

ARTICLE.....
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1 sense than had been done by an earlier prophet,
 2 thus seeming to contradict the earlier statement
 3 of truth (cf. the difference in meaning of the
 4 word "faith" as used by James and as used by
 5 Paul). The tests that Moses gave, while they
 6 would rule out many imposters, would not always
 7 enable the observer to be sure who were the
 8 false prophets and who the true ones.

9 Thus the tests are largely negative rather
 10 than positive. Absolute certainty as to which
 11 were the true prophets was often difficult to
 12 attain. In Jeremiah's time many good people
 13 must have found it difficult to decide between
 14 the alleged prophets on the one hand, who said
 15 that God would protect His land, and thus seemed
 16 to be directly in line with the teaching of
 17 Isaiah a century earlier, and Jeremiah and Ezek-
 18 iel on the other, who declared that God would
 19 cause the nation to be destroyed and the people
 20 to be taken into exile.

21 In His providence God caused His people to
 22 honor the writings of the true prophets. Chris-
 23 tians can be certain that no mistake was made by
 24 those who preserved these books, because the
 25 Lord Jesus Christ set the seal of His approval

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