

Justin White

## QUESTIONS

1. What was the function of the prophet in Israel?
2. What is the simple pattern in the prophetic books?
3. What was the primary function of the prophets?
4. What are two primary reasons for misunderstandings of the prophetic books?
5. What is one of the major differences between the narrative books and the prophetic books?

## ANSWERS

1. The prophets were covenant enforcement mediators. They were to share God's message.
2. An identification of Israel's sin or God's love for His people and a prediction of curse or blessing.
3. The primary function of the prophets was to speak to God to their own contemporaries.
4. Two primary reasons for misunderstandings of the prophetic books are their form and their function.
5. The narrative books of the Old Testament mainly share *about* prophets and speak very little about the prophets have spoken. Whereas, with the prophetic books, there's little about the prophets and focus more on what God has said through them.

## TERMS

Synonymous parallelism: The second or subsequent line repeats or reinforces the sense of the first line

Antithetical parallelism: The second or subsequent line contrasts the thought of the first, often reinforcing the first line by the contrast

Synthetic parallelism: The second or subsequent line adds to the first line in any manner that provides further information

## SUMMARY

The meaning of prophecy has to do with more than *just* the prediction of the future. The function of the prophets was to speak for God to their own contemporaries. Through the prophets, God called the people of ancient Israel into right belief and right living. God wanted to enforce His covenant to those that would obey.