
Old Testament & Prophet Bible Timeline



Three Main Old Testament Text Chronologies

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There are three main texts of the Old Testament, each giving a different chronology (hence the timeline confusion):

1. Septuagint -

a Greek translation of the Old Testament made in the third century BC. It is so named because it was made by 70 men, or by some accounts 72 with 6 from each tribe.

According to legend, these scholars worked independently and produced translations that miraculously agreed verbatim. It was universally regarded by Christians and Jews alike as *the* Old Testament until several centuries after Christ.

The writers of the New Testament relied on it and often quoted it verbatim, and chronologists based their ancient dates upon it. Then the Jews, disliking its association with Christianity, retranslated it to be less favorable to Christianity and gradually abandoned it.

Western Christians began using the Latin Vulgate, based on Hebrew rather than Greek texts, as variations began to creep into the copies of the Septuagint, but Eastern Christians, who spoke Greek for centuries more, continued using the Septuagint.

2. Samaritan -

an obscure and relatively uninfluential Hebrew text of the Pentateuch (first 5 Old Testament books) preserved quite independently by the Jews of Samaria who arrived just after the northern kingdom was captured and carried away.

These Samaritans rejected the authority of the southern kingdom of Judah and all the scriptures after the Pentateuch, and thus we have their separate version.

3. Masoretic -

a Hebrew text meticulously compiled by Jewish scholars between the sixth and tenth centuries, with numerous devices to ensure that no transcriptive error could go undetected.

Most Western Bibles, including the King James, have been translated from the Masoretic text or from St. Jerome's Latin Vulgate, which in turn drew mainly from it.

The Jews consider this text to be the true, original Old Testament, and most modern scholars are strongly biased in its favor, despite the millennium of precedence of the Septuagint.

It is said that these Hebrew scriptures were smuggled out of Jerusalem during the Roman siege of AD 70 by a priest hiding in a coffin, and when he escaped they were later copied and compiled for the first time into the modern Old Testament, with the apocrypha rejected as non-canonical and removed.

Old Testament Timeline #1

3760	Adam & Eve created (Year 1 of Jewish calendar)
3630	Seth born
3525	Enosh born
ca. 3500	Chalcolithic Period, first settlement
3435	Kenan born
3365	Mehalalel born
3300	Yered born
3138	Enoch born
3074	Methusaleh born
2886	Lemech born
2831	Adam dies
ca. 2800	Early Dynastic period (Akkad)
2704	Noah born
ca. 2700-2400	Old Kingdom period (Egypt)
ca. 2500-2200	Ebla flourishes
ca. 2500	First houses built in Jerusalem
ca. 2300-2200	Priestess Enheduanna, first known author in the world
2203	Shem born
2150	The Flood
2100-1700	Middle Kingdom period (Egypt)

2000-1750	Old Babylonian period
2000-1700	Israel's Patriarchal period
ca. 1900-1400	Old Assyrian period
1882	Terach born
1813	Abraham born
ca. 1850/1750/1700	Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Ishmael, famine forces Israelites to migrate to Egypt
1800	First Jerusalem city wall built
ca. 1792-1750	Hammurabi
ca. 1750-1200	Hittite empire
1765	The Tower of Babel
1743	Origin of traditions of the "Abrahamic covenant"
1713	Isaac born; Abraham circumcises himself; Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed
ca. 1700-1550	Hyksos in Egypt
1677	Isaac prepared as sacrifice; Sarah dies
1653	Jacob born
1638	Abraham dies
ca. 1600-1150	Kassite period (Babylonia)
1590	Isaac blesses Jacob instead of Esau.
ca. 1570-1085	New Kingdom period (Egypt)
1569	Jacob marries Leah
1565	Levi born
1562	Joseph born
1546	Joseph sold into slavery
1533	Isaac dies
1532	Joseph becomes viceroy of Egypt

1523	Jacob and his family join Joseph in Egypt
ca. 1500-1200	Ugaritic texts
1452	Joseph dies
1429	Egyptian enslavement of the Hebrews begins
ca. 1400-900	Middle Assyrian period
ca. 1400-1300	Amarna period (Egypt)
1393	Moses born.
1355	Joshua born.
1314	Moses sees the burning bush.
ca. 1300-1200	Mosaic period (Israel)
1280	Exodus from Egypt, Sinai Torah, Canaan Entry
1240	After setting up the Ark at Shiloh near Shechem (Nablu), Joshua launches foray into Jerusalem (Joshua 10:23, 15:63)
ca. 1200	Sea Peoples invade Egypt and Syro-Palestine
ca. 1200-1050/1000	Period of the Judges (Israel)
ca. 1200-1000	Jerusalem is a Canaanite city
ca. 1150-900	Middle Babylonian period:
ca. 1106	Deborah judges Israel.
ca. 1050-450	Hebrew prophets (Samuel-Malachi)
ca. 1000-587	Monarchical period in Israel
ca. 1030-1010	Saul (transitional king)
ca. 1010-970	David conquers the Jebusites and makes Jerusalem his capital
ca. 970-931	Solomon builds the First Temple on Mount Moriah
ca. 931	Secession of Northern Kingdom (Israel) from Southern Kingdom (Judah)
931-913	Rehoboam rules Judah
931-910	Jeroboam I rules Israel, choses Shechem as his first capital, later

	moves it to Tirzah
913-911	Abijah rules Judah
911-870	Asa rules Judah
910-909	Nadab (son of Jeroboam) rules Israel
909-886	Baasha kills Nadab and rules Israel
900-612	Neo-Assyrian period
886-885	Elah, son of Baasha, rules Israel
885	Zimri kills Elah, but reigns just seven days before committing suicide, Omri chosen as King of Israel
885-880(?)	War between Omri and Tibni
885-874	Omri kills Tibni, rules Israel
879	Omri moves capital of Israel from Tirzah to Samaria
874-853	Ahab, Omri's son, is killed in battle, Jezebel reigns as Queen. Athaliah, Ahab and Jezebel's daughter, marries Jehoram, crown prince of Judah
870-848	Jehoshapha rules Judah
853-851	Ahaziah, son of Ahab, rules Israel, dies in accident
750-725	Israelite Prophets Amos, Hosea, Isaiah
722/721	Northern Kingdom (Israel) destroyed by Assyrians; 10 tribes exiled (10 lost tribes)
720	Ahaz, King of Judah dismantles Solomon's bronze vessels and places a private Syrian altar in the Temple
716	Hezekiah, King of Jerusalem, with help of God and the prophet Isaiah resists Assyrian attempt to capture Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 32). Wells and springs leading to the city are stopped
701	Assyrian ruler Sennacherib besieges Jerusalem
612-538	Neo-Babylonian ("Chaldean") period
620	Josiah (Judean King) and "Deuteronomic Reforms"

ca. 600-580	Judean Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel
587/586	Southern Kingdom (Judah) and First Temple destroyed-Babylonian exile
ca. 550	Judean Prophet "Second Isaiah"
541	First Jews return from Babylon in small numbers to rebuild the city and its walls. Seventy years of exile terminated. (Daniel 9, Haggai 2:18-19)
539	Persian ruler Cyrus the Great conquers Babylonian Empire

538-333 B.C.E.	Persian Period.
538 B.C.E.	Edict of Cyrus (first return from Exile).
520-515 B.C.E.	Jerusalem ("Second") Temple rebuilt.
520 B.C.E.	Judean Prophet Haggai.
500 B.C.E.	The notion of a Messiah, a political/military-religious/moral leader, develops.
450-400 B.C.E.	Reformation led by Ezra and Nehemiah.
ca. 450 B.C.E.	Torah (Pentateuch = first division of Jewish Scriptures) begins to gain recognition as Scripture.
438 B.C.E.	Achashverosh becomes king of Persia.
426 B.C.E.	First decrees by Haman; fast ordered by Esther, Haman's downfall and execution.
425 B.C.E.	Haman's ten sons executed; Purim celebration.
424 B.C.E.	Megillah recorded.
411 B.C.E.	Bagoas, a Persian, is made governor of Jerusalem.
333-63 B.C.E.	Hellenistic (Greek) period.
333/331 B.C.E.	Alexander the Great conquers the Land of Israel.
ca. 320-168 B.C.E.	Judaism under Greek Ptolemies & Seleucids.
ca. 250 B.C.E.	"Septuagint" translation of Torah into Greek.
ca. 230-146 B.C.E.	Coming of Rome to the east Mediterranean.
ca. 201 B.C.E.	Prophets (second division of Jewish Scriptures) recognized by some as Scripture
ca. 200 B.C.E.-135 C.E.	Jewish Qumran community.
175 B.C.E.	Selucid, king of Syria, plunders Jerusalem, murdering many.

166-160 B.C.E.	Jewish Maccabean revolt against restrictions on practice of Judaism and desecration of the Temple.
142-129 B.C.E.	Jewish autonomy under Hasmoneans.
63 B.C.E.	Rome (Pompey) annexes the land of Israel.
66-73 C.E.	First Jewish Revolt against Rome.
69 C.E.	Vespasian gives Yochanan ben Zakkai permission to establish a Jewish center for study at Yavneh that will become the hub for rabbinic Judaism.
70 C.E.	Destruction of Jerusalem and the second Temple.

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Old Testament Timeline #2

Matthew McGee

The following chronological Old Testament timeline is based upon scriptural passages in the Bible. The verse references are provided. It should be noted that time lengths provided in the Bible are usually in whole years.

Thus, the further back in the timeline, the more rounding error can occur. However, this has little effect on the later dates and should only effect the older dates by a few years.

The table below lists Biblical events in their chronological order. The events listed are those which are most useful in building the chronology, not necessarily those which are most spiritually significant.

Within the table are certain events for which Bible chronologers sometimes disagree. For those events I have provided an internal link to some further discussion that is written below the table.

The following questions are examined: (1) The age of Terah when his son, Abraham, was born, (2) the period over which the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt, and (3) the period over which the judges led Israel.

Event	Year from Creation	Year of Event	Years Until Next Event	Verses
Creation	0	3950 BC	130	Genesis 5:3
Birth of Seth	130	3820 BC	105	Genesis 5:6
Birth of Enos	235	3715 BC	90	Genesis 5:9
Birth of Cainan	325	3625 BC	70	Genesis 5:12
Birth of Mahalaleel	395	3555 BC	65	Genesis 5:15
Birth of Jared	460	3490 BC	162	Genesis 5:18
Birth of Enoch	622	3328 BC	65	Genesis 5:21
Birth of Mathuselah	687	3263 BC	187	Genesis 5:25
Birth of Lamech	874	3076 BC	182	Genesis 5:28
Birth of Noah	1056	2894 BC	600	Genesis 5:32
Beginning of the flood	1656	2294 BC	1	Genesis 7:11, 8:13-14

Noah leaves the ark	1657	2293 BC	2	Genesis 11:10
Birth of Arphaxed	1659	2291 BC	35	Genesis 11:12
Birth of Salah	1694	2256 BC	30	Genesis 11:14
Birth of Eber	1724	2226 BC	34	Genesis 11:16
Birth of Peleg	1758	2192 BC	30	Genesis 11:18
Birth of Reu	1788	2162 BC	32	Genesis 11:20
Birth of Serug	1820	2130 BC	30	Genesis 11:22
Birth of Nahor	1850	2100 BC	29	Genesis 11:24
Birth of Terah	1879	2071 BC	70	Genesis 11:26
Birth of Abraham	1949	2001 BC	75	Genesis 12:4
Abraham leaves Haran	2024	1926 BC	11	Genesis 16:16
Birth of Ishmael	2035	1915 BC	14	Genesis 21:5
Birth of Isaac	2049	1901 BC	60	Genesis 25:26
Birth of Jacob	2109	1841 BC	91	Genesis 47:9
Birth of Joseph	2200	1750 BC	39	Genesis 41:46, 53, 45:6
Jacob enters Egypt	2239	1711 BC	17	Genesis 47:28
Death of Jacob	2256	1694 BC	54	Genesis 49:33
Death of Joseph	2310	1640 BC	64	Genesis 50:22, 26
Birth of Moses	2374	1576 BC	80	Exodus 7:7
Exodus from Egypt	2454	1496 BC	40	Exodus 16:35
Crossing of Jordan	2494	1456 BC	5	Joshua 14:7, 24:29
Dividing of the Land	2499	1451 BC	25	Joshua 14:7-10
Judges begin leading Israel	2524	1426 BC	326	Joshua 24:29
Saul (first king) begins reign	2850	1100 BC	40	Acts 13:21
David begins reign	2890	1060 BC	40	2 Samuel 5:4
Solomon begins reign	2930	1020 BC	4	1 Kings 6:1
Solomon begins to build temple	2934	1016 BC	36	1 Kings 11:42
Rehoboam begins reign	2970	980 BC	17	1 Kings 14:21

Abijah begins reign	2987	963 BC	3	1 Kings 15:2
Asa begins reign	2990	960 BC	41	1 Kings 15:9-10
Jehoshaphat begins reign	3031	919 BC	25	1 Kings 22:42
Jehoram begins reign	3056	894 BC	8	2 Kings 8:17
Ahaziah begins reign	3064	886 BC	1	2 Kings 8:26
Athaliah begins her reign	3065	885 BC	6	2 Kings 11:3
Joash begins reign	3071	879 BC	40	2 Kings 12:1
Amaziah begins reign	3111	839 BC	29	2 Kings 14:2
Azariah begins reign	3140	810 BC	52	2 Kings 15:2
Jotham begins reign	3192	758 BC	16	2 Kings 15:33
Ahaz begins reign	3208	742 BC	16	2 Kings 16:2
Hezekiah begins reign	3224	726 BC	29	2 Kings 18:2
Manasseh begins reign	3253	697 BC	55	2 Kings 21:1
Amon begins reign	3308	642 BC	2	2 Kings 21:19
Josiah begins reign	3310	640 BC	31	2 Kings 22:1
Jehoahaz begins reign (3 months)	3341	609 BC	0	2 Kings 23:31
Jehoakim begins reign	3341	609 BC	3	2 Kings 23:36
Babylon besieges Israel	3344	606 BC	18	Daniel 1:1
Destruction of the first temple	3362	588 BC	52	Jeremiah 52:12-13, 25:1, Daniel 2:1
Cyrus decrees rebuilding temple	3414	536 BC	91	2 Chronicles 36:21, 23
Artaxerxes decrees rebuilding Jerusalem	3505	445 BC	439	Nehemiah 2:1
Birth of Jesus Christ	3944	6 BC	34	Matthew 2:1, 15
Christ's ministry begins	3978	29 AD	3	Luke 3:1
Christ's crucifixion	3981	32 AD	5	Luke 23:32-49
Call of the Apostle Paul	3986	37 AD	33	Acts 9:1-16
Destruction of the second temple and the city of Jerusalem	4019	70 AD	---	Luke 21:5-6

Birth of Abraham

There is some disagreement among Bible chronologers as to whether Terah was 70 years old or 130 years old when his son, Abram (later renamed Abraham), was born.

The view that Terah was 130 years old at the birth of Abraham:

(1) Acts 7:4 says, *"Then came he (Abraham) out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran (Haran): and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell."*

Consider also that Genesis 11:32 says, *"And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran"*, and that Genesis 12:4 says, *"... Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran."* Subtracting 75 from 205 leaves 130 for Terah's age at the birth of Abraham. This is the strongest reason for the view that Terah was 130 years old when Abraham was born.

(2) As a secondary support, some refer to the fact that Genesis 11:32 records Terah's death, but Abraham leaving Haran is not recorded until a few verses later in Genesis 12:4. If one assumes the events were recorded in chronological order, that would mean that Terah was 130 at the birth of Abraham.

However, we know that one cannot always assume the scriptures are recorded in chronological order. Generally, most of the events in the Bible are chronological, but sometimes God records events in a different order.

For example, Genesis 35:27-29 records the death of Isaac, which happened when Jacob was 120 years old. Later in the text, Genesis 37:2 begins telling the beautiful story of Joseph. The story begins when Joseph is only 17. This was 12 years before Isaac died, when Jacob was 108. Why did God choose to record the death of Isaac earlier?

Perhaps He did it to keep it from showing up in the middle of the story of Joseph, and being a distraction from the subject at hand. Likewise, perhaps God was telling of Terah's death before getting into the story of Abraham. Whatever God's reasons were, the events in the Bible are not always recorded in the precise order in which they took place.

(3) Another weaker point is that since Nahor married the daughter of Haran (Genesis 11:29), some assume that Haran must have been much older than Nahor and Abraham.

This is of course, far from conclusive, since Nahor may have simply married a woman 20 or 30 years younger than himself. This often happens today, but it would have been much more common in the days when life spans were around 200 years.

The view that Terah was 70 years old at the birth of Abraham:

(1) This determination is more direct, since Genesis 11:26 says, "*And Terah lived 70 years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.*"

(2) A little less direct, but perhaps even stronger support is the miraculous nature of the birth of Isaac. In Genesis 17:17, when God told Abraham that he would have a child at the age of one hundred, "... *Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? ...*" (Genesis 17:17).

Now Abraham would not have thought it was strange at all if his own father (Terah) had been 130 years old when he (Abraham) was born. A man of 100 years would have still been considered quite youthful.

But before Isaac was conceived, Genesis 18:11 says, "... *Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age*"

Also, Hebrews 11:11-12 says, "*Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him (Abraham) as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.*"

So in those days, men of 100 years were passed the age of being able to father children and considered "*as good as dead*". In fact, no man born after the global flood is said to have fathered a child when 100 or more, with Abraham being the only exception. This is strong support for Terah having been 70 years old at the birth of Abraham rather than 130.

We know that when God originally gave His Word to those who wrote the scriptures in the original manuscripts, God did not make any errors. If properly copied, translated, and understood, the Bible has no contradictions. However, based upon what we know today, I can see how a reasonable Bible student could come to either conclusion, that Terah was 70 or 130 years old.

The numbers in the table above are based upon Terah being 70 years old at the birth of Abraham. If Terah was actually 130 years old at the birth of Abraham, then all of the years for the previous events would shift backwards in time 60 years.

That would put the creation at 4010 BC instead of 3950 BC. As always, students are encouraged to search the scriptures to see whether the words of any teacher are correct.

The Slavery in Egypt

One common misunderstanding of Biblical chronology is the thinking that the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt for 400 years. In actuality, the time was much shorter.

The belief that the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt for 400 years is largely based upon these two verses:

*"And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **four hundred years** ..." (Genesis 15:13). "And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil **four hundred years**" (Acts 7:6).*

Then there is this passage in Exodus, *"Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was **four hundred and thirty years**. And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt"* (Exodus 12:40-41). This does not mean that the children of Israel dwelt in Egypt 430 years.

Paul explains that the 430 years extends from the time of God's covenant with Abraham until the children of Israel left Egypt. *"And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was **four hundred and thirty years** after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect"* (Galatians 3:17).

We know that Jacob and his family entered Egypt 215 years (see timeline above) after God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-7. This was half way through the 430 years. Furthermore, we know that Joseph was 39 at that time and lived 71 more years to the age of 110.

From Exodus, we know that Israel did not become slaves to Egypt until after Joseph died.

*"And **Joseph died**, and all his brethren, and all that generation. And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them. Now **there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph**"* (Exodus 1:6-8). Subtracting 71 from 215 leaves 144 years, the maximum time that Israel could have been enslaved by Egypt.

The fact that the children of Israel were only in Egypt for 215 years is also consistent with the genealogy of Moses. Born 80 years before the exodus from Egypt, Moses was the son of Amram, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi (1 Chronicles 6:1-3).

Of course, Levi was one of Jacob's 12 sons. We see from Genesis 46:8-11 that Kohath, the grandfather of Moses, was already born when Jacob and his family entered Egypt.

Kohath lived to be 133, and his son Amram lived to be 137 (Exodus 6:18-20). Even if Kohath was only a year old when they entered Egypt, and Amram and Moses were each born in the last year of their father's lives, then the maximum time in Egypt could have only been $133 + 137 + 80 = 350$ years, still well short of the traditional 400 years.

Actually, based on the 215 year period, Amram and Moses were probably born when their fathers were around 70 years old, which was quite typical for that time in history.

So what about the 400 years of servitude prophesied in Genesis 15:13? Perhaps this number is meant to be cumulative over Israel's history. The six servitudes during the time of the judges totaled 111 years, and the Babylonian servitude was 70 years. If the entire 215 years in Egypt were counted, then this total is 396 years.

This may or may not be the 400 years to which God was referring. Perhaps the 400 years is meant to include the time in which Isaac and Jacob were strangers in the land of Canaan before the children of Israel went to Egypt. Whichever the case, all of God's prophecies either have been or will be fulfilled.

The Period of the Judges

1 Kings 6:1 says, "*And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.*" So we know that 480 years elapsed between the exodus from Egypt and the year that King Solomon began building the first temple, in the fourth year of his reign.

When we subtract out the 40 years in which Israel wandered in the wilderness, the 30 years that Joshua was alive in the land of Israel prior to the judges, King Saul and King David's reigns of 40 years each, and the first 4 years of Solomon's reign, we are left with 326 years in which Israel was lead by the judges.

Some have had difficulty reconciling this with the words of the Apostle Paul, recorded by Luke, in Acts 13:17-20. Preaching in Antioch, Paul said:

"The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it. And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty

years, until Samuel the prophet."

The King James translates this passage as the judges ruling for about 450 years. From the Greek text however, this passage can be understood to mean that from the calling of Israel's fathers to the beginning of the period of the judges was about 450 years. Most English versions translate it this way. For example, the New American Standard version translates Acts 13:17-20 as follows:

*"The God of this people Israel chose our fathers, and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out from it. And for a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. And when He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance - all of which took about **four hundred and fifty years**. And after these things He gave them judges until Samuel the prophet."*

So it was not the time of the judges that covered about 450 years, but it was the period between God's choosing of Israel's fathers to the dividing of the land that took about 450 years. Chronologically, this would be correct.

By the calculations recorded in the table above, from the dividing of the land of Israel back to the call of Abraham was 475 years, which is "about 450". Also, from the dividing of the land of Israel back to the birth of Isaac was 450 years.

From the time of Joshua's death (1426 BC) to the monarchy established at the beginning of the reign of King Saul (1100 BC), Israel was ruled by 14 different judges and was also forced into servitude 6 times.

The 14 judges were Othniel, Ehud, Shamgar, Deborah, Gideon, Tola, Jair, Jephthah, Izban, Elon, Abdon, Samson, Eli, and Samuel. The six servitudes were to the Mesopotamians, the Moabites, the Canaanites, the Midianites, the Philistines with the Amorites, and the Philistines by themselves.

The total years of all the judges and of all the servitudes adds up to considerable more than the 326 years, if one does not consider the overlapping which took place. However, we know that some of the leaderships of the judges overlapped some of the servitudes.

For example, we know from Judges 4:3-4 that for 20 years of the time Deborah judged, Israel was in servitude to the Canaanites, and we know from Judges 13:1 and 16:30-31 that during the 20 years that Samson judged, Israel was in servitude to the Philistines.

Also, some of the leaderships of some of the judges may have overlapped each other, as they may have judged over separate geographical areas of Israel. There is not enough information to piece together all of the details of just when each judge lead and when each

servitude took place with much certainty. We can only be certain that the total time of the judges was about 326 years, from about 1426 to 1100 BC.

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The Chronology Of The Biblical Patriarchs

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The chronology of the Biblical patriarchs, from Adam to Jacob, according to each of these three texts is given in the following table. Unfortunately, few early copies of the Septuagint survive, and even they differ a little. The Alexandrine text is followed here, with differences noted in footnotes.

Key:

- ✓ **F** = age on becoming father of next patriarch
- ✓ **L** = length of life
- ✓ **B** = *anno mundi* birth
- ✓ **D** = *anno mundi* death (or translation, in the case of Enoch)

	Septuagint				Samaritan				Masoretic			
patriarch	F	L	B	D	F	L	B	D	F	L	B	D
Adam	230	930	0	930	130	930	0	930	130	930	0	930
Seth	205	912	230	1142	105	912	130	1042	105	912	130	1042
Enosh	190	905	435	1340	90	905	235	1140	90	905	235	1140
Cainan	170	910	625	1535	70	910	325	1235	70	910	325	1235
Mahalalel	165	895	795	1690	65	895	395	1290	65	895	395	1290
Jared	162	962	960	1922	62	847	460	1307	162	962	460	1422
Enoch	165	365	1122	1487	65	365	522	887	65	365	622	987
Methuselah	187	969	1287	2256	67	720	587	1307	187	969	687	1656
Lamech	188	753	1474	2227	53	653	654	1307	182	777	874	1651
Noah	502	950	1662	2612	502	950	707	1657	502	950	1056	2006
Flood	2262				1307				1656			
Shem	100	600	2164	2764	100	600	1209	1809	100	600	1558	2158
Arphachsha	135	615	2264	2879	135	438	1309	1747	35	438	1658	2096

d												
Cainan	130	460	2399	2859								
Shelah	130	460	2529	2989	130	433	1444	1877	30	433	1693	2126
Eber	134	504	2659	3163	134	404	1574	1978	34	464	1723	2187
Peleg	130	339	2793	3132	130	239	1708	1947	30	239	1757	1996
Reu	132	339	2923	3262	132	239	1838	2077	32	239	1787	2026
Serug	130	330	3055	3385	130	230	1970	2200	30	230	1819	2049
Nahor	79	208	3185	3393	79	148	2100	2248	29	148	1849	1997
Terah	70	205	3264	3469	70	145	2179	2393	70	205	1878	2083
Abraham	100	175	3334	3509	100	175	2249	2424	100	175	1948	2123
Isaac	60	180	3434	3614	60	180	2349	2529	60	180	2048	2228
Jacob		147	3494	3641		147	2409	2556		147	2108	2255

Methuselah: Other LXX texts give $F = 167$, but if his were correct, he would have died 14 years *after* the Flood.

Noah: Regarding the extra 2 years, compare Genesis 5:32, 7:6, and 11:10.

Arphachshad: Other LXX texts give $L = 535$ or 565 .

Cainan: He is omitted from the other two texts, but is attested in Luke 3:36.

Eber: Other LXX texts give $L = 404$.

Nahor: Other LXX texts give $F = 179$, $L = 304$.

Terah: F for him is variously given as 70 or 130 (with corresponding change in L). 130 has historically been favored, but a majority of modern scholars favor 70 .

There are of course still other variations within each text. It is assumed that there is no cumulative error from rounding ages to a whole year (or perhaps in some cases to the nearest 5 or 10 years).

Where To Find This Data In Genesis

- Adam to Noah, Gen. 5:1-32
- Noah to Shem, Gen. 5:32, 7:6, 8:13, 9:28-29, 11:10

- Shem to Terah, Gen. 11:10-26
- Terah to Abraham, Gen 11:26, 11:32 (cf. Gen. 12:4, Acts 7:4)
- Abraham, Gen. 16:16, 17:17, 21:5, 25:7
- Isaac, Gen. 21:5, 25:26, 35:28
- Jacob, Gen. 25:26, 47:28

The Age Of The World

Over the years the Old Testament chronology has been repeatedly used as a basis for calculating the age of the world.

Dates reckoned from creation are said to be *anno mundi* (AM), or in the year of the world, on the model of *anno domini* (AD), in the year of the Lord. In Latin years are numbered beginning with 1, so that 1 BC is immediately followed by AD 1.

Some authors likewise place creation in AM 1, but the above table is based on creation in AM 0. Among these many computations, the following BC dates for the creation have gained popular acceptance:

- 3760 BC, Jewish Era (Tevit) (based on Masoretic)
- 4004 BC, Ussher (based on Masoretic)
- 5198 BC, Eusebius (based on Septuagint)
- 5411 BC, Hales (based on Septuagint)
- 5501 BC, Africanus and Hippolytus of Thebes (based on Septuagint)
- 5508 BC, Byzantine Era (based on Septuagint)

Timeline of the Prophets		
Jonah	770 B.C.	to Ninevah
Amos	760	to Israel
Hosea	760 - 730	to Israel
Isaiah	740 - 700	to Judah
Micah	737 - 690	to Judah
Habakkah	630	to Judah

Zephaniah 627 to Judah
 Jeremiah 627 - 580 to Judah
 Daniel 605 - 530 to Judah
 Ezekiel 593 - 570 to Judah
 Nahum 593 - 570 to Ninevah
 Haggai 520 to Judah
 Zechariah 520 - 518 to Judah
 Joel 500 to Judah
 Obadiah 500 to Edom
 Malachi 433 B.C. to Judah

Kings of		Start of reign	Years since Solomon	Length of reign (years)	Prophets to ...	
Judah	Israel				Judah	Israel
1. Rehoboam		931 BC	0	17		
	1. Jeroboam	931 BC	0	22		(Ahijah)
2. Abijah		913 BC	18	3		
3. Asa		911 BC	20	41		
	2. Nadab	910 BC	21	2		
	3. Baasha	909 BC	22	24		(Jehu)
	4. Elah	886 BC	45	2		
	5. Zimri	885 BC	46	7 days		
	6. Omri	885 BC	46	12		
	7. Ahab	874 BC	57	22		(Elijah)
4. Jehoshaphat		870 BC	61	25		(Micaiah)
	8. Ahaziah	853 BC	78	2		(Elisha)
	9. Joram	852 BC	79	12		
5. Jehoram		848 BC	83	8		
6. Ahaziah		841 BC	90	1		
	10. Jehu	841 BC	90	28		
7. Queen Athaliah		841 BC	90	6		
8. Joash		835 BC	96	40	Joel (guesswork)	
	11. Jehoahaz	814 BC	117	17		
	12. Jehoash	798 BC	133	16		
9. Amaziah		796 BC	135	29		Jonah (to

	13. Jeroboam II	782 BC	149	41		Nineveh (approx) Amos, Hosea (until Hezekiah)
10. Uzziah (Azariah)		767 BC	164	52	Isaiah (until Hezekiah)	
	14. Zechariah	753 BC	178	6 months		
	15. Shallum	752 BC	179	1 month		
	16. Menahem	752 BC	179	10		
	17. Pekahiah	742 BC	189	2		
	18. Pekah	740 BC	191	20		
11. Jotham		740 BC	191	16	Micah (until Hezekiah)	
12. Ahaz		732 BC	199	16		
	19. Hoshea	732 BC	199	9		
13. Hezekiah		716 BC	215	29		
14. Manasseh		687 BC	244	55		
15. Amon		642 BC	289	2		Nahum (to Nineveh) (approx)
16. Josiah		640 BC	291	31	Zephaniah, Jeremiah (into exile)	
17. Jehoahaz		609 BC	322	3 months		
18. Jehoiakim		609 BC	322	11	Habakkuk (approx)	
19. Jehoiachin		597 BC	334	3 months		
20. Zedekiah		597 BC	334	11		
		592 BC	339		Ezekiel, Daniel	
		587 BC (maybe)	335		Obadiah (to Edom)	
		520 BC	411		Haggai, Zechariah	
(Esther)		478 BC	453			
(Ezra)		458 BC	473			
(Nehemiah)		445 BC	486			
		433 BC	498		Malachi	

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What is a Minor Prophet?

(From Wikipedia, the free Encyclopedia)

A **minor prophet** is a book in the Minor Prophets section of the Hebrew Bible, also known to Christians as the [Old Testament](#). Twelve individuals have had their names attributed to a section of the Hebrew Bible which has become known as the "Books of the Minor Prophets" or more often known as the "Minor Prophets". In Jewish sources, the collective Aramaic term *Trei Asar* ("twelve") is also used.

In the Hebrew Bible the writings of the minor prophets are counted as a single book, in Christian Bibles as twelve individual books. The "Minor Prophets" are listed below in order of their appearance in Hebrew and Western Christian bibles:

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

The [Septuagint](#) of the eastern churches has the order: Hosea, Amos, Micah, Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, the rest as above. It also puts the Minor Prophets before, instead of after the Major prophets.

The term "minor" refers to the books' lengths, not their importance. See Major Prophets for the longer books of prophecies in the Bible and the Tanakh.

What is a Major Prophet?

(From Wikipedia, the free Encyclopedia)

A major prophet is a book in the Major Prophets section of the Christian Old Testament in the Bible. The term "major prophet" is typically a Christian term as the Jewish Hebrew Bible does not group these books together and does not even include the deuterocanonical/apocryphal Book of Baruch.

The closest analogous grouping in the Hebrew Bible is the "Prophets" or Nevi'im. The Christian major prophets in order of occurrence in the Christian Bible are:

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations, also known as the Lamentations of Jeremiah
- Baruch (deuterocanonical; may be placed before Lamentations.) This work is not incorporated into the [Jewish Bible](#) nor the [Protestant Bible](#).
- Ezekiel
- Daniel (listed with the Ketuvim in the Hebrew Bible).

The term "major" refers to their length, not their importance.