

Apocalyptic, Prophetic, & Wisdom Literature Compared

Adapted from Brian Stoffregen: <http://www.crossmarks.com/brian/luke21x5.htm>

"I present the following brief and very simplistic purposes of prophetic, wisdom, and apocalyptic literatures. While they all have a future component, they are primarily concerned about the present." (Brian Stoffregen)

World View (examples)	Past - Why?	Present	Future	Form	Purpose of Literature
Prophetic (Isaiah, Jeremiah)	People have sinned	Suffering	Blessing, if people repent	Prophet called from God; "Thus says the Lord . . ."	Call people to repent and change ways in present
Wisdom (Psalms, Proverbs)	Cause and effect: Do right => blessed Do wrong => suffer	Blessing or suffering	Depends on continued righteousness or unrighteousness	Proverbs, wisdom poetry, wise parables, etc	Encourage people to continue or start living righteously in present
Apocalyptic (Daniel, Revelation)	World is under evil powers that affect the faithful	Suffering	Reversal of fortunes: Faithful Righteous who suffer now, will be rewarded Godless Unrighteous who bring suffering to others, will suffer (usually in a different or recreated world)	Historical character receives "vision" given by God thru angel about God's triumph over evil	Encourage people to continue faithfulness and patience during present suffering

Rev 5/24/20