

# *Interpretation*

Josh Spoelstra | 20 August 2023

# Prophetic Literature

## Prophetic Message

Hear the word of the LORD,  
O children of Israel...There is  
no faithfulness or steadfast  
love, and no knowledge of  
God in the land; there is  
swearing, lying, murder,  
stealing, and committing  
adultery; they break all  
bounds, and bloodshed  
follows bloodshed.

(Hosea 4:1-2 ESV)

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## Source Material (Torah)

"You shall not murder.

"You shall not commit  
adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not bear false  
witness against your  
neighbor.

(Exodus 20:13-16 ESV)

# Poetic Literature

## Synonymous Parallelism

- Proverbs 11:22

Like a **gold ring** in a **pig's snout**  
is a **beautiful woman** who shows **no discretion**

- Proverbs 16:18

**Pride** goes before **destruction**,  
a **haughty spirit** before a **fall**;

- Proverbs 17:4

A **wicked man** listens to **evil lips**;  
a **liar** pays attention to a **malicious tongue**.

# Poetic Literature

## Antithetical Parallelism

- Proverbs 10:1

A **wise** son brings **joy** to his **father**,  
but a **foolish** son **grief** to his **mother**;

- Proverbs 10:12

**Hatred** stirs up **dissension**,  
but **love covers over all wrongs**;

- Proverbs 22:15

**Folly** is **bound up** in the heart of a child,  
but the **rod of discipline will drive it far from him**

# Poetic Literature

## Synthetic Parallelism

- Proverbs 4:27

Do not swerve to the right or to the left;  
**keep your foot from evil**

- Proverbs 11:30

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life  
and **he who wins souls is wise.**

- Proverbs 14:7

Stay away from the foolish man  
for **you will not find knowledge on his lips.**

*What happens when we do not read  
literature according to its genre?*

# Wisdom Literature

**Train up a child in the way he should go;  
even when he is old he will not depart from it.**

(Proverbs 22:6 ESV)



# Creation

Genesis 1 = Poem

Genesis 2 = Prose



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# Apocalyptic Literature

## Revelation

- The mark of the beast (16:2; 19:20),
- 666 (13:18),
- on forehead & hand (14:9).



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- 666 (13:18),
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(cf. Ezekiel 9:3-6)

## Elsewhere in the Bible

- Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ...Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, (Deut 6:6, 8 NRSV)
- Seal of God on foreheads (Revelation 7:3; 9:4)

# Integration

**For we are His **workmanship** [Gk. *poiēma*],  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand  
so that we would walk in them.**

(Ephesians 2:10 NASB)