

Unit 2 Reading Guide

God Revealed to His Chosen People

Chapter 5: The Patriarchs: God Reveals Himself to a Chosen Family

Article 20: Abraham and Sarah

1. In common usage, a _____ is the father or leader of a tribe, clan, or tradition. In the Bible, this word refers to the fathers of our faith: _____ and his son _____, and Isaac's son _____.
2. By choosing the _____ suitable person for the position, God turns our attention toward _____.
3. _____ is the gift of God by which one freely accepts God's full Revelation.
4. A contract focuses on _____ or _____, is conditional, and _____ once the commitments are fulfilled. A covenant focuses on _____, is _____, and is a lifelong commitment.
5. God promises to be _____ to Abraham and his _____. God also promises to give Abraham _____ and a great _____ (his _____). It is also an "_____ covenant" (Genesis 17:13) that extends down through Abraham's descendants.
6. In his covenant with Abram, there are two signs. God changes their _____. The other sign is _____.

Article 21: Isaac and Jacob

1. The test (Abraham's willingness to trust God and sacrifice his son) is Abraham's discovery of the _____ he holds in his heart.
2. This narrative also prefigures God the Father's willingness to allow the _____ of his only Son, _____.
3. Much like the father in Jesus' Parable of the Lost Son, _____ is the model expression of God's _____ and _____.
4. The being blesses Jacob and gives him a new name: _____. This will also become the name of the nation consisting of the _____, descendants of Jacob's twelve sons.



Article 22: Joseph

1. Then finally “God remembered Rachel” (Genesis 30:22), and she gives birth to _____ , who becomes Jacob’s favorite son.
2. In the Old Testament, _____ guided and helped the people to be more faithful to the covenant.
3. Before Jacob’s death, the brothers worry that Joseph is still nursing a grudge. They beg for his _____ again.
4. If his brothers would not have sold him into slavery, not only his entire family but probably most of Egypt would have died in the _____ .

Chapter 6: The Pentateuch: God Reveals Himself to His Chosen People

Article 23: Exodus: Free at Last!

1. Through a series of fortunate circumstances, _____ has escaped this fate and has been raised as an Egyptian in the house of the Pharaoh.
2. _____ encounters God in a most unusual form—a _____ that is on fire but “not being consumed” (Exodus 3:2).
3. This kind of appearance is called a _____ , God’s manifestation of himself in a visible form to enrich human understanding of him.
4. Later and most important, God reveals his name to Moses: Yahweh, which means something like “_____.”
5. God sends Moses to demand Pharaoh to free the Israelites. His (Moses’s) hesitancy leads some scholars to believe that Moses might have had a _____ .
6. To convince Pharaoh to let the Israelites go, God brings a series of _____ on the Egyptians.
7. To this day, the _____ is one of Judaism’s most important religious festivals. It celebrates the deliverance of the Chosen People from bondage in Egypt and the Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land.

Article 24: Covenant: The Ties That Bind

1. Then (on Mount Sinai) God gives Moses a list of laws, including the Ten Commandments. In total, God gives Moses _____ laws to guide the Israelites in all aspects of their lives. The _____ are at the heart of this Law.
2. The _____ was the sacred chest in which the tablets containing the Ten Commandments were kept.
3. The Ark was the symbol of God’s saving presence among the Israelites. In the rear of the Tabernacle, the Ark of the Covenant was kept in an area called the _____ .



4. Moses is gone (on the mountain) for a long time, and the Israelites begin worrying that God has abandoned them. So they take matters into their own hands and build a _____ to worship.

Article 25: Leviticus and Numbers: Being Holy

1. All of the Laws that guide the Israelites' lives center on one idea that God conveys through Moses: " _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ " (Leviticus 19:2).
2. For the Israelites, being holy means two things: (1) _____ in right _____ with _____ and with _____ , and (2) being _____ or _____ .
3. The Hebrew word _____ literally translates as "law" or "teaching."
4. These sacrifices (in the first seven chapters of Leviticus) include both burnt offerings of animals (_____) and grain.
5. The _____ are a set of dietary restrictions that govern the foods the Israelites can eat (clean), and those they cannot eat (unclean).
6. The Torah also has laws that specifically deal with fairness and how to treat the _____ , the Hebrew word for the poor and marginalized.

Article 26: Numbers and Deuteronomy: The Promised Land

1. The Israelites wander in the desert for _____ years.
2. *Deuteronomy* is a Greek word, meaning " _____ ." The key theme of Deuteronomy is that Moses calls the Israelites to totally _____ to _____ .
3. Before he died in the wilderness, (and before he made it to the _____), Moses turned his leadership over to his longtime aide, _____ .
4. Our lives are not over when our _____ on Earth is finished. We believe that those who do _____ are rewarded in the _____ .

Chapter 7: Joshua and Judges

Article 27: What Goes Around Comes Around . . . Or Does It?

1. The belief that God rewards and punishes people based on their behavior in this lifetime is called _____ .
2. Like many of their neighboring tribes, the Israelites believed that their God was a _____ who led them into battles.



3. The _____ is the practice of destroying everyone and everything in a defeated city and then burning it as a sacrificial offering to God.
4. God is not the source of our pain in this world. Like Jesus' agony on the cross, our suffering can be _____; that is, it can participate in God's _____.
5. Modern historians attempt to offer an _____ of past events. In the Historical Books of the Bible, we find something different. They reveal the _____ at work in human history.

Article 28: Joshua: The New Moses

1. In the Book of Joshua, parallels are made between Joshua and _____.
2. God makes it clear to Joshua that he is the _____.
3. As Moses guides the Israelites through the parted Red Sea, the waters similarly part for _____ as he leads the Israelites through the Jordan River to their new home.
4. As soon as they enter, they celebrate two rituals that are fundamental to their faith: (1) the _____ of the men and (2) the celebration of _____.
5. Eventually Joshua and the Israelites conquered all of _____, the land the Lord had promised to Abraham.
6. For our part, Joshua's call for the Israelites to renew their _____ is a good reminder for us to do the same.

Article 29: The Judges: New Authority Figures

1. We don't know who wrote the Book of Judges. Scholars call him the _____, which is the name given to the person (or group of people) who wrote and organized all of the books from Deuteronomy through Second Kings.
2. This cycle, called the _____, is a pattern of sin and repentance that the Israelites repeat time and time again.
3. The _____ in the Historical Books of the Bible are elders, heroes, and military leaders. They were sent by God to deliver the Israelites from the oppression they brought on themselves.
4. Deborah is the only _____ among the twelve listed in the Book of Judges. She is the only judge with a _____ recalling her feats.
5. Samson was a _____, those consecrated to God through a vow that required them to refrain from drinking alcohol, to stay away from dead bodies, and to keep their hair uncut.
6. The people's disobedience to their _____ obligations had brought about injustice, _____, and disunity.



Article 30: Samuel: Reluctant Kingmaker

1. The blessing of God is made visible through Hannah's pregnancy and the birth of her son, _____ .
2. _____ prefigures the Virgin Mary, preparing us to better understand Mary's role as the mother of Jesus Christ.
3. After Eli's death, Samuel becomes the _____ of Israel.
4. So the people want Samuel to "appoint a _____ over us" (1 Samuel 8:5).
5. This desire to be like all the other nations is a _____ for the Israelites. They have forgotten what it means to be _____ .
6. The appointment of _____ as the first king is a monumental change in Israelite history.
7. Human kings cannot _____ God's leadership, especially if the _____ and the _____ forget their covenant commitments to God.

Article 31: Ruth: An Unexpected Hero

1. This hero was not a _____ , was not a man . . . and most surprisingly was not even an _____ . Her name was _____ .
2. Ruth's story reminds the Israelites that God includes the _____ of _____ in his saving plan.
3. She [Ruth] is the _____ of David, Israel's greatest king. Ruth is also one of only _____ recalled in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus.
4. In this way, _____ foreshadows the _____ of Jesus Christ, extended to _____ people, of every _____ and _____ .

Chapter 8: The Rise of the Monarchy

Article 32: King Saul: A Disappointing Start

1. Samuel helped mediate the process, and _____ was chosen as the first king of Israel.
2. When Samuel sees the youngest son, a mere boy named _____ who is tending to the sheep, the Lord tells _____ that _____ will be the next king.
3. David's trust is in _____ , not his own power.
4. As David's fame and _____ rose among the people, Saul could feel his own revered _____ slipping away from him.
5. David could have reasoned that since he was _____ by Samuel to be the next king, he should _____ Saul and take over. He even has two _____ to do that, yet he _____ to do so.



6. The First Book of Samuel comes to a dramatic ending with the deaths of Saul and his _____ . Severely wounded by the Philistines, Saul decides to _____ his own _____ .
7. Saul's dishonorable _____ stands as a reminder to the _____ that disobedience to God's _____ brings on a heavy debt to pay, while _____ oneself to God's will brings _____ and joy to your life.

Article 33: David: A New King Emerges

1. The Second Book of Samuel picks up right where First Samuel leaves off. In chapter 1, David mourns the death of _____ and his friend _____ , Saul's son. In chapter 2, David prays for _____ , and God sends him to the city of _____ , where the people _____ him king of Israel.
2. Jerusalem, from the Hebrew meaning " _____ , " is the name of the city that becomes Israel's _____ and is the future location of the _____ . This city is also known as the _____ or _____ .
3. The Book of Revelation in the _____ takes this symbolic meaning one step farther. It calls our heavenly home the _____ Jerusalem.
4. Through the prophet Nathan, God tells David, "I will build you a house." The house to which God refers is not a _____ , but rather the _____ —a dynasty, or a line of descendants.
5. God's promise to David is fulfilled in the person of _____ .
6. This (the reign of David) is the high point of _____ . As long as they are _____ to the _____ and _____ , things will go well for _____ and the _____ . Unfortunately, these _____ do not last long.

Article 34: King David's Downfall

1. Sadly, his (David's) desire for new female companions, in particular a certain married woman, leads to his downfall. (This woman's name is _____ .)
2. Comparing David and _____'s roles and actions in Second Samuel emphasizes how much _____ has been _____ by power and lust.
3. He (King David) is both a sinner and _____ chosen one. But most important, he is another reminder that God can _____ great things even through our _____ and _____ .
4. _____ prophesies that "the sword shall never depart from your house" (2 Samuel 12:10).
5. Upon seeing the men return with news of the battle, David does not ask who won. His only concern is the well-being of _____ . After being told of his _____ , David weeps and cries, "My son _____ !" (2 Samuel 19:1).



6. The temptations that come with _____ can be a _____ influence. Because of the _____ humanity of any earthly leader, reliance on _____ powers will never lead us to our _____ home, the _____. This goal can only be _____ by following the guidance of our one true king: _____.

Article 35: King Solomon: The Last of the Good Old Days

1. The First Book of Kings begins with a short story about the _____ King David.
2. With the encouragement of the prophet _____ and _____, David decides to pass his reign on to _____.
3. One of Solomon's most famous characteristics was his _____.
4. Notice that Solomon asks for the wisdom of a " _____ " (1 Kings 3:9).
5. The centerpiece of Solomon's accomplishments is found in the construction of the _____.
6. This detailed description (of the Temple in First Kings) was intended to inspire and remind its readers that good comes to those who follow _____.

Article 36: The End of One Nation

1. His (Solomon's) first sinful behavior is a failure to _____.
2. Solomon's second sinful behavior allows idolatry, the _____ of foreign _____ and _____, to creep back into the kingdom.
3. These two _____ lead to Solomon's downfall and the splitting of the kingdom.
4. The people with whom we choose to surround ourselves have an _____ on us. That's why it is so _____ to have a group of _____ around you who encourage and applaud your _____ choices.
5. After the death of Solomon around 922 BC, Israel splits into two separate kingdoms: _____ in the north, and _____ in the south.
6. In order to keep his people from going to _____ (in Judah) to worship, Jeroboam, the first _____ of _____, creates golden _____ for the people to worship. The _____ kings of Israel follow suit. This and the _____ treatment of the poor eventually lead to _____ conquest by the _____ in 721 BC.
7. The kings of Judah are all descendants of David. They too fall into idolatry and injustice, but the kingdom of _____ will also have some faithful kings that prolong the kingdom's survival. But this isn't enough. The _____ will eventually conquer _____ in 587 BC.

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