Plan of Salvation: History of the Hebrew Peoples and the Old Testament

Part 2 – Joshua to Jesus

Covenants Made in Pentateuch

•Adam & Eve – One Holy Couple – Genesis:1-3

•Noah – One Holy Family – Genesis:9

•Abraham – One Holy Tribe – Genesis:15, 17, 22

• Moses - One Holy Nation - Exodus:24 / Deuteronomy:29

Covenant with Adam and Eve

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Marriage

Covenant with Noah New Adam



Covenants with Abraham

- Bountiful Descendants as Father of Nations
- Land of Canaan
- Worldwide Blessing – "I will make your name great and in your descendants all nations of the earth shall find blessing."

Covenant with Moses The Passover

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Then Moses summoned Joshua and in the presence of all Israel said to him, "Be strong and steadfast, for you shall bring this people into the land which the LORD swore to their ancestors he would give them; it is you who will give them possession of it. It is the LORD who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed."

– Deuteronomy 31:7-8

Canaan from Mount Nebo – Moses' View of the Promised Land

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, the peak of Pisgah which faces Jericho, and the LORD showed him all the land—Gilead, and as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, the plain (the valley of Jericho, the City of Palms), and as far as Zoar. The LORD then said to him, This is the land about which I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, "I will give it to your descendants." I have let you see it with your own eyes, but you shall not cross over. – Deuteronomy 34:1-4

Death of Moses

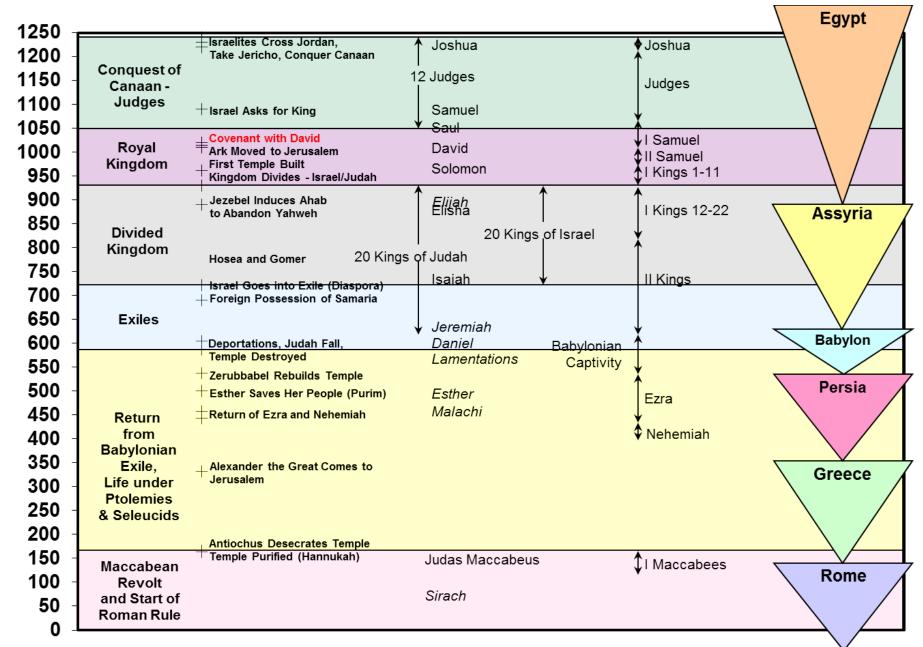
Since then no prophet has arisen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, in all the signs and wonders the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt against Pharaoh and all his servants and against all his land, and all the great might and the awesome power that Moses displayed in the sight of all Israel.

- Deuteronomy 34:10-12



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Old Testament Timeline – Joshua to Jesus



Years BC



Yehoshuah – Joshua; means shout to YHWH when in need of help.

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." – Matthew 1:21

Jesus: in first-century Judaism, the Hebrew name Yeshua (Greek lēsous) meaning "Yahweh helps" or "Yahweh saves."



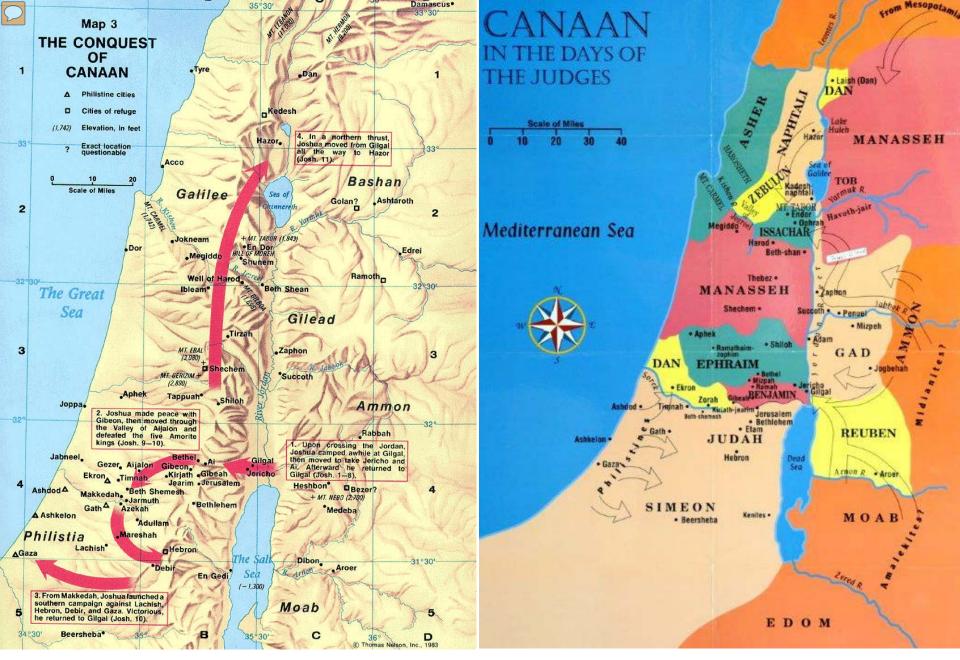
The priests carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the Jordan riverbed while all Israel crossed on dry ground, until the whole nation had completed the crossing of the Jordan. – Joshua 3:17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." – Matthew 3:13-17



Joshua and Israelites Storming Jericho

As the horns blew, the people began to shout. When they heard the sound of the horn, they raised a tremendous shout. The wall collapsed, and the people attacked the city straight ahead and took it. They observed the ban by putting to the sword all living creatures in the city: men and women, young and old, as well as oxen, sheep and donkeys. To the two men who had spied out the land, Joshua said, "Go into the prostitute's house and bring out the woman with all her family, as you swore to her you would do." The spies entered and brought out Rahab, with her father, mother, brothers, and all her family; her entire family they led forth and placed outside the camp of Israel. The city itself they burned with all that was in it; but the silver, gold, and articles of bronze and iron they placed in the treasury of the house of the LORD. - Joshua 6:20-24



Conquest of Canaan in Southern and Northern Campaigns and Allocation of Conquered Lands to the 12 Tribes in Time of Judges (~190 years)

With Conquest of Canaan, God's Three-fold Covenant with Abraham and Descendents Fulfilled

- They are numerous (Genesis 15)
- They have land (allotted to tribes; Genesis 17)
- They have the Law (Genesis 22)

They have become a nation

"Choose today whom you will serve, the gods your ancestors served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." – Joshua 24:14-15



Samuel Being Presented to Eli for God's Service by His Mother Hannah



Then Hannah spoke up: "Excuse me, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here near you, praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." Then they worshiped there before the LORD. - 1 Samuel 1:26-28



The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am." He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli answered. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep. Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But he answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep." Samuel did not yet recognize the LORD, since the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and stood there, calling out as before: Samuel, Samuel! Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." - 1 Samuel 3:4-10

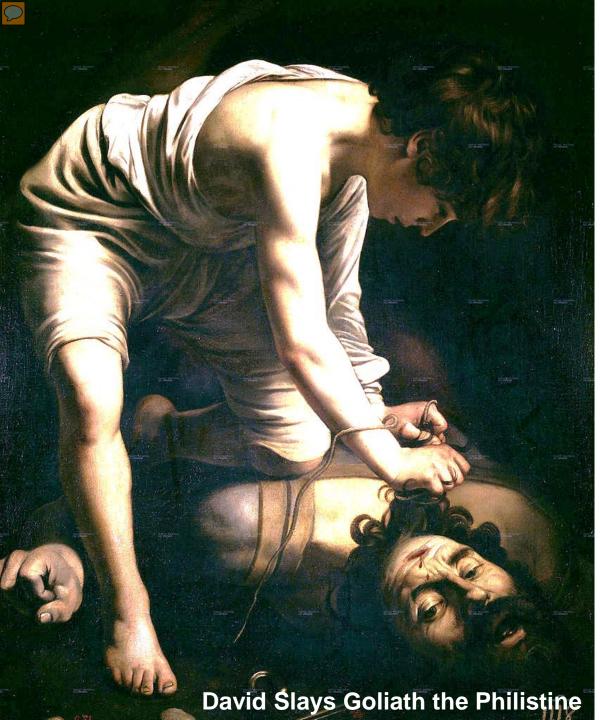


Samuel poured oil on Saul's head and kissed him, saying: "The LORD anoints you ruler over his people Israel. You are the one who will govern the LORD's people and save them from the power of their enemies all around them." – 1 Samuel 10:1

"Go, now, attack . . . kill men and women, children and infants, oxen and sheep, camels and donkeys." . . . He and his troops spared Agag and the best of the fat sheep and oxen, and the lambs . . . But Samuel said: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obedience to the LORD's command? Obedience is better than sacrifice . . ."

- 1 Samuel 15:3, 9, 22





David Anointed to Succeed Saul

Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" Jesse replied, "There is still the youngest, but he is tending the sheep." Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he arrives here." Jesse had the young man brought to them. He was ruddy, a youth with beautiful eyes, and good looking. The LORD said: There—anoint him, for this is the one! Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed him in the midst of his brothers, *and from that day* on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.

- 1 Samuel 16:11-13

Thus David triumphed over the Philistine with sling and stone; he struck the Philistine dead.

– 1 Samuel 17:50



David Twice Spares Saul's Life

First time: 1 Samuel 24 Saul spared in a cave

Second time: 1 Samuel 26 Saul spared sleeping in camp

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your hand today. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need to strike him twice!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay a hand on the LORD's anointed and remain innocent? As the LORD lives," David declared, "only the LORD can strike him: either when the time comes for him to die, or when he goes out and perishes in battle. But the LORD forbid that I lay a hand on the LORD's anointed! Now take the spear at his head and the water jug, and let us be on our way." – 1 Samuel 26:8-11

David Dances Before the Ark of the Covenant as It Is Brought into Jerusalem 2 Samuel 6

Covenant Made with David

"I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The Lord also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. It is he who shall build a house for my name. And I will make his royal throne firm forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. And if he does wrong, I will correct him with the rod of men and with human chastisements; but I will not withdraw my favor from him as I withdrew it from your predecessor Saul, whom I removed from my presence. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

- 2 Samuel 7:10-16

Covenant

- MEDIATOR: David and his House through Nathan
- GOD'S PROMISE: "I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. It is he who shall build a house for my name. And I will make his royal throne firm forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me." Samuel 7:12-14

• SIGN: Temple

At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. – John 2:18-21

Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? – 1 Corinthians 3:16



David Spies Bathsheba

One evening David rose from his bed and strolled about on the roof of the king's house. From the roof he saw a woman bathing; she was very beautiful. David sent people to inquire about the woman and was told, "She is Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam, and wife of Uriah the Hittite, Joab's armor-bearer." - 2 Samuel 11:2-3

The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab which he sent by Uriah. This is what he wrote in the letter: "Place Uriah up front, where the fighting is fierce. Then pull back and leave him to be struck down dead."

So while Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew the defenders were strong. When the men of the city made a sortie against Joab, some officers of David's army fell, and Uriah the Hittite also died.

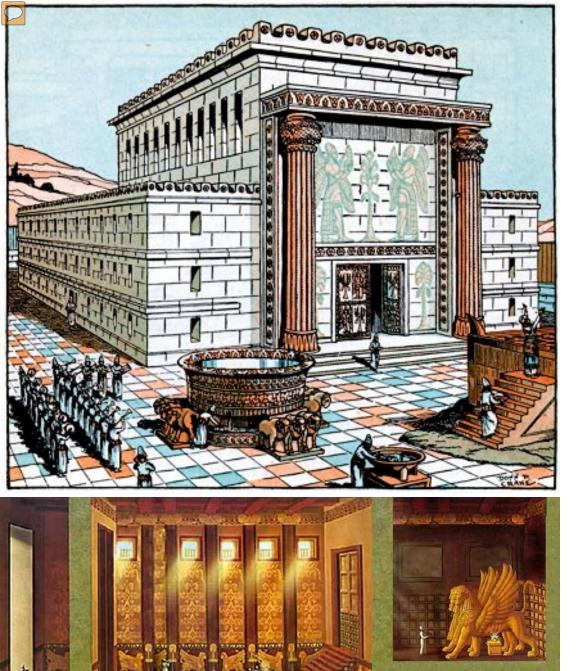
- 2 Samuel 11:14-17



"Thus says the LORD God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel. I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave you your lord's house and your lord's wives for your own. I gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were not enough, I could count up for you still more. Why have you despised the LORD and done what is evil in his sight? You have cut down Uriah the Hittite with the sword; his wife you took as your own, and him you killed with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the LORD: I will bring evil upon you out of your own house. I will take your wives before your very eyes, and will give them to your neighbor: he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. You have acted in secret, but I will do this in the presence of all Israel, in the presence of the sun itself."

- 2 Samuel 12:7-12

A psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came to him after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy on me, God, in accord with your merciful love; in your abundant compassion blot out my transgressions. Thoroughly wash away my guilt; and from my sin cleanse me. For I know my transgressions; my sin is always before me... Turn away your face from my sins; blot out all my iniquities. A clean heart create for me, God; renew within me a steadfast spirit. ... For you do not desire sacrifice or I would give it; a burnt offering you would not accept. My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a contrite, humbled heart, O God, you will not scorn. – Psalm 51:1-5,11-12, 18-19

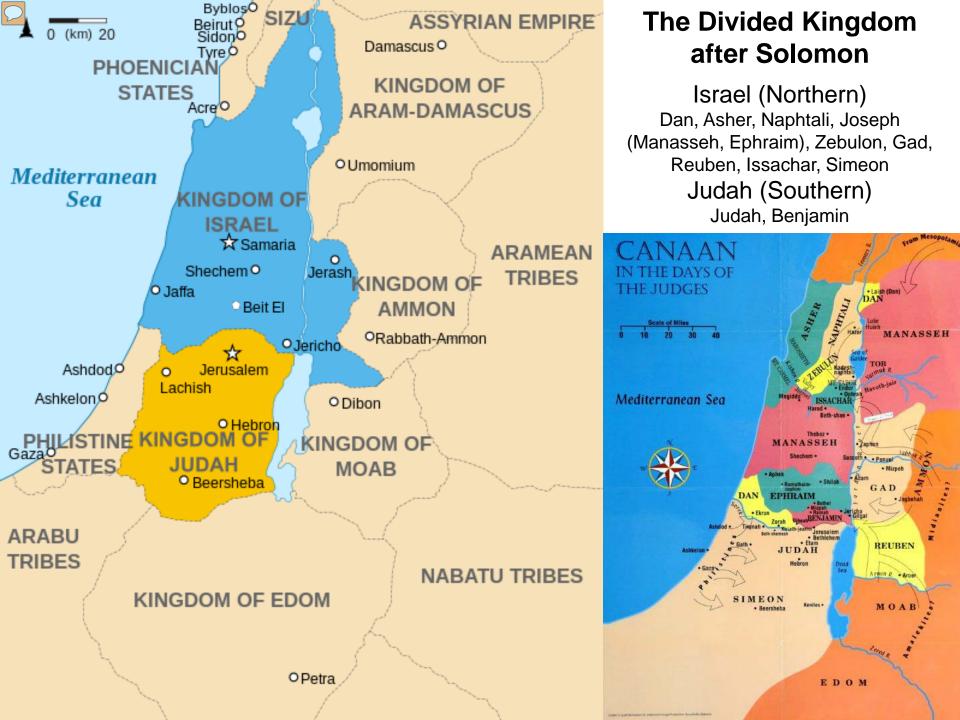


The First Temple or Solomon's Temple

Solomon asked the Lord for "an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this people of yours?" – 1 Kings 3:9

Because he did not ask for riches or conquest, his request was granted, and his wisdom is legendary in story and writings (Song of Songs, Proverbs, and, perhaps, Ecclesiastes).

Although Solomon built the Temple, he also built numerous smaller temples to the gods of his many pagan wives.





Elijah

Elijah prophesied in Northern Kingdom (Israel), preaching against Baal worship. His prominence in eyes of God is seen in his presence at the Transfiguration. His return (interpreted as through John the Baptist) is seen as herald of the Messiah.



Isaiah

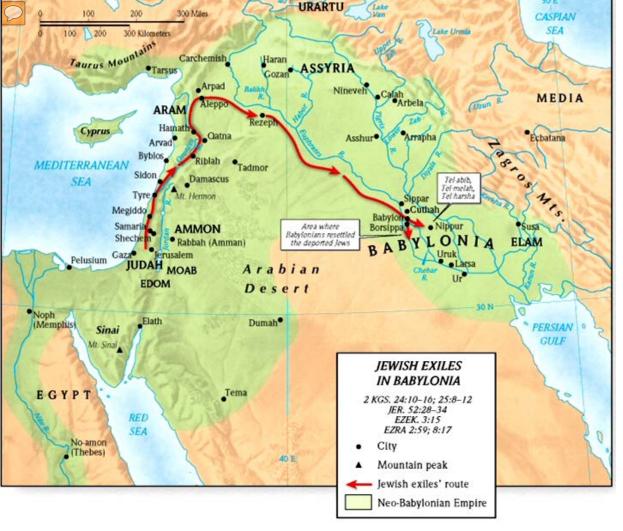
Isaiah, perhaps greatest Old Testament prophet, is active in Judah near the time of the fall of Israel to the Assyrians (~722 BC). He warns of ruin, desolation, and death and, specifically, exile to Babylon (while Assyria was the worldly power of the time).

He also heralds the consolation of Israel: "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak to the heart of Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service has ended, that her guilt is expiated, that she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice proclaims: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD!" – Isaiah 40:1-3



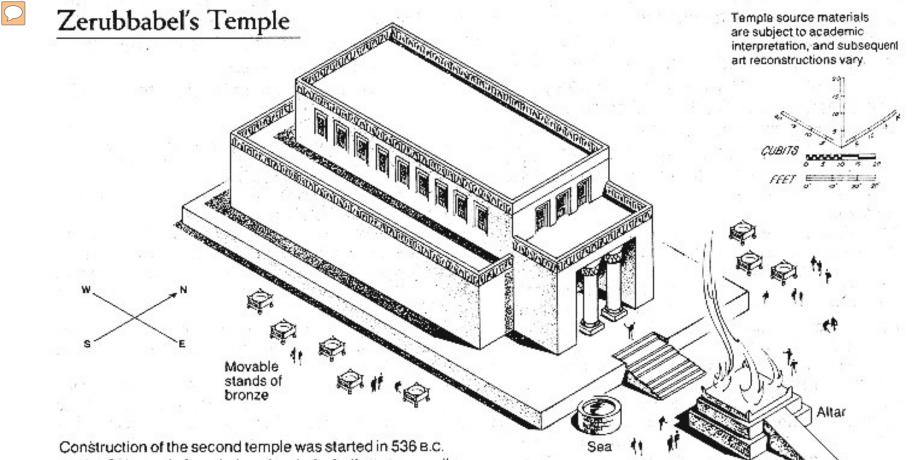
Babylon Conquers Judah, Destroys Temple, and Enslaves Hebrew People to 70-Year Babylonian Captivity – Ark of the Covenant Lost to History





Exile Route to Babylonian Captivity – Return by the Same Route as Abraham

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation throughout his entire kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: 'All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Those among you who belong to any part of his people, may their God be with them! Let them go up to Jerusalem in Judah to build the house of the LORD the God of Israel, that is, the God who is in Jerusalem. Let all those who have survived, in whatever place they may have lived, be assisted by the people of that place with silver, gold, goods, and livestock, together with voluntary offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem. - Ezra 1:1-4



Construction of the second temple was started in 536 B.C. on the Solomonic foundations leveled a half-century earlier by the Babylonians. People who remembered the earlier temple wept at the comparison (Ezr 3:12). Not until 516 B.C., the 6th year of the Persian emperor Darius I (522-486), was the temple finally completed at the urging of Haggai and Zechariah (Ezr 6:13-15).

Archaeological evidence confirms that the Persian period in Palestine was a comparatively impoverished one in terms of material culture. Later Aramaic documents from Elephantine in Upper Egypt illustrate the official process of gaining permission to construct a Jewish place of worship, and the opposition engendered by the presence of various foes during this period. Of the temple and its construction, little is known. Among the few contemporary buildings, the Persian palace at Lachish and the Tobiad monument at Iraq el-Amir may be compared in terms of technique.

Unlike the more famous structures razed in 586 B.C. and A.D. 70, the temple begun by Zerubbabel suffered no major hostile destruction, but was gradually repaired and reconstructed over a long period. Eventually it was replaced entirely by Herod's magnificent edifice.



Esther

Esther, a beautiful woman from among the Hebrew exiles in Babylon, was secret niece of Mordecai. She was beloved of King Xerxes of Babylon, and groomed to be Xerxes' Queen.

Mordecai, also a Hebrew, saves Xerxes life from an insider plot but refuses to bow to pagan Babylonian gods. Haman, chief counselor of Xerxes, resents Mordecai for his refusal and tries to arrange that Mordecai and all Jews be killed through pogrom at a date chosen by lot, or *pur*.

Esther uses her influence to counsel the king, reminds him of Mordecai's service, and saves Mordecai, the Hebrews, and, ultimately, herself from the pogrom. King Xerxes reverses the plot and has Haman and his sons executed. Esther's saving of the Hebrews is celebrated to this day as the feast *Purim*.

Israel Falls 325 BC to Alexander the Great – Greeks (Seleucids) Rule 159 Years

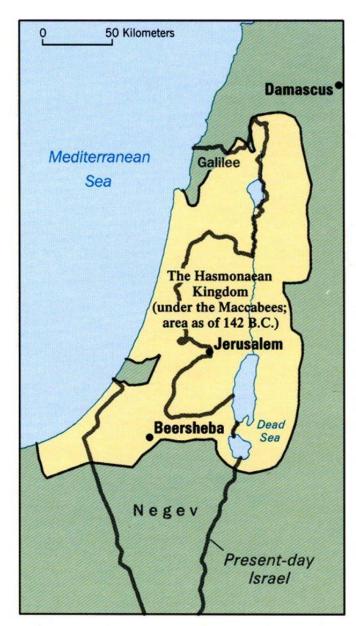


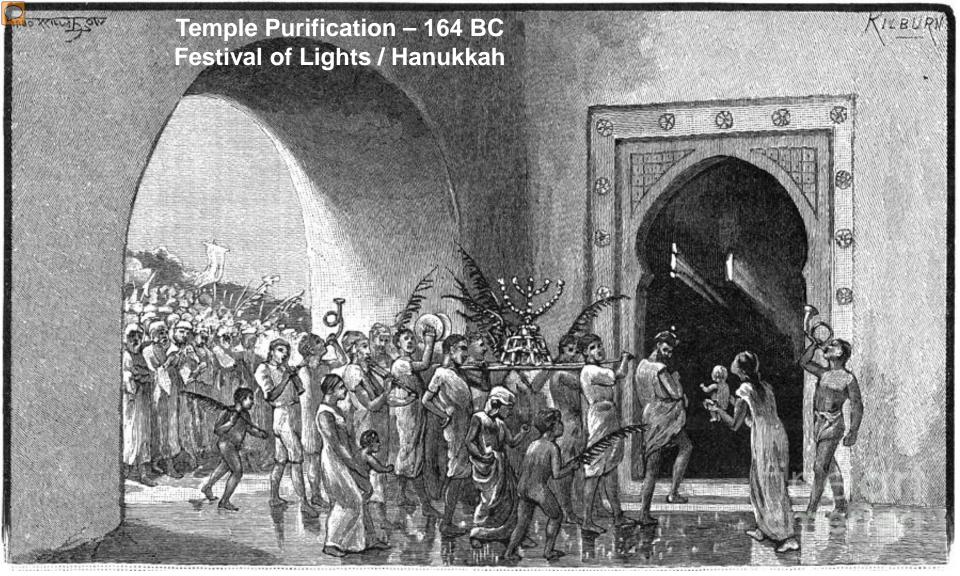
There sprang from these a sinful offshoot, Antiochus Epiphanes, son of King Antiochus, once a hostage at Rome. He became king in the one hundred and thirty-seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks. – 1 Maccabees 1:10

It also happened that seven brothers with their mother were arrested and tortured with whips and scourges by the king to force them to eat pork in violation of God's law. – 2 Maccabees 7:1



Maccabean Re-Conquered under Judas Maccabeus – Hasmonean Kingdom Grows

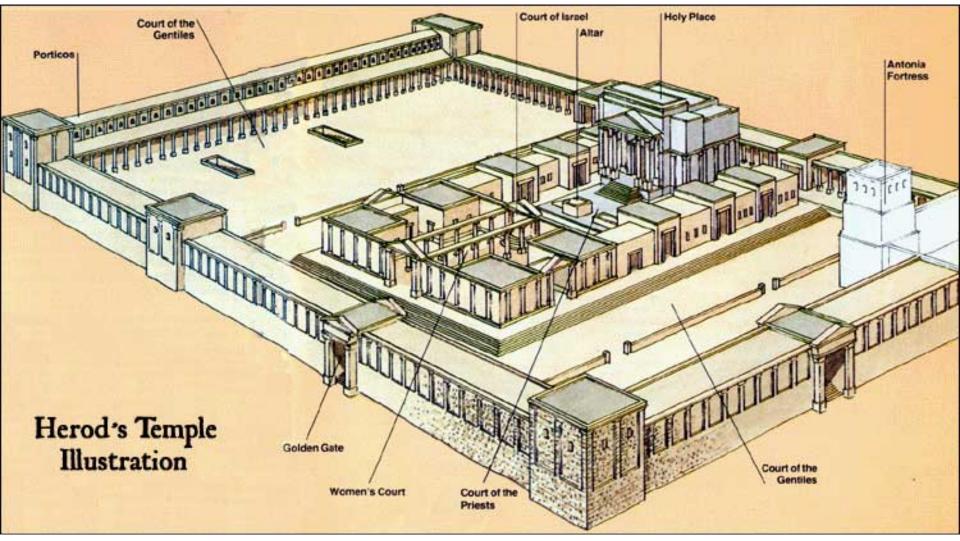




Then Judas and his brothers said, "Now that our enemies have been crushed, let us go up to purify the sanctuary and rededicate it." So the whole army assembled, and went up to Mount Zion. – 1 Maccabees 4:36-37



Temple Compound at the Time of Jesus



Hasmoneans ruled under Seleucids from ~140 to ~116 BC in Judea. The Seleucid empire then fell. Hasmoneans became independent and expanded. Hasmoneans conquered by Rome in 63 BC and became a client state ultimately falling to Herod the Great in 37 BC. In response to revolt by Zealots beginning 66 AD, Romans under Titus put Jerusalem under siege and destroyed the Temple 70 AD.

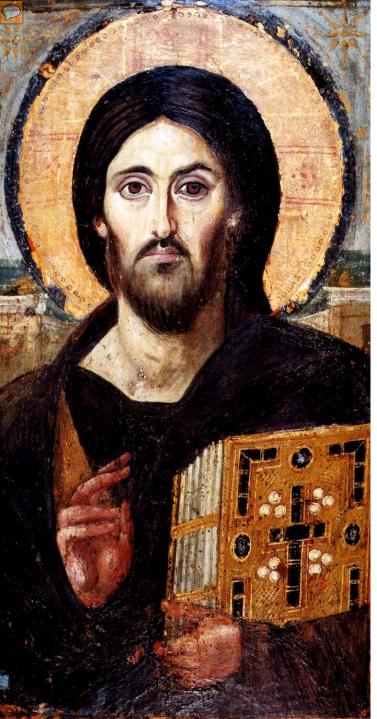


Masada – Last Vestige of Judean Revolt Ends Here, 73 AD

In present day, Israeli Defense Force inductees swear loyalty at Masada or the Western Wall in Jerusalem. The oath ends: "Masada shall not fall again".



Covenants Made in the Journey •Adam & Eve – One Holy Couple – Genesis:1-3 Marriage •Noah – One Holy Family – Genesis:9 Rainbow •Abraham – One Holy Tribe – Genesis:15, 17, 22 Circumcision Moses – One Holy Nation – Exodus:24 / Deuteronomy:29 Passover • David – One Holy Kingdom – 2 Samuel:7 Temple



The New and Final Covenant

"The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt; for they broke my covenant and I had to show myself their Master, says the Lord. But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord. I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts. I will be their God and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends or kinsmen how to know the Lord. All, from the least to the greatest, shall know me, says the Lord, for I will forgive their Evildoing and remember their sin no more." - Jeremiah 31:31-34

"The days are coming—oracle of the Lord—when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days, at that time, I will make a just shoot spring up for David; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Jerusalem shall dwell safely; this is the name they shall call her: "The Lord our justice." For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a successor on the throne of the house of Israel. – Jeremiah 33:14-17

Covenant

• MEDIATOR: Jesus

- GOD'S PROMISE: "I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts. I will be their God and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends or kinsmen how to know the Lord. All, from the least to the greatest, shall know me, says the Lord, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more." - Jeremiah 31:33-34
- SIGN: Eucharist



He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?"

They replied, "Caesar's."

At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

- Matthew 22:20-22

What belongs to God? What bears the image of God, and what holds God's inscription?

The Law and the Prophets of the Old Testament tell us.

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The Law

God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. – Genesis 1:27 What belongs to God? What bears the image of God, and what holds God's inscription?

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The Law

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The Prophets I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts. I will be their God and they shall be my people. – Jeremiah 31:33