

## Unit 4 Reading Guide

# God Revealed through Holy People and Worship

## Chapter 12: Rebuilding Jerusalem and the Temple

### Article 52: Leaving Babylon, Going Home

1. After almost fifty years of exile in Babylon, most of the Israelites—now called \_\_\_\_\_—returned home to Jerusalem.
2. The Babylonian Exile is the \_\_\_\_\_ that triggered the Jewish People to examine their \_\_\_\_\_ and their relationship with God. This in turn brought about the formation of most of the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Second Isaiah calls the Emperor \_\_\_\_\_ God's anointed one. He is an unexpected savior because he is not \_\_\_\_\_, and because he is the king of another country: \_\_\_\_\_.
4. After the Exile, most of the remaining Israelites live in the southern kingdom of Judah, so they become known as \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. This is where we also get the term for the religious faith of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. All of these communities [living in other cities], called the Jews of the Dispersion (\_\_\_\_\_), are no less Jewish than their counterparts in Jerusalem.
6. The Diaspora Jews do not have access to the Temple in Jerusalem, so they center their faith life around \_\_\_\_\_. These were buildings that served as the assembly places and centers of worship for Jews who lived outside of Jerusalem.

### Article 53: The Temple: Worship Central

1. After the \_\_\_\_\_, the Jewish People view their history and relationship with God a little differently. A person or group we call the \_\_\_\_\_ wrote the First and Second Books of Chronicles, covering much of the same history but from a \_\_\_\_\_ perspective.
2. The interesting thing, though, is that the author of \_\_\_\_\_ hardly even mentions \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_. The Chronicler emphasizes the importance of proper \_\_\_\_\_ in the Jerusalem Temple. The Chronicler sees this as the most important thing for sustaining their \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
3. The Israelites considered the \_\_\_\_\_ most sacred because it was the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. Now the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Covenant has a permanent home. Only the priests are allowed \_\_\_\_\_ the Temple building. The \_\_\_\_\_ offer sacrifices outside the Temple.
4. Inside the Temple is a room called the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. In this room, the \_\_\_\_\_ (winged lions with human heads), the guardians and carriers of God's throne, shelter the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.



5. No one except the \_\_\_\_\_ can enter the Holy of Holies, and he only once a year, on the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. First and Second Chronicles covers a period from \_\_\_\_\_ to the end of the \_\_\_\_\_. Yet almost half the content focuses on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and the building of the Temple.

## Article 54: Rebuilding Jerusalem

1. The returning exiles also faced \_\_\_\_\_. People from neighboring lands had \_\_\_\_\_ Judah in their absence. Their neighbors start to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Others, however, want to join forces with the \_\_\_\_\_. However, the returning \_\_\_\_\_ even turn down these people's assistance because of their different \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Those who remain in the territory of Samaria in the north \_\_\_\_\_ with foreigners from other religions. These Israelites become known as the \_\_\_\_\_. They reject the Jerusalem Temple and worship instead at \_\_\_\_\_. This leads to a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_. This continues even to the time of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. After the Temple is rebuilt, \_\_\_\_\_, a scribe and priest who is assigned by the Persian king to lead the Jews, arrives from Babylon. Ezra demands that those \_\_\_\_\_ who have married foreigners \_\_\_\_\_ their wives and children.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is a Jewish leader who holds a privileged position in the court of Persia but leaves this post to become the \_\_\_\_\_ of Judah. He is a selfless leader and a model citizen who engages all of the Jewish People in rebuilding the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ often ignores the social barriers that keep people from one another. Like Jesus, we are called to \_\_\_\_\_ what divides us and \_\_\_\_\_ his commandment, "Love one another."

## Article 55: Psalms: Songs for Every Occasion

1. For thousands of years, cultures all around the \_\_\_\_\_ have marked \_\_\_\_\_ and traditions with \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ were no different.
2. In the Bible, that \_\_\_\_\_ is found in the Book of \_\_\_\_\_, also known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Hebrew name for this book is \_\_\_\_\_, which means "\_\_\_\_\_" or "hymns of praise to God."
4. We sometimes group the Psalms into these categories: hymns of praise or \_\_\_\_\_; songs of lament or \_\_\_\_\_; wisdom hymns; liturgical or \_\_\_\_\_ psalms; and historical psalms.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ are not only the ancient songbook for \_\_\_\_\_ worship but are also an \_\_\_\_\_ part of \_\_\_\_\_ communal prayer. For example, a psalm is sung or recited in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ at every Mass. The chanting or recitation of the Psalms plays a major role in the Liturgy of the \_\_\_\_\_ too.



6. Sometimes when we \_\_\_\_\_, it's difficult to express what we're \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ can provide \_\_\_\_\_ for us when we don't know what to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Chapter 13: Ordinary People Give Extraordinary Witness

### Article 56: Tobit, Judith, Esther: A Happy Ending

1. The Bible has its own assortment of \_\_\_\_\_. The canon of the Old Testament includes three short novels, or novellas: the Books of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Book of Tobit was written in the \_\_\_\_\_ century BC. Tobit's story of perseverance and trust in God was exactly what the Jewish People needed to hear during the period of Greek \_\_\_\_\_. The Book of Tobit begins with two people whose lives are so \_\_\_\_\_ that they would rather be \_\_\_\_\_. Like Tobit, Sarah is a \_\_\_\_\_ person who has experienced \_\_\_\_\_ misfortune. Every single one of her \_\_\_\_\_ husbands died on their wedding night.
3. Tobiah, the son of \_\_\_\_\_, is sent to Sarah's town to run an errand. At the same time, the angel \_\_\_\_\_ appears in human form and accompanies Tobiah on his journey.
4. The Book of Judith continues the biblical tradition of unlikely heroes as Judith, a woman and a \_\_\_\_\_, saves her city and the nation from destruction by the \_\_\_\_\_. Judith's plot to kill the Assyrian general, \_\_\_\_\_, requires a shrewd use of her \_\_\_\_\_ and a lot of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Ultimately, this text [the Book of Esther], points toward the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, while also explaining the origin of the Jewish feast of \_\_\_\_\_. The original was written in \_\_\_\_\_, probably in the third or second century BC. A later \_\_\_\_\_ version, which includes a number of additions and changes, was composed sometime between 116 and 48 BC.
6. The book [of Esther] is set in the years after the \_\_\_\_\_, when Persia reigns over Israel.
7. The Jewish People have been the victims of \_\_\_\_\_ for centuries. Oppression and \_\_\_\_\_ are like diseases that must be stopped in the \_\_\_\_\_ stages before it is too late. To do this, we need people who are going to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ even though it may have negative, perhaps even \_\_\_\_\_, personal consequences.

### Article 57: Maccabees Part 1: Fighting a Just War

1. In the second century BC, the Jewish People are ruled by an oppressive \_\_\_\_\_ general who does not respect their religious \_\_\_\_\_ and traditions. Their successful struggle against the \_\_\_\_\_ army is recorded in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Books of Maccabees.
2. Now under the rule of the \_\_\_\_\_, the Jewish People are challenged by the culture of the Greek empire. Greek \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ give more importance to reason rather than \_\_\_\_\_.



3. Antiochus's reign begins a period of harsh persecution of the faithful Jews: he forbids the practice of the \_\_\_\_\_, forces the Jewish People to embrace the king's \_\_\_\_\_ religion, desecrates and robs the \_\_\_\_\_, and murders the families who \_\_\_\_\_ their children.
4. After committing an intense act of \_\_\_\_\_, Mattathias, his five sons, and others escape to the hills to form a rebel army to fight their Greek oppressors. The word \_\_\_\_\_ comes from the Hebrew word for \_\_\_\_\_.
5. After a successful battle, King Antiochus's army retreats, allowing Judas to go to Jerusalem to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the Temple. The Jewish People joyfully celebrate for eight days. Since then, every year in the month of \_\_\_\_\_, the Jewish People remember this event in the feast of Dedication, also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Without the \_\_\_\_\_ family's determination and self-sacrifice, it is very possible that \_\_\_\_\_ would not have survived.

## Article 58: Maccabees Part 2: Witness Testimony

1. A martyr is a person killed because of their \_\_\_\_\_. The word itself means \_\_\_\_\_—someone who sees, knows, and can testify to something.
2. The Second Book of Maccabees is a bit different than the first. These writings delve into the variety of ways the Jewish People face their \_\_\_\_\_, and it explores the \_\_\_\_\_ dimension of that experience. The Second Book of Maccabees emphasizes the importance of following \_\_\_\_\_, even if it means death.
3. The Greeks . . . attempt to force the Jewish People to abandon their religion. One of the repulsive methods they use to do this is to give people a choice: eat \_\_\_\_\_ or be tortured and killed.
4. Pork is not a kosher food. Jews are forbidden to eat it. If they eat it, they are breaking God's Law and therefore committing \_\_\_\_\_, the act of renouncing one's faith. But what really is at stake is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the entire community. Enduring the \_\_\_\_\_ and refusing to commit \_\_\_\_\_ is their witness to keeping \_\_\_\_\_ a non-negotiable, \_\_\_\_\_ part of their lives.
5. The story of the martyrdom of a mother and her \_\_\_\_\_ offers a graphic and painful example of the \_\_\_\_\_ the Jewish People face. It also reflects a new revelation for Judaism: the belief in a \_\_\_\_\_ after death.
6. The Second Book of Maccabees is written around \_\_\_\_\_ BC. Its accounts encourage later generations of Jewish People to \_\_\_\_\_ in the face of oppression and even death. Their determined \_\_\_\_\_ also inspires the early \_\_\_\_\_ to face their own hardships and \_\_\_\_\_ with the same trust in God.



## Article 59: Maccabees Part 3: Life after Death

1. For most of the Old Testament, little is said about what happens after we \_\_\_\_\_. One of the most striking aspects of the \_\_\_\_\_ Book of \_\_\_\_\_ is the strong belief in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the dead.
2. At this point in Jewish history, there is a growing belief and hope by some Jews in a \_\_\_\_\_, an afterlife, when those who remain faithful to God will be rewarded.
3. This belief in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the dead is part of \_\_\_\_\_ in Scripture.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the state of final purification or cleansing, which one may need to enter following death and before entering Heaven.
5. Praying for those who have died is rooted in our belief that there will be a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. Every year on November 2, we celebrate \_\_\_\_\_ and make special intercession on behalf of those who have died.
6. On November 1, the Church celebrates All Saints' Day, to honor all known and unknown saints, asking them to \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Non-Catholics sometimes confuse our practice of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the saints. We are not praying to them like we pray to God; rather, we are asking the saints to pray for us. We are \_\_\_\_\_ for their care!

## Chapter 14: The Wisdom Books

### Article 60: Wisdom from Above

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Books of the Bible are distinctive among the literature of the Old Testament. These Old Testament books focus on such things as Israel's history, \_\_\_\_\_, and prophetic oracles; offer moral lessons and sage \_\_\_\_\_; guide us in our search for happiness and \_\_\_\_\_ in life; and explore life's mysteries.
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a short saying that is easy to recall and that communicates a wise observation on human life or expresses a religious truth.
3. One of the themes you will find throughout these proverbs is this advice: "\_\_\_\_\_ the Lord." For the Israelites, having a \_\_\_\_\_ attitude for God is the foundation for attaining \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The proverbs emphasize \_\_\_\_\_, offer \_\_\_\_\_ on how to deal with daily life, and remind us what is \_\_\_\_\_ and what is not.

### Article 61: Job: Why Do Good People Suffer?

1. The Book of Job explores the mystery of \_\_\_\_\_. It provides a different take on the generally accepted Israelite belief that God punishes the \_\_\_\_\_ and rewards the \_\_\_\_\_ in this life.



2. The author's original \_\_\_\_\_ held fast to the belief in divine retributive justice.
3. The beginning of the Book of \_\_\_\_\_ sets your expectations for a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. From the perspective of divine retributive justice, Job is someone who is \_\_\_\_\_ to God and follows the \_\_\_\_\_, and therefore nothing \_\_\_\_\_ should happen to him. Wrong!
5. Job desperately wants to understand why all these \_\_\_\_\_ events are occurring. Near the end of the debate, he challenges \_\_\_\_\_ himself.
6. One point we can gather from God's long \_\_\_\_\_ is that people learn the most when they \_\_\_\_\_ on real \_\_\_\_\_.
7. However, there are some things that humans will never fully understand. This is the point God is making in his long speech to Job. Some things will always be a \_\_\_\_\_ because, simply put, we are not \_\_\_\_\_.

## Article 62: Ecclesiastes: What's the Point?

1. Although the author of \_\_\_\_\_ does not provide any straightforward answers [to pain and suffering], he does point to the continuous \_\_\_\_\_ of God, who is \_\_\_\_\_ in good times and in bad.
2. Qoheleth teaches us to put things in perspective. In a famous passage, he makes the point that life has many \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Qoheleth means that despite our \_\_\_\_\_, we should do \_\_\_\_\_ we can to enjoy the life \_\_\_\_\_ has given us.
4. The teacher of Ecclesiastes identifies numerous reasons why our attempts to be happy are just \_\_\_\_\_: greedy people are never \_\_\_\_\_; humans do not have any advantages over animals, because in the end, we both \_\_\_\_\_; and the path to wisdom is through \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Ultimately, Qoheleth accepts the \_\_\_\_\_ of life, and encourages us to do the same, pointing us to the wonderful presence of God, "who is \_\_\_\_\_ in everything" (11:5).

## Article 63: Song of Songs: Love Poems

1. First, if we read these passages just as they are, the Song of Songs is a book of \_\_\_\_\_ that affirm the goodness of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Second, the \_\_\_\_\_ dialogue of the man and woman in this \_\_\_\_\_ is not only about \_\_\_\_\_ attraction. The author of the Book of Song of Songs is using the \_\_\_\_\_ between a man and a woman as a \_\_\_\_\_: the closeness and intimacy shared between husband and wife is likened to the intimate \_\_\_\_\_ between God and his people.
3. In the New Testament, Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians and the Book of Revelation also use \_\_\_\_\_ imagery to describe the relationship between God and the \_\_\_\_\_.



4. The imagery of the Song of Songs is sure to grab your \_\_\_\_\_. The fact that it is in the Bible emphasizes the importance and the \_\_\_\_\_ of our sexuality—a gift from \_\_\_\_\_. Let its engaging \_\_\_\_\_ remind you of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ for you.
5. *Catholics Making a Difference*: Blessed Marie-Louise Trichet: Later, she and Father Louis cofounded the religious order, the Daughters of Wisdom. Their \_\_\_\_\_ is to gain heavenly wisdom and make known Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, through service to the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Article 64: Ben Sira: Wisdom Far from Home

1. This movement [of settling in other countries] is called the Jewish \_\_\_\_\_. Surrounded by Greek culture, \_\_\_\_\_ communities worked hard to maintain their \_\_\_\_\_ identity. Two of the Old Testament books reflect this struggle: the Book of \_\_\_\_\_ and the Wisdom of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. With the historical background of the Babylonian Exile and the domination of the Greeks, the author of Wisdom also emphasizes that \_\_\_\_\_ is not a punishment from God.
3. Like the Second Book of Maccabees, the Book of Wisdom reflects the Jewish People's growing belief in the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Like the Book of Proverbs, wisdom in the Book of Wisdom is personified as a \_\_\_\_\_ who blesses and \_\_\_\_\_ us to act in accordance with \_\_\_\_\_ ways.
5. The Wisdom of Ben Sira was written by a man named \_\_\_\_\_, but not the \_\_\_\_\_ you are probably thinking of! This \_\_\_\_\_ finished his book on wisdom around 175 BC. Almost sixty years later, his \_\_\_\_\_ translated the book from Hebrew into \_\_\_\_\_, the common language at that time.
6. The book contains practical advice to guide its readers toward \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. One of the highlights of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ is the chapters praising the great \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ history.

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