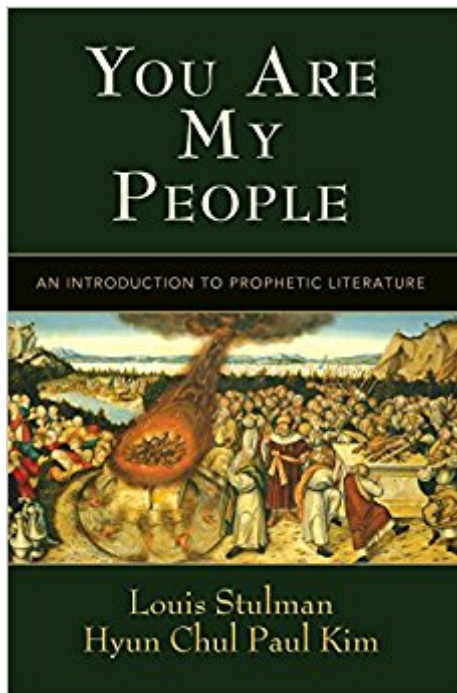




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You Are My People: An Introduction To Prophetic Literature



Synopsis

Building on recent developments in biblical studies, this book introduces the prophetic literature of the Old Testament against the background of today's postmodern context and crisis of meaning. Pulsating with anxiety over the empire--Assyrian, Babylonian, and Persian--the prophet corpus is a disturbing cultural expression of lament and chaos. Danger, disjunction, and disaster bubble beneath the surface of virtually every prophetic text. Sometimes in denial, sometimes in despair, and sometimes in defiance, the readers of this literature find themselves living at the edge of time, immediately before, during, or after the collapse of longstanding symbolic, cultural, and geo-political structures. These written prophecies not only reflect the social location of trauma, but are also a complex response. More specifically, prophetic texts are thick meaning-making maps, tapestries of hope that help at-risk communities survive.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Professor of Religious Studies, University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio Hyun Chul Paul Kim is Professor of Hebrew Bible Methodist Theological School in Ohio Delaware, Ohio.

I believe that the intent or goal of "You Are My People" was simply to guide the reader to a better understanding of what the Prophetic Text truly is and how it can relate to their lives, even in the modern world. This book does not attempt to force a specific doctrine or way of thinking on the reader. Instead, through dialogue and numerous examples (both from the Bible and in the modern

world), the authors are able to paint a picture or perhaps a view of how to look at and interpret the prophetic text. I believe that this book truly calls for the reader to be engaged with and immersed in the Bible itself, you cannot merely read "You Are My People" as the primary text... instead it pushes you to strive to make the Bible the primary text, and to use the book itself as it's supplement. There is much thought and careful reason throughout this entire book. And the author's go through great lengths to get their point across. One of the amazing things of this book is the fact that these are very controversial issues that are being discussed (mainly justice and hope in the midst of suffering) and yet never once does the reader ever feel ambushed or forced into believing something. The issues are controversial... but the arguments are attacked not the reader themselves so it makes it easier to engage in the reading. The main case (or idea) of this book is the concept that the prophetic text sought to show that there is hope in liberation, hope in suffering, and even hope against hope. The prophetic text taken at face value can seem extremely hopeless at times, and even depressing or dark... and yet when one searches past face value for the true meaning they realize that they are in reality so much more than that. The prophetic writings are deep and meaningful. They speak to a people and a nation from many centuries ago, and yet the beauty is that they are still able to speak to us in modern times. I believe that "You Are My People" has clearly helped to point that fact out... perhaps in the present times more than ever we should heed these prophetic texts. Though the prophets may have been writing to a specific group of people and a specific time, that does not mean that suffering does not exist today. Suffering does exist and on an extreme level. The world has suffered, yet there is still hope and we can find that hope written across the prophetic literature (though it sometimes seems hidden). The author's of this book forced the readers to go beyond themselves and to delve deeper into the true meaning behind the prophetic literature and for that reason I believe they were very successful at making their case.

This gorgeously-written book tackles a group of texts that stymie most believers and challenge scholars. Prophetic literature can seem bleak, disturbing and difficult to understand, but Stulman and Kim make the subject readable and relateable to modern readers and modern life. The book argues that the struggles of the prophets can mirror our own struggles, and by seeking to understand the prophets, along with the times and circumstances in which they lived, we can gain some insights into our own times. It is a bold assertion in a time when even the most devout Christian may show no affection for books of the Old Testament. But the language used in the book is so vibrant, poetic and colorful that it makes no difference whether you have any affection for prophetic literature -- the passion with which the authors wrote the book will almost instantly engage

you.

Very interesting read. Insightful to inspire thought as well as alternative perspective. Must be open to consider various questions. Can take you out of your comfort zone.

Just what I expected

Husband will be using this book for his COS classes in September.

Required reading, naturally, but makes you think.

new book

Great book on the Old Testamrnt prophets.

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