



Lesson 3-1

Historical Books

History & Prophets

✚ I'm confused. Are we learning about the *Neviim*, history, or prophets?

- *Neviim* (נְבִיאִים) is a Hebrew term that means “prophets” and identifies the second major division of the Old Testament.
- With a few differences, the Christian Bible arranges these books into two major groups: the Historical Books and the Prophetic Books.

The Historical Books

✚ What are the “Historical Books?”

- Joshua & Judges
- Ruth
- 1-2 Samuel
- 1-2 Kings
- 1-2 Chronicles
- Ezra, Nehemiah

✚ Why do we call them the Historical Books?

- Athanasius (367 CE)
- Theological History

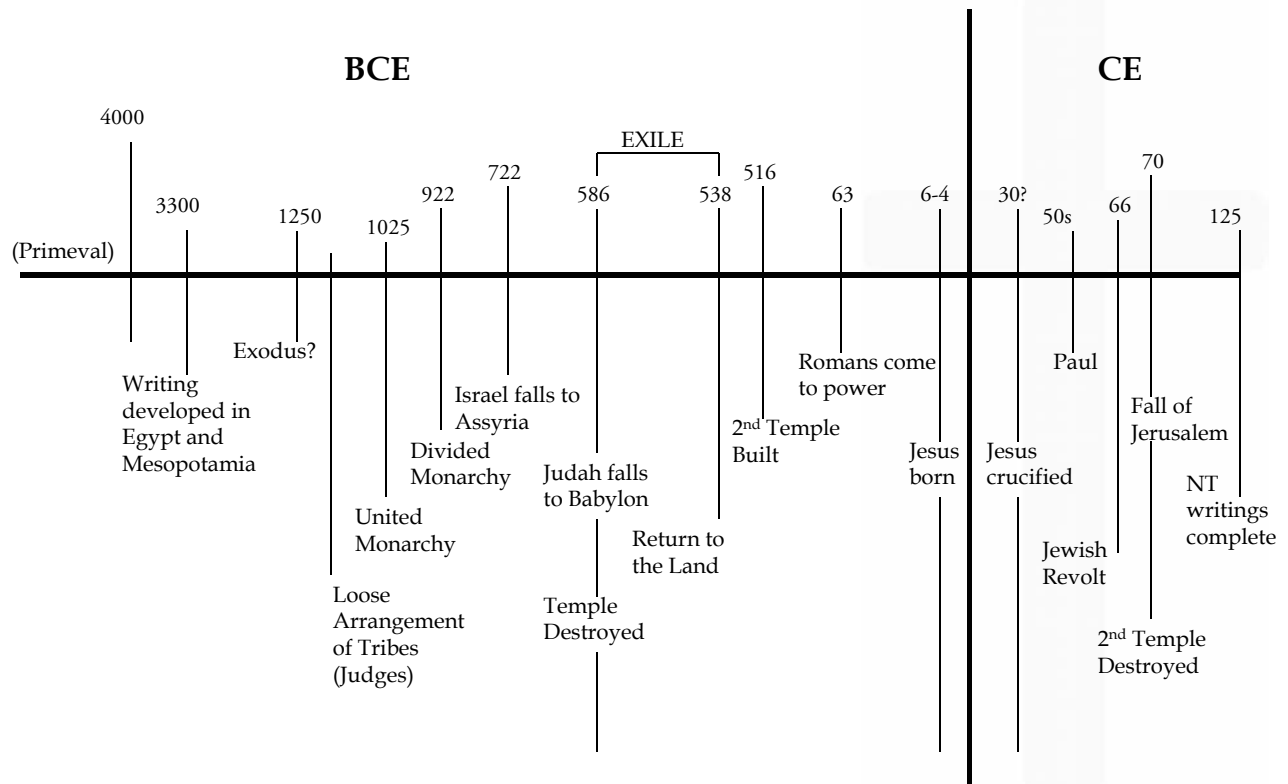
The Historical Books

✚ What are the Historical Books about?

✚ In *very* general terms, the historical books tell the story of the people in the promised land.

- Conquest & Settlement
- Establishment of a Kingdom
- The Decline, Division and Fall of the Kingdom
- Exile
- The Return to the Land after the Exile

Christian Scriptures Timeline



The Historical Books

✚ What are the characteristics of the Historical Books?

1. A Judean (Southern) Perspective
2. Unsympathetic toward the Canaanites
3. Diverse perspectives with regard to the monarchy
4. Theology similar to Deuteronomy

The Historical Books

✚ What important themes are in the Historical Books?

- Fulfillment of the divine promise of blessing
- The land as God's gift
- Faithfulness of God & faithlessness of the people
- Importance of obedience, consequences of disobedience
 - The exclusive worship of God
 - The tragic consequences of idolatry