

Lesson 1a - Condensed Timeline of Historic Israel and Judah

circa 2000 BCE

God makes an everlasting Covenant with Abraham, which continues through Isaac, Jacob and their descendants. They will become a great nation, those who bless him and his descendants will be blessed, those who curse him and his descendants will be cursed. All the nations of the earth will be blessed through them. The Land of Canaan will be their everlasting inheritance. (Genesis 12:3, 13:14-17, 15:18-21, 17:7-8, Psalm 105:8-11)

circa 1400 BCE

The Israelites enter the Promised Land. Prior to that they have been delivered from the hands of the Egyptians and then spent 40 years wandering the desert because of unbelief. Through the Mosaic Covenant they have been given *Torah* and separated to God as a 'holy' nation. (Exodus 19:5-6) The 12 tribes of Israel are allotted their portion of territory.

circa 1000 BCE

King David conquers Jerusalem and makes it the capital of the Kingdom of Israel. God covenants with David that his dynasty would be an everlasting one. (1 Chronicles 17:3-15) His son, Solomon, is commissioned by the Lord to build the House of the Lord. The Lord declares that His eyes and His heart would dwell in the temple perpetually. (2 Chronicles 7:16)

circa 920 BCE

Israel is divided into two kingdoms. The 10 northern tribes rebel against the Lord and set up an alternative religious system. The tribes of Judah and Benjamin remain faithful to the Lord for a while. A remnant from the 10 northern tribes joins the 2 southern tribes (known as Judah) to worship the Lord in Jerusalem.



circa 750 BCE -- Writing of the first Part of Isaiah

720 BCE

The 10 northern tribes are taken into captivity in Assyria. By this time judgement has been prophesied against Judah for their rebellion against the Lord.



circa 670 - 618 BCE

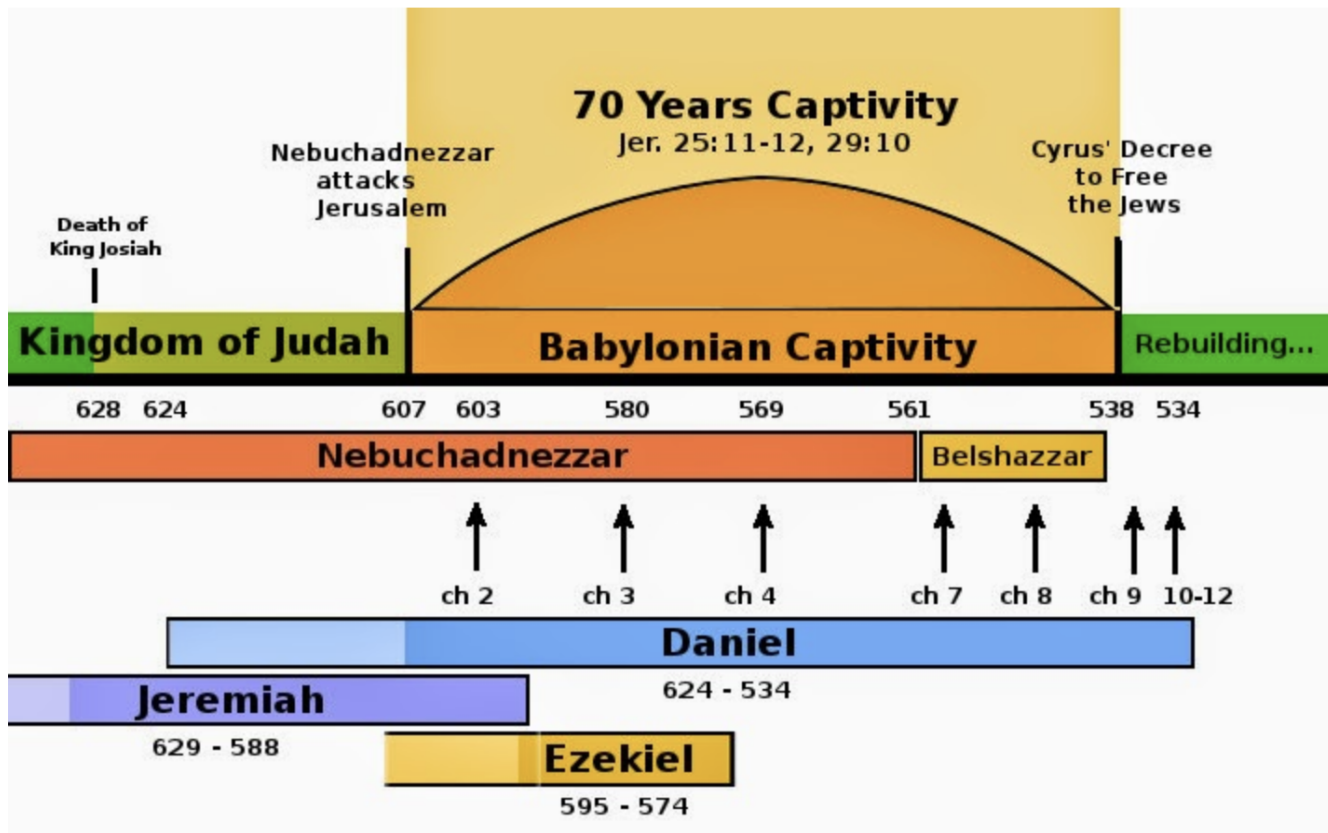
Book of Deuteronomy formulated and composed.

640–609 BCE

King Josiah of Judah (ruled 640–609 BCE) is a figure of extraordinary importance for the history of ancient Israel and Judah. According to the biblical narrative, a Torah scroll, Deuteronomy, was discovered during the renovation of the Jerusalem Temple in the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign (**618 BCE**).

586 BCE

The Temple in Jerusalem is destroyed by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon on 9th Av in the Hebrew calendar. The third wave of captives (the first one was around 606BC) is taken into exile in Babylon. A 70-year exile had been prophesied by Jeremiah. (Jeremiah 29:10)



550 BCE -- Writing of the Second Part of Isaiah

536 BCE

The first wave of Jewish exiles returns to Jerusalem, and with the permission of King Cyrus of Persia, begins to rebuild the Temple.

445 BCE

The third wave of Jewish exiles returns to Jerusalem under Nehemiah and the walls of Jerusalem are rebuilt. However a significant number choose to stay 'in exile'.

circa 400 BCE -- Writing of the Third Part of Isaiah

167 BCE

The Temple is defiled by Antiochus IV Epiphanes, who sacrifices a sow on the altar and halts the Temple worship. Three years later Judas Maccabeus liberates and cleanses the Temple. This is commemorated by the Feast of Chanukkah. The Hasmoneans rule Israel until the Roman invasion.