

Listening Guide

Introduction

[1] What two categories of prophets are introduced in this paragraph?

The Beginning of the Prophetic Office

[2] In what passage did God institute the prophetic office?

[3] Who was the first prophet?

[4] What four things does this passage tell us about the prophetic ministry?

The Prophets' Time and Place

[5] Why are there two ways of counting the prophetic books?

[6] What must we know about a prophet if we want to make sense of his writing?

[7] Where did the theme of the prophets' messages come from?

Six Groups of Prophets

[8] In what six groups do we place the writing prophets?

[9] What two things must we know about each prophet?

The Prophets' Dual Ministry

[10] What are the two foci of the prophets' ministry?

[11] Which of the two was primary?

[12] Briefly explain the time orientation of most Old Testament prophetic visions of the future.

A Closer Look at the Prophets

[13] It would help you to summarize this section about the prophets' chronology in writing. You have it in narrative form in the paragraph and as a graphic. But creating your own diagram should help you remember when the prophets lived.

[14] What is the difference between a major and a minor prophet?

[15] Which books are the Major Prophets?

The Prophets' Messages

[16] Where did Amos live, and where did he minister?

[17] What was Amos's profession?

[18] What did God ask Hosea to do to demonstrate how He viewed Israel's idolatry?

[19] Why is Isaiah called the prince of writing prophets?

[20] How did Isaiah's ministry differ from most other writing prophets?

[21] What was Habakkuk's first complaint?

[22] Why did he complain again?

[23] What do we learn about the prophets from Habakkuk's experience?

[24] What was Jeremiah's relationship with Judah's kings like?

[25] What great event in Judah's history caused Jeremiah to weep and to write his lament?

[26] Where did Ezekiel live and minister?

[27] How did his ministry relate to Jeremiah's ministry?

[28] Where did Daniel live when he ministered?

[29] How was Daniel different from the other prophets?

[30] Why do we list Daniel with the prophets?

[31] What was the focus of Haggai's and Zechariah's ministry?

Conclusion

[32] What are some of the ways these prophets were different from each other?

[33] What are some ways there were alike?

[34] When did God institute the prophetic office?

[35] Why is a proper understanding of the time period of a prophetic book essential?

[36] How would you summarize the collective eternal message of the prophets?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

Application

Jesus' final commission to His followers was, "You will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). Do you sense your calling as God's prophet for your time and your situation? What are some ways you could minister God's Word to the people around you? In your answer, consider how God asked Hosea, Isaiah, and Ezekiel to "live" His message so people could see it.