







Logistics & Learning Objectives:

- Participants will gain a high leve understanding of:
 - a. Major themes of the Old Testament
 - b. Why & How to study the Old Testament
 - c. What's the Old Testament got to do with my life today?
 - d. The geography of the Old Testament
 - e. Real people & real places of the Old Testament
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Ethiopia

11.0%







Regi: CLASSES HOME **ABOUT** INSTRUCTOR **TEXTBOOKS** FAQs FORUM **MEDITATIONS** Survey of Christian Theology Survey of the New Testament Survey of the Old Testament Christian Apologetics Survey of Church History Survey of World Religions The Book of Romans The Book of Hebrews The Minor Prophets

The
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of Our Lord and Savjour
Jesus Christ
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Authorized King James Version

NTS.01

Introduction to ew Testament

May 25, 2023

Class Slide





The New Testament Surve

seeks to presents Christianity's core tenets and doctrines for all that are interested in learning about Christianity. We seek to provide tools for believers to build a strong foundation in their understanding of the New Testament and thereby bolster their faith in Christ. We seek to be diligent in teaching the foundations of our beliefs, so we can earnestly contend for our faith. We commit to being reletiless in our study of the Scripture.



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- a Why wa have a New Tostament
- b. Why it is important to have a solid
- c. The timeline(s) of the Nev Testament
- d The themes of the New Testament
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NTS.2

Gospel of Jol

June 15, 202

Class Slide:



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NEW "Invite a Friend" (IAF) program

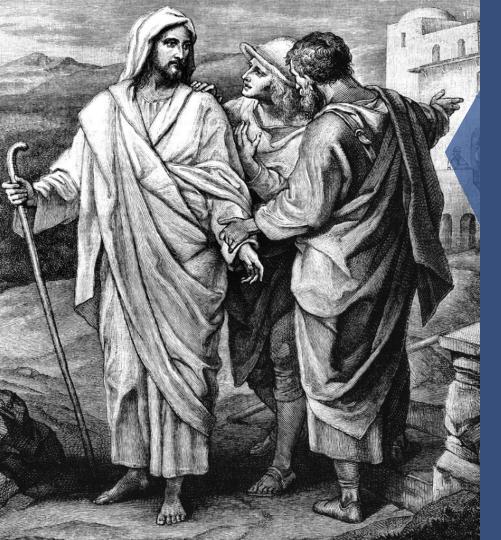
- 1. If you attend 5 full classes
- 2. If a newly invited friend of yours registers and joins for 5 full classes
- If you send an email to walter@studioscriptura.com informing us of your friends name and that you have met 1 & 2 above
- 4. Then Studio Scriptura will send you an Amazon gift card of \$25 for you to purchase any of the textbooks as listed on www.studioscriptura.com or as you decide. Maximum 3 gift cards per 20 classes.

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NEW Studio Scriptura Certification Program (SSCP)

- 1. Attend all classes at least once (2 seasons)
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 - Read through the entirety of the Old Testament
 - Read all the class slides pre or post class
 - c. Read all Additional Insight Papers
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- 3. Studio Scriptura will
 - a. Issue you a Certification of your successful completion of all requirements and validating your knowledge of the Old Testament.
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"Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself."

"And they said to one another, "Did not **our heart burn within us** while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:25-27, 32

Why & How to Study the Old Testament

- "In the Old Testament the New is concealed, in the New the Old is revealed." st. Augustine
- "Without the Old, we cannot understand the New, and without the New, we have an incomplete understanding of the Old." Dr John Frederick, Lecturer in New Testament at Trinity College Queensland
- "A covenant of grace yearning for its completion in Christ Jesus. The Old is not the negative foil for the New; the New is the fulfillment of the Old. The God of grace has been fighting for us from the beginning ... Jesus Christ, the completion and perfection of God's covenantal love and grace for life of the world." Dr John Frederick, Lecturer in New Testament at Trinity College Queensland.
- "We can know who God is and what HE is like by hearing what HE has done (OT history) and intends to do (OT Prophecy). Once we know who HE is and what HE is like, the appropriate responses are worship, commitment, and service." Andrew Hill & John Walton, A Survey of the Old-Testament
- Through the *covenant* God both reveals what he is like and obliges Himself to a particular course of action. His loyalty to the *covenant*, frequently leads Him to acts of grace and mercy, but justice is also built into the covenant to ensure accountability by His people." Andrew Hill & John Walton, A Survey of the Old Testament
- "It is the *covenant*, as God's plan, that is more in focus than the people who are involved generation after generation." Andrew Hill & John Walton, A Survey of the Old Testament

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- What is more significant than an understanding of the people and events, is an understanding of God and HIS plan. Thus we need to pay attention to what can be called the <u>plotline</u> of the Old Testament. We are concerned with the theology that flows from the text, not just the story. Andrew Hill & John Walton, A Survey of the Old testament
- When studying the Old Testament we need to avoid:
 - o Looking for hidden meanings that are not there
 - o Placing everything in the realm of symbolism
 - Taking stories out of the context of the <u>plotline</u>
 - Carelessness, and not completing one's due diligence on context, history, audience, genre, and culture. Remember to ask - What was the intended meaning by the original author to their audience (Israel & the universal people of God) using normal grammatical rules of understanding the text? And, based on this, and within the context of the entirety of Scripture, what is the intended meaning to us today?

Why & How to Study the Old Testament

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- "Christians have long affirmed that the Creator did not reveal Himself to human beings all at once, and this helps to account for many of the differences between the Old covenant and the New covenant. Scripture teaches what is often called 'progressive revelation.' Simply put, this means that God revealed Himself to His people over many centuries, giving new information that built on, but did not contradict or deny, what came before." Progressive Revelation, Ligonier Ministry
- We must stay keenly focused on historical contexts in which biblical themes and the plotline evolves. This "progressive revelation," is a process of revelation that culminates in the revelation of the life and death of Jesus Christ and the formation of the New Testament canon.
- ➤ "God revealed Himself through his mighty <u>acts</u> in history. God, however, also authored <u>texts</u> that bear witness to His acts in history. Between the acts and the texts that record these acts, the locus of theological reflection must be the text. A crucial point for biblical theologians to remember is that biblical history is Heilsgeschichte (i.e., "sacred history")."
- Heilsgeschichte Sacred History of Salvation is the inspired recounting and interpretation of the historical events which forms the basis of Paul's theology in the New Testament which is built upon the life, death, resurrection, ascension and return of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the hinge upon which the Old & New Testaments turn.

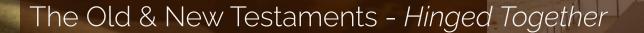
Bruce Waltke with Charles Yu, An Old Testament Theology - An Exegetical, Canonical, and Thematic Approach, Zondervan

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- > Typology is concerned with comparative historical events, persons, and institutions recorded in the Bible.

 Types are recognized as prototypes, patterns, or figures of later historical persons, events, or places. God intended earlier persons, acts, and institutions to present a type or pattern of future greater fulfillment.
- Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a *type* of Him who was to come. Romans 5:14
- > The student of the Old Testament should always be asking about and looking for connections between themes, types, and plotline.
- The plotline along with the themes and types should grown and enhance our new identity in Christ that manifests itself in a new outlook on life leading to service.
- > To study Scripture without submitting to its Author would be to do violence to the Word of God.



"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to <u>fulfill</u>. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:17-19

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Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought, not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Luke 24:25-27

For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:17

Therefore the <u>law was our tutor</u> to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. Galatians 3:24-25

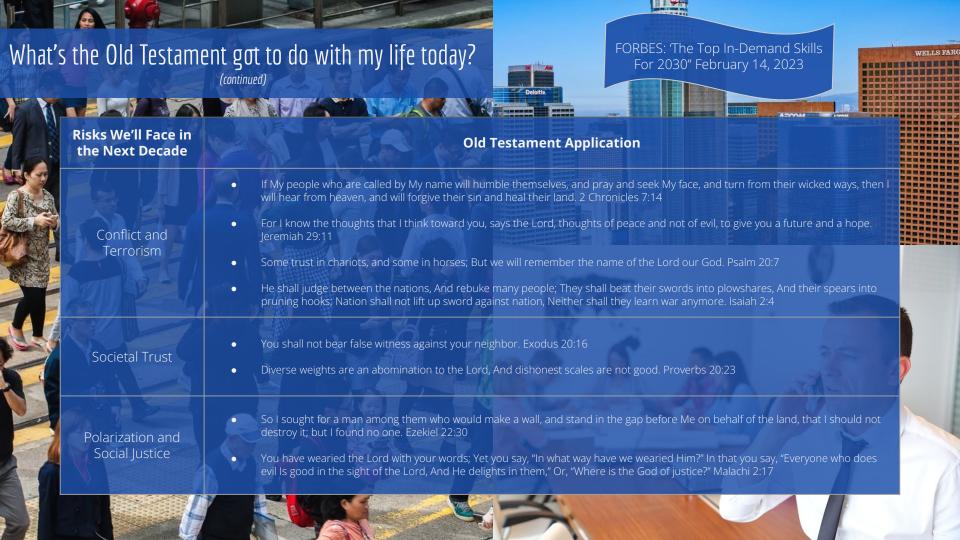
"Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, [h]though I was a husband to them, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their li]hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Jeremiah 21:31-33

But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a <u>better covenant</u>, which was established on better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. Hebrews 8:6-7



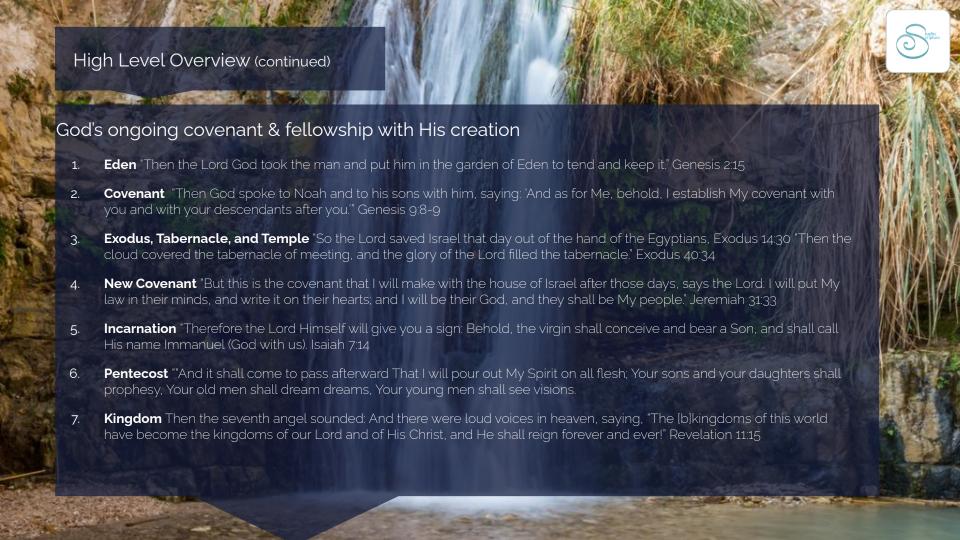












Canon of the Old Testament



- Canon qaneh (Hebrew) of kanon (Greek) measuring stick
- Law / Prophets / Writings
- Revelation of the Old Testament unfolded c. 1400-400 BC
- > Canon of the OT generally recognized by 300 BC
- > Septuagint (LXX) Greek translation of the Hebrew OT c. 285 247 BC
- > All of the Old Testament appears in the Dead Sea Scrolls
- Masoretic Text Canon for Rabinic Judaism and is basis for OT for most Protestant translations



Geography of the Old Testament









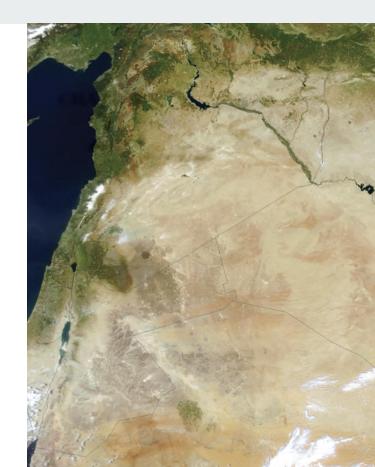
- "The history of the Israelite nation developed within a specific geographical context. For this reason the Bible student must take the geography of the land seriously."
- 2. The "Fertile Crescent." This area included the Nile River valley and delta, the narrow plains along the Mediterranean coast of Syro-Palestine, and the Tigris and Euphrates river valleys.
- 3. Mesopotamia
- 4. Asia Minor/Anatolia
- 5. Syro-Palestine
- 6. Egypt
- 7. The Arabian Peninsula





The Land of Palestine

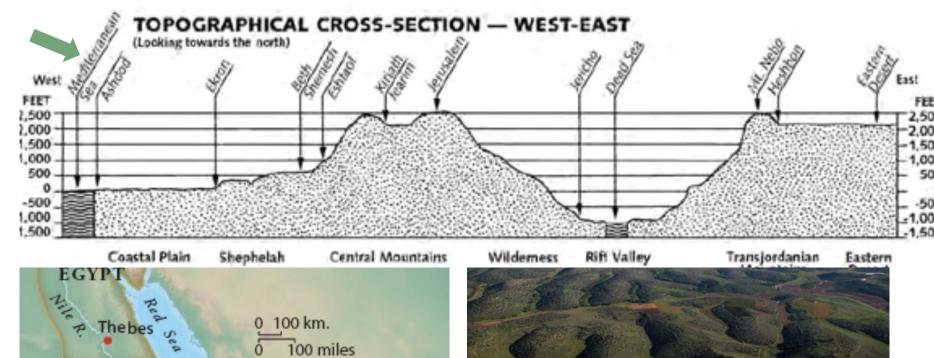
- a. The Coastal Plain
- b. The Central Hill Country
- c. The Jordan Rift
- d. The Transjordan Plateau



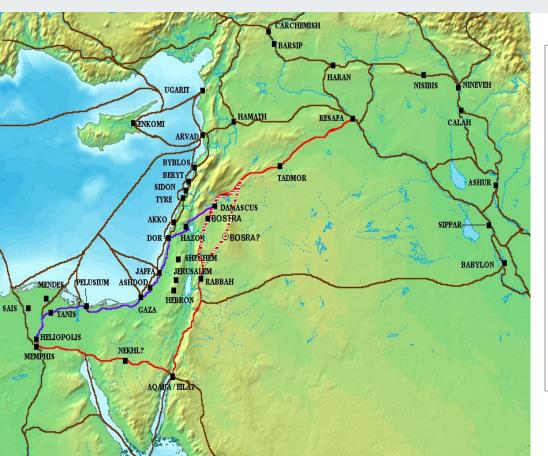












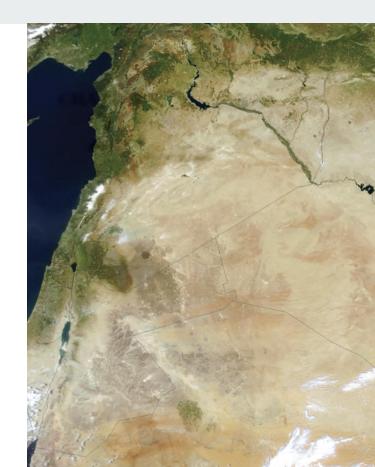
Trade Routes

- 1. The Way of the Sea
- 2. The Way of the Kings
- Palestine's location as a corridor for commerce, alliances, diplomacy between three continents had great significance for the Israelites.
- 4. A land between and a people between
 - a. So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Ezekiel 22:30
 - That is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:19



Theological Significance of the Land

- a. God's initial covenant promise to Abram
- b. The Old Testament prophets and poets reminded Israel that possession of the land guaranteed neither God's presence nor his blessing. It was always about faith and obedience.
- c. Unfoldingg of the plotline of the Old
 Testament was influenced by the geography
 of the land





Real People & Real Place



Sumerians

"The ancient inhabitants of southern Iraq (Mesopotamia) were known as Sumerians. The culture, language, and literature of this society directly affected the entire Middle East. Ur was one of the most developed cities of the ancient world."

Babylonians

"Banks of the Euphrates, one of the greatest cities of the ancient world. Flourishing under Hammurabi (1792–1750 BC) - famous Law Code. The region was known as Chaldea, especially the Empire of Nabopolassar (626–605 BC) and Nebuchadnezzar (605–562 BC). Nebuchadnezzar conquered Assyrian, Tyre, and Judah - invaded Egypt, making Babylon the dominant power in the Middle East in the early sixth century.





Assyrians

Occupied the upper Tigris Valley in northern Iraq. The city of Ashur on the west bank of the Tigris River gave its name to the entire region. Nineveh, on the east bank, became the capital and reached its Zenith under Sennacherib (705–682 BC). The violence with which the Assyrians terrorized the ancient Middle East is clearly depicted on their monuments and in their written records. His son, Sennacherib, attacked 46 cities in Judah and besieged Jerusalem in 701 BC.



Real People & Real Place (continued)



Persians

Cyrus II (the Great) - 550 to 530 BC - conquered Babylon in 539 BC by diverting the Euphrates River - Daniel 5 corroborates. Darius I (522-486 BC) gave the inhabitants of Jerusalem permission to finish the second temple under the leadership of Zerubbabel (Ezra 5-6). Artaxerxes I (464-424 BC), gave Ezra (458 BC) and Nehemiah (445 BC) permission to travel to Jerusalem. The Persian Empire continued to flourish until it was conquered by Alexander the Great in 330 BC.

Egyptians

*Egyptian history is divided into the Old Kingdom when the great pyramids were built (2700–2200 BC); the Middle Kingdom, which saw the golden age of Egypt's classical literature (2100–1750 BC); and the New Kingdom, (1550–1069 BC) under powerful pharaohs like Thutmosis III, Sethos I, and Ramesses II. This period paralleled the biblical account of the exodus.20





Arameans

Aram is derived from the grandson of Abraham's brother Nahor (Gen 22:21). The Arameans were the inhabitants of the Fertile Crescent in Syria. Their language, known as Aramaic, became the major form of cultural communication in the region. The influence of Aramean culture and the Aramaic language continued to have a significant influence in the Middle East, even until New Testament times.



Real People & Real Place (continued)



Canaanites

Original inhabitants of the Syro-Palestinian coastlands, were the descendants of Canaan (Gen 10:15–18). Canaanite religion included ecstatic utterances, emotional prayers, and temple prostitutes. Their religion personified and deified the forces of nature and became a constant distraction to the monotheism of the Israelites.

Phoenicians

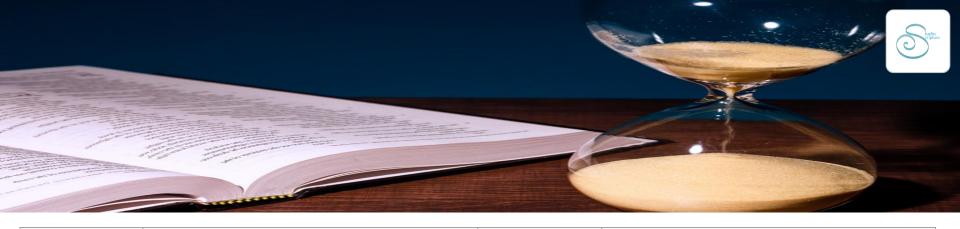
"Phoenician" derives from the ancient Greek term for "purple," presumably referring to the purple dyes and cloths of these ancient merchant people. Phoenicia itself is roughly equivalent to modern Lebanon. Protected by the heavily forested cedars of the Lebanon mountain range -secluded by the boundaries of its natural setting. The Phoenician coastal cities of Tyre, Sidon, and Byblos were all active seaports.





Philistines

Philistines were among the Sea Peoples who migrated across the Mediterranean from the Aegean in the second millennium BC. The massive invasion of Mycenaean-like Philistines came around 1200 BC. - often a threat to Israel in the stories of Samson, Samuel, Saul, and David. Their nation consisted of five cities: Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gaza, Gath, and Ekron. Philistine incursions into the interior are also recorded in the Bible at Beth-shean, Timnah, and Gerar.



c. 2091 BC	Abraham believed God (Kish tablet dates to around 3,500 BCE)	c. 722 BC	Northern Kingdom Falls / Assyria
c. 1876 BC	Jacob Goes to Egypt	c. 586 BC	Southern Kingdom Falls / Babylon
c. 1446 BC	Moses / Exodus	c. 538 BC	Return to the Land
c. 1400 BC	Joshua Enters the Land	c. 51 5 BC	Second Temple Period Begins
c. 1030 BC	Davidic Covenant Begins	c. 356 - 323 BC	Alexander the Great
c. 966 BC	First Temple Period Begins	c. 146 BC	Rome Ascends
c. 930 BC	Kingdom Splits	c. 4 BC	Jesus' Birth

Postflood Early Bronze I– III	3000–2166 BC	Civilization reestablished throughout Fertile Crescent (urbanization, cities, agriculture, pottery, literacy)
Early Bronze IV	2166–2000 BC	Cities of the plain prominent in the Jordan Valley; Abram enters Canaan (2091 BC)
Middle Bronze	2000–1550 BC	Patriarchs in Canaan; Joseph in Egypt; Hebrew sojourn in Egypt
Late Bronze	1550–1200 BC	Moses delivers Hebrews in Exodus (1446 BC); Joshua enters Canaan and begins conquest (1406 BC); settlement of Hebrews in Canaan; judges begin to rule
Iron I	1200–900 BC	Philistine dominance in lowlands of Canaan; administration of Hebrew tribes under judges; establishment of united monarchy in Israel (c. 1000 BC); first temple built (960 BC); division of the nation into two kingdoms
Iron II	900–586 BC	Divided monarchy in Israel; fall of northern kingdom (721 BC), Assyrian monarch Sennacherib of Assyria invades Judah; destroys city of Lachish and threatens Jerusalem (701 BC); Babylonian monarch Nebuchadnezzar captures Jerusalem; destroys first temple and exiles population (605–586 BC)





