

Timeline: 1400 - 1300BCE

**A Timeline
Submitted to Dr. Paul Wegner
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**In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for
BI 502**

**by
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Start	End	Event	Source	Bible Ref
1406	1385	Rule by Joshua and the Elders	CBCOT	
1406	1395	Israel's conquest of Canaan: Gilgal established as home base Reinstitution of Circumcision Celebration of Passover 40 years post-Exodus Conquest of Jericho and AI Renewal of Israel's devotion to God's covenant at Shechem Deal with the Gibeonite tetrapolis Israel repels attacks from the South and conquers.	AI ASOIH	
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	
1400	1390	Egyptian Pharaoh: Thutmose IV	CBCOT	
1390	1352	Egyptian Pharaoh: Amenhotep III	CBCOT	

Preconquered Canaan was a land of city-states without central government, but whose many kings often banded together to ward off attackers. Egypt was the official overlord during this period, first under the reign of Pharaoh Thutmose IV, during the time of the Israelite conquest, and later under Pharaohs Amenhotep III, IV, Smenkhare, Tutankhamun, Ay, and finally Haremhab. Canaanite culture was more advanced than Israel, who had been nomadic the previous 40 years. Archaeological finds show cities which were well engineered with quality construction, paved floors, drainage system, and the like.

With leadership of Israel passing from Moses and Aaron to Joshua and Eleazar, the people were ready to enter their promised land. Joshua's plan of attack initiated with a forward assault on the midpoint of the population, coming in from the East and dividing it into North and South regions. As the people moved toward this objective, their first obstacle was the formidable city of Jericho. Informed by spies, the people learned that the inhabitants of Jericho feared Israel greatly, due to news about wilderness victories. Encouraged by this report, and a miraculous crossing of the flooding Jordan river, the Israelites set up camp in Gilgal, reinstated circumcision, and celebrated Passover exactly 40 years after their exodus from Egypt. With Gilgal as home base, Israel began its conquest. They immediately took Jericho and AI, likely including Bethel. The Tell el-Amarna letters depict Pharaoh Amenhotep III turning a deaf ear to Canaanite pleas for help against invaders. Established firmly in the promised land, Joshua proceeded to lead the people North to Shechem to renew God's covenant. Here the people devoted themselves to God's commandments and responded to His promises of blessing and cursing. After returning to their base in Gilgal, Israel received a deceptive offering of peaceful homage from the Hivites-- four cities called the Gibeonite tetrapolis. Israel agreed to this treaty, contrary to God's command, under the assumption that their home was a far away region, when, in fact, they lived just northwest of Jerusalem. Upon hearing of this news, the king of Jerusalem formed alliances with four leading southern cities: Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon, who joined together to resist Israel by first attacking Gibeon. Staying true to Israel's treaty, Joshua marched his troops in one night to successfully repel the assault on Gibeon. All five kings were killed and their armies decimated. This gave opportunity to subjugate the South, which was easily accomplished with their armies defeated. The one notable exception in the South was Jerusalem, which remained undefeated until David seized it much later.

Start	End	Event	Source	Bible Ref
1395	1390	Northern cities band together under king Jabin of Hazor	ASOIH	Jdg 3:8
		Israel defeats the North		
		Division of land to Israel tribes		
1390	1385	Israelite settlement, complacency and turn from Yahweh to indigenous Canaanite false idols	ASOIH	
1385	1377	Israel oppressed by Mesopotamian King Cushan-rishathaim	CBCOT	Jdg 3:8
1377	1337	Judge Othniel from Judah	CBCOT	Jdg 3:9-11
1352	1336	Egyptian Pharaoh: Amenhotep IV (Akhenaten)	CBCOT	
1338	1336	Egyptian Pharaoh: Smenkhare	CBCOT	
1337	1319	Israel oppressed by Moabites and King Eglon	CBCOT	Jdg 3:12-14
1336	1327	Egyptian Pharaoh: Tutankhamun	CBCOT	
1327	1323	Egyptian Pharaoh: Ay	CBCOT	
1323	1295	Egyptian Pharaoh: Haremhab	CBCOT	
1319	1239	Judges Ehud from Benjamin, and Shamgar. Battle in Jericho. Oppression from the Philistines	CBCOT	Jdg 3:15-31

Hearing of Israel's victories in the South, the northern city-states allied together under king Jabin of Hazor. Their armies gathered at the waters of Merom and were as "the sand on the seashore" (Josh. 11:4). Catching them off guard by attacking immediately with smaller forces, Israel defeated the kings of the North and concluded their primary onslaught. Now it was time to divide the land among the nine and half tribes who didn't settle the other side of the Jordan, and begin to settle the territory. This time in Israel's history was spent without central government, and even local administration was conducted by a small number of elders-- an office left from the latter days in Egypt. God had promised great blessing on Israel if they would keep His commandments. Israel did not. They failed to drive out all the Canaanites of the land, as God had directed, and thus were led away into the indigenous practices of Baal worship and other evils which God sought to avoid. With disobedience came oppression. The first of which is lead by Cushan Rishathaim from Mesopotamia. The oppression lasted eight years, when finally the children of Israel called out to God for help. God sent Othniel, the first of a number of delivers called 'Judges', to quell the oppression. Afterward Israel enjoyed forty years of peace under the judgeship of Othniel. The second oppression came from the land of Moab under the leadership of king Eglon. The Moabites set up camp near Jericho and oppressed the Israelites nearby for eighteen years. Finally, Israel cried out to God for deliverance and God raised a second judge, Ehud of Benjamin, who tactically assassinated king Eglon, squelching the Moabite infiltration.

In summary, God brought Israel faithfully into the promised land after the time of wilderness punishment had ended. He blessed Joshua as he led the military conquest of Canaan, but Israel did not entirely cleanse the land from Canaanite habitation, as God commanded. God had promised blessing for obedience and cursing for rebellion. The remaining indigenous population was largely responsible for drawing Israel away from Yahweh to worship their false deities, and this rebellion from God was met with conflict and oppression. Through all Israel's disobedience, we see God's unfailing love and grace eagerly waiting for Israel to turn from their rebellion, so He might rescue and restore His people.

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
 CBCOT - Walton, John H., Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament, 1994, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, ISBN: 0310481619
 ASOIH - Wood, Leon J., A Survey of Israel' History, 1970, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, ISBN: 031034770