

# Things Surely to be Believed Part 1

*Ray Stedman*

## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Isaiah-Obadiah.
- B. The Word of God is quick and powerful.
- C. The Word of the cross is the power of God.

## II. A knowledge of the Old Testament is important for taking in the riches of the New Testament.

- A. The first five books of the Old Testament reveal how God will work with a person.
- B. The historical books that follow set forth the perils that confront us living in this world.
- C. The poetical books reveal what happens emotionally when a person is set up against certain situations.

## III. The prophets.

- A. In the prophets, the mighty promises of God are revealed.
- B. A promise is a commitment to a certain person for a length of time.

## IV. Isaiah.

- A. This book is the promise of cleansing from God. (Isaiah 1:18)
- B. This book pictures the work of Jesus on the cross. (Isaiah 53)
- C. Wherever we discover some great failure, God always has a place of new beginning.

## V. Jeremiah.

- A. This book is the promise of God's absence in a person's life.
- B. When a man tries to match wits with God, God will let that person go his own way.

## VI. Ezekiel.

- A. This book is the promise of the presence of God.
- B. This book sets forth what God is like.

## VII. Daniel.

- A. This book illustrates the mind of God.

B. God illuminated Daniel until he saw through the deception of his day.

VIII. Hosea.

A. It is the book of God's love.

B. There is in it the promise of God's persistence.

IX. Joel.

A. This book is the promise of meaning in ultimate human events.

B. Everything works together for good in Joel.

X. Amos.

A. This is the book of promise of perfection. (Jude 24)

B. God will never let down the standards, even though we want Him to.

C. God will never be content with us until He has brought us to perfection in Jesus Christ.

XI. Obadiah.

A. This is the promise of spiritual victory.

B. The flesh will not have victory—the kingdom of our lives shall be the Lord's.

**Application questions:**

1. How would you respond to someone who says the Old Testament is not valuable for Christian living?

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2. Which of these books would you like to get into the most? Why?

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3. Spend some time investigating one of these books for fifteen minutes. What did you learn?

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