

“A Chronological Analysis of the Bible”
From the Beginning of Creation to the Birth of Christ

- I. From Creation to Babel
- A. The Creation Genesis 1:1- *“In the beginning God created...”*
 - B. The Fall of Man Genesis 3:6- *“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”*
 - C. The Flood Genesis 6:17- *“And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.”*
 - D. The Tower of Babel Genesis 11:4- *“And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven...”*
 - The book of the Bible during this time was Genesis.
- II. The Patriarchs Acts 7:8- *“...and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs.”*
- A. Abraham Genesis 11-25
 - B. Isaac Genesis 22-27
 - C. Jacob Genesis 25-37
 - D. The Twelve Sons of Jacob which form the Twelve Tribes of Israel were:
 - 1. Reuben—Birthed by Leah Genesis 29-30
 - 2. Simeon—Birthed by Leah Genesis 29-30
 - 3. Levi—Birthed by Leah Genesis 29-30
 - 4. Judah—Birthed by Leah Genesis 29-30
 - 5. Issachar—Birthed by Leah Genesis 29-30
 - 6. Zebulun—Birthed by Leah Genesis 29-30
 - 7. Dan—Birthed by Bilhah (Rachel’s Handmaiden) Genesis 29-30
 - 8. Naphtali—Birthed by Bilhah (Rachel’s Handmaiden) Genesis 29-30
 - 9. Gad—Birthed by Zilpah (Leah’s Handmaiden) Genesis 29-30
 - 10. Asher—Birthed by Zilpah (Leah’s Handmaiden) Genesis 29-30
 - 11. Joseph—Birthed by Rachel Genesis 29-30
 - 12. Benjamin—Birthed by Rachel Genesis 29-30
 - E. Joseph Genesis 37-50
 - F. The Arrival of the Jews in Egypt Genesis 45-50
 - The books of the Bible during this time were Genesis and Job.
 - Job was the connecting link between Noah and Abraham.
- III. The Egyptian Bondage
- A. The Pharaoh that Knew Not Joseph Exodus 1:8- *“Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.”*
 - B. The 430 Years of Bondage Exodus 12:40- *“Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.”*
 - C. The Plagues Exodus 7-12
 - The book of the Bible during this time was Exodus.

- IV. From the Exodus to the Crossing of the Jordan
- A. The Passover Lamb and the Red Sea Exodus 12-15
 - B. Mount Sinai, the Ten Commandments, and the Design of the Tabernacle Exodus 20-40
 - C. The Wandering in the Wilderness for 40 Years Leviticus-Deuteronomy
 - D. The Death of Moses and the Deliverance of Joshua
 - E. The Crossing of the Jordan and the Conquests of Joshua Joshua
 - The books of the Bible during this time were Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Joshua.
- V. The Judges Stage Judges
- A. This era covers the twelve judges and one usurper that God raised up to deliver Israel from their oppressors. Judges 2:8-19 records the reason for the oppressions.
 - B. The Judges of Israel were:
 1. Othniel (Held peace for 40 years)
 2. Ehud (Held peace for 80 years)
 3. Shamgar
 4. Deborah and Barak (Held peace for 40 years)
 5. Gideon (Held peace for 40 years)
 6. Abimelech, the Usurper (Held peace for 3 years)
 7. Tola (Held peace for 23 years)
 8. Jair (Held peace for 22 years)
 9. Jephthah (Held peace for 6 years)
 10. Ibzan (Held peace for 7 years)
 11. Elon (Held peace for 10 years)
 12. Abdon (Held peace for 8 years)
 13. Samson (Held peace for 20 years)
 - C. The oppressors of Israel were:
 1. Mesopotamia (eight years)
 2. Moab with the Ammonites and Amalekites (18 years)
 3. The Canaanites (20 years)
 4. Midian (seven years)
 5. Apostasy under Abimelech
 6. The Ammonites (18 years)
 7. The Philistines (40 years)
 - The books of the Bible during this time were Judges and Ruth.
 - The family of Ruth lived during the Judges period.
- VI. The United Kingdom Era I Samuel 8:4-6- *“Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.”*
- A. The Reign of Saul (Saul reigned for 40 years)

- B. The Reign of David (David reigned for 40 years)
- C. The Reign of Solomon (Solomon reigned for 40 years)
- The books of the Bible during this time were I Samuel, II Samuel, I Kings, I Chronicles, II Chronicles, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

VII. The Divided Kingdom Stage (Rehoboam, Solomon's son, split the kingdom.)

- A. Jeroboam, Solomon's Servant, Took the Northern Kingdom (Ten Tribes)
 1. The Northern Kingdom was known as Israel (Ephraim)
 2. The Northern Kingdom's Capitol was Samaria II Kings 17:1, 24
 3. The Northern Kingdom Totaled 19 Kings and Not One was Saved

a. Jeroboam I	k. Jehoahaz
b. Nadab	l. Joash (Jehoash)
c. Baasha	m. Jeroboam II
d. Elah	n. Zechariah
e. Zimri	o. Shallum
f. Omri	p. Menahem
g. Ahab	q. Pekahiah
h. Ahaziah	r. Pekah
i. Jehoram (Joram)	s. Hoshea
j. Jehu	
 4. The Northern Kingdom's Time Period was from 931-722 B.C.
 5. The tribes of the Northern Kingdom were Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, and Joseph.
 6. In a study of Revelation 7, we see that Levi is included in the tribes of the children of Israel (Numbers 18:20-24, Joshua 13:14). Dan is omitted (Genesis 49:16-18). In Judges, Dan divided the nation of Israel. They became the first tribe to openly set up images for idolatry (I Kings 12:25-30). This could be the reason for the omission. Joseph is named but not his son Ephraim (Genesis 48:20), who is usually connected with Manasseh. Why was Ephraim not named? It could be because of the sin of envy. Rachel passed the sin of envy (Genesis 30:1) on to her children (Acts 7:9) and grandchildren (Isaiah 11:13). Dan and Ephraim forfeit their place to Levi and Manasseh in preaching the gospel.
 - The books of the Bible during this time were I Kings, II Kings, and II Chronicles. Also, some prophets listed below.
 - The prophets that prophesied to the Northern Kingdom were Ahijah, Jehu, Elijah, Micaiah, Elisha, Hosea, Amos, and Micah (his prophecy concerning Samaria, the capitol of the Northern Kingdom).
 - Jonah (The preaching of Jonah happened during the reign of Jeroboam II of Israel. His congregation was Nineveh.)
 - All the prophets, except five, prophesied before Israel's captivity in Babylon.
- B. Rehoboam, Solomon's Son, Took the Southern Kingdom (Two Tribes)
 1. The Southern Kingdom was known as Judah (Judea, Jerusalem)
 2. The Southern Kingdom's Capitol was Jerusalem

3. The Southern Kingdom Totaled 20 Kings and Eight were Saved
 - a. Rehoboam
 - b. Abijam (Abijah)
 - c. Asa
 - d. Jehoshaphat
 - e. Jehoram (Joram)
 - f. Ahaziah
 - g. Athaliah
 - h. Joash (Jehoash)
 - i. Amaziah
 - j. Azariah (Uzziah)
 - k. Jotham
 - l. Ahaz (Jehoahaz I)
 - m. Hezekiah
 - n. Manasseh
 - o. Amon
 - p. Josiah
 - q. Jehoahaz II (Shallum)
 - r. Jehoiakim (Eliakim)
 - s. Jehoiachin (Jeconiah)
 - t. Zedekiah (Mattaniah)
4. The Southern Kingdom's Time Period was from 931-586 B.C.
5. The two tribes of the Southern Kingdom were Judah and Benjamin.
 - The books of the Bible during this time were I Kings, II Kings, II Chronicles, the Lamentations of Jeremiah, and Habakkuk. Also, some prophets listed below.
 - The prophets that prophesied to the Southern Kingdom were Shemaiah, Iddo, Azariah, Hanani, Jahaziel, Jehu, Eliezer, Elijah, Jehoiada, Joel, Zechariah, Amos, Isaiah, Hosea, Micah, Obed, Nahum, Huldah, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, and Urijah.
 - Obadiah (The main theme of Obadiah's prophecy was Edom, one of Israel's enemies. The Edomites rejoiced when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem.)
 - All the prophets, except five, prophesied before Israel's captivity in Babylon.

VIII. The Captivity Era

- A. The Ten Northern Tribes went into the Assyrian Captivity
 1. Assyrian Captivity: II Kings 15:29, 17:3-6, 18-23, 18:9-12
 2. Samaria fell in 722 B.C.
 3. The Assyrian Captivity was a gradual captivity and it did not remove all the Israelites from their land. After the Northern Kingdom fell, all were not taken captive. Some of those left in the land after Assyria captured Samaria drifted down to the Southern Kingdom and were among those taken captive to Babylon (II Chronicles 31:6). Therefore, the ten tribes were scattered. Among Ezra's list of those returning (Ezra 2:1-65) are men from cities of the Northern Kingdom.
 4. Moses predicted that if the Israelites would not obey the Lord they would be scattered. Deuteronomy 28:63-67
- B. The Two Southern Tribes went into the Babylonian Captivity
 1. Babylonian (Chaldean- Habakkuk 1:6-11) Captivity: II Kings 23:27, 24:1-4, 7, 10-16, 25:1-30, II Chronicles 36:14-23
 2. Jerusalem fell in 586 B.C.
 3. Judah's captivity was foretold by Moses. Deuteronomy 28:36, 47-52
 4. Soon after Jehoiakim began to reign, Nebuchadnezzar came up to Jerusalem and made him his servant. When Jehoiakim rebelled after

- serving Nebuchadnezzar three years, the Lord sent bands of Chaldeans, Syrians, Moabites, and Ammonites against them.
5. Nebuchadnezzar brought Judah (the Southern Kingdom) into captivity through three deportations. After the third deportation he destroyed Jerusalem by fire, and the walls were broken down. All were taken captive except the poor of the land, who were left to till the soil.
 6. The people that remained in the land of Judah after the fall of Jerusalem, including Jeremiah (Jeremiah 40:1-6), they were in subjection to Babylon. Gedaliah was made their governor.
 7. Jeremiah stated that the captivity would last seventy years.
 8. Daniel was in the first group of captives taken to Babylon. He prophesied to the Southern Kingdom during their captivity. Daniel was in the first deportation.
 9. Ezekiel's prophecies began seven years before the destruction of Jerusalem and concluded about fifteen years after its destruction. During his whole ministry Ezekiel was an exile in Babylon. Ezekiel was in the second deportation.
 10. Babylon fell to the rise of Persia.
 - a. In Daniel 5 we read of Darius, the Median, taking over the kingdom of Babylon from Belshazzar.
 - b. Cyrus, king of Persia, conquered all the kingdoms of the earth. Cyrus, after being instructed in Isaiah 44:28 and 45:1, gave a decree for the deportation of the Jews back to their land.
- Some of the Jews that came up out of the captivity did not even know their own lineage. Ezra 2:1, 59
 - Some believe that there are “Ten Lost Tribes”. This assumption is not true. Proofs that the tribes are still in existence are the house of Israel (Matthew 10:5-6), Zebulon and Naphtali (Matthew 4:13-15), Asher (Luke 2:36), Levi (Acts 4:36), Benjamin (Philippians 3:5), Judah (Revelation 5:5), the twelve tribes (Acts 26:7), and all the tribes are written to in James 1:1.

IX. The Restoration Era (In Ezra 2:1-65, we have the return of the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin who were in the Babylonian captivity. The return was in three phases.)

A. The First Return Under Zerubbabel Ezra 1-4 (2:1-2)

1. 49,897 returned under Zerubbabel in 534 B.C. Ezra 2:1-2, 64-65
2. This was the period of Esther Ezra 5-6
3. This was the time of Haggai and Zechariah (Ezra 5:1)

B. The Second Return Under Ezra

1. Ezra and a later generation returned in 457 B.C. Ezra 7:1, 6-8, 8:1
2. This is the time when the Temple and Temple worship was restored.

C. The Third Return Under Nehemiah

1. Nehemiah returned in 445 B.C. Ezra 7-10, Nehemiah 1:5-11, 13:6-7
2. This was the time of Malachi.

- Those returning from captivity now make up Israel as a whole—the nation of Israel—not simply two tribes or the kingdom of Judah. Ezra 2:2, 70

- Old Testament history ended with Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.
- X. The Silent Era
 - A. This period lasted from 400-0 B.C.
 - B. There was no word from the Lord during this phase
- XI. The Silence is Broken with the Birth of Christ

Notes Taken From:

Willmington, Harold L. *Willmington's Guide to the Bible*. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 1987.