

Introduction and Overview of the Story of Redemption

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Daniel 9:3-5

³ Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. ⁴ I prayed to the LORD my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁵ we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules.

Daniel 9:6, 19

⁶ We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land... ¹⁹ O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”

Session Overview

1. What is a covenant?
2. What are the covenants in Scripture?
3. How do the covenants relate to the history of God's people?

What is a Covenant?

Covenant Defined

“Covenant is a relationship between persons, begun by the sovereign determination of the greater party, in which the greater commits himself to the lesser in the context of mutual loyalty, and in which mutual obligations serve as illustrations of that loyalty.”

(M. Williams, *Far as the Curse is Found*, 45-46)

Exodus 19:3-6

[3] ...Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: [4] You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; [6] and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

What are the Covenants?

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New Covenant - Jesus

Covenant with David

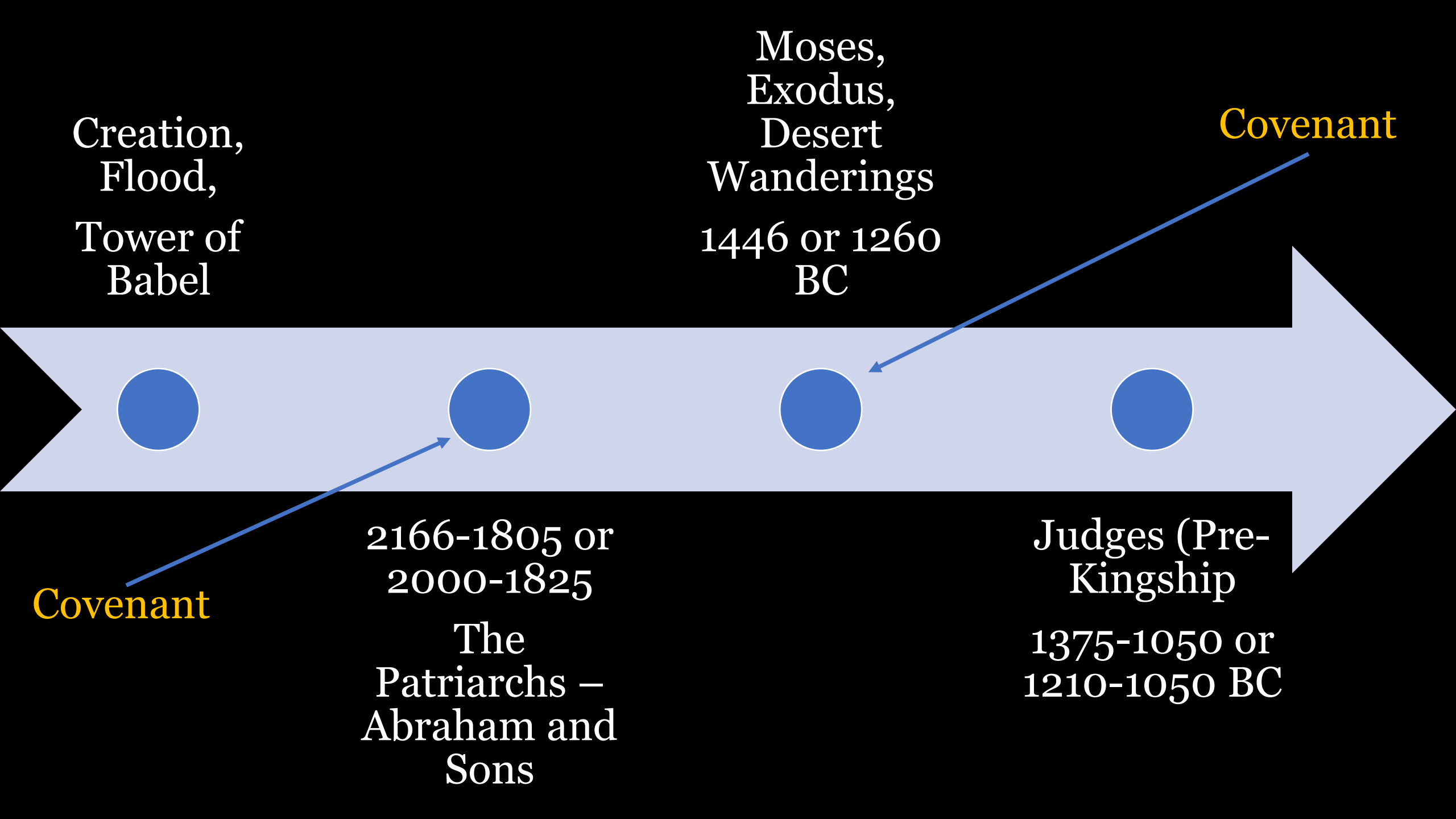
Covenant with Moses

Covenant with Abraham

Covenant with Noah

Covenant with Adam

How do the Covenants relate
to the history of God's people?



Creation,
Flood,
Tower of
Babel

Moses,
Exodus,
Desert
Wanderings
1446 or 1260
BC

Covenant

Covenant

2166-1805 or
2000-1825
The
Patriarchs –
Abraham and
Sons

Judges (Pre-
Kingship)
1375-1050 or
1210-1050 BC

Tribal Allotment Nation of Israel



United Monarchy

Divided Kingdom

Covenant

David's
Reign

1010-971

Northern Kingdom
(Israel) under
Jeroboam 931-910



Saul's
Reign

1050-
1010

Solomon's
Reign

971-931

Southern
Kingdom
(Judah) under
Rehoboam (Son
of Solomon)

931-913

Divided Kingdom Israel to the North Judah to the South



Northern Kingdom (Israel)

900 – 722
Kings from
Jeroboam
onward

722
Assyrians
conquer the
Northern
Kingdom

Beginning of the Exile

900 – 586
Kings from
Rehoboam
Onward

→ 586

Southern Kingdom
Falls to Babylonians;
Temple and
Jerusalem Destroyed

Southern Kingdom (Judah)

Assyrian
Influence
Before
Babylonians
conquer
Israel/Juda



Babylonian Empire And Exile



536 BC Persian
Empire

Cyrus the Great of Persia
allows Jews to return to Israel
and rebuild Temple

Time of Daniel

586 – 536
Babylonian
Empire

Temple Destroyed;
Exile

445 BC
Remaining
exiles return
to Jerusalem

Persian Empire



“Intertestamental Period”

331-164 BC
The Hellenistic
(Greek) Period

539-331 BC
The Persian
Period

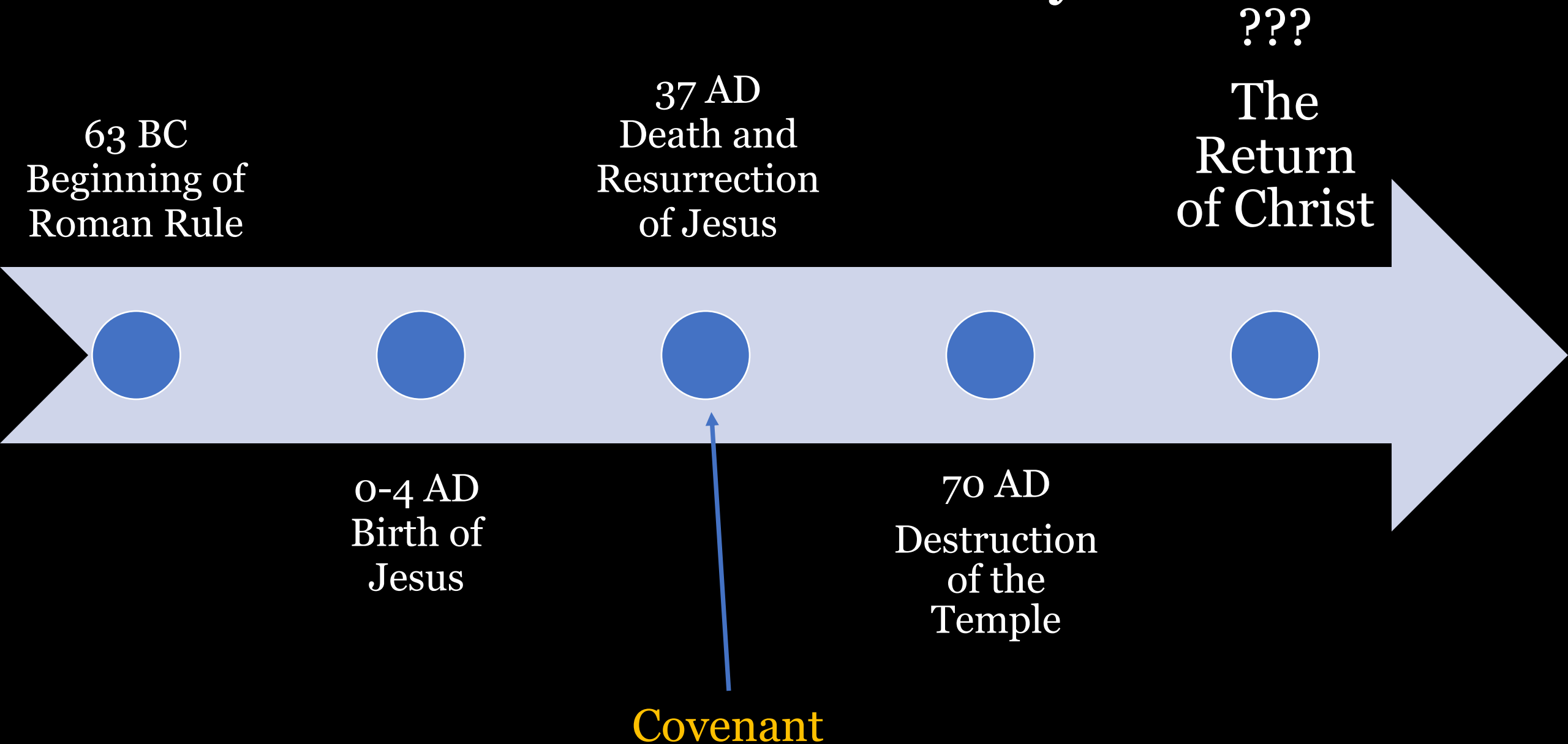
164-63 BC
The
Maccabean
Period



ANE Under Alexander's Four General's



New Testament and Beyond



Roman Rule



Creation

2166-1805 or
2000-1639 BC

Abraham and the
Patriarchs

Moses and the
Exodus

1446-1406 or
1260-1220 BC

536-445 BC
Return from
Exile

Destruction of
the Temple
and the Exile
586 – 536 BC

1011-971 BC
The Davidic
Covenant

Birth of Jesus
4 AD

70 AD
Destruction
of the Second
Temple

??? The
Return of
Christ

Why Covenant and Daniel?

Why Covenant and Daniel?

Daniel 9

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Why Covenant and Daniel?

Daniel 9

⁶ We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land... ¹⁹ O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”

How did God keep his Covenant?

I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

Daniel 7:13-14

... And the high priest said to Jesus, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy...” Matthew 26:63-66

Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea

was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new

Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from

God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I

heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them,

and they will be his people, and God himself will be with

them as their God.

⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.

Revelation 21:1-6

Questions for Discussion

1. What does it mean for us as Christians that our God is one that keeps promises? How does that affect the way we live?
2. God has demonstrated that He is in control and uses geopolitical turmoil to advance his purposes. How does that change the way we perceive our world? How does that affect the way we engage in politics? How does that affect the way we interact with our workplace, neighbors, family, and friends?