the chart, the books are not arranged in our bibles in _____ order. But seemingly by the classification of Major & Minor Prophets. That often has us reading events out of _____ which can make it difficult to understand.

The Audience of the Prophet:

Isaiah – Audience is _____

Jeremiah - Audience is _____

Lamentations Audience Is _____ While They Are In Captivity

Ezekiel – Audience Is The _____ In Babylon

Daniel - Audience Is The _____ In Babylon

Hosea – Audience is _____

Joel - Audience Is _____

Amos - Audience is _____

Obadiah – Audience is _____

Jonah – Audience is _____

Micah - Audience is _____ & _____

Nahum – Audience is _____

Habakkuk – Audience Is _____

Zephaniah - Audience is _____

Haggai – Audience is _____

Zechariah – Audience is _____

Malachi - Audience is _____