

Name _____

Date _____

Chapter 2 *Maps for the Journey*

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: Archaeology and Biblical Studies (Pages 40–49)

1. What does it mean to put the Old Testament into context?

2. True or False? The biblical authors presumed their readers had some familiarity with locations where events occurred.

3. True or False? Most of the information we have about ancient Palestine before the arrival of the Israelites comes from prehistoric myths written by various Near Eastern cultures.

4. _____ in the ancient world was not _____. It is likely that the earliest forms of writing were _____ and before alphabets were invented, _____ needed to learn literally hundreds of signs and symbols. The _____ invented a new system of organizing _____: a designated number of symbols that were used as an _____.

5. Explain the significance of the discovery of the Rosetta Stone.

6. Explain the significance of the discoveries of the “Mesha Inscription” and the “Merneptah Stele” in regards to the studying the Old Testament.

7. Ruins and _____ are a major source of information about biblical _____ as they provide important information about the civilizations in the _____ of the Israelites and the biblical _____. Two of the most important excavation sites are _____ and Ain Ghazal. Artifacts discovered suggest humans lived in this part of the world for _____ before the first writings of the _____.

8. The _____ Israelites do not seem to have settled on the _____ plains nearer to larger cities, but rather in the _____ of Palestine where they worked with _____ that kept a ready supply of _____.

_____ throughout the year. They occupied _____ hillside villages and lived in four-pillared _____; inhabitants lived on the second floor and would cook and keep _____ on the ground floor.

9. Why are the use of the terms such as “Stone Age,” “Bronze Age,” and “Iron Age” less popular today?

10. True or False? The principal motivation for writing was spiritual or religious purposes.

Section 1: The Land of Canaan: At the Center of Civilization (Pages 50–55)

11. The _____ reveals that the homeland chosen by God for the _____ was the land of Canaan. This area acted as a kind of land _____ between two great centers of ancient civilization: _____ and Mesopotamia. Both regions had a plentiful supply of _____ and rich agricultural production, and both had civilizations controlling vast _____ and militaries.

12. Describe the variety of geographic zones which characterizes Palestine.

13. Note the reasons the Israelites decided to settle in the hill country of Canaan.

14. True or False? The reason why the Navajo and the Israelites made their dwellings high in the plateaus was much the same.

15. True or False? The horrendous violence of the biblical period is largely explained by the fact that this region served as an agricultural bread basket for the Egyptian and Mesopotamian Empires.

16. Why do the Israelites sometimes portray YHWH as a warrior?

Section 2: Before Israel: The Canaanites (Pages 56–61)

17. _____ considered Canaan part of its _____, crucial to its interests so the relationship between the Egyptians and the _____ was stormy. The Egyptians often engaged in

_____ activities to maintain their control of Canaanite cities. They would bring
_____ of war back to Egypt to engage them in _____ labor.

18. True or False? While the Canaanites worshipped a variety of gods, the most popular was Asherah, a god of rain who consequently provided fertile grounds for agriculture. (pp. 57-58)
19. True or False? The Canaanite god Baal is often referred to as the most significant rival to YHWH according to the Bible.
20. Note some similarities between Canaanite worship when compared with Israelite worship.

Section 3: Tracing the History of the Israelites from the Old Testament (Pages 62–73)

21. The _____ provides us a historical summary of the origins and development of God's _____. Their history parallels much of _____ history and provides us with a sense of the _____ of the experience of the Israelites. However, through much of their history the Chosen People lacked _____ power and were dominated by other neighboring _____.
22. Because the Book of _____ was written many years after the events described, is difficult to trace a reliable _____ of the Israelites. This book begins with the _____ of the world, humans, and varying _____ before it turns to descriptions of the first _____, including Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, and _____ and his sons. (p. 62)
23. What seems the best way to treat the stories of Genesis?
24. True or False? A biblical theme that begins in the Book of Genesis is God's persistent attention to his people due to their faithful love for him.
25. True or False? The differing portrayal of Pharaoh in the Book of Exodus reveals that two somewhat different traditions were brought together into one story.
26. List the three characteristics that the early Israelite faith was based on.

27. Some recent _____ discoveries have revealed an ongoing problem of _____ Canaanite and Yahwist religious ideas – known as _____ – throughout the era of the _____ of Israel and Judah. It's likely, in fact, that a good many of those who became part of the _____ of Israel were probably Canaanites who _____ to the new religion.
28. What two assumptions can we make about this period of Israelite history?
29. While _____ is traditionally held as the first king of the Israelites, it is _____ who was the most significant. David established _____ as the capital city and extended Israelite _____ influence into other territories. He ably _____ a diversified people to oppose the coastal invaders known as _____.
30. David was succeeded by his son, _____ who is credited with further _____ the peoples and the initiating the construction of a national _____. However, after Solomon's _____, the northern peoples split from the Jerusalem _____ and created a new Israelite state in 922 BC due to the heavy _____ and taxes imposed on them.
31. Explain the results of the Assyrian invasion of the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC.
32. True or False? The Assyrian Empire eventually succumbed to the *Persians*.
33. Explain the reforms initiated by King Josiah in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. What is this reform called?
34. When the _____ king Nebuchadnezzar defeated the _____ in 609 BC, Judah became a vassal state. He initially placed a _____ ruler in Jerusalem whom he renamed "_____ " and returned with a number of Jewish exiles to _____. These exiles were members of the _____ classes of Jewish society and this marked the beginning of the Babylonian _____.
35. Explain the devastating consequences of Zedekiah's refusal to pay taxes to the Babylonians.

36. True or False? When the Persian emperor Cyrus conquered Babylonia in 539 BC, he allowed Judeans to return to Palestine, a sizeable Jewish community remained in Babylon.
37. True or False? During the post-Exilic period Jews formed strong communal and faith identity under the leadership of priests who became the primary leaders instead of descendant kings of David.
38. How did Jews view their faith differently during the period of the Diaspora?

Section 4: Types of Literature in the Old Testament (Pages 74–83)

39. The word Pentateuch means “_____.” It is called the “Torah” in the Hebrew Bible, a meaning “_____.” Almost all of the _____ laws, civil laws, and _____ principles of ancient Israel are codified here: the _____ Code in Exodus, the _____ Code in Deuteronomy, and the religious laws found primarily in _____.
40. What was the “Jubilee year?”
41. Explain the focus of the historical books in the Old Testament.
42. The wisdom books consist of _____ religious hymns, stories, and wise _____ which is intended to guide people in learning the _____ of human life. It includes observations of the human _____ and indicated God’s respect for human _____ in the reality of faith. Some biblical wisdom draws from other cultures because certain themes are basic _____.
43. The religious _____ of the Book of Psalms make it a very _____ work. It is the largest body of religious _____ in the Bible, having been written over a large span of _____ history. Some psalms originated in the _____ ceremonies of a king or the celebration of the _____, while others reference the events of the _____.
44. List the three main activities of the prophets.

45. Why were the words of the prophets feared?

46. Every _____ is unique with his or her individual outlook and _____. Amos was the first _____ prophet whose prophecies consisted of unrelenting _____ against many nations in contrast to _____ who used intimate and images to describe God as a _____ and a parent of the people of Israel and to describe his sadness at Israel's _____.

47. The Book of _____ is an example of the continued _____ which major prophetic figures can inaugurate. The first thirty-nine chapters are attributed to the _____ himself, while chapters 40–55 are credited to an _____ prophet who may have witnessed the end of the _____. The last chapters are the work of _____ who maintained the prophet's' spirit.

48. Why were the "Suffering Servant" passages of Isaiah important to early Christians?

49. _____ preached an unpopular _____ of the inevitability of the Babylonian Exile, sharing the _____ perspective that it was God's _____ for the rejection of the laws of God during the monarchy. _____ prophesied to the Babylonian _____ who desired to function as a mediator of the exiles' _____ well-being.

50. Explain the nature of apocalyptic literature and its importance to the post-Exilic Hebrew writers.