

The Period of the Monarchy
***1020 - 586 BC**

UNITED KINGDOM				PROPHETS
Saul		c. 1020 - 1000		Samuel c. 1020 - 1000 Nathan, c. 1000
David		c. 1000 -- 961		
Solomon		c. 961 -- 921		
Division 921				
ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom)		JUDAH (Southern Kingdom)		
Jeroboam I	921 - 901	Rehoboam	922 - 915	
Nadab	901 - 900	Abijam	915 - 913	
Baasha	900 - 877	Asa	913 - 873	
Elah	877 - 876			
Zimri (7 days)	876			
Tibni (Rival king in civil war)	876	Jehoshaphat	873 - 849	
Omri	876 - 869			Elijah north; c. 855 - 850
Ahab	869 - 850			
Ahaziah	850 - 849	Jehoram	849 - 842	Micaiah ben Imlah north; c. 850
Joram (Jehoram)	849 - 842			
Jehu	842 - 815	Ahaziah	842	Elisha north; c. 850 - 845
Jehoahaz	815 - 801	Athaliah	842 - 837	
Jehoash (Joash)	801 - 786	Joash	837 - 800	
Jeroboam II	786 - 746	Amaziah	800 - 783	
Zachariah (6 months)	746 - 745	Uzziah (Azariah)	783 - 742	Amos, 750 Hosea, 750 - 725
Shallum	745			Isaiah, 742 - 700
Menahem	745 - 738	Jotham Co-regent	750 - 742	
Pekahiah	738 - 737	King	742 - 735	Micah, c. 730 - 701
Pekah	737 - 732			
Hoshea	732 - 721	Ahaz	735 - 715	
Fall of Samaria	722/721			

ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom)		JUDAH (Southern Kingdom)		PROPHETS
		Hezekiah	715 - 687	
		Manasseh	687 - 642	
		Amon	642 - 640	Nahum, 630 - 612
		Josiah	640 - 609	Zephaniah, 628 - 622
		Jehozhaz (3 months)	609	Habakkuk, c. 605
		Jehoiakim	609 - 598	Jeremiah, 626 - 587
		Jehoiachin (Jeconiah) (3 months)	598	Ezekiel 593 - 573
		Zedekiah (Mattaniah)	597 - 587	Obadiah, c. 585
		Fall of Jerusalem	587/586	
		First deportation to Babylonia	597	
		Second deportation to Babylonia	587	exilic Isaiah c. 540
		Return of the Exiles begins	538	
				Haggai, 520
				Zechariah, 520 - 515
				post-exilic Isaiah, c. 515-500
				Malachi c. 500-450

*This chart is based on the chronology of John Bright (*A History of Israel*, 3rd edition, Westminster, 1981). There are other chronologies of the Israelite kings that differ in some details, e.g., that of J. Maxwell Miller in *Harper's Bible Dictionary*. The problem of OT chronology is complicated by various factors:

- 1) some biblical numbers are symbolic or schematized;
- 2) variant manuscript readings differ;
- 3) various date references are given in different portions of Scripture;
- 4) little external verification to cross check dates;
- 5) different systems of dating;
- 6) problem of transferring lunar dates into solar dates;
- 7) different methods of figuring the regnal years of kings;
- 8) possibility of co-regencies of kings (we know of only one, that of Uzziah and Jotham), etc.

All of these factors make figuring a chronology of the Israelite kings much less precise than we are accustomed. The purpose here is not to solve the historical debates but to provide a general relative time frame of Old Testament events for the purposes of biblical interpretation. The reader should be aware that these dates are not absolute, and could change in light of new evidence.