

Unit 3 Reading Guide

God Revealed through Kings and Prophets

Chapter 9: The Kings and Prophets of the Northern Kingdom

Article 37: Divided We Fall: The Kingdom Splits

1. After _____ years as the king of Israel, Solomon dies, leaving a dark cloud over Israel. His son _____ succeeds him as king.
2. Rehoboam's decision to go with the _____ to the Israelites' complaints only affirms what _____ has heard from the prophet: that Israel will split into _____ separate kingdoms.
3. The ten tribes of the north become _____, led by _____. The remaining two tribes in the south stay with _____ and become the kingdom of _____.
4. If Jeroboam allows his people to go to _____, their _____ to him could be easily turned. His response to this _____ is to build _____ calves for the Israelites to worship. Encouraging the Israelites to worship these _____ leads to Jeroboam's downfall.
5. Following Jeroboam is a _____ of kings in the _____ who engage in a variety of _____ behaviors and _____. Israel fights not only against the _____ kingdom of _____ but also against themselves in a _____ war.
6. As the Israelites continue to sin, God sends his holy messengers, the _____, to guide them back to the _____.
7. The _____ of Israel ultimately falls to the _____ in 721 BC. By detailing a list of Israel's sins, the _____ leaves no doubt for the causes of the _____ kingdom's downfall: failure to follow _____, making _____ as idols, worshipping false gods, and even offering their _____ as burnt sacrifices.

Article 38: Prophets: God's Messengers

1. God does send us holy _____ who remind us of our call to be loving and merciful. It's true! These people are called _____.
2. Prophets are _____ chosen by God to speak his message of salvation.
3. Several prophets have _____ of the _____ named after them. They are sometimes called the writing prophets.



4. Sin thrives in the _____. Metaphorically speaking, a _____ shines a light on the sin, so that everyone—including the sinner—can see it.
5. _____ was an American writer and social activist. Like the prophets of the Old Testament, _____ suffered for her fight for _____.
6. Another person who is considered a _____ prophet is Saint Oscar Romero. In 1977 Romero became the _____ of _____ in El Salvador. Romero spoke up for workers' rights and condemned abuses such as government-sponsored _____, _____, and political _____.
7. Prophets are not _____ to people in the _____ and famous religious people. At our Baptism, all _____ are anointed to share in Christ's ministry as priest, _____, and king.

Article 39: Elijah and Elisha: Hard-Core Prophets

1. The First and Second Books of Kings are not just about the kings of _____ and _____. These books also contain accounts of several _____, especially _____ and _____. The narratives about _____ and his successor, _____, point backward in time to the prophet _____, and also point forward in time, giving a hint of what is to come in the _____: the _____ of all Old Testament prophecy, _____.
2. Elijah chastises King Ahab about his worship of _____. Then, to prove that Yahweh is the _____ God, Elijah challenges all the prophets of _____ and _____ in a head-to-head battle of the _____!
3. After wiping out the prophets of _____ and _____, Elijah flees from _____, who threatens to _____ him. Elijah does not experience God in thunderous _____ or _____, like Moses and Job did, but rather in "a light silent sound."
4. This connection between _____ and _____ is another example of an Old Testament person foreshadowing a _____ person.
5. By emphasizing the _____ that Moses and Joshua shared with _____ and _____, the human author highlights how they carried out similar roles. These commonalities emphasize the importance of _____ and _____ in Israelite history.
6. His (Elijah's) mysterious disappearance leads to the _____ people's expectation that _____ will return again to _____ the coming of the _____.
7. Fast-forward to the _____ Testament, and we can find the _____ between Elijah and _____. Elijah _____ John the Baptist in several ways. For his part, _____ prefigures Jesus in many ways. In the New Testament, Elijah is often portrayed as a _____ of all prophets. At Jesus' _____, he appears with Moses, who represents the Law.



Article 40: Sex and Money: Hosea and Amos

1. The prophets _____ and _____ cleverly use these intense and complex topics. Both live in the northern kingdom of Israel in the years before Assyria's defeat of Israel in _____ BC.
2. Hosea uses his marriage to _____, a prostitute, as a metaphor to describe God's relationship with _____. As _____ is unfaithful to Hosea, the Israelites are unfaithful to _____.
3. The word *baal* means "lord or master." This is what _____ called their _____ in biblical times. It is also the name of the main _____. The name _____ means "salvation," and this is what God offers to _____ over and over again.
4. The Hebrew word _____ means "knowledge" or "to know," but it has layers of meaning that go beyond what we usually associate with those words. For example, *yada* is used to refer to a _____ relationship.
5. This is why Hosea uses these words to call the Israelites to renew their intimate relationship with God: using these words: "Let us know, let us _____ to _____ the _____" (Hosea 6:3).
6. _____ does not hold anything back in his poetic _____ condemning the _____ for their numerous _____. The wealthy people's _____ of the poor is at the _____ of his _____.
7. Through Amos, _____ reveals to us that true _____ is not something that is practiced for one hour on _____ mornings. God is most _____ when our _____ worship reflects our _____ to his Law, including _____ for the most _____ in our society.

Article 41: Jonah: Laughter Is the Best Medicine

1. The book (of Jonah) most likely was written after the people of _____ returned from their captivity in Babylon. Taken too far, this distrust resulted in an unfortunate and ungodly _____ : that non-Jews were beyond God's _____.
2. Jonah spends three days and three nights inside the fish. In the New Testament, this will be seen to _____ Jesus' _____, occurring _____ days after being in the "belly" of the _____.
3. The Ninevites are Israel's _____. Jonah seems ready for a _____.
4. Jonah is ready for an all-out battle in which the _____ of God will strike down these _____. Instead, God _____ the Ninevites' _____.
5. The story of Jonah is a _____ reminder to abandon the _____ that divide us and to see _____ as God does.



Chapter 10: The Kings and Prophets of the Southern Kingdom

Article 42: Good Kings: Shining Stars on a Dark Horizon

1. When the _____ of Israel splits after Solomon's death, the kingdom of Judah is on its own in the south. Like Israel, the northern kingdom, the kingdom of Judah has a string of _____. But they do have a couple of _____.
2. The kingdom of Judah has a couple of redeeming qualities. First, as God promises David, the royal leadership of Judah remains within a single family line—the _____ of _____. Second, two _____ make important _____.
3. Through Isaiah's _____, God assures Hezekiah that _____ will not conquer Jerusalem.
4. After Hezekiah's death, _____ endures two more rounds of bad kings separated by one more shining star, King _____.
5. Only by chance does _____ discover a _____ of the _____ during a Temple renovation. He then reads it to the people and begins a great _____. Then he leads the people in celebrating a special _____.
6. As Isaiah prophesied to King _____, God will ultimately punish _____ for its sins, and the punishment will come through the hands of the _____. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, directs his army to take the city of _____, and by _____ BC, _____ has been captured and its citizens taken into captivity in _____.
7. There is hardly a _____ time in their history than the era of the _____. Unfortunately, it sometimes takes these _____ for us to truly _____ our need for _____.

Article 43: Isaiah Part 1: Hope for the Hopeless

1. Almost two centuries after _____ wrote his prophecies, the authors of _____ Isaiah and _____ Isaiah wrote theirs.
2. Though _____ and _____ Isaiah offer a hopeful future for Judah after the return from the _____, _____ Isaiah paints a gloomy outlook before the Exile.
3. Despite this apparently dark future, Isaiah encourages the king to _____, reassuring him that the Lord will give a sign: "The young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son, shall name him _____ (Isaiah 7:14).
4. *Emmanuel* is a Hebrew word meaning "_____ is _____."
5. The ideal king, as described by Isaiah, is exactly the kind of leader _____ needs at this time. In looking toward the future, it is easy to see how _____ fulfills that description.



Article 44: Jeremiah: Outrageous Heart

1. Like the prophets before him, _____ resisted God's call. In response he says, "I am too _____" (Jeremiah 1:6).
2. He warns the Israelites that they will only be able to remain in the land God has given them if they stop _____ those in _____ and _____ gods.
3. The shock tactics Jeremiah uses to get the people's attention include holding up a _____ in front of the Temple, describing the gruesome deaths of their _____, smashing a _____, and wearing a _____ around his neck.
4. Jeremiah expresses his emotions, both his _____ and _____ to God, with complete _____. These passages can be _____ to us—even great _____ and _____ people like Jeremiah had their moments of _____.
5. The comparison of _____ and Jeremiah is not surprising because there are a number of _____ similarities between the two.
6. In 587 BC, the Babylonians finally conquer _____, destroy the city and the Temple, and take most of its inhabitants to Babylon. Jeremiah stays behind in Judah with those who remain in the ruined city, but eventually they flee to _____. Jeremiah continues to prophecy there, but he soon disappears.
7. No one knows what happened to him, but his _____ as a _____ and _____ messenger of _____ continues to deeply _____ to this day.

Article 45: Ezekiel: Actions Speak Louder Than Words

1. Like his fellow prophet Jeremiah, Ezekiel prophesies in the last years before the _____ conquered _____.
2. God instructs him to do the following: 1. Build a model of _____. 2. Put all the _____ used for a siege upon a city around the model. 3. Place an iron _____ between the model city and himself and watch it for _____ months. Ezekiel's model represents God doing _____ as Jerusalem is _____, and the iron _____ stands for the _____ between God and his people.
3. When Ezekiel's wife dies, God tells him not to _____ her.
4. God calls the prophet Ezekiel "_____ " over ninety times in the Book of Ezekiel. Not only is "_____ of _____" the title Jesus most often chose for himself; it is the only _____ title he used.
5. His [Ezekiel's] prophetic vision includes three _____ images. In the first image, he expresses God's willingness to forgive and his desire to make things new. The second image is _____ of the _____ coming to life. The third image is most important: the _____ of the Temple.



6. Ezekiel's second and third images also point to a _____ event and a glorious _____ found in the New Testament. First, the image of the bones coming to life _____ Jesus' _____ from the dead. Second, the author of the Book of Revelation borrows some of _____ imagery of the _____ to describe Heaven itself.

Article 46: The Babylonian Exile: Far Away from Home

1. The Babylonian king, _____, and his army have conquered _____, destroyed the _____, killed _____ of people, and taken most of the _____ back to Babylon as captives. This period of captivity, called the _____ Exile, lasts from about _____ to _____ BC.
2. A few years later, Zedekiah rebels against the Babylonians. His rebellion leads to the Babylonians attacking _____ once again, laying _____ to the city. The Babylonians eventually _____ the city.
3. They [the exiles in Babylon] are not slaves or held in _____; rather, they are free to make a _____ and settle down in their _____ homes. On the other hand, they are not _____ to return home and _____ perform any of their _____ practices in public.
4. They (the exiles) focus on their oral tradition and the _____ to record it. It is at this point that the _____ of the _____ is written.
5. Notice that the only important quality by which their leaders are judged is their _____.
6. God's people _____ their losses in _____ and wonder what it all means. Jesus' _____ experience similar _____ after his _____. They are like _____ without a _____, unaware that Jesus will _____ again in three days. Yet, even with these _____, God's _____ continues.

Article 47: Isaiah Parts 2 and 3: A Light in the Darkness

1. The Book of _____ was most likely written over a period of _____ centuries. Chapters 1–39 were written in the eighth century by First Isaiah. Chapters 40–55 were written over a century later, when the anonymous author, _____, along with most of the people of _____, were held in captivity in _____.
2. God commanded _____, "Comfort, give _____ to my people" (Isaiah 40:1).
3. Second Isaiah gives hope to the people of Judah by identifying two kinds of servants who will carry out God's will: the _____ and the King of _____.
4. The Suffering Servant. This was the _____ of their ideal _____ who, instead of being _____ like a king, was a _____ to his people.



5. Second Isaiah identifies _____ as an _____ of God, even though _____ does not acknowledge the _____ as God.
6. _____ the _____ points toward our Savior, _____, for those held in the _____ of sin. Because of our faith in _____, we have a reason to _____, and therefore a reason to _____.

Chapter 11: The Messianic Prophecies

Article 48: Old Testament, New Testament: Woven Together

1. Christians read the Old Testament in light of Christ's _____ and _____.
2. The study of how God's work in the Old Testament points to what he later accomplished through Jesus Christ in the New Testament is called _____.
3. For example, because _____ helped free the Israelites from slavery, he is an Old Testament person who points toward Jesus' _____ acts that free us from _____.
4. For this reason, Christians understand that "the Old Testament prepares for the _____, and the New Testament _____ the Old; the two shed _____ on each other; both are the true _____ of _____" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, number 140).

Article 49: Messianic Prophecies: Pointing toward the Light

1. *Messiah* is a Hebrew word meaning "_____." The Greek equivalent of this Hebrew word is _____, from which we get Jesus' title, "_____."
2. _____ are the visionary descriptions spoken by some of the prophets in the Old Testament, which point to the coming of the ideal Messiah, Jesus Christ.
3. The Gospels of _____ and _____ outline Jesus' family tree and have stories about his birth, showing the connections to the messianic prophecies.
4. In four passages called "The _____," the prophet (Second Isaiah) offers ideal descriptions of someone who models servant leadership.
5. The early Christians see the obvious connections between Jesus and the "_____."

Article 50: Psalms: Guided by Poetry

1. The Psalms are _____ used for group and _____ prayer. Many were originally _____ during Israelite _____. Christians and Jews still sing them today.
2. The Book of Psalms is quoted in the _____ more than any other Old Testament book.
3. The prophetic wisdom of the Psalms reassures us that our _____ can be a path to holiness.



4. A _____ refers to the first stone laid in the construction of a _____ or house. It is the _____ one because all of the other stones are set in _____ to that one.
5. Jesus quotes this _____ when he tells a _____ symbolizing how he will be put to _____. Psalm 118 prophesies that the most important _____ of our faith, Jesus, our cornerstone and _____, will first be _____.
6. Rather than a sign of _____, Jesus' quotation of the first line of _____ 22 actually points to his _____ trust in God despite his _____ suffering.
7. The _____ reflect the hope for a _____ that is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

Article 51: Previews: Moses, Joshua, David

1. Numerous people in the _____ give us a _____ of what is to come in the New Testament. Notable Old Testament figures who accomplished this are Moses, _____, and King David.
2. Matthew's audience is primarily _____ who want to understand better how Jesus fits into their history and faith.
3. Throughout the Gospel, the author of Matthew offers his Jewish audience a portrayal of Jesus as the _____.
4. *Jesus* is the Greek form of the Hebrew name _____ or, as we say it, _____. The name means "_____." It should be no surprise then that _____—the successor to _____—also prefigures Jesus Christ.
5. King David's rule of Israel offers a _____ as to Jesus' own _____ as the Messiah. Though he certainly was not perfect, _____ was faithful to God. His _____ of Israel gives a taste of what the _____ of _____ will be like with _____ as king.

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