

## Year 8 Summative Assessment 1 – Creation & Covenant / Prophecy & Promise



The Ten Commandments are important because they establish fundamental principles for how to treat God and others, and are considered a guide for living:

- **Christians**

The Ten Commandments are a core part of Christian faith, and are considered important rules for how to live. They are believed to help Christians love and respect others.

- **Jews**

The Ten Commandments are a guide for Jewish living, and are considered part of the covenant made at Mount Sinai. They are believed to help Jews treat others with respect, and to love and worship God.

- **Teach habits**

The Ten Commandments teach habits that help people live in a right relationship with God, themselves, and others. These habits include creating priorities, giving respect, and maintaining integrity.

- **Reflect morality**

The Ten Commandments reflect a morality that was common in the ancient Middle East

### What is a prophet?

Prophets are called by God and have a message from God. The prophets often used 'stunts' to make a dramatic point. Many prophets also point to a better time, when the Messiah will come and make all wrongs right - this called fulfilment (Messianic fulfilment).

There are 16 books in the Bible named after particular prophets but not all prophets have their own book. The greatest of the Old Testament prophets was Elijah and he hasn't got his own book.

### What is the message of the prophet Amos?

Amos criticised the King of Israel and his rich friends because they took advantage of the poor - they had forgotten that they were one people that had been freed from slavery. Amos preached that Righteousness and Justice should flow like a river into the desert. The Book of Amos stands as a powerful reminder of the importance of social justice, righteousness, and genuine worship. Through a series of oracles, visions, and direct addresses, Amos warns Israel and its neighbours of the consequences of their actions. The book calls out the complacency, corruption, and oppression prevalent in society.

### Who was John the Baptist?

John the Baptist was called from before his birth because an angel visited his father. John shared a message to 'Prepare' for the Lord (the Messiah) the one who was much greater than him. This is Jesus. He preached repentance through baptism.

John the Baptist and Elijah have many similarities. John the Baptist finishes the work of all the prophets as Jesus begins his ministry - the fulfilment of all the prophets.

### How are we called through our baptism?

That through the Sacrament of Baptism, a believer is anointed with chrism (sacred oil) and so shares in Christ's threefold office of priest, prophet and king (CCC 1268). The baptised serve as priests through their personal sacrifice, bringing people to God. They serve as prophets through their witness to the truth in word and deed. And they serve as kings in their efforts to lead others—again through word and deed—to use their talents to advance the Kingdom of God (adapted from CCC 1241).

### How does the liturgy in Advent point to a fulfilment in Christ?

popular devotions during Advent, for example: Advent hymns 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.' The O Antiphons: O Wisdom of our God Most High, O Root of Jesse's stem, O Key of David, O King of all nations and keystone of the Church, O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law. The Benedictus prayer (the words of Zechariah, John the Baptist's father)

### What does it mean to be a prophet today?

The life and example of people who have lived up to their baptismal in some concrete way in the world and students reflect on the ways in which they could respond to that same call. What does it mean to prepare for the Lord? Special focus on your year group charity and Advent charities.

### How can Advent art and craft point to a fulfilment in Christ?

Popular Advent devotions: the Jesse tree, Advent wreaths, Advent calendars and candles. Linking these to the Advent liturgy and/or scripture.

In summary, the prophets of the Old Testament were men and women called by God to speak for Him and often lead on His behalf during a chaotic and often violent period of Israel's history. They were dedicated servants who ministered well and left a powerful legacy for those who came after. In the Bible, and especially in the Old Testament, a prophet has the role of holding people accountable to the God of Israel.

