

EXILIC & POSTEXILIC CHRONOLOGY

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- 640 B.C. = Reign of Josiah began (2 Kgs. 22:1ff.).
- 627 B.C. = Jeremiah's Call to be a Prophet (Jer. 1:1-3).
- 626 B.C. = Babylonian Independence from Assyria.
- 622 B.C. = Discovery of the Book of the Law -- the Josianic Reformation (2 Kgs. 22:8-14).
- 612 B.C. = Fall of Nineveh to the Babylonians.
- 609 B.C. = Death of Josiah (2 Kgs 23:28-30).
- 605 B.C. = Battle of Carchemish (Babylonians defeated the Egyptians; Jer, 46:2ff.); First deportation (Daniel and at least three others were taken; Dan. 1:3-7).
- 597 B.C. = Second Deportation (2 Kgs. 24:8-16; Ezk. 1:1-2; Ezekiel, craftsmen, artisans, and 10,000 Judeans were taken to Babylon).
- 587/6 B.C. = Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple (2 Kgs. 25; Jer. 28:3-4, 14; 33:4-5; 37:5-10, 21; 39:1-10; 40:9; 51:51; 52:4-11, 13; exile of the populace).
- 582 B.C. = Fourth Deportation (Jer. 52:30, approximately 750 taken to Babylon).
- 562 B.C. = Death of Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon was crumbling).
- 559 B.C. = Cyrus II (the Great) came to power; inherited Anshan from his father, Cyrus I.
- 539 B.C. = Fall of Babylon to Medo-Persia [October 30th] (Persia became ruler of the world).
- 538 B.C. = Edict of Cyrus allowing Jews to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple (2 Chron. 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-5); the altar built and sacrifices made (Ezra 3:1-6).
- 536 B.C. = Foundation of the Temple Laid (Ezra 3:7-13); Opposition arose (Ezra 4:1-5; 4:24).
- 520 B.C. = Temple building resumed.
- 516/5 B.C. = Temple (second temple) completed and dedicated (Ezra 6:13-18).
- 479 B.C. = Esther became queen of Persia (Est. 2:1-18).
- 458 B.C. = Ezra led an expedition to Jerusalem (Ezra 7:1-10).
- 445 B.C. = Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem (Neh. 2:1-20; stayed 12 years, Neh. 5:14; 13:6).

- 432 B.C. = Nehemiah's second expedition to Jerusalem (Neh. 13:6-31).
- 428 B.C. = Proposed date for Ezra's second expedition to Jerusalem.
- 420 B.C. = Possible date for the ministry of Malachi.
- 400 B.C. = Possible date for the book of Chronicles.
- 336 B.C. = Alexander the Great came to power at the death of his father, Philip II.
- 333 B.C. = Persians were defeated by Alexander at Issus.
- 323 B.C. = Death of Alexander the Great (his kingdom was divided among his generals).
- 321 - 198 B.C. = Ptolemies controlled Palestine from Egypt.
- 198 - 166 B.C. = Seleucids controlled Palestine from Syria.
- 166 - 63 B.C. = Independence under the Maccabees:
 Mattathias
 Judas = Temple purified in 165 B.C. (Feast of Hanukkah)
 Jonathan
 Simon
 John Hyrcanus
 Aristobulus
 Alexander Jannaeus
 Salome Alexandra
- 63 B.C. = Siege of Jerusalem by Pompey; Palestine became a Roman protectorate.
- 40 B.C. = Herod the Great was appointed King of Judea.
- 6/5 B.C. = Birth of Jesus Christ.
- 4 B.C. = Death of Herod the Great (buried in the Herodium); The Empire was divided:
 Archelaus (Judea, Samaria, Idumea)
 Philip the Tetrarch (Gaulanitis, Batanea, Trachonitis, Auranitus)
 Herod Antipas (Galilee, Perea)
- 6 – 37 A.D. = Procurators ruled Palestine from Caesarea.
- 28 A.D. = The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus.
- 37 – 44 A.D. = Rule of Herod Agrippa I.
- 70 A.D. = Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by Titus