

3. OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE

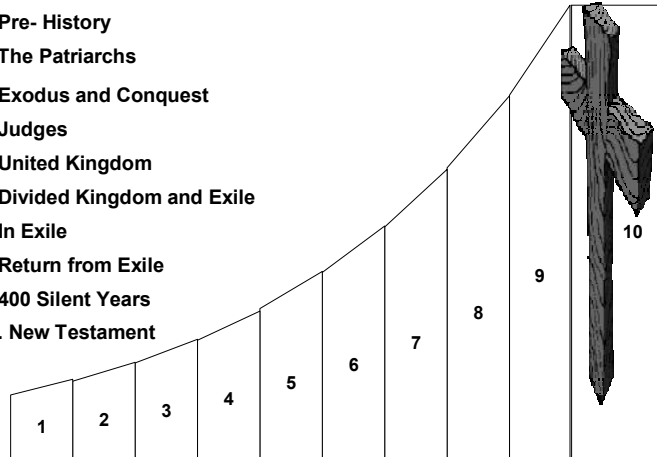
Objective: To get a better overview of the Bible which will help you to better understand, apply and communicate the essentials of the Bible.

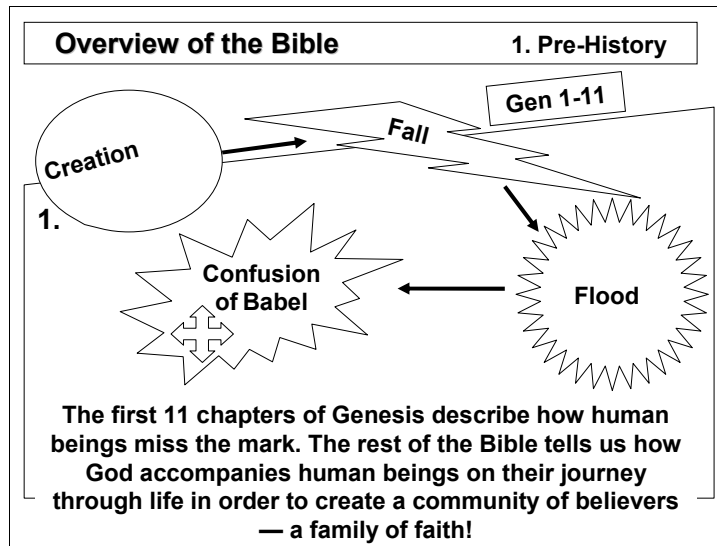
Agenda

1. A test drive
2. How did the Bible come into being?
3. *Overview of the Bible*
4. The First process of the Bible GPS is *Understanding*.
5. The Second process of the Bible GPS is *Application*.
The Third process of the Bible GPS is *Communication*.
6. The Bible GPS on Galatians 5: 16-26
7. The Bible GPS on Ephesians 5: 8-20
8. The Bible GPS on Romans 3: 21-26

Overview of the Bible

1. Pre- History
2. The Patriarchs
3. Exodus and Conquest
4. Judges
5. United Kingdom
6. Divided Kingdom and Exile
7. In Exile
8. Return from Exile
9. 400 Silent Years
10. New Testament





Overview of the Bible

2. Patriarchs and Slavery

(±2000 – ±1250 BC)

Gen 12-50

2. God's rescue plan – a covenant

Abraham

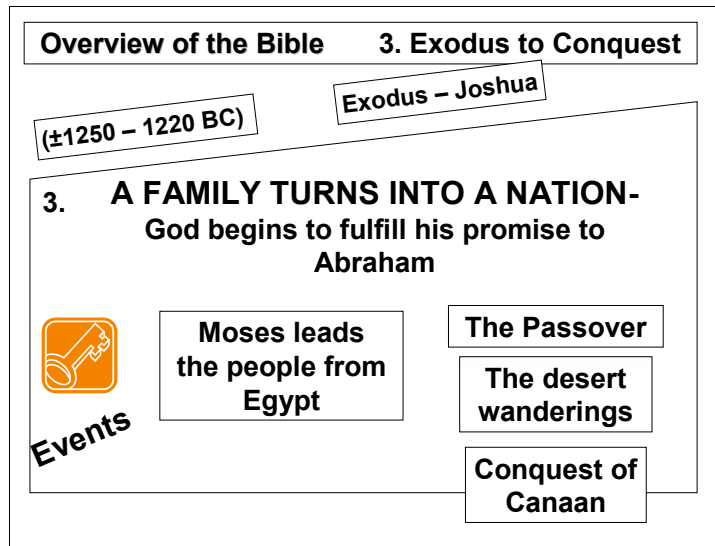
Four main characters

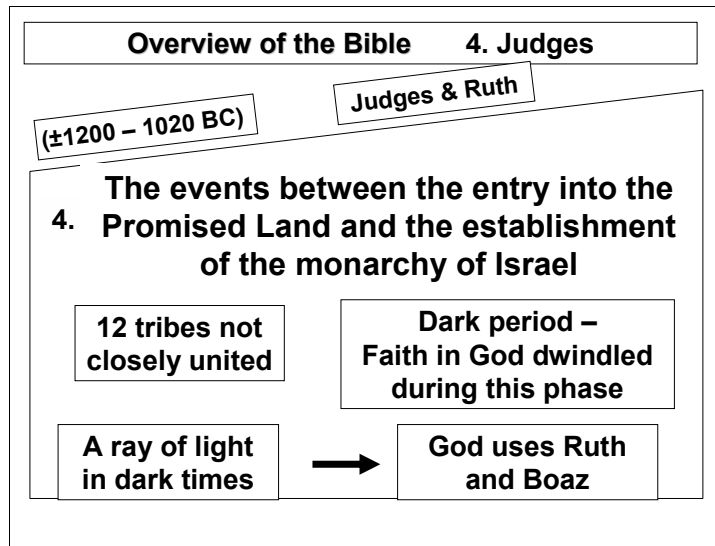
Isaac

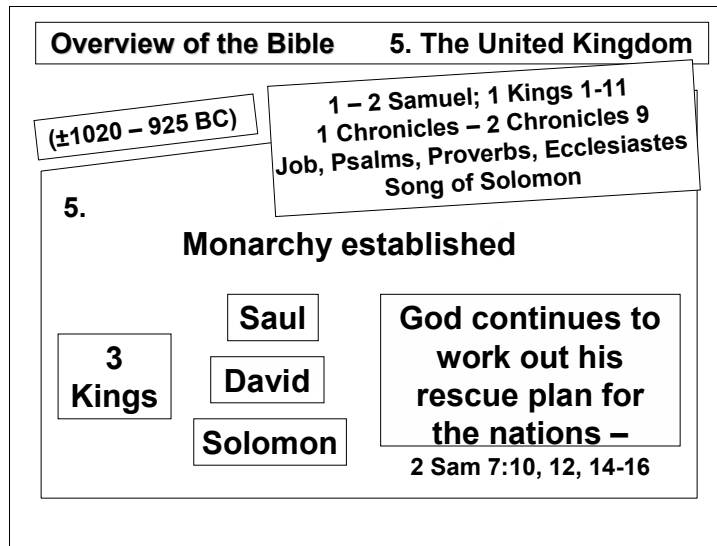
Jacob

Joseph

In these chapters in Genesis, we see the wondrous ways God goes about establishing a new community of faith.







Overview of the Bible

6. The Divided Kingdom and Exile

(925 – 586 BC)

1 Kings 12 – 2 Kings 25
2 Chronicles 10–36; Jonah; Amos; Hosea;
Isaiah 1-39; Micah; Nahum; Zephaniah
Jeremiah; Lamentations
Habakkuk; Obadiah; Isaiah 40-66

6.

The consequence of breaking the covenant through idolatry: A Divided Kingdom

1 Kings 11: 9 & 1 Kings 12: 14

**Northern Kingdom
= Israel (10 tribes)**

**Southern Kingdom
= Judah (2 tribes)**

God continues to be committed to his covenant - Prophets point to new things

Overview of the Bible

6. The Divided Kingdom and Exile

(925 – 586 BC)

Ezekiel and Daniel

6. 722BC – The end of the Northern Kingdom

Assyrians

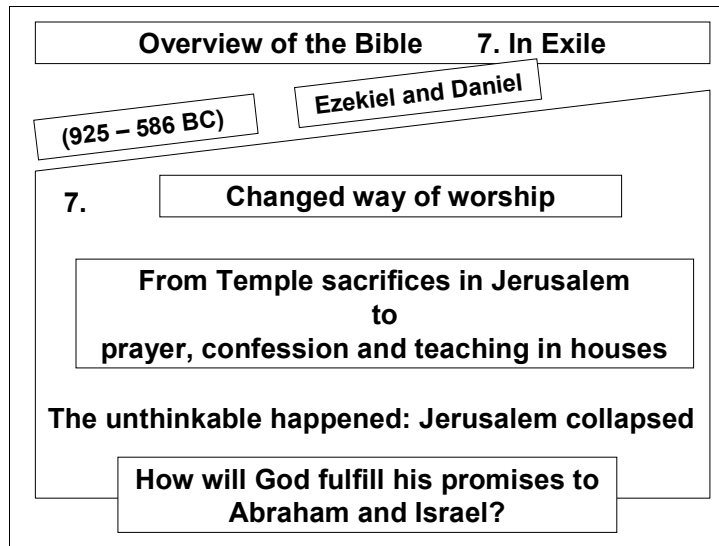
2 Kings 17: They continued to sin against God and ignored the prophets' warnings

586BC – The end of the Southern Kingdom

Babylonians

The unthinkable happened: Jerusalem collapsed

How will God fulfill his promises to Abraham and Israel?



Overview of the Bible 8. Return from Exile

(538 – 420 BCBC)

**Haggai; Zechariah; Joel; Esther
Ezra ; Nehemiah; Malachi**

**8. The Persians encouraged the
repatriation and also subsidized it.**

Persians

**The first group
returned ± 536BC
and started to
rebuild the temple**

**The next main
group returned
458BC with
Ezra**

**In 444BC
Nehemiah
returned with
another group**

**The Exiles who returned were called Jews –
derived from “Yehudi” which is related to Judah**

**God remains faithful in keeping his promises.
The prophets continue to point to the Messiah.**

Overview of the Bible

9. 400 "Silent" Years



(420-±6BC)

- 9. Décor shifts**
- 1. Political shifts**
 - 2. Cultural shifts**
 - 3. Geographical shifts**
 - 4. Religious shifts**
 - 5. Language shifts**



Overview of the Bible 10. New Testament

10. The 27 books that make up the NT were nearly all written before the end of ad 100. The 27 books can be grouped the following way:

The four Gospels

The Acts of the Apostles

The letters of Paul

The general letters

John's visions

God is faithful to his covenant in creating a community of believers — a family of faith!



