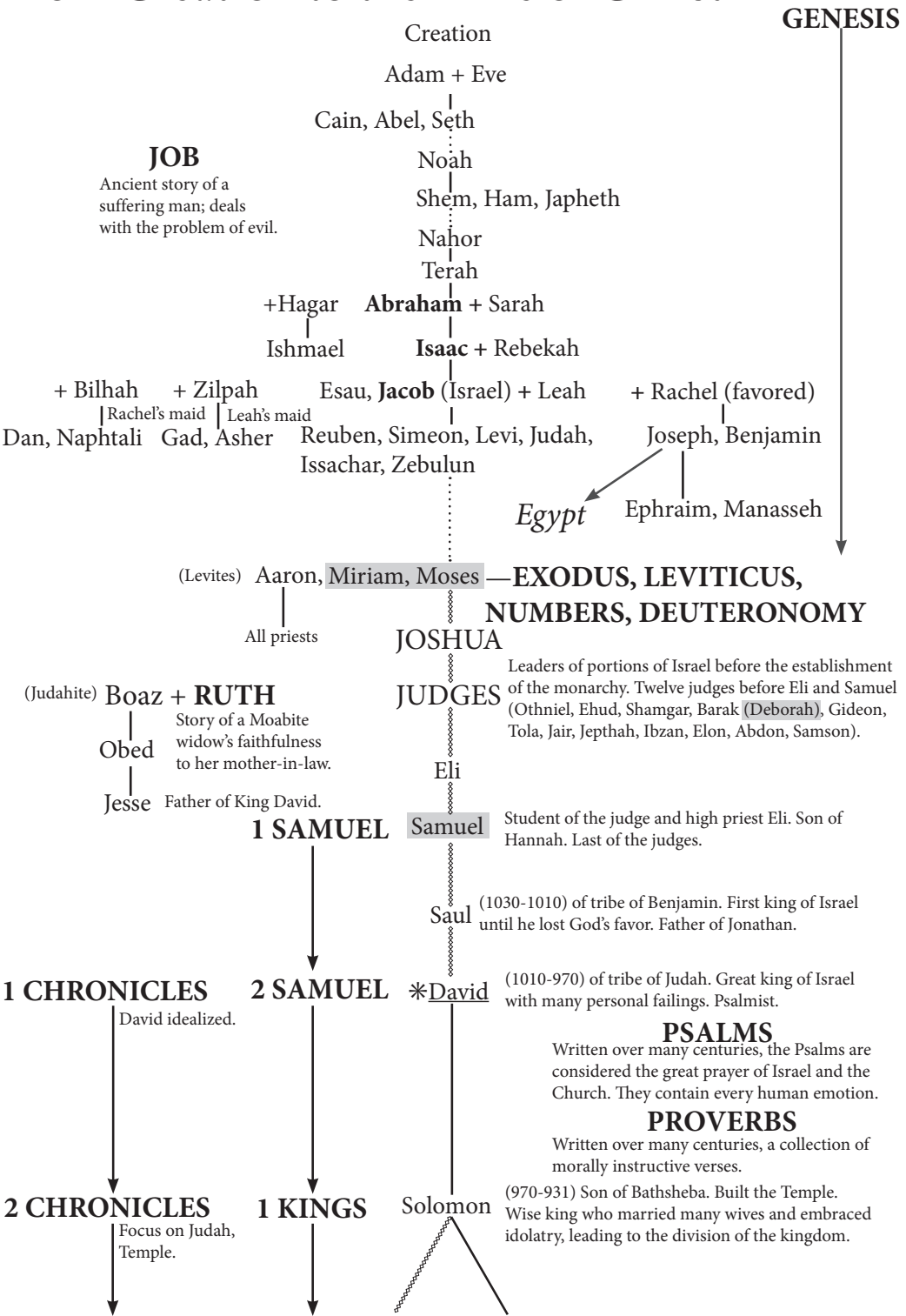


# Timeline of the Bible

## From Creation to the Time of Christ



Line of immediate descent

Line of descent with intervening  
descendants removed

Line of non-hereditary power

**Patriarch**

*Ruling Nation or Foreign Monarch*

**Prophet**

**King**

(King with reign of  $\leq 3$  years)

\* **Good King**

**BOOK OF THE BIBLE**

All dates are approximate and B.C.

## Division of the Kingdom

### 2 CHRONICLES

*Israel*

(Northern Kingdom)

*Judah*

(Southern Kingdom)

### 1 KINGS

Solomon

Led Northern rebellion,  
established worship at  
Dan and Bethel.

Jeroboam (931-910)

(931-913)

Rehoboam (913-911)

Son of Solomon. Drove ten  
Northern tribes to rebel (all but  
Benjamin and Judah).

(Nadab) (910-909)

(913-911) (Abijam)

Destroyed house of Jeroboam.

Baasha (909-886)

(911-870) \* Asa

Moderate reform.

(Elah) (886-885)

(Zimri) (5 days in 885)

Founded city of Samaria.

Omri (885-874)

**Elijah**

Married Jezebel,  
built temple to Baal,  
persecuted Elijah.

Ahab (874-853)

(870-848)

\* Jehoshaphat

Moderate reform,  
peace with Israel.

(Ahaziah) (853-852)

AKA Jehoram. Joram (852-841)

(848-841) Jehoram

AKA Joram. Married daughter  
of Jezebel (Athaliah), behaved  
like Ahab.

**Elisha**

Killed Joram of Israel,  
Ahaziah of Judah, entire  
house of Omri. Destroyed  
Baal's temple and worshipers.

Jehu (841-814)

(841) (Ahaziah)

Ahaziah's mother. Killed all his sons  
except Joash to usurp throne as Queen.  
Daughter of Jezebel.

Jehoahaz (814-798)

(835-796) \* Joash

AKA Jehoash. Rebuilt Temple but  
apostatized. Later assassinated.

AKA Jehoash. Joash (798-783)

(796-781) \* Amaziah

Captured by Joash of Israel.  
Later assassinated.

### 2 KINGS

**AMOS**

Shepherd  
from Judah  
writing to  
prosperous  
Israel,  
warning that  
her injustice  
would doom  
her.

**HOSEA**

Called to marry  
a prostitute as a  
metaphor of God's  
never-ending love  
for his people.

Jeroboam II (783-743)

Restored boundaries  
of Israel.

**JONAH**

Reluctant prophet  
who preached  
repentance to  
Nineveh.

(Zechariah) (743)

(Shallum) (743)

Menahem (743-738)

(Pekahiah) (748-737)

(781-740) \* Azariah AKA Uzziah.

Great leader until his pride led him to  
offer sacrifice and he was stricken with  
leprosy in punishment.

(740-736) \* Iotham

Served as regent for his ill father from  
750-740. Defeated the Ammonites.

**MICAH**

Condemned mere  
ritualism. Prophet  
of social justice.  
Influenced Hezekiah.

**ISAIAH**

Perhaps the greatest  
of the prophets,  
Isaiah served for  
nearly six decades.

## 2 CHRONICLES and 2 KINGS

### Israel

**HOSEA**



Pekah (737-732)

Hoshea (737-732)

*Assyria*

### **Assyrian Exile-722**

- Exiled Israelites were replaced by foreigners who intermarried; their descendants became the Samaritans.
- **TOBIT** exiled in Assyria. His son Tobiah journeyed with the Archangel Raphael.

**ZEPHANIAH**

Coming Day of the Lord. Unjust punished, repentant restored through Messiah.

**HABAKKUK**

Reassured Judah that God uses our suffering to bring about victory. Foretold Babylon ("Chaldeans").

**EZEKIEL**

First prophet to be called outside the Holy Land. Judah deserved punishment, must acknowledge that the Lord is God. Promise of a new spirit and a new covenant. Described the new Temple.



### Judah

Ahaz (736-716)

Fought with Assyria against Israel, lost. Heinous idolater.

\* Hezekiah (716-687)

Major reform—restricted worship to the Temple. Fought Assyria (under Sennacherib).

Manasseh (687-642)

Worst king of Israel (though he repented). Put pagan altars and idols in the Temple.

(Amon) (642-640)

\* Josiah (640-609)

Major reform—found the book of Deuteronomy (622)

(Jehoahaz) (609) Deposed by Pharaoh.

Jehoiakim (609-598) Installed by Pharaoh.

Jehoiachin (598-597) Deported to Babylon.

Zedekiah (597-587)

*Babylon*

### **Babylonian Captivity-587**

- Judah's elite taken to Babylon.
- Jerusalem destroyed.
- **LAMENTATIONS** (acrostic poems mourning loss of Jerusalem) composed by remnant in Judah.
- Many (including Jeremiah) then emigrated to Egypt.

*Nebuchadnezzar*

*Belshazzar*

*Darius the Mede*

*Cyrus of Persia*

538—sent Jews back (under Governor Zerubbabel), started to rebuild Temple, restored sacred artifacts.

**MICAH ISAIAH**



**NAHUM**

Foretold fall of Nineveh (612).

**BARUCH**

Scribe of Jeremiah. Wrote to encourage exiles.

**DANIEL**

Encouraged faithfulness in Babylon, demonstrated the superiority of the God of Judah.

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Line of descent with intervening descendants removed	King
Line of non-hereditary power	(King with reign of $\leq 3$ years)
<b>Patriarch</b>	* Good King
<i>Ruling Nation or Foreign Monarch</i>	<b>BOOK OF THE BIBLE</b>
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# The Restoration: Judah Post-Babylonian Captivity Return to the Promised Land

Cyrus

Darius I of Persia (522-486)

Renewed work on the Temple (520).  
Temple finished around 516.

Xerxes I of Persia (486-465)

AKA Ahasuerus. Husband of **ESTHER**, a Jewish woman who saved her people by interceding with the king when Haman tried to destroy them.

Artaxerxes I of Persia (465-423)

Stepson of Esther. Stopped the rebuilding of Jerusalem.  
Nehemiah then persuaded him to allow it.

**EZRA** Spiritual leader of returned exiles. Priest who encouraged fidelity to the law, established Second Temple Judaism; considered a second Moses.

**NEHEMIAH** Political leader of returned exiles. Governor who rebuilt walls of Jerusalem beginning around 445.

Various Persian rulers (423-332)

Macedonia (332-305)

Ptolemies of Hellenistic Egypt (305-198)

Seleucids of Hellenistic Syria (198-141)

Hasmoneans (140-63)

Jewish descendants of the Maccabees who ruled Galilee and Judea with (pagan) Samaria in between.

Rome (63 into the Common Era)

**JUDITH** Brave widow who killed Holofernes, the enemy general. (Date of the story's setting is uncertain.)

**HAGGAI**

First post-exilic prophet.  
Exhortation to finish Temple to avoid God's wrath.

**ZECHARIAH**

Exhortation to finish Temple for the Messiah.

**OBADIAH**

Prophesied against Edom, promised reunification of Israel and Judah.

**MALACHI**

Message of judgment to complacent people living in Judah before Nehemiah's arrival.

**JOEL**

Call to repentance before apocalyptic Day of the Lord.

**ECCLESIASTES**

Vanity of the world, fulfillment through obedience to God. Attributed to Solomon, the date it was written down is uncertain.

**SONG OF SONGS**

A love poem attributed to King Solomon—an allegory of the love between God and his people. The date it was written down is uncertain.

**SIRACH**

Primarily moral and spiritual maxims.

**1+2 MACCABEES**

History of the revolution against Greek rule led by the priestly family of Judas Maccabeus (from 167-141).

**WISDOM**

Moral maxims in praise of God and His wisdom.