

**Timeline: Creation - 1400BCE**

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**A Timeline  
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**In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for  
BI 502**

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**by  
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Start	End	Event	Source	Bible Ref
7000	7000	People begin to engage in agriculture, domesticate animals, and establish urban communities	JHBAP	
4000	3200	Chalcolithic Period	AHOAIAJ	
3200	3000	Early Bronze Age I	AHOAIAJ	
3100	3100	Invention of cuneiform writing by the Sumerian in southern Mesopotamia. Local gods, expressing every form of human emotion. Creation story in the Sumerian epics	JHBAP	
3000	2800	Early Bronze Age II	AHOAIAJ	
2800	2400	Early Bronze Age III	AHOAIAJ	
2700	2700	King Gilgamesh ruled in Uruk	JHBAP	
2615	2175	Old Kingdom period of Egyptian history	JHBAP	
2400	2000	Early Bronze Age IV	AHOAIAJ	
2360	2180	First large-scale territorial empire of Mesopotamian history	JHBAP	
2300	2300	King Sargon of Akkad established the first Akkadian empire, dominating Mesopotamia. Sumerian myths transferred from cuneiform to the semitic script Akkadian.	JHBAP	
2200	2200	Collapse of Sargon's Akkadian empire through invasion and internal conflict.	JHBAP	
2190	2190	New arrivals into Mesopotamia were the Amorites who dwelt in cities such as Mari and Babylon; there they integrated into Sumero-Akkadian civilization. Other Amorites penetrated into Syria-Palestine (ancient Canaan). There they retained their separate tribal structure.	JHBAP	
2166	2166	Abram born	PW	
2100	1800	Movement of Amorites and other peoples into Mesopotamia and Canaan	JHBAP	
2091	2091	Abram's departure for Canaan, when he was 75 years old.	AI	Gen 12:4
2066	2066	Isaac was born to Abraham when he was 100 years old	AI	Gen 21:5
2060	1950	Third Dynasty of Ur	JHBAP	
2006	2006	Jacob was born to Isaac when he was 60 years old	AI	Gen 25:26

Beginning with creation, God intended for mankind to dominate the world. Initially with agriculture and then domesticating animals and establishing urban communities, man began to fulfill this command. First with simple tools and then by 3200, man began to shape the earth's elements, alloying tin and copper to form bronze utensils. One hundred years later, we find the earliest forms of written communication, cuneiform, in southern Mesopotamia, by the Sumerian community. We see in the Sumerian epics, by this time people had drifted from their Creator, with stories of multiple local gods expressing every form of human emotion. In the 2700s, kings began to rule, with King Gilgamesh in Uruk, and in Egypt around 2615, the Old Kingdom begins to reign. By 2360 the first large-scale territorial empire takes root in Mesopotamia ruled by King Sargon of Akkad who dominated the Sumerians. Sumerian myths were transferred from cuneiform to the semitic script, Akkadian. In Sumerian and Akkadian mythology, life was under the control of the gods. To obtain happiness, it was vital to keep the gods in good humor through sacrifice and worship. The created desire in man for God lead these people to seek omens and signs as direction from 'the gods'. One common practice was to examine the liver of a sacrificed animal, and a special class of priest was trained to interpret these signs. By 2000, the Akkadian empire of Sargon had collapsed through both invasion and internal conflict. Soon after, The Amorites arrived as newcomers into Mesopotamia and dwelt in cities such as Mari and Babylon; there they integrated into Sumero-Akkadian civilization. Other Amorites penetrated into Syria-Palestine (ancient Caanan). There they retained their separate tribal structure. This is the culture in which Abram grew up, where God chose to begin revealing Himself again to the people who had drifted from Him. The beginning of the 17th century BCE saw the start of the 40 year rule of Hammurabi of Babylon. In his honour, the Enuma Elish Babylonian creation story was composed. 1678 began the 100 year reign over Egypt and Canaan by the Hyksos-- an ethnically mixed group of Southwest Asiatic or Semitic people who appeared in the eastern Nile Delta during the Second Intermediate Period. This political history between Egypt and Semitic people may lend direct insight into the social climate during the Egyptian bondage of Israel.

We see God's story dealing with Israel begin in 2166 with the birth of Abram. At this time, we know the Amorites were migrating into Mesopotamia and Canaan, and the Biblical account of Genesis 11 accounts these events in Abram's life. At age 75, Abram leaves Ur and goes to Harran in Northern Syria, with his father Terah, his wife Saria and nephew Lot. Soon after, God calls him to go to Canaan. Isaac was born to Abraham 25 year after. Jacob was born to Isaac when Isaac was 60 years old, from whom the 12 patriarchs were birthed. Jacob's family migrated to Egypt when he was 130 years old (1876BCE), aided by one of the 12, Joseph,

Start	End	Event	Source	Bible Ref
2000	1800	Middle Bronze Age I	AHOAIAJ	
2000	1900	In the second century the inhabitants of Canaan consisted of a mixture of races, largely of semitic origin	JHBAP	
1991	1678	Egyptian Middle Kingdom	MKAE	
1900	1600	Israel's Patriarchal Period	JHBAP	
1900	1900	Alternative dating from JHBAP ff. Abram leaves Ur and goes to Harran in Northern Syria, with his father Terah, his wife Saria and nephew Lot. Soon after, God calls him to go to Canaan.	JHBAP	Gen 12:1-2
1876	1876	Jacob's family's descent into Egypt when Jacob was 130 years old	AI	Gen 47:9
1800	1650	Middle Bronze Age II	AHOAIAJ	
1792	1750	Rule of Hammurabi of Babylon. In his honour, the Enuma Elish Babylonian creation story was composed	JHBAP	
1678	1570	Canaan and Egypt ruled by the Hyksos	JHBAP	
1650	1550	Middle Bronze Age III	AHOAIAJ	
1570	1304	New Kingdom or Empire period of Egyptian history	JHBAP	
1500	1200	Egypt was the dominant empire in the Middle East with its control and influence extending deep into Asiatic territory	AHOAIAJ	
1550	1400	Late Bronze Age I	AHOAIAJ	
1479	1425	Pharaoh Thutmose III	AI	
1450	1200	Hittite Empire in Asia Minor	JHBAP	
1446	1446	The Exodus from Egypt	AI	Ex 12:40
1425	1401	Pharaoh Amenhotep (Amenophis), son of P. Thutmose III	AI	
1406	1406	Israel's conquest of Canaan	AI	Josh
1400	1200	Late Bronze Age II	AHOAIAJ	
1400	1400	State of Assyria becomes powerful in northern Mesopotamia, and shortly after, the dominant power in the Near East. The Assyrian kings copied the Babylonians, worshiping their same gods, but the chief god was Ashur, who, they claimed, lead them in battle to expand his frontier.	JHBAP	

whom God had previously brought to Egypt and granted a high position in the Egyptian Middle Kingdom, likely by Pharaoh Seneferu III. The family of Israel grew great in the land of Egypt, and with the inauguration of the New Kingdom era in Egypt-- taking power back from the semitic Hyksos, and extending their reign throughout the Middle East with control and influence extending deep into Asiatic territory-- the Pharaohs began to feel threatened by and to mistreat the Israelites-- also a semitic people group. Moses, an Israelite, was born during this period and, through Divine circumstances, became an adopted member of Pharaoh's household. As an adult, God called Moses to lead the Israelites from the land of Egypt, defying Pharaoh with miraculous signs from God (1446BCE). God spoke directly with Moses and began revealing Himself to the Israelites. He established a priesthood and laws for the people, as they traveled 40 years in the desert lands between Egypt and Canaan. After Moses' death in 1406, Joshua and Eleazar, the high priest lead the people into the land of Canaan to conquer and settle there. Israel did not completely annihilate the people in Canaan, as God commanded, and those who remained often caused Israel to stray from Yahweh to worship the Assyrian gods-- the chief being Ashur.

In summary, from creation, man began to dominate the earth, but morally stray from God. As new generations were born not having any knowledge of Yahweh, they began to develop their own socio-political standards and create their own gods, often similar to Yahweh and His ultimate moral good, but subsequently more and more incongruent. God began to reveal Himself to mankind again starting with Abram and his family, later called Israel-- and more specifically to Moses. Without a specific kingdom to call their own, God's people were sometimes pulled out from their culture, or given high positions in their governments, but always called to trust God and submit to His progressive revelation of Himself. We see God's patience and sacrificial love as Israel is inclined to stray from God, even as He shows His power over and over, protecting and providing for them.

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- AHOAIAJ - class textbook
  - JHBAP - Daniel C. Cohn-Sherbok, Judaism: History, Belief and Practice, 2003, Routledge ISBN: 0415236606
  - AI - Hershel Shanks, Ancient Israel, 1999, Biblical Archaeology Society, ISBN: 1880317532
  - MKAE - W. Grajetzki, The Middle Kingdom of Ancient Egypt: History, Archaeology and Society, Duckworth, London 2006 ISBN 0715634356