



Chronology of the Bible

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([Aschmann.net/BibleChronology/BibleChronologyText.html](#))

[Bible chronology main page](#)
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(See [History](#).)
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This chart is a text copy of the chart in [Aschmann.net/BibleChronology](#), and is searchable, unlike the chart there, which is an image file. However, most of the clarifying graphics are missing from this chart, and it is messy in many ways, so search it if you need to, but then go back to the main chart to see things more clearly.

Anytime the following line is seen in the chart:

it means that things above it and below it don't quite line up, because I had to start a new table, but that any vertical lines should be assumed to continue.

All of the teal-colored text showing the corresponding pages in *The Narrated Bible* is missing from this chart, since there is no need to ever search for this information, which is almost entirely sequential. I only occasionally show the actual text found in that column, such as the following, since I made and use this file for translation purposes.

Shown in this Column are the corresponding pages in *The Narrated Bible* by F. LaGard Smith.

I also do not show the dark-red year scale in this chart, for the same reason: it is sequential and need never be searched for.

Chronology of the Bible

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Why does this chronology start with Terah and not with Adam? This depends on the question of whether the genealogies in the Old Testament are complete or not, and it turns out that they very rarely are. What about the genealogies in Genesis 5 and Genesis 11? Aren't they complete? No, actually a high view of the inerrancy of Scripture requires us to conclude that they are not. Read all about it [here](#).

However, there is one part of the chronology of the Bible which can be established prior to Terah, and that is the internal chronology of [Noah's Flood](#).

Either way, both a Young Earth Creationist (YEC) and an Old Earth Creationist (OEC) should be able to agree with the chronology throughout this chart, since it is based on Biblical figures which are independent of this issue.

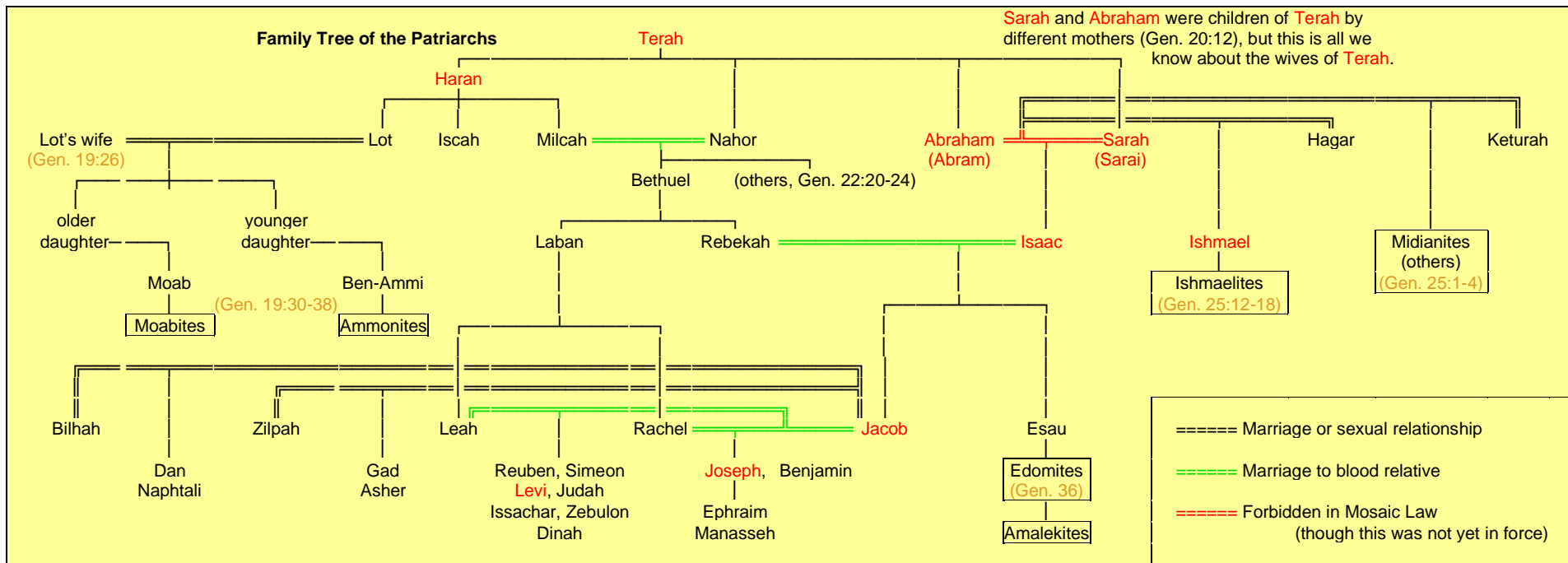
— 2296 Terah born? ([Gen. 11:32](#))

(born 2296?)

The Patriarchs

Terah

Names highlighted in red are key individuals whose timelines are shown on the right side.



— 2226 Haran born? (Terah 70, Gen. 11:26)

(born 2226?)

The names of Abram's brother Haran and of the city of Haran, both mentioned in Gen. 11:31, look identical in English, and one might wonder if one was named after the other, but in Hebrew they are completely different names, beginning with different consonants, the first a simple [h] sound and the second a pharyngeal sound (made deep in the throat), and they had different meanings, and would never have been viewed as the same name, any more than Dick and Nick would be considered the same name in English. These names are still pronounced differently in Modern Hebrew.

Haran

— 2166 Abram born (Terah 130?, Gen. 12:4, 11:32)

(born 2166)

Terah must have been at least 130 at this time, since Abram was 75 when he entered Canaan, after the death of his father at age 205 (Gen. 11:32). Abram was evidently the youngest of the three brothers Haran, Nahor, and Abram mentioned in Gen. 11:26, even though their names are given in reverse, and presumably Haran the eldest was born when Terah was 70, as stated in Gen. 11:26.

Abraham

(Abram)

— 2156 Sarai born (Gen. 17:17)

(born 2156)

Sarah

(Sarai)

..... Lot, Milcah, and Iscah, children of Haran, are born (Gen. 11:27,29)

..... Haran dies in Ur of the Chaldees (Gen. 11:28)

|..... Abram and Nahor both marry, Sarai barren (Gen. 11:29-30)

..... The Call of Abram, time uncertain (Acts 7:2-4, Gen. 12:1-3) _____

..... Terah moves Abram's entire clan to Haran (Gen. 11:31) _____

God called Abram while he was still living in Ur of the Chaldees (Acts 7:2-4). Terah, perhaps respecting Abram's call, takes his whole extended family and leaves Ur, with every intention of going all the way to Canaan (Gen. 11:31), just as Abram was called to do. However, after they arrive in Haran, he is apparently unwilling to continue, and Abram seemingly is unwilling to leave him in order to fulfill God's command, even though the original command (Gen. 12:1) had been "Leave your country, your people and your father's household!"

(This seems to be the most logical way to reconcile Genesis 11 and 12 with Acts 7, and is reflected in several Bible translations which have "The Lord had said to Abram" in Gen. 12:1. Another view is that God had to call him twice, the first time reflected in Acts 7, and the second time in Genesis 12. Either way he did exercise faith and obeyed God, as Hebrews 11:8 tells us, even if his faith was not perfect.)

| — 2091 Death of Terah (age 205, Gen. 11:32), Abram leaves Haran and settles in Canaan (Gen. 12:4-9)

Abram arrives in Canaan at the age of 75 (Gen. 12:4)

2091?

| Abram goes to Egypt because of the famine. Separation from Lot, Abram settles in Hebron. War with eastern kings. Promise and covenant first made. (Gen. 12:10-15:21)

— 2081 Abram takes Hagar as wife (Gen. 16:1-14)

— 2080 Ishmael born (Abram 86, Gen. 16:16) (Gen. 16:15-16)

Where exactly were Sodom and Gomorrah? They have apparently been found!

(born 2080) Ishmael

|— 2067 Covenant confirmed, circumcision (Abram 99, Gen. 17:1,24). Abram & Sarai renamed Abraham & Sarah. Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah. Move to Gerar, problem with Abimelech. (Gen. 17-20)

— 2066 Isaac born (Abraham 100, Sarah 90, Gen. 17:17, 21:5) (Gen. 21:1-7)

— 2063 Isaac weaned, Ishmael and Hagar sent away (Gen. 21:8-21), treaty with Abimelech (Gen. 21:22-34). Abraham evidently moved to Beersheba sometime in the last 4 years, and remains there, probably for the rest of his life.

(born 2066) Isaac

Was Hebrew Abraham's native language? No, the Bible seems to clearly indicate that his native language was ancient Aramaic, though it's easy to miss that, because the references are not very prominent. So what was Hebrew? Hebrew was the language of the wicked Canaanites! Read all about it here.

But in that case why is he called Abram the Hebrew in Genesis 14:13? The answer is a bit unexpected: in the Old Testament Hebrew is never used as a term for the Hebrew language (although by the time of the New Testament it is), but only in reference to a group of people. And in Genesis it seems clear from its usage that it had a much broader meaning than one referring to just Abraham and his descendants. So what did Hebrew mean in Genesis? Click here for a discussion of this.

..... God commands Abraham to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:1-19)

..... Abraham hears about Nahor's descendants (Gen. 22:20-24)

|— 2029 Death of Sarah (age 127, Gen. 23:1-2) (Gen. 23)

— 2026 Isaac marries Rebekah (age 40, Gen. 25:20) (Gen. 24, 25:19-20)

-2029

..... Abraham marries Keturah after Sarah's death, has more children. (Age at least 137 at remarriage, probably at least 140!) (Gen. 25:1-6)

|— 2006 Esau and Jacob born (Isaac 60, Gen. 25:26) (Gen. 25:21-26)

..... Isaac moves to Beer Lahai Roi at some point before Abraham's death (Gen. 25:11), possibly even before his marriage (Gen. 24:62)

(born 2006) Jacob

|— 1991 Death of Abraham (age 175, Gen. 25:7) (Gen. 25:7-10)

1991

..... Esau and Jacob grown, Esau sells birthright (Gen. 25:27-34)

..... Isaac, Abimelech, and Rebekah (Gen. 26:1-23)

..... Isaac settles long-term in Beersheba (Gen. 26:23-33, 28:10)

|— 1966 Esau marries 2 heathen wives (age 40, Gen. 26:34) (Gen. 26:34-35, 36:2)

*Indicates a date about which I disagree with F. LaGard Smith

— 1937 Death of Ishmael (age 137, Gen. 25:17)

1937

Jacob's children's mothers and probable birth years and birth sequence

(Gen. 29:31-30:24, 35:16-26, and 49)

There are many lists in the Bible of Jacob's sons or of the tribes of Israel, but none seems to give them in their actual birth order. Instead, most list them according to their mothers, as in Gen. 35:23-26. However, their order can be deduced with some certainty from Gen. 29:31-30:24 and the fact that all the sons except Benjamin were born during the second 7 years that Jacob had to work for Leah and Rachel (Gen. 29:27), which were completed immediately after Joseph's birth (Gen. 30:25-26).

	Leah	Bilhah	Zilpah	Rachel
1921	Reuben (1)			
1920	Simeon (2)			
1919	Levi (3)			
1918	Judah (4)			
"Then she stopped having children." (Gen. 29:35 NIV) → 1917		Dan (5?)		
1916	Issachar (6?)	Naphtali (7?)	Gad (8?)	
"Afterward she bore a daughter..." (Gen. 30:21 ESV) → 1915	Zebulun (9?)		Asher (10?)	Joseph (11)
1914	Dinah (12)			
⋮				
(Dinah sexually mature) → 1900?				Benjamin (13)

— 1929 **Jacob** deceives **Isaac** to receive blessing, flees to Haran (age 77!). (Gen. 27:1-29:20)
 **Esau marries a third wife**, daughter of Ishmael (Gen. 28:9, 36:3)
 — 1922 **Jacob** marries Leah and Rachel (Gen. 29:21-30) 1921—
 **Esau moves to Edom/Seir**, time uncertain (Gen. 32:3, 36:6-8) 11 sons born
 — 1915 Birth of **Joseph** (**Jacob** 91, Gen. 30:22-25) 1915— (see box above)
 **Isaac** moves from Beersheba to Hebron, time uncertain (Gen. 26:23,33, 28:10, 35:27)
 — 1909* **Jacob** leaves Haran, meets Esau, settles in Shechem (Gen. 31-33)

1929— **Jacob** works 7 years for Rachel before marriage (**Gen. 29:15-20**),
 1922— works 7 years for Rachel and Leah after marriage (**Gen. 29:27-30**) (Gen. 29:21-30:26),
 1915— and works 6 years for livestock (**Gen. 31:41**) (Gen. 30:26-43).
 1909*—

Jacob spends a total of 20 years in Haran (**Gen. 31:38,41**)

Levi
 (born 1919)
 (born 1915)
Joseph

— 1900? Rape of Dinah (age 14?), murder of Shechemites; move to Bethel, then Bethlehem; birth of Benjamin (**Jacob** 106!), death of Rachel; Reuben's incest (age 22?) (Gen. 34:1-35:22). **Jacob** reunited with **Isaac**, settles in Hebron (Gen. 35:27), probably until move to Egypt (Gen. 37:14).

[The trials of Job](#)

— 1898 **Joseph** sold into slavery (age 17, **Gen. 37:2**) (Gen. 37)
 Potiphar's household, prison (Gen. 39)

1898?—

— 1887 **Joseph** interprets dreams of butler and baker (Gen. 40)

See box below for Judah's story

— 1885 **Joseph** interprets Pharaoh's dream, becomes ruler of Egypt (age 30, **Gen. 41:46**) (Gen. 41:1-49) — 7 years

1886 Death of **Isaac** (age 188, **Gen. 35:28**) (Gen. 35:27-29)

1877?—

— 1878 Start of seven years of famine (Gen. 41:53-57)
 plenty

— of

— 1876 Second visit of **Joseph's** brothers, move to Egypt (**Jacob** 130, **Gen. 47:9**) (Gen. 43:1-47:12, **Exo. 1:1-5**)

The Israelites move to Egypt (Gen. 46, 430 years before the Exodus, see **Exo. 12:40-41**)

Senusret II
 (Sesostris II)
 1897

— 7

years
 — 1871 End of seven years of famine
 famine

— of

Senusret III
 (Sesostris III)

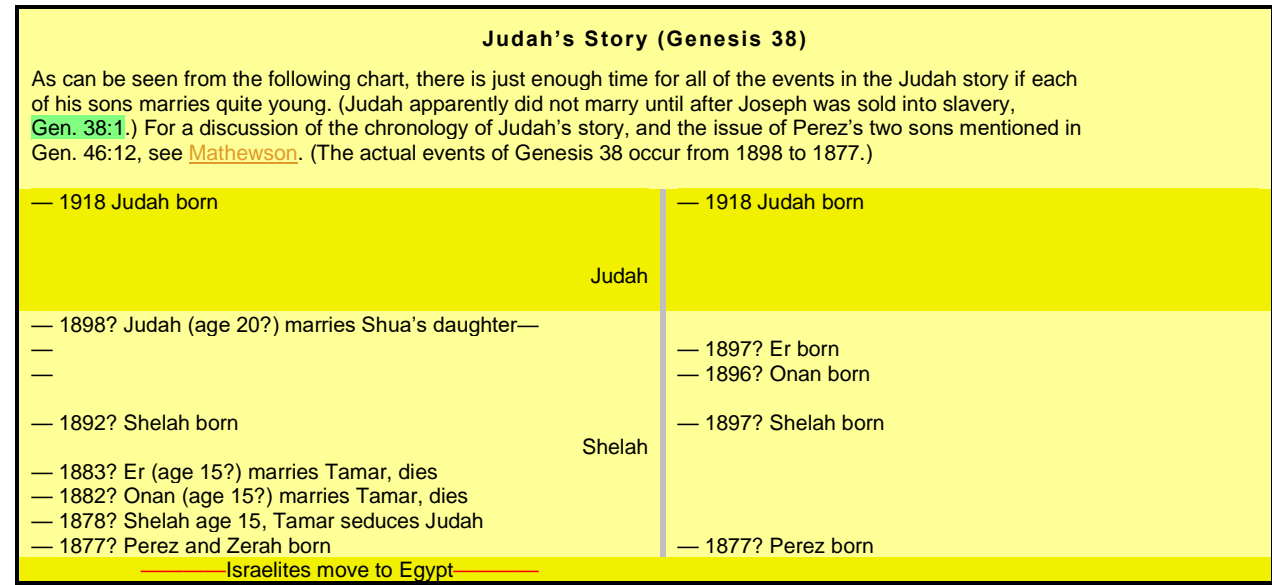
1843
 1839

Probable ruling periods of the pharaohs in the Joseph story (See [this page](#), [this page](#) and [this page](#).)

— 1859 Death of **Jacob** (in Egypt 17 years, age 147, Gen. 47:28) (Gen. 47:28-50:21)

— 1805 Death of **Joseph** (age 110, Gen. 50:22) (Gen. 50:22-26)

— 1782 Death of **Levi** (age 137, Exo. 6:16)



Before the period of the kings of Judah and Israel, no one mentioned in the Bible appears in the contemporary archaeological record. Does this cast doubt on the reliability of the Bible? No, among other reasons it shows that the archaeological record is far from complete. See [this page](#) for details.

..... All of Joseph's generation dies, Israelites multiply and become exceedingly numerous (Exo. 1:6-7)

Slavery in Egypt

"Then a new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power" (Exo. 1:8-14). This was the start of the oppression of the Israelites, time unknown. Genesis 15:13 says that the oppression is to last 400 years, but this must be a round number, since both Joseph (based on biblical figures) and the Pharaoh of the years of famine (probable, see above) were still alive in 1846, 400 years before the Exodus. Either that, or it should be understood as applying to the entire time in Egypt, not just the oppression, in which case it would still be a round number, but it would be 30 years shorter than the more precise 430 years given in Exo. 12:40-41! This 400-year figure is repeated in Acts 7:6 in a citation of Genesis 15:13-14, with obviously the same interpretive issues. The 450-year figure in Acts 13:20 has similar issues: it seems to be made up of this 400-year figure + the 40 years in the desert + the first 10 years of the conquest of Canaan, and thus has the same issues as the 400-year figure. (This is according to the interpretation of most modern translations, including the NIV and the ESV. The King James and others parse the verse differently, and assign the 450 years to the time of the Judges, but this is far too long, as can be seen by following the chronology of the 480 years below.) For more discussion about this pharaoh, [click here](#).

The Israelites were in Egypt for 430 years, as stated in Exo. 12:40-41. How many generations were they there? See [this page](#) for a discussion of this. Also see section 7. Appendix 1 on that page for a discussion of why the 430 year figure applies only to the time in Egypt and not to the time the patriarchs spent in Canaan, as many have suggested.

When was **Hebrew** (Canaanite) first written?
Both the Bible itself and archeological and other external **evidence suggests** that it was

after the time of Joseph, but before the time of Moses. See [this page](#) for details.

The Exodus and the Entry into Canaan

*Indicates a date about which I disagree with F. LaGard Smith

— 1529 Aaron born (Exo. 7:7)

Aaron

Pharaoh orders the killing of all newborn Hebrew boys (Exo. 1:15-22)

— 1526 Moses born, adopted by Pharaoh's daughter (Exo. 2:1-10)

Moses

For a very tentative identification of some of the pharaohs of the Exodus period, [click here](#).

(born 1495*??)
Joshua

— 1486 Moses flees to Midian (age 40, Acts 7:23) (Exo. 2:11-22)

For more on the dates of Joshua, Caleb, the elders, and Othniel, [click here](#).

(born 1485)
(Jos. 14:6-12)
Caleb

Pharaoh dies, people groan, God hears. (Exo. 2:23-25)

(born 1465 or later)
(Num. 14:29-38)
Elders who
outlived Joshua
(Jos. 24:31, Jdg. 2:7)

— 1447? Burning bush. First confrontation with Pharaoh and backlash (Exo. 3:1-6:27)

— 1446 Plagues. Exodus. Mt. Sinai. Law. Golden calf. Tabernacle. (Exo. 6:28-40:16)

— 1445 Tabernacle completed. First Passover after Egypt. Journey to Canaan. Spies and rebellions. (Exo. 40:17 - Num. 19:22)

The Exodus from Egypt (Exo. 12:40-41, 430 years after Israelites move to Egypt) (1 Kings 6:1, 480 years before foundation of temple in 967)

For a detailed, month-by-month chronology of the key years of the Exodus from Egypt, [click here](#).

Othniel
(nephew of Caleb)

38 years of wandering in the desert (1445 - early 1407, Deu. 2:14-16)

The Israelites enter Canaan (Joshua 3)

— 1407 Return to Kadesh. Travel to Mount Hor, Aaron dies. (Num. 20-21)

— 1406 Reach Plains of Moab (Num. 22-36). Deuteronomy address, Joshua appointed, Moses dies (Deu. 1-34). Cross Jordan, Passover (Jos. 1:1-5:12)

Initial conquest of Canaan (Jos. 5:13-12:24)

— 1400 The Lord appears to Joshua, final disposition of land (Jos. 13-21). Joshua's address to eastern tribes and aftermath (Jos. 22). Caleb receives Hebron at 85 (Jos. 14:6-12)

Additional conquests and failure to complete conquest (Jdg. 1:1-2:5)

— 1385*?? Joshua's final address and death (Jos. 23:1-24:30, Jdg. 2:8-9)

"And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua..." (Jdg. 2:7)

1385*??

From Judges through the reign of David the corresponding pages in The

Narrated Bible are shown on the right in the column with the gray background. I do this because I prefer M. A. Cragg's chronology over Smith's for the period of the Judges.

— 1379? 1379? Oppression by Mesopotamians **8 years** (Jdg. 3:8)

The Judges

— 1371? **Othniel** (nephew of **Caleb**) delivers Israel and becomes judge for **40 years** (Jdg. 3:9-11)

The [Berlin Statue Pedestal Relief](#) mentions "Israel", sometime between 1406 and 1349.

Chronology of M. A. Cragg

(I have added one year to all of his dates to bring them into conformity with the rest of this chronology.)

— 1331? 1331? Oppression by Moabites **18 years** (Jdg. 3:13-14)

— 1313? 1313? Deliverance by Ehad (Jdg. 3:15-30)

Ruth?

The land has peace for **80 years**. (Jdg. 3:30)

The chronology of the book of *Judges* is difficult, since if we add together all of the time periods specified, it takes up quite a bit more time than there is available between the Exodus and the founding of the temple, so some of the events must have occurred simultaneously and been only regional.

Here I have very tentatively followed [M. A. Cragg's chronology](#), but I have also included the chronology from *The Narrated Bible* in a second column for comparison. A quite different third arrangement can be seen in the timeline on [this page](#). However, keep in mind that any such arrangement is highly uncertain, in fact largely guesswork, since there are almost no fixed points throughout this whole period. For more information [click here](#).

"After Ehad came Shamgar" (Jdg. 3:31)

"After Ehad died, the Israelites once again did evil in the eyes of the LORD. 2 So the LORD sold them into the hands of Jabin" (Jdg. 4:1-2)

Israelites do evil (Jdg. 3:7) 1380? — 1380??

Oppression by Mesopotamians **8 years** (Jdg. 3:8)

Colors used through the period of the Judges:
 Years as judge
 Possible additional years as judge (uncertain)
 Years of peace, not necessarily matching a judge

Years when the Israelites do evil (only in Smith's chronology)

Years of oppression
red figures: Time span provided in the text

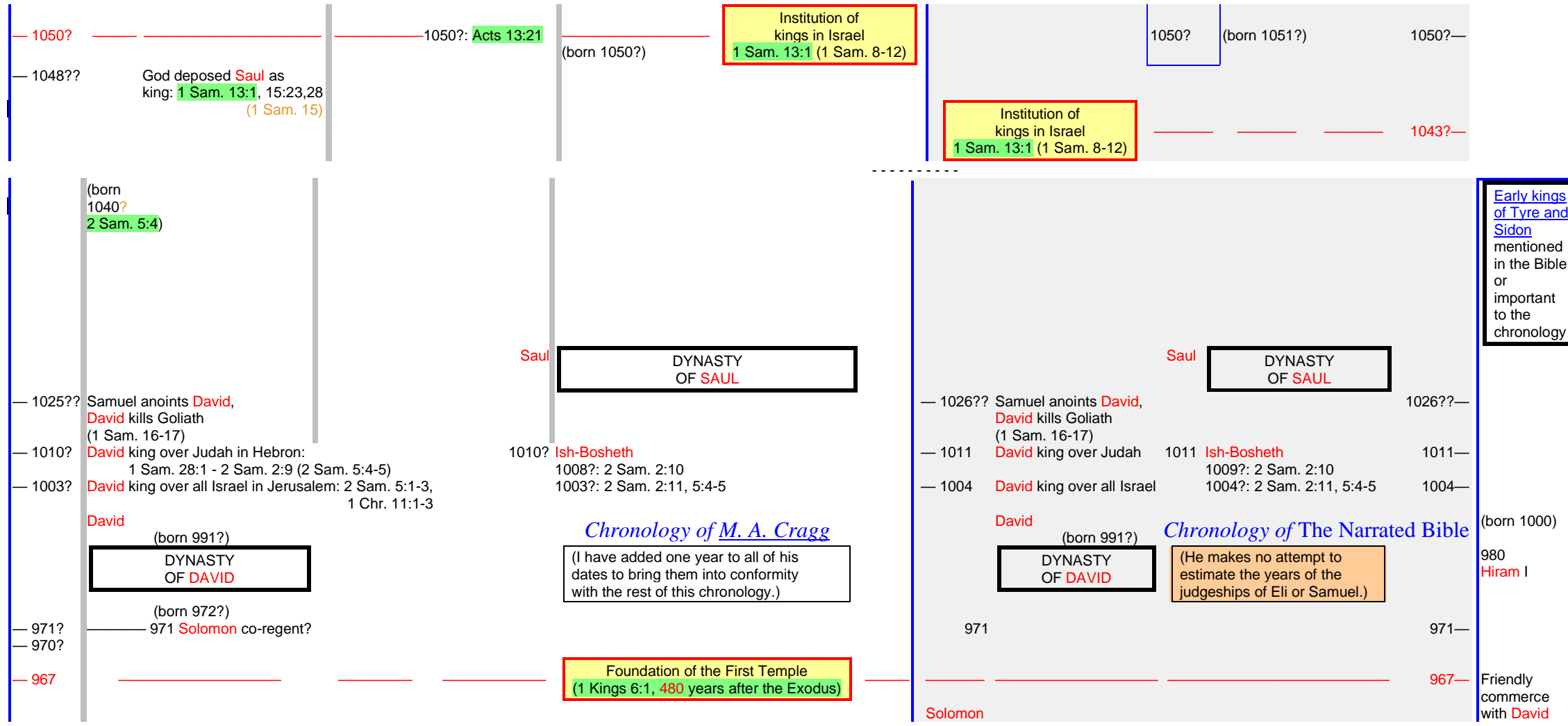
Chronology of The Narrated Bible

	Southwest Israel	Southeast Israel	Central and Northern Israel		
Israelites do evil (Jdg. 3:12)				1327?—	1327?
Oppression by Moabites 18 years (Jdg. 3:13-14)		1322? Moabites		1322?—	
Deliverance by Ehad (Jdg. 3:15-30)		1304? Ruth?		1304?—	
The land has peace for 80 years , at least in the southeastern part of Israel, near the Moabites. Ehad and Shamgar are the deliverers during this time, though they are not referred to as judges. (Jdg. 3:30-31)		Ehad			1274— The Battle of Kadesh
	1253?? Philistines 1248??	1253?	1253? evil (Jdg. 4:1)	1253?—	

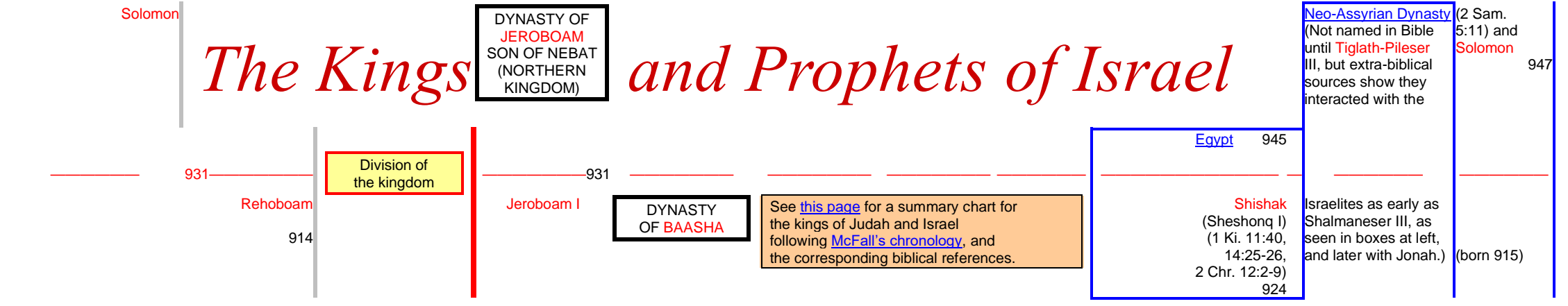
		Northwest Israel	Southwest Israel	Eastern Israel		Shamgar (southwest only?)	Peace continues only in the southeast?	1244?	
— 1233?	1233?	1233?							
— 1220?	Jabin	Oppression by Jabin and the Canaanites 20 years (Jdg. 4:2-3)	Philistines (Jdg. ? 3:31)	Oppression by Midianites		1224?		Jabin and Canaanites	1224?—
— 1213?	1213?- 1203—	1213? Deliverance by Deborah (Jdg. 4:4-5:31) The land has peace for 40 years (Jdg. 5:31). It appears that Deborah's judgeship began before this time (Jdg. 4:4-5), and we have no information about when it ended.	Deliverance by Shamgar (southwest only?)	Deliverance by Gideon (Jdg. 6:11-8:27)	The land has peace for 40 years , at least in central and northern Israel (Jdg. 5:31).			Deborah	
	Deborah, Gideon			The land has peace for 40 years (Jdg. 8:28)	Israelites do evil (Jdg. 6:1) Oppression by Midianites 7 years (Jdg. 6:1-10) Deliverance by Gideon (Jdg. 6:11-8:27)				1184?— 1177?—

The Merneptah Stele mentions "Israel".

— 1173?	1173?	(born 1174?)							
— 1170?	1170? Abimelech		"After the time of Abimelech ...Tola... rose to save Israel. ...He was followed by Jair" (Jdg. 10:1-3)	Around 1175— first known historical references to the Philistines	Abimelech king in Shechem 3 years (Jdg. 8:33-9:57)				
	Tola		Judges 12: 7 "Jephthah led Israel" 8 "after him, Ibzan" 11 "after him, Elon" 13 "after him, Abdon"		Tola 23 years (Jdg. 10:1-2)				
— 1147?	1147?				1147?				
	Jair				Jair 22 years in Gilead (Jdg. 10:3-5)			Abimelech	1137?— 1134?—
— 1125?	1125?				1125? Oppression by Ammonites 18 years (Jdg. 10:6-9)			Tola	
— 1116?	1116?	1116?						evil (Jdg. 10:6)	1111?— 1111?—
— 1107?			300 years after conquest of trans-Jordan mentioned by Jephthah (Jdg. 11:26)						1107?—
— 1101?	1101? Oppression by Philistines 40 years (Jdg. 13:1)	Eli judge 40 years (1 Sam. 4:18) (1 Sam. 2:12-36)	1096?? born (1 Sam. 1:1-23) -1093?? Weaned (1 Sam. 1:24-2:11) God speaks(1 Sam. 3:1-18) (1 Sam. 3:19-21)	? Samson leads Israel 20 years (Jdg. 15:20, 16:31) ?	Jephthah 6 years (Jdg. 10:10-12:7) Ibzan 7 years (Jdg. 12:8-10) Elon 10 years (Jdg. 12:11-12) Abdon 8 years (Jdg. 12:13-15)	Oppression by Ammonites 18 years (Jdg. 10:6-9) Ruth?	1090? Philistines	Ammonites 1089? Jephthah 1083?	1090?— 1089?— 1083?— 1080?—
— 1076?	1076? 1076?		1076? (1 Sam. 4-6)	(birth year unknown)		Ibzan 7 years (Jdg. 12:8-10) Elon 10 years (Jdg. 12:11-12)	1080? Samson	(born 1081)	1076?— 1066?—
— 1056?	— (1 Sam. 7:1-14)	People repent after 20 years , Philistines defeated	Samuel judge (1 Sam. 7:15-17)	(Jonathan, Saul's eldest son and David's friend, never ruled.)		Abdon 8 years (Jdg. 12:13-15)	1060? (Jonathan)		1060?— 1058?—



The Kings and Prophets of Israel



Abijah

(Abijam)

911

(born 908?)

Asa

Kingdom of Judah (South)

(born 880?)

870

— 873 Jehoshaphat co-regent?

(born 863)

Jehoshaphat

— 853 Jehoram 853 co-regent?

848?

Jehoram

(born 841)

Ahaziah (Jehoahaz)

Queen

Athaliah 835

Joel's ministry in Judah

—814 Temple repaired (2 Ki. 12:4-16, 2 Ch. 24:4-14)

Joash (Jehoash)

(born 807*)

796

791* Uzziah co-regent?

Amaziah

(born 776*)

767

Uzziah (Azariah)

(born 755*)

—751*

Jotham

co-regent?

739 (Is. 6:1)

Isaiah's ministry

Jotham

(born 740*)

731* 735* Ahaz

co-regent?

729* Hezekiah

Ahaz

co-regent?

*715

*Indicates a date about which I disagree with F. LaGard Smith

Micah's ministry in Judah

Kingdom of Israel (North)

910

909

Nadab

909

Baasha

886

Zimri king for a week

885

Tibni competes with Omri for 4 years

885

881

DYNASTY OF OMRI

885

Omri

Those rulers mentioned by name in the Bible, whether Israelite or foreign, are highlighted in red.

Obadiah's prophecy about Edom

874

Ahab

854 Ahaziah co-regent? 853 Ahaziah

852

Joram

841

Ahab fights in the Battle of Qargar and the Battle of Ramoth Gilead, dies.

841 — 841 - Jehu pays tribute to Shalmaneser III.

Jehu

DYNASTY OF JEHU

814

Jehoahaz

798

Jehoash

793 Jeroboam II co-regent?

782

Jeroboam II

Shallum king for a month

752

DYNASTY OF MENAHEM

752

Menahem

742

Pekahiah

740*

PEKAH

*752

Pekah

*731

HOSHEA

*731

Hoshea

723

Founding of Carthage, which helps date the start of construction of Solomon's Temple.

Elisha's ministry in Israel

796?

Jonah's prophecy in Nineveh and Israel (2 Kings 14-25)

Amos's prophecy in Israel and Judah

Hosea's ministry in Israel

Fall of Aram-Damascus (Syria) to Assyria (2 Ki. 16:7-9)

722 Merodach-Baladan (Marduk-apla-iddina II)

912

Adad-nirari II

891 Tukulti-Ninurta II 884

878 Ashur-nasir-pal II

859

Shalmaneser III

878

Itthobaal (Ethbaal I) Father of Jezebel wife of Ahab (1 Kings 16:31)

847

(born 841?)

831

824

Shamshi-Adad V

811

Adad-nirari III

783

Shalmaneser IV

773

Ashur-Dan III

755

Ashur-nirari V

745

Tiglath-Pileser III (Pul)

(2 Ki. 15-16, 1 Ch. 5, 2 Ch. 28)

732

727

Shalmaneser V

(2 Ki. 17-18)

722

Sargon II

Pygmalion (Pu'mayyaton, Pummay)

For information about the kings of Aram (Syria) and Damascus see [this page](#).

—711— Assyria captures Ashdod (Is. 20:1). See [Hezekiah](#).

(born 709*)

—701 ← See [Hezekiah](#).
 —700* [Merodach-Baladan's](#) letter

[Hezekiah](#) *686
 co-regent?

—681 [Sennacherib](#) assassinated (2 Ki. 19:37, 2 Ch. 32:21c, Is. 37:38),
 Manasseh repents (2 Ch. 33:10-13)

[Manasseh](#) (born 663)

711— Assyria captures Ashdod (Is. 20:1). See [Hezekiah](#).

Lives and Reigns of the Kings (Same colors used for governors):

- Years as king
- Possible additional years as king (uncertain)
- Years as co-regent with father
- Years prior to becoming king (or after being deposed from kingship)
- Years prior to becoming king (or after being deposed from kingship), uncertain birth (or death) date

Ministries of the Prophets:

- Known period of ministry (years fairly certain)
- Approximate period of ministry (general time period fairly certain)
- Assumed period of ministry (time period not known)
- Life prior to start of ministry (birthdate not completely certain)

710

703

702 (died 700?)

[\(Click here for details.\)](#)

(Isa. 20:1)

705

[Sennacherib](#) (2 Ki. 18-19, 2 Ch. 32, Isa. 36-37)

681

[Esarhaddon](#) (2 Ki. 19:37, Ezra 4:2, Isa. 37:38)

668

669

Nahum's prophecy about Nineveh (p. 929)

—631 [Josiah's](#) reforms 626

—621 Temple repaired (2 Ki. 22:8-23:20, 2 Ch. 34:8-33)

[Zephaniah's](#) prophecy

[Habakkuk's](#) prophecy

[Jeremiah's](#) prophecy

[Jehoahaz](#) (Shallum) 609 *609

[Jehoiakim](#) (Eliakim) *Dec. 598

[Jehoiachin](#) (Jeconiah, Apr. 597)

586

592 [Coniah](#)

[Ezekiel's](#) prophecy

70 years

562* [Jehoiachin](#) released (2 Kings 25:27-30) —562*

70 years (2 Chr. 36:21, Jer. 25:8-14, 29:10, Daniel 9:2, Zec. 1:12, 7:5)

—539 [Cyrus's](#) decree (Ezra 1:1-4)

—538 First Return under [Zerubbabel](#) ([Sheshbazzar](#)) (Ezra 1:5-3:6)

[Foundation of temple laid 536](#) (Ezra 3:8-12)

—529 Accusation lodged (Ezra 4:6)

—522 Temple construction halted (Ezra 4:7-24)

(born 648)

[Sons of Josiah](#)

[Amon](#) *640

(born 632)

(born 633)

(born 615)

(born 622?)

(born 618)

—605* (1:1-17)

—604* (1:18-2:49)

[First deportation 605](#)

[Great deportation 597](#)

[Fall of Judah 586](#)
[Temple destroyed](#)

—584? Fiery furnace (Ch. 3)

—581 Final deportation (Jer. 52:30)

[Daniel's](#) life and ministry

—563? [Nebuchadnezzar](#) repents (Ch. 4)

—553* [Daniel's](#) first vision (Ch. 7)

—551* [Daniel's](#) second vision (Ch. 8)

—539* Wall (Ch. 5), Prayer (Ch. 9), Lions (Ch. 6), retires (1:21, 6:28)

—536 [Daniel's](#) last vision (Ch. 10-12)

[Zerubbabel](#) ([Sheshbazzar](#)) governor (grandson of [Jehoiachin](#))

The Exile and the Return

Kings of Babylon, Media and Persia (p. 1221)

Media & Persia

Babylon 626

[Nabopolassar](#)

627

[Ashurbanipal](#) ([Osnappar](#)) (Ezra 4:10)

[Final weak kings](#)

—612 [Nineveh](#) destroyed

[Egypt](#) 610

[Neco](#) (2 Ki. 23:29-24:7, 2 Ch. 35:20-24, 36:1-4, 595 Jer. 46:2ff)

(born 601)

[Darius the Mede](#) (Daniel 5:31, 6, 9:1, 11:1) (Click [here](#) for extra-biblical identifications)

[Evil-Merodach](#) (Amel-Marduk) | (2 Kings 25:27, Jer. 52:31)

562* [Nergal-sar-ezer](#) (Neriglissar) (Jer. 39:13)

560* [Labashi-Marduk](#)

556* [Nabonidus](#) (Nabû-nā'id)

553*

539 [Fall of Babylon to Persia 539](#)

[Cyrus the Great](#) (2 Ch. 36:22-23, Ezra 1:6, Is. 44:28, 45:1, Dan. 1:21, 6:28, 10:1)

530 [Cambyses II](#) ([Ahasuerus/Xerxes](#), Ezra 4:6)

522

—521 Temple construction restarted (Ezra 5:1-2)
Temple completed 515* (Ezra 6:14b-22)

520— Haggai's prophecy

519— Zechariah's prophecy
518—

Gaumata (Pseudo-Smerdis) (Artaxerxes, Ezra 4:7-23, 6:14)

Darius I king of Persia (Ezra 4-6, Haggai 1-2, Zechariah 1,7)

*Indicates a date about which I disagree with F. LaGard Smith

—490 The watershed Battle of Marathon, in which Greece prevents the Persian Empire under Darius from gaining a foothold in Europe

—483 Xerxes' banquet, Vashti removed as queen (Esther 1)

—480-479 Second Persian invasion of Greece under Xerxes, ultimately unsuccessful

—478* Esther becomes queen (Esther 2)

—474* Haman plots the destruction of the Jews (Esther 3-8)

—473* The Jews are saved from destruction, institution of Purim (Esther 9-10)

For a more detailed chronology of the book of Esther click [here](#).

Xerxes I = Ahasuerus (Esther 1-10)
486
465

—458-457 The "Second Return" under Ezra (Ezra 7-10)

Decree to rebuild—
ministry of (Daniel 9:25)
Ezra the priest

Those rulers mentioned by name in the Bible, whether Israelite or foreign, are highlighted in red.

—445 Nehemiah gets news and prays (Neh. 1)

—444 Nehemiah goes to Jerusalem, completion of wall (Neh. 2:1-12:26)

444

Nehemiah governor 49 years

432

("7 sevens", Daniel 9:25)

Malachi's prophecy

Artaxerxes I (Longimanus) (Ezra 7:1-8:1, Neh. 2:1, 5:14, 13:6)

—432 Nehemiah returns to Susa (Neh. 13:6) (Neh. 13:4-5)

—425? Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem, wall dedicated (Neh. 13:7-31, 12:27-47, 13:1-3)

425?

424 Xerxes II
423

—408?? Completion of the rebuilding of Jerusalem? (Daniel 9:25)

Darius II (Nothos) (Darius the Persian?, Nehemiah 12:22)

404

The completion of Malachi and Nehemiah marks the close of the Old Testament Canon. After this no more books of the Bible are written until the first century A.D., not counting the Apocryphal books, which are not accepted by Protestants, Jews, Jerome the translator of the Vulgate, or even most church scholars before the Reformation. The intervening years are often called the Intertestamental Period.

Artaxerxes II

The Intertestamental Period

483 years ("7 sevens + 62 sevens", Daniel 9:25-26) from 457 B.C. to the start of the ministry of Jesus the Messiah (The Anointed One) in 27 A.D.

358

Artaxerxes III

(Darius the Persian? , Nehemiah 12:22)

338

Artaxerxes IV Arsēs

336

Darius III (Codomannus)

330

Fall of Persia to Alexander the Great, beginning the period of Greek influence

329

Bessus (Artaxerxes V)

27 A.D.

—167 Maccabean revolt against the Seleucid Empire, led by Judas Maccabeus

—142 Founding of the [Hasmonean dynasty](#) of high priests by Simon, brother of Judas, who were rulers of Judea, which was largely independent of both the Seleucid Empire and the Roman Empire for much of this time. Before gaining full independence they were called “ethnarchs”, Greek for “rulers of a nation (or ethnic group)”.

—110 Full independence achieved under John Hyrcanus

—104 The Hasmonean rulers begin calling themselves “kings” under Aristobulus I, in spite of not being descendants of King David.

Lives and Reigns of Herodian kings and tetrarchs, and various other rulers:
 Years as ruler
 Years as co-regent with father
 Years prior to becoming ruler (or after being deposed)
 Years prior to becoming ruler (or after being deposed),
 uncertain birth (or death) date

Those rulers mentioned by name in the Bible are highlighted in **red** in the charts below. (Sometimes their biblical descriptions or territories are also highlighted in **red**, as are a few of their family members who were not rulers.) Obviously several others are referred to indirectly, as when Paul appeals to Caesar in Acts 25:11, the current Caesar being the infamous Nero, who eventually ordered Paul’s execution. Earlier when Paul commanded the Romans to submit to their governing authorities in Romans 13:1-7 this same Nero had already become emperor.

—63 Conquest of Judea by the Roman Empire. The “kings” are demoted to ethnarchs again. Antipater the Idumean, father of King Herod the Great, gains more and more influence and political power, though he does not become ruler in his own right.

—43 Antipater the Idumean assassinated by poisoning.
 —39 [Herod](#) the Great, son of Antipater, is elected “King of the Jews” by the Roman senate.
 —37 [Herod](#) captures Jerusalem with the support of the Romans, and executes Antigonus, the last Hasmonean ruler.

—20-19 [Herod the Great](#) [begins rebuilding the Jewish temple](#) in Jerusalem, as mentioned by Jesus 46 years later in April, 27 A.D. (John 2:20).

—5 B.C.?—

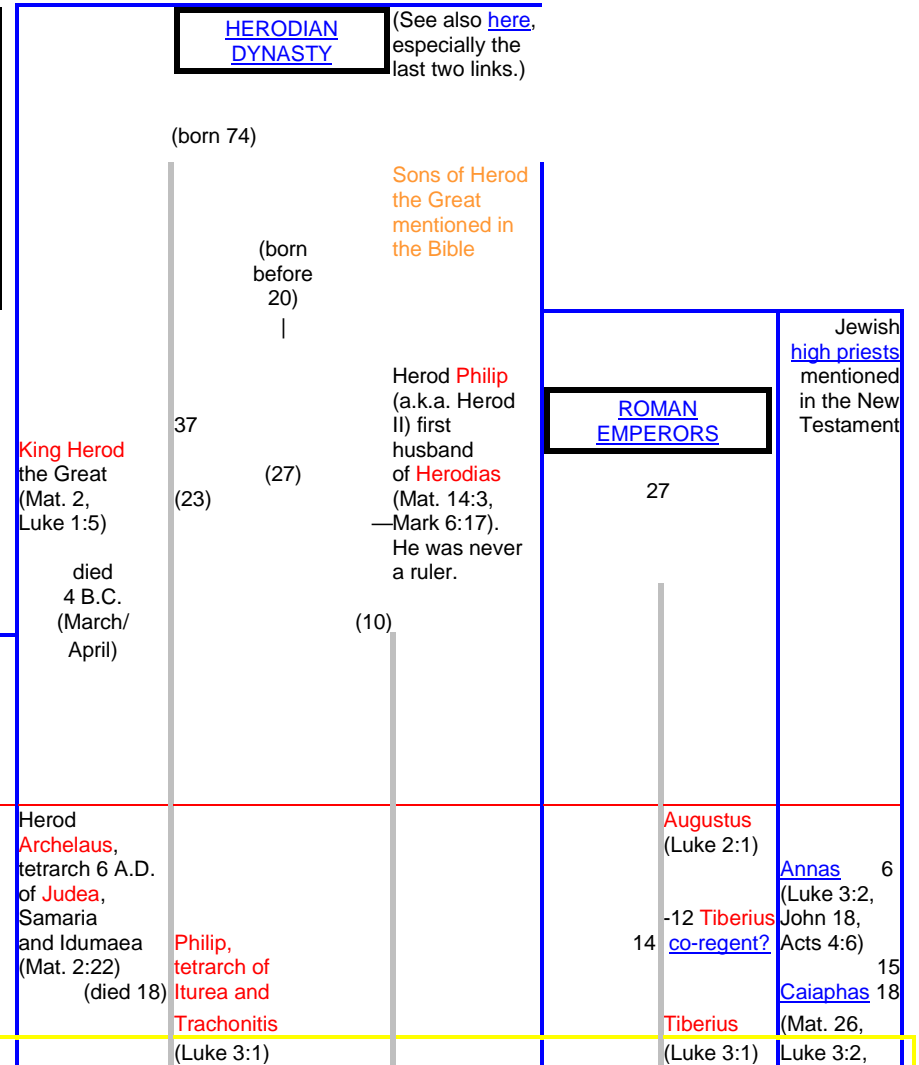
Birth of Jesus Christ

The New Testament

—9 A.D. The boy Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:41-51)

Are the genealogies of Jesus complete? Click [here](#) for a discussion of this.

—27 Jesus baptized, begins ministry



—27 Jesus baptized, begins ministry

