

Historical Timeline with Key Biblical Events

The summary of events below is taken from the New American Standard Bible – Life Application Bible, “A chronology of Bible events and world events.”

We present this timeline as a record of history, showing when the Biblical events occurred in relation to other well-known events in history. Hopefully, this will give readers of the Bible a better perspective on the Bible’s reliability, because if we are inclined to believe the validity of events that happened surrounding the Biblical events, we should be inclined to believe the validity of Biblical events as well. This is especially true with respect to “written” documents, as research on the authenticity of Biblical documents has been put through far more stringent tests than other documents of a similar period.

■ =Biblical Event ■ =Well Known Historical Event That Most People Would Recognize

Date	Event of Interest	Importance
Undated	God creates the heavens and the earth	Everything starts with God. Without Him, there is no us.
Undated	Noah and the ark and the flood	May coincide with extinction of all HOMO species except Homo Sapiens (Modern Man).
10,000 BC	Homo Sapiens (Modern Man) the only surviving species of the genus Homo	Of all the human species in the genus HOMO, all but the species Sapiens (Modern Man) are extinct by this time in history.
2500 BC	Paper & ink invented; first libraries built	Note: People also used stone tablets, pottery, and animal skins to record events.
2400 BC	Egypt imports gold	
2331 BC	Sargon conquers Sumer	Sargon, a Semitic chieftain, is the world’s first “conqueror”.
2300 BC	Horses domesticated in Egypt	
2166 BC	Abraham born	Abraham is a major patriarch in the ancestral line of Jesus.
2100 BC	Glass first made	
2091 BC	Abraham enters Canaan	
2066 BC	Isaac born	Son of Abraham – lineage continues through to Jesus.
2006 BC	Jacob & Esau born	Jacob is the Biblical father of Israel.
2000 BC	Native Americans migrate from Asia to North America	
2000 BC	Stonehenge, England erected	
1929 BC	Jacob flees to Haran	
1915 BC	Joseph born	Ancestral father of Moses
1900 BC	Spoked wheel invented	
1898 BC	Joseph sold into slavery	
1885 BC	Joseph rules Egypt	
1805 BC	Joseph Dies	
1750 BC	Hammurabi issues first legal codes	These become the foundation for Roman and then English law. Part of the Hammurabi tablets is on display in the Louvre Museum.
1700 BC	Surgical procedures conducted in Egypt	Egyptians use papyrus to describe procedures.
1526 BC	Moses born	In the lineage of Joseph and the tribe of Levi.
1446 BC	The Exodus from Egypt	Moses parts the Red Sea & leads the Jewish people to the Promised Land.
1445 BC	The 10 Commandments given to Moses	
1450 – 1406 BC	Moses writes the Torah (Pentateuch in Greek)	The Torah consists of the first five books of the Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.
1406 BC	Hebrews enter Canaan	The Promised Land, future home of Israel.
1358 BC	Tutankhamen dies	His tomb exists today and his treasures are on exhibit even today.
1250 BC	Silk fabrics manufactured in China	

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1183 BC	Destruction of Troy during Trojan War	
1162 BC	Gideon becomes Israel's judge	Named after Gideon, these Bibles are found in motel/hotel rooms today.
1105 BC	Samuel born	
1075 BC	Sampson becomes Israel's judge	
1050 BC	Saul becomes Israel's first king	Killed in battle for disobeying God's command.
1010 BC	David becomes Israel's second king	Yes, this is David of David and Goliath fame.
1000 BC	City of Peking in China built	Name is changed to Beijing in 1979 AD.
970 BC	Solomon becomes Israel's king	
900 BC	Celts invade Britain	
875 BC	Elijah prophesies in Israel	
814 BC	Carthage Greece founded	
800 BC	Homer writes <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i>	
793 BC	Jonah becomes a prophet	
776 BC	First Olympic games in Greece	
753 BC	Hosea becomes a prophet	
753 BC	City of Rome officially founded	
750 BC	First music notation written in Greece	
740 BC	Isaiah becomes a prophet	One of the Bible's major prophets; prophesies the birth of Jesus.
660 BC	Japan established as a nation	
650 BC	Soldering of iron invented	
648 BC	Horse racing introduced at 33rd Olympics	
627 BC	Jeremiah becomes a prophet	One of the Bible's major prophets.
587 BC	King Nebuchadnezzar II destroys Jerusalem	His armies also destroy the Holy Temple.
563 BC	Buddha born in India	
560 BC	Aesop writes his fables	
551 BC	Confucius born	
539 BC	Persians under King Cyrus destroy Babylon	
~ 536 BC	Book of Daniel written	Daniel describes the rule of Nebuchadnezzar and his heirs; Daniel also prophesies the arrival of the Messiah (Christ), which occurs almost 500 years later – possibly to the exact month. Daniel also prophesies the end of times.
520 BC	Public Libraries open in Athens Greece	
509 BC	Rome becomes a Republic	
479	Esther becomes queen of Persia	The Book of Esther in the Old Testament is attributed to her.
469 BC	Socrates (Greek philosopher) born	
448 BC	Greek Parthenon built on Mt. Acropolis	Parts of which still stand today.
445 BC	Nehemiah builds Jerusalem wall	Parts of which still stand today.
430 BC	Malachi becomes the last Old Testament prophet	One of the Bible's minor prophets; author of the last book of the Old Testament.
399 BC	Socrates dies	Their collective works are still taught today in philosophy and Western Civilization classes throughout the world.
384 BC	Aristotle born	
370 BC	Plato writes famous book – <i>The Republic</i>	
330 BC	Alexander defeats the Persians	
225 BC	Old Testament translated from Hebrew into Greek	The Greek version of the Old Testament is called the Septuagint.

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215 BC	Great Wall of China built	Still standing today.
200 BC	Dead Sea Scrolls start being written	Discovered in 1946, the Dead Sea Scrolls comprise more than 800 documents made of animal skin, papyrus and forged copper that contain parts of every book of the Old Testament (except Esther) and contain what is believed to be the earliest version of the Ten Commandments.
139 BC	Jews banished from Rome	
100 BC	Julius Caesar born	
30 BC	Cleopatra and Marc Antony die	
25 BC	Mary, Jesus' mother, born	
6/5 BC	Jesus Christ is born	
5 AD	Apostle Paul born	
26/27 AD	Jesus begins His ministry	
30 AD *	Jesus crucified and is raised on the 3 rd day	Jesus' death pays the penalty for mankind's sins and His resurrection demonstrates that eternal life is possible.
35 AD	Paul converted on road to Damascus	Paul is met by Jesus and converted into one of Jesus' main Apostles.
46 AD	Paul begins first missionary journey	
57 AD	Paul writes the book of Romans	Believed to have been when he was imprisoned in Caesarea.
59 AD	Paul visits Rome	
~ 60 – 90 AD	The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John written	These are biographies of Christ's ministry, His Crucifixion and Resurrection. Matthew and John are with Jesus throughout His ministry and witness His Crucifixion and Resurrection.
60 AD	Paul writes his prison letters	
64 AD	Rome burns (while Nero fiddles)	Burning blamed on Christians.
70 AD	Romans destroy Jerusalem	Prophesied by Daniel some 600 years earlier and also by Christ.
95 AD	Apostle John writes Revelation	
170 AD	Muratorian Canon compiled	The Muratorian Canon is the first compilation of the separate books of the Bible, excluding Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, 3 John and Revelation.
363 AD	Council of Laodicea	Confirm the New Testament books of Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, 3 John are, indeed, canonical (inspired by God).
367 AD / 397 AD	The Book of Revelation added to the Biblical canon	Both Athanasius (367 AD) in his <i>Letter 39</i> , and Augustine of Hippo (c. 397 AD) in his book <i>On Christian Doctrine</i> (Book II, Chapter 8) list the Book of Revelation as being canonical.
1455 AD	Gutenberg prints the first Bible	Johann Gutenberg prints the first major book using moveable metal type, and this book was the Bible. Two complete versions remain in the British Library.

* The actual year of Jesus' crucifixion is debated by many. We have chosen 30 AD as it appears from our research that this is the only year during which all of the events chronicled by the Gospels correctly align. We base our conclusion on three primary observations:

1. Mary found Jesus' tomb empty in the early morning of the first day of the week which in the Hebrew calendar is Sunday.
2. Jesus said He would remain in His tomb three nights and three days [the same length of time Jonah spent in the whale), and we interpret this to mean three full nights and three full days. Understanding that in the Hebrew calendar, night precedes day, this would mean that Jesus would have been buried at the end of day light on Wednesday. So, 1st full night would be Thursday night, 2nd full night would be Friday night, and 3rd full night would be Saturday night; and the 1st full day would be Thursday day, 2nd full day would be Friday day, and the 3rd full day would be Saturday day. Jesus would then have been resurrected sometime after the start of Sunday night (4th night) and before early morning on Sunday.
3. The Wednesday evening (remember, Wednesday evening precedes Wednesday day) would have been the Last Super (also Passover). The only Wednesday Passover in this timeframe was in 30 AD.