

The Old Testament
Lesson Two
Israel's History and Where the OT Books Fit In

Why do this

- Essential to correct interpretation (grammatical–historical)
- The events of the Bible occur in human history
- Because of inspiration, the events the Bible speaks of are guaranteed 100% correct

Objective here is identifying the basic, key chapters of Israel's history to provide a framework to understand where the various biblical books, events, and people fit in.

Procedure for Teaching:

1. Give the 6 main historical periods
2. Repeat the 6 main historical periods, adding sub–points
3. Repeat 2, adding biblical books represented during each period

Creation to Babel

Patriarchs

Slavery to Settled (Egypt to Canaan)

United Kingdom

Divided Kingdom

Exile and Return

Creation to Babel

Time covered: ???

Key events and persons: will cover during OT survey

Biblical books represented: Genesis 1–11:9

- Creation
- Fall
- Flood
- Babel

Patriarchs

Time covered: c. 291 years

Key events and persons: will cover during OT survey

Biblical books represented: Gen 11:10–50:26

- Abraham, 2166 B.C.
- Isaac, 2066 B.C.
- Jacob/Israel, 2006 B.C.
- Joseph, c. 1915 B.C.
- Jacob and family entered Egypt, c. 1875 B.C. (430 years in Egypt)

Slavery to Settled (Egypt to Canaan)

Time covered: 500-700 years?

Key events and persons: will cover during OT survey

Biblical books represented: Exodus – Judges

- Slavery in Egypt
- The Exodus, 1445 B.C.
- Wilderness Wanderings, 1445–1405 B.C.
- Conquering Canaan, 1405–1398 B.C. (cf. Josh 14:10; Caleb was 40 at Kadesh-Barnea, 38 years in wilderness, 85 at his request of Joshua)
- Judges, 1367–1050 B.C.

United Kingdom

Time covered: 120 years

Key events and persons: will cover during OT survey

Biblical books represented: 1–2 Samuel; 1 Kings 1–11; 1 Chronicles – 2 Chronicles 9

- Saul's reign, 1050–1010 B.C.
- David's reign, 1010–970 B.C.
- Solomon's reign, 970–930 B.C.

Divided Kingdom

Time covered: 344 years

Key events and persons: will cover during OT survey

Biblical books represented: 1 Kings 12–2 Kings 17; 2 Chronicles 9–36; pre-exilic prophets: Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk

- Northern Kingdom ("Israel, Samaria"), 930–722 B.C.
- Southern Kingdom ("Judah"), 930–586 B.C.

Exile and Return

Time covered: 70+ years

Key events and persons: will cover during OT survey

Biblical books represented: 2 Kings 18-25; Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, *exilic prophets:* Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel *and post-exilic prophets:* Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

- N. Kingdom by Assyria, 722 B.C.
- S. Kingdom to Babylon, 605 B.C., 597 B.C., 586 B.C.
- Return from Captivity, 538 B.C., 458 B.C., 455 B.C.