

# Content

<b>Editors' Foreword</b> .....	9
Author's Preface .....	10
<b>Introduction</b> .....	11
The Place of Nahum – Habakkuk – Zephaniah within the Book of the Twelve .....	11
Synchronic Reading – or: The Northern Empire in Nahum – Habakkuk – Zephaniah .....	12
Diachronic Analysis – or: The Empires of Assyria and Babylon in Nahum, Habbakuk, and Zephaniah .....	14
<b>Nahum</b> .....	21
Introduction .....	21
Synchronic Perspective .....	21
Diachronic Perspective .....	29
Interpretation .....	35
The Superscription (Nah 1:1) .....	35
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	35
Synchronic Analysis .....	35
Diachronic Analysis .....	36
Synthesis .....	37
The Vengeful God and the Counsel of Belial (Nah 1:2–2:1 [ET: 1:15]) ....	38
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	40
Synchronic Analysis .....	42
Diachronic Analysis .....	49
Synthesis .....	55
Down with Nineveh, Away with the Lions! (Nah 2:2–14 [ET:2:1–13]) ....	57
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	58
Synchronic Analysis .....	60
Diachronic Analysis .....	69
Synthesis .....	71
Woe to the City of Blood, Away with the Locusts! (Nah 3:1–19) .....	72
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	73
Synchronic Analysis .....	75
Diachronic Analysis .....	86
Synthesis .....	88
<b>Habakkuk</b> .....	91
Introduction .....	91
Synchronic Observations .....	91
1. The Form and Content of the Book of Habakkuk as a Whole .....	91

2. The Attempt to Place the Book of Habakkuk as a Whole in its Historical Context .....	94
Diachronic Analysis .....	98
1. Composition-critical Breakdown of the Book of Habakkuk .....	98
2. The After-Effects of the Book of Habakkuk .....	103
Interpretation .....	106
The Superscription (Hab 1:1) .....	106
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	106
Synchronic Analysis .....	106
Diachronic Analysis .....	107
The Prophet's Dispute with God (Hab 1:2-2:4) .....	108
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	109
Synchronic Analysis .....	114
Diachronic Analysis .....	131
Synthesis .....	139
A Series of Woe Oracles (Hab 2:5-20) .....	141
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	142
Synchronic Analysis .....	144
Diachronic Analysis .....	151
Synthesis .....	156
A Prayer (Hab 3:1-19) .....	158
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	160
Synchronic Analysis .....	164
Diachronic Analysis .....	178
Synthesis .....	182
<b>Zephaniah</b> .....	185
Introduction .....	185
Synchronic View .....	185
Diachronic View .....	188
1. The Preexilic Original Layer .....	188
2. A Late Preexilic Collection .....	189
3. The Deuteronomistic Redaction .....	190
4. Postexilic Accretions .....	191
Interpretation .....	192
The Superscription (Zeph 1:1) .....	192
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	192
Synchronic Analysis .....	193
Diachronic Analysis .....	195
Synthesis .....	197
The Day of Yhwh (Zeph 1:2-2:3) .....	198
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	200
Synchronic Analysis .....	201
Diachronic Analysis .....	211
Synthesis .....	215
The People of God and the Nations (Zeph 2:4-3:8) .....	218
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	221
Synchronic Analysis .....	223

Diachronic Analysis .....	230
Synthesis .....	236
The Time of Salvation (Zeph 3:9–20) .....	239
Notes on the Text and Translation .....	240
Synchronic Analysis .....	241
Diachronic Analysis .....	246
Synthesis .....	249
<b>Index</b> .....	253
Abbreviations .....	253
Bibliography .....	253
Indexes .....	275
Index of Hebrew Words .....	275
Index of Greek Words .....	278
Index of Key Words .....	278
Index of Citations .....	281