

## A Guided Tour of the Bible – A Big Picture Map by Brian Mavis

Era / Act	Date	Events	Bible Books About Period	Bible Books Written In Period
<b>Creation</b>	prehistoric	God creates everything as it should be. They share a loving relationship with God and with each other. God has given them the privilege of taking care of creation with Him. As they lovingly obey God, life is lived at its best.	Genesis 1-2	
<b>Corruption &amp; Curses</b>	prehistoric	Satan tempts them to rebel against God and reject His rule. This rebellion (sin) leads to the curse and judgment of spiritual and physical death. Their relationship with God and each other is permanently corrupted. But God promises to rescue them (and us) and to crush Satan. As time passes, evil grows. Every act of man is evil. God destroys mankind with a flood, but spares Noah and his family. Later, mankind builds the city of Babel to glorify man. God scatters mankind by confusing their language.	Genesis 3-11	
<b>Covenant &amp; Commands</b>	2090BC 1900BC 1500BC	God calls Abraham and gives him unconditional promises (covenant). He promises that through his descendants he will bless all nations and restore His rule, and He will give them a place to be a light to the world. Eventually his descendants multiply but they are enslaved in Egypt. God uses Moses to lead them out of slavery. In the desert, God gives people the feast of Passover, His Law (showing them right and wrong and their need for God's forgiveness). God is near them in a tabernacle. He warns them that they can lose everything He is doing for them if they live in rebellion.	Genesis 12 onward Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Job? Some Psalms
<b>Conquests &amp; Consequences</b>	1405BC 1380-1050BC 1050BC 1010BC 970BC 930BC	After Moses, Joshua leads them to the Promised Land. Israel is led by a series of Judges. God is their King. God allows their enemies to oppress them at times because they keep rebelling against God. They demand a king, which God allows. The first three kings rule 40 years each. God promises David he will have a descendant that will be king forever. Jerusalem becomes the capitol of Israel. Solomon builds God's Temple there. But there is a continued cycle of sin, which leads to this kingdom falling apart. After Solomon dies the kingdom splits in two—Israel (10 northern "states") and Judah (2 southern "states"). There are a series of kings—some good, mostly bad. Over time everyone goes further from God. God's uses prophets to try to get them to change their ways, and they warn the people of the consequences of their sin. Even though they are breaking their agreement with God, God still holds up His end of the promise to rescue and rule.	Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 1-7 1 Samuel 8 onward 2 Samuel 1 Kings 1-11 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles 1-9 1 Kings 12 onward 2 Kings 2 Chronicles 10 onward	Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs  Isaiah, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah
<b>Captivity &amp; Confidence</b>	722BC 586BC 538BC 458BC 430BC	God judges Israel and has them destroyed by Assyria. God judges Judah and has them exiled to Babylon. Along with the earlier prophets, God uses them to explain they are being punished for their rebellion, but they give hope for the future too. They reveal that God will fulfill all His promises—and He will do it in a way that is amazing. Some people return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple. Ezra returns to Jerusalem and restores the Law. Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem and rebuilds the city walls. The Old Testament ends: waiting for God's King to appear to introduce his kingdom.	Daniel  Esther  Ezra  Nehemiah	Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah  Haggai, Zechariah  Malachi
<b>(Crickets – 400 years of silence from God)</b>				
<b>Christ &amp; Cross</b>	4BC 26AD 30AD	Jesus is born and is revealed as God's king who will rule God's kingdom. God's promise is being kept in an amazing way... Jesus is actually God with skin on. He shows us what God is like. He lives a perfect life. He can make everything right, but He does it in a surprising way—He serves, suffers, and dies a sacrificial death to rescue us. He rises from the dead to prove He has power over death (and our death). He then tells the men He trained to tell the world the good news—that Jesus is Lord—He has rescued us, He is restoring all things, and He is ruling His kingdom (but not in a way that earthly rulers rule). We must trust in Jesus to be a part of His Kingdom.	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John	
<b>Christians &amp; Church</b>	30-95AD	Jesus ascends to heaven and says there will be a delay before He returns (not as a suffering servant, but with power). This delay is so more people can be a part of His Kingdom. The church is founded in Jerusalem and begins to spread across the world. We live in this church era that is also known as the "last days."	Acts	Letters from Paul (Romans-Philemon) Hebrews, James, Letters from Peter, Letters from John, Jude, Revelation
<b>Completion</b>	Future	One day Jesus will return. There will be a great judgment. All the promises will be completely fulfilled. Things will be even better than the beginning—a new heaven and earth with no sin or death is revealed	Revelation	