

A Basic History of the Nation Israel

These studies are designed for believers in Jesus Christ only. If you have exercised faith in Christ, then you are in the right place. If you have not, then you need to heed the words of our Lord, Who said, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten [or, uniquely-born] Son, so that every [one] believing [or, trusting] in Him shall not perish, but shall be have eternal life! For God did not send His Son into the world so that He should judge the world, but so that the world shall be saved through Him. The one believing [or, trusting] in Him is not judged, but the one not believing has already been judged, because he has not believed in the Name of the only-begotten [or, uniquely-born] Son of God.” (John 3:16–18). “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life! No one comes to the Father except through [or, by means of] Me!” (John 14:6).

Every study of the Word of God ought to be preceded by a naming of your sins to God. This restores you to fellowship with God (1John 1:8–10). If we acknowledge our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1John 1:9). If there are people around, you would name these sins silently. If there is no one around, then it does not matter if you name them silently or whether you speak aloud.

This doctrine was taken from lesson #215 of the Basic Exegesis series.

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The 4th stage of national discipline is being ruled over by another country.

The 5th stage of national discipline is being removed from the land of promise by a foreign power.

Sodom went through these stages of discipline before God removed the city and her population from history as a city-nation (the 6th stage of national discipline, which is not applicable to Israel).

A Brief History of Israel		
Dates	Events	Books of the Bible
2100–1885 B.C.	Abraham moved to the land of Canaan, as God had told him to do. At age 100, he fathers Isaac, who is heir to the promises God made to Abraham. Isaac has twins, one of whom—Jacob—is heir to the promises. Jacob has 12 sons. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Jacobs sons and daughters-in-law are Jews, heirs to the promises of God.	Gen. 12–40
1885–1859 B.C.	Joseph, a son of Jacob, is made prime minister of Egypt. Because of a drought, his father and 11 brothers move to Egypt.	Gen. 41–50
1859–1480 B.C.	At some point, the Jews become enslaved to the people of Egypt and remained their slaves for about 400 years. .	No Scripture written. References to this in several places in the Bible.
1480–1440 B.C.	After the Jews have been enslaved to the Egyptians for the larger portion of 400 years, Moses leads the children of Israel out of Egypt and they spend 40 years in the desert. God uses that time in the desert to administer the sin unto death to the adults who left Egypt.	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
1440–1050 B.C.	After 40 years in the desert, the Jews moved into the Land of Promise (also called the Land of Canaan) and that land became Israel. They took the land by military force. There was no king in Israel during this time period.	Joshua, Judges, Ruth, the first portion of 1Samuel

A Brief History of Israel

Dates	Events	Books of the Bible
1050–930 B.C.	Israel was a united kingdom under kings Saul, David and Solomon. The Ark of God was separated from the Tabernacle before Saul; and David later brought the Ark to Jerusalem. The Temple is built by Solomon, and the Ark and the Tabernacle were kept there at Solomon's Temple.	1Samuel 2 Samuel 1Kings 1–11 1Chron. 10–2Chron. 9 Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon
930–721 B.C.	The northern kingdom (Ephraim, sometimes called Israel, and later known as Samaria) separates from the southern kingdom (Judah). Both nations continue as two separate countries; but both are client nations to God.	2Kings 12–16 Jonah, Amos and Hosea minister mostly to the northern kingdom; Obadiah (?) and Joel to the southern kingdom.
721 B.C.	Assyria administers the 5 th stage of national discipline to the northern kingdom (i.e., the people are removed from their land and killed or made slaves).	2Kings 17
721–586 B.C.	Judah continues as an autonomous kingdom and client nation to God. However, during this time, Assyria threatened Judah in the same way as it threatened the northern kingdom, and it was the people who responded to Isaiah's ministry which led to the neutralizing of the threat of Assyria (2Sam. 19:35 Isa. 37:36).	2Kings 18–24 2Chron. 10–36 Prophets: Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Habakkuk.
612 B.C.	Nineveh, the capitol of Assyria, was destroyed by the Babylonians. The city of <i>Nineveh</i> may sound familiar because Jonah was sent there by God earlier to sound the warning of national discipline, and the people responded positively. However, about two centuries later, the people rejected God and were destroyed.	See the book of Jonah

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Dates	Events	Books of the Bible
586 B.C.	The 5 th stage of national discipline is administered to Judah: Jerusalem is destroyed by the Babylonians after two previous deportations of Jews out of Judah. The Temple and city walls of Jerusalem are destroyed.	2Kings 25
586–516 B.C.	The Jews are held in captivity by Babylon, and then by the Medo-Persian empire, which defeated the Babylonians in 539 B.C. ¹ In 536 B.C., Cyrus decrees that Jews can begin to return to Jerusalem.	Esther, Daniel, Ezekiel (?) Nehemiah, Ezra
516–167 B.C.	The <u>Temple was rebuilt</u> , and the Jews resided in the land of promise, but under a variety of rulers (the Persians, the Greek or Macedonian empire, the Egyptian empire, the Syrian empire). They never came out from under the 4 th stage of national discipline during this time period.	Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi Old Testament canon closed around 400 B.C.
167–63 B.C.	The Jews appear to have briefly emerged from the 4 th stage of national discipline and were under the Maccabean empire for about a century.	The Old Testament was both codified and translated into Greek, which would have been the dominant language in Israel.
63 B.C.–70 A.D.	The Jews were ruled over by the Roman empire. Herod rebuilds the <u>Temple</u> . The Romans finally administer the 5 th stage of national discipline to the Jews in A.D. 70, and they destroy Herod's Temple.	The New Testament

The dates above are sometimes approximate and many came from *The Narrated Bible*.

¹ Cyrus the Great on the Cyrus Cylinder recorded these words: "...I am Cyrus. King of the world. When I entered Babylon...I did not allow anyone to terrorize the land...I kept in view the needs of the people and all its sanctuaries to promote their well-being...I put an end to their misfortune. The Great God has delivered all the lands into my hand; the lands that I have made to dwell in a peaceful habitation..." From cyrusthegreat.net accessed October 10, 2012.

You may find it helpful to look back at this table when reading through the words of the various prophets.

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