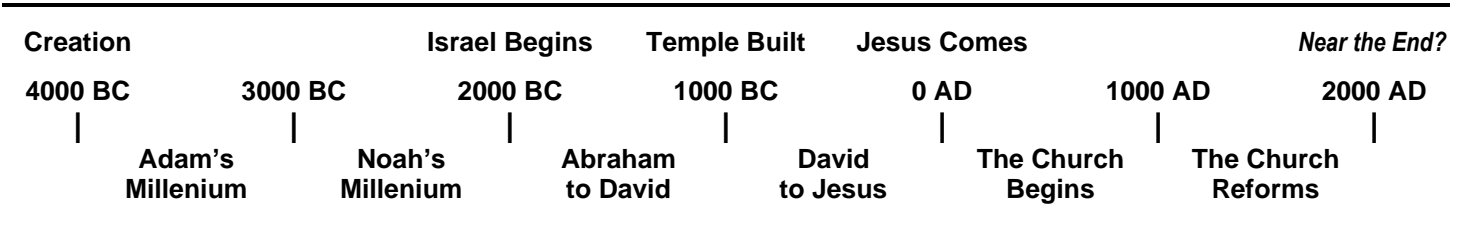


# History and the Bible: A Timeline & Brief Overview

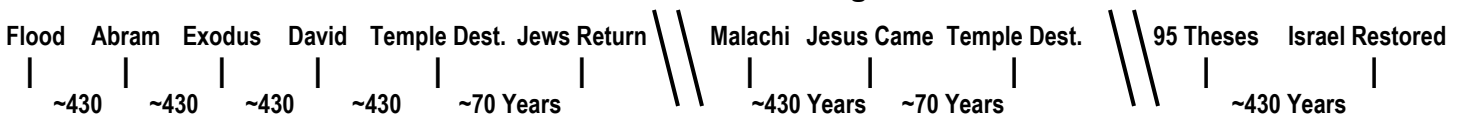
*Note: All the dates shown here, especially from BC times, are approximate. However, based on Biblical timelines along with historical and archaeological evidence, we can be confident that these dates are accurate to within a few decades.*

- There were 1656 years from creation to the flood (Gen. 5) and 353 years from the flood to Abram's birth (Gen. 11, 12:4).
- The period from God's calling of Abram until the Exodus was 430 years, which matches Ex. 12:40 and Gal. 3:17.
- The period from the Exodus until the beginning of Solomon's reign was 476 years, which matches 1 Kings 6:1.



**Is the earth only 6,000 years old? Much evidence suggests that it is.** Despite what is commonly taught, archaeology and history contain a lot of evidence supporting creation, without much evidence of Darwinian evolution. A few examples include DNA, the deterioration of things in the world (the result of sin), and the fact that genetic mutations always result in a loss of information. Much of the evidence that is used to push the theory of evolution, such as the fossil record, actually supports the idea of a global flood quite well. We see extremely long life spans recorded in the early chapters of the Bible because Earth's atmosphere and climate were very different before the great flood and also because the earth's decay due to sin was just beginning. Following the flood and the subsequent climate changes, life spans decreased significantly.

## God's Providence Through Time



<b>Genesis 1-11</b>	God gives the true history of creation along with other key events from the first 2,000 years (the origin of sin, worldwide flood, and dispersion from Babel).
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3960 BC	History begins with creation The first sin and the first murder occur	<b>Genesis 1-2</b> <b>Genesis 3-4</b>
3830 BC	Birth of Seth (Adam's son)	
3338 BC	Birth of Enoch (Noah's great-grandfather)	<b>Genesis 5</b>
3273 BC	Birth of Methuselah (Noah's grandfather)	
3086 BC	Birth of Lamech (Noah's father)	
3030 BC	Death of Adam	
2973 BC	Enoch is taken	
2904 BC	Birth of Noah	
2309 BC	Death of Lamech	
2304 BC	Death of Methuselah The Great Flood	<b>Genesis 6-9</b> <b>1 &amp; 2 Peter</b>
2200 BC	The incident at the Tower of Babel The dispersion from Babel (probably also the period of "cave men" as small groups struggle to survive)	<b>Genesis 11</b>
2188 BC	Egypt begins under Mizraim (Noah's grandson)	<b>Genesis 10</b>
2070 BC	China begins with the Xia Dynasty	

<b>Job</b> <i>(Key Chapters: 1-3, 5, 9, 19, 21, 23, 28, and 38-42)</i>	God allows Job to suffer great loss and illness to help him understand more fully God's righteousness and his own sinfulness. Even so, Job did not sin in his attitude toward God during this tribulation and he remained confident in his Redeemer. (Job most likely lived shortly before the time of Abraham.)
<b>Genesis 12-50</b>	God chooses Abram (Abraham), Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) to be the beginning of His chosen nation (both physically and spiritually). Also, God divinely moves Jacob's son Joseph into Egypt to prepare a place for His people to multiply.

2000 BC	The Ice Age gradually comes to an end <b>Job</b> most likely lived around this period of time	<b>Job 1-42</b>	
1954 BC	Death of Noah	<b>Genesis 9</b>	
1951 BC	Birth of Abram	<b>Genesis 11</b>	
1876 BC	God calls Abram (Abraham) God destroys Sodom and Gomorrah for their sin	<b>Genesis 12-20</b>	<b>Romans 4</b>
1851 BC	Birth of Isaac	<b>Genesis 21-24</b>	
1791 BC	Birth of Jacob	<b>Genesis 25-29</b>	
1768 BC	Death of Abraham		
1700 BC	Birth of Joseph	<b>Genesis 30-50</b>	
1683 BC	Joseph is sold into slavery and taken to Egypt		
1671 BC	Death of Isaac		
1661 BC	During a famine, Jacob and his family move to Egypt		
1644 BC	Death of Jacob		
1590 BC	Death of Joseph		

<b>Exodus</b> <b>Leviticus</b> <b>Numbers</b> <b>Deuteronomy</b> <b>Joshua</b>	God rapidly multiplies the Israelites as they live under the protection of the Egyptian government. At the appointed time, God brings His people out of Egypt and into the land He had promised to Abraham. God also gives them laws and instructions to show us His holiness and His care for His people, and to keep His people separate (sanctified) from all others.
<i>Note: Chapters that are skipped in the outline below contain other information such as laws, census data, and land distribution. Among the laws, Exodus 20 as well as the latter portions of Deuteronomy 18 and 21 are particularly notable.</i>	

1446 BC	God sends ten plagues on Egypt and delivers Israel God parts the Red Sea so His people could cross God gives His people the Ten Commandments Many in Israel build an idol (a gold calf) to worship God anoints priests; Aaron's sons offer profane fire Complaining Israel leaves Mt. Sinai; God sends quail Twelve spies go into Canaan but only two trust God Korah rebels against Moses; Aaron's staff buds Moses sins; Israel must look to the bronze serpent Balaam tries to curse Israel but God won't let him Israel prepares to go into the promised land Moses reflects on our short lives and God's eternity Moses urges obedience, reviewing all God has done	<b>Exodus 1-13</b> <b>Exodus 14-15</b> <b>Exodus 19-20</b> <b>Exodus 32-33</b> <b>Leviticus 8-10</b> <b>Numbers 9-12</b> <b>Numbers 13-14</b> <b>Numbers 16-17</b> <b>Numbers 20-21</b> <b>Numbers 22-25</b> <b>Num. 27, 31-33</b> <b>Psalms 90</b> <b>Deuteronomy 1-11</b> <b>Deuteronomy 29-34</b>	<b>Deut. 5</b>      <b>Jude</b> <b>John 3</b> <b>2 Peter 2</b>
1406 BC	Leadership transitions to Joshua as Moses dies Israel defeats various enemies in their new land	<b>Joshua 1-12, 14, 21:43-24:33</b>	

<b>Judges</b> <b>1 &amp; 2 Samuel</b> <b>1 Chronicles</b> <b>1 Kings 1-11</b> <b>2 Chronicles 1-9</b>	God's people, now in the land He has given them, repetitively cycle between periods of obedience and disobedience. He appoints judges and later kings (at their urging) to rule over them, but many of them are ungodly. Israel continues to battle enemies under Saul and David, then has a brief period of peace under Solomon when the first temple is built, but the kingdom is then divided in two.
<b>Ruth</b> <b>Song of Solomon</b>	These books provide a unique perspective on God's redemption of His people and of the communion between Christ and His church as pictured in marriage.
<b>Psalms</b>	This book contains a wide range of songs praising God and praying to God in various situations. At least half are by David and the rest are by other authors.
<b>Proverbs</b> <b>Ecclesiastes</b>	These two books are filled with practical wisdom and were primarily written by Solomon, to whom God granted abundant wisdom in answer to his prayer.

1366 BC	Transition from Joshua into the period of the judges Deborah & Barak deliver Israel from the Canaanites Gideon's 300 men deliver Israel from the Midianites Israel repents and Jephthah defeats the Ammonites Samson defeats the Philistines with great strength Micah (not the prophet) leads the tribe of Dan in idolatry Men of the tribe of Benjamin commit Sodom-like sin The widow Ruth is redeemed by Boaz in Bethlehem	<b>Judges 1-3</b> <b>Judges 4-5</b> <b>Judges 6-9</b> <b>Judges 10-12</b> <b>Judges 13-16</b> <b>Judges 17-18</b> <b>Judges 19-21</b> <b>Ruth 1-4</b>	
1052 BC	Samuel, the last judge, subdues the Philistines	<b>1 Samuel 1-7</b>	
1040 BC	Israel demands a king; God gives them ungodly Saul David is anointed as next king and defeats Goliath Saul tries to kill David but David has God's protection	<b>1 Samuel 8-15</b> <b>1 Samuel 16-17</b> <b>1 Samuel 18-31</b>	
1010 BC	David is a godly king over Judah then over all Israel David writes at least half of the psalms	<b>2 Samuel 1-24</b> <b>Psalms *</b>	<b>1 Chr. 10-22</b>
970 BC	King David dies and his son Solomon becomes king The temple is built; Israel has peace under Solomon God makes Solomon the wisest man to ever live	<b>1 Kings 1-2</b> <b>1 Kings 3-11</b> <b>Prov. *, Eccles., Song of Sol.</b>	<b>1 Chr. 28-29</b> <b>2 Chr. 1-9</b>

*\* Note: About half of the psalms and some portions of proverbs were written by other people.*

<b>1 Kings 12-22</b> <b>2 Kings 1-25</b> <b>2 Chronicles 10-36</b>	Now split into two kingdoms, Israel and Judah continue to commit idolatry and other sins against God, in spite of all He has done for them. Israel, and later Judah, are eventually taken captive due to their persistent sin and idolatry.
<b>Isaiah through Malachi</b>	God sends many prophets, urging people to repent before the coming judgment while also promising to send the Messiah to save His people from their sins.

930 BC	The kingdom is split: Israel (north) and Judah (south) 2 ungodly kings rule Judah while 1 rules Israel	<b>1 Kings 12</b> <b>1 Kings 13-16</b>	<b>2 Chr. 10</b> <b>2 Chr. 11-13</b>
910 BC	For 40 years, King Asa rules Judah and follows God During the same period, 5 ungodly kings rule Israel	<b>1 Kings 15</b> <b>1 Kings 15-16</b>	<b>2 Chr. 14-16</b>
870 BC	Elijah warns Ahab, Israel's most wicked king Elijah stands up for God against the prophets of Baal Asa's son Jehoshaphat rules Judah and follows God Elisha performs miracles as Ahab's sons rule	<b>1 Kings 17-21</b> <b>1 Kings 22</b> <b>2 Kings 2-10, 13</b>	<b>2 Kings 1-2</b> <b>2 Chr. 17-20</b>

840 BC	Mostly ungodly kings rule Israel/Judah for 100 years	<b>2 Kings 11-16</b>	<b>2 Chr. 21-28</b>
760 BC	Prophet in Nineveh (Assyria's capital)	<b>Jonah</b>	
~750 BC	Prophets in Israel	<b>Hosea, Amos, Isaiah</b>	
~725 BC	Prophet in Israel and Judah	<b>Micah</b>	
722 BC	Due to persistent idolatry, Assyria captures Israel	<b>2 Kings 17</b>	
716 BC	Godly King Hezekiah rules over Judah for 29 years	<b>2 Kg 18-20, Is 36-39, 2 Ch 29-32</b>	
	Temple worship restored; God extends Hezekiah's life		
	Assyrian King Sennacherib boasts against the Lord		
687 BC	Hezekiah's ungodly son and grandson rule Judah	<b>2 Kings 21</b>	<b>2 Chr. 33</b>
660 BC	Prophecy to Nineveh ( <i>it falls to Babylon in ~50 years</i> )	<b>Nahum</b>	
640 BC	Godly King Josiah rules Judah, true worship restored	<b>2 Kings 22-23</b>	<b>2 Chr. 34-35</b>
	Hilkiah finds the Book of the Law; Passover observed		
( <i>uncertain</i> )	Prophet in Judah	<b>Joel</b>	
~625 BC	Prophets in Judah	<b>Jeremiah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah</b>	
	God will soon judge idolatrous Judah and Jerusalem	<b>Jeremiah 1-38</b>	<b>Ezekiel 1-24</b>
608 BC	Four ungodly kings rule until Babylon captures Judah	<b>2 Kings 24-25</b>	<b>2 Chr. 36</b>
605 BC	Nebuchadnezzar began to take people from Judah	<b>2 Kings 24</b>	<b>Daniel 1</b>
586 BC	The fall of Jerusalem; destruction of the first temple	<b>2Kg25;2Ch36;Jr39,52;Lm;Ez33</b>	
( <i>uncertain</i> )	Prophecy against Edom (Esau's descendants)	<b>Obadiah</b>	
580 BC	Prophets to the Israelites in captivity	<b>Ezekiel</b>	<b>Daniel</b>
	Some are left in Judah; others disobey, flee to Egypt	<b>Jeremiah 40-45, 52</b>	
	God will judge Babylon ( <i>it falls to Persia in ~50 years</i> )	<b>Jeremiah 50-51</b>	

<b>Ezra Nehemiah Esther</b>	Following the captivity, some are allowed to return to their homeland. They gradually rebuild the temple and the wall around Jerusalem. God also places Esther in a special position as queen to protect His people from destruction.
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536 BC	Proclamation by Cyrus; exiles returned to Jerusalem	<b>Ezra</b>	<b>Isaiah 44-45</b>
520 BC	Prophets to the returned exiles	<b>Haggai, Zechariah, Ezra 5-6</b>	
515 BC	The rebuilding of the temple was completed	<b>Ezra 1, 3-10</b>	
478 BC	God made Esther queen to protect the Jews	<b>Esther 1-10</b>	
457 BC	Decree of King Artaxerxes to rebuild the wall (69 "weeks" [69 sets of 7 years, or 483 years] until Jesus' public ministry began)	<b>Ezra 7</b>	<b>Daniel 9:25</b>
445 BC	The people rebuild the Jerusalem wall	<b>Nehemiah 1-6, 8-10, 12b-13</b>	
430 BC	The final Old Testament prophet	<b>Malachi</b>	

<b>Matthew through Revelation</b>	In the New Testament, God's Son (Jesus Christ) is revealed, crucified, and rises again as God provides salvation for His people with the new covenant.
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4 BC-30 AD	Life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (His public ministry most likely took place from late 26 AD until the spring of 30 AD)	<b>Matthew, Mark, Luke, John</b>
30-62 AD	History of the early church recorded by Luke	<b>Acts</b>
45-68 AD	Letters to early Christians concerning various issues	<b>Romans through Jude</b>
	God reveals that the end of the age is coming soon	<b>Matthew 24</b> <b>Revelation</b>
70 AD	Rome destroys Jerusalem and the second temple	

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