## PROPHETS AND PROPHECY

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different times, a new dimension was added to the naturalistic efforts to explain the origin of the prophetical books. In 1789 Doederlein declared that Isaiah 40-66, which predicts the coming of Cyrus and the return of the Jews from exile, had been written more than a century after the time of Isaiah. Some of the same arguments that alleged that Isaiah could not have written chapters 40-66 were extended to various passages in the previous 39 chapters. Eventually many critics divided the entire book of Isaiah into great numbers of separate sections, allegedly written by a great variety of authors who were said to have lived at various times. This approach was soon extended to nearly all the other prophetical books. It was long held by most critical scholars that Ezekiel was a unit though a few questioned it, but early in the 20th century critics began to 20 divide this book also into many sections supposed to have been written by a variety of authors.

Most of these higher critical approaches to the prophets result from two causes: (1) unwillingness to believe that the prophecies could nce 72 I Ilis article