



**BIBLE READING FOR
REASONING LESSON PLANS**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

~ PSALM 119:105 ~

THE PROPHETS 1

Time: 50 minutes

Teacher Reading: Reading N^o 1

Student Reading: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Principle: Sovereign God does nothing without first revealing His plan to His servants the prophets.

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

conscience (n.) “That little spark of celestial fire that tells me right from wrong.” (George Washington)

exile (n.) Expulsion from one’s native land by authority and forbidden to return.

figure of speech (n.) Any expressive use of language such as metaphor, simile, personification or antithesis, in which words are used in other than their literal sense in order to suggest an image or picture. In Hebrew poetry, God uses these literary devices to bring emphasis to His Word.

foretell (v.) To declare something that will happen in the future for edification, exhortation, and comfort. To predict. (David Jeremiah)

forthtell (v.) To declare God’s truth for the present time for edification, exhortation, and comfort. To prescribe. (David Jeremiah)

hyperbole (n.) An extravagant statement or figure of speech not intended to be taken seriously.

mediator (n) A person that comes between two people or two parties at variance for the purpose of reconciling them.

metaphor (n.) A figure of speech in which a term or phrase is applied to something to which it is not literally applicable in order to suggest a resemblance.

moral (adj.) Relating to the precepts or principles of ethical conduct.

oracle (n.) A divine communication or revelation.

personification (n.) The attribution of human nature or character to animals, inanimate objects, or abstract notions, especially as a rhetorical figure.

STUDENT



Key Word:

reveal (v.) 1) To disclose to others what was before unknown. 2) To disclose truth to men by God Himself or by His prophets.



Read the Bible Passage:

Read the Bible passage as assigned by your teacher.



Notebook Record:

1. Write your name on The Old Testament Prophets title page and carefully color the illustration with your colored pencils.
2. Color the books of the writing prophets on your Bible Bookcase graphic organizer.
3. Copy these Individuality phrases onto your Moses graphic organizer:
 - Had great courage and resolve
 - Knew God face-to-face
 - Was a “type” of Jesus, the Messiah

prophecy (n.) A message from God that is either forthtelling or foretelling.

prophesy (v.) To make a declaration.

prose (n.) The ordinary form of spoken or written language as distinguished from poetry or verse.

repent (v.) To express sorrow for sins committed and to change one's mind.

simile (n.) A figure of speech in which two unlike things are explicitly compared.

sin (n.) An action, thought, or way of behaving that is wrong according to God's moral standard.

sovereign (adj.) Supreme in power; superior to all others.

theophany (n.) A self-manifestation of God; an earthly appearance of the preincarnate Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity.

vision (n.) A revelation from God; an appearance of something supernaturally presented to the minds of the prophets which informed them of future events.



Preparation and Lesson Background:

1. If you haven't read the "Introduction to This Guide" on page 5, please do so.
2. Study Reading N^o 1, "Introduction to the Old Testament Prophets" on pages 26–30 before teaching this unit. Make certain that you understand the historical setting and details provided in the context of this Christian history reading unit. Also master the many-faceted role of the prophet in God's design for Israel as a nation, and how Jesus Christ fulfilled that role.

The genre of the writing prophets is poetry, and its language is imagery. The nature of Hebrew poetry is different than Western poetry. Understanding the distinctives of this eastern form helps interpret the meaning. Unlike Western poetry, Hebrew poetry is not based on word rhymes or meter (balanced numbers of accented and unaccented syllables).

Hebrew poetry creates vivid imagery through such figures of speech as metaphors, similes, personification, and hyperbole. It is based on repetitive thought or idea rhymes, in which the poet says the same thing twice using different words. This is called parallelism. In parallelism, the poet states an idea in the first line and then says it again in the succeeding line or lines using other words. Example:

*But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5, NKJV)*

4. File your title page, Bible Bookcase, and the Prophet Moses graphic organizer in your binder.



Reason Questions:

1. Throughout the history of Israel, to whom has sovereign God always revealed His Gospel plan?
2. Describe the incident that took place when God established the office of prophet in ancient Israel.
3. What is the language of the Old Testament writing prophets? Where else in the Bible do we find this language used?
4. What is the basic message of Old Testament prophecies?
5. Why do Old Testament prophecies still have great value today for us to study in _____? (Insert your country.)



Memory Verse:

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever. (Deuteronomy 29:29, ESV)

3. Study the teacher vocabulary words, the principle, and the teacher background information. It is important to master the vocabulary words that pertain to biblical prophecy.

Principle: Sovereign God does nothing without first revealing His plan to His servants the prophets.

Surely the sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing His plan to His servants the prophets. (Amos 3:7, NIV)

Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scripture. (Romans 1:1–2)

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith. (Romans 16:25–26)

Reading Nº 1 for this lesson illuminates this principle.

4. Prepare your classroom by hanging your wall timeline cards, found with the Resources, and a map of ancient Israel with its divided kingdoms.
5. Gather resources: Bible, map of Israel, The Old Testament Prophets title pages, Bible Bookcase graphic organizers, the Prophet Moses graphic organizers, student vocabulary card, and memory verse card.



Teaching Plan:

1. Pray: *Our Heavenly Father, who is gracious, merciful, and slow to anger, You alone are worthy of our praise and adoration. Illuminate our eyes today that we may see wondrous things from Your Word. Teach us Your way that we may walk in Your truth. Inspire our hearts to serve You that we may become leaders among our generation for Your glory and Your story. Amen.*
2. Introduce this Christian history unit in light of the fact that the students will not be studying and reading just one book of the Bible, but will be reading portions of many of the Old Testament books of the prophets. Teach them that this body of literature is unparalleled in history as a unique collection of writings, because the content was spoken by the voice of God through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
3. Pin the student vocabulary card onto your bulletin board and define the key word “reveal.”

Connect the vocabulary word to the principle that sovereign God does nothing without first revealing His plan to His servants the prophets.

Introduction to the Old Testament Prophets

Reading N^o 1

*“Surely the sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing
His plan to His servants the prophets.” (Amos 3:7, NIV)*

This AMO[®] Program guide is a combined Christian history and Bible reading for reasoning unit that surveys the Old Testament prophets. History is God’s story. When looking through the eye of history, we have learned that nothing happens by chance. Creator God is sovereign, and His overruling hand directs the course of history for His Gospel purposes. He governs in the affairs of men and nations and times all events for His eternal plan for mankind.¹ God is omniscient and proclaimed the following about Himself,

*“I am God, and there is no other; I am God,
and there is none like me, declaring the end from
the beginning and from ancient times things not
yet done.”²*

This has been true from the beginning of time, when God created Adam and Eve and placed them in the beautiful garden of Eden. Here God walked with them and talked with them and instructed them on how to extend His beauty, truth, and moral goodness over all the earth. God loved Adam and Eve, and they enjoyed a close relationship with Him until the day they disobeyed His command to not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Once they disobeyed God’s command and ate the fruit of this tree, sin and death entered the world and corrupted the basic nature of all mankind. Because God is holy and pure, sin separated Adam and Eve from Him. Filled with shame and guilt, they no longer enjoyed fellowship with Him. God removed them from the beautiful garden and promised that one day He would send a Redeemer who would provide a way for man to have a personal relationship with Him again.³ It would take thousands of years before God fully unveiled His plan, and His

prophets would play a most important role as His appointed spokesmen.

The First Prophet in the Bible

During His confrontation with some religious leaders of His day, Jesus Christ called Abel a prophet.⁴ Abel was the righteous son of Adam and Eve. He was a shepherd and was killed by his wicked brother Cain, a farmer. God had accepted Abel’s sacrifice and not Cain’s.⁵ Out of a heart of adoration, Abel had given his very best to God as an act of worship. God used Abel’s righteous deeds and character to speak to those around him to repent of their sins. Presumably, Cain was so convicted by Abel’s walk with God, that he became jealous and took his brother’s life! Abel was a man of true faith,⁶ whose character and conduct were his prophetic ministry. The book of Hebrews states that “through faith, though Abel is dead, he still speaks!”⁷ So, the first prophet is found in the first family on the earth.

Many generations later, God chose a man from the promised-seed lineage of Adam and Eve⁸ whose name was Abraham. God made a covenant that in Abraham He would establish a special nation, through which He would send forth His Messiah to bless all nations on earth!⁹ Abraham’s family grew quite large, and by the third generation there were twelve families. God spoke directly with the fathers of each family, for these were His chosen leaders. These patriarchs received revelation from the Lord, as He appeared to them in dreams, visions, and personal appearances called theophanies.¹⁰ This is how

⁴ Luke 11:49-51.

⁵ Genesis 4:1-8.

⁶ 1 John 3:11-12.

⁷ Hebrews 11:4.

⁸ Descendant of Adam and Eve’s son, Seth (Genesis 3:15).

⁹ Genesis 12:3.

¹⁰ Robertson, O. Palmer. (2008). *The Christ of the Prophets*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing Company, 9.

¹ Ephesians 1:11.

² Isaiah 46:9-10.

³ Genesis, chapter 3.

Old Testament Prophets

NAME _____



*"Surely the sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing
His plan to His servants the prophets." (Amos 3:7)*



The Prophet Moses

His name means “to draw out.”
Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible.

*“By a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt,
and by a prophet Israel was preserved.”*

Hosea 12:13



Setting

1450–1410 B.C.
Arabian desert wilderness

Background

Moses had a very long and intimate relationship with God that began in the desert at the age of 40 and lasted 80 years. God called him to lead the Hebrews out of slavery in Egypt and empowered him to be His voice among His chosen people.

The office of prophet was formally established when Moses received the Ten Commandments on top of Mount Sinai. There, God Himself appeared in all His majestic glory. The sound of His trumpet-like voice and the sight of the fiery mountain top, amidst a cloud of smoke and lightning flashes, terrified the Hebrews below. They begged Moses to be their mediator and to meet alone with God on their behalf. As a result, the office of prophet became that of gracious mediator between God and man (Exodus 20:18–21). The prophet stood between God and the people to deliver the word of the Lord.

Prophecy is instruction, and the prophet is a teacher. His words go forth with history-shaping power and conviction. Once the words are spoken, nothing can stop their fulfillment, for they are the words of God Himself! So it was with Moses, who served as God’s mouthpiece for 40 years. He prophesied of many things and taught the consequences of both obedience and disobedience to God’s laws—blessings for those who obeyed and adverse consequences for those who disobeyed (Deuteronomy 28).

Individuality

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