

Unit 2 Test Bank Answer Key

Multiple Choice

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|------|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 7. e | 13. a |
| 2. b | 8. b | 14. d |
| 3. d | 9. d | 15. b |
| 4. b | 10. d | 16. d |
| 5. d | 11. d | 17. c |
| 6. a | 12. a | |

Matching

1. e
2. c
3. a
4. d
5. b

Essay

Answers will vary but should include the following points:

A. What is the ban, and what does it mean to the Israelites? How do we view the ban today?

The ban is the practice of destroying everyone and everything in a defeated city and then burning it as a sacrificial offering to God. For the Israelites, the ban is the following:

- a sign that God was pleased with them
- a way of placing their trust in God alone
- God's punishment for the wicked
- a sacrificial offering to God

The Israelites believe that their God is a warrior who leads them into battles. Their belief in divine retributive justice touches all areas of their lives, including their interaction with other nations. They believe that if God is not pleased with their behavior, he will allow their enemies to defeat them in battle. If God is happy with their behavior, he will help them defeat their enemies. Beyond that, they believe that if God is extremely happy with them, he will allow them to annihilate their foes. This is why the ban makes sense to them.

From our twenty-first-century perspective, the ban is a cruel, pointless, devastating, and even sinful act. Thankfully, with God's Revelation through Jesus Christ, we have moved away from the belief that God is a violent warrior. We know that God is a God of love and endless mercy. We know that the ban is a horrific and terrible act to carry out. The murder of innocent people is never God's will.



B. Explain how the Bible presents a balanced portrayal of King David's positive and negative characteristics.

The Bible offers an evenhanded portrayal of both King David's positive and negative qualities. As a young boy, David fights with the Philistine giant, Goliath, with nothing but a slingshot. It shows us David's absolute faith in God.

David's role as the military leader of Israel is honored as well. The biblical authors viewed the victorious battles against the Philistines and numerous other foes as signs of God's approval of David.

When David is the king, Israelite history reaches its high point. They have conquered most of their enemies and are living peacefully in the land that God promised to Abraham. As long as they are faithful to the covenant and Law, things will go well for David and the Israelites. Unfortunately, these good times do not last long.

David is tempted by his power and fame. His desire for new female companions, in particular a certain married woman, leads to his downfall. His relationship with Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah, a soldier in David's army, reveals some of David's character flaws. To have her to himself, David has Uriah sent to the front lines where he is killed in battle.

David can be selfish and arrogant, but he can also accept the criticism of others. He is capable of both carrying out the will of God and committing terrible offenses. He is both a sinner and God's chosen one. But most important, he is another reminder that God can accomplish great things despite our flaws and weaknesses.

