

Patricia Huggins - OT503 Week 7
Lesson 6 -The Prophets Part 2 Essay
March 2, 2021

- **I read for 1.5 hours.**
- **I read 100% of the assigned readings but did not take thorough notes.**
- **I watched all videos while comparing them to the Hill & Walton readings.**

Part2 of the Prophetic books includes Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. To receive clarity when reading the prophetic books, one must consider whom the prophets are speaking, prophecy timeframes, general themes, particular phrases, and repetition of words or phrases.

Amos prophesied against religious apostasy, moral and social collapse, and political corruption (Hill and Walton, 608).¹ **Micah** spoke against the upper class for being guilty of injustice (Hill and Walton, 644), and Zephaniah spoke against corrupt officials and the people's continued rebellion (Hill and Walton, 671). **Jonah** was unable to accept God's compassion toward the wicked Ninevites and initially chose not to prophesy repentance for salvation and restoration; however, after being punished by God, Jonah fulfilled his obligation (Hill and Walton, 636). The Ninevites agreed but failed to change, and **Nahum** was sent to prophesy their doom which God delivered (Hill and Walton, 652). The prophet **Habakkuk**, like Jonah, disagreed with God's lack of swift justice for Judah, a people who were wicked and prospering (Hill and Walton, 662-663). Obadiah prophesied against the Edomites as allies to Assyria against Judah and disapproved of what he perceived to be God's failure to punish another group of wicked people (Hill and Walton, 622). Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi prophesied to the

¹ Andrew E. Hill and John H. Walton. *A Survey of the Old Testament*, 3rd ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Pub. House, 2009).

Patricia Huggins - OT503 Week 7
Lesson 6 -The Prophets Part 2 Essay
March 2, 2021

community of Jerusalem. **Haggai** urged the people to rebuild the temple of God and reinstate the worship elements (Hill and Walton, 688). **Zechariah** summoned the people to focus on repentance and spiritual renewal (Hill and Walton, 691). **Malachi** reminded the people to repent and remember God, the covenant giver, and keeper (Hill and Walton, 706).

Jonah and Obadiah's misunderstanding and questioning God's right to show compassion to those who are not being obedient shined a bright light on my prior disagreement with King David holding the title, "A Man After God's Own Heart." God deserves the right to choose whether I agree or not, as well; God knows what is best.

I want to study why God did not punish the Edomites along with Assyria (Obadiah 1), and I would like to look further into the compassion of God as he chooses to grant grace to the wicked. Moreover, God's long-suffering grace for us as his children (Isaiah 26:10).