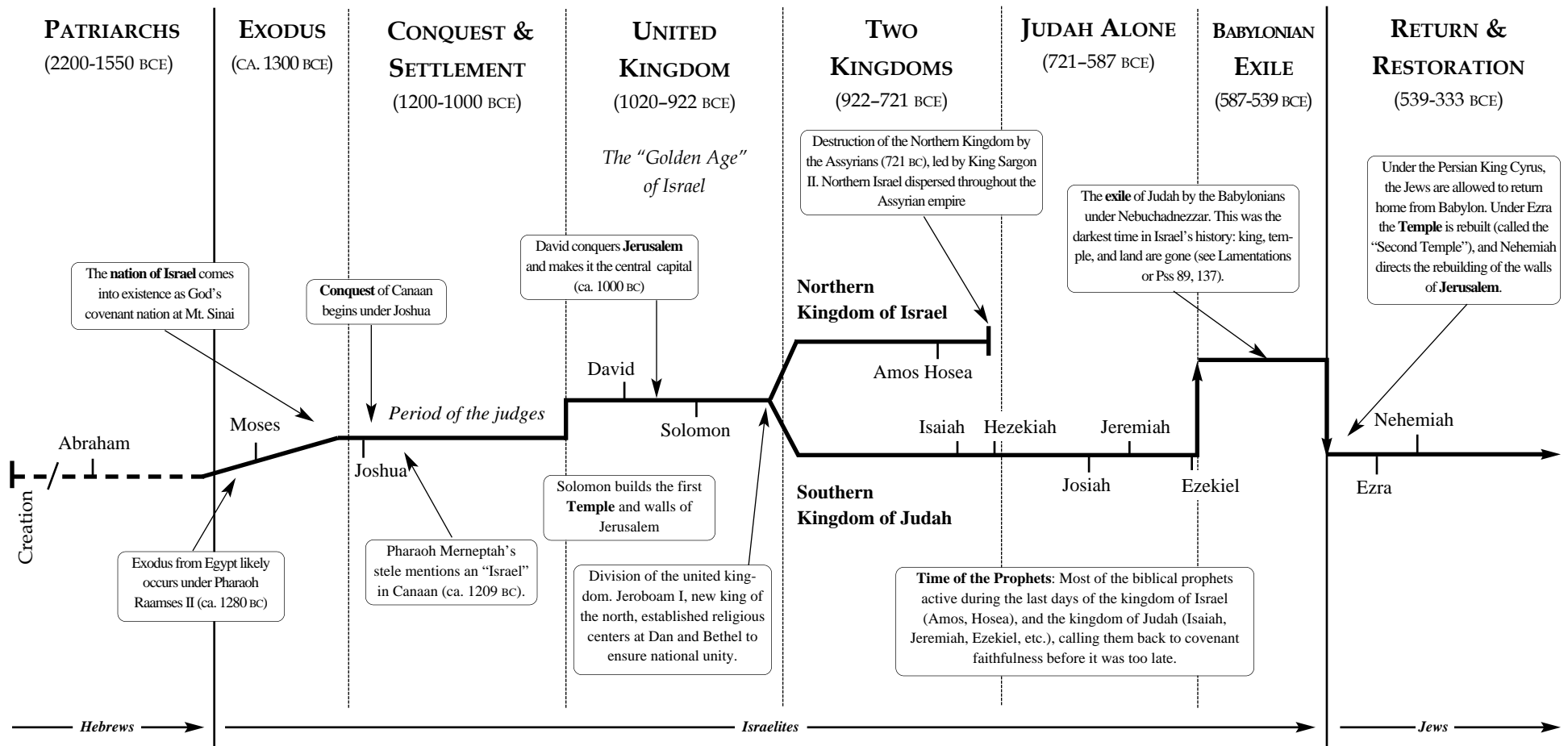


The Old Testament Story†



Genesis *Exod - Lev -Num - Deut* | *Joshua* *Judges* | *Samuel* *Kings* —
The "Primary History" of Israel. Covers the history of Israel from Creation to Exile. Made up of the Pentateuch (Genesis to Deuteronomy) + the "Deuteronomistic History" (Joshua through to 2Kings)

1Chronicles 1-9 (Genealogy from Adam) | *1Chron 10-29* | — *2Chronicles* — | *Ezra-Nehemiah*
The "Secondary History" of Israel. Covers the history of Israel from Creation to Return & Restoration. Made up of the "Chronicler's History" + Ezra-Nehemiah

• **ANE:** Major ANE superpower during this period was **Egypt** (Canaan under its control)

• **Hebrew People:** This was the formative period for the Hebrews. God's promise to Abraham (Genesis 12) set out God's plan of redemption, including: descendants ("great nation"); blessing ("I will bless you"); and land ("Go to the land I will show you").

• **ANE:** Philistines invade Canaan

• **Israel:** While the initial settlement appears to be a success (cf. Josh 1-12), Israel was continually plagued by infighting and oppression by foreign nations (see Judges).

• **ANE:** There is a power-vacuum in the ANE, allowing Israel to prosper

• **Israel:** High point for the nation; David established Israel militarily; Israel prospered economically and culturally under Solomon

• **ANE:** The Assyrians increase in power under Tiglath-Pileser III

• **Israel:** While N. Israel is more powerful than Judah, Israel's apostasy eventually brings upon them God's judgement (cf. 2Kings 17).

• **ANE:** Babylon displaces Assyria as the superpower of the ANE

• **Israel:** Despite some high points (Hezekiah, Josiah), Judah follows the kingdom of N. Israel to apostasy and its exile in Babylon. The Babylonian exile was a time of redefining Israelite faith and religion. Synagogues likely developed during this time, and many biblical books were completed.

• **ANE:** The Persians under Cyrus take control of the ANE

• **Israel:** Jews allowed to go home under Cyrus. Judaism emerges from the furnace of the exile. Israel is no longer an independent nation, but a province ("Yehud") of the mighty Persian empire.

† Prepared by Tyler F. Williams (2002).