

TIMELINE: Origins Part 1 – The Covenant

c. 2000 B.C. God promises Abraham and his descendants the Land of Canaan from the river of Egypt to the river Euphrates.

c. 1270 B.C. The Israelites conquer the Land under the leadership of Joshua son of Nun.

c. 1000 B.C. King David becomes ruler and sets his capital in Jerusalem. He is followed by his son Solomon who builds the Temple. It is at this point that the kingdom reaches its height.

934 B.C. After Solomon's death, the kingdom splits in two. Ten tribes form the kingdom of Israel. The remaining two tribes form the kingdom of Judah.

722 B.C. The kingdom of Israel is destroyed by the Assyrians. The tribes are exiled and become known as the 10 Lost Tribes.

587 B.C. The Babylonians besiege Jerusalem, destroy the Temple and exile the tribes of Judah and Benjamin.

548 B.C. Cyrus king of Persia conquers the Babylonians and permits the Jews to return to their land.

516 B.C. A group of former exiles rebuilds the Temple.

332 B.C. Alexander the Great conquers the Holy Land.

167 B.C. The Maccabees revolt against the Hellenizing influences of the Seleucid Empire which persecutes traditional Jews. They establish the Hasmonean Dynasty which rules 100 years, from 164 B.C. to 63 B.C.

63 B.C. Rome conquers the Holy Land.

66 A.D. The Jews revolt and hold out for four years before Roman General Titus conquers Jerusalem and destroys the Second Temple in 70 A.D.

73 A.D. Masada, a final holdout of Jewish rebels, is conquered by the Romans. The Jews in the fortress commit suicide rather than fall into the hands of the Romans.

132 A.D. The Jews make one last attempt to throw off the Roman yoke in what is known as the Bar Kochba revolt.

136 A.D. Rome crushes the revolt. It renames Israel Syria Palaestina and the capital of Jerusalem it calls Aelia Capitolina.