

# TRAD 104: THE BIBLE'S GREATEST HITS

## EXAM # II: THE LATTER PROPHETS & THE WRITINGS

### PART II: ESSAY

Write a brief essay (800 words = **NOT MORE THAN** 3 typed pages) on ONE of the topics below. Write your essay at home and turn it in—**TYPED**, please—when you take the first (short-answer) part of the exam.

**Remember:** Your essay should be **coherent**, clearly developed, and well **supported** by specific **evidence** from the text of the Bible. It should have a clear **introduction**, defining the subject and stating a **thesis**, and a **conclusion** that follows plausibly from your argument.

- A. Compare and contrast the prophetic books of Amos and Hosea. Consider structure (dramatic vs. metaphoric), thematic similarities and differences, and the predominant tone of each prophet.
- B. Discuss the development of a “New Covenant” theology in Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Second Isaiah.
- C. Discuss the heroism of two of the three women we read about (Ruth, Esther, Judith). How and why are they heroic?
- D. Both Job and Ecclesiastes call into question the traditional belief that God is just. Select one of these works and discuss the possible reasons for questioning God’s goodness.
- E. Psalm 19 has two parts. Verses 1-6 celebrate the glory of God’s creation; the remaining verses (7-14) rejoice in the law of the LORD. Discuss the ways in which these two parts work together to create a coherent expression of religious belief.