

LifePoint Adult Discipleship

PLAN & PROMISE

Year 3: Doctrine & Devotion

³³ *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom
and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments
and how inscrutable his ways!*

³⁴ *“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?”*

³⁵ *“Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”*

³⁶ *For from him and through him
and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.*

Romans 11:33-36

WELCOME

to year three of LifePoint's discipleship program, Plan and Promise: Doctrine and Devotion. This four-year course is designed to give you an understanding of the big picture of God's Word. The weekly classes, along with this devotional, are designed to help you develop a routine and a desire to be in the Word daily. God's written Word is to be your guide and your source of blessing. The Bible reveals God, for the Bible is God's very Word. Through His Word, God makes Himself known. You cannot fully know God or grow in your faith without it. As Moses told Israel in Deuteronomy 32:47, "For it is no empty word for you, but your very life..."

This third year of Plan and Promise will continue the story of God's people in God's place under God's rule experiencing God's blessing. The year will begin with a lengthy study of Paul's letter to Rome and culminate with a look at his prison epistles. Sandwiched between those letters will be a study of Israel's post-exilic literature and the hope of national redemption. This third year will contain two main sections:

Old Testament Literature II: National Redemption and the Suffering Servant This section will explore the meaning of God's covenant promises in the complexity of His historical relationship with His people and His continued faithfulness as they return from exile. There will be a focus on Isaiah's pre-exilic prophecy explaining their prior spiritual fall that resulted in the Babylonian Exile. This study will be highlighted with a look at the most vivid—and paradoxical—portrayal of the Messiah as the suffering-servant and King.

New Testament Literature II: Doctrine and the Pastorals The nuances and mysteries of theology and practice will be presented through the deep and formative text of Romans. Highlighted by an intense and focused study on the issues of sanctification, predestination, glorification, life in the Spirit, as well as other theological topics. Finally we will turn to the Christology and instruction of Paul's Prison Epistles and the ecclesiology of the Pastoral Epistles.

A special thanks to the following people for helping bring this study together:

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YEAR 3 SCHEDULE

<i>Week</i>	<i>Scripture</i>
1	Romans 1
2	Romans 2
3	Romans 3
4	Romans 4
5	Romans 5
6	Romans 6
7	Romans 7
8	Romans 8
9	Romans 9
10	Romans 10
11	Romans 11
12	Romans 12
13	Romans 13
14	Romans 14
15	Romans 15
16	Romans 16
17	1 Chronicles 1–9
18	1 Chronicles 10–17
19	1 Chronicles 18–22
20	1 Chronicles 23–29
21	2 Chronicles 1–7
22	2 Chronicles 8–18
23	2 Chronicles 19–28
24	2 Chronicles 29–36
25	Ezra 1–6
26	Ezra 7–10
27	Nehemiah 1:1–1:4
28	Nehemiah 7:5–10:39
29	Nehemiah 11–13
30	Isaiah 1–18
31	Isaiah 19–39
32	Isaiah 40–55
33	Isaiah 56–66
34	Haggai 1–2
35	Zechariah 1–4
36	Zechariah 5–9
37	Zechariah 10–14

YEAR 2 SCHEDULE...continued

<i>Week</i>	<i>Scripture</i>
38	Malachi 1-4
39	Ephesians 1-3
40	Ephesians 4-6
41	Colossians 1-2
42	Colossians 3-4
43	Philemon
44	Philippians 1-2
45	Philippians 3-4
46	1 Timothy 1-2
47	1 Timothy 3-6
48	2 Timothy 1-2
49	2 Timothy 3-4
50	Titus 1-3

ROMANS 1

1. What appears to be Paul's relationship with the church at Rome? Had he ever been there before? (Romans 1:13; 15:22-29)
2. What are some details of the gospel that Paul mentions in Romans 1:2-6?
3. Why is Paul unashamed of the gospel?
4. In what way is the wrath of God being revealed in Romans 1:18-32?
5. What has man done with the truth?
6. Who is Paul's audience in chapter 1? Jew or Gentile?

NOTES:

ROMANS 2

1. In this chapter, is Paul primarily addressing Jews or Gentiles?
2. What is God's kindness intended to produce? Explain how it does that.
3. How do verses 6–8 impact our understanding of justification by faith alone?
4. What does Paul mean by saying that those who are without the law will perish without the law?
5. In Paul's discussion of circumcision, what is the main point that he is making?

NOTES:

ROMANS 3

1. What are the benefits of being a Jew, according to Paul?
2. Chapter 3 paints a rough picture of man. What are some things that Paul reveals about man, and why does he do this?
3. Define:
 - Justification
 - Redemption
 - Propitiation
4. What does it mean that God “passed over former sins” in verse 25?
5. What are the grounds for our justification?

NOTES:

ROMANS 4

1. Describe how Paul's argument about working and wages helps us to understand justification by grace through faith in verses 4 and 5.
2. By tying our justification by grace through faith to Abraham, how is Paul showing evidence that it is not by circumcision? (Hint: When was it declared that Abraham's faith was counted to him as righteousness?)
3. What is the relationship between circumcision and the righteousness we have by faith? How might this compare to the relationship between baptism in the New Covenant and our righteousness that we have through faith in Jesus Christ?
4. What does Paul mean when he says that where there is no law there is no transgression?
5. What does it mean for Jesus to be delivered up for our trespasses? What does it mean that Jesus was raised for our justification?

NOTES:

ROMANS 5

1. How should we understand the peace we have with God? Is it our peace with him, his being at peace with us, or both? Explain.
2. What is our hope in which we rejoice? How does that hope help us endure sufferings now?
3. How does our present justification relate to the future reality of God's wrath (verses 9–10)?
4. The judicial punishment of death spreading to all men is a result of Adam's sin. What theological doctrine does this passage support?
5. Does verse 18 teach that all people will have life and justification because of the work of Jesus Christ? If not, what is the relationship between the roles of Adam and Jesus that makes sense of this passage?

NOTES:

ROMANS 6

1. What does baptism signify (verses 3–4)?
2. The death we died with Christ set us free, but from what?
3. What does it mean to be dead to sin (verse 11)?
4. Why does sin not have dominion over us, and what is the effective cause of our being set free from its bondage?
5. Among other things, we see in the Christian life the reality that in order to be freed from the tyranny of sin we must become slaves to righteousness. How does this thought of freedom through slavery find practical application in your life?
6. What is the only currency that sin uses (verses 23)? What is the free gift of God and how is it found?

NOTES:

ROMANS 7

1. How does Paul introduce covenant language in chapter 7, and why does he use it?
2. There is some debate about whether or not Paul is describing his life before or after his conversion in verses 7–25. What do you think and why?
3. What is the real problem with the law?
4. What ultimately produced death in Paul?
5. What does Paul mean when he says that “sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure” in verse 13?

NOTES:

ROMANS 8

1. Why can Paul say that there is no condemnation in Christ?
2. What does it mean to walk according to the flesh? What does it mean to walk according to the Spirit?
3. When we have the firstfruits of the Holy Spirit, we groan inwardly. Why is this the case? What are we ultimately waiting for?
4. How does the Holy Spirit intercede for believers? Considering the manner of this intercession, does this encourage you in prayer?
5. Some have called Romans 8:29–30 the golden chain of salvation. Do you agree with this assessment? Think through this relationship and take note of any questions you might have regarding things such as election, foreknowledge, predestination, etc.
6. Why can we be so confident that God will surely hold us fast all the way to glory (verse 32)?

NOTES:

ROMANS 9

1. With the apparent rejection of their Messiah, it would appear that the promises made to Israel had failed. What is Paul's answer to this statement in verse 6?
2. Do you think Paul is making a case for individual election or for corporate election in Romans 9? Explain your answer.
3. Are there any conditions placed on the election described in verses 11–12?
4. What does Paul mean when he quotes, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated"? Remember that this is an OT quote from Malachi 1:2–3, so do not forget to take into consideration OT context.
5. Who is responsible for Pharaoh's hard heart?

NOTES:

ROMANS 10

1. What is the nature of Israel's zeal in verse 2?
2. What constitutes a legitimate confession that Jesus is Lord? Can we simply pay him lip service without truly submitting to him as Lord?
3. The finished work of Christ has broken down ethnic barriers that had previously kept people out of the kingdom. How does Paul apply this truth in verses 12–13?
4. Describe in your own words the logical flow of thought that Paul gives in verses 14–17.
5. What is one intended outcome of the calling of the Gentiles into the kingdom of God, according to Paul in verse 19?

NOTES:

ROMANS 11

1. According to Paul, are all Israel (verse 26) truly Israel? What scripture does Paul refer to in order to stress this point?
2. What is the ultimate reason, according to Paul, for the large majority of Israel's unbelief?
3. Paul warns the Gentile believers against something specific in verses 17–24. What is it?
4. When Paul writes, "In this way all Israel will be saved," what is the way he is talking about?
5. The final doxology that culminates Romans 9–11 magnifies God for his wisdom. Think back through Romans 9–11 and write down as many concepts as you can find that magnify the wisdom of God in redemptive history.

NOTES:

ROMANS 12

1. How does Paul signify a shift into theological application in verse 1?
2. How are we to go about not being conformed to this world any longer? How does the renewal of mind come?
3. Who is the ultimate giver of the gifts mentioned in verses 6–8? How should that impact how we view the nature of the gifts within the body, and specifically our own gifts?
4. There is much to be said about our union in the body in verses 9–21. What are some of the most striking virtues for you in this list? Explain.
5. How should the hope of God's vengeance on behalf of his people impact our lives today?

NOTES:

ROMANS 13

1. When discussing submission to governing authorities (Romans 13:1), how is this consistent with the concept of submission elsewhere in scripture (i.e. what principle drives the discussion)?
2. Discuss the relationship between Romans 13:1–7 and Acts 4:19–20.
3. How is the law fulfilled in the lives of believers (Romans 13:8)? How is this the case considering the vast number of laws laid out in the Old Testament (verses 9–10)?
4. How can Paul say that salvation is “nearer now than when we first believed” in Romans 13:11?
5. When would it be acceptable for a Christian to rebel against the government?

NOTES:

1. Summarize Romans 14:1–4.
2. What is the relationship between the judgment of other believers as it relates to amoral issues and despising fellow believers (Romans 14:10)?
3. Describe how the judgment described above can have a negative impact on fellow believers (Rom. 14:13).
4. How might you sum up Paul's instructions for us in Romans 14:15–21?
5. How are faith and doubt linked together in Romans 14:22–23? Is this the same as initial faith in Christ and doubts about Christ? If not, describe the faith and doubt Paul is speaking about.

NOTES:

ROMANS 15

1. Trace Paul's argument in Romans 15:1–7. Who is he addressing? Who is our example? Where do we find encouragement? What is our motivation? Who sustains us in the process?
2. How does Paul's discussion in Romans 15:1–7 provide an appropriate backdrop for his discussion of Christ as a servant in verses 8–9?
3. What do Paul's references to Old Testament passages dealing with the hope of the Gentiles indicate about God's saving purposes?
4. Where does Paul desire to preach the gospel according to Romans 15:20–21?
5. As you read Romans 15:22–24, does it seem as though Paul had visited the Roman Christians in the past? How then might the church in Rome have been established (Acts 2)?
6. Paul's desire is to eventually travel where? How is the church in Rome to assist Paul in this process?

NOTES:

ROMANS 16

1. What does it say about the relationship of the early Christians that Paul, having never been to Rome, still knows who some of these people are (Romans 1:8)?
2. What warning does Paul offer in this chapter?
3. What promise does Paul offer in this chapter to encourage these Christians?
4. What is the motivation of the false teachers (Romans 16:18)?
5. Summarize Paul's doxology.
6. List three things you learned through the study of Romans.

NOTES:

1 CHRONICLES 1–9

1. Given the historical context of this book, why do you think the author begins with a fairly extensive genealogy that runs from Adam to King Saul?
2. How is the genealogy structured?
3. Who are the women listed in this genealogy?
4. What is stated as the role of the Levites in chapter 6?
5. Given the context why do you think the author repeats the genealogy of Saul?

NOTES:

1 CHRONICLES 10–17

1. How are the accounts of Saul's death in chapter 10 and 1 Samuel 31 and 2 Samuel 1 different?
2. In chapter 11 Eleazar is listed as someone who gave David strong support in his victory over the Philistines, but the text indicates that the main reason for David's victory came from someone else. Who does it appear to be?
3. What does David do differently when he moves the Ark of the Covenant the second time?
4. What are some of the dominant themes in David's prayer in chapter 16?
5. What is God promising David in chapter 17? How does David respond?

NOTES:

1 CHRONICLES 18–22

1. How do you begin to see God's faithfulness to David in chapter 17 being enacted in chapter 18?
2. Why would David hamstring the horses instead of using them?
3. Who was Hanun and how did David respond to him?
4. 1 Chronicles 20:1–3 corresponds to what event in 2 Samuel? Why do you think some of the sordid details are omitted?
5. Why was taking a census met with such opposition from God?

NOTES:

1 CHRONICLES 23–29

1. How was the census in chapter 23 different from that in chapter 21?
2. Some of the duties of the Levites were decided by casting lots. Why don't we cast lots today to make decisions?
3. What three families were set apart for the ministry of prophesying with musical instruments?
4. Who were the gatekeepers of the temple?
5. What were the main themes in David's charge to Israel in chapter 28?

NOTES:

2 CHRONICLES 1-7

1. What is the main focus of the first seven chapters of 2 Chronicles?
2. How might Solomon's prayer to the Lord in chapter 1 be a model for our own prayers?
3. Who are some of the pagans who seem to praise God in this section? How do you explain this?
4. What is the significance of Mount Moriah?
5. Why do you think there is so much detail provided about the temple, its construction, and its dedication?
6. What sign did God use to demonstrate that his glory filled the temple?

NOTES:

2 CHRONICLES 8–18

1. Although it appears that Solomon was faithful in following God's instructions in building the temple and offering sacrifices, he ignored one requirement? What was it?
2. Why couldn't Solomon's wives live in the House of David?
3. Chapter 9 concludes with the death of Solomon. What is omitted from his story that is included in the 1 Kings account? Why do you think the focus is different?
4. Why did Jeroboam and his sons prohibit the priests and the Levites from serving the Lord and force them to go to Judah and Jerusalem?
5. What are a few of the sins that some of these kings learned from Solomon?
6. How does Asa's reaction to Hanani's words in chapter 16 differ from the way he responded to the prophet Azariah in chapter 15?

NOTES:

2 CHRONICLES 19–28

1. Who are some of the good kings mentioned in this section? What did they do and what kingdom did they rule?
2. How did the people respond when Jehoram died? Why did they respond this way?
3. What are some significant points that can be made from Athaliah's assumption of the throne?
4. List some of the reforms that Jehoiada initiated following the death of Athaliah.
5. Jotham is presented as a good king, but there does appear to be at least one area in which he fails. What is it?
6. What seem to be the common abominations committed in Israel under the evil kings?

NOTES:

2 CHRONICLES 29–36

1. What does 2 Chronicles 30:26 indicate about the spiritual state of the nation?
2. Hezekiah's heart grows proud in chapter 32. Why? Read 2 Kings 20:12–19 for clues.
3. How did Josiah respond to Shaphan's reading the law? Why did he react this way?
4. 2 Chronicles 36:21 mentions the message of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah being fulfilled. What does this refer to? (See Jeremiah 25:11–12; 29:10)
5. What are the major differences between 1 and 2 Kings and 1 and 2 Chronicles? Why the differences?

NOTES:

1. The author often uses specific dates in this book. Why do you think he does this?
2. Why would a list of exiles be important to include?
3. As the exiles return, what appear to be their priorities? What things do they immediately build and establish?
4. What is the response of the people once the temple is rebuilt?
5. Who are the major characters opposing the building of the temple? Why are they so opposed to this?
6. What prompted Darius to decree freedom to the Jews to rebuild the temple?

NOTES:

1. There are numerous references to Ezra in this section. What are some specific things that the text says about him?
2. What were the directions that Artaxerxes gave to Ezra when he went to Judah?
3. How did Ezra deal with the fear he felt ahead of his journey to Judah?
4. Give evidence from this section that God is the hero of this story.
5. What specific sin does Ezra address? Why is this so important?

NOTES:

NEHEMIAH 1:1 –7:4

1. What was the tone of Nehemiah's prayer at the opening of the book? What was his focus?
2. What did Nehemiah request from the king?
3. What is the constant reminder given throughout the building of the wall? (see Nehemiah 2:8, 18, 20; 4:14; 5:15, 20)
4. What was the problem that arose in chapter 5 and how did Nehemiah deal with it?
5. Who conspired against Nehemiah and why did they oppose him?

NOTES:

NEHEMIAH 7:5–10:39

1. What is the significance of Nehemiah taking a record of the exiles who had returned?
2. In Nehemiah 8:1–8 Nehemiah is fulfilling a mandate given in Deuteronomy 17:19 and 31:11. Why was this so important and how did the people respond?
3. Why do they recount their history in chapter 9?
4. What themes emerge in chapter 9? What attributes of God stand out to you?
5. How do the exiles respond to what God has done for them?

NOTES:

1. Who were the leaders mentioned in chapter 11 and what were their responsibilities? (Nehemiah 7:1–3; 12:24, 27, 30, 42–43, 46)
2. As the wall was being restored, what was one of the practices that was to be restored? (Nehemiah 12:44–47; Leviticus 7:33)
3. What are some of the evil practices being done in chapter 13 and how does Nehemiah respond to them?
4. What were some of the reforms that Nehemiah enacted in chapter 13?
5. Given the context of this book, why do you think Nehemiah's short prayer is included at the end?

NOTES:

ISAIAH 1–18

1. What are some recurring themes in chapters 1–5?
2. How does Isaiah 9 point to Jesus, his earthly ministry and the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant?
3. What does Isaiah 10 tell us about God and his purposes?
4. Read 2 Kings 25 and Acts 2. How does Isaiah 11 correspond to those events?
5. What are some common themes expressed in the judgment oracles from Babylon to Cush? (see chapters 13–18)

NOTES:

1. How does Isaiah 23 shed light on Jesus' words in Matthew 11:20–22?
2. In the midst of judgments, how do chapters 25–27 reveal God's mercy and lovingkindness?
3. What is the problem Isaiah is addressing in chapters 30–31? Why is he referring to Egypt here?
4. What is the picture of God that is painted in chapter 34? Why is it not inconsistent with what is expressed in chapters 25–27 (question 3)?
5. Summarize the narrative shift in chapters 36–39.

NOTES:

1. What is the major theme in chapter 40? Why do you think this chapter is here?
2. What are some often-repeated phrases in chapters 43–48?
3. Some believe that Isaiah 42 refers to Israel (see Isaiah 44, 49). Others claim it refers to the Messiah (see Isaiah 52:13–53). After reading, which one do you believe has more merit? Is there another option?
4. Describe ways that Jesus fulfilled Isaiah 53.
5. It is obvious that Jesus and the New Testament writers were thoroughly familiar with Isaiah. List some examples from Isaiah 40–55 that are referred to in the New Testament by Jesus or other NT writers.

NOTES:

1. How is Isaiah 56 opposed to those who say that the God of the Old Testament was only concerned about the nation of Israel?
2. Summarize the main point of Isaiah 58. How does this foreshadow Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:21–22, 5:27–28 and 15:8?
3. What is the significance of Isaiah 61 in the ministry of Jesus?
4. How does Isaiah 65:1–2 anticipate the spread of the gospel to the world in the book of Acts?
5. How do Isaiah 1:2–20 and Isaiah 66:1–6 provide good bookends to the prophecy of Isaiah?

NOTES:

HAGGAI 1-2

1. Who was king during the ministry of Haggai and what major event had recently occurred in the history of God's people?
2. What is the explicit reason that God gives for the Israelite's lack of produce and resources?
3. What is the major theme that runs through Haggai's prophecy?
4. What is the motivation given to the people in Haggai 2:4-5 that is to encourage their hearts toward hard work and commitment?
5. In what ways does Jesus, as the temple of God (John 1:14; 2:19, 22), fulfill the "greater glory" of Haggai 2:9? Are there any other ways the NT conceives of temple imagery (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19)?

NOTES:

ZECHARIAH 1–4

1. What are some characteristics of the setting in which Zechariah wrote?
2. What historic event occurred approximately 20 years prior to Zechariah 1?
3. How does God demonstrate his love for his people in Zechariah 1:15–17?
4. What theological picture is painted in Zechariah 3:1–5? How is this ultimately fulfilled in Christ?
5. What is the point of the vision of the golden lampstand?

NOTES:

ZECHARIAH 5–9

1. The curses mentioned in Zechariah 5:1–4 are a result of breaking specific commandments of God. Where are those commandments specifically found?
2. The vision in Zechariah 5:5–11 symbolically depicts the removal of what from God’s people?
3. When we compare Zechariah 6:12 with Jeremiah 33:15, who is the “Branch” described? How will this “Branch” build the temple of the Lord, and how will he fulfill the role of both priest and king (he is, after all, seated on a throne)? (see Zechariah 6:13)?
4. Is the weeping and fasting mentioned in Zechariah 7:2–7 coming from a broken and contrite heart? Why do you think so? Why not? Do we have other examples of fasting that are unacceptable to the Lord (Isaiah 58)?
5. The restoration of the people of God in Zechariah 8 is described in terms similar to the covenant blessings of God. Where do we find those covenant blessings described in the Torah?
6. Zechariah 8:13, 20–23 describe the people of God being a blessing to the nations. This is a fulfillment of the promise first given to whom? How does Paul see this blessing to the nations coming to pass in Galatians 3:16?

NOTES:

ZECHARIAH 10–14

1. Look through the Gospels and find the references to the triumphal entry. Compare them to what we read in Zechariah 9:9. How extensive will the reign of this king be?
2. The king of Zechariah 9:9–13 will also be the Shepherd of his people. In what Gospel does Jesus make much of the Shepherd/sheep motif?
3. Who is the one who was pierced in Zechariah 12:10? How does John understand the fulfillment of this verse in John 19:37?
4. The mourning of Zechariah 12:10 is produced by what activity?
5. Read through Zechariah 14. In what ways does Zechariah describe the day of the Lord?

NOTES:

MALACHI 1-4

1. If you have a study Bible describe the setting in which Malachi wrote.
2. How do the irreverent sacrifices relate to the profanation of God's holy name in Malachi 1:6-14?
3. Considering the rebuke of the priests in Malachi 2:1-9, can you think of NT parallel passages that talk about the responsibilities of teachers in the church and the standard by which they will be judged? How should this impact our possible pursuit of teaching?
4. Do you find the concept of giving generously (in every capacity that giving may entail [e.g. money, time, resources, etc.]) to the Lord for the work of his kingdom difficult? If not conceptually, do you find it difficult practically?
5. Who does the NT indicate was the one to come in the spirit of Elijah, preparing the way for the great and awesome day of the Lord (Malachi 3:1; 4:5)?

NOTES:

EPHESIANS 1–3

1. What all do we know about the Ephesian church? (Acts 18:24–19:41; Revelation 2:1–7)
2. What are some repeated words/phrases in chapter 1?
3. Why does Paul give thanks for the Ephesian believers?
4. What is the mystery that Paul refers to in chapter 3?
5. List 3–5 significant doctrinal points that Paul is emphasizing in these first three chapters.

NOTES:

EPHESIANS 4–6

1. Why was the church given apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, and teachers?
2. List 10 commands that Paul lays out for the Ephesian believers in light of their salvation.
3. What is marriage ultimately about? In other words, it is a visual picture of what?
4. Why do you think Paul emphasizes submission in chapters 5 and 6?
5. List the armor Paul lays out in chapter 6 and what each piece is.
6. If you had to summarize Ephesians in one sentence, what would it be?

NOTES:

COLOSSIANS 1-2

1. What has Paul been praying for them in chapter 1?
2. 1:15 states that Jesus was “the firstborn of all creation.” What does Paul mean by this and how does misreading it lead to heresy?
3. What does Paul mean that he is “filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions”?
4. What appears to be at least one Christological doctrinal issue that this church is struggling with or that is being attacked?
5. Why are the regulations that Paul mentions in Colossians 2:20-22 “no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh”?

NOTES:

COLOSSIANS 3–4

1. List 5 things that Paul tells his readers to put to death and 5 things that he tells them to put on:
2. Above all things Paul encourages his readers to put on what? Why?
3. What similarities exist between Colossians 3:18–25 and Ephesians 5 and 6?
4. Paul mentions Demas in Colossians 4:14. Who is he and what do we know about him from other places in the New Testament? Why does he serve as a warning to us?
5. What are some of the major takeaways from this letter?

NOTES:

PHILEMON

1. What is the relationship between Philemon and Onesimus?
2. Why is Paul writing this letter? Describe the situation.
3. What appears to be the relationship between Onesimus and Paul?
4. Why do you think this letter is included in the Bible?
5. What are some practical things that we can learn from this letter?

NOTES:

PHILIPPIANS 1–2

1. Who writes this letter with Paul?
2. What is the tone of this letter? In other words, how would you say Paul feels about the Philippians?
3. What appears to be Paul's main point in writing this letter?
4. Why does Paul emphasize the example of Christ in chapter 2? What point is he trying to make?
5. Who were the two men Paul was hoping to send to them? What appears to be his relationship with each?

NOTES:

PHILIPPIANS 3–4

1. Who were those who mutilate the flesh in chapter 3?
2. List Paul's reason for confidence in the flesh. What did he consider it all?
3. What is the context for the often-quoted verse 4:13?
4. What are some of the hopes that Paul has for the Philippian church?
5. What are some of the major takeaways from this letter?

NOTES:

1 TIMOTHY 1-2

1. What authority does Paul claim in this letter to Timothy? Why does he begin this way?
2. What is the objective of the law? Where else does Paul address this in other letters?
3. List the attributes of God mentioned in chapter 1.
4. How does Paul refute the claim that there are many ways to God?
5. What are the instructions that Paul has for men and women in chapter 2? What questions arise?

NOTES:

1 TIMOTHY 3–6

1. What are some qualifications of elders or deacons that stand out to you? What questions arise for us?
2. How does 1 Timothy 3:16 challenge those who don't believe the church needs creeds or confessions?
3. What does Paul have to say about paying pastors? (5:17–20)
4. Matthew 18 says that we are to privately confront those who have sinned against us. What does Paul say to do if they persist in sin? (5:20)
5. Paul is well known for preaching that faith without works is what saves. How does his "charge" at the end of 1 Timothy inform us regarding this "faith which saves"?

NOTES:

2 TIMOTHY 1-2

1. This is probably Paul's last letter. What tone is set immediately and what sentiment is expressed throughout the letter?
2. What admonishments does Paul give Timothy in these two chapters?
3. What images/pictures does Paul use to challenge Timothy in chapter 2?
4. How does 1 Timothy 2:11-19 provide some warnings for Timothy and us?
5. How should the Lord's servant handle opposition?

NOTES:

2 TIMOTHY 3-4

1. What are some signs of the “last days”, and what light do they shed on our current day?
2. Who are Jannes and Jambres? (Hint: they are not directly mentioned in the Old Testament)
3. What expectations should we have if we seek to live a godly life? Are you experiencing this? Why or why not?
4. How does 2 Timothy 3:16–17 address the “sufficiency of scripture”?
5. What does Paul commend to Timothy regarding his preaching and how does contradict many of the themes in the “prosperity gospel” today?
6. How does Demas serve as a warning to Timothy? Where else in the New Testament does he appear?

NOTES:

1. What appears to be the relationship of Paul and Titus, and what is the purpose of the letter?
2. What two things does Paul mention to ground our hope in eternal life? What does that reveal about our hope?
3. How does Paul address the role of women as teachers?
4. How does Paul address salvation by faith versus that of works?
5. What is the warning concerning divisive people?
6. What are a few lessons to take from the letter to Titus?

NOTES:

THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Attentive - God hears and responds to the needs of His children.

Compassionate - God cares for His children and acts on their behalf.

Creator - God made everything. He is uncreated.

Deliverer - God rescues and saves His children.

Eternal - God is not limited by and exists outside of time.

Faithful - God always keeps His promises.

Generous - God gives what is best and beyond what is deserved.

Glorious - God displays His greatness and worth.

Good - God is what is best and gives what is best. He is incapable of doing no harm.

Holy - God is perfect, pure and without sin.

Incomprehensible - God is beyond our understanding. We can comprehend Him in part but not in whole.

Infinite - God has no limits in His person or on His power.

Immutable/Unchanging - God never changes. He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Jealous - God will not share His glory with another. All glory rightfully belongs to Him.

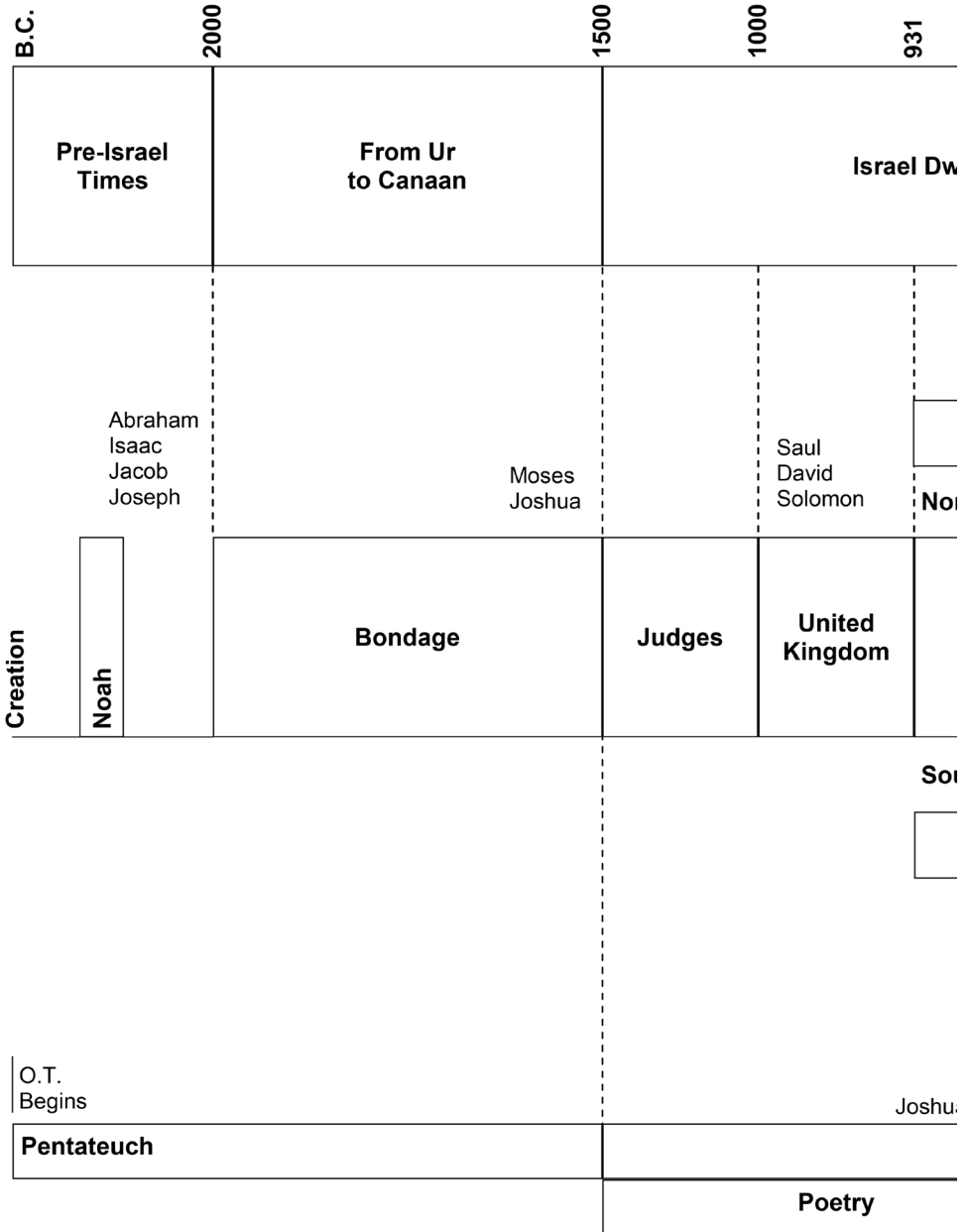
Just - God is fair in all His actions and judgments. He cannot over-punish or under-punish.

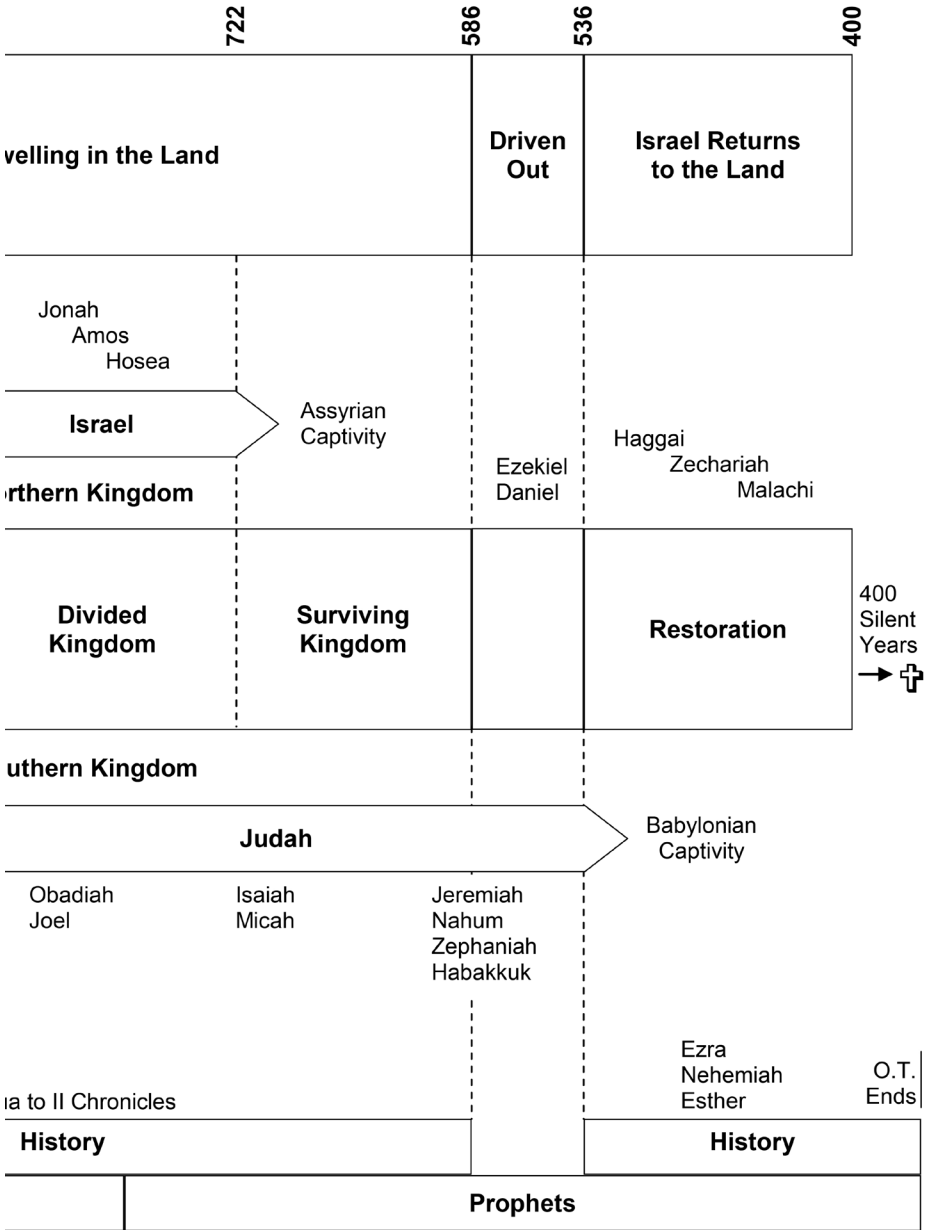
Loving - God feels and displays infinite unconditional affection toward His children. His love for them does not depend on their worth, response or merit.

Merciful - God does not give His children the punishment they deserve.

- Omnipotent/ Almighty - God holds all power. Nothing is too hard for God. What He wills He can accomplish.
- Omnipresent - God is fully present everywhere.
- Omniscient - God knows everything, past present and future, all potential and real outcomes, all things micro and macro.
- Patient/Long-Suffering - God is untiring and bears with His children.
- Provider - God meets the needs of His children.
- Refuge - God is the place of safety and protection for His children.
- Righteous - God is always good and right.
- Self-Existent - God depends on nothing and no one to give Him life or existence.
- Self-Sufficient - God is not vulnerable. He has no needs.
- Sovereign - God does everything according to His plan and pleasure. He controls all things.
- Transcendent - God is not like humans. He is infinitely higher in being and action.
- Truthful - Whatever God speaks or does is truth and reality.
- Wrathful - God hates all unrighteousness.
- Wise - God knows what is best and acts accordingly. He cannot choose wrongly.
- Worthy - God deserves all glory and honor and praise.

TIMELINE OF OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY





PAUL'S SECOND MISSION ACTS 15

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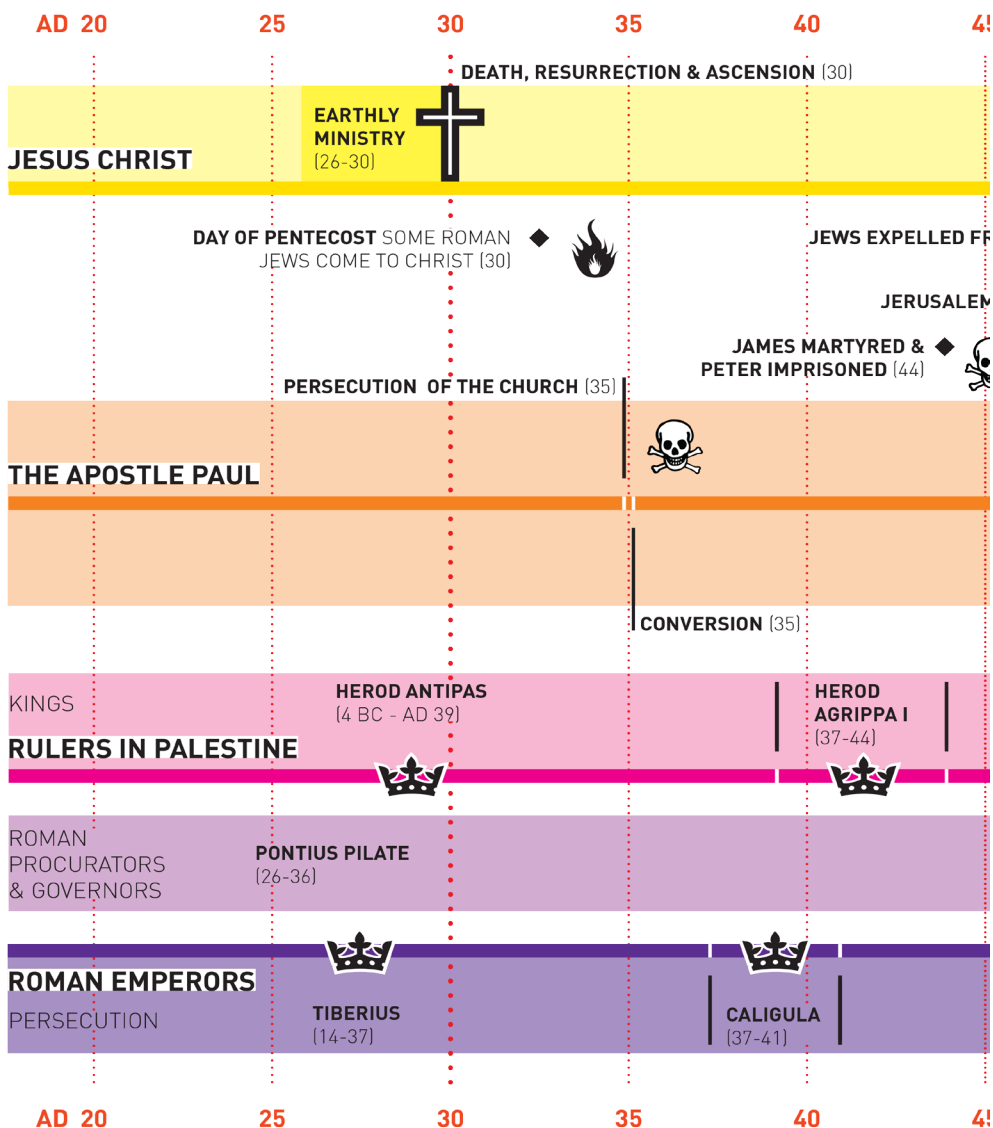
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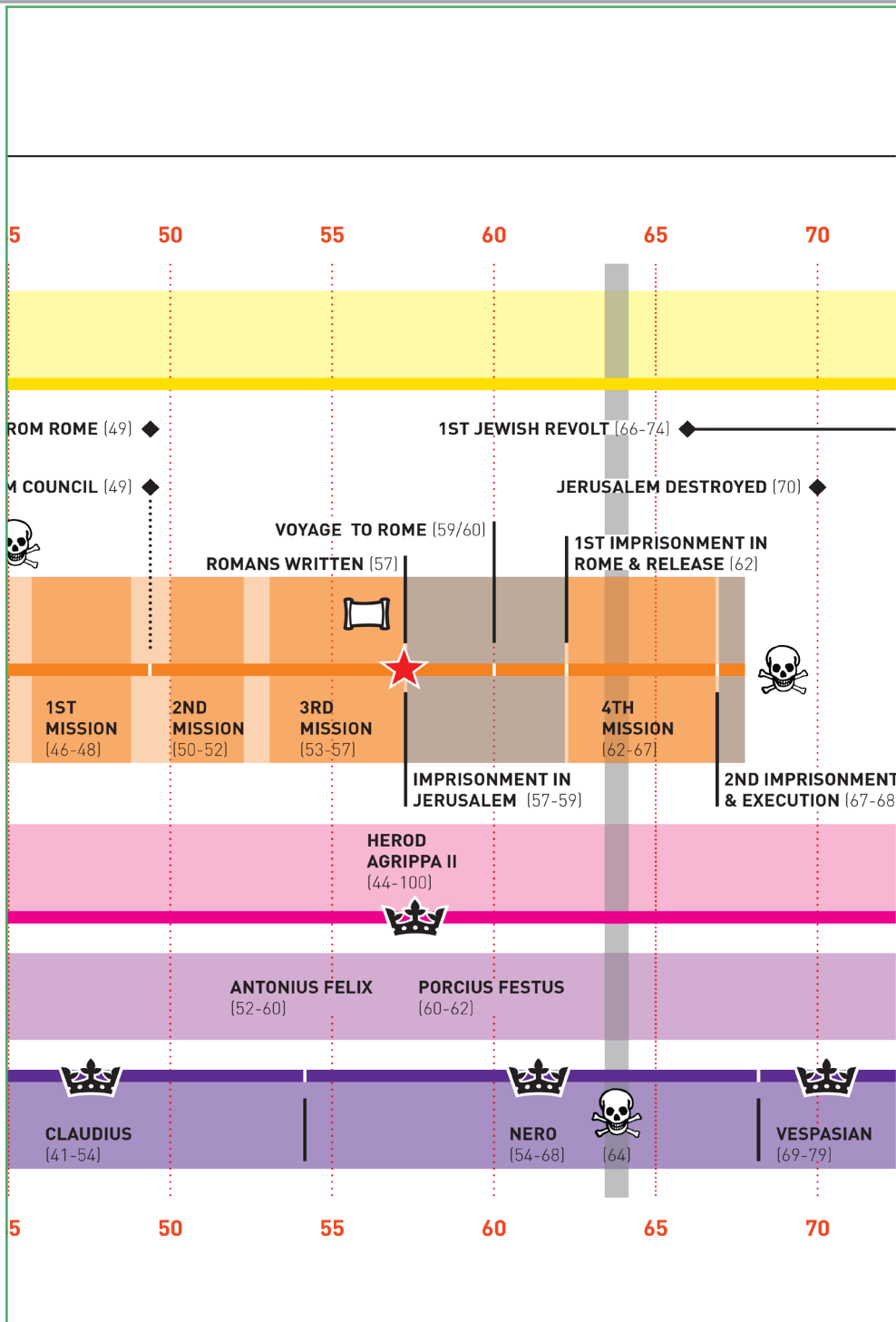
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ROMANS TIMELINE

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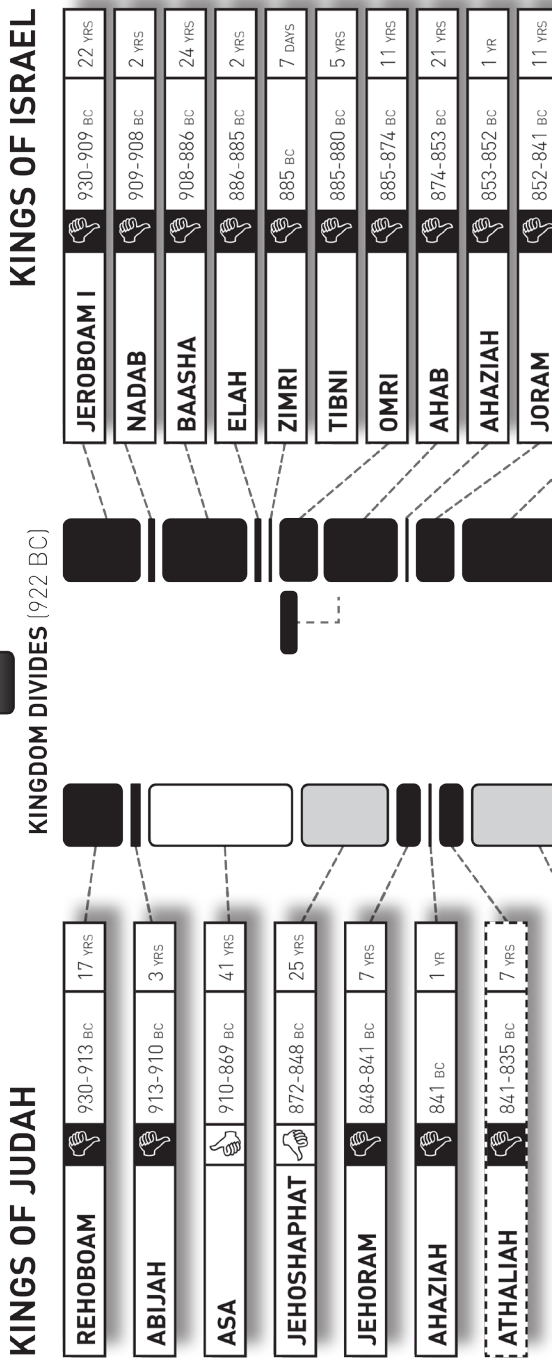
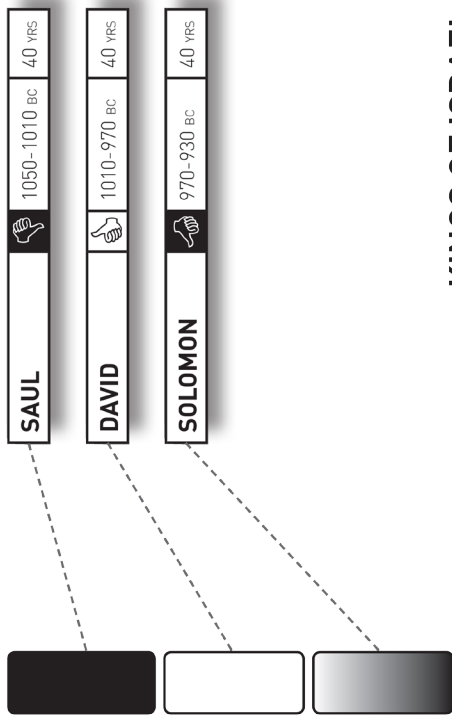


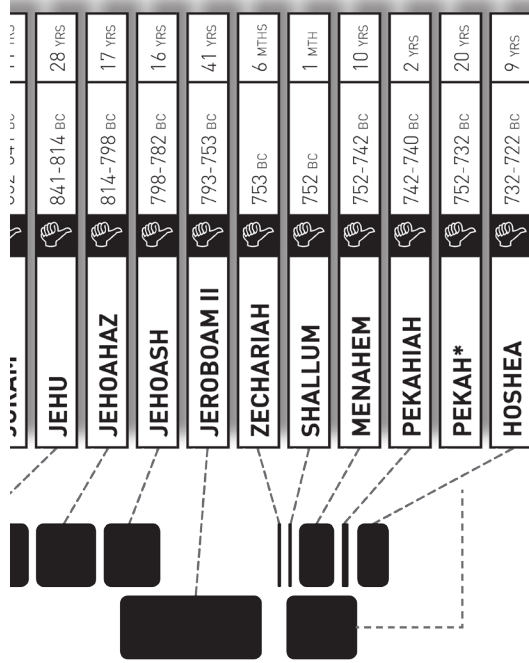


THE KINGS OF JUDAH & ISRAEL

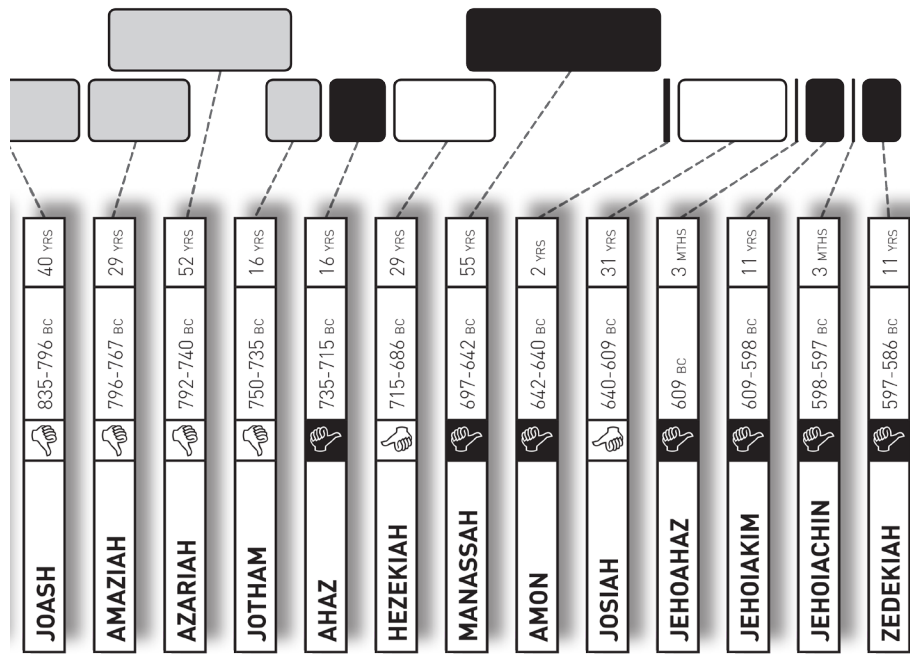
FROM 1 & 2 KINGS

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ISRAEL ASSIMILATED BY ASSYRIA (722 BC)



KEY

-  "Did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as his father David had done."
-  "Did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, but not as his father David had done." (i.e. completely rid the land of idolatry)
-  "Did what was evil in the eyes of the LORD."

* Pekah's 20-year reign presumably includes a period of rule as rival to Menaheem.

JUDAH EXILED BY BABYLON (586 BC)

GLOSSARY OF BIBLICAL TERMS

adoption: an act of God whereby he makes us member of his family.

antichrist: the “man of lawlessness” who will appear prior to the second coming of Christ and will cause great suffering and persecution, only to be destroyed by Jesus. The term is also used to describe other figures who embody such an opposition to Christ and are precursors of the final antichrist.

atonement: the work Christ did in his life and death to earn our salvation.

election: an act of God before creation in which he chooses some people to be saved, not on account of any foreseen merit in them, but only because of his sovereign good pleasure.

eschatology: the study of “the last things,” or future events, such as the second coming of Christ, the millennium, and the final judgment.

faith: trust or dependence on God based on the fact that we take him at his word and believe what he has said.

fellowship: of saints with one another, in duties; in ordinances; in grace, love, joy, etc.; mutual interest, spiritual and temporal; in sufferings; and in glory.

glorification: the final steps in the application of redemption. It will happen when Christ returns and raises from the dead the bodies of all believers for all time who have died, and reunites them with their souls, and changes the bodies of all believers who remain alive, thereby giving all believers at the same time perfect resurrection bodies like his own.

justification: an instantaneous legal act of God in which he (1) thinks of our sins as forgiven and Christ’s righteousness as belonging to us, and (2) declares us to be righteous in his sight.

propitiation: a sacrifice that bears God’s wrath to the end and in so doing change’s God’s wrath toward us into favor.

redemption: Christ’s saving and complete work viewed as an act of “buying back” sinners out of their bondage to sin and to Satan through the payment of a ransom.

repentance: a heartfelt sorrow for sin, a renouncing of it, and a sincere commitment to forsake it and walk in obedience to Christ.

sanctification: a progressive work of God and man that makes us more and more free from sin and more like Christ in our actual lives.

saving faith: trust in Jesus Christ as a living person

(definitions adapted from Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology)



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