

Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) - Isaiah 1-33 Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. According to Isaiah, what will happen to Damascus?**
 - A. It will become a thriving city**
 - B. It will become a military stronghold**
 - C. It will cease to be a city and become a ruinous heap**
 - D. It will transform into a prosperous port**
- 2. Within how many years would Ephraim be broken, according to Isaiah?**
 - A. 30 years**
 - B. 40 years**
 - C. 65 years**
 - D. 70 years**
- 3. What metaphor is used for those who will remain in Jerusalem as per Isaiah 4:3?**
 - A. The remnant**
 - B. The mighty**
 - C. The chosen**
 - D. The faithful**
- 4. What had happened to Israel's silver and wine?**
 - A. It had become dross and water**
 - B. It had become gold and pure**
 - C. It had multiplied and flourished**
 - D. It had been stolen and misused**
- 5. What does God promise to restore to His people according to Isaiah?**
 - A. Wealth and prosperity**
 - B. Judges and counselors**
 - C. Victory over enemies**
 - D. A new covenant and blessing**

- 6. What will people do with their swords and spears in Isaiah's vision?**
- A. Keep them sharp for battle**
 - B. Beat them into plowshares and pruning hooks**
 - C. Hide them from view**
 - D. Trade them with enemies**
- 7. According to Isaiah 11:2, what Spirit shall rest upon Him?**
- A. The Spirit of might and power**
 - B. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding**
 - C. The Spirit of knowledge and truth**
 - D. The Spirit of faith and hope**
- 8. Why will the Lord have no joy in their young men and no mercy on their fatherless and widows according to Isaiah 9:17?**
- A. For everyone is a hypocrite and an evildoer**
 - B. For they have turned away from Him**
 - C. For they have committed sins without remorse**
 - D. For they worship false idols**
- 9. Who is the head of Syria mentioned in Isaiah 7:8?**
- A. Ahaz**
 - B. Rezin**
 - C. Pekah**
 - D. Remaliah**
- 10. By what two spirits will the Lord wash away the filth of Zion in Isaiah 4:4?**
- A. The spirit of mercy and the spirit of grace**
 - B. The spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning**
 - C. The spirit of wisdom and the spirit of knowledge**
 - D. The spirit of love and the spirit of truth**

Answers

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- 1. C**
- 2. C**
- 3. A**
- 4. A**
- 5. B**
- 6. B**
- 7. B**
- 8. A**
- 9. B**
- 10. B**

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Explanations

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1. According to Isaiah, what will happen to Damascus?

- A. It will become a thriving city**
- B. It will become a military stronghold**
- C. It will cease to be a city and become a ruinous heap**
- D. It will transform into a prosperous port**

In Isaiah, the prophetic writings indicate that Damascus will face significant destruction and ultimately cease to exist as a functioning city, becoming a "ruinous heap." This serves as a powerful image of judgment and shows the seriousness of the situation in the context of divine prophecy. The transformation into a pile of ruins underscores the themes present in Isaiah, such as the consequences of turning away from God and the eventual downfall of nations that oppose His will. The idea of Damascus losing its status as a city reflects the prophecy's broader message about the impending judgment on nations that do not honor God. By depicting such a drastic fate for Damascus, Isaiah highlights the sovereignty of God over all nations and serves as a warning to others. This resonates with the historical context where Damascus was strategically significant, and the prophecy emphasizes that no city, regardless of its importance, can withstand God's judgment.

2. Within how many years would Ephraim be broken, according to Isaiah?

- A. 30 years**
- B. 40 years**
- C. 65 years**
- D. 70 years**

The prophecy concerning Ephraim in the book of Isaiah indicates that within a certain timeframe, the Northern Kingdom would face destruction. This is notably mentioned in Isaiah 7:8, where it states that "within sixty-five years, Ephraim will be broken, so that it will not be a people." This timeframe is critical as it underscores the impending judgment the nation would face due to their unfaithfulness to God and highlights God's sovereignty in determining the fate of nations. The choice of 65 years captures the specific duration that the prophet Isaiah, under divine inspiration, foresaw for Ephraim's downfall. This detail serves as a prophecy for the people of Israel, illustrating the severity of their situation and calling them to repentance and a return to faithfulness to God. Understanding this timeframe provides insight into the historical context of the nation of Israel during Isaiah's ministry and the consequences of turning away from God.

3. What metaphor is used for those who will remain in Jerusalem as per Isaiah 4:3?

- A. The remnant**
- B. The mighty**
- C. The chosen**
- D. The faithful**

In Isaiah 4:3, the metaphor used for those who will remain in Jerusalem is "the remnant." This term signifies a smaller group that survives or endures after a period of judgment or catastrophe. In the context of Isaiah, the remnant represents a faithful group of people who maintain their commitment to God and are preserved despite the surrounding turmoil and disobedience of the broader society. This concept emphasizes God's promise to protect and sustain those who remain true to Him, serving as a source of hope amid impending challenges. The use of "the remnant" captures the idea that even in times of widespread distress and rebellion, God preserves a portion of His people who will eventually witness restoration and blessings. This understanding highlights the importance of faithfulness in the face of adversity. While terms like "the mighty," "the chosen," and "the faithful" may carry significant meanings in biblical texts, they do not specifically encapsulate the distinct concept expressed in Isaiah 4:3 about those who are left in Jerusalem. The focus on the remnant underscores God's covenant fidelity and His ability to maintain a faithful people.

4. What had happened to Israel's silver and wine?

- A. It had become dross and water**
- B. It had become gold and pure**
- C. It had multiplied and flourished**
- D. It had been stolen and misused**

The statement that Israel's silver and wine had become dross and water highlights the degradation and corruption of what was once valuable and pure. In this context, "dross" refers to the waste material or impurities that arise during the refining process of metals, signifying that the quality of Israel's wealth and offerings had diminished. Similarly, "water" indicates dilution and loss of value, contrasting sharply with the notion of wine being a rich and desirable commodity. This imagery reflects the spiritual and moral decline of Israel, where the nation had strayed from righteousness and thus suffered a loss of integrity and true worth. This choice powerfully encapsulates a theme found throughout Isaiah, where God criticizes the people for their superficiality in worship and the hollow state of their society, indicating that the genuine value of their practices and sacrifices had been lost. The metaphorical use of silver and wine serves to underscore the severity of their condition, which had resulted in a lack of authenticity in their relationship with God.

5. What does God promise to restore to His people according to Isaiah?

- A. Wealth and prosperity**
- B. Judges and counselors**
- C. Victory over enemies**
- D. A new covenant and blessing**

In the book of Isaiah, God promises to restore judges and counselors to His people as part of His overarching plan for renewal and healing of their society. This promise reflects a desire to return to a time when leaders were just and wise, guiding the people according to God's laws and principles. This restoration of leadership is significant as it directly addresses the issues of injustice and moral decay that were prevalent among the people at the time. Judges and counselors serve as agents of God's justice, ensuring that righteousness prevails and that the community is led towards faithful living. The emphasis on restoring wise and understanding leaders indicates a deep concern for societal structure and governance, ultimately leading to a more harmonious relationship between God and His people. Other options may reference true aspects of God's promises but do not encapsulate the specific focus on leadership and guidance that Isaiah highlights. Wealth and prosperity or victory might be seen as secondary outcomes of having righteous leaders, while a new covenant and blessing, while important themes, do not specifically address the restoration of societal governance that is called for in Isaiah.

6. What will people do with their swords and spears in Isaiah's vision?

- A. Keep them sharp for battle**
- B. Beat them into plowshares and pruning hooks**
- C. Hide them from view**
- D. Trade them with enemies**

In Isaiah's vision, the imagery of beating swords into plowshares and pruning hooks symbolizes a profound transformation from instruments of war to tools for peace and agriculture. This metaphor highlights the prophetic hope for a future where conflict is resolved not through violence but through cooperation and productivity. It captures the essence of what the kingdom of God represents—a place where the need for weapons is abolished, and instead, human energies are devoted to nurturing the earth and fostering community. This vision reflects the overarching message of peace and reconciliation found in Isaiah's writings, emphasizing that God will ultimately bring about a time when nations will no longer engage in warfare but will instead thrive in harmony. This future vision stands in contrast to the current realities of conflict, underscoring the transformative power of divine intervention and the promise of a new world order under God's reign. In this context, the act of repurposing swords and spears signifies a radical shift in human priorities, aligning them with divine intentions for peace and wellbeing.

7. According to Isaiah 11:2, what Spirit shall rest upon Him?

- A. The Spirit of might and power**
- B. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding**
- C. The Spirit of knowledge and truth**
- D. The Spirit of faith and hope**

The choice that states "The Spirit of wisdom and understanding" is accurate because Isaiah 11:2 describes the characteristics of the Messiah, often interpreted as Jesus Christ, who is to come from the lineage of Jesse. This verse specifically highlights the qualities that the Spirit of the Lord will impart to Him, emphasizing the importance of wisdom and understanding as foundational attributes. Wisdom refers to the ability to make sound judgments and decisions, while understanding denotes an insight into the complexities of life. Together, these qualities enable the Messiah to lead and govern justly, providing guidance rooted in divine insight. Isaiah's prophecy points to a figure who will possess a deep connection to God and an extraordinary capacity to discern and address the needs of His people, making it essential for them to recognize the importance of these traits in terms of leadership and divine authority. The other choices, while potentially reflective of other spiritual gifts, do not align directly with the specific wording and context provided in Isaiah 11:2, which distinctly identifies wisdom and understanding as central to the Spirit that will rest upon Him.

8. Why will the Lord have no joy in their young men and no mercy on their fatherless and widows according to Isaiah 9:17?

- A. For everyone is a hypocrite and an evildoer**
- B. For they have turned away from Him**
- C. For they have committed sins without remorse**
- D. For they worship false idols**

The reason the Lord will have no joy in their young men and no mercy on their fatherless and widows, as stated in Isaiah 9:17, primarily centers on the character of the people at that time. The passage indicates that everyone in that society is characterized as hypocritical and as evildoers. This notion of widespread hypocrisy reflects a deeper issue where the people are engaging in wrongful practices while outwardly maintaining a facade of righteousness. This aligns with the broader themes found in the book of Isaiah, where God frequently expresses disappointment with His people due to their insincerity and moral failures. The presence of evildoers, especially among the youth who are typically viewed as the future of a nation, signifies a troubling moral decline that leads to divine disfavor. Thus, God's lack of joy in the young men and lack of mercy towards vulnerable groups like the fatherless and widows stems from this pervasive lack of integrity and wrongdoing within the community. In contrast, the other options, while they might touch upon related themes present throughout the book, do not encapsulate the specific movement in this verse that highlights the hypocrisy and pervasive evil among the individuals being addressed. Each of those themes—turning away from God, committing sins without remorse, and

9. Who is the head of Syria mentioned in Isaiah 7:8?

- A. Ahaz
- B. Rezin**
- C. Pekah
- D. Remaliah

In Isaiah 7:8, the head of Syria referred to is Rezin. This passage outlines a period of conflict during the reign of King Ahaz of Judah, where Rezin, the king of Syria, aligns with Pekah, the son of Remaliah, who was the king of Israel. The verse emphasizes the geopolitical tensions of the time, underlining how Rezin's leadership in Syria posed a significant threat to Judah. Rezin is identified as an influential figure in the region, demonstrating the historical dynamics and relationships between the neighboring kingdoms. His role as the king of Syria emphasizes the broader themes of conflict, prophecy, and the challenges faced by Ahaz as he navigated these turbulent times. Understanding Rezin's position helps clarify the context of the struggles against Israel and Syria that are highlighted throughout Isaiah, which is crucial for grasping the implications of the prophetic messages delivered in this book.

10. By what two spirits will the Lord wash away the filth of Zion in Isaiah 4:4?

- A. The spirit of mercy and the spirit of grace
- B. The spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning**
- C. The spirit of wisdom and the spirit of knowledge
- D. The spirit of love and the spirit of truth

In Isaiah 4:4, it is mentioned that the Lord will wash away the filth of Zion by using "the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning." This passage emphasizes the themes of purification and cleansing. The "spirit of judgment" signifies a discerning or corrective force that will confront sin and unrighteousness, while the "spirit of burning" represents a purifying element, often associated with fire that consumes and refines, removing impurities. The context of this verse highlights a future time when God will restore His people, indicating that both judgment and purification are necessary for spiritual renewal. This dual action aligns with the broader biblical themes where judgment precedes redemption, pointing to the importance of examining and cleansing one's heart and community before restoration can occur. The other options, while they mention important spiritual qualities, do not align with the specific wording of Isaiah 4:4 and its intended message about the necessary processes for God's cleansing work in Zion.