TWELVE ERAS OF THE BIBLICAL WORLD

TRACING THE STORY OF THE BIBLE
1. Creation/Beginnings
2. Ancestral
3. Exodus/Covenant Community
4. The Promised Land
5. Judges
6. Israel becomes a Kingdom
7. Israel in exile
8. Returning and rebuilding
9. Post-exilic / Inter-testamental
10. Jesus and the Gospels
11. The church
12. Global missions era
# 1. Creation/Beginnings

**Genesis 1-12**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Major Characters</th>
<th>Storyline Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No specific time-frame indicated. Stories reflect ancient oral traditions prior to recorded history.</td>
<td>Garden of Eden; Mesopotamia</td>
<td>God Adam &amp; Eve Cain &amp; Abel Noah</td>
<td>The stories of creation and humankind’s fall into sin and spiral downward.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2. ANCESTRAL
**Genesis 12-50**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1900-1800 B.C. is approximate</td>
<td>Canaan</td>
<td>Abraham &amp; Sarah Isaac &amp;</td>
<td>Abraham chosen by God to “father” a covenant people to bless the world and make God known.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abraham’s Journey

Mediterranean

Egypt

Canaan

Haran & Ur of the Chaldeans (Iraq)
3. **EXODUS/COVENANT COMMUNITY**

Exodus (Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1600B.C. to 1240B.C.</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Moses</td>
<td>Moses leads the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage &amp; receives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exodus dated 1280-</td>
<td>Wilderness of</td>
<td>Aaron Pharoah</td>
<td>God’s law for the covenant community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1290B.C.</td>
<td>Paran Sinai</td>
<td>Miriam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peninsula
4. THE PROMISED LAND
Joshua

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</table>
| 1240-1220B.C.    | Canaan   | Joshua, Caleb   | God uses Joshua to lead the people into life in the Promised Land
|                  |          |                 | Conquest and Division of the Land                                          |
Twelve Tribes of Israel

- Manasseh
- Ephraim
- Asher
- Dan
- Benjamin
- Reuben
- Simeon
- Issachar
- Gad
- Naphtali
- Zebulun
- Judah

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5. JUDGES
The Book of Judges

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<tr>
<td>1220 - 1050 B.C.</td>
<td>Canaan</td>
<td>Samson, Gideon, Deborah, Samuel, and</td>
<td>God uses a variety of leaders (most in military roles) to establish the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>people in the land.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 6. **Israel Becomes a Kingdom**

Books of Samuel, Kings, Chronicles  
Many of the Prophets

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</table>
| 1050-586BC       | Israel     | Saul,  
**David**  
Solomon  
Judah: Rehoboam  
Israel: Jeroboam  
Prophets       | Kingdom established/ consolidated  
Ultimately divides. Judgment leads to exile. |
| Division 922BC  |            |                                  |                                               |
| Fall of Israel  |            |                                  |                                               |
| 722BC            |            |                                  |                                               |
| Fall of Judah   |            |                                  |                                               |
| 587BC            |            |                                  |                                               |
Divided Kingdom of Israel

Israel

Ammon

Moab

Judah

Edom

Philistia

Mediterranean

Phoenicia

Syria

Samaria

Jerusalem

Dead Sea

Jordan River

Galilee

Divided Kingdom

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7. EXILE
Ezekiel

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<tr>
<td>605 - 538B.C.</td>
<td>Babylon</td>
<td>Ezekiel in Babylon</td>
<td>Majority of population carried into Exile in Babylon for a period of approx. 70 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebuchadnezzar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jeremiah in Jerusalem. Stories of Daniel place he and friends in Babylon.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>destroys Jerusalem in 587B.C. and deports many of the people.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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## 8. RETURNING AND REBUILDING
Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther

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<tr>
<td>538 - 430B.C</td>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td>Zerubbabel, <strong>Ezra</strong> (458)</td>
<td>Temple (515) and Jerusalem rebuilt and worship restored. Walls restored (444)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edict of Cyrus (Persian King) in 538 grants return</td>
<td>Esther gives insight into life in Persian Empire.</td>
<td>Prophets Haggai &amp; Zechariah (520) Malachi (460)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>------------</td>
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<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430 - 4B.C.</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>Alexander the Great (333)</td>
<td>Expanding Greek influence; Jewish independence (142-63); Roman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maccabeans</td>
<td>control 63B.C. forward</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### 10. JESUS & THE GOSPELS
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

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<tr>
<td>6B.C. - 30A.D.</td>
<td>Galilee, Samaria and Judea</td>
<td>Jesus&lt;br&gt;Disciples&lt;br&gt;Jewish leaders&lt;br&gt;Roman authorities (Herod, Pilate)</td>
<td>Birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth as told in the Gospels.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 11. THE CHURCH
Acts 1-12

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30A.D.</td>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td><strong>Peter</strong></td>
<td>Church is established at Pentecost and begins to expand, facing persecution as well as Jewish/Gentile conflicts.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### 12. MISSIONS ERA

**Acts 13 - The Revelation**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 - 100 A.D.</td>
<td>Roman Empire</td>
<td><strong>Paul</strong></td>
<td>Paul expands the church throughout the Empire. As Gentiles are included, Christianity begins emergence from Judaism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, Titus, Luke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Saul / Paul
9; 11; 13—28

- Jew
- Roman
- Educated
- Pharisee
- Persecutor

- Missionary
- Church planter
- Letter writer
- Prisoner
First Missionary Journey

13—14

Paul
Barnabas
John Mark

Cyprus
Asia Minor
Second Missionary Journey

15—18

Paul
Silas
Timothy
Asia Minor
Europe
Third Missionary Journey

18—21

Paul
Timothy
others

Asia Minor
Europe
Paul’s Journey to Rome

PAUL'S CAPTIVE JOURNEY TO ROME
A.D. 58 TO 63
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