Bible Books – OT
History Quiz

A BibleMesh Learning Assessment Tool

Use this quiz to test your knowledge of the Old Testament books of history: Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther. To obtain the answer key, please contact us at customer.support@biblemesh.com
Instructions
Circle the option that best answers the question or statement.

1. Which book tells the story of Israel’s conquest of the Promised Land?
   a. Judges
   b. Joshua
   c. Deuteronomy
   d. 1 Kings

2. What Persian king married Esther?
   a. Artaxerxes
   b. Xerxes
   c. Darius
   d. Cyrus

3. Which book records the events between the conquest and the beginnings of the monarchy?
   a. Job
   b. 1 Kings
   c. Joshua
   d. Judges

4. What Persian king granted Nehemiah leave to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem?
   a. Artaxerxes
   b. Darius
   c. Cyrus
   d. Xerxes

5. Which book records David’s consolidation and expansion of power within Israel and the surrounding nations?
   a. 2 Samuel
   b. 1 Samuel
   c. 2 Kings
   d. Judges

6. How does 1 Chronicles relate to the other historical books 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 Kings?
   a. It gives a theological interpretation of the same events
   b. It records the same events in greater detail
   c. It paints with broad strokes, leaving out some details
   d. It provides the background to the events
7. According to the book of Ezra, why did some Israelites weep at the foundation of the new Temple?
   a. The Temple was being dedicated to the Babylonian god Marduk
   b. It cost a great deal of effort and resources to complete
   c. The Lord had told the Israelites not to rebuild the Temple
   d. It paled in comparison with Solomon’s Temple

8. According to 1 Kings, what did King Solomon ask God for?
   a. Wealth
   b. Love
   c. Wisdom
   d. Long life

9. Which book explains how Israel came to have a monarchy?
   a. 2 Samuel
   b. 1 Samuel
   c. Judges
   d. 1 Kings

10. The events recorded in the book of Ruth took place during what period?
    a. The time of the exile
    b. The time of the conquest
    c. The time of the monarchy
    d. The time of the judges

11. What important prophet is described in 2 Kings?
    a. Elijah
    b. Samuel
    c. Eli
    d. Malachi

12. Who was the audience for 2 Chronicles?
    a. Israelites going into exile
    b. Israelites returning from exile
    c. Israelites under siege in Jerusalem
    d. Israelites languishing in exile in Babylon

13. What important figure descended from Ruth?
    a. Saul
    b. Abraham
    c. David
    d. Samuel
14. Who is the author of 1 Chronicles?
   a. Moses
   b. Ezra
   c. Nehemiah
   d. Unknown

15. What does Joshua’s name mean?
   a. The Lord is salvation
   b. God is my victory
   c. The Lord sees all
   d. Yahweh will provide

16. According to the book of Ezra, what Persian king paid the cost of finally completing the new Temple?
   a. Xerxes
   b. Cyrus
   c. Darius
   d. Artaxerxes

17. As reported in 1 Kings, what was the name of Solomon’s son who became king after him?
   a. Jeroboam
   b. Rehoboam
   c. David
   d. Hezekiah

18. According to 2 Kings, who became Elijah’s successor?
   a. Jonah
   b. Elisha
   c. Jeremiah
   d. Ezekiel

19. According to 2 Samuel, what grievous sin did King David commit?
   a. Worshipping on the high places
   b. Failing to destroy all the Canaanites
   c. Having an illicit affair
   d. Seizing the throne without God’s approval
20. What does 2 Chronicles promise that God will do if the people humble themselves and pray?
   a. Forgive them and heal their land
   b. Restore them from exile
   c. Build a new Temple in Jerusalem
   d. Remove the false prophets from the land

21. Who anointed Saul and David as king?
   a. Jesse
   b. Joshua
   c. Eli
   d. Samuel

22. Israel’s devotion to the Lord only increased after the death of Joshua.
   a. True
   b. False

23. How long did it take the Israelites to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem?
   a. 52 days
   b. 52 years
   c. 52 months
   d. 52 weeks

24. What is the overarching theme of the book of Esther?
   a. God’s creation of a new heaven and new earth
   b. God’s intention to save all the nations
   c. God’s sovereign care of His people
   d. God’s judgment upon Persia

25. According to the book of Nehemiah, why did the people gather before Ezra as he stood on an elevated wooden platform?
   a. To witness the execution of the blasphemers
   b. To listen to him read the Torah
   c. To divorce their foreign wives
   d. To organize their army to resist the Persians

26. The book of 2 Chronicles tells the story of the latter kings of the northern kingdom of Israel.
   a. True
   b. False
27. All of Rehoboam’s successors recorded in 1 Kings failed to follow the Lord.
   a. True
   b. False

28. According to the book of Judges, what did Jephthah sacrifice after his victory over the Ammonites?
   a. His fatted calf
   b. His horse
   c. His wife
   d. His daughter

29. In 2 Kings what miracle did Elijah perform?
   a. Raising the dead
   b. Turning water into wine
   c. Destroying an enemy army
   d. Stopping the sun in the sky

30. Who does the book of Joshua say hid items designated by God for destruction?
   a. Joshua
   b. Caleb
   c. Achan
   d. Ai

31. What three leaders are described in 1 Samuel?
   a. Saul, Eli, Solomon
   b. David, Solomon, Samuel
   c. David, Saul, Samuel
   d. Solomon, Elijah, Elisha

32. According to the book of Esther, what service did Mordecai perform for king Xerxes?
   a. Promising blessing from the Lord
   b. Warning of an imminent foreign invasion
   c. Foretelling the Lord’s coming judgment
   d. Uncovering an assassination plot

33. Ruth was not a native Israelite.
   a. True
   b. False
34. Who is the main character of 1 Chronicles?
   a. Saul
   b. David
   c. Solomon
   d. Rehoboam

35. According to the book of Ezra, what two prophets called God’s people to finish the Temple?
   a. Ezra and Nehemiah
   b. Joshua and Zerubbabel
   c. Haggai and Zechariah
   d. Cyrus and Ezekiel

36. According to 2 Samuel, who said, “The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer”?
   a. David
   b. Saul
   c. Samuel
   d. Elijah

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