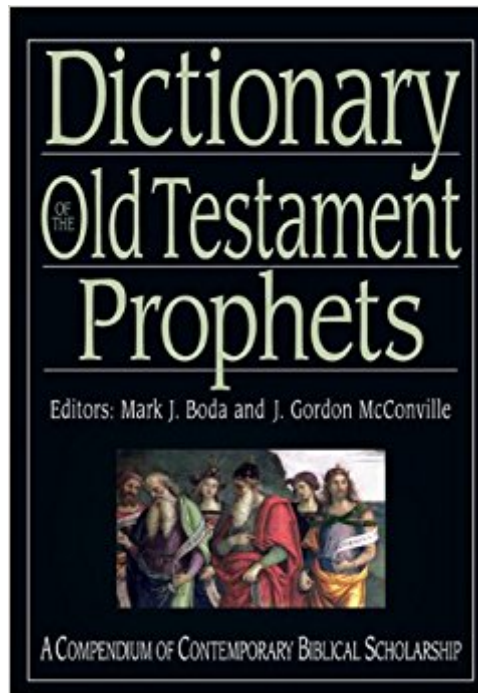


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# Dictionary Of The Old Testament: Prophets (IVP Bible Dictionary)



## Synopsis

2013 ECPA Book Award finalist! With the Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets, IVP's Black Dictionary series completes its coverage of the Old Testament canonical books. A true compendium of recent scholarship, the volume includes 115 articles covering all aspects of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, the twelve "minor prophets" and Daniel. Each book's historical, cultural, religious and literary background is thoroughly covered, alongside articles on interpretation history and critical method. Pastors, scholars and students will find this a deep resource for their Old Testament studies.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In a 20-year period InterVarsity Press has produced a top notch series of dictionaries on the Old and New Testaments. The series of large volumes in black have been completed with the latest volume just out, dealing with the prophets and prophetic writings. So now we have eight magnificent volumes available, and this really is a superb set. They are a must addition to any serious theological library. Many hundreds of expert articles penned by leading OT and NT scholars, theologians, historians, and Bible scholars are laid out over many thousands of pages. All the important issues you may wish to study are found in these terrific volumes. Let me lay them out here in biblical order, with authors, date, and page numbers:-Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch. David W. Baker and T. Desmond Alexander, eds., 2002, 954pp.-Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical

Books. Bill Arnold and H.G.M. Williamson, eds., 2005, 1060pp.-Dictionary of the Old Testament: Wisdom, Poetry and Writings. Tremper Longman and Peter Enns, eds., 2008, 967pp.-Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets. Mark Boda and J. Gordon McConville, eds., 2012, 965pp.-Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels. Joel Green, Scot McKnight and I. Howard Marshall, eds., 1992, 934pp.-Dictionary of Paul and His Letters. Gerald Hawthorne, Ralph Martin and Daniel Reid, eds., 1993, 1038pp.-Dictionary of Later New Testament and Its Developments. Ralph Martin and Peter Davids, eds., 1997, 1289pp.-Dictionary of New Testament Background. Craig Evans and Stanley Porter, eds., 2000, 1328pp. That is some 8535 pages worth of hard core theological and biblical material.

Since I have read the entire work for my personal blog (where I have extensively discussed this book in a series of longer posts), I thought I should do a short review here as well. I have hesitated between giving it two or three stars. In the end, I opted for three, since the subtitle (only included on the cover) does warn that this is a "Compendium of Contemporary Biblical SCHOLARSHIP" (emphasis added), which is not the same as an expanded Bible dictionary. Many articles include an overview of at least the more important or influential scholarship on their particular topic - however flawed the respective scholarly view turned out to be eventually. And if that is what you want, you may be happier with this dictionary than I was. For evangelical readers like myself, however, I would only give this two stars. Here is my angle on this. First, I came looking for something that is helpful in preparing teaching or Bible study. This it is not. I won't often go back to this volume for my lecture preparation. I do use and enjoy the NT volumes in this series (so mine is not a case of anti-intellectual bias or rejection of scholarship as such). For this reason, I actually looked forward to this volume (this is why I wanted to read it), but I am disappointed. Second, I expect something that is legible and comprehensible for non-experts. This, too, it is not. The style and the level of writing are usually highly academic and difficult to read. Too often, an article presupposes quite a bit (how many readers know what semiotics or post-structuralism is?). In fact, it has made me wonder what the intended audience for this book is. For the biblical scholar it probably offers too little, for many others too much may be unintelligible.

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