



OLD TESTAMENT FOUNDATIONS



Abraham

2100

Giving of Law
at Sinai

1446

Conquest

1406

United Kingdom
Saul, David, Solomon

1050 1010 970

Divided Kingdom

930

Fall of Israel

722

Captivity of Judah

606

Return of Judah

536

Temple Rebuilt

516

Nehemiah

444

Malachi

425

Daniel 2, 7 →

Babylon

Cyrus' decree (Persia) 538

Alexander's Reign

336

Greece

Maccabean Revolt

167

Rome

Birth of Christ

4

All dates BC

Old Testament Narrative

Around **2100 BC**, God called Abraham out of Ur and he settles in Canaan. The son of promise, Isaac, is born, then Jacob whose name is changed to “Israel.” Joseph is born and sold, becomes a ruler in Egypt, summons his family [**1876**]. Hebrews are made slaves in Egypt for 400+ years.

Around **1446**, God calls Moses to lead the people out of bondage. Moses receives the law, but the people sin and are sentenced to **40 years** in the wilderness.

In **1406**, Moses dies and Joshua takes over, leading the people into the promised land. The land is divided by tribes, but there is no king. Judges rule the land for a period of about 325 years from c. **1375**.

The people demand a king and Saul is chosen in **1050 BC**. He is followed by David (**1010**) and Solomon (**970**). This is the “United Kingdom.”

Old Testament Narrative

After Solomon's death, his son, *Rehoboam* takes over and increases the burden on the people. *Jeroboam* rebels and takes ten tribes and sets up altars in the north, as far as Dan. This is the beginning of the "Divided Kingdom" [930] – Judah & Israel ("don't get the J's together").

Prophets begin to do their work in both kingdoms and other nations.

There are no good kings in the northern kingdom and it falls to Assyria in 722 BC.

Prophets continue to bring God's word to the people, but the people refuse to hear (*Zechariah 7:11*).

In 606 BC, Judah (southern kingdom) is taken captive by Babylon. Two other exiles occur, in 597 BC (Ezekiel) and 586 BC (temple destroyed).

Old Testament Narrative

In 539 BC, Persia defeats Babylon and Cyrus gives a decree allowing the Israelites to return to Jerusalem in 538 BC (see Isaiah 44:28; 45:1).

In 536 BC, the people begin to return, led by Zerubbabel, and the temple is rebuilt in 516 after the prophets Haggai and Zechariah “encourage” the people. 606 - 536 = 70 — *Jeremiah 25:11*

Ezra leads a group back to Jerusalem in 457 BC and the final return occurs under Nehemiah in 444 BC (a total of about 50,000 returned).

The Old Testament closes with a prophecy by Malachi in 425 BC. This ushers in the period of silence (Amos 8:11-12).

In 336 BC, Alexander the Great begins to conquer the world at lightning speed (see Daniel 7:6).

In 167-160 BC, the Maccabean Revolt occurs when Antiochus IV, “Epiphanies,” sacrifices pig’s flesh on the altar in the temple. Judas Maccabeus — “The Hammer” ... The first thing the patriots did was to re-consecrate the profaned Temple, and with this is connected the origin of the Hanukkah feast.



Test Yourself

Fill in the dates under the event

Abraham

Giving of Law at Sinai

Conquest

United Kingdom
Saul, David, Solomon

Divided Kingdom

Fall of Israel

Captivity of Judah

Temple Rebuilt

Nehemiah

Malachi

Return of Judah

Alexander's Reign

Maccabean Revolt

Birth of Christ

All dates BC



Test Yourself

Fill in the events under the date

2100

1446

1406

1050

930

722

606

536

516

444

425

336

167

4

All dates BC