

Questions

1. What are four major prophet books in the Bible?
2. What are twelve minor prophet books in the Bible? Why are they called Minor?
3. What is the primary function of the prophets?
4. What is meant by the problem of history?
5. According to Fee, what are some patterns to look for when reading the Prophetic books?

Answers

1. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel
2. Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micha, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggia, Zechariah, Malachi. They are called minor because of their short length.
3. God's spokesperson. Speak for God for their own contemporaries.
4. It simply means we "as people far removed from the religious, historical, and cultural life of ancient Israel, we simply have great trouble putting the words spoken by the prophets in their original historical context. It is often hard for us to see what they are referring to and why"
5. (1) Identify Israel's sin or God's love for his people (2) prophet's prediction of curse or blessing depending on the circumstance. – often this is what the prophet is conveying. It is important to remember though, the message was not their own but of God's

Terms.

Orthodoxy – correct belief

Orthopraxy – correct living

Sensus plenior – *fuller* meaning; second meaning of the text/passage

Summary

Proper understanding of the word Prophecy is prerequisite on how one can better understand prophetic books in the Bible. Many of the prophetic books are originally the oracles which were spoken in poetry. The role and function of prophets in respect to Israel provides contexts how we can understand what God is saying to us. They were covenant mediators, carrying God's message, as God's direct representatives, and re-stated God's message that was contained in the Mosaic Covenant. Different literary form makes up the books of prophets.