

# How Does the Bible Fit Together?

## Part Two

### Outline for Today

1. Intertestamental Period
2. New Testament
3. Biblical Themes
4. Jesus

## 1. Intertestamental Period (433 BC to 5 BC)

*This is the period between the Old and New Testament. Remember the final event that we read about in the chronological events in the Old Testament is in Nehemiah, and the rebuilding of the Temple. The intertestamental period covers the time from the completion of the temple to the birth of Jesus.*

Special note: The ten lost tribes of Israel

Asher, Dan, Ephriam, Gad, Issachar, Manasseh, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon, and Zebulun.

“Following the conquest of the northern kingdom by the Assyrians in 721 BC, the 10 tribes were gradually assimilated by other peoples and thus disappeared from history.”

[Britannica.com/topic/Ten-Lost-Tribes-of-Israel](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Ten-Lost-Tribes-of-Israel)

### A. Babylonian Exile

“Israel ceased to be an independent nation and became a minor territory in a succession of larger empires” (NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible)

### B. Alexander the Great 332 BC -323 BC (Just 9 years)

Acquired the Holy land, Alexander the Great, brief but very influential. Vast influence on language and culture. Hellenization of culture and language.

### C. Ptolemies and Seleucids 323 BC – 198 BC (125 years)

Alexander's empire was divided, two generals formed dynasties Ptolemies and Seleucids. Ptolemies was considerate of Jewish religion.

#### ***D. Seleucid takeover in 198 BC***

Early years, tolerant.

Rise of Antiochus IV Epiphanes (prohibited Jewish practices, attempted destruction of Torah, statue of Zeus, sacrifice of pig in Jerusalem temple)

#### ***E. Opposition and Independence 166 BC to 63 BC***

Mattathias (elderly villager from priestly family) and 5 sons, Judas (Maccabeus, *The Hammer*) Jonathon, Simon, John and Eleazar. This triggered a 24 year war: (166-142 BC) (Maccabean Revolt) which resulted in independence of Judah.

#### ***F. Romans 63 BC***

Pompey – took Jerusalem after 3 month siege, massacring priests, entering Most Holy Place.

(Source for most of intertestamental period information:

<https://www.thenivbible.com/blog/intertestamental-period-judaism-between-old-and-new-testaments/>)

## **2. New Testament Story**

1. Jesus – born around 5 BC. Began ministry at around 30 years old (26 AD), Death and resurrection at around 30 AD.
2. Pentecost 30 AD
3. Paul – converted to follow Jesus. 11 years later took first missionary journey. Approx 5 years later took second missionary journey. Couple years later third, then around 3 years later imprisoned in Rome. Dies around 68 AD.
4. John – Exiled on Patmos 90 AD. Wrote Revelation around 95 AD

### 3. Biblical Themes

“The great biblical themes are about God, his revealed works of creation, provision, judgment, deliverance, his covenant, and his promises. The Bible sees what happens to mankind in the light of God’s nature, righteousness, faithfulness, mercy, and love.”

(<https://www.britannica.com/topic/biblical-literature/Major-themes-and-characteristics>)

#### A. Creation

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:31

<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Psalms 139:13

For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

Isaiah 51: 12-16 (excerpts)

... the LORD your Maker,  
who stretches out the heavens  
and who lays the foundations of the earth,  
...<sup>15</sup> For I am the LORD your God,  
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—  
the LORD Almighty is his name...  
I who set the heavens in place,  
who laid the foundations of the earth,  
and who say to Zion, ‘You are my people.’”

Romans 1: 20

<sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Ephesians 2:10

<sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



## B. Covenant

*"A covenant is a binding agreement between two parties. When we speak of Biblical covenants, we are referring to instances where God has entered into an agreement with mankind that involves both promises and responsibilities for each party". Clayton Kraby in 5 Covenants of the Old Testament*

### I. Noahic Covenant - Genesis 9:11

<sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

### II. Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 12:1-3

The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

<sup>2</sup>"I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.<sup>(a)</sup>

<sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse;  
and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you."<sup>(b)</sup>

### III. Mosaic Covenant – Exodus 19-24 (Exodus 19:3-6)

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>you<sup>(a)</sup> will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

### IV. Davidic Covenant – 2 Samuel 7: 12-17

<sup>12</sup>When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup>He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the

throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup>I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. <sup>15</sup>But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me<sup>[a]</sup>; your throne will be established forever.”

#### V. New Covenant – Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the LORD,  
“when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to<sup>[a]</sup> them,<sup>[b]</sup>”  
declares the LORD.

<sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbor,  
or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,”  
declares the LORD.

“For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more.”

### *C. Redemption*

Verses of Redemption:

Exodus 6:6

“Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.’

Job 19:25

I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

Psalms 107:2

Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

Isaiah 44:22

I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.”

Luke 1:6

“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

Galatians 3: 13-14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.”<sup>14</sup> He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Stories of Redemption:

1. Abraham and Isaac
2. Ruth
3. Potter in Jeremiah 18
4. Lost Sheep (Luke 15)
5. Prodigal Son (Luke 15)
6. Saul of Tarsus



