

**Timeline of the Kings of Israel and Judah from Saul to the end of the Old Testament**

Kings of United Israel					Prophets
Reign	Years	Name	Good/Evil	Biblical Ref	
1094 - 1054	40	<b>Saul</b>	Good / Evil	Acts 13:21	Samuel Gad, Nathan Ahijah
1054 - 1014	40	<b>David</b>	Good	1 Kings 2:11	
1014 - 974	40	<b>Solomon</b>	Good / Evil	1 Kings 11:42	

Kings of Southern Judah					Prophets
Reign	Years	Name	Good/Evil	Biblical Ref	
974 - 957	17	<b>Rehoboam</b>	Evil	1 Kings 11:43-14:31	Elijah Elishah Hosea Isaiah Micah Nahum Zephaniah Habakkuk Jeremiah
957 - 954	3	Abijam	Evil	1 Kings 15:1-8	
954 - 913	41	<b>Asa</b>	Good	1 Kings 15:9-24	
913 - 888	25	<b>Jehoshephat</b>	Good	1 Kings 22:41-43	
888 - 880	8	<b>Jehoram</b>	Evil	2 Chronicles 21:5, 2 Kings 8:16-17	
880 - 875	6	<b>Athaliah</b>	Evil	2 Kings 11:1-3	
875 - 835	40	<b>Jehoash (Joash)</b>	Good	2 Kings 12:1	
835 - 806	29	<b>Amaziah</b>	Good	2 Kings 14:1-2, 17	
806 - 754	52	<b>Uzziah (Azariah)</b>	Good	2 Kings 15:1-2 states Uzziah began his reign in the 27th year of Jeroboam. This was not when Jeroboam took the throne, but when Jeroboam began ruling and fighting against the Syrians with his father, 2 Kings 14:17. Uzziah ruled 14 years after Jeroboam ruled independently.	
754 - 738	16	<b>Jotham</b>	Good	2 Kings 15:32-33	
738 - 722	16	<b>Ahaz</b>	Evil	2 Kings 16:1-2	
722 - 693	29	<b>Hezekiah</b>	Good	2 Kings 18:1-2 In the 3rd year of Hoshea, Hezekiah began to reign	
693 - 638	55	<b>Manasseh</b>	Evil	2 Kings 21:1-2	
638 - 636	2	Amon	Evil	2 Kings 21:19-20	
636 - 605	31	<b>Josiah</b>	Good	2 Kings 22:1-2	
605 - 603	3 months	Jehoiachin	Evil	2 Kings 23:31	

Kings of Northern Israel				
Reign	Years	Name	Good/Evil	Biblical Ref
974 - 952	22	<b>Jeroboam</b>	Evil	A mighty man of valour and given charge over the house of Joseph by Solomon, 1 Kings 11:28-14:20. Prophecied by Ahijah to be the next king of Israel, 1 Kings 11:29-37, 2 Kings 12:20
952 - 950	2	Nadab	Evil	1 Kings 15:25-26
950 - 928	22	<b>Baasha</b>	Evil	1 Kings 15:33-16:6
928 - 927	1	Tibni	Evil	1 Kings 16:7-8
927 - 916	12	<b>Omri</b>	Evil	1 Kings 16:16-28
916 - 895	22	<b>Ahab/Jezebel</b>	Evil	1 Kings 16:29
895 - 893	2	Ahaziah	Evil	1 Kings 22:51-53
893 - 880	12	<b>Jehoram (Joram) son of Ahab</b>	Evil	2 Kings 3:1-2, 8:16-Fought with Ahaziah in his last year and was wounded, 2 Kings 8:28, 9:21
880 - 852	28	<b>Jehu</b>	Good/ Evil	2 Kings 9:13, 10:36
852 - 835	17	<b>Jehoahaz</b>	Evil	2 Kings 13:1
In the 37th year of Joash, king of Judah's reign, Jehoash reigns with his father Jehoahaz for 3 years, 2 Kings 13:10				
835 - 820	16	<b>Jehoash (Joash)</b>	Evil	2 Kings 13:10
Jeroboam had possibly 10yrs of overlap ruling as viceroy with his father Joash. Compare 2 Kings 14:23 that says Jeroboam started his reign in 19th year of Amaziah, with 2 Kings 15:8 that states the end of Jeroboams reign in the 38th year of Uzziah. 14:23 tells us his reign was 41 years, this was probably the length of time he ruled by himself.				
809 - 768	41	<b>Jeroboam</b>	Evil	2 Kings 13:13, 14:23
767 - 757	10	<b>Menahem</b>	Evil	2 Kings 15:17
757 - 755	2	Pekahiah	Evil	2 Kings 15:23
755 - 735	20	<b>Pekah</b>	Evil	2 Kings 15:27 First attack of Assyria to carry Israel away captive
735 - 717	9	<b>Hoshea</b>	Evil	2 Kings 15:30 In the 4 year of Ahaz, the 20th year since Jotham.
<p>Hoshea may be ruling, but not as the full sole monarch of Israel, 2 Kings 15:30. 2 Kings 17:1 states Hoshea started his reign in the 12th year of Ahaz. There must have been an interrum of 9-10 years. This also agrees with 2 Kings 18:1-2, 9-10, which states Hezekiah begins his reign in the 3rd year of Hoshea.</p> <p>2 Kings 17:7-18</p> <p>7 For so it was that the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and they had feared other gods, and had walked in the statutes of the nations whom the LORD had cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.</p> <p>8 And had walked in the statutes of the nations whom the LORD had cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.</p> <p>9 Also the children of Israel secretly did against the LORD their God things that were not right, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from watchtower to fortified city.</p> <p>10 They set up for themselves sacred pillars and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree.</p> <p>11 There they burned incense on all the high places, like the nations whom the LORD had carried away before them; and they did wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger,</p> <p>12 for they served idols, of which the LORD had said to them, "You shall not do this thing."</p> <p>13 Yet the LORD testified against Israel and against Judah, by all of His prophets, every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways, and keep My commandments and My statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets."</p> <p>14 Nevertheless they would not hear, but stiffened their necks, like the necks of their fathers, who did not believe in the LORD their God.</p> <p>15 And they rejected His statutes and His covenant that He had made with their fathers, and His testimonies which He had testified against them; they followed idols, became idolaters, and went after the nations who were all around them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them that they should not do like them.</p> <p>16 So they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, made for themselves a molded image and two calves, made a wooden image and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.</p> <p>17 And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and soothsaying, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.</p> <p><b>18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah alone.</b></p>				

The Babylonian Invasion - 70 year Captivity - Medo-Persian Empire

70 YEAR BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY	605 BC: Nebuchadnezzar first invasion into Jerusalem, 2 Kings 24:1, 25:33, Jer 44:30, Dan 1:1				Ezekiel	Jeremiah	Daniel	The kings of Israel removed from the line of the kings, 2 Kings 17:18	
	605 - 597	11 - 4 = 7	Jehoiakim	Evil					2 Kings 23:34, 36, 24:1, Jer 25:1
	597 - 587	3 months	Jehoiachin	Evil					2 Kings 24:8
	597 BC: Nebuchadnezzar 2nd invasion into Jerusalem, Jer 27:20, 2 Kings 24:8-10								
	597 - 586	11	Zedekiah	Evil					Jeremiah 37:1, 2 Kings 24:17; Zedekiah was the brother of Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin's uncle, 1 Chron 3:1
	586 BC - 11th yr of Zedekiah - Jerusalem is carried away and taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar, 2 Kings 25:2, Jer 39:1-2								
586 - 583	1	Zedekiah	Evil	2 Kings 25:22					
560	???	Jehoiachin	Evil	Jehoiachin released in the 37th year of his captivity, 2 Kings 25:27-30					

538 BC Medes and the Persians overthrow the Babylonian Empire - Cyrus the Great, Ezra 1:1, 6:1-3; and Darius the Mede, Dan 5:30-31, Zech 1:1, 4:9. 537 BC- After 70 years in captivity, according to the prophecy of Jeremiah, in the 1st year of Cyrus King of Persia, the children of Israel are released to go back to Jerusalem, Ezra 1:1-4

The key to studying the chronology after the Babylonian captivity is to know the order of the Persian Kings. It can be confusing because there are (3) named Ahasuerus; (2) named Darius, and (2) named Artaxerxes. Below is an outline of each king and their correspondence to the Bible.

The Medo-Persian Empire

Happenings of the Children of Israel			Prophets	Kings of the Medo-Persian Empire		
Dates	Leader	Description		Reign	Years	Name / Description
537 - 535	Zerubbabel	In the 1st year of King Cyrus, 537, Cyrus decrees the release of the Jews back to Jerusalem to build the temple, Ezra 1:1. An altar is erected to offer burnt offerings to God before the temple is built, 537, Ezra 3:2, 6.		538 - 530	9	<b>Cyrus the Persian</b> conquered Babylon in 538 BC, Ezra 1:1, 7, 5:13. After taking Babylon, Cyrus gave the rule of Babylon to King Darius the Mede, Dan 5:31, as viceroy to the throne. Ahasuerus the Mede, the father of Darius the Mede, Dan 9:1, not to be confused with the other (2) kings named Ahasuerus later in history.
535 - 522	Zerubbabel	In the 2nd year of their release, work on the temple commenced, the foundation of Zerubbabel's temple is laid, and the walls are set up, Ezra 3:8-11, 4:12, Hag 2:18. During this time there was much opposition from the adversaries of Judah that delayed and prolonged the building of the temple, Ezra 4:1-21. Then after a decree went forth from king Artaxerxes (Smerdis (brother of Cyrus) 522) to stop the building of the temple, Ezra 4:21-24.		530 - 522	9	<b>Ahasuerus the Persian</b> , known as (Cambyses (son of Cyrus) 530 - 522). In the beginning of the reign of Ahasuerus the people of the land troubled the people of Judah in the building of the temple. Those who opposed Judah and the building of the temple wrote an accusation to Ahasuerus the Persian, Ezra 4:4-6.
521	Haggai to Zerubbabel	Prophetic utterance to encourage Zerubbabel	Haggai	522	1	<b>Artaxerxes the Persian</b> (brother of Cyrus) received another letter from those opposing the temple, Ezra 4:7, and Artaxerxes decrees that the building of the temple stop, Ezra 4:21-23
521	Zechariah to Zerubbabel		Zechariah			
521 - 516	Zerubbabel	In the 2nd year of the reign of Darius king of Persia, 521, Ezra 4:24, until finally in the 6th year of Darius the Persian, 516, Ezra 6:15, the house of the Lord was finished.		522 - 486	36	<b>Darius the Persian</b> 522 - 486 after enquiring to know more about the decree of Cyrus to rebuild the temple, 538, the scroll was found with the declaration written allowing the Jews the freedom to build the temple, Ezra 4:24, 6:12. Darius then honors the decree of Cyrus, and makes a decree himself to resume the building of the temple in 520, Ezra 6:12. The house of the Lord was finished in the 6th year of Darius the Persian, Ezra 6:15.
516 - 458	From the time the Temple was completed in 516 until the prophecy of Malachi, 460, and the coming of Ezra to Jerusalem, 458, the Children of Israel were free to worship God in His temple, but they had deep pagan roots from Babylon and did not know the law of the Lord. Therefore, in the 7th year of Artaxerxes king of Persia, 458, Ezra came to them from Babylon to meet them in Jerusalem and taught them the Law of Moses, Ezra 7:1-10. For 58 years the Israelites were entangled with the Babylonian ways and were corrupting the Jewish lineage by marrying pagan women. I believe Malachi was the prophet of the Lord paving the way for Ezra, Malachi 3:1-4, to teach them, sanctify them, purge their idoltrous ways and remove their entanglement with Babylonian wives and customs, 458, Ezra 9:10 - 10:3.					
485 - 465	Esther	The Time of Esther in Susa, Persia		485 - 465	20	<b>Ahasuerus the Persian</b> (Xerxes in the time of Esther) Esther chapters 1-10. King Ahasuerus reigned over 127 provinces- see map below of the expanse of his kingdom
			Malachi			
		In 458, Ezra comes from Babylon to Jerusalem to teach the Law of Moses and set the Children of Israel straight, Ezra 7:1-10. This is quite possibly the first time most of these people had every heard the Torah and the Law of Moses. Ezra was a scribe and priest of Jerusalem even through the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem, Neh 8:1-13. Ezra probably died shortly after because we see the corruption of the priesthood begin through Eliashib persuaded by Tobid of which Ezra would have never condoned, Neh 13:4-9.				
445 - 433	Nehemiah	In the 20th year of the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, 445, Artaxerxes gives the decree to rebuild the city of Jerusalem. This corresponds to the prophecy of Daniel 9:25. Nehemiah rebuilds the walls of Jerusalem in 52 days, Neh 6:15. Nehemiah is made governor of Jerusalem for 12 years, 445 - 433, Neh 5:14. However Nehemiah must have returned to Babylon. At which time the priest, Eliashib, was persuaded by Tobid the Ammonite, Neh 2:10, to turn away from Godly things. Nehemiah learned of this and was granted leave of King Artaxerxes in 433 to return to Jerusalem, Neh 13:4-9		465 - 424	41	<b>Artaxerxes king of Persia</b> gave the decree in 445 to Nehemiah to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, thus fulfilling Daniel 9:25, 69 weeks of years until the Messiah enters Jerusalem at the Triumphal Entry. Artaxerxes also extended his mercy to beautify the temple out of the king's treasure house, Ezra 7:20-21
The Intertestamental Period 433 ~ 4 BC						
The period of time between the Old and New Testaments						

