

Welcome to the

Story of the Bible

With Daniel Cherry

Part II: Old Testament History



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4-Week Overview of the Bible Outline

I. The Beginning

- A. Creation → Babel (Gen. 1-11)
- B. Abraham → Joseph (Gen. 12-50)

II. Old Testament History

- A. Moses → Kings (Exodus-2 Chron)
- B. Exile → Return (Ezra-Esther, Prophets)

III. Preparing the Way

- A. Intertestamental Period
- B. Jesus in the Gospels (Matthew-John)

IV. The Church

- A. The Beginning of the Church (Acts)
- B. Letters to the Churches (Romans-Revelation)



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A. Moses → Kings (Exodus-2 Chron)

1. Review Genesis

- a. Ch. 1-11 – God creates order, people keep messing it up. God keeps re-ordering
- b. Ch. 12 – God makes a promise to Abraham
 - i. Great Nation
 - ii. Great Name
 - iii. Bless all Nations Through You
- c. Ch. 12-50 – God begins to work through Abraham's family – They end up in Egypt

- 2. Moses' personal story (Becomes Israel's story)**
- a. Israelites had been in Egypt 400 years – Egyptians were oppressing them**
 - b. When they cry out God prepares Moses**
 - c. Moses "Drawn Out" is drawn out of Nile River but also "draws out" the People from Egypt.**
 - d. Moses – 40 yrs in Egypt – 40 yrs in Midian – 40 yrs Leading Israel**
 - e. God leads the people out of Egypt with mighty plagues and across the Red Sea**
 - f. Israelites complain to God even though God gives them everything they need**
 - g. When they have a chance to get into promised land, they are afraid – God sends them into desert for 40 yrs.**

3. In the Desert God gives Israelites Law

a. Three Requirements for a nation

i. People – 430 years in Egypt staying genetically pure.

ii. Law – 40 years in desert getting Law that reflects God's order in their culture.

iii. Land – They will be moving back to the original land given to Abraham.

b. Exodus/Leviticus/Numbers/Deuteronomy – The Law for “Abraham's” Nation

c. After 40 years Moses dies and Joshua, his servant, leads the people into Abraham's Promised Land



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4. Joshua – The people move in and take back the land promised to Abraham

5. Judges

a. For 480yrs Israel had no king and was ruled by priests and judges

b. The period of the judges is characterized by a cycle like Gen. 1-11

i. Sin - The people are disobedient to God and His law and order

ii. Suffering - The people are oppressed by surrounding people and cry out for help.

iii. Salvation - God raises a hero to save the people from their oppressors.

c. Finally, Israel asks for a king (1 Samuel)

6. Rise and Fall of the Kings

- a. God promised Abraham a “Great Nation” – Great by God’s standards not by man’s
- b. Great Kings were obedient kings – not necessarily politically successful
- c. Saul was the first king and never really obeyed God
- d. God raised up David to be next king – he was a “man after God’s own heart”
- e. David’s Son, Solomon became the next king and followed God mostly.



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6. Rise and Fall of the Kings

- f. Solomon's Son, Rehoboam rebelled against God and the nation Splits in two
 - i. Northern Kingdom "Israel" (10 tribes)
 - ii. Southern Kingdom "Judah" (2 Tribes – Judah/Benjamin)
- g. For 210 years God's people (Abraham's kingdom) exists as two nations
 - i. Every king of Israel is unfaithful to God
 - ii. Every king of Judah is a descendant of King David (most are bad, some are good)



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7. In 722bc the evil Assyrian Empire took Israel captive.
8. In 586 the powerful Babylonian Empire takes Judah captive.
9. For God's people, it seemed like God's "Great Nation" promise had finally failed.
 - a. But, remember that God is persistent with his plans
 - b. Perhaps Abraham's great nation being taken in to captivity was a part of God's plan all along...
 - c. We'll see what happens next as we hear from the prophets – dun, dun, dun...

Genesis 1-11 God Created everything – brought order from chaos – established His dominion over humanity

Genesis 12:2-3 God presented His ultimate plan for redeeming humanity

1. Make Abraham into a great nation
2. Make Abraham's name great
3. Bless “all peoples on earth through him (them)

Stage One: By the end of Genesis Abraham's name had become great, and would continue to become greater as his offspring increased through Stage Two.

Stage Two: God spent the rest of the O.T building His definition of a “great nation”

1. God brought Abraham’s Kids, Grandkids, etc. to Egypt (Gen 12-50)
 - a. Here they grew in number while living safely in a single location
 - b. They lived among a people but kept genetically pure
2. After 430 years, they went from a big family to 12 distinct tribes of people (Exodus)
 - a. God led them out of Egypt to give them a law code and teach them to follow Him (Lev-Deut)
3. After 40 years He gave them a land in which to build this nation (Joshua, Judges, Ruth)



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4. Israelites rise/fall under human leadership for 800 yrs (Josh - Chron.)
 - a. God let them learn what we do if we follow earthly Kings – we stray from God
5. God finally let them suffer consequences of rejecting His plan (Esther, Isaiah-Malachi)
 - a. Exile – (Assyria/Babylonia) *see chronology for details*
 - b. Daniel 2 – Prophecy of Kingdoms - Every nation is known for ruling a certain way
 - i. Assyria used terrorism
 - ii. Babylon used brute force/power
 - iii. Persians used peace (sent people back to their homelands)
 - iv. Greeks – known for bronze – used education (a good citizen must be taught to be Greek)
 - v. Romans – legendary for overwhelming power and organization.



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6. The prophets prepared His people for Stage Three:
 - a. “You are being punished because you rejected God’s plan.”
 - b. “God reaffirmed His promises to Abraham (Gen. 12) and David (2 Sam. 7) to use this nation to bless all peoples on earth.”
 - c. “Use this temporary time in exile to fix your broken morality and recommit to following God.”
7. God brought His people back from captivity to rebuild Israel and wait for the Messiah. (Ezra-Nehemiah)

The Messages of the Individual Prophets

Three Groups – Each Group has major (longer) and minor (shorter) prophets.

1. 8th Cent. (700s BC) – Focused on warning about impending exile.

Major: Isaiah

Minor: Hosea, Amos, Jonah, Micah

2. 7th Cent. (600s BC) – Dealing with life in exile.

Major: Jeremiah, Lamentations

Minor: Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah

3. 6th Century (500s BC) – Dealing with exile and return from exile.

Major: Ezekiel, Daniel

Minor: Joel, Obadiah, Haggai, Zechariah

4. Malachi is a minor prophet in a separate category – 5th Century



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