

20-21 Bible Study #1

9/15/20

2020-2021 Introduction and Overview

Review of the New Testament Settings

Outline for Introductory Class

- Administrative Information
 - Holidays
 - Meeting Times
 - Contact Information
 - Class Procedures
 - My Background
 - Long-term Bible Study Plan
 -

Outline for Introductory Class

- Setting the Stage
- Questions
- Review of the Catholic Faith
- Types of Biblical Criticisms
- What a 1st Century Knew
 - Patriarchs
 - Exodus
 - Kingdoms
 - Exile and Return

Outline for Introductory Class (Cont)

- Land of Israel
- Languages
- 1st Century Players
- Religious Authorities
- Old Testament Sources
- Political Groups
- Occupations
- Early Christian Time Line

Administrative Information

- The Bible Study Class will be presented via Zoom every Tuesday morning from **9:30 A.M. until 10:30 A.M.** beginning **September 15, 2020** and ending **May 11, 2021** except for the following Tuesdays related to a holiday:
 - Nov 24, 2020 – Thanksgiving Week
 - Dec 21, 2020 – Christmas Week
 - Dec 29, 2020 - New Year's Week
 - Mar 30, 2021 – Holy Week
- The same class will be given via Zoon every Tuesday evening from **7:30 P.M. until 8:30 P.M.**
- Contact info: email: biblestudy@straymonds.org ; Tel: (703) 644-5873
- Inclement weather decisions will be **based on Fairfax County Public School announcements (once we are back in the classroom)**

Administrative Information (Cont)

- I will automatically forward you a copy of the class charts via e-mail every week
- I will forward prayer requests from the group upon receipt
- Any version of the bible is acceptable – I will use the *RSV Catholic Edition*
- Although we will not follow a specific text, it will be centered around Jeff Cavins' **Great Adventure Bible Timeline Series**

Administrative Information (Cont)

- Overview of this course:
 - We will continue with an overview of the New Testament
 - Please feel free to ask questions during or after the presentation, or via email/phone
- I will attempt to record the AM Zoom class and post it on the Parish Website along with the class charts

Administrative Information (Cont)

- My Long -Term Bible Study Plan
 - Overview of the New Testament (2020-2021)
 - The Synoptic Gospels
 - Acts of the Apostles and the Letters of Paul
 - The Corpus of John (Gospel of John through Revelation)

Review of 2019 -2020 Bible Study

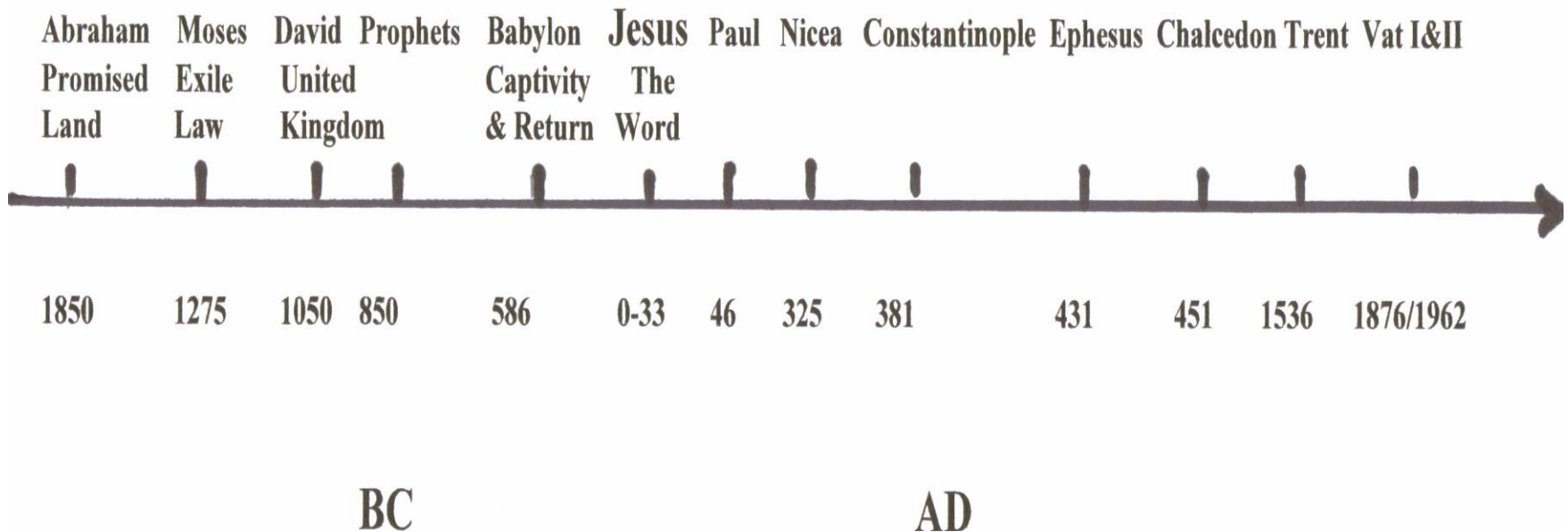
- First ½ of an overview of the New Testament
 - Setting of the 1st Century
 - A look at Synoptic
 - A look at the Gospel of Matthew

The Initial Question

- A fundamental option:
 - Is there a God?
 - Yes
 - No

God's Divine Plan

God's Divine Plan of Salvation History – (*Economea*)



The Explosion of Christianity

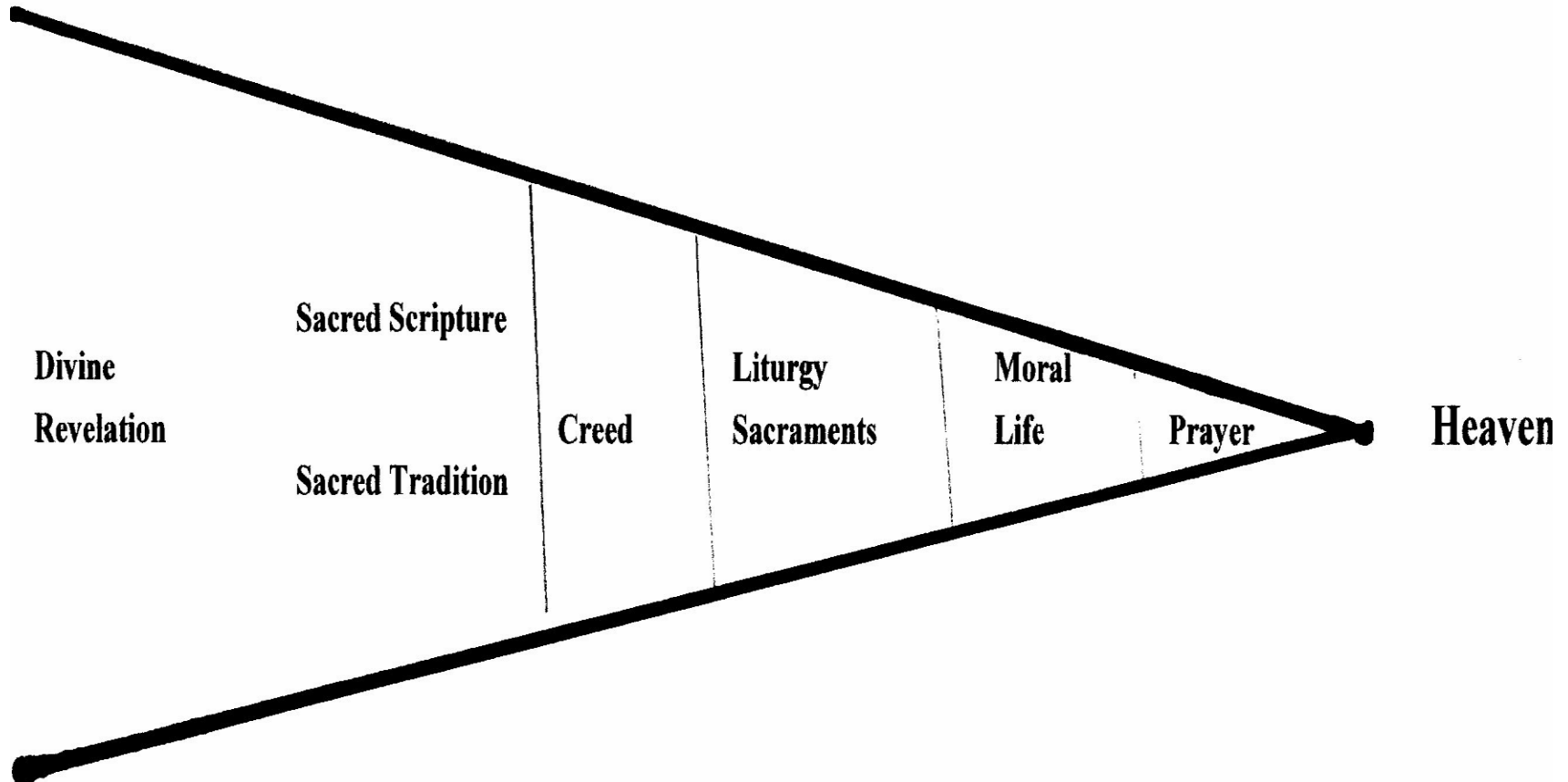
- 12 Apostles
 - Grew to over
- 2.2 Billion Christians
 - In the World by
 - 2010

Review of the Catholic Faith

- What does a 21st Century Catholic profess to believe?
 - Deposit of Faith
 - Nicene Creed
 - Seven Sacraments
 - Moral Theology based on the 10 Commandments
 - Prayer

Transmission of the Revelation

The Transmission of the Divine Revelation within the Church



Why Bible Study?

- Why should anyone read/study or meditate on the Bible ?
- To encounter Jesus, the “Christ,” as your personal Lord and savior
- To read the greatest love story ever written

A Few Great Young Scholars

- **Tim Gray**
- **Father Sebastian Carnazzo**
- Brant Pitre
- Edward Sri
- Scott Hahn

Types of Biblical Criticisms (Study)

- **Source criticism** – searches the text for evidence of original sources
- **Textual criticism** – examines the text and its manuscripts to identify what the original text would have said
- **Form criticism** – seeks to classify units of scripture into literary patterns (poems, parables, sayings, elegies, legends) and traces each to its period of oral transmission (JEPD)
- **Literary criticism** – focuses on the literature's structure, authorial purpose, and reader's response to the text

Types of Biblical Criticisms (Study) (Cont)

- **Historical criticism** – (also known as the historical-critical method or higher criticism) is a branch of literary criticism that investigates the origins of ancient texts in order to understand "the world behind the text"¹
 - **Jesus Seminar** – a group of about 50 critical biblical scholars and 100 laymen founded in 1985 who were active through the 1980s and 1990s and into the early 21st century. The **Seminar** used votes with colored beads to decide their collective view of the historicity of the deeds and sayings of **Jesus of Nazareth**

Types of Biblical Criticisms (Study) (Cont)

- **Narrative criticism** - the main thesis is that readers of the gospels should read the narratives and respond to them as the authors hoped

What would a 1st Century Jew Known About Scripture?

- History of the Jewish people from Moses: (Mt. Sinai and the Law (*Torah*)
 - The Patriarchs
 - Exodus and the Desert wandering
 - Judges
 - Royal Kingdom
 - Divided Kingdom
 - Prophets
 - Exile and Return
 - 4 Dynasties
 - Awaiting the Messiah

The Patriarchs

- Abraham:
 - Three Promises
 - Land (Mosaic Covenant)
 - Kingdom (Davidic Covenant)
 - Worldwide blessing (New Covenant in Jesus)
 - Isaac
 - Esau and Jacob (Israel) 4 wives and 12 Sons:
 - Reuben Dan
 - Simeon Naphtali
 - Levi Gad
 - **Judah** Asher
 - Zebulun **Joseph**
 - Issachar Benjamin

The Exodus

- Suppression of the Hebrew people by Pharaoh
- 10 plagues
- 40 years in the desert:
 - Mt. Sinai
 - The Law (Pentateuch)
 - The pre-history (Genesis 1-11)
 - Three annual feasts
 - The golden calf incident
 - Entrance into the Promised Land
 - Tribal distribution

The Ten Plagues (Cont)

- Nile into blood
- Frogs
- Gnats
- Flies
- Cattle
- Boils
- Hail
- Locusts
- Darkness
- Death of the first-born

THE JUDGES



JUDGE	DESCRIPTION	YEARS JUDGED
OTHNIEL	After 8 years of oppression from King Cushan of Aram, Othniel went to war and delivered Israel.	40 years
EHUD	After 18 years of oppression from King Eglon of Moab, Ehud killed Eglon, went to war against Moab, and was victorious.	80 years
SHAMGAR	Shamgar killed 600 of the Philistines with a poking device used to move animals along.	unknown
DEBORAH	After 20 years of oppression from King Jabin of Canaan, Deborah convinced Barak to attack. Barak was victorious.	40 years
GIDEON	After 7 years of Midianite oppression, Gideon defeated the Midianites with only 300 men, using trumpets and jars.	40 years
TOLA	The son of Puah son of Dodo from the tribe of Issachar. He lived in Ephraim.	23 years
JAIR	A man from Gilead who had 30 sons who rode 30 donkeys, and they had 30 towns in Gilead.	22 years
JEPHTHAH	After 18 years of Ammonite oppression, Jephthah delivered Israel after making a vow with the Lord.	6 years
IBZAN	Ibzan was from Bethlehem. He had 30 sons and 30 daughters.	7 years
ELON	Elon was from the tribe of Zebulun.	10 years
ABDON	Abdon, son of Hillel, had 40 sons and 30 grandsons who rode on 70 donkeys.	8 years
SAMSON	A Nazarite with superhuman strength. He killed 1,000 Philistines with a jawbone; destroyed a Philistine temple.	20 years

The Kingdom

- Royal Kingdom
 - Saul
 - David
 - Solomon
- Divided Kingdom
 - 20 Kings of Israel (North)
 - 20 Kings of Judah (South)

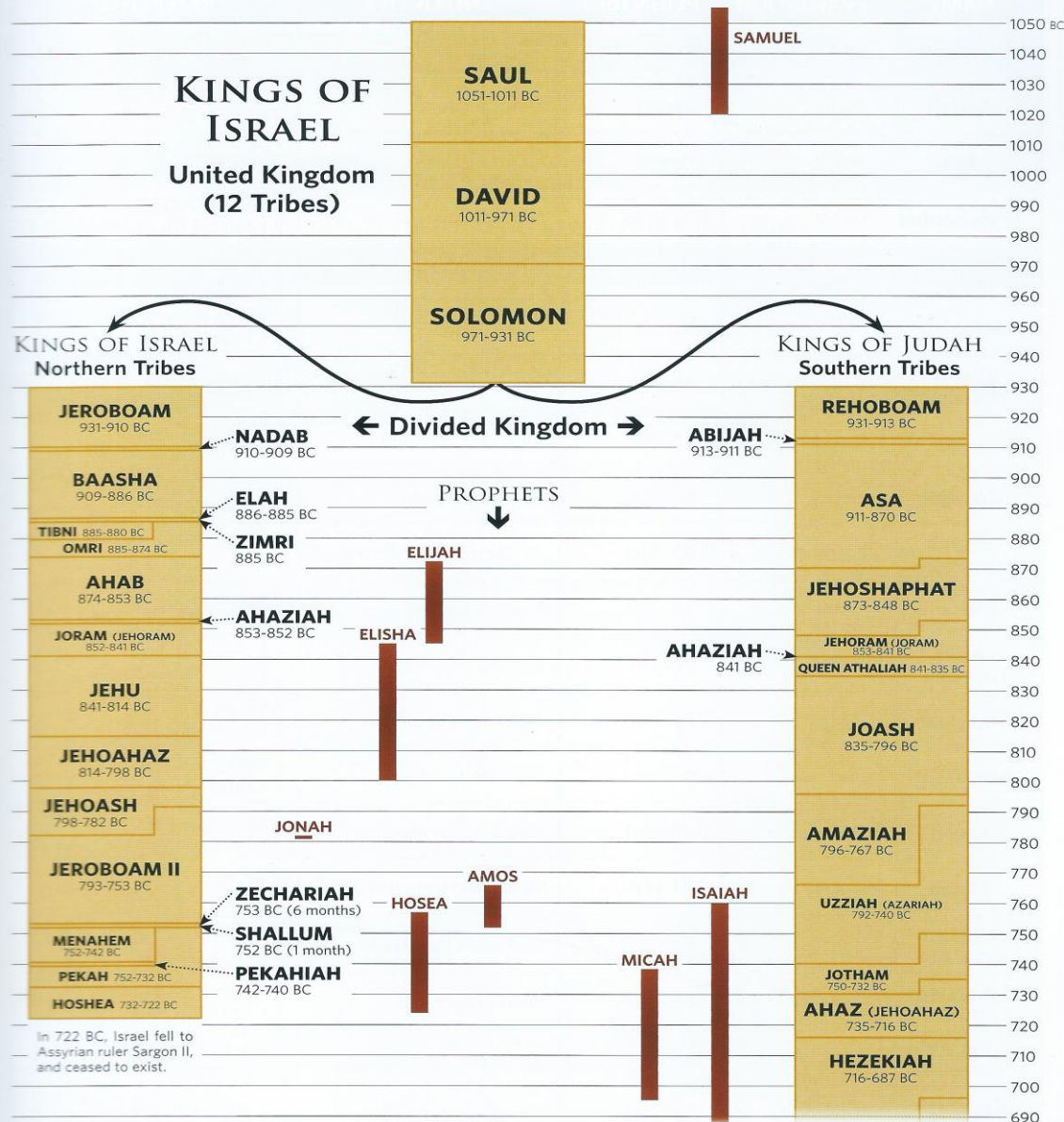
Israelite Kings Date Chart

(Based on the chronology of John Bright)

Dennis Bratcher

The United Monarchy				
Dates (BC)	Kingdom of the Israelites			
1020-1000	Saul			
1000-961	David			
961-922	Solomon			
The Divided Kingdoms				
Dates (BC)	Israel (Northern)		Judah (Southern)	Dates (BC)
922-901	Jeroboam I		Rehoboam	922-915
			Abijah	915-913
901-900	Nadab		Asa	913-873
900-877	Baasha			
877-876	Elah		Jehoshaphat	873-849
876	Zimri	Tibni		
876-869	Omri			
869-850	Ahab			
850-849	Ahaziah			
849-843	Joram (Jehoram)		Jehoram	849-843
843-815	Jehu		Ahaziah	843
			Athaliah (non-Davidic Queen)	843-837
815-802	Jehoahaz		Joash	837-800
802-786	Jehoash (Joash)		Amaziah	800-783
786-746	Jeroboam II		Uzziah (Azariah)	783-742
746-745	Zachariah		Jotham (co-regent)	750-742
745	Shallum		Jotham (king)	742-735
745-737	Menahem			
737-736	Pekahiah			
736-732	Pekah			
732-724	Hoshea		Ahaz	735-715
721	Fall of Samaria		Hezekiah	715-687
			Manasseh	687-642
			Amon	642-640
			Josiah	640-609
			Jehoahaz	609
			Jehoikim (Eliakim)	609-598
			Jehoiachin (Jeconiah)	598-597
			Zedekiah (Mattaniah)	597-587

KINGS & PROPHETS



Continued on next page →

Legend

JOSIAH Name of king
641-609 BC and years of reign

AMOS Name of prophet and approximate dates of influence

Governor Nehemiah Leaders of the Jewish people after they returned from the Exile in Babylonia

? Dates Unknown

NAHUM

ZEPHANIAH

JEREMIAH

DANIEL EZEKIEL

HABAKKUK

OBADIAH?

ISAIAH

AMON
643-641 BC

JEHOAHAZ (SHALLUM)
609 BC

JEHOIACHIN (JECONIAH)
598-597 BC

Temple Destroyed

MANASSEH
697-643 BC

JOSIAH
641-609 BC

JEHOIAKIM (ELIAKIM)
609-598 BC

ZEDEKIAH (MATTANIAH)
597-586 BC

HAGGAI ZECHARIAH

Temple Rebuilt

70 years

MALACHI?

JOEL?

Governor Sheshbazzar
536? - ? BC

Governor Zerubbabel
Dates unknown

Governor Ezra
457 - ? BC

Governor Nehemiah
444-432 BC

THE EXILE: Judah fell to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. Many of the inhabitants were deported to Babylon. In 539 BC, Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians. In 538 BC, King Cyrus of Persia issued a proclamation allowing the Jewish people to return to Palestine. Some Jews stayed in Babylon, but those who returned went back in several groups over many years. The temple was rebuilt in 516 BC, 70 years after its destruction.

The Exile and Return

- Judah destroyed by Assyria
- Israel deported to Babylon for 70 years
- The return
- The dynasties
 - Babylonians
 - Medo-Persians
 - Greeks
 - Romans
- The Maccabean revolt against the Greeks
- The 500 year wait for the return of the Messiah and the Glory Cloud