

**BASIC TIMELINE OF ISRAELITE HISTORY**

Ca. 2000-1700 BCE – Patriarchal period	The era described in the Genesis narratives about Abraham and his progeny.	
Ca. 1300-1200 BCE – Mosaic period	The era described in the rest of the Pentateuch + Joshua, covering the Exodus from Egypt and migration(s) to Canaan.	
Ca. 1200-1050/1000 BCE - Period of the <b>Judges</b>	The era described in the Book of Judges and Ruth.	
1000-587 BCE - Monarchic period in Israel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1030-1010 BCE – King Saul</li> <li>• 1010-970 BCE – King David, ruling with Jerusalem as his capital</li> <li>• 970-931 BCE – King Solomon; building of the Jerusalem Temple</li> <li>• 931 BCE – With death of King Solomon, Northern Kingdom (= Israel) secedes from Southern Kingdom (= Judah)</li> <li>• 722/721 BCE - Northern Kingdom (Israel) conquered by Assyrians, population dispersed (= “lost tribes of Israel”)</li> <li>• 620 BCE – King Josiah (of Judah) and "Deuteronomic Reforms"</li> <li>• 600-580 BCE - Judean Prophets, Jeremiah and Ezekiel</li> </ul>	The era described in 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings	10 <sup>th</sup> century BCE – Many scholars date “J” and “E” sources of the Pentateuch to around this time  721-535 B.C.E. – Composition of most of Deuteronomistic history
586 BCE - Southern Kingdom (Judah) and Jerusalem Temple destroyed by Babylonians; <b>BABYLONIAN EXILE</b>		Many scholars date final strata in “P” source of the Pentateuch to the Exile, although most also stress that it took form in the monarchic period as well, possibly in the setting of a priestly school.
538 BCE – Cyrus the Persian conquers Babylon. The Persians allow Jews to return to their land and grant them funds to rebuild the Jerusalem Temple (= Second Temple); beginning of <b>SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD</b>		

**Prophets/Neviim** - Second main division of the Hebrew Bible, comprising the Former and the Latter Prophets; the “n” of TaNaKh (i.e., the Hebrew acronym for Torah + Neviim + Ketuvim = Hebrew Bible). Often divided into Former Prophets and Minor Prophets.

**Former Prophets** –Books of Joshua, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings.

**Deuteronomistic history** - The body of material which consists of the introduction to Deuteronomy (chapters 1-4) and Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings; it is an extended review of Israel's history from the conquest under Joshua through the destruction of 587 B.C.E. written from the perspective of principles found in the book of Deuteronomy: God's punishment.

### **Outline of the Book of Judges**

- I. Failure to Occupy Canaan (1:1-2:5)
- II. Theological Framework (2:6-3:6)
- III. Judge Narratives
  - A. Othniel (3:7-11)
  - B. **Ehud** (3:12-31)
  - C. **Deborah** (4-5)
  - D. **Gideon** (6-8)
  - E. Abimelech (9)
  - F. Tola (10:1-2)
  - G. Jair (10:3-5)
  - H. **Jephthah** (10:6-12:7)
    - I. Ibzan (12:8-10)
    - J. Elon (12:11-12)
    - K. Abdon (12:13-15)
    - L. **Samson** (13-16)
- IV. Failures of Israelite Tribes (17-21)
  - A. Danites (17-18)
  - B. Benjaminites (19-21)

### **Outline of the Book of Ruth**

- 1- From Moab to Bethlehem: Ruth Returns with Naomi
- 2- In the field of Boaz: Boaz helps Ruth
- 3- On the threshing floor of Boaz: Ruth and Boaz engaged
- 4- In the Bethlehem city gate: Boaz and Ruth marry