

Dear Sojourners in Faith,

Christ is risen!

In an ideal (Bible study) world, we would read Amos, Isaiah 1–39, and Hosea, the prophets of the 8th cent., who continue the (biblical) prophetic tradition of Elijah, Micaiah, and Elisha, about whom we would read more extensively in Kings. But alas, we will march forward to grasp the grander narrative of the Bible—still much ahead of us.

As we “master” the Mosaic and Davidic traditions, the northern-southern divide, we will be better equipped to handle the histories and narratives still far on the horizon, e.g., Jesus, Paul.

Please skim Amos, Hosea, and if you have time, also Isaiah 1–39, but focus on **Hosea 11**. Worth reviewing might be my last email(s):

Previously in the Bible study . . .

We have been walking with Israel from slavery into the desert (to learn to be free and become the people of God) and from the desert into Canaan (to settle down in the promised land). At the same time, we have been walking with Israel from being slaves to the free people of Israel in the wilderness under Moses, then to the tribal confederacy in the land of Canaan/Israel (under Joshua and then the judges), and then to monarchy under many kings, beginning with the united kingdom under Saul, David, and Solomon, and then thereafter in the divided kingdoms of Israel in the north and Judah in the south.

We have come a long way, seen many things, and experienced much. Throughout it all, the presence and providence of God, the LORD (YHWH), have been pointing the way into all possible futures through “the law” (the Torah, *instruction* or *teaching*). It is the prophets who, like Moses and the judges, are possessed by God’s spirit to remind Israelites how they should live (ethics and behavior). We have learned a lot about God, about Israel, and about ourselves; we still have a long way to go through the biblical history ahead of us, but it is the prophets who will be the constant voice reminding Israelites and us how to walk with God.

So, who and what are Israelite prophets? What is prophecy? And how should we at Ann’s Choice hear the word of God in the words of the prophets and word in our Bibles as we walk our faith today?

Please reread **1 Kgs 22.1–28** (cf. 1Kgs 13; Ezek 14.1–11; Am 7.10–17) and see what observations and questions arise in the text about Israelite prophecy and prophets. Again, as ever, I look forward to ***your observations and questions***.

As before, I look forward to **your observations and questions**, and please never hesitate to **suggest any biblical, theological, or life topics** along the way. We can be flexible to take detours on our journey through the Bible. Please see the **“syllabus” online** for where we are headed: **Bible study 2021-04** (printed copies also available in front of my office in Resident Life, Liberty Commons).

For the Zoomers, here are the instructions:

Zoom (online or using an app):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82395191045?pwd=TTRiQklwR2RhRzZkNFNlU2RRbGRoUT09>

Meeting ID: 823 9519 1045

Meeting Password: annschoice

Dial in by telephone: nearest phone access in New York City

Dial 1 (929) 205 6099

Enter Meeting ID: 823 9519 1045, followed by “#”

Enter Passcode: 394871 if requested

See you in class or via Zoom. Have a lovely evening.

With prayer and best wishes, Kang Na

