**The Parade of Prophets Teacher’s Script**

**A silhouette of a person blowing a pipe

Description automatically generated**

**Narrators Script**

Make two scrolls at least 8 feet long! Print and glue script pages into the scrolls. Tie with a ribbon to curl.

**Props**

Cast the image onto the wall behind the stage of either the **Timeline of the Prophets** or a photo of Jerusalem’s

old wall with one of the gates. A slide projector with a transparency or a computer with a projector will be needed.

Hang a **banner** center front above the students with the words “Parade of Prophets.”

Arrange large **baskets** or burlap sacks **of rolled parchments** and scrolls on the stage.

**Shofar**

**Instructions**

All but the narrators form the choir and stand in a group stage left. Each prophet walks from this location to

center stage to read his script from the scroll. When finished, he walks to stage right. (Stage left is the left side

for the actors standing facing the audience. For the audience it is stage right.)

Narrators are positioned center stage and share the space with each prophet who speaks.

It is best if microphones are available for the readers.

**THE PRESENTATION**

**BLOWING OF THE SHOFAR: 3 TIMES**

**NARRATOR 1:**

The history of mankind is God’s story and He is the Author. God governs in the affairs of men and nations and times all events for His eternal plan. Nothing happens by fate or by chance.

**NARRATOR 2:**

God is sovereign, and His overruling hand directs the course of history for His Gospel purposes. The focal point of all human history is Jesus Christ. All antiquity looked forward to the cross, and we look backward to the cross and resurrection.

**NARRATOR 1:**

It took thousands of years before His plan was fully unveiled, and His prophets played a most important role as God’s appointed spokesmen. For indeed, He called them to be His mouthpiece.

**NARRATOR 2:**

Harken to the Word of the Lord:“Surely the sovereign Lord does nothing without revealingHis plan to His servants the prophets.” (Amos 3:7)

**NARRATOR 1:**

“Know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.” (2 Peter 1:20-21)

**NARRATOR 2:**

The word “prophet” is from the Greek language and means “to speak in place of.” So, a prophet stands as a mediator between God and His people and speaks in place of God by divine inspiration. His words are authorized by God and go forth with history-shaping power!

**NARRATOR 1:**

The first prophet found in the Bible came from the very first family on earth. We know this because it was Jesus who called him a prophet. He was the first martyr of the Old Testament period.

1. **ABEL:**

I am the prophet **Abel**.My name means “breath.” I was the righteous son of Adam and Eve and a skilled shepherd. My older brother Cain was a farmer. One day, we both presented our offerings to God as an act of worship. God accepted my sacrifice but rejected my brother’s. Scripture does not record God’s reason, but it does teach us that God looks at the heart and judges the motives and moral character. Cain became very angry and jealous of me. He killed me, and I became the first martyr in the Bible. We bear witness to the eternal hatred between good and evil. Jesus called me a prophet because my shed blood and testimony still speak today.

**NARRATOR 2:**

Our next prophet is the preeminent prophet in the Old Testament. It is written of him that “no prophet has risen in Israel like him, whom the Lord knew face to face. For no one has ever shown the mighty power or accomplished the awesome deeds that he performed under the leading of God’s Spirit.” Educated in the Egyptian court and taught by God Himself for 40 years in the wilderness, he wrote the first five books of the Bible.

1. **MOSES:**

I am the prophet **Moses.** My name means “to draw out.” When I was born, the Egyptian pharaoh was killing all Hebrew baby boys. To preserve my life, my mother placed me in the Nile River. Pharaoh’s daughter found me and raised me as an Egyptian prince. At the age of 40, God called me out of Egypt to equip me for my mission as Israel’s deliverer.

The office of prophet was formally established when God appeared in all His majestic glory on Mt. Sinai and gave me the Ten Commandments. The Hebrews were so afraid of Him, they asked me to speak for them with God. As a result, the prophet in the Old Testament took on the role of gracious mediator.

God told me that “He would raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like me, and would put His words in his mouth, and that He would speak to them all that He commanded him.” That prophecy was fulfilled fifteen hundred years later when Jesus came to earth.

**NARRATOR 1:**

From the time our next prophet was a young child, he heard and obeyed the word of the Lord. His mother had dedicated him to education under the nurture of Israel’s high priest. God’s favor rested upon him, and he served God as priest, judge, prophet, educator, kingmaker, and royal advisor. It was he who turned Israel back to God’s purpose among the nations.

1. **SAMUEL:**

I am the prophet **Samuel**.My name means “heard of God.” From the time I was a little boy, I served God with the high priest in the tabernacle, where I studied God’s law. My people had fallen far away from God. They worshiped idols and followed many pagan customs. Prophecy was scarce when God called me to speak for Him to Israel. Listen to His message:

“If you return to the Lord with all your heart, remove the foreign gods from among you and direct your hearts to the Lord and serve Him alone; He will deliver you.”

The sons of Israel did repent, but I realized that they needed to study God’s Word like I had, so I founded the schools of the prophets and prayed for a reformation.

**SONG: OBEY MY VOICE**

**NARRATOR 2:**

By the time our next prophet was prophesying and performing miracles, the nation Israel had split into two kingdoms which were ruled by kings. Wicked King Ahab and Queen Jezebel were on the throne of the northern kingdom, called Israel. Their rule produced the greatest contest between good and evil in Israel’s history. Israel continued to worship idols and would not listen to the prophets.

1. **ELIJAH:**

My name is Elijah. My name means “Yahweh is God.” I lived in the northern kingdom during a very dark period in Israel’s history. Most people remember me as the prophet who called down fire from heaven on Mount Carmel and departed earth in a chariot of fire. I also appeared with Jesus and Moses on the Mount of Transfiguration.

God used me to denounce wicked King Ahab and to expose the apostasy of Israel. It was a time that called for great courage and miracles in order to awaken immoral Israel to return to the Lord. Listen to what the prophet Malachi prophesied about my return to earth:

“Behold I am sending you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse.”

**NARRATOR 1:**

Our next prophet is the first of the minor writing prophets in Scripture. The language most often used by the prophets was poetic and was filled with imagery and symbols. This prophet saw the events of his day as a foreshadowing of future events. God used him as a spiritual watchman on the walls of Jerusalem warning his people of God’s coming judgments.

1. **JOEL:**

I am the prophet **Joel.** My name means “the Lord is God.” I lived in the southern kingdom of Judah. God gave me a threefold vision. He used locusts to illustrate His serious judgment against Judah and also to portray the ushering in of “the great and awesome day of the Lord” at the end of the age. Listen to portions of my prophecies for three future:

“Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near and it will come as destruction from the Almighty.”

“And it shall be in the last days,” God says, “that I shall pour forth of My Spirit upon all mankind, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.”

“God will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire, and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.”

**NARRATOR 2:**

Our next prophet was sent to prophesy in the capital city of a neighboring, pagan country named Assyria. Assyria was known for its great military power and cruelty to those it captured. Jonah tried to run from God and this assignment and ended up in the belly of a large fish. He was the most reluctant of prophets, yet he experienced the most astonishing results, because all the people of Nineveh repented!

1. **JONAH:**

I am the prophet JONAH. My name means “dove.” I lived in the northern kingdom. I did run from God’s assignment, because I didn’t want evil Nineveh to be preserved, but God had a plan for Assyria.

When I repented, God delivered me from belly of the great fish. I realized that I could not run away from God. He was with me wherever I went. Here is what God asked me: “Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hand, as well as many animals?”

I did prophesy to Nineveh and all the people, including the king, repented. Even the animals were covered with sackcloth. I learned that God’s mercy extends to all nations and peoples!

**NARRATOR 1:**

Our next prophet is the first of four major writing prophets, when biblical prophecy reached its inspired height. His writings provide the most complete prophetic picture of Jesus Christ in all the Old Testament. It is unsurpassed in beauty and reveals more of God’s saving purpose than almost anywhere else in Scripture. His prophecies played a very important role in the history of Israel and shared much about God’s redemptive plan for mankind.

1. **ISAIAH:**

I am the prophet ISAIAH. My name means “God is salvation.” I lived in Jerusalem, Judah during the Age of Prophecy. My prophetic ministry began with an extraordinary vision in which I saw the Lord seated on His throne. It captured His majesty and glory and convicted me of my unclean lips. I heard the Lord say, “Who will go for Us?” and I answered, “Here am I. Send me!” I am now called the Herald of the Messiah because God gave me so many prophecies of Jesus Christ. Here is one of my favorites:

“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom to establish it and to uphold with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.”

**SONG: I SAW THE LORD**

**NARRATOR 2:**

Our next prophet’s writing is unique in the Bible, as it is the only Old Testament book that consists entirely of a conversation between God and man. He wanted to know why, if God is sovereign and good, He had not answered his prayers and had permitted such evil to continue. When God answered, he became even more upset to find out God was going to engage the pagan Babylonians to drive Judah into exile. He came to understand that God’s ways are higher than man’s ways. Although God is often silent, He is not asleep. He is continuously working out His Gospel plan for justice.

1. **HABAKKUK:**

I am the prophet HABAKKUK. My name means “embracer.” I lived in Jerusalem, Judah, It was after the northern kingdom was devastated by the Assyrians. My people had witnessed Israel’s captivity and yet they continued to worship other gods. God gave me a strong message that His judgment was coming, and that Judah would be deported into exile in Babylon. I was very upset that God had allowed evil to continue and challenged His plan. God explained that He was at work to bring His Gospel plan to fruition, and that the righteous must live by his faith and trust that God would care for him in the midst of calamity and distress. God is sovereign and disposes all events in His timing. Here is a portion of the prophecy: “For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not delay. Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith.”

**NARRATOR 1:**

Before our next prophet was born, God appointed him a prophet to the nations. He is one of the four major writing prophets, and his central message is one of hope. This sets him apart from other prophets, whose central message is a call to repentance. His prophecies make clear that God did not fail to protect Judah, but rather Judah failed to obey God and His numerous warnings. He is called the weeping prophet and served God during one of the darkest and most difficult periods in all of Israel’s history.

1. **JEREMIAH:**

I am the prophet JEREMIAH. My name means “the Lord exalts.” I was born in the southern kingdom of Judah. I lived during the captivity and deportation of my people to Babylon. I was the only prophet to record an eyewitness account of that invasion, after which I was sent to Egypt where I died. I suffered much persecution, beatings, and imprisonment. As a man of sorrows, many consider me a type of Christ in the Old Testament. Hearken to the word of the Lord:

“Behold, days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers…But this is the covenant which I will make,…” declares the Lord, “I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people….They will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the Lord, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

**NARRATOR 2:**

This prophet was taken captive as a young man and marched into Babylonian exile. His prophetic ministry began when he entered the priesthood in Babylon. He is the third of the major writing prophets and remained loyal to God. He confronted the sins of the people and also offered hope for their future. He received extraordinary visions and heavenly revelation from God, which sets him apart from most people in the Bible. God called him as a watchman to the house of Israel and he fulfilled his calling.

1. **EZEKIEL:**

I am the prophet EZEKIEL. My name means “God strengthens.” I was born in Jerusalem but was later deported to Babylon, where I became the prophet to the exiles. There were many false prophets at this time, so I was very unpopular. I received extraordinary visions and manifestations of God’s glory, which were difficult for me to describe in words. The essence of these visions was the message of the departure of God’s glory from Jerusalem and its future return. Listen to the description of the glory of the Lord that I saw:

“There was something resembling a throne, like lapis lazuli in appearance; and on that which resembled a throne, high up, was a figure with the appearance of a man. Then I noticed from the appearance of His loins and upward something like glowing metal that looked like fire all around within it, and from His loins and downward I saw something like fire; and there was a radiance around Him. As the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the surrounding radiance. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell on my face.”

**SONG: BREATHE ON ME BREATH OF GOD (1 verse)**

**NARRATOR 1:**

This next prophet lived during the Babylonian exile into the reign of the Medo-Persian Empire. He is the longest held prisoner of war in the Bible. As a member of Jewish royalty, he was marched to Babylon as an adolescent and educated in the court of Nebuchadnezzar. While in captivity, he rose to serve both empires as a diplomat and royal advisor. He is the last of the major writing prophets, and his prophecies pertain to the future times of the gentile nations. One of his prophetic visions provides the most comprehensive overview of future events in world history that is found in the Old Testament.

1. **DANIEL:**

I am the prophet DANIEL. My name means “God is my judge.” I was educated in the world’s greatest school of wisdom when I was taught the Law of Moses as a young boy. Knowledge of God’s living Word has guided all my decisions and delivered me from the demands of a pagan culture. God gave me favor with kings and political leaders. My interpretation of visions and dreams convicted many kings and foreign leaders and brought them to an acknowledgement of the living God.

The Lord showed me that “the people who know their God will display strength and take action, and those who have insight among the people will give understanding to the many…They will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

**SONG: THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS NOW UPON ME**

**NARRATOR 2:**

Our next prophet was set free by Persian King Cyrus to return to his homeland. Not many other returned because Judah was a war-torn, burned wasteland, but he was one of the priests who did. God called him to prophesy encouragement to those who were rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem. After its completion, he preached repentance to the remnant. His large number of prophecies about the Messiah include Jesus’ first coming as the Shepherd who lays down His life and His second coming as the victorious King. Like many other prophets before him, he was martyred and suffered a violent death.

1. **ZECHARIAH:**

I am the prophet ZECHARIAH. My name means “the Lord remembers.” I lived in Jerusalem after King Cyrus set us free to return home to Jerusalem. As a priest God used me to prophesy to those rebuilding the temple and to the remnant who had not heard the Word of God for nearly 100 years. I wanted them to know that God remembers His covenant and will eventually fulfill all His promises. This message brought great hope to the post-exilic Jews. God also gave me two messages that dramatically portray His return to His people and the establishment of His kingdom here on earth. I know that in the end times, the Messiah will finally be recognized by the Jewish people. Listen to the word of the Lord:

“I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.”

**NARRATOR 1:**

Our next prophet is last in the Old Testament. His prophecies contain a message of love, repentance, and reconciliation. It is the great love-song of God, whose love is wounded. After the restoration of Jerusalem and God’s Word, revival broke out for a brief period. But then the people’s hearts grew cold and hard. They went through all the external requirements of the law, but lacked the motivation that comes from a loving heart within. These messages will be God’s last for a 400-year period of silence!

1. **MALACHI:**

I am the prophet MALACHI. My name means “My messenger.” I lived in post-exilic Jerusalem. After the temple was restored, Jerusalem’s wall was rebuilt, and Ezra re-established God’s Word, revival broke out. Sadly, it did not last long and the Jews’ love for God died. This is what hardened their hearts and was the sin that hurt God’s heart the most. The grandeur of the nation perished. The priests corrupted the covenant and prophetic voices were silent. Only an external formality of religion existed and all that God had done for them was forgotten and became a curse to the nation.

My prophecies would be the last messages from God for 400 years. Listen to God’s final words: “Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.”

**NARRATOR 2:**

Four hundred years of silence followed the prophecies of Malachi. God did NOT speak to His people and no Scripture was written, but God was not asleep! As the Sovereign of the universe, He was moving behind the scenes to bring countless details together to send His beloved Son to earth. Our next prophet is the last of the prophets who foretold of the coming of the Messiah. He was called by God and filled with the Holy Spirit while still in his mother’s womb to fulfill his mission as the forerunner of Jesus Christ. Jesus called him the greatest prophet because he prepared the world for His arrival and preached in the power of the prophet Elijah.

1. **JOHN THE BAPTIST:**

I am the prophet JOHN THE BAPTIST. My name means “God is gracious.” I lived in Judea during the reign of Herod the Great and his wicked son, Herod the Tetrarch. God anointed me a prophet while yet in my mother’s womb for the high calling of preparing the world for the ministry of our beloved Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. I am called His forerunner, as I came preaching repentance and baptizing disciples in the Jordan River.

I even had the glorious experience of baptizing Jesus as He entered His ministry. When He approached me, I prophesied, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” As Jesus came up out of the water, I saw the Holy Spirit descend as a dove from heaven and remain upon Him. Then God spoke from heaven, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.” I baptized with water, but Jesus baptizes in the Holy Spirit. It wasn’t long after His ministry began that I was persecuted, imprisoned, and killed by Herod the Tetrarch.

**NARRATOR 1:**

In the fullness of time, God sent the long-awaited prophet to earth, born of a virgin, born under the Law. As God had formerly spoken to His people through the Old Testament prophets, He would now speak through the eternal, living Word clothed with human flesh. He would fulfill the role or office of prophet as a spokesman for God with authority as the second person of the Godhead or the Son of God. This prophet spoke by divine inspiration, both exhorting and predicting the future, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and raising the dead. He is the perfect Master Teacher and became the mediator of a new covenant.

He is the Savior and Redeemer of the world for those who believe in Him.

1. **JESUS CHRIST:**

I am portraying JESUS CHRIST, the long-awaited Messiah. The prophets of old foretold that one day Jesus would fulfill God’s covenant with Abraham and all that Israel had foreshadowed. God the Father loved the world so much that He sent His Son, the eternal Word, and supernaturally clothed Him with human flesh. It was written by the disciple John: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory.”

Jesus accomplished His mission and paid the price of mankind’s sin with the shedding of His blood on the cross and His resurrection. He also fulfilled the offices of Prophet, Priest, and King. He will soon return as the victorious King of kings to set up His kingdom on earth, just as the ancient prophets foretold.

Hearken to His words: “The Son of Man is going to come in His Father’s glory with His angels, and then He will reward each person according to what he has done.”

**CONCLUSION:** All the students recite Isaiah 61:1-3

**BLOWING OF THE SHOFAR: 3 TIMES**

**SONG: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**

**Students continue singing as they exit the stage in a single file.**