

# *The Minor Prophets*

*also known as*

# *The Book of the Twelve*

*A private translation*

*by*

*Herman A. Hartmann*

## *Foreword*

With my 83rd birthday approaching I have completed a study that in my younger years, as a busy parish pastor, would have been impossible, namely the translation into "my English" of the Minor Prophets, also known as The Book of the Twelve.

Over the years I had read the Minor Prophets a number of times and on occasion read a commentary on one or more of these books. A careful and extended study of these books has not only been interesting but very enriching and informative. As I wrote a friend recently, 'By the time I have read the book almost 50 times I really begin to grasp what the prophet is saying.'

I am deeply grateful to have had this opportunity to examine in depth the pages that are so often passed over by pastors in their study of the Biblical record.

Should anyone read this 'private translation' it is my hope that the reader of the Minor Prophets in 'my English' will be provided with a deepened understanding of the troubled times in which the prophets lived as well as their understanding of God and God's dealings with people in times of trouble and uncertainty. May the reading of the Minor Prophets also provide a renewed understanding of the way God is working in these troubled times in the lives of individuals and nations.

Herman A. Hartmann  
Christmas 2005

*[N.B. In transliterating the Hebrew "i" is used for Yod. "ai" is used for Ain. "ts" is used for Sadhe. "sh" is used for Shin (Sin).]*

### *Dedication*

I dedicate this translation of the Minor Prophets to my wife, Blanche whose patience with me when I spend countless hours in my office examining ancient writings is deeply and lovingly appreciated.