

Name _____

Unit 1 Reading Guide

God's Original Revelation

Chapter 1: God's Original Plan

Article 1: The Divine Architect and His Plans

1. _____ of the Creation accounts are true. Each one expresses the _____ or _____ truths that God wanted to convey for the sake of our salvation.
2. This belief that all of creation is _____ is an essential part of our faith because it guides our interaction with other human beings and all of creation.
3. Because everything he creates is good, we can conclude that _____ is also good.
4. The union of Adam and Eve with God prefigures the _____ of _____ called together to be the _____.
5. A _____ is something that shares in the goodness of God, but ultimately leaves us unsatisfied (like food, entertainment, and so on).
6. The _____ is the source of our complete fulfillment, found only in our union with God.

Article 2: The Bible or Science—Which One Is Right?

1. It is important to note that science deals strictly with _____.
2. The most important truths revealed in the Bible are not scientific truths but _____.
3. The _____ approach ignores the literary forms used by the Bible's human authors and the historical settings in which the writings were developed.
4. The _____ approach takes into account various contexts in order to understand the truth God is revealing.
5. These contexts include the _____ used, the _____ at the time, the human authors' cultural _____ and _____, and a number of other things.



Article 3: Right People, Wrong Turn

1. Genesis depicts Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden in a state of _____ and _____.
2. The account symbolically expresses several important truths: _____ is a free choice that destroys the _____ and _____ humans have with one another and God.
3. Adam and Eve hid from God after their disobedience because of their _____ and _____ of _____.
4. _____ is a number indicating a period of testing, trials, or purification.
5. A _____ is a solemn agreement between human beings or between God and humans in which mutual commitments are recognized.
6. _____ are a way that God expresses his desire to be in communion with his people.

Article 4: Sin's Ripple Effect

1. The _____ of _____ are quite natural: a loss of unity, harmony, and justice.
2. All human beings have inherited this tendency toward sin, which is called _____.
3. Salvation history is the _____ of _____ in human history through which God clearly reveals his _____ and _____.
4. The Bible communicates salvation history, particularly how God never _____ on his people.

Chapter 2: God's Revelation

Article 5: Natural Revelation: Finding the Artist in the Art

1. By observing the _____ we can learn something about God.
2. Our _____ is what reflects the image of God.
3. _____ is the process by which God makes himself known to human reason through the created world.

Article 6: Logic: It Just Makes Sense

1. These theologians were called _____, and they used philosophy to better understand revealed truth.
2. Grounded in Sacred Scripture and the Church Fathers, _____ employed the use of logic to argue for the _____ of _____.



3. _____ provides his “five ways” or proofs of the _____ of _____.
4. These “proofs” should be understood as “_____” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, number 31) that lead us toward the truth of the existence of God.
5. We are still only human and, because of Original Sin, we often do not use our _____ honestly or effectively.

Article 7: Divine Revelation: The Word from On High

1. _____ is God’s self-communication through which he makes known the mystery of his divine plan.
2. God established a _____ with his Chosen People and gave them his Law. God’s Law is summarized in the _____.
3. The _____ were chosen by God to speak his message of salvation.
4. In _____, God is most fully revealed.
5. This is a very brief summary of _____, the pattern of events recorded in the Bible, through which God clearly reveals his presence and saving actions.

Article 8: Inspiration: From God’s Mouth to Our Hearts

1. _____ is the divine assistance the Holy Spirit gave the human authors of the books of the Bible so they could communicate through human words God’s message of salvation.
2. With this assistance, the human authors of the Bible were able to teach “that truth which God wanted put into sacred writings for the sake of _____” (*Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*, number 11).
3. This does not mean that the Holy Spirit dictated the Bible _____ for _____. Instead, God’s truth was expressed using the human authors’ _____ and _____.
4. Because it is God’s Word being conveyed, _____ is the true author of Sacred Scripture.
5. To properly grasp what the _____ were trying to communicate, we “must take into account the conditions of their _____ and _____, the literary _____ in use at that time, and their modes of feeling, speaking, and narrating” (CCC, number 110).



Chapter 3: Overview of the Bible

Article 9: From Word to Text

1. The handing on of the message of God's saving plan through words is called _____.
2. A crisis that occurred in the sixth century BC, when many of the Jewish People were captured and taken from the Promised Land to slavery in _____ was called the _____.
3. The third stage, called the _____, is the synthesis in written form of the message of salvation that was passed down in the oral tradition.
4. Scholars today believe that many of the books of the _____ were written during this time (the Babylonian Exile).

Article 10: When Did It Happen? When Was It Written?

1. Sometimes there was a long period between the actual events in the Bible and when the _____ occurred.
2. At some point, guided by the Holy Spirit, _____ expressed how God acted in the lives of their ancestors who lived years, decades, or sometimes even centuries beforehand.
3. The Bible tends to bounce around in time, going backward and forward, and sometimes events found in one book are _____ in another book.
4. It is always helpful to learn about the _____ in which the events most likely occurred, as well as the _____ the book was probably written.
5. Ultimately, all of these _____ help us to better understand what God is _____ through the words of the _____ of the Bible.

Article 11: Not One Book, but Many

1. The word *bible* comes from the Latin term *biblia*, which means "_____."
2. The Old Testament in a Catholic Bible contains _____ books. The New Testament contains a total of _____ books.
3. Taken together, the seventy-three books of the Bible make up the _____ of Sacred _____.
4. To be considered inspired by the Holy Spirit and included in the canon, each book had to meet these four criteria: _____, _____, _____, and _____.



Article 12: Bible Translations

1. The Bible was originally written in three different languages: _____, _____, and _____.
2. Saint _____ completed one of the earliest translations of the Bible. Called the _____, the Church used this translation of the Bible for over a thousand years.
3. There are four Catholic English translations that are used most often today: The _____, _____ (NABRE); the _____, _____, *Catholic Edition (NRSV)*; the _____ (NJB); and the _____ in *Today's English Version Second Edition (GNT)*.

Article 13: The Old Prepares Us for the New

1. Almost two-thirds of Sacred Scripture is the _____.
2. We call the Old Testament "Old" because it reveals God's covenants and saving actions prior to the coming of _____.
3. The writings of the _____ were sacred to Jesus. In fact, he would often quote from the Old Testament in his teachings and used these Scriptures in his prayer.

Article 14: The New Fulfills the Old

1. By becoming flesh in the person of Jesus Christ, God established a _____ that fulfilled and perfected the _____.
2. Jesus' followers were well versed in Old Testament writings and began making the connections between the _____ of the _____ and things they had witnessed.
3. The _____ are considered "the heart of all the Scriptures because they are our principal source for the _____ and _____ of the Incarnate Word, our Savior" ¹ (CCC, number 125).

Chapter 4: Interpreting the Bible

Article 15: Reliable Guides: The Magisterium and the Holy Spirit

1. The _____ is the Church's living teaching office. It consists of all the bishops in the world, in communion with the _____, the bishop of Rome.
2. God has given the Magisterium the responsibility and the gifts required to interpret _____ correctly. The Magisterium acts under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to faithfully teach the message that God revealed to the _____.
3. "Inspired by the Holy Spirit" (*Divino Afflante Spiritu*, 1943) calls for new _____ of the Bible into modern languages.



4. The *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum, 1965)* encourages scholars to recognize the different genres or types of _____. The Council also supports studying the _____ in which the various books of the Bible were written.
5. In the document *Interpretation of the Bible in the Church (1993)*, the Church offers more specific directions and guidelines for _____ the _____.

Article 16: Exegesis: What Does It Mean?

1. _____ is the critical interpretation and explanation of Sacred Scripture.
2. To understand what the human author (of the Bible) was trying to say, the document (*Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation*) goes on to say that we should pay particular attention to the following: the _____ used by the author, the characteristic ways people _____ and _____ in their time, and the _____ people interacted with one another at the time.
3. To understand what God wants to reveal to us, the document goes on to say that we should pay particular attention to the following: the _____ and _____ of the whole Scripture, the living _____ and teachings of the whole Church, and the _____ of _____.

Article 17: Making Sense of the Bible

1. The literal sense considers the _____ of the text. The literal sense is the meaning _____ by the human _____.
2. Because the human authors often used poetry, symbolism, metaphors, and even exaggeration, understanding the literal sense of the writing requires _____ and _____.
3. The _____ is interpretation that builds on the literal sense, considering what the realities and events of Scripture signify and mean for salvation.
4. The three categories, or sub-senses, of the spiritual sense are the _____ sense, the _____ sense, and the _____ sense.

Article 18: The Literature of the Bible

1. History and poetry are two different literary genres. Each one has its own set of _____ and _____ for grasping its meaning.
2. These books (of the Bible) use numerous literary forms or genres: religious history, _____, song, _____, proverbs, _____, _____, and _____, among others.
3. Scholars employ various forms of _____ to deepen their understanding of how the human authors expressed God's Word.
4. The word *criticism* does not refer to a negative viewpoint. It refers to an _____ or _____.



Article 19: Biblical Archaeology: Digging for Answers

1. _____ is the study of _____ and history by means of excavating and analyzing the artifacts and other physical materials.
2. _____ was a wealthy Roman city at the center of trade for the area. Tradesmen like Jesus and his foster father, Joseph, were probably in great _____ there. Because it was located just a few miles from _____, it is quite possible that Jesus took this _____ to get work.
3. Though we do not have the _____ versions of any of the biblical books, we have older copies and more copies of the books of the Bible than for any other _____ text! Every ancient copy found has _____ biblical scholars' certainty in the _____ of biblical text.
4. The _____ are a collection of ancient scrolls, found on the northwestern shore of the Dead Sea, which possibly belonged to the _____, a group of pious, conservative Jews who lived during the time of Jesus.

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The quotation on this reading guide marked *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation* is from *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation [Dei Verbum, 1965]*, number 11, at www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vatij_const_19651118_dei-verbum_en.html. Copyright © LEV.)

Endnote Cited in a Quotation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Second Edition

1. *Dei Verbum* 18.

