

Lesson 6: The Prophetic Writings

A. Instruction to write down the revelation received

1. Exodus 17:14 When was the first specific instruction given by God to write down a revelation received?
2. Jeremiah 36:2 What instruction did the LORD give to the prophet Jeremiah?
3. Revelation 1:1-3 What is implied by the words "blessed is he who reads"?
4. Why do you think the LORD instructed prophets to write down the revelations received rather than simply deliver them orally? (Romans 15:4)

B. Different styles of writing

1. The Holy Scriptures were written over a span of approximately 1,500 years by about 40 authors in three languages. What were some of their occupations? What did they all have in common?
2. What are some of the types of writing found in the Scriptures?
 - a. Stories. Give an example. (43% of the Bible)
 - b. Songs. Give an example.
 - c. Symbolic prophecies. Give an example.
 - d. Parables. Give an example.
 - e. Poems. Give an example.
 - f. Proverbs. Give an example.
 - g. Historical records. Give an example.
3. What does the variety of types and styles of writing in the Scriptures reveal about divine revelation?

C. Literary assistants

1. Jeremiah 36:1-8, 17-18 Who was inspired by the Holy Spirit in the writing of the Book of Jeremiah—the prophet Jeremiah, the scribe Baruch, or both?
2. Romans 16:22 Who assisted the Apostle Paul in the writing of his inspired letter to Christians in Rome? How can we be sure the literary assistant accurately recorded the words of the Apostle Paul?
3. What does the Apostle Paul's comment in Colossians 4:18 imply?
4. 1 Peter 5:12 Who assisted the Apostle Peter in the writing of his inspired letter to the pilgrims of the Dispersion? What do we know about Silvanus? (see 2 Corinthians 1:19, 1 Thessalonians 1:1)

D. Seeking contributions from others

1. Luke 1:1-4 Who guided Dr. Luke in the gathering of eyewitness reports of the life and teachings of Jesus? (see 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
2. Who guided King Solomon in gathering his collection of proverbs, not all written by himself? Ecclesiastes 12:9-11, Proverbs 1:1, 30:1, 31:1