

How the whole Bible fits together

Four eras, four covenants, one story that leads to Jesus.

“So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.”

— Matthew 1:17

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Land, a family line and a blessing for every nation.

MOSAIC COVENANT

God's Law at Sinai: how a holy people should live.

DAVIDIC COVENANT

A King from David's family whose throne lasts forever.

NEW COVENANT

Sins forgiven, God's Spirit and His Law written on our hearts.

ERA 1 • ABOUT 2000 – 1000 BC

Abraham to David

God makes promises — and keeps them.

KEY MOMENTS

- The call of Abraham
- The Exodus and the Red Sea
- The Law at Sinai
- Forty years in the wilderness
- Joshua and the Promised Land
- David becomes king

BOOKS IN THIS ERA

Genesis 12–50, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel

READ IT WITH ADAM

My First Exodus, My First Numbers, My First Deuteronomy, My First Joshua

ERA 2 • ABOUT 1000 – 587 BC

David to the Exile

Israel breaks the rules — God stays patient.

KEY MOMENTS

- Solomon's Temple
- The kingdom splits in two
- Elijah, Isaiah and the prophets
- Jerusalem falls to Babylon

BOOKS IN THIS ERA

2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Amos, Jonah, Micah

ERA 3 • 587 – ABOUT 5 BC

Exile to the Messiah

A second chance — will they or won't they?

KEY MOMENTS

- Daniel in Babylon
- Coming home with Ezra
- Nehemiah rebuilds the walls
- Esther saves her people
- 400 quiet years

BOOKS IN THIS ERA

Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

ERA 4 • ABOUT 5 BC – TODAY AND FOREVER

The Messiah and beyond

Jesus keeps every promise.

KEY MOMENTS

- The manger in Bethlehem
- The cross
- The empty tomb
- The Holy Spirit comes
- The Church grows
- Jesus reigns forever

BOOKS IN THIS ERA

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans – Jude (the letters), Revelation

The story, era by era

BEFORE IT ALL: THE GARDEN

Genesis 1–11 sets the stage. God creates everything good, breathes life into ADAM and walks with him. Sin breaks that closeness, and from then on the whole Bible is God's plan to bring us home.

ERA 1 · ABOUT 2000 – 1000 BC

Abraham to David

God makes promises — and keeps them.

God calls Abraham and promises him a land, a big family and a blessing for the whole world.

His family ends up as slaves in Egypt. God rescues them through Moses, gives them His Law at Sinai and leads them through the wilderness.

Joshua brings them into the Promised Land, and God finally unites His people under King David in Jerusalem.

ERA 2 · ABOUT 1000 – 587 BC

David to the Exile

Israel breaks the rules — God stays patient.

Solomon builds the Temple, but after him the kingdom splits in two: Israel in the north and Judah in the south.

The people keep turning away from God. Again and again He sends prophets to warn them and call them back.

At last God disciplines them: Jerusalem falls and the people are carried off to Babylon.

ERA 3 · 587 – ABOUT 5 BC

Exile to the Messiah

A second chance — will they or won't they?

God brings His people home from Babylon. They rebuild the Temple and the walls of Jerusalem.

For a while they turn back to God, but the old habits creep in again.

Then come about 400 quiet years with no new prophet. Everyone waits for the King God promised.

ERA 4 · ABOUT 5 BC – TODAY AND FOREVER

The Messiah and beyond

Jesus keeps every promise.

Jesus is born in Bethlehem. He is greater than Moses and greater than David — the King everyone was waiting for.

He dies on the cross for our sins and rises from the grave, opening the New Covenant to everyone.

Jews and Gentiles become one family, the Church. The Kingdom of God is here, and one day Jesus will make all things new.

Talk about it: Which era is your favourite story from? Where do you see God keeping a promise? How does Jesus finish the story?