

**What Vatican II Really Said about the Bible:
Studying the Word of God from the Heart of the Church
4 | Prophets and Writings**

Nevi'im (Prophets)

1. Ask when reading the prophets:
 - a. Where? (Israel or Judah?)
 - b. When? (Before, during, or after exile?)
 - c. Message? (Judgment or consolation? Why?)
 - d. Techniques?

2. Northern writing prophets
 - a. Amos and Hosea
 - b. Before 8th-century Assyrian conquest
 - c. Judgment for idolatry and social injustice
 - d. Hosea's enacted prophecy
 - e. Amos 2:6-16**

3. Southern prophets
 - a. Before the rise of Babylon: Micah, Nahum, Zephaniah
 - b. Impending exile to Babylon: Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Lamentations

- c. Exile: Ezekiel, Obadiah
 - d. Post-exile: Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, Joel
 - e. Ezekiel: 12:1-16**
4. Isaiah
- a. “Fifth Gospel”
 - b. First Isaiah (chapters 1-39): Before the exile
 - c. Second Isaiah (chapters 40-55): End of exile
 - d. Third Isaiah? (chapters 56-66): After the exile
 - e. Isaiah 60:1-22**

Ketuvim (Writings)

- 1. Wisdom literature
 - a. Psalms, Song of Songs, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom of Solomon, Sirach
 - b. Practical wisdom (Proverbs)
 - c. Speculative wisdom (Ecclesiastes)

d. Ecclesiastes 1:1-18

2. Short stories (novellas)

- a. Ruth, Esther, Jonah, Tobit, Judith
- b. Historical details often problematic
- c. Themes:
 - i. God's faithfulness and mercy
 - ii. Interaction with foreigners

3. Apocalyptic literature

- a. Daniel, 1 Maccabees, 2 Maccabees
- b. Eschatological visions
- c. People under persecution
- d. Daniel 12:1-13**

Reading for Next Week

- Compare Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22, Matthew 3:13-17, and John 1:29-34.
- Acts 9:36-42
- Romans 8:31-39
- Revelation 17:1-18