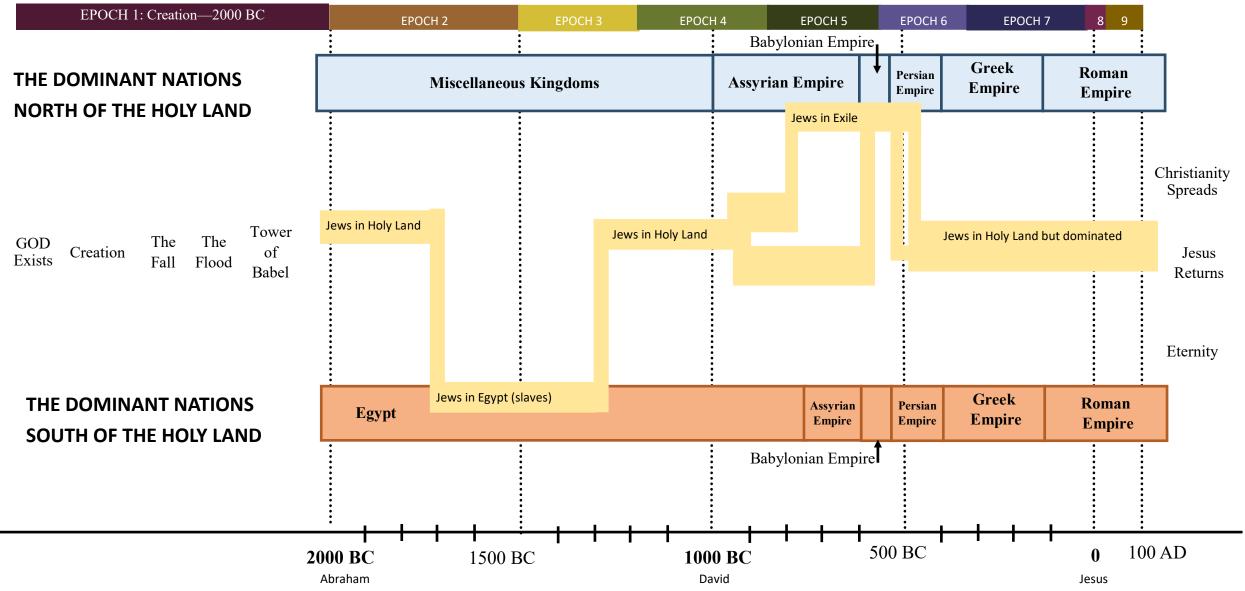
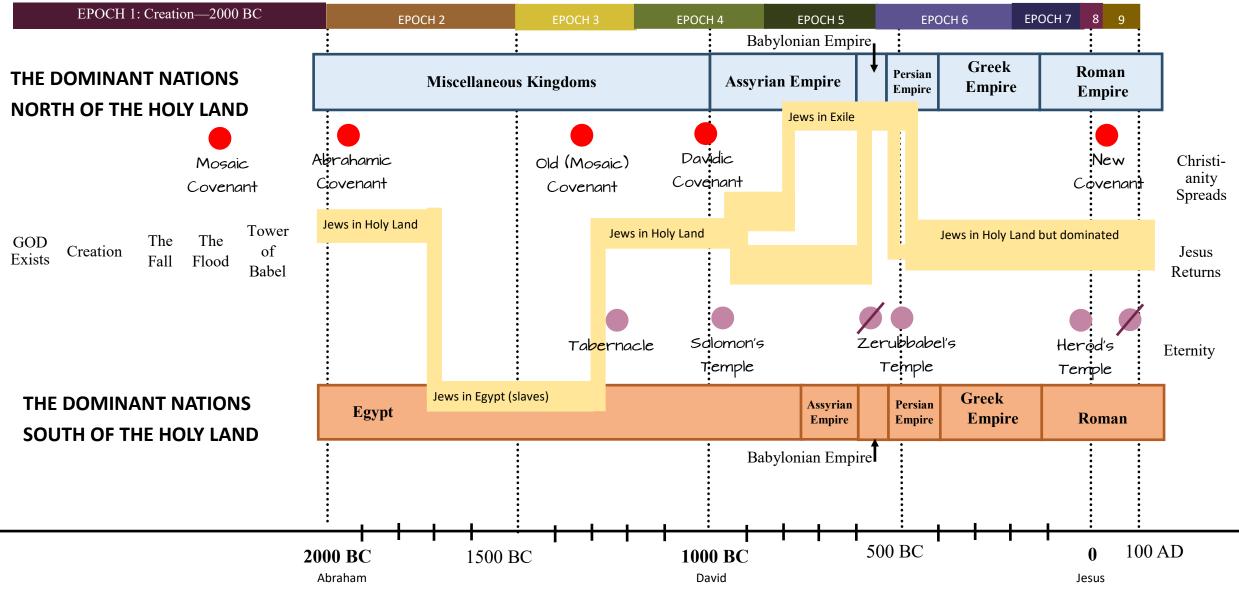
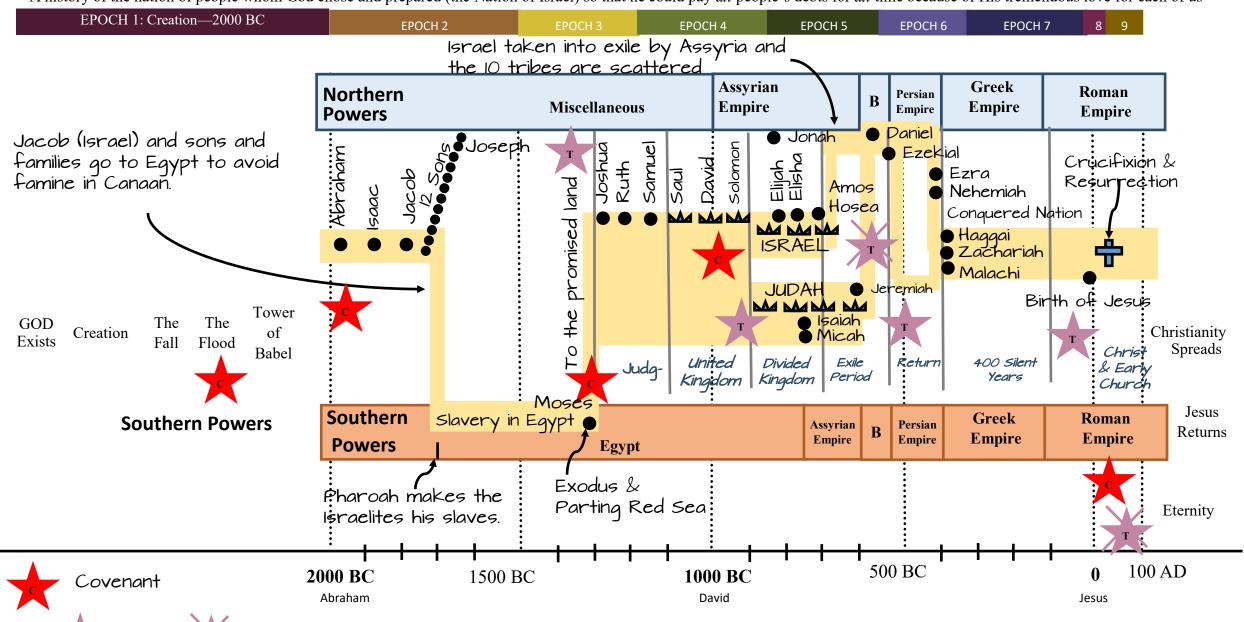
# A Simplified Timeline of the Events of the Bible



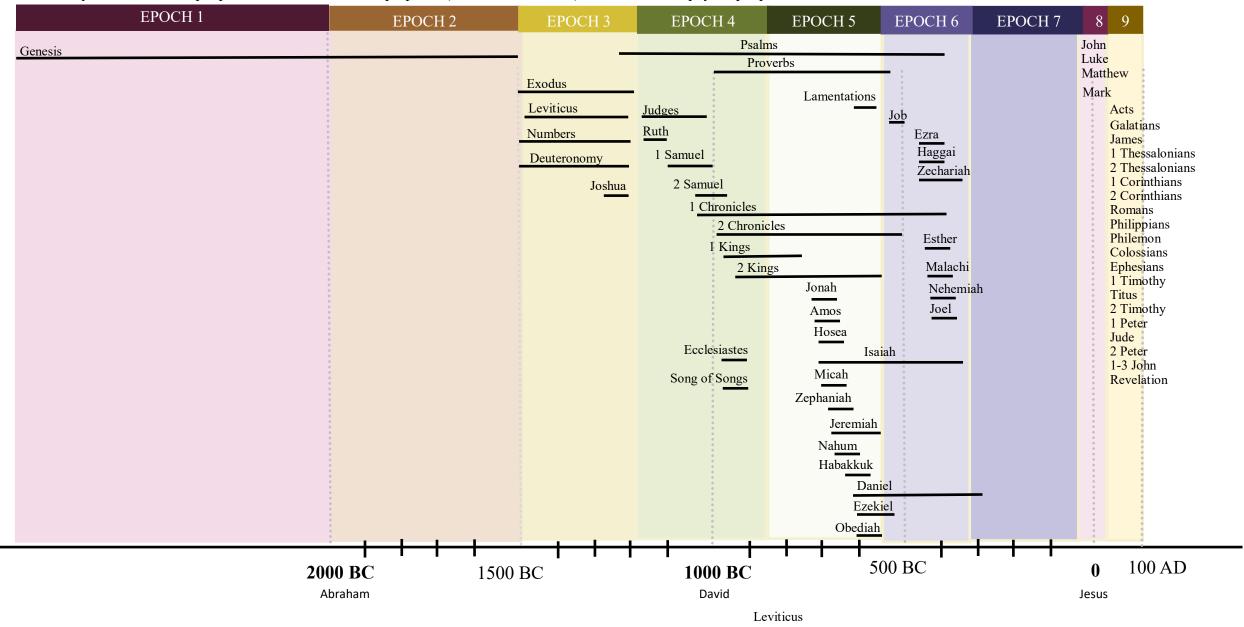
## Covenants and Temples

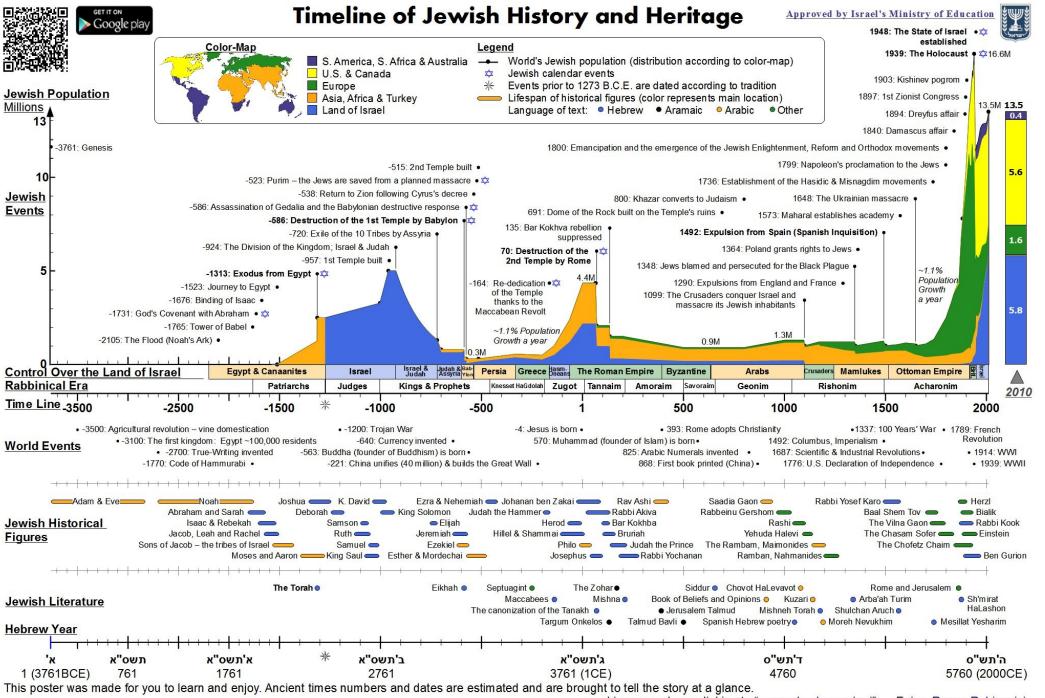


### Events of the Bible Timeline



# Period of Time Covered by each Book of the Bible





#### The Tabernacle

- The Tabernacle was the portable temple built at God's command by Moses and the Israelites at the base of Mount Sinai.
- It was the center of worship and animal sacrifice for the Israelites as they wandered through the "wilderness" (desert) on the way to the Promised Land and for several years after they had settled in the Promised Land.
- It was an earthly replica of the heavenly temple shown to Moses by God. God gave Moses the specifications for the Tabernacle.
- God dwelt among the Israelites in the form of a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night which rested above the Tabernacle over the Ark of the Covenant.
- The Ark of the Covenant represented God's presence amonst His people.
- The Israelites erected the Tabernacle at the center of their camp. The 12 tribes of Israelites camped in tents around the Tabernacle.
- When God wanted the Israelites to break camp and begin to travel, He (the pillar of cloud) would begin to move in the desired direction.



# The Tabernacle and 3 Temple of Bible History

#### **Solomon's Temple**

- Solomon's Temple was the permanent structure built in Jerusalem by King Solomon to replace the portable Tabernacle. The Ark of the Covenant was transferred from the Tabernacle to the Temple.
- The Temple was twice the size of the Tabernacle and lavishly decorated. The wood for the Temple came from the cedars of Lebanon.
- The Bible does not describe God's presence with the Israelites in the form of a pillar of cloud or fire after the dedication of Solomon's temple
- The Temple was the center of worship and animal sacrifice for the entire United Kingdom of Israel.
- All Jewish adult men were required to travel to the Temple in Jerusalem for 3 specific holidays a year.
- The temple was destroyed in 587 BC by the Babylonians who attacked the Southern Kingdom of Judah and carried the Israelites from Judah into exile in Babylon.
- During the exile people began to assemble in groups for worship and instruction. These gatherings were the first synagogues.

## Zerubbabel's Temple

- When Persia conquered Babylon, the King of Persia immediately allowed the Israelites to return to their homeland and rebuild the Temple.
- The first set of returnees was led by Zerubbabel. He oversaw the rebuilding of the Temple.
- This temple was a less lavish version of Solomon's Temple but was the same basic size and design. It is often called the "Second Temple".
- The Ark of the Covenant was never recovered, therefore, there was no Ark of the Covenant in any temple after Solomon's Temple.
- The Temple was still the center of sacrificial worship but many Jews continued to meet for worship and instruction in local synagogues.
- The Israelites who returned to the Promised Land were mostly Israelites from the tribe of Judah and became known as "the Jews".
- The Jews were now a conquered nation and not allowed to have a king or an army. As a result, the priesthood replace the kingship as the authority in the Jewish community.



#### Herod's Temple

- Herod attempted to pacify his Jewish subjects by building a bigger and better Temple for them.
- The Temple building (build in 20 BC) was about the same size as Zerubbabel's Temple but the surrounding inner courtyard and the surrounding outer courtyard were HUGE. This entire area became known as "The Temple".
- The outer courtyard was entirely surrounded by patio covers which made delightful shady places for teachers to hold outdoor classes.
- This Temple was the center for sacrificial worship and faithful Jews continued to travel to it for the appointed Feasts.
- This is the Temple to which Jesus was brought after his birth, where Jesus was "found" discussing theology with the rabbis and when he was 12 years old, where Jesus taught and where Jesus drove out the profiteers.
- This is where the Sanhedrin held court and where Paul was arrested.
- The Romans destroyed this Temple in 70 AD.
  Without the Temple the Jews could no longer perform animal sacrifices.



Lieber, D. (1994). Bible 101 getting the big picture. From a class presented at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church in 1994.