

A Timeline of Israel in Context with World Events - Part 1

(Edited and amended by Jonathan Hirshon,

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All dates, particularly the earlier ones, are approximate.
The dates given below are in accord with the general timetable of history and give a consistent sequence of chronology.

Approx. Dates	The Middle East before the time of the Patriarchs
40,000 BCE	Stone tools - Carmel Caves in Israel
18,000 - 12,500 BCE	Kebaran culture - flint microliths in Israel
17,000 BCE	Natufian culture - harvesting of wild cereals, Ohalo, by Lake Galilee, Israel
13,000 BCE	Cultivation of millet in Mesopotamia (?)
11,000 BCE	Domesticated dogs, Israel obsidian used for tools, Greece. Simple sail boats, Aegean.
13,000 - 10,000 BCE - End of last Ice Age. Bands of Hunter-Gatherers cross the Bering land-bridge and enter N. America	
10,000 BCE	Round huts, partially below ground-level, Israel and Middle East sickles (of microliths set in bone or wood), grindstones, for grain, Mesopotamia Burial of the dead, sometimes with grave goods such as necklaces, often under the floor of a hut, Israel
8,000 BCE	Building begins at Jericho. decoration of human skulls (Jericho) Mud bricks made by hand, later in wooden molds storage of grain (Ain Mallaha - Levant)
7,800 BCE	Cultivation of emmer wheat (Tell Aswad - Levant)

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7,500 BCE	Fishing with bone harpoons, Egypt
7,000 BCE	"White ware" (forerunner of pottery) Israel and the Levant. (White ware is made of lime and ash) Shortly after "white ware" - pottery in use in the Middle East herding of wild goats (Beidha -Negev), domestic goats (Jericho)
6,500 BCE	Rectangular houses First metallurgy - smelting of copper 6,500 BCE Farming spreads from the middle East to Greece and later to northern Europe: barley, einkorn, emmer; sheep, goats, cattle; rectangular houses of wattle and daub, roofed with reeds or thatch
6,000 BCE	Early towns in Asia Minor - Catal Huyuk (in Turkey) - fertility figures of stone or clay, beads of copper or lead 6,000 BCE Date palm throughout the Middle East 6,000 BCE "Stamp seals" throughout the Middle East (impressions in clay, probably to indicate ownership) 6,000 BCE Trade in obsidian from what is now Turkey to the whole Middle East
5,900 - 4,300 BCE	Ubaid culture in Mesopotamia - city of Eridu - "tripartite houses" - farming communities - canal systems to irrigate crops
5,000 - 4,500 BCE	Badarian Culture of the Nile Valley - red and black polished pottery bowls
5,000 BCE	Farming of wheat and barley spreads to Egypt cultivation of grape vines - Mediterranean regions
5,000 - 4,000 BCE	Late Palaeolithic, Chalcolithic Ages. start of City-states in Mesopotamia
4,300 - 3,100 BCE	Uruk (Biblical Erech), rise of city-states in Mesopotamia - irrigation; trading for stone, wood, metal; lunar calendar; pictographic system of writing ca. 3,300 BCE
4,000 BCE	Pottery was known throughout the Middle East; metal-working of gold, silver, copper; lost-wax process for casting bronze objects.

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	Use of the plough, Europe & Middle East		
4,000 - 3,500 BCE	Great flood(s) in Mesopotamia		
Approx. Dates	Mesopotamia & Israel	Egypt	Greece & Europe
4,000 BCE	4,000 BCE Sumerians settle in Mesopotamia; they spoke a language unrelated to any other known, 4,000 BCE City of Eridu	4,000 BCE Domesticated animals 4,000 BCE Sail used on boats on Nile	Final Neolithic period Cretan ships
3,500 - 3,000 BCE	Peak of Sumerian civilization; building of temples and ziggurats. 3,500 BCE City of Ur 3,500 BCE development of cuneiform writing 3,400 BCE Invention of the cylinder seal 3,200 BCE potter's wheel and wheeled vehicles 3,100 BCE City of Byblos 3,100 BCE Bronzeworking begins	3,500 BCE Harps & flutes in use 3,200 BCE Hieroglyphic writing 3,100 BCE King Menes (Narmer) united Upper and Lower Egypt "Archaic Period", dynasties 1 & 2 3,000 BCE Domestication of the Ass	
3,000 - 2,500 BCE	3,000 BCE Wheel in use Semitic tribes (Akkadians) moving into northern Mesopotamia	3100 - 2650 BCE Royal tombs at Abydos - gold and turquoise jewelry, commemorative stelae glass beads and metal mirrors in Egypt	3,100 - 1,925 BCE "Pre-palatial Early Minoan" = Early Bronze Age

	<p>Mis-anni-padda of Ur first recorded king in Mesopotamia</p> <p>Oil-burning lamps in Sumeria; Phoenicians settled at Tyre and Sidon on Syrian coast</p> <p>Earliest levels of Troy Wrestling becomes one of the first sports</p> <p>2,700 BCE Gilgamesh of Uruk</p> <p>2,500 BCE Oxen and onagers used to pull ploughs</p> <p>2,500 BCE Fermentation of grapes to make wine</p> <p>2,500 BCE "The Royal Standard of Ur" - box inlaid with shell and lapis lazuli buried with dead kings</p> <p>Metal coins began to replace barley as legal tender</p> <p>Cuneiform simplified - pictographs reduced to ca. 550</p> <p>Sumerian numerical system based on multiples of 6 and 12</p>	<p>Beginnings of astronomical observations in Egypt and Babylonia</p> <p>2,650 BCE - Imhotep, architect of the Step Pyramid</p> <p>2,650 BCE Step Pyramid of Zoser (Djoser)</p> <p>2,550 BCE Pyramid of Cheops (Khufu)</p> <p>2,500 BCE Pyramid of Kafre (son of Khufu) & the Sphinx, Giza development of hieroglyphic writing</p> <p>2,650 - 2150 BCE "Old Kingdom", 3rd - 6th dynasties, government bureaucracy; mummification practiced ducks and geese hunted and domesticated domestication of dogs metal mirrors</p>	<p>Simple boats in the Aegean</p> <p>Cycladic culture in the Aegean Earliest levels of Troy</p> <p>Weaving loom known in Europe</p>
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A Timeline of Israel in Context with World Events - Part 2 Abraham and the Patriarchs

ca. 2,000 BCE - 1,300 BCE

For a rough comparison with archaeological periods:

Middle Bronze II ca. 2,000-1,550 BCE	Middle Kingdom ca. 2,040-1,720 BCE	Early Helladic ca. 2,750-2,000 BCE	ProtoPalatial (Middle Minoan I 7 II) ca. 1,900-1,720 BCE
	Hyksos 1,720-1,575 BCE	Middle Helladic ca. 2,000-1,550 BCE	NeoPalatial (Middle Minoan III) ca. 1,720-1,470 BCE
Late Bronze Age ca. 1,500-1,200 BCE	New Kingdom ca. 1,575-1,200 BCE	Late Helladic (Mycenean) ca. 1,550-1,150 BCE	PostPalatial ca. 1,470-1050 BCE

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approx. Dates	Israel & Canaan	Egypt	Mesopotamia	Greece & Asia Minor
(modern) Jewish Calendar uses 3760 BCE as year 1				
ca. 2,000 BCE	God calls Abram to leave Ur and travel to the Promised Land	Papyrus for writing	Sumerians use cuneiform writing on clay tablets potter's wheel used in Mesopotamia. Development of Semitic alphabet	Minoan culture in Crete Minoan pictographic writing, leading to Linear A First palace of Minos at Knossos, Crete
2,000 BCE - 1,700 BCE	Sesostris III invades Canaan	Wine making Imitation turquoise (faience) jewelry	1,820 BCE Sumerian King List (Copy of older list)	Hittite kingdom founded. The Hittites were Indo-Europeans who adopted Old Babylonian/Sumerian culture

		<p>2,040 - 1,720 BCE "Middle Kingdom" of Egypt.</p> <p>1,887 - 1,849 Sesostri III</p> <p>1,720 - 1,690 BCE Hyksos invasion of Egypt</p> <p>"The Story of Sinuhe"</p> <p>"The Book of the Dead"</p> <p>Percussion instruments added to Egyptian musical ensembles</p> <p>Knotted rope triangles used for construction of right angles irrigation system utilizes Nile floods</p> <p>1,700 BCE horse-drawn chariots introduced in the Egyptian army.</p>	<p>1,900 - 1,530 BCE the "Old Babylonian period"</p> <p>The Amorites (Old Babylonians), a Semitic tribe, gain control, and base their capital on Babylon (originally Agade)</p> <p>The Epic of Gilgamesh</p> <p>Hittites invade and plunder Babylon, attack Syria</p> <p>1792 - 1750 BCE Hammurabi reunites Babylon; "Code of Hammurabi" - code of laws and penalties for breaking the law</p> <p>Royal Palace of Mari, destroyed by the Babylonians 1,757 BCE</p>	<p>Hittite cuneiform inscriptions</p> <p>2,000 - 1,000 BCE Migration of Greek peoples (Hellenes) into Greece (Hellas)</p> <p>(According to tradition) - Cecrops first king of Attica oldest palace at Mycenae (Greek mainland)</p> <p>2,000 - 1,700 BCE Middle Minoan period in Crete</p> <p>1,700 BCE The "Phaistos Disk" - clay disk with an undeciphered syllabary</p>
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		<p>Soldiers were infantry with hide shields and bronze spears, and were barefoot</p> <p>The myth of Osiris becomes the main after-life teaching</p>		
ca. 1,700 BCE	Jacob and his family join Joseph in Egypt			
1,700 BCE - 1,300 BCE	<p>Israelites stay ca. 400 years in Egypt</p> <p>Thutmose III extends Egyptian empire to include territories between Egypt and Mesopotamia</p>	<p>1,690 - 1,575 BCE Hyksos rule Egypt</p> <p>1,575 BCE Hyksos driven out by Amosis I</p> <p>1,575 - 1,200 BCE "New Kingdom" of Egypt</p> <p>Building of the Grest Temple of Karnak and the Temple at Abu Simbel</p> <p>1,555 - 1,530 BCE</p> <p>Amenhotep I 1,530 - 1,515 BCE</p>	<p>1,600 BCE Glassworking and molding</p> <p>1,500- 1,170 BCE The Kassites move into the region (Indo-Europeans moving in with horses and chariots)</p> <p>1,200 BCE Assyrians regain control and drive out the Kassites</p> <p>1,500 BCE Chickens introduced (from China); "birds that lay eggs every day" given as tribute by Syria to</p>	<p>1,650 BCE Linear A script in use by Minoans</p> <p>1,600 BCE Mycenaean civilization, mainland Greece</p> <p>ca. 1,500 BCE Eruption of Santorini on Thera</p> <p>1,450 Mycenaeans spread to Crete Mycenaeans adopt Linear A and develop Linear B for their own language (proto-Greek)</p> <p>1,400 BCE Phoenicians (?) develop the alphabet</p> <p>1,600-717 BCE Hittite empire</p>

		<p>Thutmose I, builds first tomb in the Valley of the Kings 1,500 BCE</p> <p>"Shaduf" - pole and bucket for raising water from canals into irrigation channels</p> <p>1,515-1,480 BCE Queen Hatshepsut</p> <p>1,480-1,450 BCE Thutmose III</p> <p>1,385-1,358 BCE Akhenaten (Amenophis IV, Amenhotep IV)</p> <p>1,358-1,350 BCE Tutankhamun</p> <p>1,300-1,200 BCE War with Hittites</p> <p>1,290-1,224 BCE Rameses II of Egypt</p>	<p>Thutmose III of Egypt</p> <p>Decline of Babylon under Hammurabi's son Samsuiluma 1,415-1,155 BCE Kassite dynasty of kings of Babylon</p> <p>Shalmaneser I of Assyria founds city of Nimrud</p> <p>Kingdom of Mitanni</p> <p>2-wheeled chariots used in warfare</p>	<p>1,400 - 1,300 BCE Extensive correspondence between Hittite kings and Egyptian pharaohs</p> <p>Late Minoan period in Crete. Rebuilding of the palace of Knossos, painted frescoes</p> <p>Beginning of the Greek Alphabet (from the Phoenicians) Foundation of Corinth Phoenicians import tin from mines in England (tin used for making bronze)</p> <p>1,300-1,200 BCE War between Hittites and Egypt - exhausts both empires</p>
<p>1,290 BCE</p>	<p>Moses leads the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt.</p>			

**A Timeline of Israel in Context with World Events - Part 3
Joshua and the Judges, ca. 1,300 - 1,050 BCE**

For a rough comparison with archaeological periods:

Technological level in Middle East	Egypt	Mainland Greece
Late Bronze Age ca. 1,500-1,200 BCE	New Kingdom ca. 1,575-1,200 BCE	Late Helladic (Mycenean) ca. 1,550-1,150 BCE
Iron Age I, 1,200 - 1,000 BCE		1,150-750 BCE The Greek Dark Ages

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Date	Israel	Elsewhere
1,200 BCE	1,290 BCE The Exodus - Moses leads the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. 1,250 BCE Joshua leads the Israelites into Canaan 1,250 - 1,200 BCE Conquest of Canaan	Rameses II of Egypt, rules 1,290 - 1,224 BCE Collapse of Hittite empire The "Epic of Gilgamesh" 1,235-1,198 BCE Tukulti-Ninurta of Assyria conquers Babylon Philistines settle in Canaan
1,100 BCE	1,200 - 1,020 BCE Period of the Judges	1,200-1,100 BCE The "Dorian Invasion" (?) of Greece - Greek society declined, towns abandoned, trade disrupted, lost the knowledge of writing. Homer composed the Troy saga (10 epic songs, of which 2 survive to the present) Phoenicians trading in the Mediterranean 1,193 BCE Destruction of Troy VI

		<p>1,170-612 BCE the Assyrian empire. Assyrians were a Semitic people from northern Mesopotamia</p> <p>1,146-1,123 BCE Nebuchadnezzar I of Babylon</p> <p>1,116-1,077 BCE Tiglath-pileser of Assyria conquers Syria and Armenia</p>
1,000 BCE	<p>1,050 BCE Fall of Shiloh</p> <p>Samuel the Prophet</p> <p>1,020 - 922 BCE The United Monarchy</p> <p>Saul, King 1,020 - 1,000 BCE?</p> <p>Wars with Philistines and others</p>	

A Timeline of Israel - Part 4 - The United Kingdom, ca. 1,050 - 931 BCE

All dates, particularly the earlier ones, are approximate.

Date	Israel	Elsewhere
1,050 - 1,010 BCE	<p>1,050 BCE fall of Shiloh Samuel the Prophet.</p> <p>1,020 - 1,000 BC ? Saul, King.</p> <p>Wars with Philistines and others</p>	<p>1,100-800 BCE "Dark Ages" of Greece</p> <p>Greek society declined, towns abandoned, trade disrupted, lost the knowledge of writing.</p>
1,010 - 970 BCE	<p>David as King, captures Jerusalem and makes it the capital of the Israelite Kingdom.</p>	<p>Homer composed the Troy saga (10 epic songs, of which 2 survive to the present)</p>
length uncertain	<p>Co-Regency of David & Solomon</p>	
970 - 931 BCE	<p>Solomon as King</p>	

BCE

	959-952 BCE, Building of the Temple	
931 BCE	The Divided Monarchy - Split between the southern kingdom of Judah, with Rehoboam as King, and the northern kingdom of Israel with Jeroboam I as King	

A Timeline of Israel in Context with World Events - Part 5 The Divided Monarchy, ca. 931 - 586 BCE

For a rough comparison with other periods:

Technological level in Middle East	Rome	Mainland Greece
Iron Age II B& C	753-510 BCE Royal Period (The Seven Kings of Rome)	800-500 BCE Archaic Period

All dates, particularly the earlier ones, are approximate.
References to "ANET" are to the book "Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament" edited by James B. Pritchard

The Divided Monarchy			
Judah	Prophets	Israel	Elsewhere
931-913 Rehoboam	Ahijah	931-910	935-914 BCE Sheshonq I (Shishak) of Egypt
913-911 Abijah	Shemaiah a "man of God"	Jeroboam I chose Shechem as his first capital, later moved to Tirzah	
911-870 Asa		910-909 Nadab (son of Jeroboam)	
	Jehu, son of Hanani	909-886 Baasha (killed Nadab)	900-800 BCE Etruscans settling in Italy, introduce horse-drawn chariots

			900-800 BCE Carthage founded by Phoenicians
		886-885 Elah (son of Baasha)	
		885 Zimri (killed Elah) reigned 7 days, committed suicide. Omri chosen as king by some of the people	
		885-880(?) War between Tibni and Omri	
		885-874 Omri (killed Tibni)	880-842 BCE Benhadad I of Damascus
		879 Omri moved the capital of Israel from Tirzah to his new city of Samaria	883-859 BCE Ashurnazipal II of Assyria
		874-853 Ahab (son of Omri) killed in battle	859-824 BCE Shalmanezar III of Assyria
870-848 Jehoshaphat	Elijah	Jezebel as queen	Assyrians conquer most of Mesopotamia,
	"sons of the prophets"	Ahab and Jezebel's daughter Athaliah married Jehoram, crown prince of Judah	Develop the policy of deporting conquered peoples to other lands to prevent nationalistic revolts
	Micaiah	853-851 Ahaziah (son of Ahab) accidental death	

<p>853(coregency)-841 Jehoram (Joram) married to Athaliah, daughter of Ahab</p>	<p>"sons of the prophets" Elisha</p>	<p>852-841 Joram (Jehoram) (another son of Ahab) killed by Jehu</p>	<p>853 BCE Battle of Karkar in Syria - Shalmanezer records that at that battle "10,000 foot soldiers of Ahab the Israelite" along with soldiers from 11 other kings, fought against him. (ANET 278-79)</p> <p>Assyrians destroy the city of Babylon, and made Nineveh their capital. They later thought that the god Marduk was angry with them for destroying his city, and rebuilt Babylon</p> <p>Mesha of Moab. The "Moabite Stone" claims that Mesha broke free of Israel during the reign of Ahab</p>
<p>841 Ahaziah (son of Jehoram and Athaliah) killed by Jehu</p>		<p>841-814 Jehu (killed Joram & Ahaziah)</p>	<p>841 BCE Shalmanezer III of Assyria invades Damascus and Israel, and exacts tribute from Jehu. The "Black Obelisk" of Shalmanezer (now in the British Museum) shows a king identified as Jehu, kneeling before Shalmanezer, and claims "the tribute of Jehu, son of Omri : I received from him silver, gold, a golden bowl, a golden vase with pointed bottom,</p>
<p>841 Queen Athaliah (killed all the royal family except Jehosheba and Joash)</p>			
<p>835-796 Joash (Jehoash) (son of Ahaziah) assassinated</p>			

			<p>golden tumblers, golden buckets, tin, a staff for a king, . . . " (ANET 281) "son of Omri" - Shalmanezer was either not aware of the details of Jehu's accession, or was using the term to mean that Jehu was ruling the region that Omri used to dominate</p> <p>842-806 BCE Hazael of Damascus</p>
		814-798 Jehoahaz (son of Jehu)	<p>813 BCE Foundation of Carthage as a Phoenician colony and center for trade in the Mediterranean</p> <p>803 BCE Adad-nirari III of Assyria invades Syria (ANET 281-82)</p> <p>800 BCE Greece beginning to recover from the "Dark Ages". Foundation of "city-states" Foundation of Greek colonies around the Mediterranean</p>
796-767 Amaziah ca. 792 taken prisoner by Jehoash of Israel 767 assassinated	Jonah (?)	798-782 Jehoash (Joash) (son of Jehoahaz)	
792(regency)-740 Uzziah (Azariah) 750 became a leper	Amos Isaiah	793(coregency)-753 Jeroboam II	

	Hosea Micah	753 Zachariah (son of Jeroboam II) reigned 6 months	753 BCE (by tradition) Romulus founds Rome, introduces a 10 month annual calendar
		752 Shallum (killed Zachariah) reigned 1 month	750-725 BCE The Iliad put into writing 743-713 BCE The Odyssey put into writing
		752-742 Menahem (killed Shallum)	Assyrians begin to adopt Aramaic as their language
		742-740 Pekahiah (son of Menahem)	740-732 BCE Rezin of Damascus
750(coregency)-732 Jotham		752(disputed claim to kingship)-732 Pekah (killed Pekahiah)	745-727 "Pul" (Tiglath-pileser III) of Assyria
735(coregency)-716 Ahaz		732-722 Hoshea (killed Pekah)	727-722 BCE Shalmanezar V of Assyria, invades Israel
727(coregency)-698 Hezekiah <i>701 Sennacherib of Assyria invades Judah and besieges Jerusalem. Hezekiah builds a water-tunnel and withstands siege.</i>		722 BCE Fall of Samaria to Shalmaneser V and/or Sargon II, kings of Assyria. End of the Northern Kingdom. Various conquered peoples were moved into the area by the Assyrians. They became the "Samaritans"	
		722-705 BCE Sargon II of Assyria, conquers the Hittites, the Chaldeans, and Samaria 705-681 BCE Sennacherib of Assyria 721-710 BCE Merodach-baladan king of Babylonia, splits from the Assyrian empire. 710 BCE Sargon regains control of Babylon. Merodach-baladan flees to Elam until 701 BCE when he reclaims Babylon	

	<p>700 BCE Sennacherib ousts Merodach-baladan, who flees to Elam once more, and dies ca. 694 BCE</p> <p>701 BCE Sennacherib of Assyria invades Judah, lays siege to Jerusalem. Sennacherib's accounts of the campaign are given on the "Sennacherib Prism" (now in the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago) and the "Taylor Prism" (now in the British Museum)</p> <p>715-672 BCE Numa Pompilius, second king of Rome, adds January and February to Romulus' 10-month calendar</p> <p>690-664 BCE Pharaoh Tirhakah of Egypt's 25th (Ethiopian) dynasty (defeated at Eltekeh by Sennacherib)</p>
<p>698-643 Manasseh 652-647 prisoner in Assyria</p>	<p>681-669 BCE Esarhaddon of Assyria (son of Sennacherib)</p> <p>669-633 BCE Assurbanipal of Assyria (son of Esarhaddon) begins to assemble a library in Nineveh of all the literature of Mesopotamia (30,000 tablets from this library have been uncovered)</p> <p>652 BCE Ashurbanipal takes Manasseh as a prisoner to Assyria</p> <p>ca. 650 BCE Zarathustra (Zoroaster) founds Zoroastrianism, a dualistic religion which inspired the Persians to a program of conquest. The Persians were an Indo-European people living to the north of the Persian Gulf, away from the main areas of political unrest and war.</p> <p>Within 100 years of Zoroaster's teaching, the Persians, under Cyrus, founded a great empire and set about trying to conquer the whole world for Zoroastrianism.</p>

<p>643-641 Amon assassinated</p>	<p>Jeremiah Nahum Zephaniah</p>	<p>640 BCE Sparta (in Greece) develops a military system of society (to keep their slaves from revolting and overwhelming them) 640-560 BCE Solon of Athens, reforms system of law</p>
<p>641-609 Josiah</p>	<p>Habakkuk Obadiah (?)</p>	<p>626 BCE Scythians (semi-nomadic fighters from what is now Armenia) invade Syria, Palestine and Assyria 626-605 BCE Nabopolassar of Babylon 612 BCE Fall of Nineveh & the Assyrian Empire to Nabopolassar. Nineveh burnt to the ground. The Assyrian army fought on for about another 2 years, then was defeated at Haran 624-545 BCE Thales of Miletus, Greek philosopher</p>
<p>609 Jehoahaz reigned 3 months, taken as a prisoner to Egypt</p>		<p>609 BCE Pharaoh Neco marches north to engage Babylon at the battle of Carchemish. Josiah and Judah were in the way. Neco killed Josiah, took Jehoahaz captive to Egypt, where he died. Neco chose another of Josiah's sons, Eliakim, renamed him Jehoiakim, and made him puppet-king of Jerusalem.</p>
<p>609-598 Jehoiakim</p>		<p>605-562 BCE Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon 605 BCE Battle of Carchemish - Nebuchadnezzar defeats Pharaoh Neco, invades Judah</p>

605 BCE Hostages, including Daniel, taken from Jerusalem to Babylon

		<p>601 BCE Nebuchadnezzar fails in an attack on Egypt. Jehoiakim stops paying tribute to Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar gets ready to retaliate.</p>
<p>598-597 Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim, reigned 3 months, taken as a prisoner to Babylon</p>		<p>597 BCE Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon invades Judah again, takes Jehoiachin and thousands of Jews, including Ezekiel, as prisoners to Babylon</p>
<p>597-586 Zedekiah taken as a prisoner to Babylon</p>	<p>(?) Obadiah, Prophet Ezekiel and then Daniel taken as hostages to Babylon Jeremiah, Prophet, survives the Fall of Jerusalem, and is probably taken to Egypt and killed.</p>	<p>597 BCE Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon makes Mattaniah, youngest son of Josiah, king of Judah, and changes his name to Zedekiah</p> <p>588 BCE Zedekiah refuses to pay tribute to Nebuchadnezzar, breaks his oath of allegiance. Nebuchadnezzar invades Judah, besieges Jerusalem</p> <p>Prisoners deported from Judah to Babylon, 597 BCE, 587 BCE, & 582 BCE</p> <p>594 BCE The Reforms of Solon - reorganization of Athenian society; implemented by Peisistratus (further reforms 508-502 BCE) by Cleisthenes, leading to Athenian Democracy</p>
<p>586 Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon besieged Jerusalem, took Zedekiah as a prisoner to Babylon. Fall of Jerusalem Babylonian captivity begins</p>		

A Timeline of Israel in Context with World Events - Part 6 The Babylonian Exile 586 - 538 BCE and the Persian Period, ca. 538 - 336 BCE

586 - 538 BCE The Babylonian Exile : During the Babylonian Exile the Jews forged a national identity, and became known as "Jews" (Judahites) rather than Israelites. Synagogues were formed for teaching and worship. Many of the religious traditions and teachings of the Jews were now put into writing instead of being passed down by word of mouth. The Hebrew language developed into Aramaic and the "square script" was adopted for writing.

All dates, particularly the earlier ones, are approximate.

Rome	Greece
753-510 BCE Kingdom of Rome 510 BCE Tarquin last king of Rome	750-500 BCE "Archaic Age"
510-27 BCE Republic of Rome	462-408 BCE "Classical Age", also called the "Athenian Age" or the "Age of Athens" or the "Age of Pericles"
	404-371 BCE Spartan Hegemony (not an Empire, but Sparta in control of the other city-states of Greece).
	371-362 BCE Theban Hegemony
	362-355 BCE Second Athenian Empire
The family of Cyrus - the Achaemenid dynasty	
Medes	Persia
	700-675 BCE Achaemenes
ca.670-650 BCE Phraortes (Kashtariti ?) unites the Medes against the Assyrians, fights Teispes of Persia	675-640 BCE Teispes (Chishpish) son of Achaemenes
(645-625 BCE Scythian invasion?) 625-585 BCE Cyaxares, son of Phraortes 585-550 BCE Astyages, son of Cyaxares	640-600 BCE Cyrus I, son of Teispes 600-559 BCE Cambyses I, son of Cyrus I

Mandana, daughter of Astyages, married Cambyses I of Persia, became the mother of Cyrus II

559-530 BCE Cyrus II, son of Cambyses I and Mandana, daughter of Astyages

550 BCE Cyrus II leads a Persian revolt against his Median grandfather Astyages, takes control of Persia and starts to build an empire

529-522 BCE Cambyses, son of Cyrus II, invades Egypt
Cambyses murders his brother and marries his own three sisters, Atossa, Roxane or Meroe(?) who was kicked to death by Cambyses, and Artystone. He died of gangrene from an accidental sword cut, while on his way back from Egypt to Persia to deal with a palace revolt. He had no surviving sons. Atossa survived Cambyses and eventually married Darius I, by whom she became the mother of Xerxes

522-486 BCE Darius I (the Great). Darius claimed descent from a collateral branch of the Achaemenids : Achaemenes - Teispes - Ariaramnes - Arsames - Hystaspes – Darius

486-465 BCE Xerxes (Ahasuerus) son of Darius I and Atossa, daughter of Cyrus; assassinated by a courtier

464-424 BCE Artaxerxes I (Longimanus) son of Xerxes

423-405 BCE Darius II (Nothus)

404-359 BCE Artaxerxes II

358-338 BCE Artaxerxes III, poisoned by his general Bagoas

335-330 BCE Darius III (Codomannus) conquered by Alexander

approx. dates	Israel	Babylon/Persia	Elsewhere
600 - 550 BCE	587/586 Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon besieges Jerusalem. Fall of Jerusalem.	625-585 BCE Cyaxares king of the Medes 612 BCE Fall of Nineveh to Nabopolassar of Babylon Cyaxares and Nabopolassar form an alliance	604 BCE Lao-tse, Chinese philosopher, founder of Daoism

		<p>Crown prince Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon marries a Median princess, builds the hanging gardens of Babylon for her</p> <p>586 BCE Jews deported, Babylonian captivity begins. Ezekiel, Daniel</p>	
<p>550 - 500 BCE</p>		<p>550-539 BCE Nabonidus of Babylon. Nabonidus gave "Sin" the Assyrian moon-god precedence over "Marduk" the god of Babylon. Priests of Marduk led rebellion and welcomed Cyrus into Babylon.</p> <p>559-530 BCE Cyrus the Persian</p>	<p>560-546 BCE Croesus of Lydia conquers Greek city-states in Anatolia (Asia Minor)</p> <p>546 BCE Persians conquered Croesus and the Lydians</p> <p>581-497 BCE Pythagoras, Greek philosopher and mathematician</p>

		<p>550 BCE Cyrus overthrows the Kingdom of the Medes</p> <p>539 BCE Cyrus conquers Babylon, and founds the Persian Empire, with the capital at Susa (Shushan).</p> <p>538 BCE "Edict of Cyrus" allows Jews to return and rebuild the Temple at Jerusalem under the leadership of Zerubbabel. <i>The majority of the Jews remain in Babylon</i></p>	<p>551-479 BCE Kung Fu-tse (Confucius), Chinese philosopher</p> <p>550-480 BCE Siddartha Gautama Buddha, founder of Buddhism</p>
		<p>530-522 BCE Cambyses (son of Cyrus)</p>	<p>525 BCE Cambyses conquers Egypt and has himself made "Pharaoh"</p> <p>Jewish mercenaries were settled in a garrison at Elephantine, an island in the Upper Nile; numerous papyri from the Jewish community at Elephantine have been discovered</p>
<p>520-515 BCE : One set of possible dates for the rebuilding of the Temple : Ezra & Nehemiah as leaders, Haggai & Zechariah as Prophets</p>		<p>522 - 486 BCE Darius I "the Great" (son of Cambyses), divides the Empire into provinces called satrapies.</p>	<p>510 BCE Rome becomes a Republic</p> <p>508-502 BCE The Reforms of Cleisthenes give Athens a Democracy</p>

		<p>518 BCE Darius has the Behistun inscription carved - a record of his achievements carved into a sheer rock cliff. Darius also had a canal dug between the Nile and the Red Sea so that ships could go from Egypt to Persia</p> <p>516 BCE Darius conquers the "Hindush" region along the Indus River</p>	
<p>500 - 450 BCE</p>		<p>499-495 BCE Ionian revolt (unsuccessful) (Greeks of Asia Minor, helped by Athens, against Persia)</p> <p>495 BCE Darius I of Persia regains control of Greek city-states of Anatolia</p> <p>490-449 BCE the "Persian Wars" between Greek city-states and Persia : end in victory for Greek cities, stop westward advance of Persia.</p> <p>490 BCE Darius I of Persia loses the Battle of Marathon against Miltiades and the Athenians (in Greece)</p> <p>487 BCE the introduction of "ostracism" at Athens (Ostracism was a way of banishing for 10 years anyone thought to be trying to make himself a dictator)</p> <p>486-465 BCE Xerxes I (Ahasuerus); makes Esther his Queen, is assassinated in 465 BCE</p> <p>483 BCE Themistocles builds a navy, founds Athenian sea-power</p>	

		<p>480 BCE Battles of Thermopylae, Salamis (in Greece) Xerxes I defeated and driven out by the Greeks</p> <p>478 BCE The "Delian League", (on the island of Delos) Athens, led by Cimon (son of Miltiades) and other Greek cities swear to support one another and fight against Persia</p> <p>478 BCE Themistocles rebuilds the walls of Athens, fortifies the harbor of Piraeus</p> <p>461 BCE Pericles supplants Cimon in Athens, rivalry with Sparta increases</p>	
<p>450 - 400 BCE</p>	<p>Malachi (?), Prophet</p> <p>Another set of possible dates for the rebuilding of Jerusalem:</p> <p>458 BCE Ezra goes to Jerusalem</p> <p>(?) 445 BCE Nehemiah made governor of Jerusalem for 12 years. Nehemiah returns to Persia and is soon re-appointed governor of Jerusalem. (other possible dates for Ezra are 428 BCE and 398 BCE)</p>	<p>465 - 424 BCE Artaxerxes I (son of Xerxes I)</p> <p>423 BCE Xerxes II (assassinated)</p> <p>423-404 BCE Darius II</p>	<p>500-429 BCE Pericles, Greek statesman</p> <p>496-406 BCE Sophocles, Greek dramatist</p> <p>484-406 BCE Euripides, Greek dramatist</p> <p>485-424 BCE Herodotus, Greek historian</p> <p>470-399 BCE Socrates, Greek philosopher</p> <p>460-377 BCE Hippocrates, Greek physician</p> <p>450-387 BCE Aristophanes, Greek dramatist</p>

	<p><i>Ezra carried out a reformation of the Jewish community, putting its life firmly on the basis of the "Law" (Torah), and giving it the vitality to withstand centuries of domination by foreign powers.</i></p> <p>The History of Israel as given in the Old Testament stops here.</p> <p>411 BCE Bagoas (a Persian) made governor of Jerusalem.</p> <p><i>The land of Israel becomes a region administered by Persia.</i></p> <p><i>The Jews of Jerusalem are "ruled" by High Priests who form a hereditary dynasty. Large communities of Jews remain in Babylon or settle in Egypt</i></p>		<p>430-354 BCE Xenophon, Greek historian and soldier</p> <p>427-347 BCE Plato, Greek philosopher</p> <p>449 BCE End of the war between Athens and Persia (neither side won, both sides lost)</p> <p>445 BCE Pericles makes a "30-year peace treaty" (it lasted 14 years) between Athens and Sparta. The Athenian Empire was validated as a political institution Athens becomes wealthy, starts to build the Acropolis and the Agora; great flowering of Athenian culture and civilization Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes</p> <p>431-421 BCE The Peloponnesian War between Sparta and Athens (neither side won, both sides lost), destruction of the Athenian navy and of Athenian Democracy</p>
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			<p>433 BCE Death of Pericles</p> <p>430-423 BCE Plague decimates Athens</p> <p>421 BCE The "Peace of Nicias", a 50-year peace treaty (which lasted for about 6 years) signed by Athens and Sparta</p> <p>404 BCE Athens surrendered to Sparta; Spartans tore down the walls and barred Athens from having a navy.</p> <p>End of the "Age of Athens"</p> <p>401 BCE Egypt breaks free of Persian rule.</p>
<p>400 - 336 BCE</p>		<p>404-358 BCE Artaxerxes II</p> <p>358-338 BCE Artaxerxes III, re-conquers Egypt 342 BCE</p> <p>338-336 BCE Arses of Persia</p> <p>336-330 BCE Darius III (flees from Alexander and is assassinated)</p>	<p>401-343 BCE Dynasties XXVIII, XXIX, XXX of Egypt, the last "Pharaohs" or native rulers.</p> <p>387 BCE Gauls invade and burn Rome to the ground</p> <p>399 BCE Socrates put to death</p>

			<p>400-330 BCE Praxiteles, Greek sculptor</p> <p>384-322 BCE Aristotle, Greek philosopher</p> <p>384-322 BCE Demosthenes, Greek statesman and orator</p> <p>395-387 BCE the "Corinthian War", Athens, Corinth and Argos rebel against Sparta. Athens rebuilds the town and the walls, starts to rebuild a navy (nobody won, everybody lost)</p> <p>394 BCE Persia signs a peace treaty and puts Sparta in charge of Greece.</p> <p>371 BCE Sparta invades Thebes (city-state in Greece); Thebes and Athens form an alliance and defeat Sparta</p> <p>359 BCE Philip II usurps the throne of Macedon</p> <p>355 BCE The Second Athenian Confederation of city-states broke</p>
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			<p>down; Greece became a collection of small city-states without much political power</p> <p>349 BCE Philip of Macedon begins a conquest of Greek city-states</p> <p>343 BCE Philip of Macedon hires Aristotle as the teacher for Alexander</p> <p>338 BCE Philip of Macedon conquers Athens and gains control of all Greece except Sparta</p> <p>337 BCE Philip of Macedon prepares to attack Persia</p> <p>336 BCE Philip of Macedon assassinated</p>
<p>336 - 323 BCE</p>	<p>Alexander the Great conquers all of the Middle East Greek becomes the language of commerce Alexander the Great, born 356 BCE, succeeded to the throne of his father Philip II of Macedon 336 BCE (at the age of 21).</p> <p>In 334 BCE Alexander began the conquest of the Persian Empire with 30,000 infantry, 5,000 cavalry, no navy, and no money.</p> <p>333 BCE Invades Israel 332 BCE Takes Jerusalem and also founds the city of Alexandria in Egypt</p> <p>331 BCE Defeats Darius III of Persia 330 BCE Enters Babylon 327 BCE Invades India</p>		

	<p>326 BCE His troops refuse to go further, and his generals force him to turn back.</p> <p>323 BCE Dies in Babylon.</p> <p>The empire was carved up between Alexander's generals, Ptolemy, Seleucis, and Antigonus.</p> <p>His mother, his brother, his wife and his posthumous son were murdered in the fight for power which ensued.</p> <p>His general Ptolemy took his body to Egypt for burial.</p>
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A Timeline of Israel - Part 7: Alexander & the Hellenistic Period 333 - 63 BCE

Greek culture predominates throughout the Middle East. A form of the Greek language becomes the lingua franca for the whole region - the "Common Language" or the "Koine". Koine Greek is the language in which the New Testament is eventually written. The land of Israel is in the path of the two main empires, Egypt and Persia, and becomes a pawn in the political struggles.

All dates are approximate.

<p>Alexander the Great, born 356 BCE, succeeded to the throne of his father Philip II of Macedon 336 BCE. In 334 BCE Alexander began the conquest of the Persian Empire</p> <p>333 BCE Invades Israel</p> <p>332 BCE Takes Jerusalem and also founds the city of Alexandria in Egypt</p> <p>331 BCE Defeats Darius III of Persia</p> <p>330 BCE Enters Babylon</p> <p>327 BCE Invades India</p> <p>326 BCE His troops refuse to go further, and his generals force him to turn back</p> <p>323 BCE Dies in Babylon</p> <p>The empire was divided amongst his generals Seleucis, Ptolemy, and Antigonus.</p> <p>His mother, his wife and his posthumous son were murdered in the fight for power which ensued.</p>

<p>His general Ptolemy took his body to Egypt for burial.</p> <p>The Empire was carved up between Alexander's generals, Ptolemy, Seleucis, and Antigonus</p> <p>Greek becomes the language of commerce</p>		
<p>Persia and Palestine Seleucid Dynasty 312-64 BCE</p>	<p>Egypt Ptolemeic Dynasty</p>	<p>Elsewhere</p>
<p>Seleucis takes Persia and parts of Asia Minor, founds the Seleucid dynasty with Antioch as the capital city. The Seleucid dynasty was marked by internal strife and a weakening of the kingdom until it was taken by Tigranes of Armenia, 83 BCE and annexed to the Roman Empire by Pompey in 64 BCE</p>	<p>Ptolemy Soter takes Egypt and Syro-Phoenicia (including Israel/Palestine), founds the dynasty of the Ptolemies (I - IX), Cleopatra Bernice, Ptolemies X - XII, Cleopatra VII - the one who had a child by Julius Caesar, married Marc Anthony, and committed suicide when defeated by Augustus in 31 BCE</p>	<p>Antigonus took Phrygia (in what is now Turkey), but was defeated by Ptolemy and Seleucis in the battle of Gaza (312 BCE).</p> <p>312-301 BCE Antigonus I ruled Judah until he was killed at the Battle of the kings (Ipsus, 301 BCE)</p> <p>Palestine then reverted to Seleucid rule</p> <p>Antipater and his son Cassander took Macedon and Greece</p>
<p>Ptolemies</p>		<p>Seleucids</p>
<p>323-283 BCE Ptolemy I, founder of the library of Alexandria</p>	<p>312-280 BCE Seleucis I Nicator, founder of Antioch</p>	
<p>283-247 BCE Ptolemy II Philadelphus, murdered his brother, married his own sister, Arsinoe Enlarged the Library at Alexandria; under his direction.</p>	<p>280-261 BCE Antiochus I Soter 261-246 BCE Antiochus II Theos</p>	

<p>The Hebrew Scriptures were translated into Greek (the Septuagint, "LXX", named because of tradition that 70, or 72, Jewish scholars worked on the translation)</p>	
<p>247-221 BCE Ptolemy III Euergetes (Benefactor)</p>	<p>246-226 BCE Seleucis II Callinicus 226-223 BCE Seleucis III Keroneos</p>
<p>221-203 BCE Ptolemy IV Philopater 203-181 BCE Ptolemy V Epiphanes</p>	<p>222-187 BCE Antiochus III The Great</p>
<p>198 BCE Antiochus III invaded Palestine, defeated Ptolemy V Epiphanes at the Battle of Paneas (Banyas). Antiochus was restrained from invasion of Egypt by Rome, which declared Egypt a Roman Protectorate. Antiochus and Ptolemy signed a treaty which transferred Palestine from Egypt to the Seleucid Empire; Ptolemy married the daughter of Antiochus</p>	
<p>180-146 BCE Ptolemy VI Philometor</p>	<p>187-175 BCE Seleucis IV Philopator (murdered). Because he had to find money to pay tribute to Rome, he attempted to plunder the Temple in Jerusalem, and raised taxes throughout the land</p> <p>175-163 BCE Antiochus IV Epiphanes, brother of Seleucis IV. Because of the terrors of his rule his description was changed from "Epiphanes" ("shining out", a divine title, to "Epimanes", "the maniac"). He attempted to impose Greek and pagan worship and practices on the Jews, and sparked the Macabean Revolt.</p> <p>163-162 BCE Antiochus V Eupator 162-150 BCE Demetrius I</p> <p>150 BCE Demetrius II vs. Alexander Balas</p> <p>150-145 BCE Alexander Balas</p>
<p>145-117 BCE Ptolemy VII (Euergetes II)</p>	<p>145-139 BCE Demetrius II 139-134 BCE Antiochus VII</p>

General Time Line of People and Events
<p>336 BCE Zeno, Greek philosopher, founder of the Stoic school</p> <p>323 BCE Euclid's "Elements" fundamentals of geometry</p> <p>307 BCE Ptolemy Soter begins to build the Museum and Library of Alexandria</p>
<p>287-212 BCE Archimedes, Greek mathematician</p>
<p>285 BCE Ptolemy Soter abdicates in favor of his son</p>
<p>285-247 BCE Ptolemy II Philadelphus, who commissioned the translation of the Hebrew Scriptures into Greek - the Septuagint (ca. 255 BCE)</p>
<p>276-194 BCE Eratosthenes, Greek mathematician, postulates a spherical earth which moves around the sun, and estimates the circumference of the earth</p>
<p>264-241 BCE First Punic War (between Rome and Carthage) Carthage lost Sicily to Rome. ("Punic" comes from "Poeni" the Latin name for the Carthaginians, referring to their Phoenician origins)</p>
<p>ca. 250 BCE Parchment produced at Pergamum</p>
<p>247-221 BCE Ptolemy III Euergetes (Egypt)</p>
<p>247-182 BCE Hannibal, Carthaginian general</p>
<p>246 BCE Antiochus II Theos, killed by his wife, and succeeded by his son Seleucis II Callinicus</p>
<p>233-183 BCE Scipio Africanis the Elder, Roman general</p>
<p>223-187 BCE Antiochus III, wins the battles of Gaza (200 BCE) and Baniyas (198 BCE)</p>
<p>218-201 BCE Second Punic War. Hannibal crosses the Alps with his elephants, wins several major battles, but loses the war</p>
<p>215-146 BCE Macedonian Wars between Philip V and Rome, end in the conquest of Greece</p>
<p>202 BCE Scipio defeats Hannibal at Zama (Africa)</p>

ca. 200 BCE Rosetta Stone inscription in Egyptian Hieroglyphics, Demotic, and Greek (its discovery in 1799 made it possible for Champolion to decipher Hieroglyphics in 1821)

198 BCE Antiochus III of Syria seizes **Palestine and Judah** from Egypt

190 BCE Battle of Magnesia - Antiochus III defeated by Scipio

189 BCE Armenia breaks free from Seleucid rule

185-129 BCE Scipio Africanus the Younger, Roman general (adopted grandson of Scipio Africanus the Elder)

182 BCE Hannibal commits suicide

172-168 BCE War between Macedon and Rome : Rome wins, puts Macedon under Roman governorship. Rome sets out to conquer the world

168 BCE Antiochus IV Epiphanes prohibits Judaism, sells the appointment to the High Priesthood, and desecrates the Temple, thereby touching off the **Macabean Revolt**

165 BCE Judas Macabaeus rededicates the Temple - commemorated ever since as **Hanukah**, the **Festival of Lights**

164 BCE Death of Antiochus IV Epiphanes; succeeded by his son Antiochus V Eupator

162 BCE Demetrius I Soter (son of Seleucus IV) has Antiochus V killed

161 BCE Judas Macabaeus killed in battle

150 BCE Demetrius I killed in battle

149-146 BCE Third Punic War ends in the destruction of Carthage by Rome

146 BCE Rome conquers Greece and destroys Corinth. Roman society becomes Hellenized - influenced by Greek culture and customs

144 BCE Jonathan Macabaeus assassinated

144-135 BCE Simon Macabaeus becomes leader of the Jews

142 BCE Simon Macabaeus gains independence from the Seleucids

141-63 BCE The **Hasmonean Dynasty** of ruling High Priests founded by Simon Macabaeus

141 BCE formation of the Sanhedrin to interpret and enforce the laws of Judaism

135 BCE Assassination of Simon Macabaeus and his sons Mattathias and Judas

135-104 BCE John Hyrcanus, son of Simon Macabaeus rules as Jewish High Priest; forcibly converts the Idumeans (descendents of the Edomites) to Judaism

112-105 BCE African wars between Rome and Jugurtha of Numidia

106-43 BCE Cicero, Roman orator and politician

105 BCE Sulla and Marius defeat Jugurtha

100-44 BCE Julius Caesar

90 BCE Civil war in Rome, Marius vs. Sulla. Sulla wins

71 BCE Revolt of slaves and gladiators in Rome, led by Spartacus, put down by Pompey and Crassus

70-19 BCE Virgil, Roman poet

69 BCE Hyrcanus II deposed (Israel)

65-8 BCE Horace, Roman poet

64 BCE Roman occupation of Palestine

63 BCE Pompey makes Palestine part of the Roman province of Syria

63 BCE - CE 14 Gaius Octavius (Augustus)

59 BCE First Triumvirate of Rome (Caesar, Crassus & Pompey)

47 BCE Cleopatra of Egypt has Pompey murdered

47 BCE Library of Alexandria burned

47 BCE Herod made governor of Galilee

46 BCE The Julian Calendar - leap years introduced

44 BCE Julius Caesar assassinated in Rome

43 BCE - CE 18 Ovid, Roman poet

40-4 BCE Rule of Herod I (the Great)

37 BCE Herod the Great captures Jerusalem, has Antigonus II executed, marries Mariamne I (a Hasmonean princess), and styles himself "King of the Jews"

31 BCE Battle of Actium: Mark Anthony and Cleopatra are defeated by Octavian and commit suicide. Egypt is made a Roman province

30 BCE - CE 14 Octavian takes the name Augustus and founds the Roman Empire

20 BCE Herod the Great starts to rebuild and extend the Temple in Jerusalem. The project continued until CE 62

A Timeline of Israel in Context with World Events – Part 8
Rome, Revolts and the Destruction of Jerusalem

63 BCE - CE 200

100-44 BCE Julius Caesar of Rome

90 BCE Civil war in Rome, Marius vs. Sulla. Sulla wins

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59 BCE First Triumvirate of Rome (Caesar, Crassus & Pompey)

49-46 BCE Civil war between Julius Caesar and Pompey

47 BCE Cleopatra VII of Egypt has Pompey murdered

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47 BCE Herod made governor of Galilee

46 BCE Julius Caesar appointed Dictator of Rome

46 BCE The Julian Calendar - leap years introduced

44 BCE Julius Caesar assassinated in Rome; civil war breaks out

43 BCE - CE 18 Ovid, Roman poet

40-4 BCE Rule of Herod I (the Great) of Palestine

37 BCE Herod the Great captures Jerusalem, has Antigonus II executed, marries Mariamne I (a Hasmonean princess), and styles himself "King of the Jews"

36-30 BCE Civil war in Rome between Octavian (Augustus) and Mark Anthony

31 BCE Battle of Actium: Mark Anthony of Rome and Cleopatra VII of Egypt are defeated by Octavian and commit suicide. Egypt is made a Roman province

30 BCE - CE 14 Octavian takes the name Augustus and founds the Roman Empire

<p>20 BCE Herod the Great starts to rebuild and extend the Temple in Jerusalem. The project continued until CE 62</p>
<p>CE 14-37 Tiberius Emperor of Rome CE 37-41 Caligula, Emperor of Rome (assassinated) CE 41-54 Claudius, Emperor of Rome (poisoned by his wife Agripina, mother of Nero)</p>
<p>CE 54-68 Nero, Emperor of Rome CE 59 Nero has his mother Agripina killed CE 62 Nero has his wife Octavia killed so that he can marry Popaea CE 65 Nero orders Seneca to commit suicide; Seneca obeys CE 66 First Jewish Revolt (against Rome) CE 68 Nero commits suicide CE 68 Flavius Josephus writes "History of the Jewish War" CE 68-69 Three short-lived Roman Emperors CE 69-79 Vespasian, Emperor of Rome</p> <p>CE 70 Jewish Revolt (against Rome) leads to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans. Johanan ben Zakkai leads a group of Jewish scholars to Jabne (Javne, Jamnia)</p> <p>CE 73 Fall of Masada; Romans began to drive Jews out of Israel, set about destruction of the whole land</p> <p>CE 79-81 Titus (son of Vespasian) Emperor of Rome CE 81-96 Domitian, Emperor of Rome CE 96-98 Nerva, Emperor of Rome CE 98-117 Trajan, Emperor of Rome</p>
<p>ca. CE 100 Assyria converted to Christianity. Assyrian Church of the East engaged in great missionary activity, reaching China and the Mongolian Empire</p> <p>CE 117-138 Hadrian, Emperor of Rome</p> <p>CE 122-135 Second Jewish Revolt : "Bar Kochbah" uprising led by Simon Bar Kochba against Rome</p> <p>CE 135 Romans plough up the remains of Jerusalem, and found another city "Aelia Capitolina" on the site; Jews dispersed throughout the Roman Empire</p> <p>CE 135-ca.250 Jewish scholars move from Jamnia to Usha (near Haifa), start to organize and write down the "halakoth" (Jewish traditional and Oral Laws, not the Pentateuch).</p>

The project was initiated by Rabbi Akiba ben Joseph, continued by Rabbi Meir, and brought to completion by Rabbi Judah ha Nasi. The collection is known as the **Mishnah**

CE 138-161 Antoninus Pius, Emperor of Rome

CE 161-180 Marcus Aurelius, Emperor of Rome

CE 180-192 Commodus (son of Marcus Aurelius) Emperor of Rome, murdered

CE 193-211 Septimus Severus, Emperor of Rome

A Timeline of Israel - Part 9 - Byzantines, Masoretes, Arabs and Crusaders:

CE 135 - 1,200

CE 70 Destruction of the Second Temple. Johanan ben Zakkai forms a center for Jewish learning at Jabnah (Jamnia) by Tiberias in the Galilee

CE 70 - 135 Jamnia becomes a center for Jewish culture

CE 130 Second Jewish Revolt ("Bar Kochbah" uprising) led by Simon Bar Kochba against Rome

CE 135 Hadrian destroys Jerusalem and builds "Aelia Capitolina" on the site. Jews dispersed throughout the Roman Empire

CE 135 Jewish scholars move from Jamnia to Usha (near modern Haifa)

ca. CE 200 The Mishnah codified under Judah ha Nasi

CE 324 Emperor Constantine becomes Christian. His mother St. Helena tours the Holy Land identifying sites of Biblical importance and building churches

ca. CE 350 Founding of the "School of Nisibis" - claimed to be the first University, in Assyria

CE 300-500 The Assyrians translated the Greek scientific, religious, and philosophical writings into Assyrian.

Later - The Assyrian versions were translated into Arabic, and were brought by the Moors to Spain, where they were translated into Latin and helped to ignite the Renaissance of Europe

CE 395 Roman Empire divided into the Western Empire, centered on Rome, and the Eastern Empire, centered on Byzantium (modern Istanbul in Turkey)

CE 395 - 641 Byzantine period in Egypt

Egyptian hieroglyphics drop out of use and their meaning is forgotten
Babylonian Talmud & Jerusalem Talmud

Age of the Masoretes

Jews dispersed throughout Europe and Russia, develop settled cultures in Spain (Ashkenazi), and Rhine valley (Yiddish); subject to restrictions, persecutions, and pogroms by Christians

CE 630 CE The Arab (Islamic) Conquest of the Middle East begins

CE 638 Omar I captures Jerusalem, leaves the Christian shrines alone, starts to build on the Temple Mount (derelict after the Roman destruction of CE 135)

CE 641 Arab Conquest of Egypt

CE 655 - 1,099 First Muslim Period in Israel

CE 691 Construction of the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount by Caliph Abd-al-Malik

CE 1099 Crusaders capture Jerusalem

CE 1187 Saladin captures Jerusalem

CE 1187 - 1918 Second Muslim Period in Israel. Saladin's family (the Ayyubid Dynasty) and successors agree to partition Jerusalem into Muslim and Christian quarters; also welcome Jews back into the city

CE 1229 - 1244 Second Crusader Period. Muslims and Jews barred from Jerusalem.

This period of 15 years is usually not reckoned as one of the major periods in the history of Israel, although it was a period of great building projects, such as the enlargement of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

CE 1300 Timurlane (Tamburlane) the Mongol invades Mesopotamia and destroys most of the cities

CE 1537 - 1541 Suleiman the Magnificent rebuilds and redecorates the city wall of Jerusalem and the Dome of the Rock

A Timeline of Israel - Part 10 - the Formation of Modern Israel

1704 - 1747 Luzzatto revives a biblical style of Hebrew

1822 Champolion deciphers the Egyptian hieroglyphic system from the Rosetta Stone

1832 - 1841 Egyptian Occupation of Israel

1858 - 1922 Ben Yehuda decides to recreate Hebrew as a spoken language, rather than a literary one

1878 Congress of Berlin reaffirms religious liberty and equality throughout the Turkish Empire (included Israel)

1917, Dec. 9 British forces enter Jerusalem. begin modernization of the country

1922 - 1948 British Mandate

1937 3rd edition of Kittel's "Biblia Hebraica" based on a copy dated to CE 1008 in the Leningrad Public Library. This is the edition current today. (Another edition, using a manuscript dated to CE 930, is being prepared by the Hebrew University Bible Project)

1939 - 1945 Hitler attempts to "solve the Jewish problem" by killing millions of Jews

1948, May 14 formation of the State of Israel, opposed by Arab nations. Restoration of Hebrew as the language of Israel

1950 "Law of Return": "Every Jew shall have the right to come to Israel as a permanent settler"

1967, June 5-10 The "Six-Day War" (Arab-Israeli War): Israeli army takes the whole of Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, and the "West Bank" of the Jordan (some of these territories were returned to Arab population later)

-end-