

Name _____

The Old Testament: Our Call to Faith & Justice

Directed Reading Worksheet

Date _____

Chapter 8 *God's Turning Point in the Journey*

Directions: Read carefully through Chapter 8 and then use the text as a reference to locate answers for the questions. .

Page 176 Introduction

1. True or False. The most significant change in the life of the Chosen People since the time of the Exodus was the split of the nation into north and south.
2. What positive change took place in the Chosen People during the time of the exile?

Pages 176-178 Judah Before the Exile

3. Judah was a much _____ kingdom than Israel in both _____. The people subsisted on _____ and traded with _____. Although the kings of Judah were _____, the kings of Israel were more _____ during the time of division.
4. King Asa had to quell an _____ incursion from the south and had to align himself with _____ in order to secure Jerusalem against troops from _____ which were just five miles outside of _____.
5. King Jehoshaphat made a series of _____, including a court of _____. He also attempted an _____ with the _____ during the reign of King _____ of Israel.
6. Jehoshaphat's successors _____ into the family of the northern king, Ahab and _____, and from that point the same problems faced in the north such as _____ and _____ began to infect Judah as well. During this period of time the prophets _____ and _____ began to preach in the southern kingdom.
7. The _____ quotes _____ more than any other prophetic book
8. Summarize the problem with dating the life of the prophet Isaiah.
9. What conclusion have scholars drawn to explain the dilemma of the previous question?
10. Briefly summarize the three major divisions of the book of Isaiah.
11. Isaiah foretold the fall of _____ as a consequence of the people's _____. The prophet asked the Lord _____ this period would be, to which God responded: "Until the cities are _____..."
12. The first thirty-nine chapters of Isaiah include several other notable _____ including the _____ that depicts the _____ as the vine of _____. The image recurs in the New Testament in the words of _____ and the letters of _____.

13. True or False. Micah preached during the late eighth century B.C. and was a contemporary of Isaiah who also preached in Judah.
14. What was Micah's warning?

Pages 182-190 *Prophets of the Exile*

15. In what ways were the lives of Ezekiel and Jeremiah similar? In what ways were they different?
16. A third important prophet of the _____ is _____ who consoled the exiles and wrote about a promised time of _____. He may have considered _____, the king of Persia and liberator of the Jews, as God's _____.
17. What were the main responsibilities of a priest like Ezekiel?
18. What are the two main parts of the book of Ezekiel?
19. What is one explanation for why the "Oracles against the Nations" was inserted by a later editor of the book of Ezekiel?
20. In his second vision, Ezekiel is transported to Jerusalem with other _____ where he is appalled to see _____ worship and rituals being performed near the _____. As he overlooks the city of Jerusalem he is shocked to see the Spirit of _____ leaving the city.
21. What two important things is Ezekiel shown in his vision of Jerusalem?
22. What is the message of Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones?
23. In Ezekiel's vision of the restoration of Israel, he sees a _____ of land with each of the _____ getting _____ shares of land. The _____ will only receive a set amount of _____ and will no longer _____ the people.
24. His fourth vision describes Ezekiel in the _____ of the earlier prophets who spoke for the rights of people and against the _____ of the royal and _____ leaders. The vision let the people know that _____ would not go back to its _____ ways because a new and _____ Israel was on the horizon.
25. To understand the meaning of Ezekiel's symbolic acts, we need to make a _____ with the poems in the book of _____. Lamentations expresses in emotional terms the _____ of the city of Jerusalem and the profound _____ of the people of Judah

- and Israel. Comparing the two books helps us to see how deeply Ezekiel _____ from the devastation and destruction.
26. True or False. Ezekiel's strange actions indicate that he was mentally unstable.
27. Jeremiah began his prophetic ministry during the reign of King _____ in about _____ B.C.. Unlike _____, Jeremiah remained in _____ throughout the siege and the _____ of the people.
28. True or False. It's possible that if the inhabitants of Jerusalem had not tried a revolt against Babylon in 587, the first Temple would have survived.
29. What are the three main points of the "Temple Sermon" of Jeremiah 7?
30. Jeremiah described the Temple as a "_____" and went on to suggest that the Temple would be _____ for the _____ of the people. _____ quoted Jeremiah in Matthew's Gospel perhaps also implying the destruction of the Temple which historically took place in _____ A.D.
31. Like Ezekiel, Jeremiah had to struggle with the personal _____ of preaching an _____ message. In his final _____, Jeremiah reveals his _____ connection to God and his _____ to preaching his word in spite of the _____ he receives.
32. Eventually Jeremiah's _____ did manage to _____ him by smuggling him to _____. It was done by those who hoped to bring Judah into an _____ opposed to Babylon. No further mention is made of him and presumably he _____ there a lonely and unpopular prisoner of _____ who opposed his _____ and _____.
33. Explain the four similarities between Jeremiah and Jesus.
34. Second Isaiah or "_____" was a prophet at the time of the _____. He understood that _____ would soon become the new power in that _____ and that their ruler, _____, would be God's instrument to return the Jews to their _____.
35. What do the four Servant Songs of Second Isaiah describe?
36. Who might the prophet have been referring to as the Suffering Servant at the time these words were written?
37. Second Isaiah goes far beyond simply preaching _____ of Israel. Now God's people will be a _____ people, with a "_____" to take to all the _____.
48. True or False. The Church proclaims that the Suffering Servant prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus.
49. Third Isaiah includes the final _____ chapters of the book of Isaiah. The material is a mixture of _____ composed by the disciple(s) of Isaiah shortly after the return from Exile. The message is one of _____ and looks forward to the day when God's light will _____ --- a preparation for Jesus' _____ message of God's love for *all*.