

B. FORMER PROPHETS

1. Introductory notesa. Limitations

This course does not enter formally into an analysis of the content of the individual books on a book by book basis. The attempt is made to put the general matters of introduction into order and, tied with the Old Testament survey course, the student should be able to cull the content of the books into order. TWT hastens to add that the outline notes in most of the major study bibles, (or in Halley's HANDBOOK, et al), are enormously helpful and generally sufficiently accurate.

b. General Introductory notes on the books

In this connexion we offer a handful of notes on data relevant to the books in the present discussion: some summary notes on authorship, date, title, and sketches of the scope of each. We will not work much with the critical ideas now, for if you can bring together the critical ideas on the Canon and the Pentateuch, you will have a rather good grip on the criticism of the other parts of the Old Testament as well. You will discover that it is very worthwhile checking these to see how they tie into the growing revelation of the program of redemption.

(1) Joshua

The book seems to be Joshua's own memoirs with the same basic historic notations that occur in a study of the Pentateuch. It follows the career of the children of Israel in their movement through the land and the conquest...showing both their successes and failures. The key to the book comes from Joshua 1:8 and its counterpart in chapter 24. It is a refreshing book for preaching and its historical thrusts in chapters 10-11 are thought to be very precise. The division of the land is here and something of the fulfillment of the Mosaic predictions of Deuteronomy 13 and Genesis 49...the last named was given by Jacob--of course--the account is from Moses.

(2) Judges

The authorship is uncertain...Samuel perhaps. Covering a span of about 300 years (the long chronology) and still noting that many of the