

Bible History

4100 years of recorded Bible History

2,286 years covered in the Book of Genesis

2,000 in Genesis, chapters 1-11

100 years covered in the New Testament

The Bible: **1,189** chapters . . . **31,000** verses . . . **783,088** words . . . and **2,930** Bible characters to tell us the great story of the Bible.

Genesis 1:1 – "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

ADAM & EVE: . . . Garden of Eden . . . 1st prophecy of the Bible: **Genesis 3:15**
 "And I will put enmity (**hatred**) Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head (**major wound**), And you shall bruise His heel (**minor wound**)."

- **126** years after the death of Adam (age **960**), Noah was born.
- **1,656** years from Creation of Adam to the Flood
- **427** years from the Flood to Abraham

Note: **Adam** could have known all the antediluvian patriarchs except Noah and Shem

Noah could have known all the antediluvian patriarchs except Adam and Seth.

Noah and **Shem** could have known Abraham.

Shem could have known Isaac and Jacob.

THE FLOOD: The World was corrupt before God and "filled with violence."

Genesis 6:8 – "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord."

- Ark of Gopher wood – **300** cubits long . . . **50** cubits wide . . . **30** cubits high
 . . . **450'** long **75'** wide **45'** high
- In the ark **1** year and **17** days . . . Floated **500** miles before coming to rest on one of the mountains of Ararat in present day Turkey

TOWER OF BABEL: **101** years after the Flood and **326** years before the call of Abraham. Scattered because they would not go on their own accord and replenish the earth.

ABRAHAM:

- Entered Canaan at age **75**
- Terah (Abraham's fathers) was **70** when Abram was born.

- **600** miles from Ur to Haran
- **400** miles from Haran to Canaan.
- **86** when Ishmael was born.
- **100** when Isaac was born.
- **127** when Sarah died.
- **175** when he died . . . "Father of the faithful" . . . "The friend of God"
- Four Great Promises:
 - (1) Great nation promise
 - (2) Great name promise
 - (3) All Nations to be blessed
 - (4) Land promise

ISAAC: Married Rebekah

- 60 when the twins were born (Esau & Jacob)

JACOB: Worked **7** years to get Rachel, but was given Leah instead . . . **1** week later he married Rachel on condition of working another **7** years . . . Worked another **6** years for flocks and herds . . . Worked a total of **20** years for Laban.

- **11** of his **12** sons were born in Haran . . . Joseph (**11th**) last to be born there . . . 8 years before Jacob returned to Canaan. **12th** son (Benjamin) born in Canaan. Rachel died in childbirth and was buried in Bethlehem.
- 1st **77** years lived in Canaan.
- Next **20** years lived in Haran.
- **33** more years in Canaan.
- Last **17** years in Egypt.
- Age **147** at death.

JOSEPH: **14** chapters of Genesis devoted to his story.

- Favored by Jacob. Born **8** years before leaving Haran for Canaan.
- Lived in Canaan **9** years before being sold into slavery at age **17**.
- Lived in Egypt **13** years before becoming a ruler.
- Was 30 when made a ruler of Egypt . . . Governed Egypt **80** years during the **16th** dynasty line of kings.
- Died at age **110**. **400** years later (**4** centuries) Joshua buried his bones in Canaan.
- Nothing negative recorded about Joseph or Daniel (age **16** at **1st** deportation). Minimum of age **86** when thrown in den of lions. **16 + 70** years of captivity = **86**

EGYPTIAN BONDAGE & THE EXODUS:

- Prophesied in Genesis 15:13
- Duration of **430** years - Exodus 12:40

MOSES: **300** years between Genesis and Exodus. (3 centuries)

- **40** years in Egypt
- **40** years in Midian
- **40** years in the wilderness
- Died at age **120**
- Story of Moses constitutes **one-seventh** of the whole Bible.
- **1 Kings 6:1** is the beginning Scripture for arriving at the date of the Exodus. "And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD."
- The **12** spies . . . **10** negative . . . **2** positive (Joshua & Caleb). **40** days = years. Added **38** more years to the **2** years that had passed.

CONQUEST OF CANAAN: At age **85** Joshua succeeded Moses and judged Israel for **25** years, Died at age **110**.

- Used the "Divide and Conquer" method in capturing Canaan. Lasted **7** years.
- Conquered **CENTRAL** Canaan first.
- Conquered **SOUTHERN** Canaan second.
- Conquered **NORTHERN** Canaan third and last.
- Following the conquest of Canaan, Joshua buried the bones of Joseph. Pre-burial arrangements made by Joseph:
 1. The **REQUEST** had been made by Joseph in **Genesis 50:25**
 2. Bones were **TAKEN** from Egypt during the Exodus in **Exodus 13:9**
 3. The bones of Joseph were **BURIED** in Canaan (Shechem) in **Joshua 24:29**

THE JUDGES: Lasted **300+** years. Joshua's generation had died.

- The Book of Judges mentions 13 Judges.
- The Book of 1 Samuel mentions 4 Judges
- A total of 17 Judges mentioned in the Bible.
- **7** apostasies (fallings away from God) . . . **7** servitudes . . . **7** deliverances.
- The lessons from Samson and Judges 16 Samson
 1. Sin will **TAKE** you farther than you wanted to go. Judges 16:4-20
 2. Sin will **KEEP** you longer than you wanted to stay. Judges 16:2

3. Sin will **COST** you more than you wanted to pay. Judges 16:30
- Wickedness was well known during the time of the Judges.
 1. **Judges 2:10-13** – "When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel. Israel's Unfaithfulness Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals; and they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; and they followed other gods from among the gods of the people who were all around them, and they bowed down to them; and they provoked the LORD to anger. They forsook the LORD and served Baal and the Ashtoreths."
 2. **Judges 21:25** – "In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes."
 3. **1 Samuel 8:4-5** – "Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, 'Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.'"

THE UNITED KINGDOM: 931 to 722 B.C.

- King Saul – reigned **40** years
- King David – reigned **40** years
- King Solomon – reigned **40** years

Solomon completed construction of the Temple around **953 to 950 B.C.** (some **20** years before the beginning of the Divided Kingdom), and then it was destroyed some **367** years later by Nebuchadnezzar on August 15, 585 B.C.

THE DIVIDED KINGDOM: 931 to 722 B.C.

931 B.C. – The United Kingdom ended and the Divided Kingdom began

- The Northern Kingdom (Israel) – **10** tribes – Jeroboam – Samaria as capital. Fell in **722 B.C.**
- The Southern Kingdom (Judah) – **2** tribes – Rehoboam – Jerusalem as capital. Fell in **605 B.C.**

THE NORTHERN KINGDOM:

- Fell to Assyria in **722 B.C.** Began in **931 B.C.** . . . Fell to Assyria in **722 B.C.**
- Had existed for **209** years
- Served by **19** different kings representing **9** dynasties (Family lines of kings)
- Reigns averaged about **11** years.

- **8** of the **19** kings died by violence.
- All the Northern Kingdom kings were bad.

THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM:

- Began in **931 B.C.** . . . Fell to Babylon in **605 B.C.**
- **117** years later, the Southern Kingdom (Judah) fell to the Babylonians after a total existence of **326** years.
- Served by **19** kings and **1** queen (Athaliah . . . usurper to the throne).
- Reigns averaged about 16 years.
- Some were good.
- One dynasty . . . All from the lineage of David
- **13** Southern Kingdom kings reigned before the neighboring Northern Kingdom fell to Assyria in 722 B.C.
- **7** kings reigned in the Southern Kingdom after the Northern Kingdom fell.
- **PUTTING THESE EVENTS IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE:**
 1. United Kingdom - **120** years
 2. Northern Kingdom - **209** years
 3. Southern Kingdom - **326** years

BABYLONIANS CONQUER THE ASSYRIANS:

- **626 B.C.** – **96** years after Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom of Israel, Babylon rebelled against Assyria,
- **612 B.C.** – **16** years later, Babylon overthrew Nineveh, the capital city of Assyria.
 Note: This takes place about **150** years after Nineveh had been spared from the destruction, having repented at the preaching of Jonah in about **762** B.C.
- **605 B.C.** – **7** years later, the armies of Babylon defeated the armies of Egypt at Carchemish, thus positioning itself as a world empire.

BABYLON TURNED ITS ATTENTION TOWARD JUDAH: Three deportations from Jerusalem to Babylon (**900** miles away) over a period of **19** years.

- **605 B.C.** – Nebuchadnezzar overcame King Jehoiachin and carried off key hostages including Daniel (**16** years old) and his friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.
- **597 B.C.** – **8 years later**, the rebellion of Jehoiachin brought further punishment. Nebuchadnezzar made him submit a second time.
- **586 B.C.** – **9 years later**, Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem from **588 B.C.** to July **586 B.C.**, a period of **1** year & **7** months. Note: The Ark of the Covenant probably disappeared during this siege.

- One month later on **August 15, 586 B.C.**, Nebuchadnezzar and his army burned the city of Jerusalem and its temple, the one Solomon built some **367** years earlier.

Note: **656** years later to the month, Titus and the **12th** and **15th** Roman legions burned Herod's Temple as predicted by Christ in Matthew 24:2. This occurred on the **10th of August, A.D. 70** (the 9th of Av) in Jewish calendar reckoning, the very day when the King of Babylon **burned the Temple in 586 B.C.**

- **October 539 B.C.** in one night the Babylonian Empire fell to the Medes and the Persians . . . Thus becoming the Medo-Persian Kingdom.
200 years (two centuries) before it happened. **Isaiah 45:1-2** names Cyrus (a Persian king) as the one who would allow the Jews to return to their homeland. "Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held -- To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut: will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron."
Darius continued Cyrus the Great's policy of restoring the Jewish people to their homeland.

Three Returns from Babylon Back to Jerusalem over a period of **92** years.

- **536 B.C.** – Led by **Zerubbabel**. Temple was rebuilt.
 - Work began in 536 B.C. . . Was discontinued in **534 B.C.**
 - Work was resumed in **520 B.C.** . . Completed in **516 B.C.**
 - **6** years of actual work was done over a **20**-year period of time.
 - The work was begun under **Cyrus** and completed under **Darius**.
- **456 B.C.** – 80 years later – Led by Ezra – The law was restored.
- **444 B.C.** – 12 years later – led by Nehemiah – The wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt in 52 days.

Great statements in Nehemiah:

- **2:17** – ". . . Come and let us build . . . "
- **4:6** – ". . . For the people had a mind to work."
- **6:3** – ". . . I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down . . . "
- **6:8** – ". . . But you invent them in your heart."
- **6:9** – ". . . Oh God, strengthen my hands."
- **6:16** – ". . . For they perceived that this work was done by our God."

100 years later, the Old Testament closed with the last Old Testament historical book to have been written being the Book of **Nehemiah**. The last Old Testament prophetic book to have been written was the Book of **Malachi**. For all practical purposes, Old Testament events and history end with the Book of Nehemiah.

It is important to remember as the Old Testament closes, a **REMNANT RETURNED**. "Remnant" – a small nucleus of God's people, preserved by God's providential care, from a foundation for a new community devoted to His redemptive work.

THE PROPHETS: Two classifications: (1) **Oral Prophets** (2) **Writing Prophets**

- **17** Books of Prophecy . . . **5** Major . . . **12** Minor . . . Covering approximately **400** years.

- **ORAL PROPHETS INCLUDE:**

- Nathan
- Ahijah
- Elijah
- Elisha

- **WRITING PROPHETS INCLUDE:**

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|
| - Samuel | - Amos | - Zephaniah |
| - Jeremiah | - Obadiah | - Haggai |
| - Ezekiel | - Jonah | - Zechariah |
| - Daniel | - Micah | - Malachi |
| - Hosea | - Nahum | |
| - Joel | - Habakkuk | |

TYPE: A historical fact that illustrates a spiritual truth.