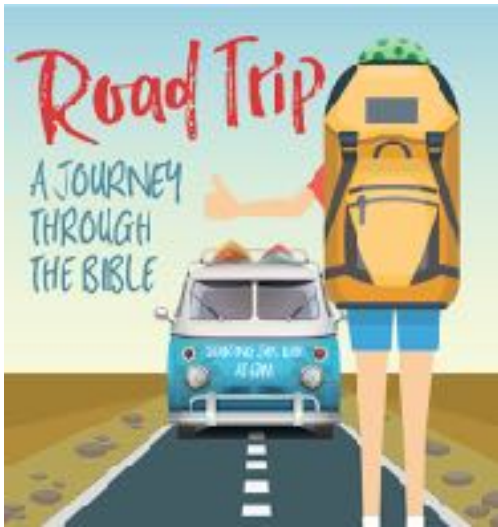


SESSION THREE: “Going Home”



- The Old Testament Historical Books in General
- An Old Testament Timeline:
- The Conquest: Joshua
- The Judges
- The Monarchy
- The Divided Kingdom
- The Babylonian Exile
- The Return to Zion

THE OLD TESTAMENT HISTORICAL BOOKS IN GENERAL

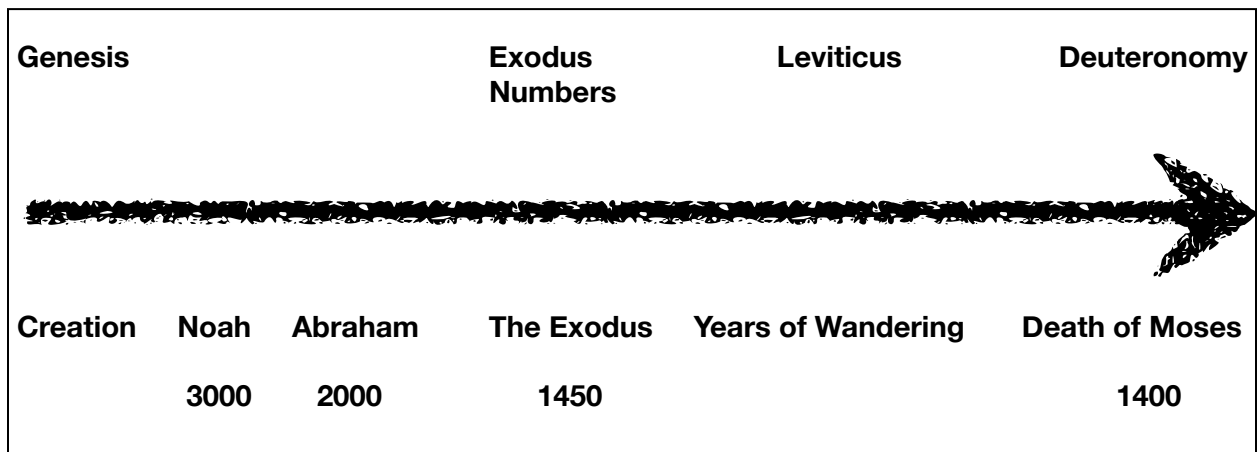
The history section of the Old Testament consists of 12 individual books, spanning about 1000 years (circa 1400 BCE to 400 BCE).

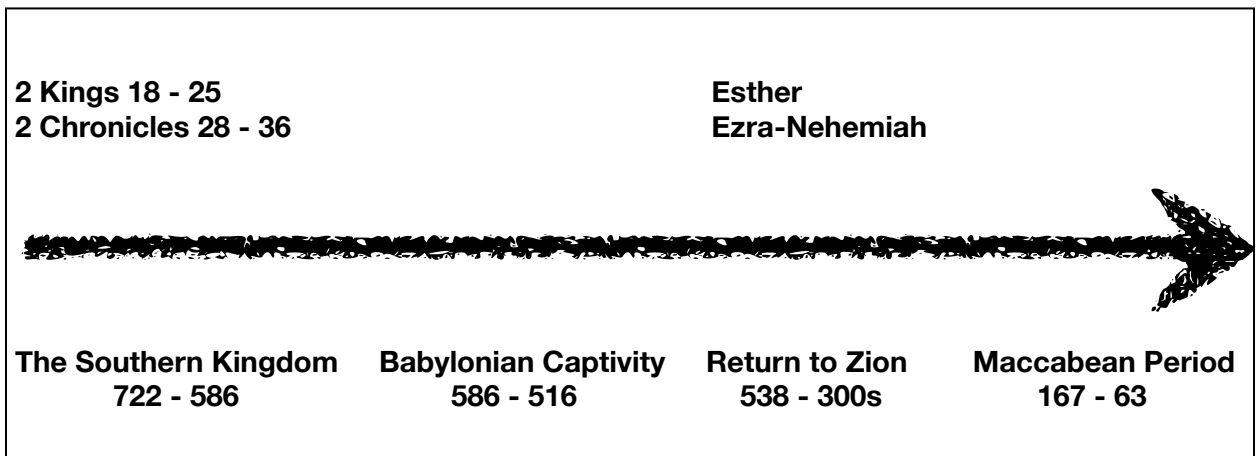
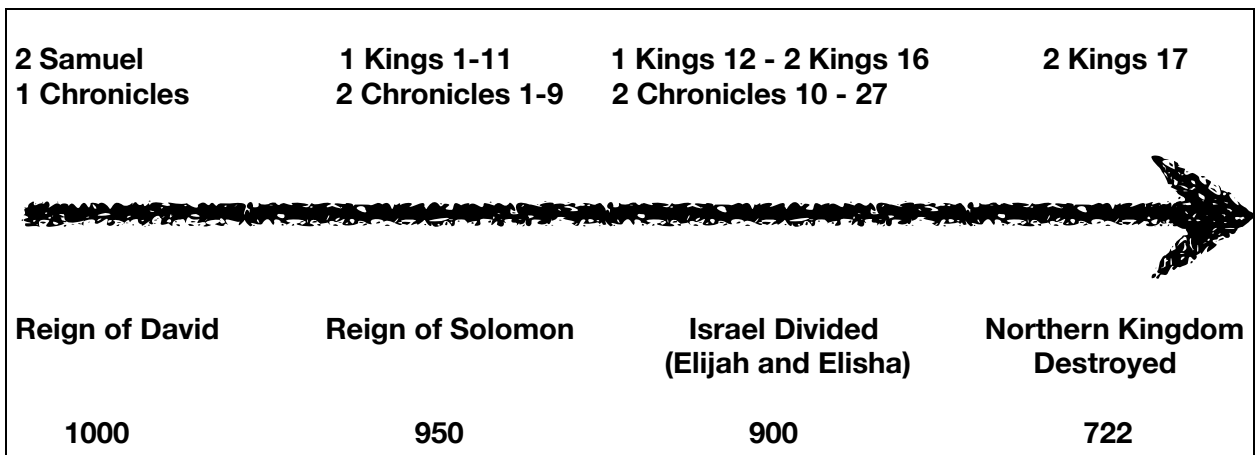
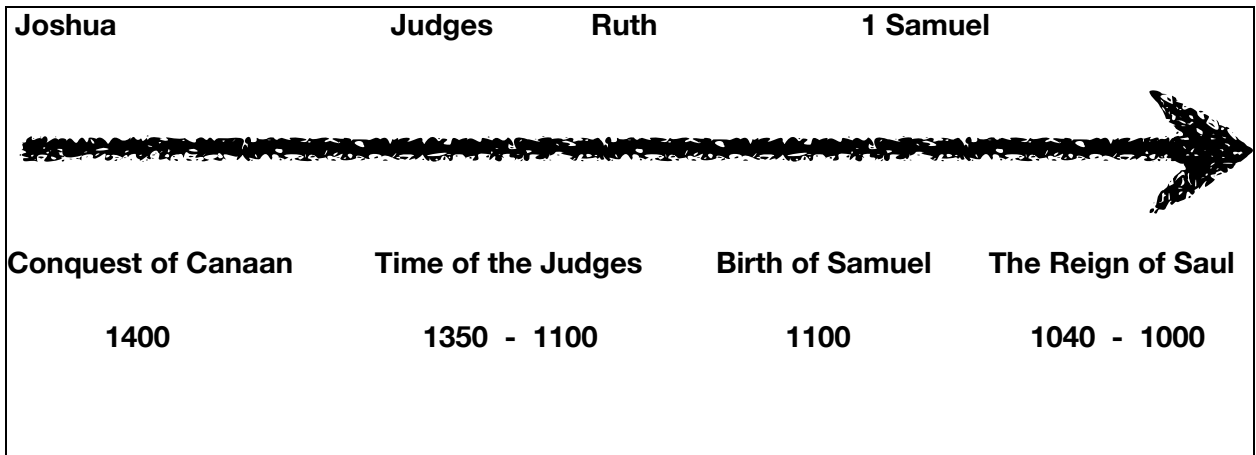
The Jewish Scriptures regard Joshua, Judges, Samuel (First and Second combined), and Kings (First and Second combined) as “The Former Prophets.” Ruth, Esther, Chronicles (First and Second combined), and Ezra-Nehemiah (combined) are categorized with “The Writings.”

This period of time begins and ends with a “going home” to the Promised Land.

The events of the period were witnessed or recorded in real time, but editorialized and adapted up through the third century BCE.

AN OLD TESTAMENT TIMELINE (All dates are BCE and approximate)





A SURVEY OF THE HISTORICAL BOOKS

JOSHUA

Key Character: Joshua
 Key Events: Fall of Jericho, Dividing the land
 Key Theme: Conquest
 Key Verse: Joshua 1:6

JUDGES

Key Characters: Deborah, Gideon, Samson
Key Events: Death of Joshua, Rise of Philistines
Key Theme: The "Cycle" - Rebellion, Retribution, Repentance, Rescue
Key Verses: Judges 17:6; 21:25

RUTH

Key Characters: Ruth, Naomi, Boaz
Key Events: Return to the Israel, Devotion, Romance of Boaz and Ruth
Key Theme: The "Kinsman Redeemer"
Key Verses: Ruth 1:16-17

1-2 SAMUEL

Key Characters: Eli, Samuel, Saul, David
Key Events: Beginning of Monarchy, Rise of David, Death of Saul
Key Theme: David: A Man After God's Own Heart
Key Verses: 1 Samuel 8:19-22

1-2 KINGS

Key Characters: Solomon, Rehoboam and Jeroboam, Ahab, Elijah, Elisha
Key Events: Death of David, Solomon's Temple, Israel Divides, Exile
Key Theme: Covenant, Faithfulness
Key Verses: 1 Kings 2:2-4

1-2 CHRONICLES

Key Characters: David, Solomon, Rehoboam, Kings of Judah
Key Events: Parallel to 1-2 Kings, Fall of Jerusalem
Key Theme: Reminder for the Exiled Community
Key Verses: 1 Chronicles 29:16-19

EZRA-NEHEMIAH

Key Characters: Ezra, Nehemiah, Artaxerxes I,
Key Events: Return from Exile, Rebuilding Jerusalem, A new Temple
Key Theme: Renewal of the Covenant
Key Verses: Ezra 7:23

ESTHER

Key Characters: Esther, Mordecai, Haman, Xerxes
Key Events: Esther becomes queen, Haman's conspiracy, Purim
Key Theme: Survival of the "Remnant"
Key Verses: Esther 4:14