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| Pre-AncestoralHistory | Unknown | Genesis 1-3Genesis 4-11 | Creation - 2 NarrativesAdam and Eve; Cain and Abel; Noah and the Flood; Tower of Babel |
| A Nation is BornAncestoral History | 1800 BCE?? --1500 BCE?? | Genesis 15 – 50 | Israel’s Ancestors –Abraham – Isaac – Jacob – JosephCOVENANT to ABRAHAM |
| Israel in EgyptIn Slavery | 1500 BCE?? –1280 BCE?? | None | No significant history of Israel written during their Egyptian slavery |
| ExodusWilderness Wandering toCanaan | ??1280 BCE??1240 BCE | ExodusLeviticusNumbersDeuteronomy | Moses leads Israel out of slavery from EgyptSinai COVENANT- Obey Yahweh - be blessed; Disobey- be punished Yahweh thru Moses gives Israel the Law; 10 Commandments.The Bible from here on records Israel’s repeated history of violating their COVENANT with Yahweh and the Law of Moses.Palestinian Land COVENANTAt the end of Deuteronomy Moses dies. |
| We have NO KING | 1200? BCE 1240? BCE To 1025 BCE ??? | JoshuaJudgesRuth | Joshua – Leads Israel into the Promised Land of Canaan Rahab -- Canaanite woman helps Joshua defeat her own peopleJudges – 12 local charismatic leaders who act for Yahweh in repeatedly delivering a tribe from their repeated sin and apostasy and back to YahwehRuth – an enemy [Moabite] and a foreigner becomes Kind David’s Great Grand Mother |
| United IsraelUnited Monarchy | 1025BCE –928 BCE | 1 -2 Samuel1-2 Kings1-2 Chronicles | Why the Monarchy?SAUL -- Chosen 1st king by Yahweh then rejected by Yahweh.DAVID – The ideal leader according to Bible historians Davidic Dynasty COVENANT -- Yahweh’s unconditional love of David leads Him to promise that David’s lineage shall never end. The Jews in exile and afterwards focus on this promise. Prophet – Samuel; NathanSOLOMON – Build the TEMPLE plus elaborate palaces. Under Solomon Israel was the most important power in the region |
| Israel is Divided | 928 -- 722 BCENorth-Israel falls to Assyria928 – 586 BCESouth-Judah falls to Babylon | 1Kings 12 to 2Kings23Amos, Hosea2 Chron. 29-35Zephaniah, Nahum | When Solomon dies Israel divides into a North Kingdom, Israel and a South Kingdom, Judah. Bible writers [Deuteronomistic Historians] wrote much of the Bible from Judah during the Exilic Period. Their bias was for the South [Judah] and against the North [Israel]Prophets to Israel-North –Elijah succeeded by Elisha; Amos [to both], Hosea, Micah.Prophets to Judah-South – Jeremiah, 1st Isaiah, Ezekiel [from Babylon], Amos [both], Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Micah [both] |
| Exilic Period | 586 – 539 BCE | 2 Kings 23-25,2 Chron. 36, Ezra Nehemiah, Isaiah 34,35, 40-66, Jeremiah, Ezekiel Lamentations Zechariah, Joel Obadiah, Ezekiel,Habakkuk, Malachi | Babylon attacks Israel twice. Beginning in 597 BCE most religious and political leaders, are exiled to Babylon and elsewhere. In 586 BCE Babylon destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem in their 2nd attack.Birth of Judaism: Hebrews develop new national and religious identity in exile. Without political and national power and thru the prophets, the Jews realize Yahweh was the author of these events. Yahweh can be worshiped anywhere apart from land, priest, kings, or Temple. Longing for the fulfilment of the Davidic Promise, the Jews rededicate themselves to Moses Law, worship of Yahweh alone, honoring the Sabboth, and develop religiously and ethnically.Prophet – Ezekiel who was exiled to Babylon in 597 BCE. Jeremiah in Judah, 2nd Isaiah, Obadaiah |
| Post-Exilic PeriodPersian Occupation | 538 – ??330 BCE |  | Cyrus of Persia conquers Babylon in 537 BCE and sends the Jews back to Judah where they become a colonial outpost of Persia.Birth of Judaism – the Jews continue to redefine themselves as they are a religious community with no political power.Prophets – Haggai, 1st Zechariah, Ezra, Nehemiah, Malachi,??Joel??Author of Chronicles active in this Period. |
| Hellenistic PeriodGreek Occupation | 330BCE –63BCE | EcclesiastesDaniel | Greeks under Alexander the Great conquered the Persians in 330 BCE. He reigned until 323 BCE, then his kingdom divided into 4 parts. Egypt ruled Palestine for 125 years. Syria took over until Rome conquered Palestine in 63 BCE. Jvh 3-15 Maccabees and Hasmoneans, small Jewish tribes, overthrew the Syrians and ruled parts of Palestine from 165 BCE till Rome came in 63 BCE. The Dead Sea Scrolls written in this Period.  |
| RomanPeriod | 63 BCE –330 CE |  | Romans conquered the Greeks and othersJewish revolt in 70 CE resulted in the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. Jvh 3-15 |