

Prophetic Message(s)

Read it in the Bible or hear a human messenger—which would you prefer?

Read 1 Kings 13:1-34.

1. Why did a prophet of Judah go to Bethel to deliver a message?
 - A. This was the prophet's attempt to unite the kingdom after it had split.
 - B. Jeroboam invited the prophet.
 - C. God sent the prophet.
 - D. The prophet desecrated the altar at Bethel.
 - E. To endorse Jeroboam as Israel's king, not King Rehoboam of Judah.
 - F. He wanted to warn Jeroboam he needed to change.
 - G. It was a call for the people of Israel to return to God.
 - H. That's what prophets do—they deliver messages for God.
 - I. Other.

2. How did the Israelite king relate to this unnamed prophet from Judah?
 - A. He demanded to know why the prophet didn't stay in Judah.
 - B. It sparked an invitation to become one of Jeroboam's new priests.
 - C. Jeroboam reacted with anger to the prophet's message.
 - D. He invited the prophet to come to the palace to eat.
 - E. Jeroboam told his soldiers to seize the prophet.
 - F. The king asked the prophet to pray for him.
 - G. They became lifelong friends.
 - H. The prophet's message motivated Jeroboam to worship God.
 - I. Other.

3. Why didn't the prophet accept Jeroboam's invitation for a palace meal?
 - A. The prophet wasn't hungry.
 - B. The prophet didn't trust Jeroboam.
 - C. The prophet was vegan and Jeroboam served meat.
 - D. God specifically told the prophet to return to Jerusalem immediately.
 - E. He was hoping for another invitation from another prophet.
 - F. Eating with Jeroboam would show approval of his idol worship.
 - G. Everyone knew the food at the palace wasn't very good.
 - H. He feared Jeroboam might poison him.
 - I. Other.

4. Why did the second prophet lie to the first prophet?
 - A. He was a false prophet.
 - B. He was a lying prophet.
 - C. He was jealous God hadn't given him the message for Jeroboam.
 - D. The first prophet would believe anything.
 - E. Even prophets get tested.
 - F. The Bible doesn't tell us.
 - G. He hadn't received God's messages for a while and wanted a reboot.
 - H. Other.

5. What made the first prophet's death an "act of God"?
 - A. Nothing; it wasn't an "act of God."
 - B. Everyone dies eventually.
 - C. It came right after the second prophet made his prediction.
 - D. Lions don't live in that part of the world.
 - E. The lion killed the prophet, but just stood by the donkey.
 - F. The prophet directly disobeyed the message God gave him.
 - G. God doesn't kill prophets or allow them to be killed.
 - H. The lion killed the first prophet, but not the second one who came by.
 - I. Other.

6. What good came out of this tragic story?
 - A. No good came from this.
 - B. Jeroboam changed his ways.
 - C. Israel and Judah reunited.
 - D. The lying prophet gave the dead prophet an honorable burial.
 - E. The first prophet's prediction came true (2 Kings 23:15-20).
 - F. The people of Bethel were clear about God's messages to them.
 - G. Jeroboam's descendants didn't repeat his mistakes.
 - H. Other.

7. How do you determine whether or not a message really is from God?

8. How do you respond when God sends you a message you don't like?
What is your response when you like the message from God?