



# TWELVE ERAS OF THE BIBLICAL WORLD

TRACING THE STORY OF THE  
BIBLE





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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



Time Frame	Location	Major Characters	Storyline Summary
No specific time-frame indicated. Stories reflect ancient oral traditions prior to recorded history.	Garden of Eden; Mesopotamia	God Adam & Eve Cain & Abel Noah	The stories of creation and humankind's fall into sin and spiral downward.

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Black Sea

Caspian Sea

# MESOPOTAMIA

Mediterranean  
Sea

Babylonia

Ur

Persian Gulf

Red Sea

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## 2. ANCESTRAL

### Genesis 12-50



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
1900-1800B.C. is approximate date for Abraham  Trip to Egypt around 1600B.C.	Canaan	Abraham & Sarah Isaac & Rebekah Jacob, Rachel & Leah Joseph	Abraham chosen by God to “father” a covenant people to bless the world and make God known.

# Abraham's Journeys





3.

## EXODUS/COVENANT COMMUNITY

### Exodus (Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)

Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
1600B.C. to 1240B.C.  Exodus dated 1280-1290B.C.	Egypt  Wilderness of Paran  Sinai Peninsula	Moses Aaron Pharoah Miriam	Moses leads the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage & receives God's law for the covenant community.

**Great Sea**  
(Mediterranean)

**Canaan**

**Nile  
Delta**

**Sinai  
Peninsula**

**Egypt**

**Mt. Sinai**

**Red Sea**

**Traditional  
Route of  
the Exodus**





## 4. THE PROMISED LAND

### Joshua



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
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

## 12 Tribes of Israel

# Twelve Tribes of Israel



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





## 5. JUDGES

### The Book of Judges



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
1220 - 1050B.C.	Canaan	Samson, Gideon, Deborah, Samuel, and Others	God uses a variety of leaders (most in military roles) to establish the people in the land.



6.

# ISRAEL BECOMES A KINGDOM

Books of Samuel, Kings, Chronicles  
Many of the Prophets

Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
1050-586BC Division 922B.C. Fall of Israel 722B.C. Fall of Judah 587B.C.	Israel	Saul <b>David</b> Solomon Judah: Rehoboam Israel: Jeroboam Prophets	Kingdom established/ consolidated Ultimately divides. Judgment leads to exile.





# Divided Kingdom




## 7. EXILE Ezekiel




Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
605 - 538B.C. Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem in 587B.C. and deports many of the people.	Babylon	Ezekiel in Babylon Jeremiah in Jerusalem. Stories of Daniel place he and friends in Babylon.	Majority of population carried into Exile in Babylon for a period of apprx. 70 years.





## 8. RETURNING AND REBUILDING

### Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
538 - 430B.C  Edict of Cyrus (Persian King) in 538 grants return	Jerusalem  Esther gives insight into life in Persian Empire.	Zerubbabel <b>Ezra</b> (458) <b>Nehemiah</b> (444) Prophets Haggai & Zechariah (520) Malachi (460)	Temple (515) and Jerusalem rebuilt and worship restored. Walls restored (444)



## 9. POST-EXILIC / INTER-TESTAMENTAL Non-Canonical Literature


Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
430 - 4B.C.	Palestine	Alexander the Great (333) Maccabeans	Expanding Greek influence; Jewish independence (142-63); Roman control 63B.C. forward





# 10. JESUS & THE GOSPELS

## Matthew, Mark, Luke, John



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
6B.C. - 30A.D.	Galilee, Samaria and Judea	Jesus Disciples Jewish leaders Roman authorities (Herod, Pilate)	Birth, life,ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth as told in the Gospels.





# 11. THE CHURCH

## Acts 1-12



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
30A.D.	Jerusalem	<b><i>Peter</i></b> John James Philip Stephen	Church is established at Pentecost and begins to expand, facing persecution as well as Jewish/ Gentile conflicts.





## 12. MISSIONS ERA

### Acts 13 - The Revelation



Time Frame	Location	Main Characters	Storyline
30 - 100A.D.	Roman Empire	<b><i>Paul</i></b> Barnabas Silas Timothy Titus Luke	Paul expands the church throughout the Empire. As Gentiles are included, Christianity begins emergence from Judaism.





# 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



y  
18

Paul  
Silas  
Timothy

Asia Minor  
Europe





# Third Missionary Journey

18—21

Paul  
Timothy  
others

Asia Minor  
Europe



# Paul's Journey to Rome

27—28





# Modern Political Boundaries







This PowerPoint presentation is available along with related materials and other PowerPoint presentations at <http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/ppt.htm>

