

Unit 4 Test Bank Answer Key

Multiple Choice

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|------|------|-------|
| 1. c | 5. d | 9. c |
| 2. b | 6. b | 10. c |
| 3. a | 7. c | 11. b |
| 4. a | 8. d | |

Matching

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. g | 6. i |
| 2. e | 7. b |
| 3. a | 8. c |
| 4. h | 9. f |
| 5. d | 10. j |

Essay

Answers will vary but should include the following points:

- A. How does the influence of the Greek world cause a division among the Jewish People, and what effect does it have on them?

After Persia defeats the Babylonians, the Jewish People are allowed to return to Jerusalem and rebuild their personal and religious life. The Persians allow them to practice their faith and live in relative peace for almost two centuries. Then in 330 BC, Alexander the Great and his Greek army conquer the Persian Empire.

Now under the rule of the Greeks, the Jewish People are challenged by the culture of the Greek empire. Greek philosophy, science, and literature give more importance to reason than to religious beliefs. Over time, Greek becomes the main language, so much so that some Jews never learn Hebrew; they speak and read only Greek. Some of the biblical books during this time are written in Greek because of this.

This Greek influence brings great tension in the Jewish community. Some Jews insist on keeping the Jewish religious traditions that have been handed down over the centuries. Others think that accommodating Greek religious practices might be the best way to survive in such a hostile environment. The Greek leaders use this conflict between pro-Greek and anti-Greek Jews to keep the Jews divided and to maintain control.

When the Greek King Antiochus IV comes into power, he harshly persecutes the faithful Jews and forbids the practice of Jewish religion, forces the Jewish People to embrace the king's pagan religion, desecrates and robs the Temple, and murders the families who circumcise their children. Some Jews give in to the pressure and abandon their faith, but many do not. Some, like the Maccabees family, rebel and fight to save their faith.



B. What makes the Wisdom and Poetry Books of the Old Testament so distinct? What was their purpose?

The Wisdom and Poetry Books of the Bible are distinctive among the literature of the Old Testament. Most of the Old Testament books focus on such things as Israel's history, laws, and prophetic oracles. On the other hand, these books offer moral lessons and sage advice; guide us in our search for happiness and harmony in life; and explore life's mysteries.

The Wisdom and Poetry Books explore the meaning of suffering, provide insights into the purpose of human life, and offer advice on how to live good and virtuous lives. Their use of poetic and symbolic language enables us to connect our hearts with God in ways that prose cannot. Though they were written thousands of years ago, they address basic human questions and situations that are still relevant today.

