

Scripture
Biblical History prior to Jesus
Dr. Lynn Thrush
September 23, 2009

The big picture; three segments in Old Testament history – A) From Abraham to David; B) from David to the Exile to Babylon; C) from the Exile to Christ. Matthew 1:17

A. From Abraham to David

- a. Pre- Abraham
 - 1. Creation
 - 2. The Fall
 - 3. Flood
 - 4. Tower of Babel
- b. The call and promise to Abraham (Approximately 2000 B.C.)
 - 1. Gen. 12:2-3
 - 2. Gen. 15:5-6
 - 3. Gen. 17:3-22
 - 4. Gen. 22:15-18
- c. Jacob (Israel) goes to Egypt, Gen. 47 and Israel lives in Egypt 430 years. Ex. 12:40
- d. Moses and the Exodus 1446 B.C. Traditional date
 - 1. The definition and commission of the people of God. Ex. 19:3-6
 - 2. Ten commandments. Ex. 20
 - 3. An eleven-day trip in forty years. Dt. 1:2-3
- e. Joshua and the promised land. Josh. 1:3-4
- f. From Joshua to the Monarchy – 300 years. Judges 11:26
 - 1. Judges. Judges 2:16. Like Othniel, Ehud, Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech, Samson.
 - 2. In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit. Jg. 21:25
 - 3. Samuel
- g. Israel wanted a king. I Sam. 8-12
 - 1. God was not pleased. I Sam. 8:7; 10:18-19
 - 2. Asking for a king was an evil thing. I Sam. 12:17
- h. First king – Saul – pathetic. I Sam. 13
- i. David anointed king over Judah. 2 Sam. 2:4, and king over Israel. 2 Sam. 5:3. (around 1000 B.C.)

B. From David to the Exile to Babylon

- a. David experienced substantial trauma in his lifetime as king.
- b. Solomon, David's son, after a good start fails pathetically. I Kings 11
- c. The kingdom divides after Solomon - Israel and Judah. I Kings 12.
- d. Israel deteriorates and falls to Assyria. (722 B.C.) 2 Kings 15:29; 17:6
- e. Judah falls to the Babylonians in three stages:

1. 605 B.C. Daniel deported. Dan. 1:1
 2. 597 B.C. Ezekiel deported. Ez. 1:1-3
 3. 586 B.C. Jerusalem destroyed. Ez. 33:21
- f. 390 years of sin, Ez. 4:5, stretches from around David/Solomon's rule to exile to Babylon.
- g. Why were Israel/Judah exiled? They were rebellious, obstinate, and stubborn. Ez. 2:3-7

C. From the Exile to the Christ

- a. Israel, the northern kingdom, sometimes referred to as Samaria, did not return from exile. The Assyrians introduced settlers from Babylonia and Syria. These persons brought their idols with them, so the later Samaritans were a mixture of Israelite (some remained) and foreign elements, and they were despised by the Judeans. 2 Kings 17:24f.
- b. Judah was to be in Babylon 70 years. Jer. 25:12; Dan. 9:2
- c. The remarkable prophecy to Daniel of the four kingdoms until the Messiah/the Christ. Dan. 2, 7, 8:20-25
 1. Babylon – Dan. 2:32, 37-38. 626 B.C. – 539 B.C.
 2. Medo-Persia – Dan. 2:32, 39 539 B.C. – 330 B.C.
 3. Greece – Dan. 2:32, 39 330 B.C. – 63 B.C.
 4. Rome – Dan. 2:33, 40 63 B.C. –
- d. Something was going to take place more amazing than the ending of the 70 years of desolation of Jerusalem – 70 weeks (of years) are decreed.
 1. to finish transgression. Dan. 9:24
 2. to put an end to sin. Dan. 9:24
 3. to atone for wickedness. Dan. 9:24
 4. to bring in everlasting righteousness. Dan. 9:24
 5. From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One (the Christ)... Dan. 9:25. Persian King Artaxerxes in 457 B.C. gave the Jews full autonomy and provided for the building of the walls and gates of Jerusalem.
 - (a) The first seven weeks of years, 49 years, Dan. 9:25, concerned the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, the period of rebuilding during the years between 457 B.C. and 408 B.C. (*Daniel*, Desmond Ford, Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, 1978.)
 - (b) 434 more years (62 x 7, + 49) equals 483 years, which extends to 27 A.D., when Jesus reached age 30 and was anointed by the Spirit!
 - (c) There is no climactic event at the end of the 70 weeks, but it could be pointed out that in AD 34, (the actual close of the 490 years), Stephen was stoned and Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, was called, and Paul was especially responsible for helping God's people understand their identity, be they Jew or Gentile, as being fundamentally rooted in faith in Jesus Christ. (Ford, p.235).
- e. The promise of a Messiah

1. To us a child is born, a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders... of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. Is. 9:6-7
 2. Is. 11:1-13
 3. Is. 42: 1-9. He will not be discouraged till He establishes justice on earth. 42:4
 4. Dan. 2:44 – In the time of those kings, (during the Roman Empire rule) the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will itself endure forever.
 - a. The head of the statue is Babylon. Dan. 2:37
 - b. The chest of the statue is Medo-Persia. Dan. 8:20; 5:30-31; 2:39.
 - c. The belly and thighs represent Greece. Dan. 2:39; 8:21
 - d. The legs and feet represent the Roman Empire. Dan. 2:40-44
- f. The promise of a new covenant. Jer. 31:33-34
1. God will put His law in their minds. 31:33
 2. God will write His law on their hearts. 31:33
 3. God will be their God, and they will be His people. 31:33
 4. Knowing God will come because of the experience of having wickedness forgiven and sins remembered no more. 31:34. Knowing God will not come from external efforts of others teaching about God. God will work internally. 31:34
- g. The promise of being given the Spirit and being brought back to the land.
1. Ezekiel 11
 - (a) I will give you back the land of Israel again. Ez. 11:17
 - (b) They will remove all detestable idols. 11:18
 - (c) God will give them an undivided heart. 11:19
 - (d) God will put a new spirit within them. 11:19
 - (e) God will remove their heart of stone. 11:19
 - (f) God will give them a heart of flesh. 11:19
 - (g) They will keep My laws carefully. 11:20
 - (h) They will be My people and I will be their God. 11:20
 2. Ezekiel 36:24f.
 - (a) I will bring them back into their own land. Ez. 36:24
 - (b) I will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean. 36:25
 - (c) I will cleanse you from all your impurities. 36:25
 - (d) I will give you a new heart. 36:26
 - (e) I will put a new spirit in you. 36:26
 - (f) I will remove from you your heart of stone. 36:26
 - (g) I will give you a heart of flesh. 36:26
 - (h) I will put My Spirit in you. 36:27
 - (i) You will be My people, and I will be your God. 36:28

- (j) On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns! 36:33
- 3. Ezekiel 37:21f.
 - (a) I will bring them back into their own land. Ez. 37:21
 - (b) There will be one king over them. 37:22
 - (c) I will save them... 37:23
 - (d) I will cleanse them. 37:23
 - (e) They will be My people, and I will be their God. 37:23
 - (f) My servant David will be king over them. 37:24
 - (g) They will carefully follow My laws. 37:24
 - (h) David My servant will be their prince forever. 37:25
 - (i) I will put My sanctuary among them forever. 37:26
 - (j) My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be My people. 37:27

D. Implications for Ministry

- a. God is the King of the people of God. (From section A)
- b. We are to be the opposite of rebellious, obstinate, and stubborn. (From section B)
- c. Christ is the hinge of history. (From section C)
 - 1. The King has come; Jesus and His kingdom has been inaugurated. Dan. 2:44
 - 2. Jesus is establishing justice. Is. 42:4
 - 3. The work of the Spirit is assisting/going ahead of our life and Witness. Jer. 31:33-34
 - 4. The Spirit in us desires us to carefully follow God's ways. Ez. 37:21