

Preaching the Old Testament Prophets Annotated Bibliography

Achtemeier, Elizabeth R. *Preaching from the Minor Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

The strength of this volume is the emphasis on the context of the Minor Prophets. Achtemeier emphasizes both the historical and theological contexts of the prophets. The book divides the Minor Prophets into preaching periscopes and highlights helpful preaching insights in them.

Boice, James Montgomery. *The Minor Prophets*. Vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006.

This book is a very helpful resource. It outlines each book within the Minor Prophets and provides a homiletical outline of each pericope. The book is not heavy on technical exegesis, but is very good with context, outline, and illustrations. There is also some application within each section that is worth reading. This would be a great source to study at the beginning of a preaching series on one of these books.

Brueggemann, Walter. *The Prophetic Imagination*. Fortress Press, 2001.

Some practical suggestions on identifying the emotional nature (energizing, pathos) of Old Testament Prophets. The author highlights the social context of the prophets and its significance for their ministry. The last chapter (“A Note of the Practice of Ministry”) is brief but helpful on the subject of applying the task of prophetic ministry in our preaching.

Bullock, C. Hassell. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Prophetic Books*. Chicago: Moody Press, 2007.

This book is part of the series by Moody on the Introduction to the Old Testament. This particular volume may be the strongest in the series. The Introduction covers some of the general issues related to Old Testament prophecy. The rest of the book looks at each individual prophetic book. The book is less about preaching and more about content, but is an excellent source for an overview of each book.

Carlson, Robert A. *Preaching Like the Prophets: The Hebrew Prophets as Examples for the Practice of Pastoral Preaching*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2017.

This book emphasizes the relevance of the Old Testament Prophets for preaching today. Carlson begins by pointing out that the Prophets were preachers. He highlights the issues they addressed and how those are still current. He highlights their rhetorical skill and demonstrates their value. This book will encourage preachers to preach the prophets and gives practical suggestions on how to do it.

Carter, Terry G, J. Scott Duvall, and J. Daniel Hays. *Preaching God's Word: A Hands-on Approach to Preparing, Developing, and Delivering the Sermon*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

This book is written on a college level, but is a valuable resource. It covers both New and Old Testament, so it doesn't have as much depth as other works specific to any one field. Preachers will find insight in each chapter in the Interpretive and Sermon keys. The examples at the end of each chapter are worth reading.

Chalmers, Aaron. *Interpreting the Prophets: Reading, Understanding and Preaching from the Worlds of the Prophets*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2015

Like other works, this book begins with the identity, context, and themes of the Old Testament Prophets that is well done and worth reading. However, Chalmers also addresses the structure of the prophetic units as well as features of their writing. The final chapter lists guidelines for preaching the prophets. His final encouragement to be a good listener of the text is well-taken.

Gentry, Peter J. *How to Read and Understand the Biblical Prophets*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017.

This volume is more about understanding the Old Testament Prophets than it is about preaching from them. However, the work is solid in its approach and helpful in its application. The author leans heavily on the books of Isaiah and Ezekiel. His approach to understanding apocalyptic literature is especially helpful.

Gibson, Scott M., ed. *Preaching the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006.

This volume is a collection of chapters on the subject of preaching the Old Testament. The chapter on preaching Old Testament prophets was written by Sailhamer. The entire book is an excellent read, and Sailhamer's chapter is no different. Readers will especially appreciate his emphasis on the covenant aspect in the prophets. His emphasis on the context of the prophets is also helpful.

Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2000.

The aim of this book is to emphasize the significance of and suggestions how to promote a Christ-centered approach to preaching all of Scripture. The book walks through the significance of such an approach and then explains how to do that in any Scriptural genre. Each section has practical suggestions for preaching. The chapter on preaching the Prophets gives practical suggestions that are worth reading.

Gowan, Donald E. *Reclaiming the Old Testament for the Christian Pulpit*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1980.

The value of this book is the emphasis on recognizing any passage in the Old Testament as representing of a specific literary form. The sample sermons at the end of each chapter are worth reading.

Greidanus, Sidney. *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

This is only one of several volumes by Greidanus that are valuable reading on the subject of preaching the Old Testament. His work and consistent emphasis on preaching Christ from the Old Testament is true to the text and needed. Though this book is a general book about preaching, its work in preaching the Old Testament in general and the Old Testament prophets in particular is significant. The book begins with a note about Old Testament prophecy and has valuable content throughout. His section on *Guidelines for Preaching Prophetic Literature* is strong and practical. He also continues his emphasis of preaching Christ from the Old Testament that is well-taken.

Huey, F. B. *Yesterday's Prophets for Today's World*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1980.

This book is primarily about the prophets (their call, authority, responsibility, and witness). However, the chapter on "Interpreting the Prophetic Message" provides some practical and helpful insights for preaching the Old Testament Prophets.

Kaiser, Walter. *Preaching and Teaching from the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003.

Kaiser is a well-known name in the field of preaching the Old Testament. This volume is one of his finest. The book is organized in two parts. The first part addresses the need for preaching the Old Testament and the second part addresses how to do it. There is much to commend about this volume, but his chapter on preaching the Old Testament prophets is excellent. Read this book with a marker and a pen!

Kent, Grenville J R, Paul J. Kissling, and Laurence A. Turner, eds. *Reclaiming the Old Testament for Christian Preaching*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2010.

This work is a compilation of authors writing on a variety of topics and genre related to preaching the Old Testament. There are 4 chapters specific to preaching Old Testament genre. Each chapter has strengths. The best contribution of the chapters relate to understanding the prophets and their messages in their context. There are some helpful sample sermon outlines at the end of each chapter.

Klein, George L., ed. *Reclaiming the Prophetic Mantle: Preaching the Old Testament Faithfully*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.

This is a valuable resource for a number of reasons. It begins with several chapters on preaching from various Old Testament genre. The chapter on preaching the Prophets, by Kent addresses the identity of the prophets and gives some helpful insights on how to preach them. His emphasis on regularly and faithfully preaching the prophets is well-taken. In addition to Kent's chapter, White's chapter on "Changing Culture with Words from God" offers insights into applying the themes of the Old Testament in our preaching. It also offers hermeneutical principles for preaching and application that are worth reading. Finally, Hemphill's chapter on, "Where Do We Go from Here," draws the book together, but also adds insights into the various genre of the Old Testament including the Prophets that is valuable.

Larson, Craig Brian, and Haddon W. Robinson. *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching: A Comprehensive Resource for Today's Communicators*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

This book is an encyclopedia of excellent preaching articles. The volume contains 201 chapters and covers a wide range of topics, a number of which relate to preaching the Prophets. There are many chapters that preachers will find practical and insightful in this work. The chapter by Dunham on "A Prophet among You" contains a number of valuable insights on preaching Old Testament Prophets.

Lessing, R. Reed. "Preaching Like the Prophets: Using Rhetorical Criticism in the Appropriation of Old Testament Prophetic Literature." *Concordia Journal* 28 (2002): 391-408.

In this article, the author identifies four components of rhetorical criticism of Old Testament Prophets: persuasion, historical setting, pragmatics, and poetry. He walks through those aspects and how those impact our preaching of the prophets today. Reed recommends an inductive approach through the prophetic texts, analyzing the rhetorical principles at work in the passage, and developing strategies and techniques for how to employ those today. The article offers helpful suggestions for each step.

McComiskey, Thomas Edward, ed. *Minor Prophets, Exegetical and Expository Commentary*, vol. 3. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1998.

There are a number of worthwhile commentaries on the Old Testament Prophets. Most either lean heavy towards exegetical or practical. This one stands out as both. Preachers will quickly note the outline, exegetical insights, and technical strength of the work. But the notes also provide may key exegetical insights as well as practical suggestions for preaching. This one is more heavy reading than most on this list, but well worth the effort.

McMickle, Marvin A. *Where Have All the Prophets Gone?: Reclaiming Prophetic Preaching in America*. Cleveland, Ohio: The Pilgrim Press, 2006.

This volume bemoans the loss of prophetic preaching in America today. The author rightly points out that we tend to have a few select passages from the Old Testament Prophetic books to which we turn, but rarely hear dedicated exegetical work through them. What is lost are the issues that they so effectively address. The book emphasizes the functions of prophets, and the need for their voice today. The author calls for courageous and timely preaching that addresses issues today inside and outside the church. This book is a timely call for prophetic preaching.

Moseley, Allan. *From the Study to the Pulpit: An 8-Step Method for Preaching and Teaching the Old Testament*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2017.

This is an excellent resource for preaching the Old Testament. Moseley walks the reader through an eight-step process for the exposition, delivery, and application of any Old Testament passage. His appreciation for the genre and context of the passage is especially valuable. He gives helpful suggestions and practical applications. His section on preaching Old Testament poetry is worth the cost of the book. However, his work on Old Testament Prophecy is equally valuable.

Sandy, D. Brent, and Ronald L. Giese, Jr. *Cracking Old Testament Codes: A Guide to Interpreting the Literary Genres of the Old Testament*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 1995.

This work is practical and easy to read. It is a compilation volume of 14 chapters by 16 contributors. It focuses primarily on the literary forms of the Old Testament. The first three chapters and the final chapter discuss the literary forms in the Old Testament. There are 3 chapters that cover different aspects of preaching the prophets. Butler's chapter on *Announcements of Judgment* is a solid and helpful chapter on this aspect of the prophet's task.

Sangyil Park "Speaking of Hope: Prophetic Preaching." *Review and Expositor* 109 (2012): 413-27.

The author issues a call for prophetic preaching and specifically for addressing the issues of our day in a similar manner in which the Old Testament prophets addressed those of their day. The strengths of the article are the sections on the hermeneutical task and the pastoral implications of prophetic preaching.

Smith, Gary V. *Interpreting the Prophetic Books: An Exegetical Handbook*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2014.

This book builds on Smith's previous work entitled, *The Prophets as Preachers: An Introduction to the Hebrew Prophets*. Like that volume, this book covers the overview and content of the books, but spends more time addressing the issues of preaching and application. The work is strong on the context of the individual prophets.

VanGemeren, Willem A. *Interpreting the Prophetic Word: An Introduction to the Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

This book is a helpful and comprehensive volume on preaching the Old Testament prophets. The introductory chapters overview the development of prophecy and its impact on the nation of Israel. The bulk of the work is a focus on the individual books of prophecy. The work outlines the form and structure of the books, walks through critical passages, and details the topics and themes of each book. It is invaluable reading for the overview of a book. This work would be excellent preparation as you prepare to preach through an Old Testament prophetic book.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *How to Preach and Teach the Old Testament for All Its Worth*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

This book continues the series by Zondervan that began with *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. This volume is a reprint from an earlier work by Wright entitled, *Sweeter Than Honey*. This book is well-written and very practical. The book is organized similarly to Kaiser's work above, in that he spends the first section on the "why" and the second on the "how" of preaching the Old Testament. Like the volume by Moseley above, this book is extremely valuable. Two of the fifteen chapters in the book are on preaching the Old Testament prophets. They are practical and helpful. Make sure and read the "Build the Bridge" section in chapter twelve on "Preaching and Teaching from the Prophets."

Yates, Kyle M. *Preaching from the Prophets*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1942.

This book is strong on the history and context of the prophets. Moreover, each chapter ends with a section on "Practical Lessons of Permanent Value." These "lessons" are in bullet form, but worth reading and provide excellent sermon insights.