**"THE BIBLE...BASICALLY"®**

**A Discipleship Seminar in Biblical Literacy**

**SEMINAR**

**HANDBOOK**

Section One: “The Quick Chronology”

Section Two: Study Helps Collection

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https://www.biblestudydownloads.org/resource/the-bible-basically/

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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and support of my precious wife, Sarah. There are no words

adequate to express my love, devotion, and gratitude to this one whose life

reflects in all ways the dimensions of her faith in Our Lord, His Gospel

and the wonder of His Word.

The Quick Chronology, the core content of the overarching project,

THE BIBLE...BASICALLY®, joins a larger body of works by others

through this and the last century that have attested to the enduring value of

a biblical knowledge base built upon a foundation of the chronological

flow of Scripture. We are grateful for each effort that has preceded ours

and pray that this work will be equally welcomed and useful toward

advancement of the Kingdom.

To the family of Thomas R. (Bob) Sivley of Fort Worth, Texas, and

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Enormous gratitude is also due Jack and Nell Brown, H. Andrew Read

and to Tim and Terri Dunn for their belief in and early support of this

ministry.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Bible...Basically Ministries International endures toward the goal of

providing innovative tools for multiplying Biblical literacy throughout the

Body of Christ -- both for the local church and for the domestic and

international mission fields.

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**A Note to Begin...**

Christian belief is built upon personal faith. It is also built upon solid fact!

Not to know the facts of our faith is to walk upon thin ice in its defense

before others or when challenged within our own minds and hearts.

The Word of God is an organized record of the facts of the faith. The

reality of Scripture as an authoritative, personal, mentally accessible resource of

historic dependability is to increase immeasurably its value and message to

every human life and spirit.

Much research and personal experience demonstrates that most people do

not regard God's Word as a “user-friendly” document. It is true that most

believers know the main characters and the most popular stories. But to pull all

of it together into a meaningful wholeness...for many Bible readers the task

appears beyond personal capability.

Thus, far too many believers and occasional Bible readers leave it to others

to interpret biblical meanings for application in their personal daily lives; i.e.,

pastors, teachers, writers in the prolific Christian publishing marketplace, and

all the varied and well-known names in Christian radio and television.

With the Bible as a mostly closed book for many, the sense of wonder at

its magnificent message and organization and the hopeful, faith-filled story it

tells is known only in scattered bits and pieces. Closed to such readers, believers

and nonbelievers alike, is the deeper meaning of the entire, complete,

interwoven story contained in Genesis through Revelation.

The glorious wholeness of God’s Plan of Redemption—stretching from

Abraham across 2,000 years, culminating in the appearance and ministry of the

Savior in ancient Israel and progressing to our own time—is often unfamiliar

territory.

It is our prayer that this publication, part of a much larger learning system

for mentally organizing God's Word, will cause unusual things to happen

between you and Scripture. Such has happened to others who have been exposed

to it.

Our prayers are lifted for each reader who acquires the ideas presented here

in order to reveal ever more clearly the glory of the Father as revealed in His

Word and the Gospel of His Son.

John E. Fryman

**About Using This Book...**

The design of a tool is foundational to its effective use. With that in mind,

The Quick Chronology is a self-contained learning experience. Its plan is

based upon the proven value of simple mnemonic tools and visual learning

devices. Its single objective: to bring together from a disorganized array of

facts, stories, characters and ideas an organized, user-friendly view of Scripture.

That objective can be accomplished in only three to six hours of concentrated

reading with attention to and review of the accompanying progressive

graphic materials.

About Typefaces and Page Layout. The design of the book itself is a part

of its teaching strategy. Page layout provides a wide column of printed text. A

narrow column on the side of each page, labeled Progress Points, provides

graphic illustrations to support the text, Scripture citations to enhance it, and

other notes and learning helps to assist in mastery of the material.

Liberal use of boldface, italic, and ALL-CAPS typefaces is made for

emphasis in much the same way a live teacher would emphasize details in a

body of learning through firsthand live teaching styles.

On page 48 and in the study helps collection at the back of the book you

are provided complete graphic presentations of The Bible File idea for study

assistance during a live TBB seminar. and for carrying about as reference.

Mastering the "System.” The quicker the system is mentally incorporated,

the more quickly the system can be mentally discarded as the organized facts of

Scripture become clearly known and interrelated, resulting in a confident recall.

Using the Progress Points. On the outer side of each page the Progress

Points provide progressive illustrations of The Bible File as you work through

it and learn to expand it. Progress Points also provide the necessary resources

for personal review and for use as outline notes when teaching the The Quick

Chronology to others.

Additional Study Helps. The last one-third of this book contains student

copies of all study helps to accompany THE BIBLE...BASICALLY® seminars

in their complete presentation. Several of them also are used in connection with

the text of The Quick Chronology.

Finally... by developing your mastery of THE BIBLE...BASICALLY®,

your use of Scripture itself as a tool for personal spiritual growth and for witnessing

to others will be greatly enhanced. Your confidence in your personal

access to the Word of God will be enormously increased.

Progress

Points

The

foundational

importance of

understanding the

Bible's

"Big Picture"

A

"Bible File" in

our heads

THE QUICK CHRONOLOGY

Seeing the Bible's "Big Picture"

Henrietta Mears was one of the great Bible teachers of the

Twentieth Century. Dr. Mears once wrote that most

people's Bible knowledge is like a necklace of fine pearls – but

with one singular problem. The string holding the pearls together

has been broken. The pearls individually lie about on the floor,

being of little use to us except for appreciating the separate beauty

of each individual gem. Appreciation of the beauty of the assembled

necklace is impossible. In this picture, there is a direct

application to the way many people make use of their Bibles.

The Creator designed our thinking as an organized processor of

information. Our minds operate very much like a filing system or a

computer. Family things go into one part of our thinking organization,

finances into another, spiritual thoughts still somewhere else.

Organization is there. Some people organize their thinking better

than others. Those who do it really well often have learned how to

do it through long years of practice and improvement.

Mentally: How's Your "Bible File?"

So then, what’s the condition of your mental Bible File, that

Biblical filing system in your own head? You open it up every

time you turn your thinking toward Our Lord and the priceless

Book He has written for us. You open it and go into it every time

you think about God’s Word, hear a sermon, or talk or think about

spiritual matters. It is your primary reference point for spiritual

growth.

For many people their individual mental Bible Files are often not

in very good shape: disorganized collections of stories and facts

(some right and some wrong), with the order of events in much

disarray. Facts, dates, people and places...all out of order.

“But,” you might ask, “is it all that important to have our

thinking about God's Word really orderly?” Yes, indeed! Here's

an example to illustrate that idea.

The Quick Chronology

Lost at the Family Picnic

Think how you would respond at a family gathering if suddenly

you suffered a temporary loss of memory. No longer would

you have any idea of how any family member relates to any other.

The "bonding” feeling among the family members would be

unknown to you. Yes, you might well have a fine time socially.

But the deeper meanings of relationships within the family unit

would be unknown to you. With memory returned, however, new

interrelationships among everyone at the event would suddenly be

revealed and accessible, altering the meaning of everything!

The same idea is true in our relationship to God’s Word. For

many believers the Bible is a jungle of assorted people, facts,

strange happenings, and distant and unknown place names. For

many Bible readers few things relate to other things with meaning.

But it doesn’t have to be that way. All that information, all that

vast and marvelous story can be straightened out and mentally

organized very quickly, with just a little thoughtful study.

Bringing Your “Bible File” Into Good Order

You are about to learn a system that will bring your own Bible

File into good order...and very quickly! Remember that, after a

while, you will discard the system because you will know your

way around the facts that the system has allowed you to remember,

and all in their proper interrelated Biblical sequence.

That’s what The Quick Chronology is all about. Within a very

short time, and with some review on your own, you can learn this

system for remembering the basic outline of the Biblical narrative.

After that you can tell it to anyone in about twenty minutes, with

all the power that comes from using God’s Own Word as your

primary witnessing tool.

Not you, you say? Just try it. You’ll see how it works, providing

you follow along systematically, page by page, through The

Quick Chronology handbook. The available audiocassette version

of the book, played alongside, would speed up your learning.

Ready to begin?

Let’s do it.

Progress

Points

The importance

of a base of

interconnected

facts to deepen

understanding

and to perceive

implications

From here on,

the Progress

Points column

on each page

will provide

an outline of

every step in

The Bible File

learning process.

Use it for your

own review and

as notes when

teaching it to

others.

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 7

Progress

Points

The importance of

Biblical

“chronology”

ATTENTION!

PLEASE

REFER TO

STUDY

HELPS

NUMBERS

01 AND 02

FOR ASSISTANCE

IN

MASTERING

THIS

SECTION

Beginning with:

C 7 S J

Into:

7 = 4 + 3

Part One:

Opening Up “The Bible File”

A well-proven way to get the Bible organized mentally is

to learn its “chronology” — that systematic order of the

events that hold together both the Old and the New Testaments.

We call this approach to the concept:

THE QUICK CHRONOLOGY

As a starting point, begin thinking about file folders in a filing

cabinet. You are going to organize your Bible File into a collection

of ten mental file folders. Their specific order should be

learned so that their order is imbedded as deeply in your thinking

as the name of the place where you live or your own telephone

number.

STEP

1

We begin with three alphabet letters and one number.

Set them firmly in place in your mind:

C 7 S J

Repeat the letter group aloud several times as you imbed

in your mind this very core of the Bible’s organization

and time-line flow:

"C 7 S J ... C 7 S J ... C 7 S J ... etc."

STEP

2

Did you notice that European style ‘7’ with the dash

through its stem? That’s an important reminder — a

mind clue. Please keep it mentally handy. That small

dash divides the length of the 7’s stem into two parts.

So, ask yourself this question: "What two numbers does 7 easily

split into?" One possible answer (and the right one) is:

4 and 3.

The Quick Chronology

So, in C 7 S J, by changing the 7 to a 4 and a 3, we have

C 4 3 S J.

As before, please repeat the changed sequence aloud several times

to help it stick tightly in your mind for easy recall.

STEP

3

Now, based on C 4 3 S J, we enlarge that idea into

five key words or phrases. They will become the

foundation of your mental Bible File. Here they are:

C = CREATION

4 = 4 PEOPLE

3 = 3 SOCIETIES

S = SILENCE

J = JESUS.

That’s the organizational plan for the entire Bible! (At least,

that’s one way of looking at it.) Those five words and phrases create

an abbreviated outline map of the Bible’s basic design. We will now

go back through the phrases, expanding them still further.

STEP

4

CREATION,

of course, remains at the top of the list. We then take the

next phrase from the list:

4 PEOPLE.

Let's break apart 4 PEOPLE into 4 specific people, in this order:

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA.

Progress

Points

Recall:

C 7 S J

Then into:

C 4 3 S J

Into:

CREATION

4 PEOPLE

3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

Then:

CREATION

Ö 4 PEOPLE

3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

From which

4 PEOPLE

becomes:

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

Progress

Points

A way to

remember the

first letters of

each word in

order is:

"A Judge Must

Judge."

The list is now:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

Recall:

CREATION

4 PEOPLE

Ö 3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

It's helpful to remember the word order by repeating several

times the first-letter order of the words:

"A-J-M-J ... A-J-M-J ... etc."

Repeat the four names aloud to yourself several times until you

feel the rhythm of the words:

"ABRAHAM, JOSEPH,

MOSES and JOSHUA."

So, from the top of the list we now can say:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

4 JOSEPH

PEOPLE MOSES

JOSHUA

This step completes the main FOUR PEOPLE of your new

Bible File. Of course, there are dozens of other Biblical characters,

but these are the only ones we are using to build the Bible

File right now. Repeat the four names vocally several times until

they are firmly set mentally.

STEP

5

The next phrase of the beginning basic group from

Step 3 is:

3 SOCIETIES.

The Quick Chronology

A memory tool again: what do we call a section of the perimeter

of a circle? It’s called an “arc,” spelled A-R-C. Those letters,

then, will remind you of the first letters of 3 KINDS OF SOCIETIES,

which are to be:

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY.

As before, please repeat that word order several times.

Now we add the 3 SOCIETIES group to the others, and we have:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

TIME OUTTIME OUT

FOR AFOR A

PROGRESSPROGRESS

REVIEWREVIEW

Now to review the entire sequence so far.

C 7 S J...

which becomes

C 4 3 S J.

These numbers and letters are then used to develop a mental list

of TEN WORDS that will form a dependable mental outline of the

entirety of Scripture.

Progress

Points

In GEOMETRY:

an ARC:

3 Societies

are:

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

REVIEW

Recall:

C 7 S J

Split into:

C 4 3 S J

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

Progress

Points

Then into:

CREATION

4 PEOPLE

3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

Finally, into:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

C 4 3 S J is then expanded into:

CREATION

4 PEOPLE

3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

Then further expanded into:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

STEP

6

Finally, now, we add:

SILENCE

and

JESUS.

THE

COMPLETED

BIBLE

FILE

Here, then, is the complete expanded list, from:

C 7 S J

into:

CREATION

4 PEOPLE

3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

The Quick Chronology

...expanded into the ten basic file folder “labels” for building your

personal mental Bible File:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

Now it's time mentally to apply those ten words as labels to ten

mental folders of The Bible File in your head. That mental picture

might look something like this:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JJ EE SS UU SS

Neat, Orderly, and Ready for Recall and Use As Needed:

Your New Mental Bible File

This illustration of The Bible File is the beginning of a new

mental view of the Bible, its reasonable, dependable organization.

Review those ten files and their names in exact order until they are

firmly set in mind. Once you “input” them, you will have taken the

first steps toward sorting out and building a dependable, enormously

expanded map of the entire Biblical landscape, one that could affect

your view of every part of Scripture for the rest of your life.

Progress

Points

The

Bible File

label list is

completed

and stored

in your

memory.

APPLICATION!

Time now to

apply the

label list to

your

10 mental

Bible File

folders.

The folders

are now

ready to be

filled in with

increasing

detail...

orderly,

in sequence,

building a

systematic

mental

biblical

resource.

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 13

Progress

Points

Building an

outline map

of the Bible’s

structure -a

framework

in which to

organize all

future Bible

knowledge.

After the Bible Files Are Labeled: What’s Next?

Remember, first, that we’re building a mental structure. Therefore,

we use the ten Bible Files as basic building blocks for what

eventually can become a very large structure in our own minds!

However, we are only building the outline map of the

Author's enormous literary work. We won’t be learning the details!

We will be dealing only with the big picture...the Bible’s general

outline.

Based on the ten labeled Bible Files we are now going to learn

Scripture's basic chronology, its foundational story and time line.

Keep in mind our main concern: learning only the most outstanding

Biblical milestone events, along with only the most well-known

Biblical characters. Many events and characters that you might

expect to find will not be mentioned. But their places are certainly

reserved.

As we move through The Quick Chronology you'll be able to

tie in each part with one of those ten key words now on ten

mental file folders — in the chronological order you learned them.

While working through the next section, please keep handy and

refer to the completed file-folder illustration provided on a detachable

card on the back cover of this handbook. At the back of the

book there is also provided a version of the file folder collection

and its memory tools with mostly blank lines for your personal

study.

Now let's move on to Part Two, learning to draw a map of the

Ancient Near East out of your memory! Part Three follows that

with a fascinating expansion of the Bible files, continuing to fill

them with more detail, building on that which has gone before,

while still maintaining that high, outline view of the overall story

line contained in Scripture. That story line brings a sense of continuity

and purpose to the Bible’s great message: communicating the

Glory of God, culminating in the gospel ministry of Jesus Christ!

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JJ EE SS UU SS

The Quick Chronology

Progress

Points

PRINTERS/EDITORS:

INSERT POWERPOINT

PAGE 15

ILLUSTRATING

THE FIRST HALF OF

MAKING THE MAP.

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 15

Progress

Points

PRINTERS/EDITORS:

INSERT POWERPOINT

PAGE 16

ILLUSTRATING

THE SECOND HALF OF

MAKING THE MAP.

The Quick Chronology

Part Three:

Indexing The Files

Filling In The Details

T

T

he ten words and phrases are now labels on 10 individual

mental file folders. The shape of each file folder will be printed

in the Progress Points with lines for filling in with key words and

phrases to assist in learning the progressive story. As we "open up"

each folder, we will be presenting a major part of The Quick Chronology,

beginning with the beginning, of course!

The Bible File

#1

Creation

TIME LINE:

Genesis 1-11

Encompassing all

time prior to

Abraham

In The Bible File, “the beginning” is the CREATION file

folder. Before being filled in, the file looks like that on the right. As

with every file in this Bible File system, we will move quickly

through the CREATION folder.

Indeed, the Bible also moves quickly through it. In the first eleven

chapters of the book of Genesis, the Author speeds us through an

immeasurably long era of the history of the world and the universe,

in fact, all time prior to 2000 B.C. No one can possibly know the

duration of time included there.

The entire story of CREATION and the course of the world up

through the development of the first known civilizations is contained

in Genesis, chapters 1 through 11.

In spite of the brevity of those first eleven Biblical chapters,

however, these are priceless pages that teach us many important

“first things.” While not an exhaustive record, be assured that that

which is given can be depended upon as reliable and inerrant in the

original writings.

Note the outline words as they are placed in the CREATION

Bible File folder.

Progress

Points

PLEASE

NOTE:

PUBLIC

SEMINAR

TEACHING

REFERS TO

STUDY

HELPS

NUMBERS 04

THROUGH 09

AND 31 FOR

ASSISTANCE

IN MASTERING

THIS

SECTION. A

COMPLETE

STUDY

HELPS

COLLECTION

IS LOCATED

AT THE

BACK OF

THIS HANDBOOK.

CREATION

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

Progress

Points

\*ALLCAPS

typefaces are

used to

indicate terms

and words

found in Bible

File folders.

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

1st Murder

Flood/Rainbow

Tower

The List of Genesis "Firsts"

• The FIRST MAN and WOMAN\*

Man appears on earth in a perfect form and is placed in

the sinless environment of God’s created perfection.

• The FIRST SIN

Man is given a test of his gift of free will. He is tempted by

Satan and falls from his created state of perfection into a

sinful condition, having “missed the mark” for which he

was created.

• The FIRST GOSPEL

The Creator provides the first announcement that He will

send a Redeemer to provide for man a way back to that

original state of created perfection, innocence and holiness.

• The FIRST FAMILY

Adam and Eve have children and provide the basis for

future development of a race of men who must contend

with Satanic efforts to keep them from a restored relationship

with the loving Father and Creator.

• The FIRST MURDER

Sin is committed in its most abusive and abject form, the

destruction by man of God’s ultimate gift, life itself.

• The GREAT FLOOD and RAINBOW

God determines to wipe out His creation and begin it again.

All mankind perishes except eight people who, under the

leadership of righteous Noah, have remained true to God,

who provides His rainbow promise as the waters recede.

• The TOWER OF BABEL

Man attempts to climb to an elevation equal to God Himself.

God intervenes with a confusion of languages in order

to disperse the races.

The Quick Chronology

So here, in these first eleven chapters of the Bible’s first book,

we see Man being created and placed upon the earth. God provides

him a setting of great beauty and sinless perfection. That is the

place from which man fell! His need to be restored to that position

— and his inability to do it for himself — is one of the central

messages of God’s Word.

In summary: the CREATION file is the story of God’s creation

of Man and his subsequent fall. It contains the declaration of

the Father’s eternal plan for Man’s return to that original sinless

state of close and intimate relationship with Him. The story of that

return is the substance of the Bible story, the core of the Gospel.

Think of these first eleven chapters of Genesis as a brief glance

at broad epochs of early human and earth history, a record of

titanic events squeezed into a few pages presented in a very few

words. Our first Bible File folder is now filled in.

We move now beyond CREATION to that group of four

great Biblical people, the first of whom is...

The Bible File

#2

Abraham

TIME LINE:

circa 2000 B.C.

Genesis 12-25

(First in the Group of Four People)

First in the Group appears that friend of God, ABRAHAM.

To outline his life we begin at the 12th chapter of Genesis, the

place in Scripture where the Author comes to a quick narrowing of

the Biblical view. He moves us away from that wide-angle perspective

of viewing the entire human race in the first 11 Genesis

chapters. The story focuses down to the story of one man and his

people: ABRAHAM and his descendants, a family of Hebrews

who are destined to become God’s chosen people, the Jews.

It is also through this one man, ABRAHAM, that God begins a

program to provide for Man the way back to that original close

relationship that existed in the beginning. Through ABRAHAM

Progress

Points

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

1st Murder

Flood/Rainbow

Tower

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Ö ABRAHAM

Joseph

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Jesus

ABRAHAM

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 19

Progress

Points

The Ancient

Near East:

The Stage

of the

Biblical

Action

Abraham’s

Time:

2000 B.C.

unfolds all the rest of the Bible, until we see in the book of Revelation,

once again, the broad view of the world and the universe.

In both early Genesis and Revelation we see a telescoped view

of enormous spans of time. The effect here is quite similar to

viewing mountain ranges from a great distance. We can see the

peaks lined up one after another into the far distance. But we can’t

begin to estimate the distance across the valleys that we know lie

between the peaks.

The Ancient Near East: The Stage of the Biblical Action

GULF

PERSIAN

UR

BABYLON

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDSEGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

OF

CANAAN

E

u

ph

r

a

t

e s

Ri

v

e

r

N

i

l

e

NINEVEH

(ASSYRIA)•••••

JERUSALEM

•MT. NEBOMT. NEBOMT. NEBOMT. NEBOMT. NEBO

Abraham's Story Begins

In Chapter 12 of Genesis, The Quick Chronology of the Bible

really begins. Its setting is in the rich Fertile Crescent of the

Middle East, on the same lands occupied by modern-day Iraq and

Iran.

The date on the Biblical time-line: about 2000 B.C. Throughout

our study, most dates will be presented in large, rounded

The Quick Chronology

groupings of 500 years each. More precise dating is not needed.

The stage of this great drama stretches from the Euphrates

Valley all the way over to the Mediterranean Sea, as in the outline

map on page 20. In between we find some familiar place names.

There are Canaan (today's state of Israel), the Sea of Galilee,

and the Dead Sea. There lie Egypt and the Nile River. The Sinai

Peninsula appears, a region so prominent in recent world events.

This region has been called the very navel of the earth.

Through this great hinge of history most of the great world powers

of the past have marched in conquest, with Canaan/Palestine/Israel

being pulled and stretched by enormous international pressures.

It is a vast land area. And, of course, it is also the center stage

for the final great drama which the Bible says will be played out in

the last days of life on planet Earth.

The story of ABRAHAM begins at the head of the Persian

Gulf, in an ancient city called Ur of the Chaldees. In our day,

much of the current strife among the Arab peoples is focused right

there. In 2000 B.C., Ur was a great city, an international center of

learning, culture, commerce and idolatrous darkness.

The Biblical narrative tells us about an older man named Terah

living with his family in ancient Ur of the Chaldees.

One of his sons is named ABRAHAM (although he is originally

called Abram). His wife’s name is Sarah (originally named

Sarai). Also in the family group is ABRAHAM’s nephew, Lot.

ABRAHAM receives God's CALL, telling him to leave Ur and to

go toward a land that will be shown to him in due time.

The entire family leaves to follow the Lord’s direction. They

move toward the northwest with all their flocks and their possessions,

probably a large congregation of people, animals and tents.

Biblical evidence shows ABRAHAM’s family was quite wealthy.

The main point here: ABRAHAM and his family are moving

toward a land that God will show them in due time — but they do

not know their destination as they depart Ur of the Chaldees. Their

obedience is a profound demonstration of their faith in God’s

provision and His total protection. At the head of the group are

these four people: ABRAHAM; his wife, Sarah; his father,

Terah; and his nephew, Lot.

Progress

Points

Abraham Heeds

God’s Call

GULF

PERSIAN

UR

BABYLON

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

ABRAHAM

The CALL

Through

history, the

strategic

location of

“The Holy

Land”:

Canaan/

Palestine/

Israel

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 21

Progress

Points

Genesis 12: 1-3

Genesis 13: 14-16

Genesis 15: 9-18

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

The CALL

Parts of

the

Abrahamic

Covenant:

• Land

• Seed

• Blessing

They move northwestward, finally arriving at ancient Haran.

While settled temporarily in Haran, ABRAHAM’s father, Terah,

dies.

Once again, God speaks to ABRAHAM, instructing him to

leave Haran and to proceed onward to The Land which He had

promised to show him. That land is to be Canaan, or the land we

call Israel today.

Abraham Receives God's Covenant Promises

Printed near the ABRAHAM file folder you’ll see the shape of

a small parchment scroll labeled “AC” representing:

“ABRAHAMIC COVENANT.”

This is a reminder of the most crucial Biblical event in the life of

the old patriarch and the beginning point in the revelation of God's

new Program with Man.

God makes an unconditional covenant with ABRAHAM. The

order of the covenant promises is an important key to Biblical

order: a LAND, a SEED and a BLESSING, represented by

“L-S-B” on the ABRAHAM file folder.

THE ABRAHAMIC PROMISES :

A COVENANT IN 3 PARTS

• PROMISE #1: A LAND — real estate, a geographic inheritance

that the Jewish people respect politically to this

present day.

• PROMISE #2: A SEED — a long line of descendants. This

is especially interesting in that at the time the Promise

is given, ABRAHAM and SARAH are approaching

old age and yet remain childless.

• PROMISE #3: A BLESSING — promised to Abraham

personally and to his descendants. Furthermore, God

promises that, through His blessing to ABRAHAM, all

the families of the earth will be blessed.

The Quick Chronology

As we move farther through this story, we will come to see

how the entire Bible is built on that unconditional and foundational

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT.

Now the great stage is set!

When ABRAHAM enters The Land, he is already 75 years old

and his wife, Sarah, is 65. And yet, God has promised them children?

At that age?

Yes, and ABRAHAM believes God. Because of his simple

unquestioning belief God counts it as righteousness on

ABRAHAM's part. Just simple belief! This is the first step in the

new program of redemption God will introduce to the earth through

His old friend.\*

The years pass. ABRAHAM and Sarah become impatient for

the children God had promised would be coming. In her impatience,

Sarah suggests that ABRAHAM go in to her Egyptian

servant girl, Hagar, hoping that through that union the promised

child might be born.

Indeed, ABRAHAM does father a son through Hagar. The boy

is named ISHMAEL. But, God says, the infant is not the intended

son of God’s covenant Promise.

By this time, ABRAHAM is 85; Sarah, 75.

Another 15 years pass. Then the son of God’s promise to

ABRAHAM is finally born. He is named ISAAC, a word that

traces its meaning to the Hebrew root term indicating laughter.

Yes, ABRAHAM thinks it hilarious that he and Sarah are to

become parents at such advanced ages.

ISAAC is indeed the long-awaited son through whom God’s

promise to ABRAHAM is to be passed through the family line.

From these two sons of Abraham — ISHMAEL and ISAAC

("I - I" on the ABRAHAM folder) — the contemporary Jewish-

Arab conflict begins 4,000 years ago. ISHMAEL is recognized

today as the father of the Arab nations, while ISAAC, of course, is

revered as one of the founding patriarchs of the Jews.

There is much conflict between the two half-brothers and their

mothers. To this day, that age-old turmoil in ABRAHAM's tent

continues. Remember that both the Jews and the Arabs claim

ABRAHAM as the beginning point of their respective peoples!

Progress

Points

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

REDDEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

SEA

Abraham:

Haran to Canaan

\*Genesis 15:6

James 2:23

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

The CALL

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 23

Progress

Points

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Ö JOSEPH

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Jesus

JOSEPH

Joseph’s Family

Moves to Egypt

UR

BABY

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

J - E

12

The CALL

Progress

Points

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Ö JOSEPH

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Jesus

JOSEPH

Joseph’s Family

Moves to Egypt

UR

BABY

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

J - E

12

The CALL

The story now begins to move a bit faster.

ISAAC, ABRAHAM’s son through Sarah, is the son of God’s

promise, who then has two sons: JACOB and ESAU (J and E on

the ABRAHAM File Folder).

JACOB is the son through whom the unconditional Promise

now passes on.

JACOB then has 12 sons and one daughter (12 on the

folder). From these 12 sons emerge the 12 tribes of Israel. The two

youngest sons are familiar: JOSEPH and Benjamin.

Time now to move forward to Bible File folder #3, and the

second in the group of four great Old Testament characters.

His name is...

Genesis 37-50

The Bible File

#3

Joseph

TIME LINE:

circa 2000 B.C.

(Second in the Group of Four People)

JOSEPH is well-loved by his father, JACOB — so deeply and

obviously, in fact, that the relationship arouses the envy of most of

his brothers. The brothers plot against JOSEPH, selling him into

slavery to a passing caravan on the way to Egypt.

Once in Egypt, JOSEPH is soon discovered to be a brilliant

young man. He learns quickly while remaining faithful and obedient

to God’s authority and leading in his life. In time JOSEPH

rises in Egyptian civil authority, second only to the Pharaoh himself.

JOSEPH becomes governor of Egypt.

At this same time, back in Canaan, famine strikes The Land.

In order to survive the crisis, JOSEPH’s father, old JACOB (now

called Israel), and all the family up in Canaan eventually move

south to Egypt.

Through a series of interesting events, they learn that their

brother, JOSEPH, is governor of Egypt. The family decides to

The Quick Chronology

settle in Egypt permanently. There, as a family of Hebrews, they

begin to multiply into a nation, to be known through later history as

the Israelites.

For a while, they remain in good favor with the Egyptian people

and the current government administration. After all, they are the

family of their respected Governor!

As time passes, however, the throne of Egypt undergoes a

change of attitude toward the alien Hebrews (or Israelites). After

JOSEPH’s death they are made SLAVES of the Egyptians.

JOSEPH and his long service to Egypt are soon forgotten.

The Israelites are in Egypt for some 430 years. Much of that

time is lived out under the terrible bondage of Egyptian slave masters.

As a population, the Israelites multiply rapidly, soon becoming

an enormous social problem and popular threat to their Egyptian

overlords.

TIME OUTTIME OUT

FOR AFOR A

PROGRESSPROGRESS

REVIEWREVIEW

#1

Creation

Let’s take a moment out to review the progress of The

Quick Chronology in The Bible File up to this point.

This is a brief review. Try to “fill in the blanks” from

details that are already in your mental Bible File.

This is our earliest view of the universe, the earth and

man’s sinless original relationship to his Creator, the

list of many “first things” including his tragic “missing

the mark.”

The Bible File

Then follows that group of four files named after

PEOPLE, beginning with the “friend of God.”

The Bible File

#2

Abraham

God calls ABRAHAM out of Ur of the Chaldees. He

unconditionally promises ABRAHAM a LAND, a

SEED, and a BLESSING: THE ABRAHAMIC

COVENANT. ABRAHAM has two sons (I and I),

ISHMAEL and ISAAC. ISAAC has two sons,

JACOB & ESAU (J and E). JACOB has 12 sons...

Progress

Points

A family

becomes

a nation.

JOSEPH

Slavery

430

JOSEPH

Slavery

REVIEW

The completed

"Bible File" so

far:

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

1st Murder

Flood/Rainbow

Tower

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

J - E

12

The CALL

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 25

Progress

Points

JOSEPH

Slavery

430

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Ö MOSES

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Jesus

MOSES

Exodus

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

REDDEAD SEA

SEA OF GAL

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

SEA

Moses: From

Egypt to Sinai

#3

Joseph

... one of whom is JOSEPH. His jealous brothers

sell JOSEPH into Egyptian bondage. JOSEPH

becomes governor of Egypt. JACOB and the family

move to Egypt where the “family” of Hebrews

multiplies into a “nation” of Israelites. JOSEPH

dies. Centuries of SLAVERY for the Israelites

follow, with a total Egyptian sojourn of some 430

years.

On to further indexing of The Bible File, coming now to...

The Bible File

Exodus

The Bible File

#4

Moses

TIME LINE:

through

circa 1500 B.C.

Deuteronomy

(Third in the Group of Four People)

In His time, God raises up a deliverer to take the people out of

Egyptian bondage. The deliverer is MOSES, the third name in the

group of four people in The Bible File. Date: about 1500 B.C.

After centuries of Israelite bondage, MOSES moves to center

stage. Repeatedly he approaches the Pharaoh to “let his people

go.” Only after MOSES calls down on Egypt a series of devastating

plagues does the Pharaoh finally release the Israelites. Under

MOSES’ direction those masses of Israelite slaves and their

families, perhaps as many as two million people, are permitted to

leave Egypt. That’s the well-known EXODUS. Led by MOSES,

the Israelites cross what is called by some, the Red Sea, more

correctly, the Sea Of Reeds, a large body of water on the border

between Egypt and the Sinai Peninsula.

God allows MOSES to lead the people through those waters

on dry land. Egyptian forces, whom the Pharaoh had dispatched to

recapture them, are in hot pursuit. They are drowned as the waters

return to normal following the Israelites’ crossing.

Safely on the other side, MOSES makes a right-hand turn,

leading the Children of Israel toward the south. Eventually they

arrive at MOUNT SINAI, deep in the Sinai Peninsula.

The Quick Chronology

Here God speaks to the people through his first prophet,

MOSES. He gives to them The Law, the Torah as it’s known in

Hebrew.

God issues His Law to MOSES in three parts: the Moral,

the Civil and the Ceremonial. Remember that order with these

letters in the MOSES folder: M-C-C.

The MORAL part of the Law we know as the Ten Commandments.

Much of our present legal system is based upon it.

The CIVIL part spells out exactly how the people are to live

with each other both in the future desert wanderings and later when

they arrive in the Promised Land and its more complex life-style.

At this point, they do not know that the 40 years of wilderness

wandering lie ahead of them. God is preparing them for it with a

set of civil rules that will insure their survival across the difficult

times that lie ahead.

In the CEREMONIAL part of the Law God instructs His

people how to go about worshiping him in the new desert Tabernacle

and later in the great Temple to be built in Jerusalem. The

complex rituals required in the new form of worship also prefigure

future relationships between men and the coming Messiah.

After God gives them the new Law, MOSES organizes the

tribes, leading them northward toward a resting place at KADESH

BARNEA, in the middle of today’s Negev Desert in Israel.

Finally, the people are on their way back into the Promised

Land of their forefathers, The Land of ABRAHAM, ISAAC, and

JACOB.

To prepare for this great event, MOSES, their commander,

needs information about what lies ahead. Any good planner must

have dependable intelligence. What is the land like? The people?

Rivers and springs? Hills? Forests? Farmland? Is there food available?

So, while camping at KADESH BARNEA, MOSES asks for a

representative from each of the 12 tribes. He instructs the men to go

over into Canaan to “spy out the land.” They travel northward as far

as today’s Lebanon, then return to report their findings to MOSES

at KADESH BARNEA. And they have sharply differing reports

following that intelligence mission for their commanding general.

Progress

Points

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Exodus

HARA

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

Moses: From

Sinai to

Kadesh Barnea

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

Exodus

PLEASE

REFER TO

STUDY HELP

NUMBER 15

FOR ADDI-

TIONAL INFO

ON THE

MOSAIC

COVENANT

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 27

Progress

Points

SINAI

U

BAB

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

5 Sermons

Exodus

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

5 Sermons

Exodus

Moses:

The Wilderness

Wanderings

to Mt. Nebo

There is a majority report: ten spies or scouts report having

found The Land filled with “milk and honey.” But it is also filled

with a tall population, such that, in their sight, the children of Israel

are but mere grasshoppers. These 10 spies do not believe they can

go in and subdue The Land as God has instructed — and live to

tell about it.

However, two remaining scouts (their names are JOSHUA and

CALEB) give a minority report: the facts of the case are true,

indeed. But, yet, they declare, with God’s help, The Land can be

subdued!

But do the people believe God for His protection and provision?

No, they do not. The people believe the spies with the

majority report. They too are fearful and, therefore, in disobedience

to God’s specific plan and promise. In response, MOSES

does not give the command to enter Canaan and subdue it.

As a result of that disobedience, God sends all of them into the

desert wilderness to wander for 40 years — until every grumbling,

disobedient Israelite above the age of 20 years dies off. Everyone,

that is, except JOSHUA, Caleb and MOSES and, apparently, their

families.

Here is an important point to remember: the Israelites were

sentenced by God to wander in the desert wilderness for 40 years

because they disobeyed Him in showing no faith in his providence

and protection.

After those 40 years wandering in the desert near the Dead

Sea, MOSES, the old prophet and deliverer of Israel, nears the end

of his life. Because of his own earlier disobedience, even he is not

destined finally to enter the Promised Land.

At the end of 40 years of the wilderness wanderings, God

instructs MOSES that it is now time for the Israelites to go into the

land of Canaan, to subdue it, and to claim it as their own rightful

inheritance.

Just before he dies, MOSES delivers a series of 5 SERMONS

near Mt. Nebo, east of Jericho. He reminds the Israelites of their

Law and the unusual heritage of their people. He instructs them, a

new and younger generation, about their God, about who they are,

their precious heritage, and how they should live as they move into

The Quick Chronology

their Promised Land. These 5 SERMONS make up the book of

Deuteronomy (which means “Second Law”).

At the end of his teaching, MOSES issues what is known as

THE LAND (PALESTINIAN) COVENANT, God’s unconditional

promise to Israel that The Land is to be her inheritance in

perpetuity. Thus this promise becomes an amplification of the

"Land" portion of the ABRAHAMIC COVENANT between

God and Abraham. MOSES now passes from the scene. Note the

“LC” scroll at the end of the MOSES file.

We now arrive at the last File Folder of the four Great

People. His name is...

The Bible File

#5

Joshua

TIME LINE:

Joshua 1-24

circa 1500 B.C.

(Fourth and last in the Group of Four People)

MOSES is succeeded in leadership by the great Israeli general,

JOSHUA. Recall that JOSHUA was one of the two spies who

gave the minority (but faithful) report to MOSES 40 years earlier

after the 12 spies' inspection trip through Canaan.

As JOSHUA assumes command, he organizes the Children of

Israel for battle, for they are now on their way to reclaim the Land

unconditionally promised to ABRAHAM centuries earlier in THE

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT. JOSHUA leads the Israelites

across the Jordan River near today’s ancient city of Jericho. Once

again, God holds back the waters of the Jordan for their crossing on

dry land just as he had done for MOSES during the Exodus from

Egypt.

The Israelites then enter the land of Canaan, today’s Israel,

both to subdue it and to take possession of it in fulfillment of God’s

promise to their patriarch, ABRAHAM.

At first, they conquer two principal cities, JERICHO, then AI.

However, they do not totally wipe out the Canaanites as God had

Progress

Points

LC

Deut. 30: 1-10

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Moses

Ö JOSHUA

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Jesus

JOSHUA

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

LAND

CANAAN

Joshua:

Subduing

The Land

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

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Progress

Points

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

Land Divided

THE

LAND

DIVIDED

NAPHTALI

ASHER

Sea of Galilee

ZEBULON

GAD

Mt. Tabor

Mt. Carmel

ISSACHAR

MANASSEH

Mt. Gilboa

DANMANASSEH

EPHRAIM

BENJAMIN

REUBEN

Jerusalem

Dead Sea

JUDAH

SIMEON

You'll remember

the beginning

words and

phrases:

CREATION

4 PEOPLE

3 SOCIETIES

SILENCE

JESUS

3 Societies

are:

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

\*Judges 17:6

instructed. This failure to completely obey God’s instruction later

proves to be a great mistake.

Seven years of JOSHUA's military campaigns follow. The

land is finally subdued as a result of many military successes. The

land is then divided among the Israelite tribes in each assigned

region, each tribal unit settling down, learning to live in the fertile

new Land of ABRAHAM’s inheritance.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now we have finished with the group of Four People.

Keep in mind the approximate dates for these lives and associated

events. The dates are easy to remember in broad groups of

roughly 500 years for each major period:

• ABRAHAM & JOSEPH: around 2000 B.C.

• MOSES & JOSHUA: around 1500 B.C.

Now it’s time to shift The Bible File from 4 PEOPLE to the

3 KINDS OF SOCIETIES. Remember them from “A-R-C”:

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY.

The scene now is this: The Land subdued...The Land

divided...the people are settled in. At last, they are in their Promised

Land. When General JOSHUA dies, Israel arrives at a

significant turning point in her history.

First, no longer is there a great solitary leader of the people to

arise and take command. Every tribe and its people are doing that

which seems right in their own hearts.\*

Second, many other social and religious problems develop.

Reason: under JOSHUA's command the Israelites had not totally

cleansed the land of the Canaanite tribes and their pagan, idolatrous

practices, as God had commanded. From time to time

The Quick Chronology

Canaanites invade the Israelite tribal areas. Many turn away from

God, preferring the idolatrous ways of their pagan neighbors.

This, then, leads to the first of the three kinds of societies.

The Bible File

#6

Anarchy

TIME LINE:

Judges, Ruth

circa 1000 B.C.

(The First of Three Kinds of Societies)

The first of these three Israeli societies to develop in The Land

is the one we call ANARCHY. During this time no tribe recognizes

a central governing authority as they had back in Israel’s earlier

days, the times of MOSES and JOSHUA.

During this era, from time to time, God raises up a series of

JUDGES to set the people back on the right track and to bring

them again in line toward the righteous life-style required by The

Law.

The time of the JUDGES is a period of great apostasy. Circumstances

go from bad to worse to good to bad to worse and on and

on. But every time events seem to be at their worst, God calls out a

new JUDGE for His people. In all, Israel has 13 JUDGES during

the ANARCHY period. You’ll recognize the names of some of

them, such as Samson, Gideon, and the one judge who was a

woman, Deborah.

The last JUDGE is Samuel. Except for MOSES, Samuel is the

first of the long line of Israel’s great writing and nonwriting prophets.

His life marks the beginning of the Time of the Prophets.

Their work is contained in a relatively short duration of time, not

across thousands of years as is wrongly supposed by many believers

and Bible readers.

At a time of great national strife, the people come to Samuel,

their JUDGE, requesting a king so that Israel can be more like the

other nations around her. Through Samuel, God tells them that He

is their only king, that they need no other. But the people are not

Progress

Points

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Moses

Joshua

Ö ANARCHY

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Jesus

ANARCHY

ANARCHY

Judges

The greatest and

the last of the

Israelite

judges:

SAMUEL

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Progress

Points

ROYALTY

S - D - S

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

REDDEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

THE

KINGDOM

of

ISRAEL

ANARCHY

Judges

350

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Ö ROYALTY

Captivity

Silence

JESUS

SEA

The ISRAEL of

King Solomon &

King David

satisfied. God then tells Samuel to anoint a king for them so they

will learn the difficult lessons in answering to an earthly sovereign

instead of their heavenly authority.

After some 350 years of ANARCHY, Samuel serves as the

hinge character in moving Israel into the period of its second kind

of society, quite different from ANARCHY. We call it...

The Bible File

#7

Royalty

TIME LINE:

History:

circa 1000 B.C.

1 & 2 Samuel

1 & 2 Kings

The Prophets:

Jeremiah, Isaiah,

1 & 2 Chronicles

Jonah, Amos, Hosea,

Psalms, Proverbs

Poetry:

Joel, Micah, Nahum,

Song of Solomon Habakkuk, Zephaniah

(The Second of Three Kinds of Societies)

The date is now about 1000 B.C. The period of ROYALTY

begins as Samuel anoints SAUL, the first of the three kings of

united Israel: SAUL, DAVID and SOLOMON. You can remember

the order of Israel’s first three kings this way:

• SAUL

S-D-S:

S-D-S:S-D-S:S-D-S:S-D-S:S-D-S: • DAVID

• SOLOMON

Once on the throne, SAUL becomes a tormented man. Eventually,

God deposes SAUL for his many failures of character and

weakness in national leadership. Then, once again, the old

prophet, Samuel, is called upon to anoint a king for united Israel.

Samuel searches throughout the country, finally locating the

family of Jesse near Bethlehem. Jesse's young shepherd son,

DAVID, is identified and anointed as Israel’s next eventual king.

In time, SAUL is succeeded on the Israeli throne by King

DAVID, the “man after God’s own heart.” And it is to DAVID

that the Lord issues THE DAVIDIC COVENANT, His unconditional

promise to Israel that she will always have a Son to sit upon

the throne of Israel. The coming Messiah is clearly prefigured in

this eternal contract between God and His people.

The Quick Chronology

The DAVIDIC COVENANT becomes an amplification of the

Seed portion of the ABRAHAMIC COVENANT. Note the

parchment scroll “DC” as it relates to the ROYALTY file folder.

Under DAVID's leadership, united Israel's period of ROYALTY

is truly its Golden Age. DAVID moves Israel's national

capital to Jerusalem. Later the first great Temple to the God of

ABRAHAM is built on Mt. Moriah, the city’s famous Temple

Mount, the site of ABRAHAM's offering up of ISAAC and the

location of today’s well-known Islamic Dome of the Rock.

Jerusalem's familiar Western Wall is a remnant and reminder of

that crucial Temple period. (See Figs. 1 and 2 following.)

DAVID is succeeded on Israel’s throne by one of his many

sons, SOLOMON, born through Bathsheba.

Under SOLOMON's rule, united Israel arises as a national

power and a center of enormous wealth and international influence.

King SOLOMON becomes internationally known for his wisdom

and for his ambitious building projects, erected at great cost to his

kingdom. Who pays for it? The people, of course, through high

taxes and forced labor.

In spite of his great wisdom, however, SOLOMON spends the

country into virtual bankruptcy. Along with many foreign treaties

come many foreign wives who move to Jerusalem bringing with

them their idolatrous religious practices. Even after SOLOMON

has completed the first Temple to the God of Israel, he also could

be seen worshipping pagan gods in other parts of the city.

Upon the death of King SOLOMON and a vacuum of strong

central leadership to follow him in Jerusalem, there erupts a civil

war followed by a national SPLIT.

Thus, the united kingdom of Israel becomes TWO divided

kingdoms as both descend into increasingly greater sin and

distance from God.

Ten tribes join together to become known as the NORTHERN

Kingdom, called ISRAEL, while the remaining two tribes (BENJAMIN

and JUDAH) unite to become the SOUTHERN Kingdom

of JUDAH. Because the Northern Kingdom was the larger, it

retained the name, ISRAEL.

The period of ROYALTY continues, but now split nationally

Progress

Points

2 Samuel 7: 4-16

1 Chron. 17: 3-15

S-D-S:

• SAUL

• DAVID

• SOLOMON

ROYALTY

S - D - S

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

Israel Judah

10 2

North South

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 33

Progress

Points

Israel Judah

ROYALTY

S - D - S

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

10 2

20-J 20-R

North South

TTHHEE PPRROOPPHHEETTSS

Israel Judah

ROYALTY

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

10 2

20-J 20-R

200 350

Assyria Babylon

North South

TTHHEE PPRROOPPHHEETTSS

S - D - S

between the two kingdoms. Old alliances and ancient tribal relationships

come alive as gross sin, idolatry and distancing from God

continue to grow and spread through both kingdoms, especially

ISRAEL in the North.

As the nation further disintegrates across some 350 years, the

Bible's great Old Testament PROPHETS raise strident voices

against the national behavior, both NORTH and SOUTH. In many

writings, in many forms, they repeatedly call the people back to the

righteous ways of their Creator as handed down to MOSES in The

Law. At the same time, they write and speak powerfully regarding

a future Messiah whose appearance is imminent.

A series of some 20 KINGS follows in each Kingdom, beginning

with JEROBOAM in the NORTH and REHOBOAM in the

SOUTH. You can remember that order this way: North above

South; J before R.

The NORTHERN KINGDOM OF ISRAEL is, by far, the

more wicked, rebellious and idolatrous of the two. The NORTHERN

KINGDOM exists for about 200 years. Then from out of the

northeast, God sends his judgment in the form of the dreaded

ASSYRIANS who sweep down to take the NORTHERN KINGDOM

away. The people are dispersed and absorbed by the

Assyrians and other cultures of that day. This becomes the great

Diaspora, or Dispersion, of the Jews.

The year is 722 B.C. In all of our study there are only two

specific dates that are helpful to remember. The capture of the

NORTHERN KINGDOM is one of them. Never again do we

hear of the NORTHERN KINGDOM as a united people.

Through the following centuries they are gradually dispersed

throughout the world.

The SOUTHERN KINGDOM OF JUDAH, however, suffers

a different kind of judgment. JUDAH lasts for about 150 years

longer. Then JUDAH faces an invasion of the BABYLONIANS

under King Nebuchadnezzar.

In the midst of this national depression, however, God speaks

through the prophet Jeremiah. THE NEW COVENANT is

announced in which God proclaims unconditionally the imminent

beginning of a new program with His people and with all the

The Quick Chronology

Progress

Points

PRINTER/EDITOR:

INSERT POWERPOINT

PAGE 35

ILLUSTRATING

SOLOMON’S TEMPLE,

THE “FIRST TEMPLE”

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 35

Progress

Points

PRINTER/EDITOR:

INSERT POWERPOINT

PAGE 36

ILLUSTRATING THE

TEMPLE MOUNT’S

“WESTERN WALL”

The Quick Chronology

people of the earth. In this way, JUDAH learns that a Messiah is

promised who will deliver them and all people of the earth from

the bondage of sin and who will return them to their original

created, sinless relationship to their Father.

This is an amplification of the BLESSING portion of THE

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT. Please note the "NC" scroll symbol

relating to the ROYALTY period and its file folder.

Jerusalem and SOLOMON's great Temple are completely

destroyed in 586 B.C., the second important specific date. The

SOUTHERN KINGDOM OF JUDAH is carried away into the

famous Babylonian CAPTIVITY, also known as the period of

The Exile.

TIME OUT!

TIME OUT!TIME OUT!

Let’s now take another moment to review the

progress of The Quick Chronology in The Bible

File so far. Again, try to mentally recall details

suggested by these brief words and phrases.

#1

Creation

TIME OUTTIME OUTFOR AFOR APROGRESSPROGRESSREVIEWREVIEW

The Bible File

Our earliest view of the universe, the earth and

man’s original relationship to his Creator, the list

of many "first things."

Then follows that group of FOUR FILES

NAMED FOR FOUR GREAT PEOPLE,

beginning with ABRAHAM.

#2

Abraham

God calls ABRAHAM, promising him a LAND,

a SEED, and a BLESSING, the unconditional

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT. ABRAHAM has

two sons ISHMAEL and ISAAC ( I and I).

ISAAC has two sons, JACOB and ESAU (J &

E). JACOB has 12 sons, including JOSEPH,

whose jealous brothers him into Egyptian slavery.

The Bible File

Progress

Points

Two key dates:

North:

722 B.C.

South:

586 B.C.

The Bible File

this far:

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

1st Murder

Flood/Rainbow

Tower

REVIEW

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

J - E

12

The CALL

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

37

Progress

Points

JOSEPH

Slavery

430

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

5 Sermons

Exodus

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

Land Divided

ANARCHY

Judges

350

LC

Progress

Points

JOSEPH

Slavery

430

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

5 Sermons

Exodus

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

Land Divided

ANARCHY

Judges

350

LC

The Bible File

#3

Joseph

The Bible File

#4

Moses

The Bible File

#5

Joshua

The Bible File

#6

Anarchy

JOSEPH becomes governor of Egypt. JACOB

and his people move to Egypt where the "family"

of Hebrews multiplies into a "nation" of

Israelites. JOSEPH dies. SLAVERY for the

Israelites follows, finally totalling over 400 years

for their sojourn in Egypt.

MOSES arises as Israel's great Deliverer, organizing

and leading the Israelites out of Egypt in

the great EXODUS, traveling through the parted

Sea of Reeds to MOUNT SINAI. There

MOSES receives The Law in three parts, including

the Ten Commandments. He leads the

people on to KADESH BARNEA, where he

commissions 12 spies to bring information about

The Land before they go in. Fear causes the

Israelites to distrust God's provision. They are

turned out into the wilderness for 40 years. At

the end of his life, MOSES delivers 5 sermons

to a new generation of Israelites,the book of

Deuteronomy, including the unconditional

LAND COVENANT.. MOSES dies.

General JOSHUA assumes command of the

Israelites, leads them across the Jordan River,

and launches 7 years of military campaigns to

subdue The Land. Then The Land is divided

among the tribes as they settle down to take up

residence in The Land of ABRAHAM's inheritance.

For 350 years the people live in The Land, but

with no central leadership. Each tribe is on its

own, situations varying good to bad. From time

to time God raises up JUDGES to set the people

back on the righteous path. The last JUDGE is

also Israel's great prophet, Samuel.

The Quick Chronology

#7

Royalty#7

RoyaltyThe Bible File God commissions Samuel to anoint Israel's first

king, SAUL, who performs his kingship badly, is

deposed by God, and shortly followed on the throne

by DAVID, also anointed by SAMUEL. DAVID's

"Golden Age" follows. God announces the unconditional

DAVIDIC COVENANT through DAVID.

He is succeeded by his son, SOLOMON, whose

ambitions also cause him and Israel great difficulty.

At the end of SOLOMON'S life there is no national

figure acceptable to all the people of Israel. Civil

war follows, also the period of Israel's writing

prophets. United Israel splits apart into two nations,

the NORTHERN and the SOUTHERN Kingdoms,

ISRAEL and JUDAH, both of which are

eventually conquered by invaders. One of the prophets,

JEREMIAH, announces the unconditional

NEW COVENANT, making known to Israel that

Messiah soon will appear.

Time now to move to the last of THREE KINDS OF SOCIETIES,

the eighth Bible File folder, the one called...

The Bible File

#8

Captivity

TIME LINE:

History:

circa 586 B.C.

Ezra, Nehemiah,

Prophets:

Obadiah,

Ezekiel, Daniel,

Zechariah,

Esther.

Haggai, Malachi.

(The Third of Three Kinds of Societies)

There is an important difference between the captivities of the

NORTHERN and the SOUTHERN Kingdoms. Recall that the

NORTHERN Kingdom, ISRAEL, is dispersed and absorbed into

other societies. However, JUDAH, the SOUTHERN KINGDOM,

and its people continue to play a further role in Israel’s long history.

Judah's captivity is only temporary.

Why? Because the expected Messiah is destined and announced

by the prophets to appear through the tribal line of JUDAH.

Progress

Points

ROYALTY

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

S - D - S

North

South

Israel

Judah

10

2

T

TTH

HHE

EE P

PPR

RRO

OOP

PPH

HHE

EET

TTS

SS

20-J

20-R

200

Assyria

Babylon

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Ö CAPTIVITY

Silence

JESUS

Judah’s Return

from Captivity

UR

BABYLON

HARAN

KADESH-

BARNEA

JERUSALEM

MT.

SINAI

SEA OF

REEDS

EGYPT

RED

SEA

DEAD SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

MEDITERRANEAN

SEA

"The Great Sea"

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

Progress

Points

CAPTIVITY

70 Years

3 Treks

100 Years/50,000

Z - E - N

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Ö SILENCE

JESUS

SILENCE

Babylon is the site of JUDAH's 70 years of captivity (located

at the heart of today's troubled Persian Gulf region in the Middle

East). After the 70 years, the Babylonian rulers then allow the

captives from the SOUTHERN KINGDOM OF JUDAH to

return to Jerusalem, and to rebuild their city and their Temple.

The time is now about 500 B.C. Many of the captives do

return in three treks from Babylon back to The Land over a

period of about 100 years. Some 50,000 Israelites return. This is

the time that the people of the JUDAH come to be called Jews

(from the tribal name of JUDAH).

During those difficult journeys back to Israel from Babylon,

three famous names move into national leadership. Remember

their names by recalling the word:

• ZERUBBABEL

Z-E-N: • EZRA

• NEHEMIAH.

Not all the exiled Jews return, of course. Many stay on in

Babylon where they are successful in business, living in their own

houses. Those Jews are largely responsible for financing the trips

back and for the work of the returnees.

With the Northern Kingdom (ISRAEL) dispersed and the

Southern Kingdom (JUDAH) back in the Land, the CAPTIVITY

period of The Bible File comes to an end. At the ninth file

folder in the series of ten we are at the end of the Old Testament.

Between Malachi

TIME LINE:

and Matthew

The Bible File

#9

Silence

circa 500 B.C.

to Jesus’s birth

A fascinating period of history follows, setting the stage for all

that will shortly happen. It is a period of about 400 years between

the Old and New Testaments during which the Protestant Bible

The Quick Chronology

records no further event nor any additional revelation from God.

Although this period between the Testaments is traditionally

called a period of BIBLICAL SILENCE, the stage of world history

is anything but quiet.

During this time, ALEXANDER THE GREAT and his conquering

Macedonian armies sweep through most of the known world

of the day. In all his conquered lands ALEXANDER leaves behind

the Greek language and culture, Hellenism, which is why we

remember him as ALEX THE GREEK in The Bible File.

When ALEXANDER passes from the scene, the ROMAN

EMPIRE enters world history with its SYSTEMS of civil and

military administration, law, communication and transportation.

Cruel though it may be, Rome’s famous Pax Romana, the Peace of

Rome, provides the most extensive era of relative peace the world

has known to that time.

With the cultural influence of ALEXANDER THE GREAT

and the enormous social changes brought on by the ROMAN

EMPIRE, the stage is now set for the last of the ten Bible files.

Here we encounter the appearance of that One for Whom the entire

glorious story has been revealed and preserved for us.

We arrive at the last of the ten Bible Files. All that has gone

before reaches its climax through the life and ministry of...

The Bible File

#10

Jesus

TIME LINE:

THE NEW

TESTAMENT:

Duration of His Earthly

Life and Ministry–

Matthew, Mark, Luke,

Winter of 4/5 B.C. to

Epistles, Revelation

John, The Acts, The

Spring 33 A.D.

We arrive at a “fullness of time” determined by the Father as

appropriate to bring to the Earth His Own Son to present the Gospel

to all men. Through this Good News all can reclaim for eternity that

close, intimate relationship to the Creator lost by our early parents.

Salvation is to be made known to all mankind.

The New Testament opens with the birth of JESUS, the Saviour.

We see the further development of the unconditional promises

of THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT 2,000 years earlier.

Progress

Points

SILENCE

Alex the Greek

SILENCE

Alex the Greek

Roman Systems

REFER TO

STUDY HELPS

05, 06, 07 FOR

ASSISTANCE

IN LEARNING

THE

“SILENCE”

BIBLE FILE.

THE

TEN FILES:

Creation

Abraham

Joseph

Moses

Joshua

Anarchy

Royalty

Captivity

Silence

Ö JESUS

JESUS

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

Progress

Points

JESUS

LL ii ff ee

CCrroossss

CChhuurrcchh

JESUS

LL ii ff ee

CCrroossss

CChhuurrcchh

Gospels

Acts

Epistles

Revelation

The JESUS file can be divided into three main parts:

• His LIFE,

• His experience and the implications of the CROSS, and

• The subsequent CHURCH.

It is helpful to divide your view of His LIFE into

• his childhood,

• his early ministry in Jerusalem,

• his movements north toward Galilee,

• his long Galilean ministry centered at Capernaum,

• the Perean ministry, and finally,

• that last week of His life, the second Jerusalem ministry.

The CROSS is well summarized by his announcement at the

Last Supper of the beginning of THE NEW COVENANT and the

implications of his statement from the Cross, "It is finished."

In the mental file labeled the CROSS, we encounter all the

events of the last hours of JESUS’ ministry — His death, His

burial and His glorious resurrection.

Finally, the CHURCH file contains all those world-changing

events signalled by the formation of the ecclesia, the called-out

ones, in Jerusalem with James and Peter, and out into the world,

with Paul, Luke, Barnabas and the others.

All these titanic events are recounted in the Gospels and the

Acts of the Apostles. Immediately following the Acts, the many

Epistles, or letters to the early churches, give us insight and instruction

into how the new organism called THE CHURCH is to

operate in that early time and in our own.

Beloved theologian John Walvoord has written:

“Lying beyond all the predicted chastisements that are to fall on

Israel is the glory which will be hers when her people are regathered

into their own land, with unmeasured spiritual blessings under the

eternal reign of their Messiah-King. This vision was given to all the

prophets. As certainly and literally will she be restored to marvelous

blessings in a redeemed and glorified earth.

Such is the scenario as the Bible reaches its glorious conclusion

in the Book of the Revelation. There, in the millennial

context, all the many streams of history and God's unconditional

covenants flow together toward completion. All that was

The Quick Chronology

promised has been fulfilled. That ancient understanding

between God and his friend, ABRAHAM, is accomplished.

THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT culminates with fulfillment

of the LAND, SEED, and BLESSING promises:

• Israel is seen permanently settled in The LAND for all time-

completing THE LAND (PALESTINIAN) COVENANT;

• JESUS CHRIST, the righteous SEED of DAVID, is seen

reigning permanently on the Throne of DAVID in Jerusalem

— completing the DAVIDIC COVENANT; and

• All men are seen living in the light of the BLESSING that

emerges from this future time when, once again, Our Lord

is living upon the earth — thus completing THE NEW

COVENANT.

Into your mental JESUS file go all things connected with the

Christian life, all of your studies, all of your reading, thinking,

prayer life, and life’s experiences as you grow and mature in your

faith.

Here is the organized location for all those great persons of the

New Testament, for the incomparable events of the Savior's life,

and for the founding and expanding of His CHURCH.

In the CHURCH file, also, we can see ourselves, because the

CHURCH has progressed no further in its development and fulfillment

of its divine mission than at this moment as you read these

words. What we do with Our Lord’s commission for action as

delivered to us personally at the time of His ascension is the substance

of each individual Christian’s life.

One of the most important realizations from the JESUS file is

its connectedness and outgrowing from all the other files which

have preceded it. Scripture is a unity. With a comprehension of that

unity there follows a personal and spiritual connection to all that

has gone before and all that will come after.

The saving power of Christian belief can now be seen as transcending

the millennia, a grace given to every believer in the

promise clearly presented in God's precious Word.

\* \* \* \* \*

Progress

Points

NC

DC

LC

AC

JESUS

LL ii ff ee

CCrroossss

CChhuurrcchh

Gospels

Acts

Epistles

Revelation

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 43

Progress

Points

REVIEW

Recall the ten

Bible Files:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

1st Murder

Flood/Rainbow

Tower

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

J - E

12

The CALL

Part Four:

The Bible Story in Quick Time

T

T

ime now for a final review of all that we have learned, begin

ning with the 10 key words, saying them aloud to yourself.

We will sprint through this rapid review of THE QUICK CHRO

NOLOGY in a lightning-fast run taking us across the entire Bible.

As we experience the story in brief one last time, try to recall

quickly in passing many of the other details not printed here but

which you know to be there from earlier pages. They are becoming

available for mental recall and for adding to as your organized

Bible knowledge builds in the future. The individual file folders of

each Biblical epoch will help you recall the connections and the

interrelationships among the events, the people, and the marvelous

message to which all our lives must attest.

THE QUICK CHRONOLOGY!

#1

Creation

After untold millennia following CREATION of the

The Bible File

Earth, its first family and preservation of human life

through the great Flood...

The Bible File

#2

Abraham

ABRAHAM is called by God out of Ur of the

Chaldees. He leaves with his family, including

SARAH, Lot and Terah. They journey to ancient

Haran where old Terah, ABRAHAM’S father,

dies. Shortly they move on to Canaan. ABRAHAM

has two sons: ISHMAEL and ISAAC...I and I.

ISAAC has two sons...J and E...JACOB and

ESAU. JACOB has 12 SONS who eventually

found the 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL. Through

ABRAHAM and his offspring to come passes

God’s great promise of a LAND, a SEED, and a

BLESSING, to be later known as the uncondi

tional ABRAHAMIC COVENANT.

The Quick Chronology

The Bible File

#3

Joseph

One of the sons, JOSEPH, is sold into slavery by his

jealous brothers. He arrives in Egypt and eventually

rises to become Governor. The family of JACOB,

with all JOSEPH’s brothers, is driven down to Egypt

by famine. And they stay. And they multiply.

Through time, they become SLAVES of the Egyptians.

They remain in Egypt for 430 years.

The Bible File

#4

Moses

In time, MOSES rises from among them, leads them

out of Egypt in the EXODUS and into the desert of

the Sinai Peninsula. At MT. SINAI, MOSES is

given the LAW, the Torah...in 3 parts ...M-C-C...

Moral, Civil and Ceremonial. MOSES leads the

Israelites on to the oasis of KADESH BARNEA

....where 12 spies are dispatched on a mission to the

north to check out The Land of Canaan prior to the

Israelites going in to take it as God had commanded.

A majority report comes back, saying they

cannot take The Land: the people are too tall, too

powerful; Israelites too small, too weak.

However, two spies, Joshua and Caleb, report

that with obedience and faithfulness to God, they can

enter The Land and victoriously subdue it.

The people rebel against God, having no faith in

His provision. The faithless Israelites follow that

majority report.

As a result of their disbelief God banishes them to

wander in the wilderness until all those above the

age of 20 who disobeyed Him have died out. After 40

YEARS of wandering, just before entering The

Land, MOSES teaches the new generation who they

are in God's sight, reminds them of all that God

expects of them and defines the promises of the

unconditional LAND COVENANT. MOSES dies,

never himself, having set foot in Israel’s Promised

Land.

Progress

Points

JOSEPH

Slavery

430

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

5 Sermons

Exodus

LC

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 45

Progress

Points

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

Land Divided

ANARCHY

Judges

350

Israel Judah

ROYALTY

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

10 2

20-J 20-R

200 350

Assyria Babylon

North South

TTHHEE PPRROOPPHHEETTSS

S - D - S

CAPTIVITY

70 Years

3 Treks

100 Years/50,000

Z - E - N

Progress

Points

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

Land Divided

ANARCHY

Judges

350

Israel Judah

ROYALTY

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

10 2

20-J 20-R

200 350

Assyria Babylon

North South

TTHHEE PPRROOPPHHEETTSS

S - D - S

CAPTIVITY

70 Years

3 Treks

100 Years/50,000

Z - E - N

The Bible File

#5

Joshua

The Bible File

#6

Anarchy

The Bible File

#7

Royalty

Joshua, MOSES' successor, takes command as a

new generation prepares to go into The Land and

to subdue it. The Israelites enter, partially subdue it

and divide it up among the tribes. They settle down

to their new way of living.

There follows the period of ANARCHY and the

JUDGES, a time of national apostasy. Lasting 350

years, the period ends with the emergence of

SAMUEL, whom God commissions to appoint

Israel's first king.

A united Israel enters its period of ROYALTY.

SAUL, DAVID and SOLOMON are the three

kings of a united Israel. SAUL is deposed, replaced

by DAVID, through whom God pronounces the

unconditional DAVIDIC COVENANT. DAVID is

succeeded by his son SOLOMON. Then, CIVIL

WAR...The SPLIT...10 Tribes to the NORTH as a

kingdom: ISRAEL...2 tribes to the SOUTH as a

Kingdom: JUDAH. 20 kings follow in each, beginning

with JEROBOAM in the NORTH and

REHOBOAM in the SOUTH. During this time,

God issues the unconditional NEW COVENANT.

After some 200 years, the ASSYRIANS invade and

carry off the NORTHERN KINGDOM, ISRAEL,

never to be heard from again. It is dispersed. Then,

after another 150 years or so, the BABYLONIANS

invade, destroying Jerusalem and carrying off the

SOUTHERN KINGDOM, JUDAH, into the

Babylonian CAPTIVITY.

The Bible File

#8

Captivity

After 70 Years captivity in Babylon, the Jews are

told that they can return to The Land to rebuild the

Temple and the city of Jerusalem. Over a 100-year

period, in 3 different Treks, 3 diplomat-priests lead

The Quick Chronology

The Bible File

#9

Silence

The Bible File

#10

Jesus

50,000 people back into The Promised Land. They

are: Z -E-N: ZERUBBABEL, EZRA and

NEHEMIAH. And the Old Testament closes.

The period called 400 years of Biblical SILENCE

follows. ALEXANDER the Great appears on the

scene, spreading the GREEK culture and language

everywhere, followed by ROME and its efficient but

difficult SYSTEMS for maintaining civil order.

JESUS is introduced in the first chapter of Matthew.

We are now into the New Testament where we

experience JESUS’ LIFE, the CROSS — his death,

burial and resurrection — and the historic spread of

His CHURCH. The record is preserved for us in the

Gospels, the Acts, and the Epistles.

In the Revelation, God's Program of the Ages,

originally pronounced unconditionally through THE

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT, is consummated.

Here we are given a glimpse of the wonder of the

future with JESUS CHRIST, the Seed of David,

seated eternally on his Throne providing the blessings

of salvation and redemption for all men of the Earth.

Progress

Points

SILENCE

Alex the Greek

Roman Systems

JESUS

LL ii ff ee

CC rr oo ss ss

CC hh uu rr cc hh

Gospels

Acts

Epistles

Revelation

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JJ EE SS UU SS

from "The Bible...Basically" ® 47

Progress

Points

To sum up:

Think of...

Beginning with:

C 7 S J

Expanded into:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

Finally into:

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JJ EE SS UU SS

Summing Up...

A

A

nd so the skeleton of your entire Bible is revealed in a

digestible form and arranged in a mental filing system

awaiting only your own mental application and attention.

The Bible File allows you to begin interrelating, piece by

piece, everything you now know and will ever learn about Scripture,

Our Lord and the Christian life.

Recall the beginning point:

C 7 S J

...which unlocked the order of the key words...

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

...then applied as labels to ten mental Bible File folders, shown

on the left below. Here we see all the files coming forward

through time as the Bible's basic chronology falls into place.

The completed file folder collection appears on page 48 and

at the back of the book. We see drawn together a view of the

marvelous, redemptive story line of Scripture, a perspective that

stretches with continuity from Genesis to Revelation. The events

of both the Old and the New Testaments hold together and are

shaped by God’s great Program of Redemption, beginning with

Abraham and culminating in the appearance in Israel of the

Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord says to us:

“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and

believes him who sent me has eternal life and will

not be condemned; he has crossed over from death

to life.” (John 5:24, NIV)

The Quick Chronology

In turn, you will allow the Holy Spirit to minister more

directly in your own life as you become steadily more receptive

to His direct instructions through the Bible’s organized and

progressive message, page after precious page.

The Bible has been called “God’s love letter to man.” All of

us are instructed to learn as much about it as we possibly can

and to be well-equipped to defend it and its message when

circumstances require (2 Timothy 2:15). Meaningful learning to

accomplish this task, however, can be founded only on organized

thinking.

It is our prayer that The Bible File will provide you with the

beginning of more organized Biblical thinking. Our Christian

faith is a historic faith built upon the facts of history and the

organization of God's Word.

The powerful Christian writer, Miles Stanford, once wrote:

"...true faith must be based solely on scriptural facts...Unless

our faith is established on facts, it is no more than conjecture,

superstition, speculations or presumption"

We pray that this seminar handbook will help you toward a

clearer understanding of the organized Scripture and its eternal

implications for every human life.

Progress

Points

We must be

prepared to

give answers

for what we

believe!

True faith is

based on the

facts of

Scripture.

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

The ten file folders of your “Bible File.”

from "The Bible...Basically" ®

“THE QUICK CHRONOLOGY”

from “The Bible...Basically”®

INDEXING “THE BIBLE FILE”

CREATION

1st Man & Woman

1st Sin

1st Gospel

1st Family

1st Murder

Flood/Rainbow

Tower

JOSEPH

Slavery

430

4 PEOPLE

JOSHUA

Jericho/Ai

Land Divided

C 7 S J C

(1500 B.C.)

©2003 John Fryman

AC

LC

(All Time

Pre-Abraham)

MOSES

Sinai

M - C - C

Kadesh Barnea

40

5 Sermons

Exodus

ABRAHAM

L - S - B

I - I

J - E

12

The CALL

(2000 B.C.)

3 SOCIETIES

CAPTIVITY

70 Years

3 Treks

100 Years/50,000

Z - E - N

ANARCHY

Judges

350

NC

DC

ROYALTY

•••••• SSPPLLIITT ••••••

Israel Judah

10 2

20-J 20-R

200 350

Assyria Babylon

North South

THREE PROPHETS

S - D - S

(500 B.C.)

SILENCE

S

Alex the Greek

Roman Systems

J

JESUS

Life

Cross

Church

Gospels

Acts

Epistles

Revelation

50

The Quick Chronology

Some Final Words

First: to the believer...

F

F

or many Christians, The Quick Chronology has been enormously helpful in

moving them toward a clearer understanding of God’s timeless Word. If this has

been your experience, we encourage you to teach it to others! Not only will you

learn it more clearly and permanently for yourself, but the Holy Spirit will also use it

to bless and empower you with a new excitement for your own Bible, because you

know it! And that can be life-changing,once the pieces of the biblical puzzle are

brought together and seen in their marvelous and interconnected relationships.

By teaching others this organizing view of Scripture you will also allow the Holy

Spirit to minister more directly in your own life and the lives of others. You will

become increasingly receptive to and energized by His direct instructions to you

through the Bible’s organized and progressive message, page after timeless page.

Following your study of this material (to your own level of satisfaction), a regular

review of it in outline form will be extremely helpful. We suggest that once a month

you especially reread Part Four: “The Bible Story in Quick Time.”

That periodic review will keep the chronology available – at the very front of your

mind. The Holy Spirit can then more effectively use it as a tool of insight as He

instructs you during times of study or prayer, when attending Bible classes or church

services, when you are teaching others, or when reading and thinking in any biblical

or spiritual area.

These suggestions come directly from a Scriptural mandate. In his last New

Testament letter, Paul in 2 Timothy 2:15 clearly instructs us to learn as much about

The Word as we possibly can. Accomplishing that task most effectively depends on

accurate biblical thinking. So it is our prayer that The Bible File concept will provide

a beginning point for a more organized and insightful biblical perspective.

Our Christian faith is a historic faith built upon the facts of history and the progressive

revelation of God’s Word. The gifted Christian author, Miles Stanford, once

wrote:

“...true faith must be based solely on scriptural facts...Unless our

faith is established on facts, it is no more than conjecture, superstition,

speculations or presumption.”

We pray that this book will have helped you toward a clearer understanding of the

magnificent foundational document of our Christian belief, God’s Word, and its

eternal implications for every human life.

®

from "The Bible...Basically"

Second: to the one still searching for answers and assurances

to life’s most difficult questions, please consider this...

Around the world, millions have studied the Bible as an important contribution to

great literature. It is the world’s greatest literature, incomparable in its significance to

mankind’s struggle across the centuries.

However, such an intellectual study can completely miss one of the greatest of all

objectives of Holy Scripture: the saving of a human soul from eternal separation

from its Creator.

Eternity cannot be conceived. Our human minds can’t imagine a time without

end! Even the words appear almost meaningless. We also know that nothing in

nature ceases to be. It only changes in form. So, then, the question is: at one split

second after your human body no longer lives, where will your personality – your

very soul – be located ? Bodily death is simply an instant’s transition from one state

of being to another. So, you see, we are, at this moment, residents of eternity.

The core question then emerges: Will you be with God eternally, or will you

be separated from Him eternally?

The Bible clearly answers the question! Through its remarkable story – its continuity

and its uniformity across the millennia – we have witnessed God’s boundless

love and concern to woo us back to Him, for all eternity!

In our study, we have seen His new Program of Redemption begun with Abraham.

We have witnessed the historic demonstration of His lovingkindness through

His special people, the Jews. And through the centuries of the Old Testament story,

we have watched the repeated failures of His people to live out in full view of the

world the extraordinary gifts they had been given. Though they failed, He remained

faithful. Though they rebelled against his provision, yet He stood by His promise

graciously to provide for them the way back, unconditionally!

Through the gift of His own Son, though rejected by His own people, the same

Promise has been made to us. Our way back, our way of return, has been provided!

Because of that 4,000-year-old “blessing” in God’s great Covenant with Abraham, He

has made his salvation available to everyone, everywhere.

Having explored the outlines of that continuing story of return, we can now look

far more deeply into a single verse in John’s New Testament Gospel. From the

Amplified Bible, study these words of John 3:16. This is the flagship verse of God’s

invitation to all men to return to Him:

The Quick Chronology

“For God so loved and dearly prized the world that he [even] gave

up his only-begotten [unique] son, so that whoever believes in

(trusts, clings to, relies on) him shall not perish – some to destruction,

be lost – but have eternal (everlasting) life.”

Just as with Abraham in his early day, here John the Apostle assures us that even

in our late day we, too, are the recipients of that Covenant promise, God’s unconditional

“blessing to all families of the earth.” And as it was with Abraham, all that is

required of us today is belief – simple, uncomplicated acceptance of the life, ministry

and Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When, with honesty of mind and sincerity of heart, Jesus Christ is invited to enter

one’s life, whether in quiet privacy or in a throng of thousands – at that moment – the

deed is done! The Holy Spirit quietly descends to begin His work of revolutionizing

that new Christian’s mind and heart. Forevermore, that soul is claimed for God,

before being surely claimed by those other forces at work throughout the Earth: those

of Satan and all who, directly or indirectly, answer to him.

If you are searching for that eternal connection and assurance – which is available

only through one’s personal belief in Our Lord – turn to Him now, recognizing that

He and only He has successfully bridged the chasm between this life and the world

beyond this that awaits us all.

Salvation can be yours simply by (1) confessing your own sin, your own “missing

the mark,” (2) admitting into your own heart and mind your belief in the death,

burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, (3) followed by your humble request that the

person of the Lord Jesus Christ enter and take charge of your life. Your prayer might

be in words similar to these:

“Lord Jesus, thank you for your work on the Cross in my behalf. I come

to you now fully confessing all my shortcomings and my failures. I am

incomplete. I am a sinner who has missed the mark. I am seeking your

leadership, your direction. At this moment I am reaching up to grab hold

of your salvation. Come into my life, fill it, direct it. Help me to learn all

over again how to live as You would have me to live. I pray this in your

incomparable Name, thanking you for all you have done for me. Amen.”

And it is done! Your new life in Jesus Christ will have begun as you are joined

for eternity to that countless family of all believers who have gone before and all who

will come after. You can then be assured that your eternity will be spent in the

glorious presence of Our Lord. May God richly bless and urge your determination to

make that crucial decision.

from "The Bible...Basically"®