

Name _____

Date _____

Chapter 7 At the Heart of the Journey: God's Prophets

Directions: Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it.

Introduction: Who Were the Prophets (Pages 288–291)

1. True or False? The Greek word for prophet is “nabi,” a term used to describe a special messenger from God.
2. Besides the writing prophets, what other prophets are mentioned throughout the Old Testament?
3. _____ was the first writing prophet and, as with other prophets, _____ of his were gathered up and kept in a similar way that early _____ kept the sayings of Jesus. (In fact, even early Christians had _____.) Following Amos, the sayings of other _____ were formed, producing a _____ movement that abruptly ceased in the Old Testament.
4. Explain the categories of the prophets.
5. True or False? The terms “major prophet” and “minor prophet” refers to the significance of the prophet's message.

Section 1: The Marks of the Prophets (Pages 292–301)

6. The _____ to prophecy took different forms, including _____, dreams, and visions. No matter which, they were compelled to _____ their former ways of life to follow God's call, Prophets were somewhat like _____ to whom people went to ask about the _____, but because both true and false prophets are mentioned throughout the _____, it is sometimes difficult to figure out which was which.
7. True or False? The message of the prophets – to warn the people to repent of for their sins under penalty of punishment – were generally unpopular with the rulers.
8. Note the five characteristics of prophets below.
 - (a)

- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)

9. In what respects do the call narratives of Isaiah and Jeremiah follow a similar pattern?

10. The _____ almost always spoke as if _____ himself were speaking, and often began their speeches using the _____, which began with the words, “_____.” Further, they are often classified as God’s _____ who warned Israel and Judah to give up their _____ ways and keep the Lord’s commandments and _____.

11. True or False? There is a connection between Moses and the Israelites with the former serving as the “lawgiver” and the latter as the law protectors.

12. The Bible identifies the _____ as prophets. _____ was a military leader referred to directly as a prophet while others were called to their positions of _____ by God or an angel, such as _____ and Samson. They combined the _____ of prophet and king and the _____ of the heavenly figure indicates that they were considered prophets like _____.

13. True or False? The kings of Israel served more as warriors without the spiritual dimension that came from being called to the vocation directly by God.

14. The prophets during the time of the _____ became particularly _____ and important. Because _____ became the business of the kings, they were more like “_____ judges.” The importance of the prophets can be seen in the story of _____ whom God used to identify the king. He _____ Saul and later David as a sign to the community of God’s _____.

15. True or False? The Old Testament supports the idea that prophets once had a military role in early Israelite society.

16. Explain how God would judge the Israelites according to many of the prophets.

17. Most of the prophetic books are collections of _____ that resemble the poetic texts of the Books of Psalms and _____. An oracle is a brief, poetic _____ using the messenger formula. Some prophetic books, however, including _____, Micah, Nahum, _____, and Zephaniah, are written _____ in poetic form.

18. What must be remembered about the prophecy of the writing prophets?

19. Prophecy was a complex and _____ phenomenon in ancient Israel. The _____ focus of the prophets was always accompanied by their social and _____ concerns. They were troubled by the _____ and economic practices of their times, especially the _____ behavior of the rich. Like _____, they called the Israelites back into right relationship with _____.

Section 2: The Prophets Were Servants (Pages 302–317)

20. During the ninth and eighth _____ many Israelites began to worship the Canaanite god, _____. It was during this period that Elijah, _____, Amos, and _____ prophesied by continually calling the people back to right _____ with YHWH. Their preaching reminded the people that _____ was a jealous God who demanded their _____ and required _____ for others.

21. What were the two central messages both announced and modeled by these prophets?

22. The prophet _____ lived in the Northern Kingdom in the _____ century BC under the rule of King _____. He is considered the _____ of the prophets and his central message and _____ was the meaning of his name: “_____.” The key to the prophet’s message is understanding the _____ in Israel between the worship of YHWH and the influences of the ancient _____ religion.

23. True or False? Elijah is a nonwriting prophet whose background information is sparse.

24. True or False? Several events in the Elijah narrative, including story about Elijah and the widow in Zarephath, remind modern readers of the miraculous feeding of the Israelites in the wilderness as well as the ministry of Christ himself in the New Testament.

25. Explain the ways in which Elijah’s own life demonstrates that YHWH was in control.

26. Elijah's ministry symbolized the _____ between the religion of YHWH and the _____ of the Canaanites. Later generations of _____ believed he would announce the coming of _____ to the world at the end of time. In the New Testament, Elijah and _____ appear with Jesus at the _____ and John the Baptist follows in the tradition of Elijah, announcing Jesus as _____.
27. In 1 Kings, Elijah literally throws his _____ on Elisha, which signifies that Elisha will be his _____. The parallel events in the lives of the two _____ demonstrates that Elisha "_____ " the work of Elijah. Additionally, it affirms the idea that YHWH _____ his powerful _____ among the People of God through the prophets.
28. What was the response of the guild prophets when they witnessed Elisha cross over the divided water?
29. True or False? The early prophets are shown upholding the social norms in order to honor the poor, women, and people who need help and healing.
30. What two issues are always connected in the minds of Elijah and Elisha and the other prophetic books?
31. _____ is the first prophet for whom there is a separate, recorded _____ of sayings, probably gathered and _____ by his disciples. He spoke against the many sins of those in the _____ Kingdom, but was especially strong on promoting issues of _____. He was particularly _____ about the extortion of the poor for very low _____.
32. True or False? The prophet Amos was especially perturbed by the wealthy who forced the poor to pour excess money into Temple sacrifice and making great shows of their public piety.
33. True or False? The warnings given by the kings, including Amos, were intended to keep the dire event from happening.
34. True or False? Amos believed the sinfulness of the people could never frustrate God's plan for the salvation of humankind, and that the destruction of the people by God was intended to be destructive rather than instructive.
35. What were the similarities and differences between the prophets Amos and Hosea?

Similarities:

Differences:

36. True or False? The names of Hosea's children represented one of Hosea's controversial ideas.
37. What was the meaning of Hosea's marriage to Gomer?
38. Explain how the relationship between Hosea and Gomer mirrored the relationship between God and Israel.
39. True or False? While the prophecy in chapter 2 of Hosea begins with harsh threats against Gomer, it proceeds to become more forgiving and compassionate, also a sign of God's attitude towards the Israelites.
40. What does the God tell Hosea in chapter 3? What does this symbolize regarding Israel?

Section 3: The Contrasting Styles of the Prophets (Pages 316–319)

41. What two themes might be gleaned from the prophet's preaching to the people of the Northern Kingdom?
42. What does it mean to say that all the prophets of the ninth and eighth centuries were both conservative and radical? Give an example to illustrate this.

43. The strengthening power of the _____ Empire under Tiglath-Pileser III marked the beginning of the _____ for the Northern Kingdom of _____. In 734 BC King Pekah of Israel _____ the Southern Kingdom in an effort to force King _____ of Judah to join a _____ against Assyria. Instead, Ahaz sent _____ to the Assyrian king and asked for their _____ against Israel.
44. In _____ BC Assyria invaded Israel and captured _____, its capital city after Israel's king, after Hoshea's plan to seek _____ help, backfired. Though the mass _____ of Israel was left to continue to work the land for the Assyrians, many of the elite members were _____ to upper Mesopotamia.