

## Old Testament Survey

### Genesis

Shows the beginnings of the Heavens, Earth, Man, sin, redemption, Israel, and more  
Chapters 1-11 record birth of the world  
Chapters 12-End of OT records Gods dealing with the Jews  
Covers a period of approximately 2500 years  
Abraham-- Isaac-- Jacob—Joseph  
Near the end, Joseph goes to prison then saves Egypt  
App. 70-75 of Jacob's family go into Egypt  
Other Old Testament books written during this time- **Job** (Satan gets permission to test the man of God – Job passes & God comes through)

### Exodus

Begins with approximately 2 1/2 Million Jews in Egypt  
Exodus happened in approximately 1445 B.C.  
Book of Exodus covers about 80 years  
Important chapters=10 records Exodus 20 records Sinai  
Books written during this time – **Leviticus**  
(Holiness is God's chief concern & He requires it from those who approach Him) points to our need of grace

### Numbers

Records wanderings in the wilderness  
The Jews made it to Israel (Canaan) in 2-3 years  
Kadesh Barnea was the turning point in Numbers  
12 spies sent to spy out land  
Chapter 13 records tragic event-people rebel against Moses  
Joshua & Caleb trusted God  
Result of unbelief was wandering until that generation dies off  
At close of Numbers-East bank of Jordan  
There **Deuteronomy** was written  
Deutoros (2nd) nomos (law) 2nd Law  
The law was recapped for new generation on east bank of Jordan  
Moses dies and appoints Joshua to lead Israel

### Joshua

Leads Israel across Jordan into promise land  
After main power bases of the heathen Canaanites were destroyed, smaller armies were still scattered. He divides up the land and the tribes are separated. It was the duty of the tribes to defeat them in their inherited area.  
Length of book is 30 years conquest is 5-7 years  
After the death of Joshua, there was no central leader in Israel  
Last verse in judges - ...did what was right in their own eyes

### Judges

Difficult time in the history of Israel. Individual tribes judged in the absence of a central government  
Israel follows the same circle for many years. People forget God and refused to obey Moses. God causes people to fall captive. They call on God and God sends a deliverer. The Deliverer dies & people backslide the fall captive again.  
Length of time of book-332 years  
The Judges

1. Othniel, 2. Ehud, 3. Shamgar, 4. Deborah, 5. Gideon, 6. Abimelech, 7. Tola, 8. Jair, 9. Jephthah, 10. Ibzan, 11. Elon, 12. Abdon, 13. Samson, 14. Eli, 15. Samuel

Books written during this time –**Ruth** (God has a long-range purpose and will accomplish it – a noble picture of Hebrew life)

### Monarchy

#### 1 Samuel

United Monarchy  
1st Samuel is a transition period. Israel is still young and in training.  
There was a loose confederacy-1 banner over all period  
Samuel appoints first king, Saul, to begin monarchy. He had a good start but a bad finish. God rejected Saul and another king, David was appointed. David is a Messiah  
1 Samuel records the rise & fall of David  
David kills Goliath  
Struggle between Saul & David  
Deaths at end of 1st Samuel-Saul, Jonathan, Samuel

#### 2 Samuel

Struggles with Saul are behind David  
David comes to power first over Southern portion of Israel- King in Hedron then over all Israel a few years later  
David's real enemy is revealed-Himself  
Fall of David-adultery with Bathsheba, murder of Uriah  
David a failure and a man after God's own heart

#### 1 Kings

David is now an old man and appoints Solomon. David dies, and Solomon builds temple.  
After King Solomon dies-Rehoboam divided 1 Kings 11:43  
Divided Kingom

#### Divided Monarchy

Rehoboam added to the heavy yoke of his father when Jeroboam asked him to lighten it.  
Civil war splits Israel

Judah & Benjamin start Southern kingdom of Judah

Other 10 tribes form Northern Kingdom of Israel  
Capital of Israel-Samaria (Why woman at well said "Jews have no dealings")  
Capital of Judah-Jerusalem

## **2 Kings**

Records history of both kingdoms

Tragic ends of two kingdoms

725 B.C. Northern kingdom destroyed by Assyria

605 BC Southern kingdom conquered by Babylon

### Temple destroyed

The destructions- North wouldn't repent. South wouldn't because they felt safe because they had temple. (Jeremiah told them to repent)

### End of monarchy points to Christ

Israel is destroyed and Judah is taken captive into Babylon

Other Books written in this period

**1st & 2nd Chronicles** (A Summary of Hebrew history that supplement Kings and Samuel) were written about 450-425 BC

**Psalms** mostly David (The Book of Praise – the Ultimate Devotional)

**Proverbs** (Short sayings which promote faith in practice) 950

**Ecclesiastes** (apart from God – nothing) 935,

**Song of Solomon** (The inspired love song – love and marriage) 965

## Prophets to Northern kingdom of Israel

**Amos** (Shepherd from the South announces judgment to the North) 755

**Hosea** (How far love should go) 710

## Prophets to Southern Kingdom of Judah

**Joel** (the Pentecostal (literally) Prophet) 835

**Micah** (Like Amos with emphasis on the coming Messiah) 700

**Isaiah** (judgment on Judah, comfort in exile and hope in the coming Messiah) 740-680 (Court minister)

Micah and Isaiah were Contemporaries

**Zephaniah** (God judges all nations, but has a remnant) 625

**Habakkuk** (Dialogue – Prophet complains and God silences Him) 607

**Jeremiah** (God's lonely spokesmen to a falling nation. Points to New Covenant) 627

## Prophets to Gentile Nations

**Jonah** (Reluctant and Defiant Prophet – Still used of God) 760 Ninevah

**Nahum** (Comfort to those oppressed by Assyria) 663-612

**Obadiah** (21 verses of Edom's fall and the coming Day of the Lord) 840 Edomites

## Prophets during Exile of Babylonian captivity

**Daniel** (One Apocalypse of the Old Testament – God's day is coming!) 537

**Ezekiel** (The "Watchman" over the exiled people of God) 592-570

**Lamentations** (recounts misery of destruction of temple.) 586

Length of exile is foretold in Jeremiah 29:10, "For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place."

World powers-Babylon"

## Early Post Exilic Period

**Ezra** (Persian capture of Babylon. Israel in rebuilding process) 456-444

Books written during this time- **Esther** (God's providence maintains His people)

**Nehemiah** (Nehemiah held an important position in the king's court and takes leadership of construction of political leader) 445-425

Ezra and Nehemiah are one book.

## Prophets during post exilic period

**Haggai** (Post Exilic Rebuilding the Temple) 520

**Zechariah** (Another Apocalypse of the Old Testament – Last Days and the triumphant Messiah) 520-518

**Malachi** (Anticipating the coming of Messiah and the Day of the Lord) 450-400

Christ is the Main Character of the Old Testament  
Give events or Scripture references