



China

India

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Oceana-New World

Greco-Roman

Egypt

Mesopotamia-Assyria

Interactive Timeline of Events in the Bible in Perspective of World History

Using Bible Chronologies Described in [Halley's Bible Handbook](#), [The Ryrie Study Bible](#)
and [The Mystery of History](#) with Comparative World Chronologies from [Wikipedia](#)

Patriarchs Period

Abraham to Joseph

Exodus Period

Judges Period

Kings Period

Exile & Restoration

Jesus the Messiah

The Old Testament

Or click here to begin →



Prehistory to 2100 bc

China

Period of Three Sovereigns and Five Emperors ca. 2850
Start of Indus Valley civilization ca. 3000

India

Caral civilization (Peru) ca. 2700

Oceania-New World

Helladic (Greece) & Minoan civilization (Crete) ca. 2800

Greco-Roman

Ancient Egyptian civilization ca. 3100

Egypt

Old Kingdom

Rise of Mesopotamian civilization ca. 3400

Akkadian Empire

Mesopotamia-Assyria

Tower of Babel (uncertain)

← *The Age of the Patriarchs – Click Here to View Genealogy* →

Adam
4176

Click here to view how dates shown here were calculated

Noah's Flood
2520

Abraham
born in Ur
2166

4000 bc

Genesis 1-11

2500 bc

2100 bc

The Old Testament





Xia Dynasty
2070

2100 to 1700 bc

China

Xia Dynasty

Late Harappan
1700

India

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First Maya settlements

Oceania-New World

Greco-Roman

Joseph sold into slavery

1898 1878 Sesostris III (12th Dyn.) Hyksos invasion begins

Middle Kingdom Period

Egypt

Abraham enters promised land
2091

Early Assyrian Period

1876 Jacob enters Egypt

Hammurabi (uncertain)

Mesopotamia-Assyria

First Babylonian Dynasty

Abraham
2166

Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed

1991

Job *Period of story,
not date of writing*

Joseph becomes ruler in Egypt
1886

Ishmael
2080

Isaac
2066

Esau
Jacob
2006

1859

Joseph
1915

1805

Israelites in bondage in Egypt

2100

2000

Genesis 12-50

1800

1700

The Old Testament



Dates on this page are approximate and difficult to verify





Shang Dynasty

1600

1600 to 1400 bc

China

Shang Dynasty

Vedic Period

1500

Harappan

India

Vedic

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Oceania-New World

Mycenaean period (Greece)

Greco-Roman

Hyksos driven out
1570 (18th Dynasty)

Thutmose I

Amenhotep II

2nd Intermed. Period

Egypt

New Kingdom

Hyksos rule (15th dynasty)

Middle Assyrian Period

Jericho falls
1406

First Babylonian

Mesopotamia-Assyria

Middle Assyrian

Wilderness wandering

Moses dies
Joshua enters
Promised Land
1406

Exodus from Egypt
1446

Israelites in bondage in Egypt

Moses born
1526

Moses flees to Midian
1486

[Click here to view
journey between
Egypt and Moab](#)

1600

1550

Exodus

Lev

Num-Deut

1400

The Old Testament



Dates on this page are approximate and difficult to verify





1400 to 1050 bc

Zhou Dynasty

1122

China

Zhou Dynasty

"Epic India" period described in Sanskrit poems

India

Vedic

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Rise of Olmec culture in Mexico

Oceania-New World

Greek Dark Ages

Greco-Roman

Amenhotep IV and Nefertiti

1353

1333 Tutankhamen

1279 Ramses II (19th Dynasty)

Egypt

New Kingdom

Syro-Hittite regional states

Middle Assyrian

Mesopotamia-Assyria

Conquest & Settlement Period

Othniel

Ehud

Shamgar

Deborah and Barak

Gideon

Jephthah

Samson

Judges period begins

Late Date for Exodus
ca. 1250

Joshua | 1400

| 1300

Judges

| 1150

Ruth

| 1050

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Dates on this page are approximate and difficult to verify





1050 to 700 bc First generally accepted date in Chinese history 841

China Zhou Dynasty

"Epic India" period described in Sanskrit poems India Vedic

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Oceania-New World

Greco-Roman

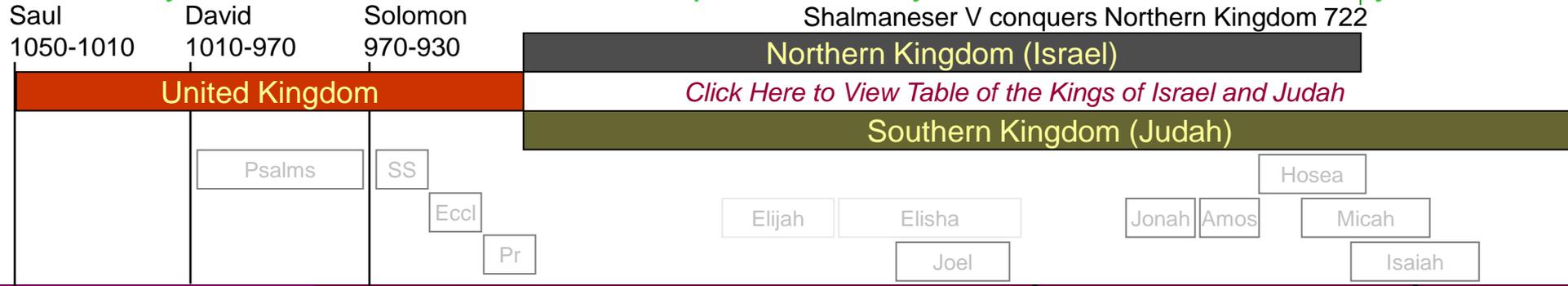
Ancient Greece
Homer 776 753 Founding of Rome

Shishak invades Jerusalem, Judah & Samaria
925

3rd Intermed. Period Egypt

Neo-Assyrian Empire 841 Jehu pays tribute (Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III)
850 Moabite Stone Shalmaneser V Hezekiah's Tunnel

Syr-Hittite Mesopotamia-Assyria Neo-Assyrian



[Click Here to View Table of the Kings of Israel and Judah](#)

Samuel / 1 Chr 950 Kings / 2 Chronicles 800 700

Writing dates of Poetry books difficult to ascertain

The Old Testament



Dates on this page are better established





Laozi (Taoism)
Tao Te Ching
ca. 600-500 ?

Confucius
551

700 to 4 bc

Qin Shi Huang and Qin Dynasty 221

220 Great Wall begins
206 Han Dynasty

Zhou Dynasty

China

Han Dynasty

Vedas & Upanishads
ca. 600-200

Siddhartha Gautama (Founder of Buddhism)
ca. 500-400
Ashoka the Great 274

Invention of paper (est.)
230 Middle Kingdoms Period

India

Middle Kingdoms

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Oceana-New World

Aesop

Temple of Artemis
550

Roman Republic
509 484 Herodotus

Alexander the Great begins conquest
334 323 Death of Alexander the Great

Greco-Roman

< Punic Wars >

Gauls sack Rome 390

Pompey conquers Jerusalem 63
250 Greek translation of Bible

3rd Intermed.

Persian / Late

Egypt

Ptolemaic

Nebuchadnezzar
Nineveh destroyed 605

Battle of Halys
May 28, 585

Cyrus the Great
540 Persian Empire

Darius I
522

Cleopatra VII 37

Division of Alexander's Kingdom

Neo-Babylonian

Mesopotamia-Assyria

Seleucids

Sennacherib's
siege of Jerusalem
701

587 Judah taken into Babylonian Captivity

539 Belshazzar
Edict of Cyrus
Zerubbabel returns to Jerusalem

333 Alexander the Great defeats Persia
165 Maccabean Revolt

Herod begins construction of the Temple

Judah

Nahum

Obadiah

Zephaniah

Ezekiel

Habbakkuk

Daniel

538

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

485-465 Xerxes I (Ahasuerus)

474-424 Artaxerxes I

Herod the Great
rules Judea
37

Kings / 2 Chr

Exile

Ezra Est Ezra/Neh

400

400 Years of Silence

100

The Old Testament



Most dates on this page are historically verifiable





4 bc to 100 ad

Height of Chinese territorial strength in Asia **China** **Han Dynasty**

Saka (Scythian) invaders take control of India

Shalivahana regains control 78

India **Middle Kingdoms**

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Oceana-New World

Emperor Tiberius 14

41 Claudius

37 Caligula (Gaius)

Nero 54

Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus 70

Titus 79

81 Domitian

Greco-Roman **Roman Empire**

John writes book of Revelation on Isle of Patmos (ca. 80)

Roman Egypt **Egypt**

Herod Antipas rules Galilee 4 bc

Pontius Pilate 26

Herod Agrippa I 41

52 Antonius Felix

66 First Jewish revolt

48 Agrippa II

59 Porcius Festus

Roman Syria **Mesopotamia-Assyria**

The Resurrection of Jesus is the Best Attested Event in History

Jesus the Messiah born in Bethlehem 4 bc

Jesus rises to life again on the third day following his death

Jesus executed by crucifixion

Public ministry of Jesus

John the Baptist executed by Herod 26

30 Jesus ascends into heaven 40 days later

Pentecost

Stephen martyred

Jesus appears to Paul

James Z martyred

Paul's missionary journeys 1st 2nd 3rd to Rome

Paul's Letters 1 2 Ti Tit

55 ad Gal

56 ad 1 Cor

57 ad 2 Cor

58 ad Rom

51 ad 1 2 Thess

61 ad Col Eph

61 ad Phil Philem

1 John

2 John

3 John

Matthew Mark Luke John

Acts

1 2 Pe

Hebrews

Jude

Revelation

Dating of letters is approximate

The New Testament



Dates on this page are historically verifiable

Return to Genesis

How Biblical Dates Were Calculated

The Lifespan of the Patriarchs

The lineage between Adam and Noah is given in Genesis 5; the entire lifespan and age at the time of the birth of each Patriarch's son is recorded. The lineage between Shem (Noah's son) and Abram is given in Genesis 11:10-32. In this section, the age at the time of the next son's birth is given and the remaining years until death, allowing for the calculation of the entire lifespan of each patriarch. View a graphic representation of the life spans of the Patriarchs here: 

Life spans and dates of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

According to Genesis 21:5, Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. Abraham's age at death is not recorded in Genesis, but tradition states an age of 175, which is used here. Genesis 25:26 records that Isaac was 60 when Esau and Jacob (twins) were born. Genesis 35:28 records that Isaac lived to the age of 180. According to Genesis 47:9, Jacob was 130 years old upon entering Egypt. Genesis does not record the age of Jacob at death, but tradition states 147. Genesis 50:22 states that the lifespan of Joseph was 110 years, but the age of Jacob at the time of Joseph's birth is not recorded and traditional estimates are used here to assign birth and death dates for Joseph.

Dating the Patriarch Period

All dates are back-calculated from later dates. The key passage that connects the later dates (see below) with the Patriarch period is Exodus 12:40, which states that the sons of Israel lived in Egypt for 430 years prior to the Exodus (that is, when Jacob entered Egypt at the age of 130). From here, proposed dates can be assigned to all the Patriarchs.

Date of Exodus from Egypt

1 Kings 6:1 states that the Exodus occurred 480 years before the fourth year of King Solomon's reign. King Solomon was thought to begin his reign in 970 bc, making 966 bc the fourth year. $966 - 480 \text{ years} = 1446 \text{ bc}$, which is the date used here (the so-called "Early date"). Other scholars say that the 480 years was symbolic of 12×40 years; 12 being the number of tribes and 40 the number of years in one generation. Since the actual time for each generation varies and would have been shorter than 40 years, the argument is that the Exodus date occurred later than 1446 bc, and a "Late date" of ca. 1250 bc is proposed by scholars that hold this view (the Late date is also shown here for reference).

Dates of Moses, Wilderness Wandering and the Beginning of Joshua's Leadership

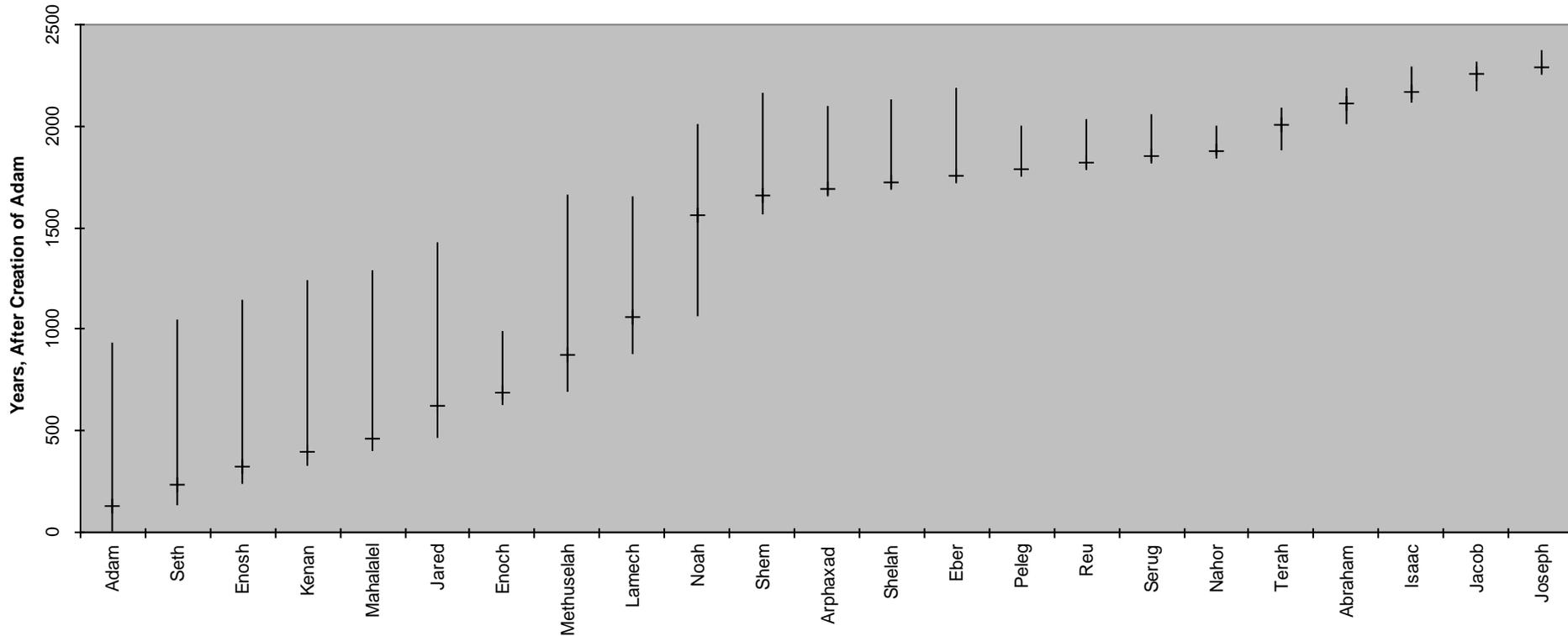
Deuteronomy 34:7 states that Moses was 120 at the time of his death. Taking a literal period of 40 years wandering in the wilderness (Numbers 14:33) would make him 80 at the time of the Exodus from Egypt, thus the dates given here are back-calculated based on the Early date for the Exodus. Joshua's leadership began immediately after Moses' death (Joshua 1:1).

In Summary

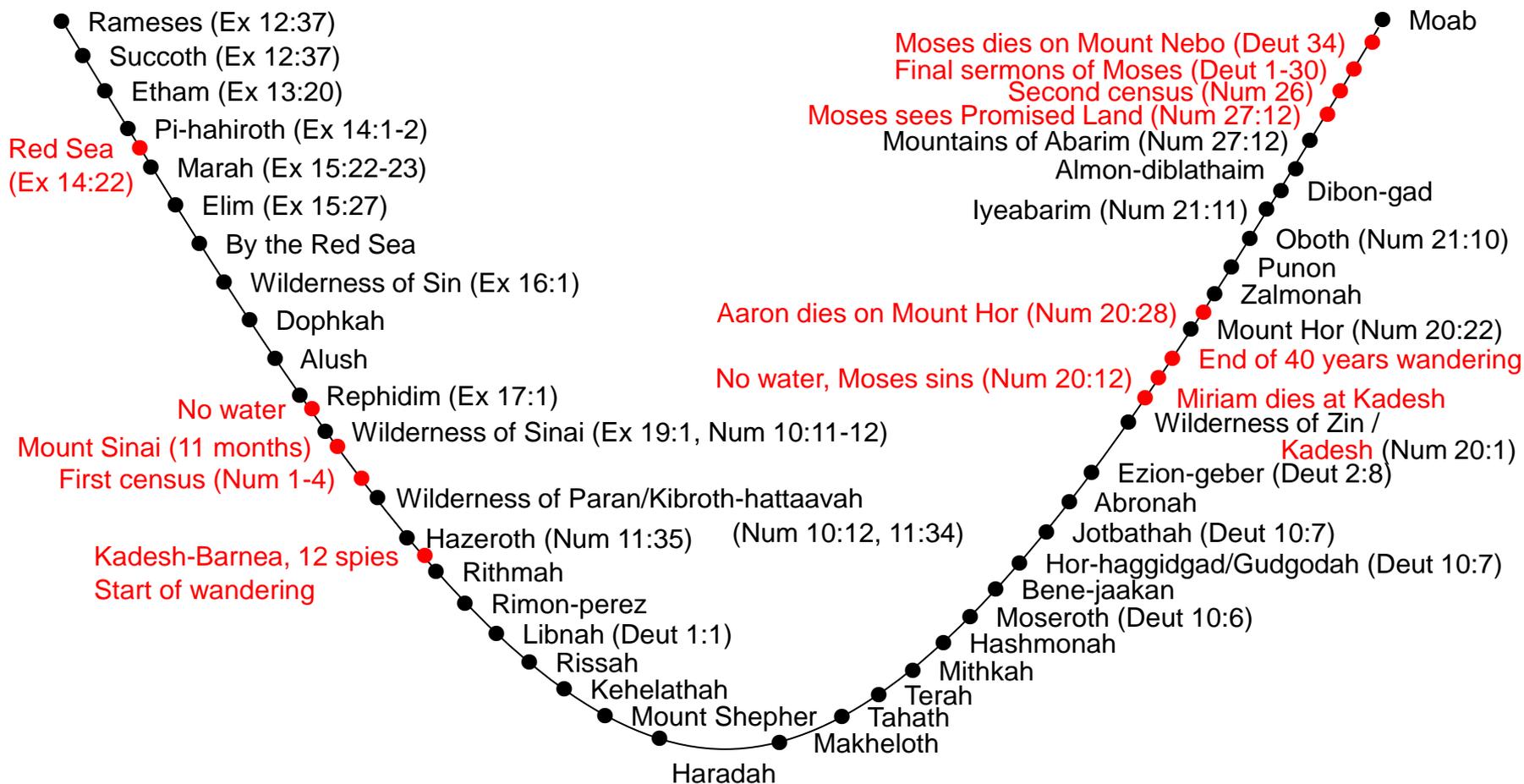
Starting with the extra-biblical date of 966 bc as the fourth year of Solomon's reign, the Exodus is backdated to 1446 bc according to 1 Kings 6:1, Jacob's entry into Egypt at the age of 130 was 1876 bc according to Genesis 47:9 and the remaining patriarch dates are calculated according to the descriptions in Genesis 5, 11, 21:5, 25:26 and 47:9.

Genealogy of the Patriarchs in Genesis

Lifespan of the Patriarchs according to Genesis 5, 11:10-32, 21:5, 25:26, 35:28, and 50:22. The vertical line represents birth (bottom of line) and death (top of line), with the cross-bar indicating the age when that Patriarch's son was born (all cross-bar values comes from ages recorded in Genesis, except Joseph, which isn't recorded so a traditional value is used instead).



Journey of Israelites from Egypt to Moab (Numbers 33)



The journey from Egypt to Moab went in 41 stages over a period of 40 years.

All place references from Deut are made by Moses reflecting back during his sermons on the plains of Moab.

Places without a reference are mentioned only in Numbers 33.

Years of Reign During the Divided Kingdom

<i>Kings of Israel</i>		<i>Kings of Judah</i>	
Jeroboam	933 – 911	Rehoboam	933 – 916
Nadab	911 – 910	Abijah	915 – 913
Baasha	910 – 887	Asa	915 – 872
Elah	887 – 886		
Zimri	886		
Omri	886 – 875		
Ahab	875 – 854	Jehoshaphat	874 – 850
Ahaziah	855 – 854	Jehoram	850 – 843
Joram	854 – 843	Ahaziah	843
Jehu	843 – 816	Athaliah (F)	843 – 837
Jehoahaz	820 – 804	Joash	843 – 803
Joash	806 – 790	Amaziah	803 – 775
Jeroboam II	790 – 749	Uzziah	787 – 735
Zechariah	748	Jotham	749 – 734
Shallum	748		
Menahem	748 – 738		
Pekahiah	738 – 736	Ahaz	741 – 726
Pekah	748 – 730		
Hoshea	730 – 721	Hezekiah	726 – 697
		Manasseh	697 – 642
		Amon	641 – 640
		Josiah	639 – 608
		Jehoahaz	608
		Jehoiakim	608 – 597
		Jehoiachin	597
		Zedekiah	597-586

Kings that did what was evil in the sight of the Lord are shown in black

Kings that did what was right in the sight of the Lord are shown in red

(F) = Female From Halley's Bible Handbook, 25th Edition, p. 243



Major Events in Chinese History

2850-2205 bc	Three Sovereigns and Five Emperors period
2070-1600 bc	Xia Dynasty
1600-1046 bc	Shang Dynasty
1122-256 bc	Zhou Dynasty
841 bc	First generally accepted date in Chinese history
841-848 bc	Gonghe (共和) regency
551-479 bc	Kong Fuzi (Confucius)
544-496 bc	Sun Zi (author of <i>The Art of War</i>)
6 th or 4 th century bc	Laozi (found of Taoism and author of <i>Tao Te Ching</i>)
481-402	Zisi
372-289	Meng Zi (Mencius)
370-301	Zhuang Zi
310-238	Xun Zi
221-206 bc	Qin Dynasty
220 bc	Qin Shi Huang begins construction of Great Wall
206 bc – 220 ad	Han Dynasty (Height of China's influence and power in Asia)
156-87 bc	Emperor Wu, considered China's greatest emperor, institutes Confucianism as official belief system in China
2 nd century bc	Paper invented (but not used for writing until 1 st century bc)
220-280 ad	Three Kingdoms period
265-420 ad	Jin Dynasty
304-439 ad	16 Kingdoms
420-589 ad	Southern & Northern Dynasties
581-619 ad	Sui Dynasty
618-907 ad	Tang Dynasty
907-1125 ad	Liao Dynasty
907-960 ad	5 Dynasties & 10 Kingdoms
960-1279 ad	Song Dynasty
1271-1368 ad	Yuan Dynasty
1368-1644 ad	Ming Dynasty
1644-1911 ad	Qing Dynasty
1911-1949 ad	Republic of China
1949-present	People's Republic of China



Major Events in Indian History

3300-1700 bc	Indus Valley Civilization
1700-1300 bc	Late Harappan Culture
1500-500 bc	Vedic Period
14 th -8 th century bc	Epic India period of Kingdoms as described in Mahabharata and Ramayana (see below)
7 th -3 rd century bc	Vedas and Upanishads (Hindu scriptures)
6 th -5 th century bc	Siddhartha Gautama (Founder of Buddhism)
5 th -4 th century bc	Period of Sanskrit epic poem Mahabharata
4 th -2 nd century bc	Period of Sanskrit epic poem Ramayana
230 bc – 1289 ad	Middle Kingdoms
1 st century bc	Saka (Scythian) invaders gain control in India
78-106 ad	Gautamiputra Satakarni (Shalivahan) regains control of India from Scythians; ardent supporter of Hinduism
1206-1596 ad	Islamic Sultanates
1526-1707 ad	Mughal Empire
1674-1818 ad	Maratha Empire
1716-1849 ad	Sikh Confederacy
1858-1947 ad	British India
1947-present	Modern States



Major Events in Oceana-New World History

2620-2020 bc	First settlements in New World (Caral civilization of Peru)
1800 bc	First Maya settlements (Mexico and Central America)
1200-400 bc	Olmec culture (Mexico)
650-1050 ad	Mississippian period in central North America (Cahokia, Illinois)
1248-1541 ad	Aztec Civilization (Mexico)
1438-1533 ad	Incan Civilization (Peru)
ca. 1450 ad	Construction of Incan city Macchu Pichu (Peru)
1493 ad	Initial European contact in New World and beginning of period of conquest and colonization
16 th century bc	Spanish conquest of South and Central Americas
1601 ad	First Europeans arrive in Australia
18 th -19 th century ad	Period of independence in New World



Major Events in Greco-Roman History

2800-2100 bc	Early Helladic civilization (Greece)
2700-1450 bc	Minoan civilization (Crete)
1600-1100 bc	Mycanaean culture
1200-800 bc	Greek Dark Ages
776-323 bc	Ancient Greece
753 bc	Founding of Rome (according to legend)
753-509 bc	Rule of 7 Kings of Rome
509-27 bc	Roman Republic
390 bc	Gauls invade and sack Rome
356-323 bc	Alexander the Great
323-146 bc	Hellenistic period of Greece
264-146 bc	Punic Wars (Rome)
187-3 rd century ad	Roman period in Greece
197-158 bc	Parchment (animal skin) for writing perfected under Eumenes II of Pergamum
146-144 bc	Civil war (Rome)
27 bc – 1453 ad	Roman Empire (Italy)
14-37 ad	Tiberius Emperor of Rome
26-36 ad	Pontius Pilate governor of Iudaeae (Judean) province
37-41 ad	Caligula Emperor of Rome
41-54 ad	Claudius Emperor of Rome
52-59 ad	Antonius Felix procurator of Iudaeae province
54-68 ad	Nero Emperor of Rome
59-62 ad	Procius Festus procurator of Iudaeae province
69-79 ad	Vespasian Emperor of Rome
70 ad	Siege and destruction of Jerusalem by General Titus
79-81 ad	Titus Emperor of Rome
81-96 ad	Domitian Emperor of Rome
235-1453 ad	Byzantium Empire of Greece
1453-1821 ad	Ottoman period in Greece
1500-1600s ad	Italian Renaissance
1600-1900s ad	Period of foreign domination in Italy
1821-present	Modern Greece
1861-1945	Italian Monarchy and Fascist period
1945-present	Italian republic



Major Events in Egyptian History

3100-525 bc

3100-2890 bc

ca. 3000 bc

2630-2180 bc

2180-2055 bc

2030-1640 bc

1640-1550 bc

1570-1070 bc

1070-525 bc

525-332 bc

525-404 bc

404-343 bc

343-332

332-30 bc

332 bc

30 bc-639 ad

639-1517 ad

1517-1805 ad

1805-1882 ad

1882-present

Ancient Egypt

Early Dynastic Period (1st to 2nd dynasties)

Invention of papyrus for writing

Old Kingdom (3rd to 6th dynasties)

First Intermediate Period (7th to 11th dynasties)

Middle Kingdom (11th to 14th dynasties)

Second Intermediate Period (15th to 17th dynasties): Hyksos rule during 15th to 16th dynasties

New Kingdom (18th to 20th dynasties)

Third Intermediate Period (21th to 26th dynasties)

Achaemenid (Persian) Egypt (Late Period)

First Persian period (27th dynasty)

28th to 30th dynasties of the Late Period

Second Persian period (31st dynasty)

Ptolemaic Egypt

Alexander the Great liberates Egypt from Persian rule

Roman Egypt

Arab Egypt

Ottoman Egypt

Muhammad Ali Dynasty

Modern Egypt



Major Events in Mesopotamian-Assyrian History

6 th -4 th millennia bc	Ubaid and Uruk periods (uncertain)
2900-2350 bc	Early dynastic city states
2350-2193 bc	Akkadian Empire
2119-2004 bc	Sumerian Renaissance
2000-1700 bc	Early Assyrian Period
1810-1750 bc	Hammurabi (uncertain)
1700-1600 bc	First Babylonian Dynasty
1500-1100 bc	Middle Assyrian Period
1000-600 bc	Syro-Hittite regional states
900-605 bc	Neo-Assyrian Empire
727-722 bc	Reign of Shalmaneser V
722 bc	Fall of Israel and deportation to Assyria
705-681 bc	Reign of Sennacherib
701 bc	Sennacherib lays seige to Jerusalem in Judah
605-540 bc	Neo-Babylonian Empire
605-562 bc	Nebuchadnezzar II (the Great) (Babylon)
587 bc	Fall of Judah and start of Babylonian Captivity (Exile)
585 bc	Battle of Halys or Battle of the Eclipse between Medes and Lydians on the Halys river (Kizilirmak river in modern Turkey)
539 bc	Fall of Neo-Babylonian Empire to Cyrus the Great
550-333 bc	Achaemenid Persian Empire
550-530 bc	Rule of Cyrus the Great
539 bc	Neo-Babylonian Empire conquered
522-486 bc	Rule of Darius the Great (son-in-law of Cyrus the Great)
486-465 bc	Reign of Xerxes the Great (son of Darius the Great); possibly the Ahasuerus of Esther
474-424 bc	Reign of Artaxerxes I (son of Xerxes); he issued a decree that allowed Ezra to return to Jerusalem (Ezra 7)
333 bc	Alexander the Great defeats Persians
320 bc	Beginning of Seleucids Period
63 bc	Syria passes into Roman control
37-4 bc	Herod the Great rules Judea
20 bc	Herod begins construction of the Second Temple
4 bc-6 ad	Herod Archelaus (son of Herod the Great) ethnarch of Samaria, Judea and Idumea
4 bc-34 ad	Herod Philip II (brother of Archelaus) tetrarch of Ituraea and Trachonitis (Luke 3:1)
4 bc-39 ad	Herod Antipas tetrarch of Galilee and Perea
26 ad	Executes John the Baptist
30 ad	Pontius Pilate sends Jesus to him during Jesus' trial
41-44 ad	Herod Agrippa I (grandson of Herod the Great) tetrarch of Judea
44 ad	Executed the apostle James son of Zebedee and arrested the apostle Peter
48-53 ad	Herod Agrippa II, tetrarch of Chalcis and last of the Herodians, before whom the apostle Paul appeared on trial (Acts 25-26)
66 ad	First Jewish revolt
70 ad	Seige and destruction of Jerusalem and Herod's temple by Titus (then a general, before he became Emperor)
1 st -3 rd century ad	Gradual loss of Roman control
3 rd -7 th century ad	Much of the region under Sassanian control
7 th -8 th century ad	Islamic conquest and expansion period
1300-1922 ad	Region under control of Ottoman empire
20 th century-present	Modern nation states

