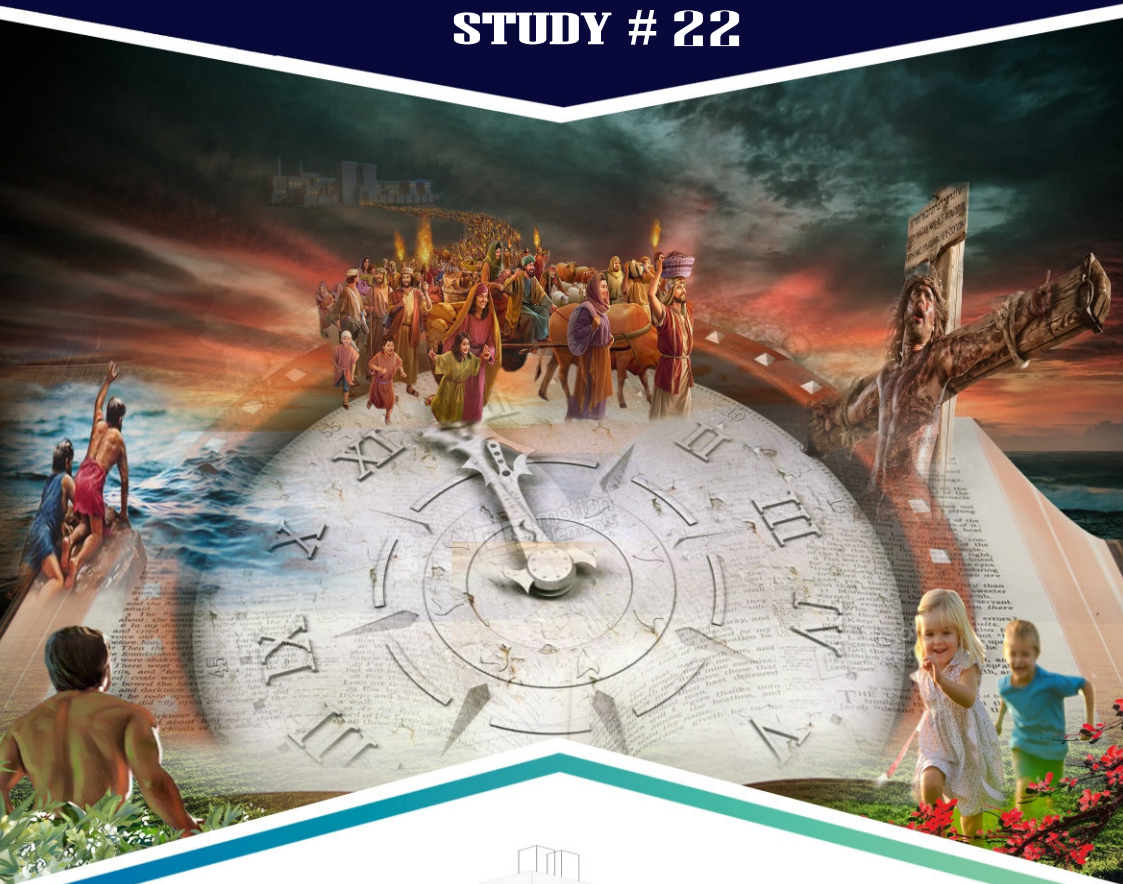


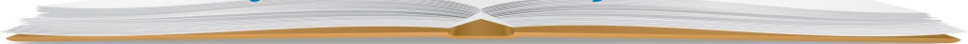
The study of Bible Chronology

STUDY # 22



**THE GREAT TRUTHS OF
THE BIBLE**

"Thy word is truth" ...John 17:17



THE GREAT TRUTHS OF THE BIBLE

STUDY : # 22

THE STUDY OF BIBLE CHRONOLOGY

PLEASE NOTE: Kindly refer to your Bibles for every scripture reference and read thoroughly.

MOST SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ARE QUOTED FROM THE AUTHORISED KING JAMES VERSION (KJV)

Today we will take up the study of Bible Chronology.

 What is meant by "chronology" ?

The word chronology is made up of two parts -
"chronos" and....."logos".

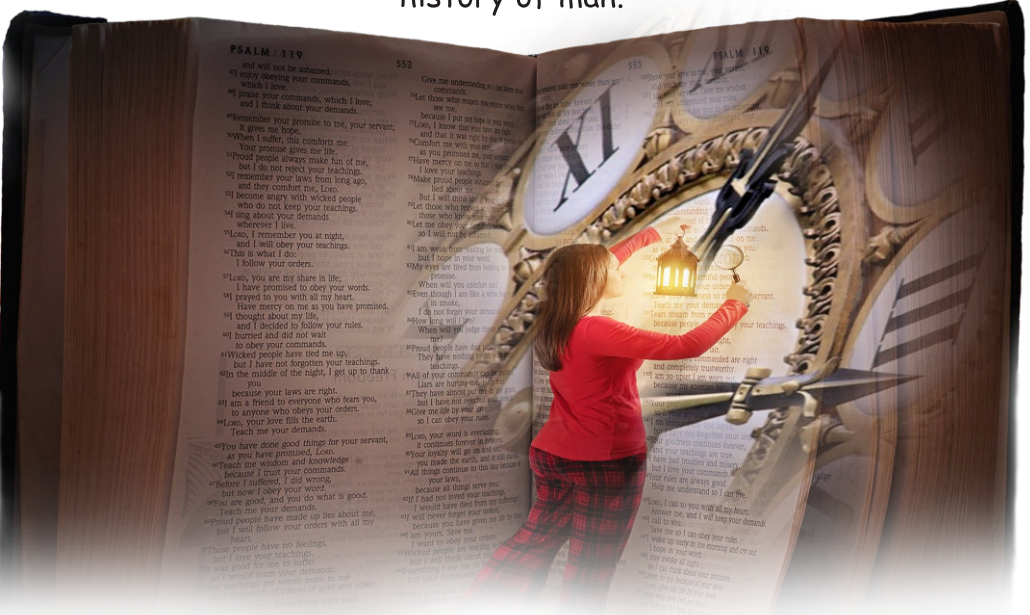
 **CHRONOS** - means time.

THE TECHNICAL NAME FOR A WATCH IS CHRONOMETER
.....THAT WHICH MEASURES TIME.

 And **LOGOS** - means study.

THUS CHRONOLOGY MEANS.....THE STUDY OF TIME.

Bible chronology is the BIBLICAL study of time in the history of man.



We know clearly that we are now 2000 plus years in the calculation of the period called **A.D.**



In the period called **B.C.** (before Christ) how many years has it been since the creation of Adam ?



How **MANY** years has it been for the history of man upon the earth ?

Scientists speak of it varyingly. Some say.....hundreds of thousands (lakhs) of years while others say.....tens of thousands of years !!



But what is the **REAL** figure ?

DOES THE BIBLE REVEAL THIS TOO ?

Yes! While "searching" in the Book of the Lord in the divine principle of "here a little and there a little" we find the

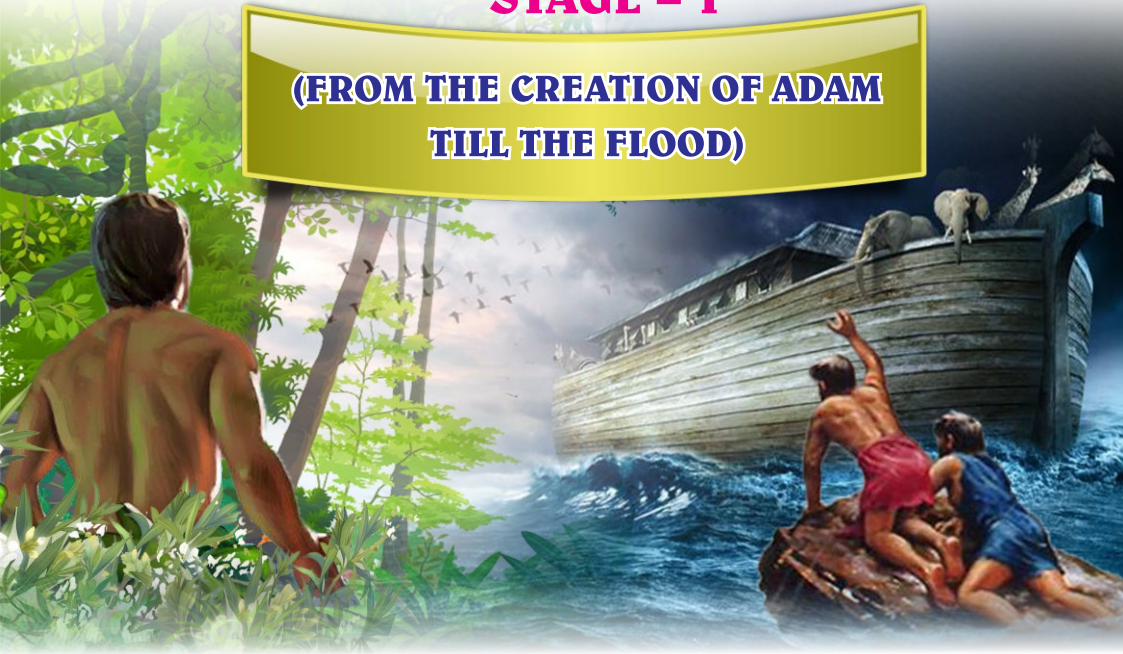
3

answer spread over 7 **STAGES AND 50 LINKS** (verses).

Let us now begin the study of Bible chronology in -

STAGE – 1

**(FROM THE CREATION OF ADAM
TILL THE FLOOD)**



This is the period of **THE FIRST WORLD** in God's Divine Plan. The exact period of time of this period is supplied to us by God in a peculiar chapter of Genesis in Chapter 5.

Many have wondered at the details of this chapter in genealogy and some have even thought this chapter to be **ENTIRELY UNNECESSARY !!**

But if this chapter was **NOT** there in the Bible then we would **NEVER** have known how long a period was the First World !



Yes We would **NEVER** have known how long was the period from the creation of Adam to the Flood.

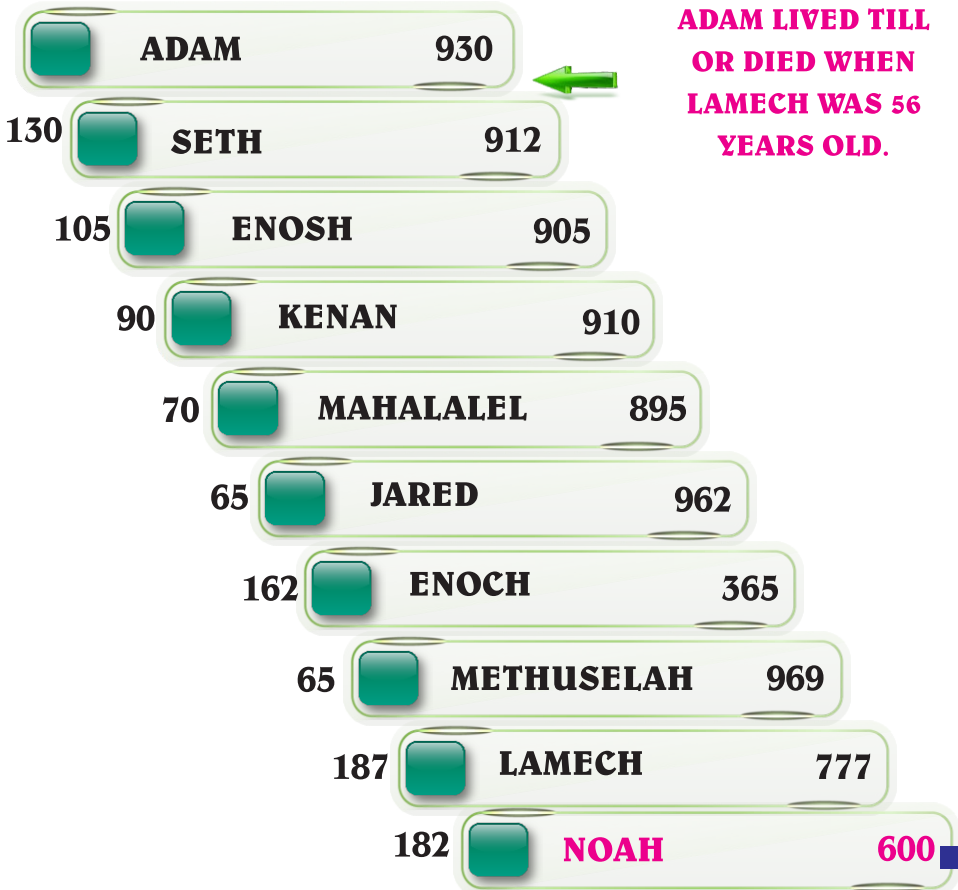
NOW HOW DO WE GO ABOUT THE CALCULATIONS ?

Do we take the **AGES** of the 10 persons mentioned in the line of Adam starting from Seth ?

If we do so we will get a huge figure and besides we would be double and triple and multiple counting the **same** periods of time in which their lifetimes overlapped while living in the **SAME** period of time !



REFER BELOW THE CHART



5

For example when Adam was 325 years old his **great grandson** Kenan was born.

But in these 325 years of his, he was living along with his son Seth for **195 years** and with his grandson Enosh for **90 years**.

Thus these 3 people's lives overlapped each other at certain periods of time.

So for an actual period of 325 years if we add up **ALL** the three persons ages we would get -

 **325 (Adam) + 195 (Seth) + 90 (Enosh)**

This would be equal to **610 YEARS !**

But the **ACTUAL** period of running time was only **325 years !**

THE SAME WILL BE THE CASE of adding the ages of all the 10 persons of the ten generations from Adam to Noah !

 **Then what do we do ?**

We need to **ADD ONLY** the number of years (or **AGE**) of each person **TILL** the birth of his **FIRST BORN!** Thus we will have a chain of links of **NINE** generations **till the birth of Noah.**

THEN we must add to this figure the **AGE** of Noah when the flood began and we will have the number of years from Adam's creation till the day the Flood began !

Yes ! **AS SIMPLE** as that !

Thus the calculation is -

SCRIPTURE VERSE**AGE****FIRST BORN SON**

Genesis 5:3 - (Adam)

130

Seth

Genesis 5:6 - (Seth)

105

Enosh

Genesis 5:9 - (Enosh)

90

Kenan

Genesis 5:12 - (Kenan)

70

Mahaladel

Genesis 5:15 - (Mahaladel)

65

Jared

Genesis 5:18 - (Jared)

162

Enoch

Genesis 5:21 - (Enoch)

65

Methuselah

Genesis 5:25 - (Methuselah)

187

Lamech

Genesis 5:28 - (Lamech)

182

Noah

Genesis 7:11 - (Noah)

600+

(AGE AT FLOOD)

TOTAL**1656**

**THE PERIOD OF THE FIRST WORLD IS
1656 YEARS**

STAGE – 2

(FROM THE FLOOD TILL THE
PROMISE)



This is the period that begins the **DAY** the flood began and goes on till “**the promise**”.



WHICH “promise” is being referred to over here ?

Is it the promise called the “**Abrahamic promise**” made by God to Abraham on Mount Moriah when he was about to sacrifice Isaac ?



The answer is.....NO !

The “promise” referred to here is the **EARLIER PROMISE** God made to “**Abram**” when he was still in Ur of the Chaldeans.

We read of it in-

Genesis 12:1-3

“.....I will make of thee a great nation ,and I will bless thee ,and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”

YES ! THIS IS THAT PROMISE !

This was the promise made to Abram asking him to “leave his country and.....his kindred and.....his father's house” to receive a great PROMISED BLESSING if he did so.

Thus when Abram departed from that land “as the Lord had spoken”

THAT was the DATE of the promise.

The details of this we read in -

Genesis 12:4

“So Abraham departed.....and Abraham was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.”

HE WAS SEVENTY FIVE YEARS OLD THEN.

It was also just after his father Terah had died as we read in another place in -

Acts 7:4

“Then came he out of the land of the Chaldeans ,and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.”

So this stage is calculated till the death of Terah, which was when Abraham took hold of the promise by leaving his land and people.

Thus the calculations for this stage of Bible Chronology are found in the 11th chapter of *Genesis* as follows -

SCRIPTURE VERSE	AGE	FIRST BORN SON
Genesis 11:10 - (after Flood began)	2	Arphaxad
Genesis 11:12 - (Arphaxad)	35	Shelah
Genesis 11:14 - (Shelah)	30	Eber
Genesis 11:16 - (Eber)	34	Peleg
Genesis 11:18 - (Peleg)	30	Reu
Genesis 11:20 - (Reu)	32	Serug
Genesis 11:22 - (Serug)	30	Nahor
Genesis 11:24 - (Nahor)	29	Terah
Genesis 11:32 - (Terah)	205+	(AGE AT DEATH)
TOTAL	427	

**THE PERIOD FROM THE FLOOD TILL
THE PROMISE IS 427 YEARS**

STAGE – 3

**(FROM THE PROMISE TILL THE
GIVING OF THE LAW)**



This period or stage **begins** where the last stage ended- Abram leaving his father's country at his father's death and goes on till the giving of the Law.

**NOTICE THERE IS NO BREAK IN THE CHAIN LINKS
OF THE STAGES !**



When was the law given ?

Many will think it is Mount Sinai where Moses received the 10 commandments.

But that is NOT so!

This refers to the giving of **the FIRST law** which was on the last night **BEFORE** the Israelites left Rameses in Egypt.

We see and read about this in-

Exodus 12:41-43

“And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations. And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron , This is the ordinance of the Passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:”



DID YOU SEE THAT !

It was the “ordinance of the Passover” or..... THE LAW OF THE PASSOVER.

Yes! This was the FIRST LAW God gave to Israel !

This was the GIVING of the law from God !

Now how long was this period of time ?

We see the answer to this in the NEW TESTAMENT in -

Galatians 3:17

“...The law which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.”

This speaks **CLEARLY** of the period between the promise and the law to be.....430 YEARS.

But there is **ANOTHER WAY** of getting this figure of calculation.

We read about this in-

Exodus 12:40

“Now the sojourning of the children of Israel ,who dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years”



HOW COULD THIS BE ?

When Jacob came into Egypt there were **SEVENTY** members in all (**Genesis 46:2**) and in just **THREE** generations -

(**Levi - Kohath - Amram - Moses - 1 CHRONICLES 6:1-3**)

.....How could this period be 430 years ?

To understand this verse, we must carefully notice that 430 years was not a duration in which they dwelt in Egypt but rather it included it.

“Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt,(was) four hundred and thirty years” (Strong’s Literal O.T.)

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and their sons though within the land of Canaan lived and sojourned as nomads from place to place.

And so 430 years begins from the year Abraham came to Canaan.

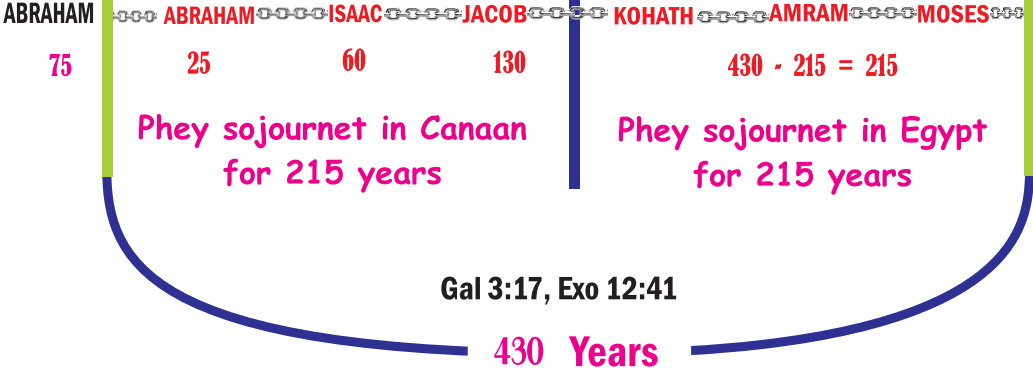
Additionally, just as Levi paid tithes while still in the loins of Abraham, the children of Israel wandered before possessing their promised land even while in Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for 430 years.(**Hebrews 7:9,10**)

Though unborn, Israel as a nation was promised of their own land while in the loins of Abraham, and hence wandered as pilgrims waiting to have the promise fulfilled.

departure
from Egypt

Gen 12:1,2,4,5,7

Gal 3:17
Exo12:41 3:17



This 430 years ends with the living of the passover law.

THUS FROM THE PROMISE TILL THE GIVING OF THE LAW IS A PERIOD OF 430

STAGE - 4

(FROM THE GIVING OF THE LAW TILL THE DIVISION OF THE LAND)

This is a period of time beginning EXACTLY where the last stage ENDED !

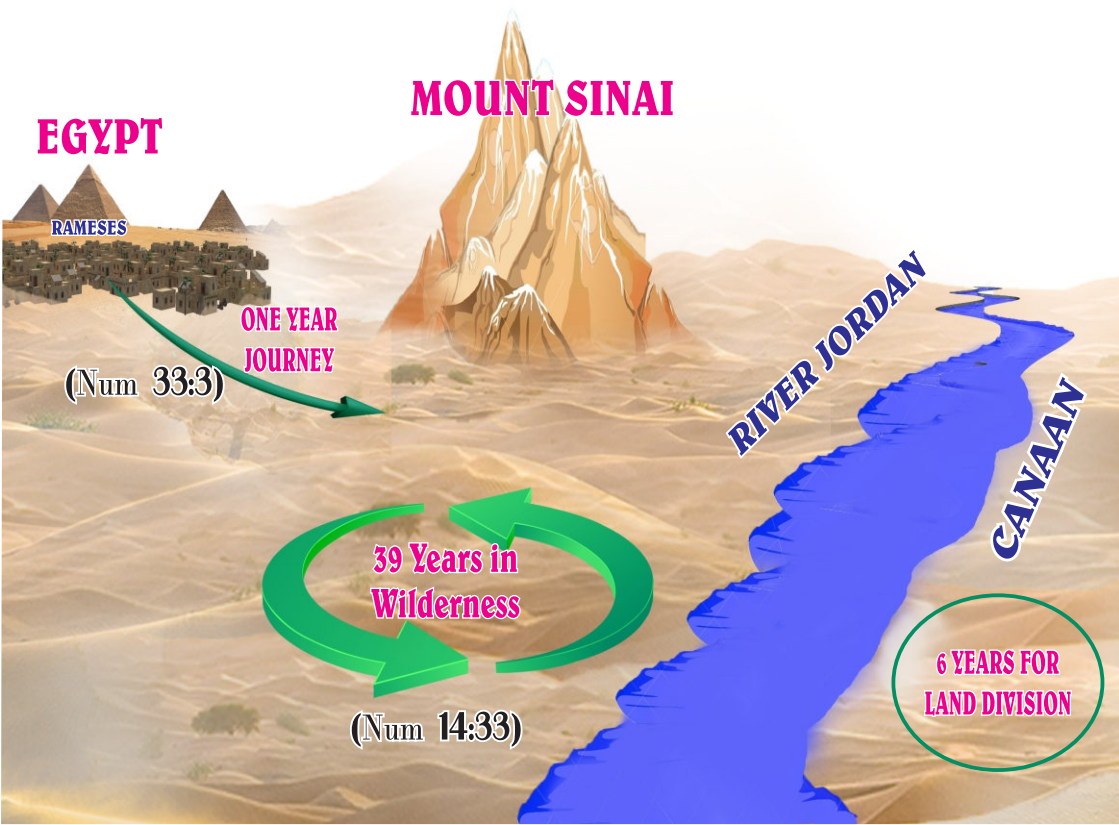


WHAT PRECISION OF GOD !

And this stage covers the period from the last night in Egypt, when the **PASSOVER** law was observed till the completion of the division of the land in Canaan among the **11** tribes.

(THE TRIBE OF LEVI WAS NOT GIVEN A SHARE IN THE LAND
- THUS IT WAS THAT HE RECEIVED 1/10th (**TITHE**) FROM
THE OTHERS- **Numbers 18:26**)

There are **THREE** steps for this calculation as
hereunder illustrated -



VERSES

DESCRIPTION

PERIOD

Numbers
33 : 3

“and they departed from rameses in the first month on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.”

Numbers
10 : 11-13

“And it came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year, that the cloud was taken up from off the tabernacle of the testimony and the children of Israel took their journeys out of the wilderness of Sinai; and the cloud rested in the wilderness of Paran.And they first took their journey according to the commandment of the Lord by the hand of Moses.”

These scriptures clearly show the **TIME** taken for the journey from Egypt to Mount Sinai

1 Year

+

Numbers
14 : 33

“And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness”

This scripture refers to the period of punishment received-40 yrs. Having **ALREADY** been in the wilderness for 1 year this period was...

39 Years

Joshua
14 : 7

“Forty years old was I when Moses the servant

+

Joshua
14 : 10

of the Lord sent me from Kadesh - bar'nea to
espY out the land; and I brought him word
again as it was in mine heart.....”

“And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me
alive, as he said, these forty and five years,
even since the LORD spake this word unto
Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in
the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day
fourscore and five years old.”

6
Years

Here **CALEB** speaks of the **DIFFERENCE** in
years since he and **ELEVEN** others went to
spy and explore the land of Canaan (Num
13:6) and the division of the land



IT WAS A PERIOD OF 45 YEARS

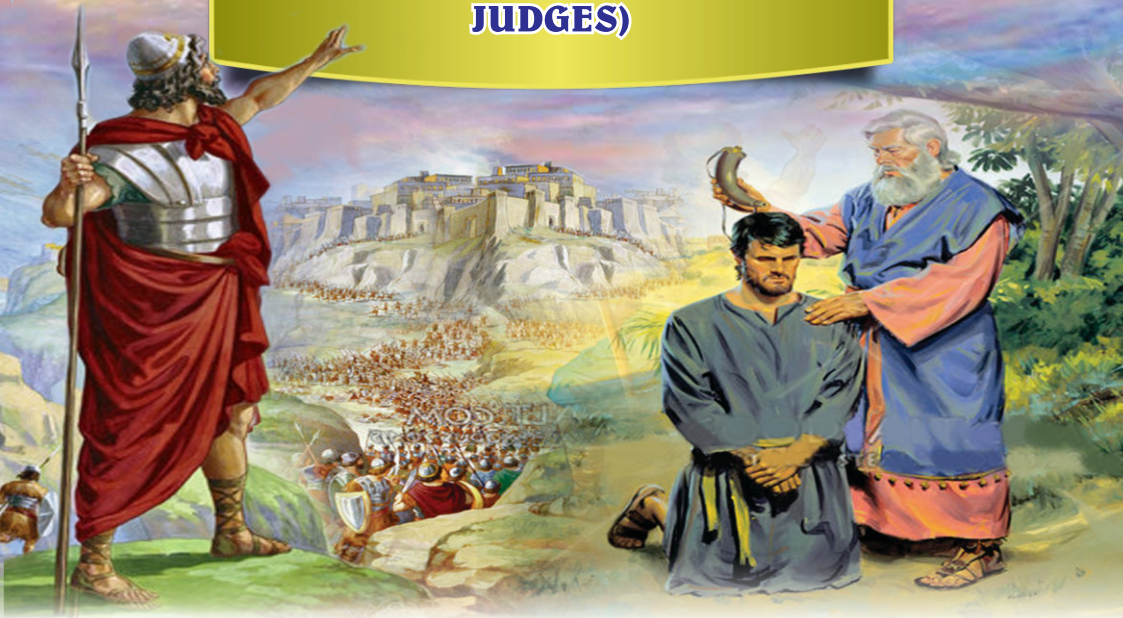
These 45 years **began from** when Israel was
at Mount Sinai.

Thus the period for the “**division of
the land**” is calculated as 45-39

Thus this period was a total of

46
Years

**THE PERIOD FROM THE GIVING OF THE
LAW TILL THE DIVISION OF THE LAND
IS 46 YEARS**

STAGE - 5**(THE PERIOD OF THE
JUDGES)**

This is the period that comes **BETWEEN** the completion of the division of the land and runs until the anointing of the first King of Israel - Saul !

**During this period of time God gave to Israel -
THE JUDGES !**

The first judge was **JOSHUA** (Numbers 27:22,23)

These judges were leaders to lead Israel.

The last of these was.....**SAMUEL THE PROPHET.**



How long was the period of these judges ?

This information is **NOT** found in the Old Testament but is supplied by God Himself through the Holy Spirit in the

New Testament by the mouth of the Apostle Paul in -

Acts 13:20

“.....And after that He gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years until Samuel the prophet.”



Please note the words - “after that”.

WHAT DOES IT SIGNIFY ?

It confirms to us that the **CALCULATION** of this period **BEGINS** only **AFTER** the “division of the land” as is confirmed in the previous verse wherein we read -

Acts 13:19

“And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he divided their land to them by lot.”

THERE IT IS !! IT IS VERY CLEAR !

How long is this period of the judges shown to be ?

Yes! The period is shown as.....- **450 YEARS**

The words- “.....about the space of...”

-seems to give the idea of **AN APPROXIMATE** calculation and **NOT** the accurate period of the judges!



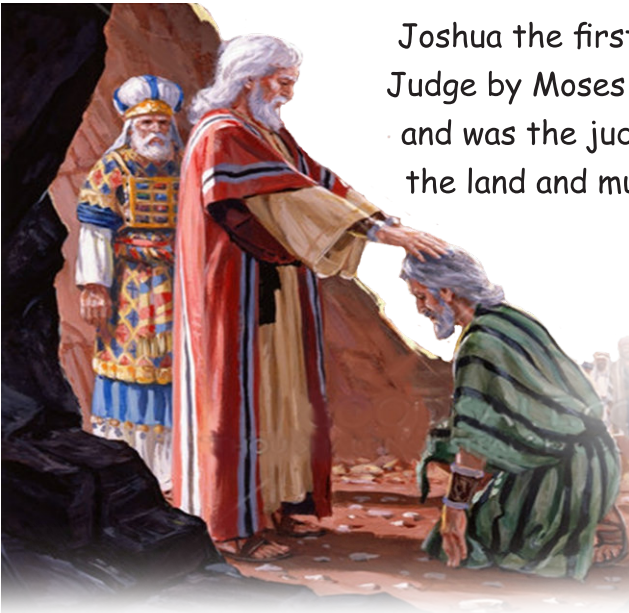
WHY IS THIS ?

A close examination of the matter will reveal that this period of 450 years supplied by God is **NOT REALLY** the **EXACT**



WHY ? HOW DOES ONE SAY THIS ?

Because on **both** sides of.....**THE BEGINNING** and.....**THE ENDING** of this Judges period there are **OVERLAPPINGS** with the previous and next stages in Bible chronology !!

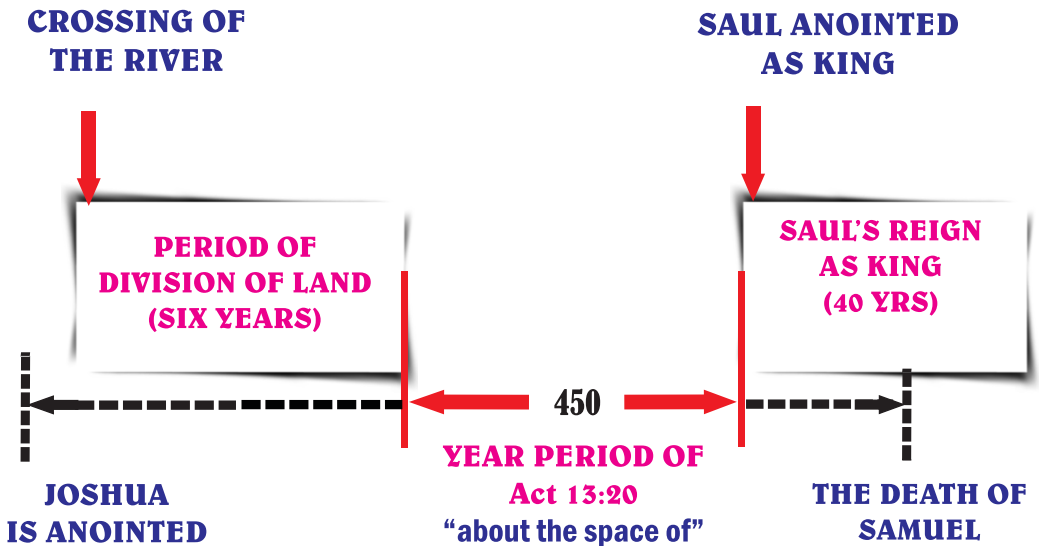


Joshua the first judge was anointed as a Judge by Moses **BEFORE** entering Canaan and was the judge during the division of the land and much after this **MOMENT** when Caleb spoke those words as seen in **Joshua 14:10**.

Besides, **SAMUEL**, **THE LAST JUDGE** continued his office till his death,


.....**AFTER** Saul had began his reign as King of Israel.

So the period of the Judges is as shown below-



THIS DOTTED LINE SIGNIFIES THE FULL PERIOD OF THE JUDGES.

Thus it is that God gives the time period "after that" (Acts 13:20) - that is **AFTER** the division of the land, till **THE PORTION** of Samuel's judgeship **BEFORE** Saul's reign begins, or until **THE DAY** of the anointing of Saul as King.

 This is the period of time **REQUIRED** for the **FIFTH** stage of Bible chronology calculations. But as we have just seen, it is **NOT** the **ACCURATE** period of the Judges **which is much longer in length** and has overlapping periods of time at its **BEGINNING** and **END**.

Thus God **very correctly and fittingly** uses the words- "about the space of" ! (**SIGNIFYING THE ADJUSTMENT HE HAD MADE**)For he cuts off the **OVERLAPPING** periods and gives as the **EXACT** period of calculation we **ACTUALLY NEED** !!

THE PERIOD OF THE JUDGES AS REQUIRED BY BIBLE CHRONOLOGY IS 450 YEARS

STAGE - 6

(THE PERIOD OF THE KINGS)

This is the period of the Kings beginning with the first King - **KING SAUL** UNTIL THE FALL of the last King of Judah - **KING ZEDEKIAH**.



Let us now see the order of the Kings and their periods of reign as hereunder -

VERSES	KING'S NAME	RULING PERIOD
Acts 13:21	SAUL	40 Years
1 Chronicles 29:27	DAVID	40 Years
1 Chronicles 9:30	SOLOMON	40 Years

Yes ! After King Solomon's death **ISRAEL** was divided into **TWO** nations -



ISRAEL (10 tribes) and.... **JUDAH** (2 tribes)

For the rest of this chronology we will be following the **LINE** of the Kings of Judah upon whom the favour of God rested, for out of Judah would come the Messiah- "**SHILOH**" (**Genesis 49:10**).

Hereunder is a list of the Kings of Judah beginning with Solomon's son **REHOBOAM** and their **PERIODS** of reign.

VERSES	KING'S NAME	RULING PERIOD
2 Chronicles 12:13	REHOBOAM	17 Years
2 Chronicles 13:2	ABIJAH	3 Years
2 Chronicles 16:13	ASA	41 Years

1 KING 22:42	JEHOSHAPHAT	25 Years
2 KING 8:17	JEHORAM	8 Years
2 KING 8:26	AHAZIAH	1 Years
2 KING 11:3	ATHALIAH	6 Years
2 KING 12:1	JOASH	40 Years
2 KING 14:2	AMAZIAH	29 Years
2 KING 15:2	AZARIAH	52 Years
2 KING 15:33	JOTHAM	16 Years
2 KING 16:2	AHAZ	16 Years
2 KING 18:2	HEZEKIAH	29 Years
2 KING 21:1	MANNASSEH	55 Years
2 KING 21:19	AMON	2 Years
2 KING 22:1	JOSIAH	31 Years
2 KING 23:31	JEHOAHAZ	1/4 Yr.(3 Months)
2 KING 23:36	JEHOIAKIM	11 Years
2 KING 24:8	JEHOIAKIN	1/4 Yr.(3 Months)
2 KING 24:18	JEDEKIAH	11 Years

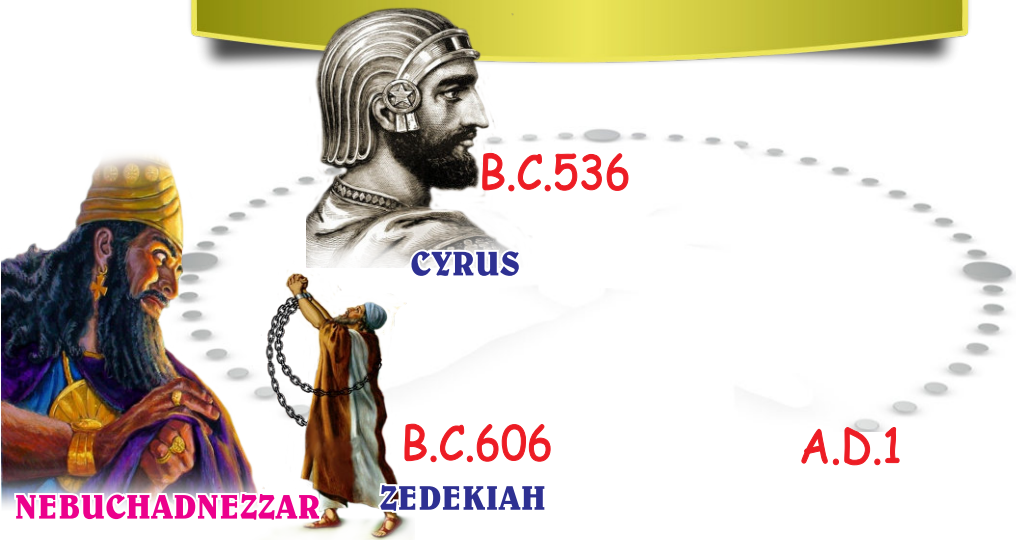
Thus this period of the Kings = 513 Years

Please Note : The extra 6 months or fraction of a year is
NOT CONSIDERED.

THE PERIOD OF THE KINGS IS 513 YEARS

STAGE - 7

**(FROM END OF THE KINGS
PERIOD TILL THE YEAR 1 A.D.)**



This last period begins with the **FALL** of the last king of Judah -King Zekeiah and takes us right to the year 1 A.D.

Let us now see this **LAST** stage of Biblical Chronology as we read of the happenings after the FALL of **THE LAST KING OF JUDAH** King Zekeiah in-

2 Chronicles 36:20,21

“And them that had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon..... to fulfill the word of the Lord.....for as long as.....three score and ten years.”

YES ! THE CAPTIVITY OF THE ISRAELITES IN BABYLON WAS A PERIOD OF 70 YEARS.

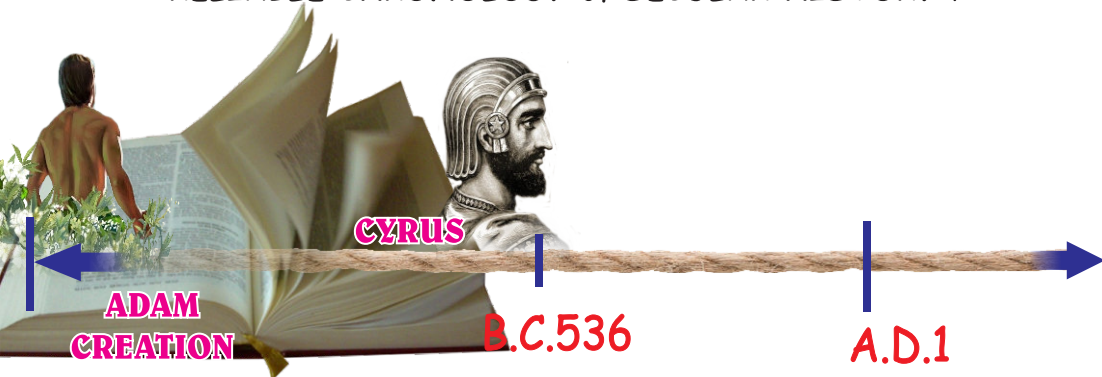
Then during the **FIRST** year of the reign of the King of Persia - **KING CYRUS** the people were set free !

Refer 2 Chronicles 36:22,23

“now in the first year of Cyrus King of Persia..... the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus King of Persia, that he made a proclamation.....saying.... who is there among you of all His people ? The Lord be with him, and let him go up”.


This date of the first year of King Cyrus **IS WELL KNOWN AND RECORDED** and documented in **SECULAR** history as the year 536 B.C.

Yes ! God takes us by the hand and leads us by **HIS WORD** until we reach **SURE** and **KNOWN** territory of the **RELIABLE CHRONOLOGY** of **SECULAR HISTORY** !



This is much like how one would guide and accompany and show the way to a person asking for directions to a particular place until that person reaches **FAMILIAR** territory and the person would be able to find the WAY by Himself !

Yes ! God too has done the **SAME** for us today !



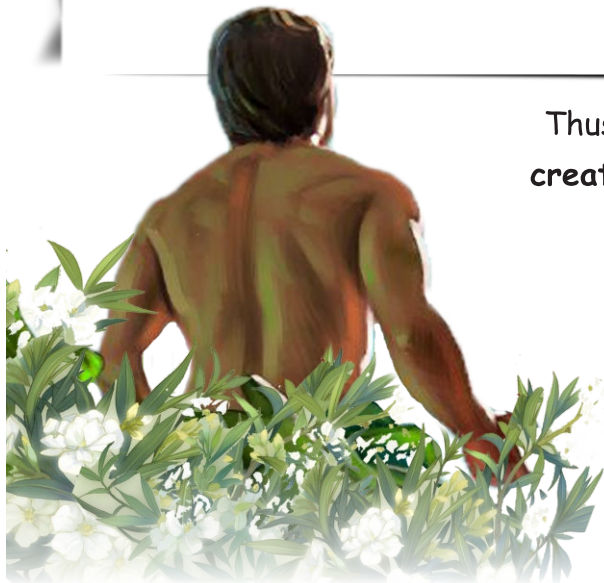
**THUS THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR THIS LAST
STAGE OF BIBLE CHRONOLOGY TILL
1 A.D. IS $70 + 536 = 606$ YEARS**

Finally THE TOTAL NUMBER OF YEARS from Adam's creation till 1st January 1 A.D. is as hereunder -

**$1656 + 427 + 430 + 46 + 450 + 513 + 606 = 4128$
Years**

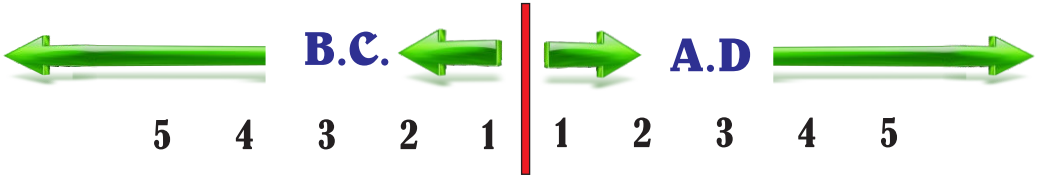
Thus we know that Adam's creation was in THE EXACT
YEAR 4128 B.C. !

Another point to note is that after December 31st, 1 B.C. or the last year of the period B.C. the



NEXT day is January 1st, 1 A.D.

There is no "ZERO" year separating the two periods of B.C. and A.D. as illustrated hereunder -



Thus from "the Book of the Lord" -the BIBLE we have found through an unbroken chain of 50 links and verses the period of time that elapsed from Adam's creation till 1 A.D.

Yes! GOD HAS HIMSELF SHOWN US THE ACCURATE CHRONOLOGY FROM HIS WORD as He has promised in

Isaiah 34:16

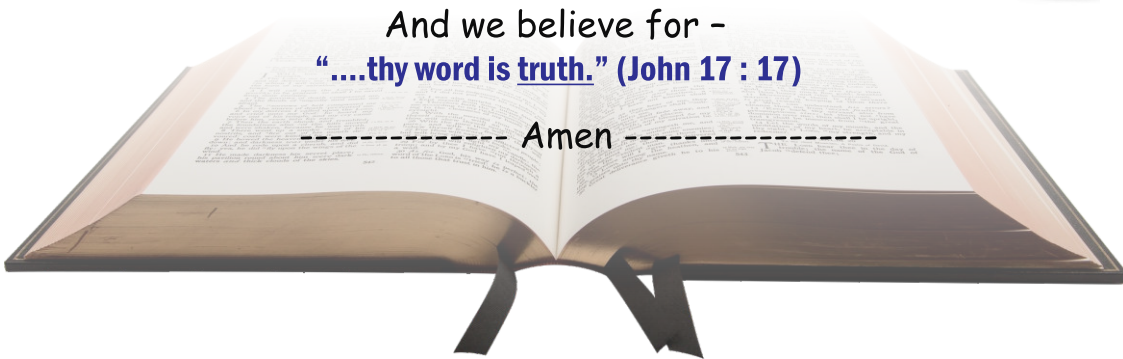
"...No one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded and his spirit it hath gathered them."

**YES! THE WORD HAS REVEALED TO US TODAY THE
CALCULATION
OF GOD'S GREAT "time clock" FOR MAN**

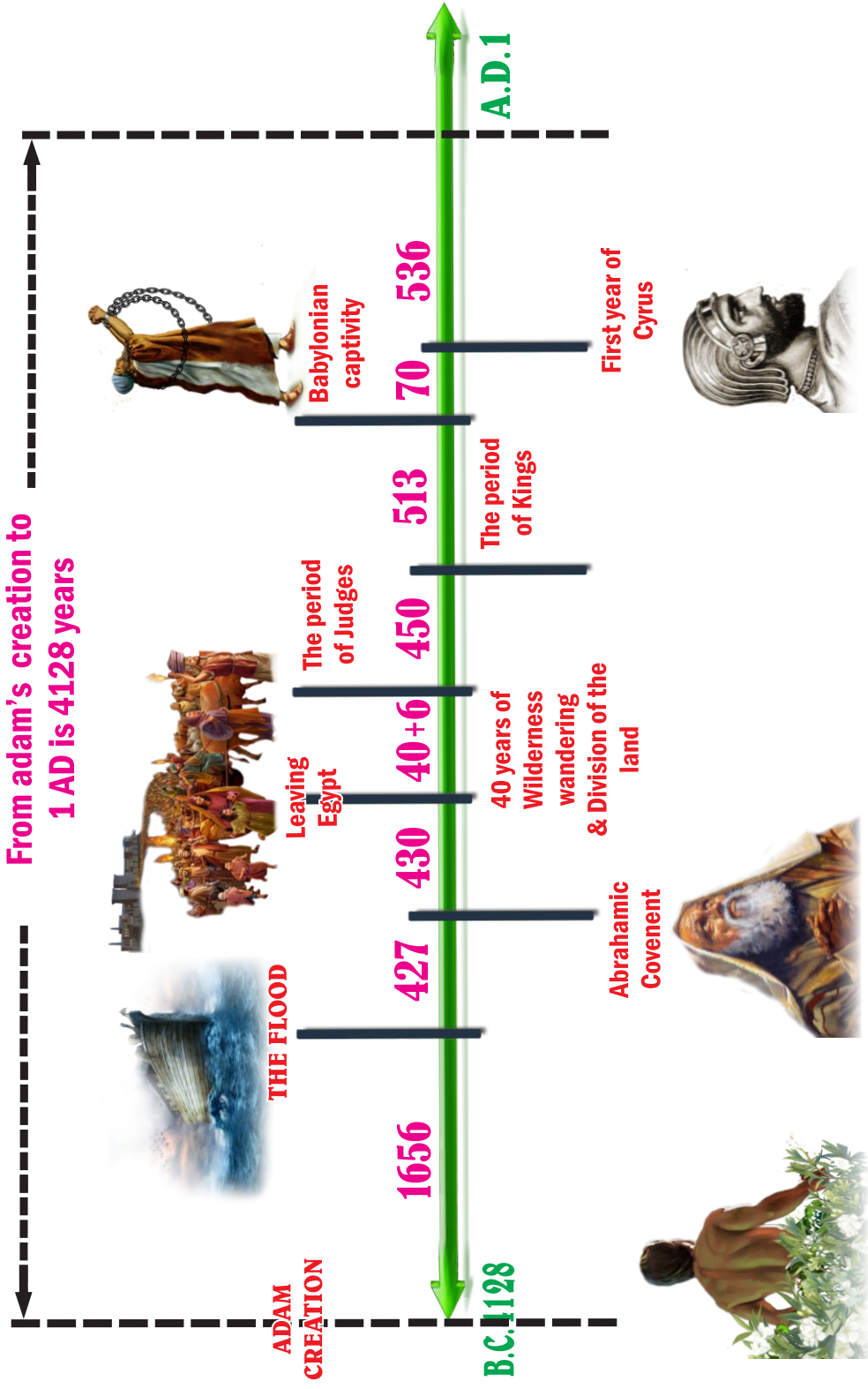
And we believe for -

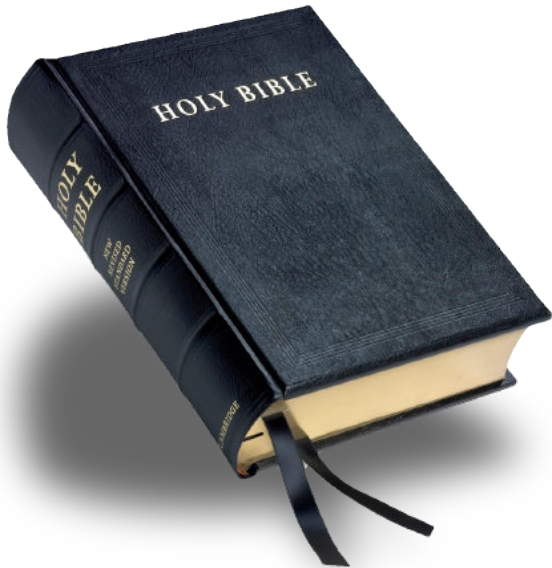
"...thy word is truth." (John 17 : 17)

----- Amen -----



From adam's creation to
1 AD is 4128 years





NOT FOR SALE

For Private Circulation Only