

The Bronze Bow Study Guide

Characterization:

To make a story interesting, an author must portray the people in ways that make them seem real. They must have both good and bad features. This is called *characterization*. Answer the following questions about five of the characters introduced in the first two chapters.

1. Reread the first two paragraphs of the book. The first sentence of the book leads the reader to the questions, “Who is the boy? What is he like?” Write down everything you learn about Daniel found in these two paragraphs.
2. What questions do you have about Daniel that the author has not yet answered after two chapters of reading?
3. What do you learn about Joel and Malthace in the first chapter?
4. An author can make readers like or dislike a character by the words she uses to describe that character. Do you think the author wants her readers to like or dislike Rosh? Support your answer by listing five words, phrases, or sentences the author uses to describe Rosh.

The Bronze Bow Study Guide

5. Describe the slave as he was when Rosh's band freed him.

Questions:

1. Why had Daniel run away to the hills?
2. What is Daniel ordered to do when the caravan approaches?
3. When Rosh asks Joel his reason for wanting to see him, what reason does Joel give? What is Rosh's response?

Thinking About the Story:

4. Why do you think Joel helps Daniel in the skirmish?

The Bronze Bow Study Guide

5. What is Rosh's main requirement for those who wish to join his band? What is your opinion of this requirement?

6. What does the slave do when Daniel breaks his shackles? What do you think this gesture means?

7. To *compare* means to show how two things are alike. To *contrast* means to show how they are different. How does Malthace's opinion about the Roman occupation compare to Joel's and Daniel's view? How does her opinion contrast?

Dig Deeper:

8. Joel says,

“I used to think [the Messiah] would come with a great host of angels. Now I know it must be men, real men, trained and armed and ready—”

Many Old Testament scriptures predicted the coming of the Messiah. Read the four passages listed below. Would the descriptions found in these verses fit Joel's view of the Messiah? Put **Y** in the blank for yes, or **N** for no.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| a. ____ Isaiah 41:1–2 | c. ____ Isaiah 53:4–9 |
| b. ____ Isaiah 42:2 | d. ____ Jeremiah 50:33–40 |

The Bronze Bow Study Guide

Optional Exercises:

Research Roman mines and galleys. What else did Romans use slaves for?
Where did Romans get their slaves?