

I Chronicles – An Overview

1 Chron.

About 3700 years covered

1. From Adam to Esau's seed (c1)
2. Sons of Israel; sons of Judah (c2)
3. Sons of David (c3)
4. Sons of Judah; sons of Simeon (c4)
5. Sons of Reuben, Gad, Manasseh (c5)
6. Sons of Levi (c6)
7. Sons of Issachar, Benjamin, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, Asher (c7)
8. Benjamites – family of Saul (c8)
9. Residents of Jerusalem, ministers about the temple (c9)
10. The death of King Saul (c10)
11. The anointing of David, and his mighty men (c11)
12. Men who came to support David (c12)
13. First attempt to bring the ark to Jerusalem (c13)
14. David's early victories as king (c14)
15. The ark comes to Jerusalem (c15)
16. David's song and preparations for the ark (c16)

17. God's covenant with David (c17)
18. More military victories (c18)
19. Israel fights the Ammonites (c19)
20. Victory over Ammon & giants (c20)
21. David numbers Israel unlawfully (c21)
22. David plans for the temple (c22)
23. David names Solomon king and numbers the Levites (c23)
24. The priests appointed in order (c24)
25. The appointed singers (c25)
26. The appointed porters (c26)
27. The officers and rulers (c27)
28. David charges Israel to build the temple, and gives Solomon the plans from God (c28)
29. David and Israel give treasure to build the temple, and thank God before David's death (c29)

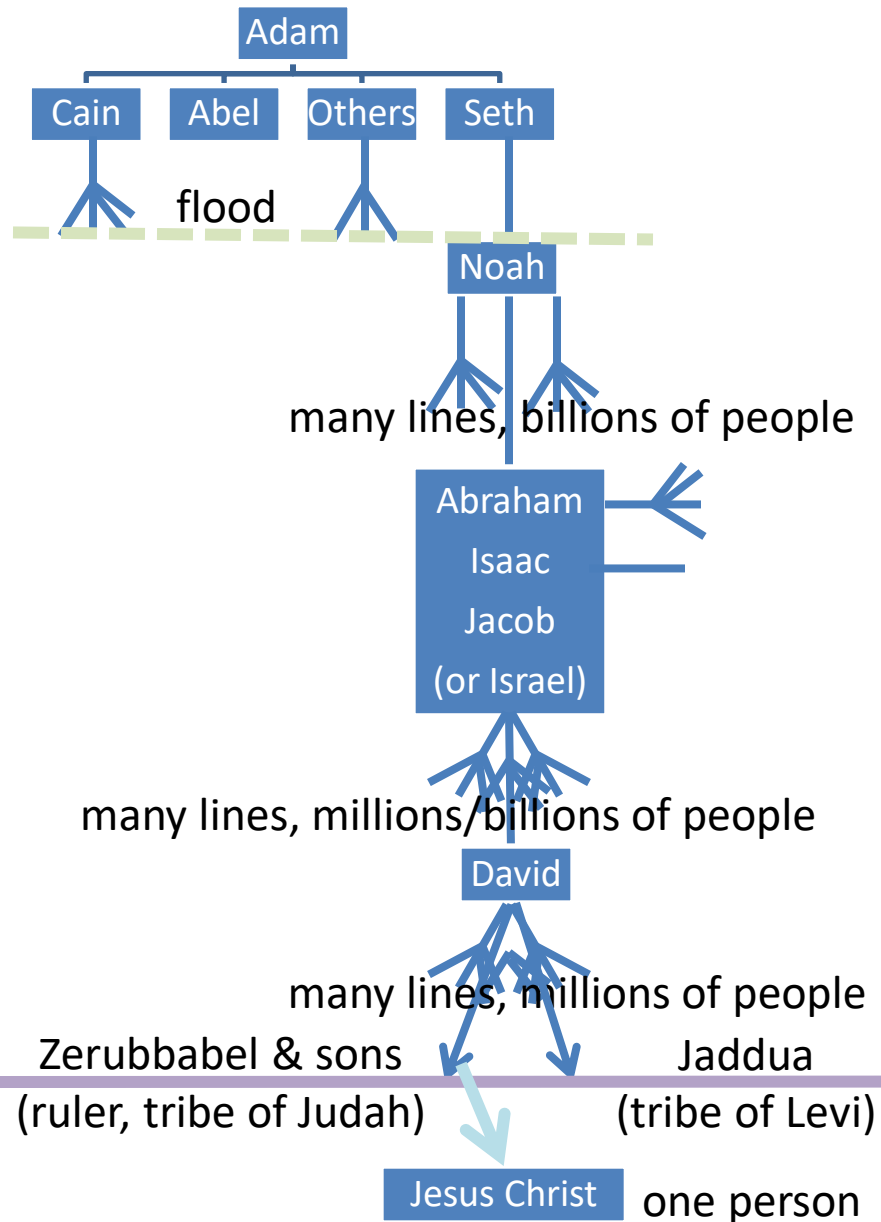
Black letters – from Genesis to Nehemiah

Gold letters – concurrent with 1 Samuel

White letters – concurrent with 2 Samuel or 1 Kings

Overview of Bible Chronology

1 Chron.



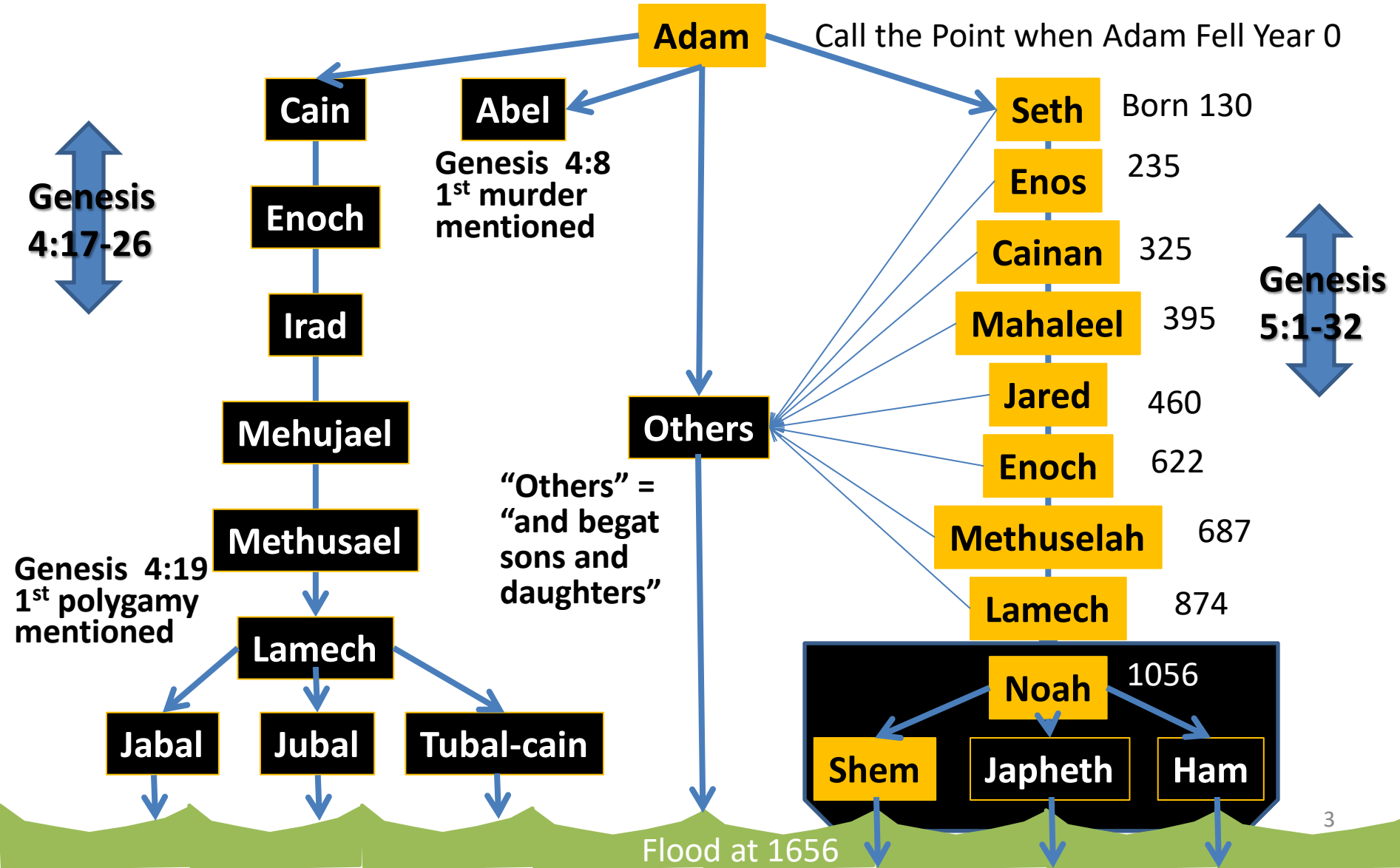
- From Adam to Israel (Jacob) dates are tracked by age of father at the birth of his first son.
- From the time of Israel (Jacob), dates are tracked by the length of stay in Egypt to the entering of the Promised Land.
- From the entering of the Promised Land, dates are tracked by the rule of judges, and the periods of oppression, until the first king.
- From the first king until captivity, dates are tracked by the ascension of each king to his throne.
- From captivity, dates are projected by the prophets Jeremiah and Daniel to the baptism of Jesus Christ.

But all dates can be determined from the Bible alone!

Bible Early Chronology

1 Chron.

a. Adam to Noah's Sons



Genesis 4-6: Spread of Sin

- Cain, the first man begotten by man, murdered his younger brother Abel, the second man begotten by man (Read Gen 4).
- Adam then begot another son in his own image, named Seth, as well as other sons and daughters. Sin spread greatly.

Hebrew Name	Born (BC)	Died (BC)	Age
Adam	?	3116	930
Seth	3916	3004	912
Enos	3811	2906	905
Cainan	3721	2811	910
Mahalaleel	3651	2756	895
Jared	3586	2624	962
Enoch	3424	3059	365
Methuselah	3359	2390	969
Lamech	3172	2395	777
Noah	2990	2040	950



- Because of man's wickedness, God purposed to bring a great flood on earth.
- God showed grace to Noah, and commanded him to build an ark to save his family and many other creatures from destruction.

A Message in Bible Names

1 Chron.

Hebrew Name

- Adam אָדָם
- Seth שֵׁת
- Enos אֵנוֹשׁ
- Cainan קַיִן
- Mahalaleel מַהֲלֵלֵל
- Jared גָּרֵד
- Enoch חֲנוֹךְ
- Methuselah מֶתוֹשֶׁלַח
- Lamech לָמֶךְ
- Noah נֹחַ

Meaning of Name

Man
Appointed
Mortal (Sickly, Fallen Man)
Sorrow (or Fixed Possession)
The Blessed God (or Praise of God)
Shall Come Down (or Descended)
Teaching (or Dedicated, or Initiated)
His Death Shall Bring (or Man of the Spear)
Despairing (or Poor, Made Low)
Rest (or Comfort)

See Genesis,
chapter 5

Now put the meanings of the names together in order:

“Man appointed mortal sorrow; the blessed God shall come down teaching; His death shall bring (the) despairing rest.”

Names recorded over 1,400 years before the gospel was preached – declared the gospel message!

<http://www.khouse.org/articles/1996/44/>

Genesis 7-9: The Flood

- Noah built the ark, a huge floating structure, as God instructed him.
- In the ark were Noah, his sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and all of their wives, 7 of every clean kind of air-breathing animal, and 2 of every other kind.
- God caused it to rain 40 days, and broke up “the fountains of the deep”.



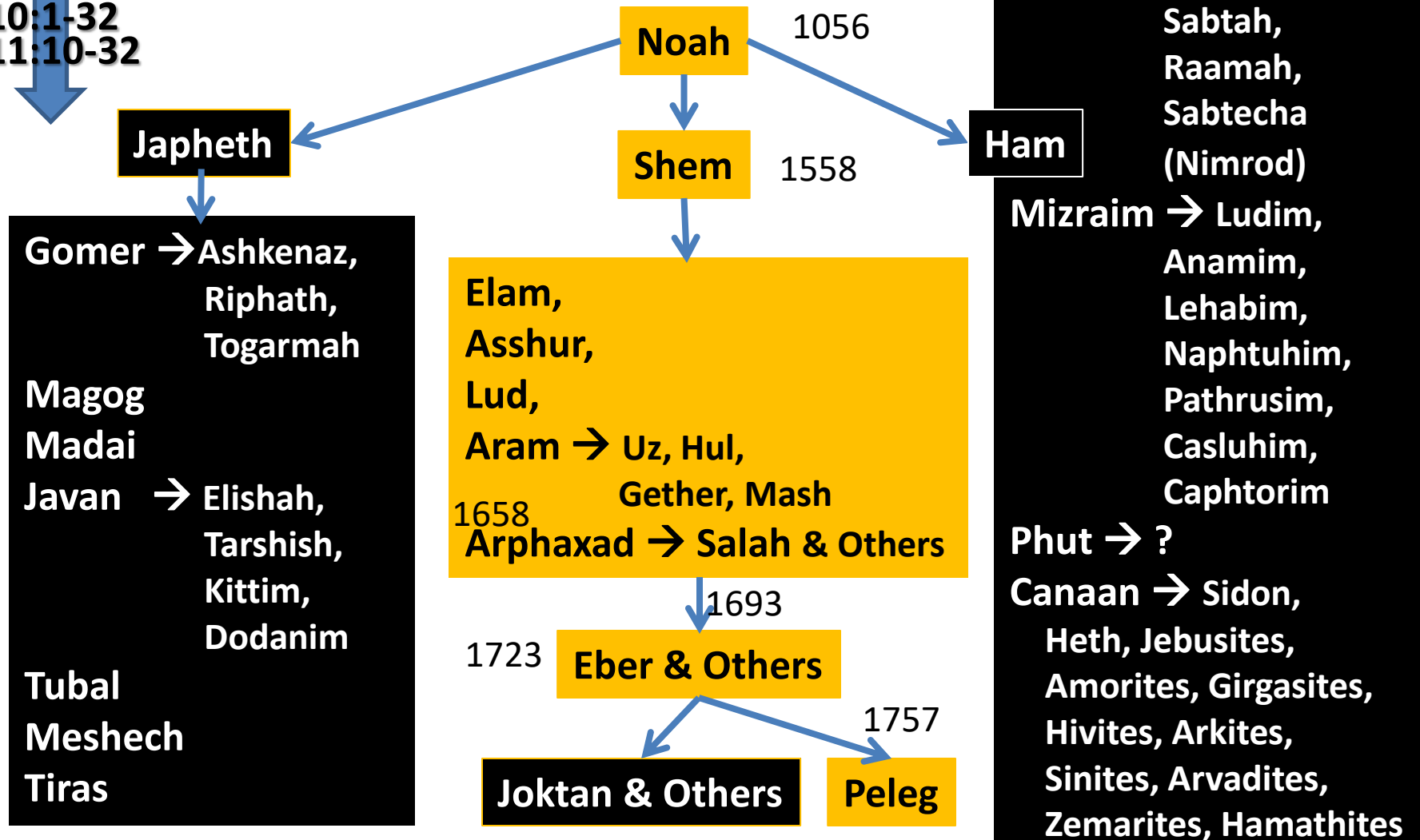
- God protected those in the ark, and they stayed in it for 1 year and 10 days.
- When they came out, Noah sacrificed unto God. God gave men permission to eat animals, but declared that murder of humans should be punished by death.
- God set a rainbow in the sky as a token of his promise that God would not destroy the whole earth by a flood again.

From the Flood to the Tower

1 Chron.

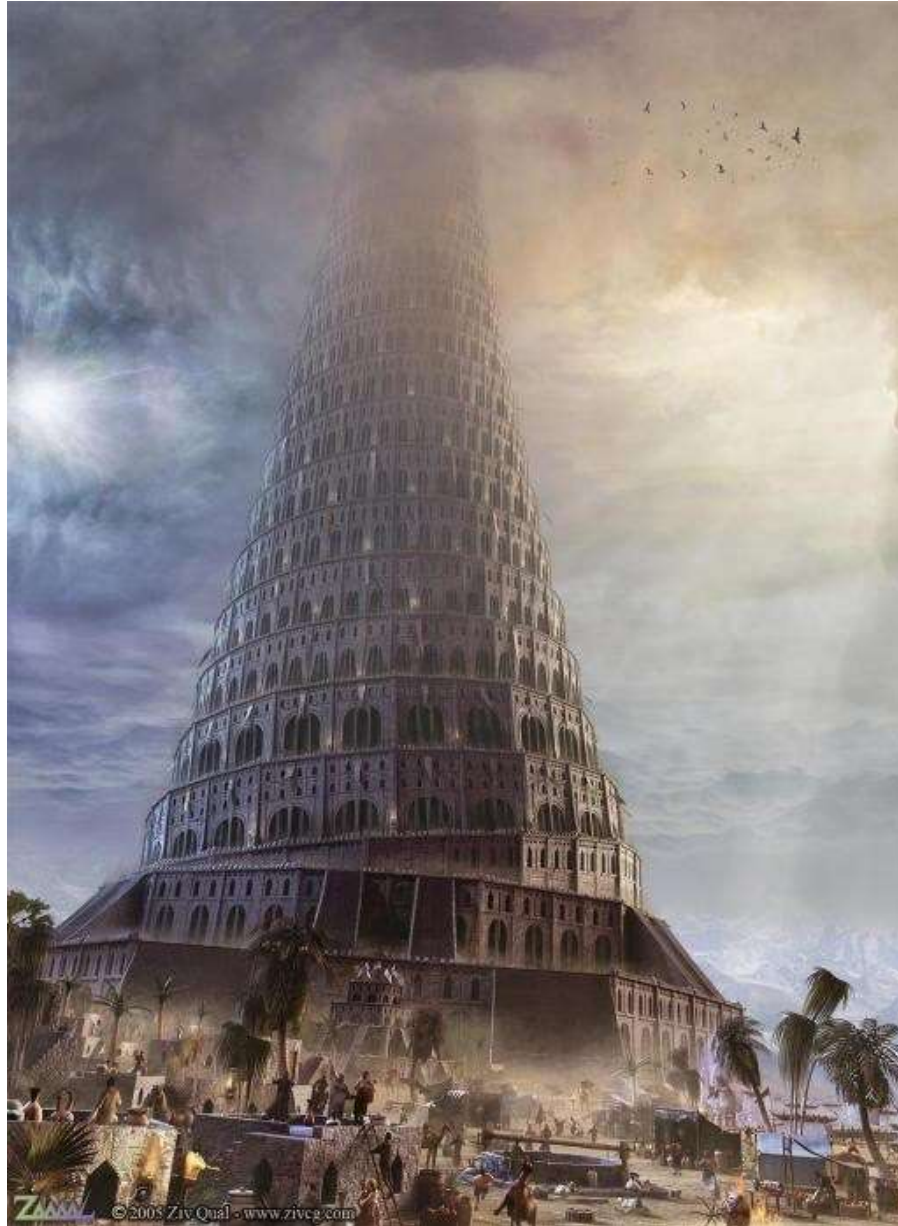
Genesis
10:1-32
11:10-32

b. Noah to Peleg



"...the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided..." (Gen 10:25)

Genesis 11: The Tower of Babel



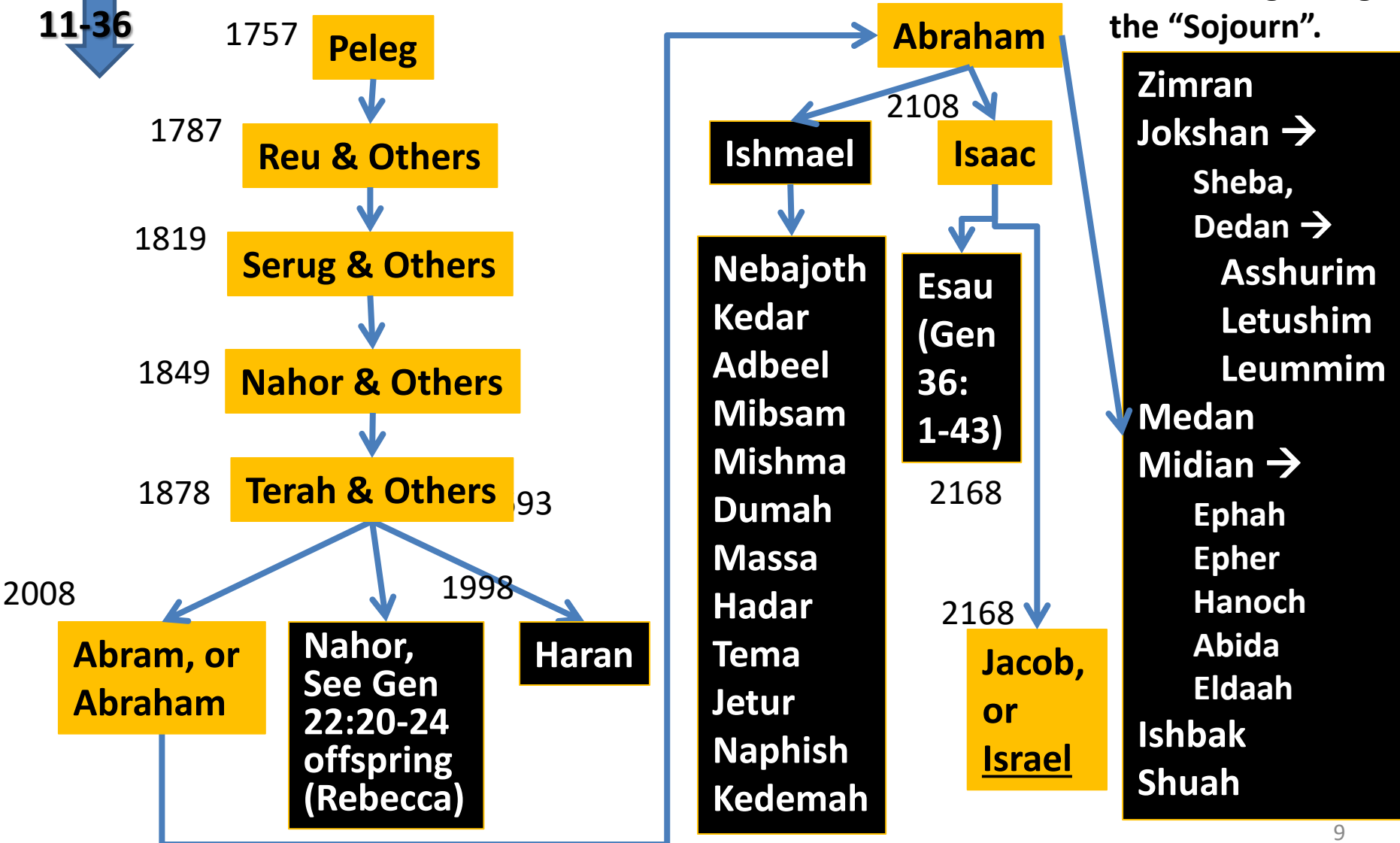
- God told Noah's descendants to replenish the earth (Gen 9:1), but they preferred not to be scattered (Gen 11:4).
- So they decided to stay together, and build a city and a tower, for the glory of their own name.
- God confounded their languages, so man went from one language to speaking many different languages.
- This stopped the building.
- The great-great grandson of Shem (Noah's son) was name Peleg – for “in his days was the earth divided”.
- Peleg's great-great grandson was named Terah, and he lived in Ur of the Chaldees – not far from Babel.
- Terah had three sons: Haran, Nahor, and Abram.

From the Tower to Israel

Genesis
Chapters
11-36

c. Peleg to Israel

^{1 Chron.}
Abraham enters
Canaan 75 years
old, or at 2008 + 75
= 2083, beginning
the "Sojourn".



Israel Enters Egypt, then Leaves

1 Chron.

Genesis
30 thru
Joshua 3

d. Israel goes to Egypt, and comes home to Promised Land

2168-2315

Jacob, or Israel

But Genesis 38 tells a special story about one son, Judah, and his twins Zarah and Pharez.

Reuben → Hanoch, Phallu, Hezron, Carmi →
Simeon → Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, Shaul →
Levi → Gershon, Kohath, Merari →
Judah → Er, Onan, Shelah, Pharez, Zerah →
Dan → Hushim →
Naphtali → Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer, Shillem →
Gad → Ziphion, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, Areli →
Asher → Jimnah, Ishuah, Isui, Beriah →
Issachar → Tola, Phuvah, Job, Shimron →
Zebulun → Sered, Elon, Jahleel →
Joseph → Manasseh, Ephraim →
Benjamin → Belah, Becher, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi,
Rosh, Muppim, Huppim, Ard →

With Israel and Joseph, the count of years stops going by ages of descendants for a while, and tracks events.

The Bible tells us Joseph was thirty when he stood before Pharoah, and that 7 years of plenty and 2 years of famine elapsed before Israel moved down to Egypt at the age of 130. Israel died at 147, so Joseph would have been $17+39 = 56$ when his dad died. Joseph died at 110, so that was in year $(110-56) + 2315 = 2369$.

Israel leaves Egypt after a 430 year “Sojourn”, so at year $2083 + 430 = 2513$.

Enters Promised Land 40 years later, at 2553.

From Joshua to Solomon

Joshua 3 -
II Samuel 5

e. From entering Promised Land until David's Sons

- Pharez → Hezron → Ram → Amminadab → Nahshon → Salmon → Boaz → Obed → Jesse → David (see Ruth 4:18-22)
- Israel enters Promised Land, year 2553.
- Joshua conquers Promised Land and tribes inherit portions 2559 (calculated by the ages of Caleb – from Judah - in Numbers 13 and Joshua 14).
- Add years given for all periods of oppression, judges, and rests given in Judges and I Samuel to come to year 3023, when Saul began to reign. This adds up to 450 years (as also preached by Paul in Acts 13:18-20).
- Saul reigned 40 years (Acts 13:21) up to year 3063.
- David reigned 40 years, (II Samuel 5:4-5) up to year 3103.

SONS OF DAVID

Amnon
Chileab
Absalom
Adonijah
Shephatiah
Ithream

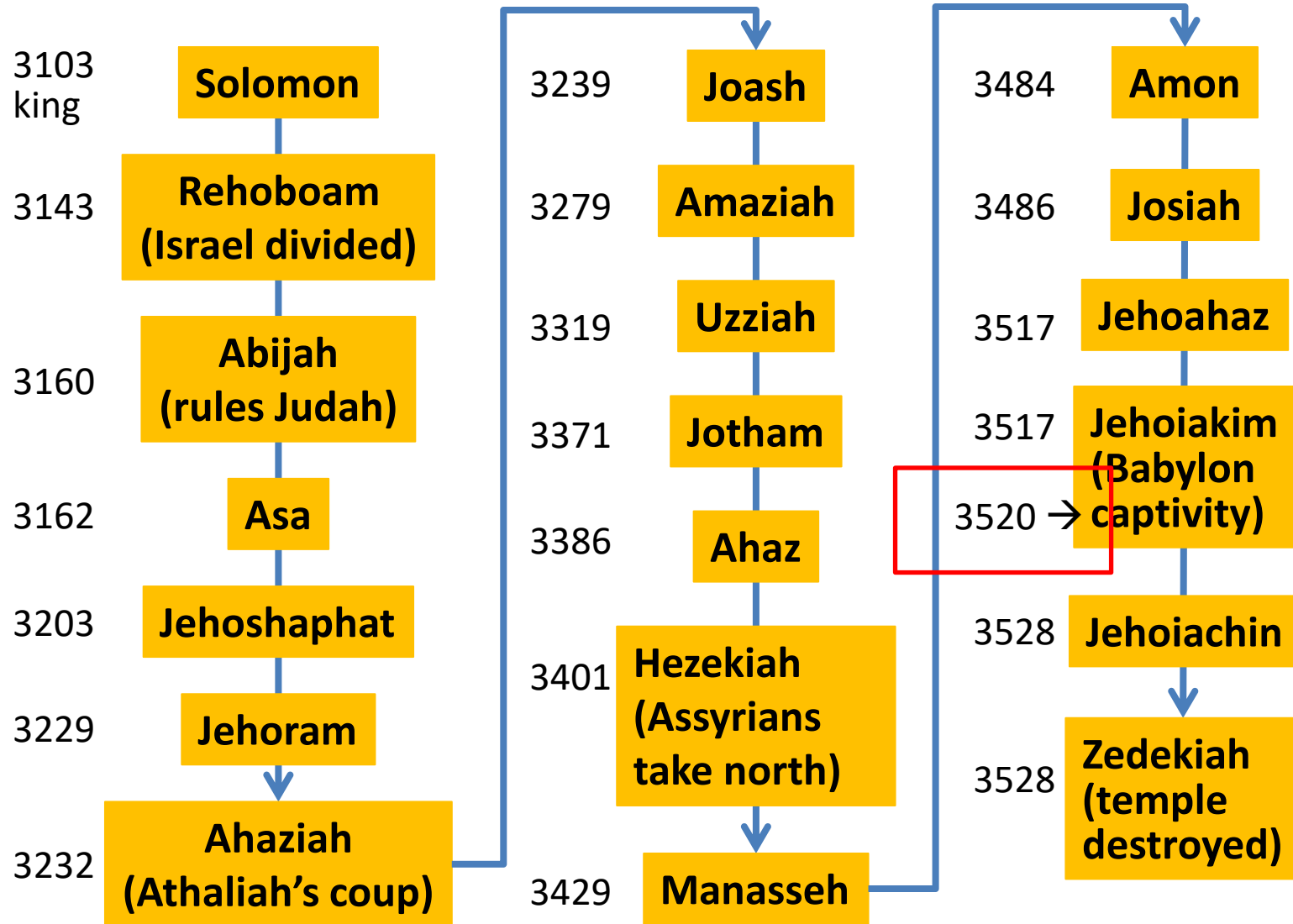
Shammua
Shobab
Nathan
Solomon
Ibhar
Elishua

Nepheg
Japhia
Elishama
Eliada
Eliphalet.

The house of Nathan is mentioned in Zechariah 12:12. We later find Joseph descended from David through Solomon in Matthew 1:6-16, and Mary descended from David through Nathan in Luke 3:23-31. Solomon reigned 40 years until 3143.

The Kings of Judah

f. Solomon to the Captivity



1 Chron.

[Jeremiah 25:1] *The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon;*

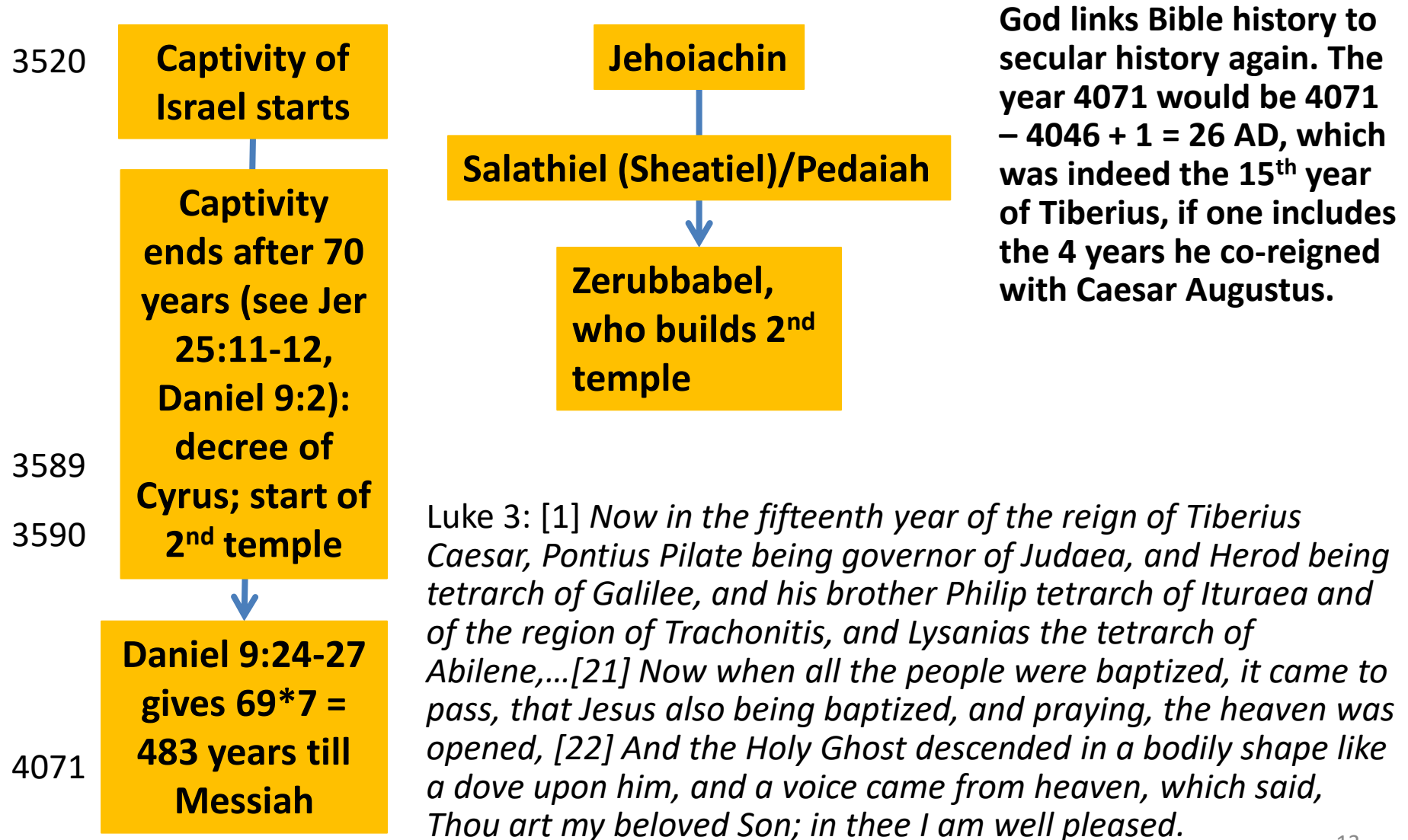
Year 3521 is 525 BC, linking Bible history to secular history. Thus, Adam fell in $3521 + 525 = 4046$ BC. ¹²

[Daniel 1:1] In Jehoiakim's 3rd year, the captivity started.

Bible Chronology Ends at Christ

1 Chron.

g. Captivity to Jesus Christ's Baptism



Some Lessons from Bible Chronology *1 Chron.*

h. So what do these chronologies show us?

- Very few, if any, reliable written sources of chronological systems exist for human history earlier than 331 BC (Alexander the Great's time) – except for the Bible, which provides unbroken date linkages prior to 4000 BC!
- It might have been natural for Moses to write the lineages and chronologies of Israel, since that was Moses' ancestor and nation. But why would he give special attention to the sons of Judah, Pharez and Zarah, since Moses lived well before David was king? Unless, of course, Moses was inspired by God, who knew David would be king centuries before.
- It might have been natural for Bible writers such as Ezra to write the lineages and chronologies of the house of David up to Zerubbabel, since he was the governor who rebuilt the temple. But why would Zechariah 12 speak of the family of Nathan, a son of David who was not king? Unless of course, these writers were inspired by God, who knew that Nathan would be in the Luke 3 lineage of Jesus Christ centuries before.
- Thus, the dates of the Old Testament Bible chronology track the ancestors of Jesus Christ!
- The prophecies of Jeremiah give the length of the 70 year Babylonian captivity, and boldly link Bible chronology to secular history in Jeremiah 25:1. Then Daniel gives the number of years to Christ, which lands on the year of the baptism of Jesus Christ, linked to secular history again by the reign of Tiberius Caesar in Luke 3.
- The Bible shows itself, unlike myths or other religious writings, to be solidly set in history with dates, names, and places – and they point to Jesus Christ.

Points on I Chronicles chapters 1-9

- The genealogies given in I Chronicles, chapters 1-9, cover the longest span of time given in any book of the Bible – from Adam until after the return of the Israelites from captivity in Babylon – a period of over 3,600 years!
- All the tribes of Israel are mentioned in I Chronicles, but the book leaves out the genealogies of the tribes of Dan and Zebulun.
- I Chronicles contains the story of Jabez in chapter 4, in the midst of genealogies, and shows him beseeching God, who lifted him from sorrow to honor and blessing.
- I Chronicles 6:16-28 reveals to us that Elkanah and Samuel were Levites, and thus Samuel had the right to offer the sacrifices mentioned in the book of I Samuel.
- I Chronicles gives particular attention to the family of Saul, whose kingdom fell, and even more attention to the house of David, whose kingdom continues.
- After the genealogies of chapters 1-9, I Chronicles transitions to history, beginning with the fall of Saul, and the kingship of David.

Saul's Death (I Samuel chap. 31 and **I Chronicles chap. 10**)

- The Israelites met the Philistines, and fled, and many of them died in battle.
- The Philistines chased after Saul, and killed Jonathan and two more of his sons, and hit Saul with arrows.
- Saul asked his armor-bearer to kill so that the Philistines would not torture him.
- The armor-bearer was afraid to do that, so Saul fell upon his own sword and died. The his armor-bearer also committed suicide.



- The rest of the army of Israel gave up and left, and the Philistines occupied much of Israelite land.
- The Philistines took the body of Saul and stripped it, cut off his head, and nailed his body and his sons' bodies to the wall of the town of Beth-shan, and celebrated with their idols and people.
- Valiant men from Jabesh Gilead, which Saul had defended as a young king, broke through and stole the bodies from the walls, and gave them a decent burial, and fasted for a week.
- **Saul died for disobeying God, and the kingdom went to David.**

David Crowned King of all Israel

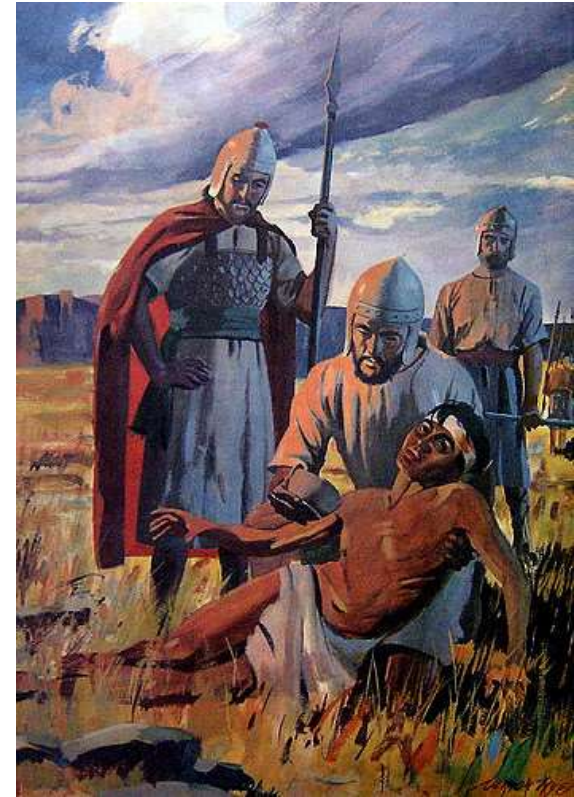
(II Samuel chap. 5 and **I Chronicles chap. 11, chap. 14**)

- After the death of Ishbosheth, the surviving son of Saul, all the tribes of Israel came to Hebron to ask David to serve as king over the entire nation. David had been reigning over the tribe of Judah from Hebron for seven years, and he was now 37 years old.
- David agreed to reign, and led the army to take Jerusalem back from the Jebusites.
- The Jebusites did not think the Israelites could overcome the fortifications of Jerusalem.
- David said that the first person to take the gutter of Jerusalem would lead his armies. His nephew Joab did it, and David took the city.
- David built up the city, built himself a house, took more wives, and begat more children.
- When the Philistines heard that David was now king over all the nation, they attacked Israel.
- David asked God if he should meet them in battle, and God said yes. Israel won a good victory.
- The Philistines reassembled in the same place to attack again.
- David again prayed, and God said for him to march around the Philistines, and attack when they heard a commotion in the mulberry trees.
- David obeyed God, and Israel won a major victory.
- **David's mighty men are listed here in I Chronicles.**



David in Ziklag (I Sam. chap. 29-30 and **I Chron. chap. 12**)

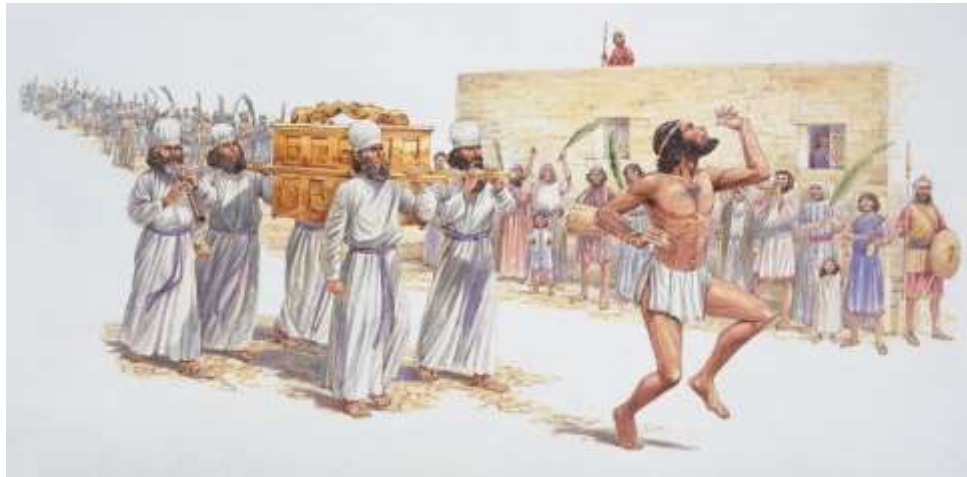
- David and his 600 men assembled with the Philistine armies before the attack on the armies of Israel.
- Achish was for David helping, but the kings of the other Philistine cities voted against it, because they thought David would turn on them in battle to gain popularity in Israel.
- So, David and his men returned to Ziklag, and found that Amalekites had burned the town and taken their families.
- David's men were mad, and spoke of stoning David.
- David prayed; the Lord told him to pursue the Amalekites.
- In the pursuit, 200 of the men grew faint, and he told them to guard their supplies while the rest gave chase.
- They found a young man who was a servant to the Amalekites, who had been left to die because he was sick.
- David's men gave him water and food, and promised his safety if he would guide them.
- The servant brought them to the partying Amalekite camp, and David's men attacked.
- They recovered their families completely, and much spoil also, and they destroyed the Amalekites except for some who escaped on camels.
- When they returned, some of David's men did not want to share any spoil with the 200 men who guarded the supplies, but David ruled against that, and gave them a share.
- Of some of the remaining share, David sent gifts to the elders of many towns in Israel.
- **Many Israelites, some listed by name, came to join David at Ziklag.**



David Desires Worship in Jerusalem

(II Samuel chapters 6-8, **I Chronicles chapters 13, 15-18**)

- David commanded that Israel bring the ark from the house where it had been for decades, and bring it into Jerusalem. They put it on a cart, as the Philistines had done.
- The ox stumbled, and a man named Uzzah put his hand on the ark. God slew him.
- In fear, they left the ark in another man's house until they saw the Lord's blessing on him.
- Then they carried the ark on staves on the priests' shoulders, as commanded by Moses.
- As the ark came into Jerusalem, David danced and played in an ephod before the Lord.
- His first wife, Michal, despised and rebuked him for this, and so died childless.
- David told Nathan the prophet he wanted to build a house, or temple, for the ark, because it was now in a tent in Jerusalem. Nathan said it sounded good to him.
- The Lord then sent Nathan to David, that he would not build such a house, but that his son would. God said he would build David a house, and that his descendants would rule.
- David was grateful to God for the great promise, and prepared materials for the temple. He won victories over Moab, Syria, Zobah, and Edom, dedicating the spoil unto the Lord.



The Ammonite Insult

(II Samuel chapter 10, I Chronicles chapters 19-20)

- Nahash, the king of the Ammonites, died, and his son Hanun sat on his throne.
- David sent messengers to Hanun to express his condolences.
- Hanun's advisors told Hanun they were spies, and so Hanun had half their beards shaved off, and half their garments, and expelled them. The men were ashamed.
- David told them to wait in Jericho until their beards were grown, and then return.
- Knowing Israel was mad, Hanun prepared, and also hired many Syrian mercenaries.
- David sent forth the army, with his nephews Joab and Abishai to lead it.
- When they arrived, Joab and Abishai were surrounded by huge forces, with Ammonites in front of them, and Syrians and others behind them.
- Joab chose a group of soldiers he wanted, and set them to face the mercenaries. He told Abishai to organize the rest of the men against the Ammonites.
- Joab told Abishai if he needed help, he would come, and if Joab needed help, Abishai should come his way. He stated they should both be of good courage, and trust in God.
- When the battle started, the Syrians grew afraid and ran from Joab's men. This made the Ammonites afraid, and they ran from Abishai's men.
- After fleeing, the Syrians regrouped with more of their countrymen. Joab called for David to come, and they beat Syria so badly that they would not help Ammon any more.



David Numbers Israel

(II Samuel chap. 24, I Chronicles chap. 21)

- Satan motivated David (see I Chron 21:1) to sin by ordering Joab to number Israel, but not in the half-shekel ransom way commanded (Exodus 30:11-16) by God.
- Joab hated it, but partially complied.
- God sent Gad the seer to offer David the choice among:
 - Three years of famine
 - Three month of defeat by foes
 - Three days of pestilence
- David chose 3 days of pestilence (as in Exodus 30:12) because the punishment would all be by God, who is very merciful, and by man, who is less merciful.
- The pestilence, or plague, began, and 70,000 men died.
- As the plague came to Jerusalem, God paused the destruction.
- David begged for mercy, and God's angel told him to offer a sacrifice on an altar built at the threshing floor of Araunah (or Ornan) the Jebusite.
- Araunah said he would give the property, livestock, and implements to David, but David would not offer a sacrifice that cost him nothing, so he purchased it all from Araunah.
- David built the altar, and prepared his sacrifice, and God sent fire from heaven, and stopped the pestilence.
- This became the location for the temple built by Solomon.



2 Samuel 24 and I Chronicles 21 Math Reconciliation

[II Samuel 24:

[9] “And Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people unto the king: and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men.”

...

[15] “So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men.”

<i>Red: a bible number</i> <i>Blue: a deduced no.</i> <i>Black: an assumed no.</i>	Joab's <u>Report</u> to David <u>Before</u> Pestilence	Number of Levites and Benjamites Joab Omitted	Sum of Previous Two Columns	Those who Died by the Pestilence	<u>Number</u> of Men who Drew Sword <u>After</u> Pestilence
Number in Other Tribes of Israel	800,000	340,000	1,140,000	40,000	1,100,000
Number in Tribe of Judah	500,000	-	500,000	30,000	470,000
Totals:	1,300,000	340,000	1,640,000	70,000	1,570,000
	II Samuel 24:9	I Chronicles 21:6		II Samuel 24:15 & I Chronicles 21:14	I Chronicles 21:5

I Chronicles 21:

[5] “And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And all they of Israel were a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and Judah was four hundred threescore and ten thousand men that drew sword.”

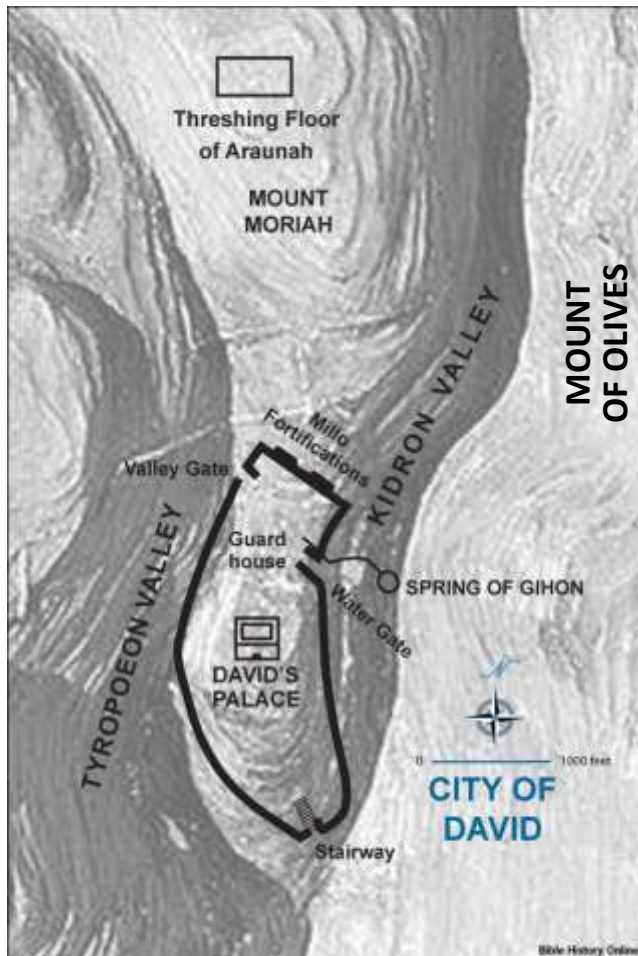
[6] “But Levi and Benjamin counted he not among them: for the king's word was abominable to Joab.”

...

[14] “So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.”

David Appoints Tasks for Future (I Chronicles chap. 22-27)

- David spoke what he saw: That the mount (Moriah), on which God had stopped the plague of death caused by his transgression, would be the location of God's temple.
- He began to lay up stones, iron, brass, and cedar for the construction after he passed.
- David told Solomon that he must build the temple, because David had shed much blood.



- David told Solomon to: (1) build, (2) be wise and understanding, (3) keep God's law, (4) be strong and of good courage. He commanded the princes of Israel to help Solomon build.
- In I Chronicles 23, David properly counts the Levites. They had been numbered from 30 years old and upward, and now were also numbered from 20 years old and upward.
- In I Chronicles 24, David established 24 "courses" or shifts of manager priests. If the courses are similar in duration as chapter 27, the shifts were for a month.
- In I Chronicles 25, David established 24 courses of singers and musicians.
- In I Chronicles 26, David established the positions of the porters.
- In I Chronicles 27, David established the courses of the guard and the captains of the guard.

David's Speech Before Dying (I Chronicles chap. 28-29)

- David gathered the princes, captains, and mighty men of Israel together, and stood.
- He said that God had chosen Solomon to sit upon his throne, and to build the temple.
- He then told Solomon to know God, to serve God, and to not forsake God.
- He gave Solomon the plans for the temple shown to David by the Spirit of God.
- David showed the weights of all the gold and silver implements to be used.
- David told Solomon that the courses of the Levites he had established would be with him.
- David then spoke to the crowd, and showed what treasure he had personally dedicated to the construction of the temple.
- David then asked if the congregation wanted to contribute toward that building project.
- The people gave in great abundance, and there was great rejoicing.
- David then spoke a prayer of praise and humble thanksgiving, and asked God's blessing upon Solomon.
- They blessed God, and made sacrifices, and had a great feast.
- Solomon assumed the throne, and God magnified him before Israel with great majesty.
- David died in a good old age (70) and in much honor. He had reigned over Judah for 7 years in Hebron, and reigned over all Israel for 33 years in Jerusalem.

