

Europe and the West

Mesopotamia and the East

The Jewish World

5,500-3,300
Chaleolithic period
Copper/Stone Age

2000 Minoan palace society on Crete	2705 BCE	3000 Gilgamesh King of Uruk	Noah and flood (1056 in Jewish Calendar)	2300-1200 BCE Bronze Age
1500 Peak of Mycenaean civilization. Hittite Empire in Asia Minor.	1850-1700 BCE	3000 Cuneiform, Sumerians in Mesopotamia devise writing system, later adopted by Akkadians, and Babylonians	Patriarchs	
1200 Trojan war begins	1300-1200 BCE		1523 Move down to Egypt	
1184 City of Troy falls to the Greeks under Agamemnon	1200-1000 BCE	1200-800 Semitic speaking Phoenicians	Mosaic period → Exodus 1250-1200 Giving of Torah on Mount Sinai -- entry into Canaan Judges rule in Israel	
	1000-587 BCE		Monarchs in Israel c. 1030-1010 Saul 1010-970 David (makes Jerusalem capital) 970-31 Solomon (builds first Temple)	1350-500 BCE The Iron Age
850 Iliad and Odyssey	900 BCE	Phonetic Alphabet spreads across Mediterranean	931 Secession of Northern Kingdom (Israel) from Southern Kingdom (Judah)	
776 First recorded Olympic games held; they are open only to pure Greeks with no police record	800 BCE		750-720 Amos, Hosea and Isaiah prophesy 722-720 Assyrians invade and conquer Northern Kingdom – (10 lost tribes)	
700 Homer 650 Messenian revolt against Sparta	700 BCE	Twelve Akkadian stone tablets, found in ruins of the library of Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria 669-633 B.C. with story of Gilgamesh	640 Reign of Josiah, Zephaniah prophecies 626 Jeremiah called to prophecy 612 Nineveh is destroyed by Babylonians and Medes	
600 First appearance of Latin	600 BCE	550 Rise of Persian Empire 539 Babylonian Empire falls to Persians	597 Ezekiel held captive and taken to Babylonia 586 Destruction of first Temple (9 th Av) 568-38 Babylonian Exile 550 Second Isaiah prophecies	
459-4 First Peloponnesian War 457 Pericles 454 Euripedes 447 Pathenon begun 424 <i>Oedipus Rex</i> , Sophocles	500 BCE	5 th Century Oldest known Ketubah found	520 Haggai and Zechariah prophets 520-515 Second Temple built	
399 Socrates executed for flouting conventional ideas and corrupting youths 384 Aristotle born, 350 Plato 356-323 BCE Alexander the Great	400 BCE		575 Zarathustra , (Zoroaster) preaches and starts a religion	
220 Archimedes, Sicilian geometrician, leaves records of his many inventions	300 BCE	300 End of Persian Empire 250 Zero appears for the first time in Babylonian place-value system	400 Beginnings of group prayer as Jewish phenomenon	
196 Cutting of the Rosetta Stone in hieroglyphics, hieratic, and Greek.	200 BCE	200 Book of Esther written in <u>Susa, Persia</u> 150-40 Dead Sea Scrolls 150 Hebrew Alphabet derived from Aramaic cursive	350-200 Men of the Great Assembly See Ethics of the fathers	
	100 BCE	69-30 Cleopatra	3 rd Century Rise of the Sadducees Septuagint – Greek translation of Hebrew bible	
23BCE Augustus 1 st Roman Emperor			<i>Nevi'im</i> (Prophets) adopted as scripture <i>Haftarah</i> as weekly reading Resurrection of the dead gains currency in Jewish circles for the first time. 165-3 Maccabees fight against the Syrians (commemorated in Hanukah story)	

200 BCE-63 CE
Qumran community

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50-125 Christian Testament writings	1	105 Paper first invented, <u>China</u>	70 Second Temple destroyed	1 st Century – prayer service evolves to current structure, every town encouraged to have own teacher
62 Queen Bodecia Britain		66-73 Josephus writes <i>History of the Jewish War</i>		
161-180 Marcus Aurelius Roman Emperor	100 CE	135 Bar Kokhba rebellion defeated by Rome Rome bans circumcision	90-130 Tannaim Second Generation 90-150 <i>Ketuvim</i> (writings) canonised 130-60 Tannaim Third Generation	
	200 CE		2 nd Century Onkelos commentary on Torah, Mishnah redaction, <i>Tosefta</i> Tannaim Fourth Generation 220 Judah Ha-Nasi dies	
337 Christianity becomes official religion of Holy Roman Empire 353 Non-Jews converting to Judaism forfeit goods and property	300 CE	337 Jews found proselytising put to death	300 Redaction of Halakhic Midrash 358 Rabbi Hillel II introduces fixed ritual calendar	200-6 th Century Amora'im
	400 CE	395-641 Byzantine period	400 Talmud Jerusalem (Palestine)	
400-600 Demand for tea as a medicinal beverage rises in China and cultivation processes are developed.	500 CE		6 th Century Savoraim	
	600 CE	570-632 Muhammed		427-650 Redaction of Babylonian Talmud
	700 CE	622 Hijra, start of Muslim calendar 680s Shi'ism split	9 th -10 th centuries Masoretic text vowel and cantillation accepted as definitive version	
789 Vikings begin attack on Britain		Rise of Karaites King of Khazars with his people convert to Judaism		
	800 CE	c.800 Caliph Harun al-Rashid rules in "1001 Nights" style 825 Caliph Mamun, Greeks translated into Arabic	882-942 Saadiah Gaon, Egypt	
941 Rus Vikings attack Constantinople	900 CE		950-1150 Golden Age in Spain	
1000 Christianity reaches Iceland and Greenland 1066 William the Conqueror 1096 1 st Crusade	1000 CE	1040 Gunpowder first invented, <u>China</u>	c. 1000 Rabbenu Gershom decrees that a wife cannot be divorced against her will 1040-1105 Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki)	
		1075-1141 Rabbi Judah Halevi		
	1100 CE	1092-1167 Abraham ibn Ezra	1138-1204 Maimonides	
1145 Almohade invasion of Spain		1180 becomes court physician to Saladin	1165 Maimonides publishes <i>Mishneh Torah</i> 1190 Jews of York (England) massacred	
1237-40 Mongols invade Russia	1200 CE	1167-1207 Genghis Khan	1160-1235 Radak (Rabbi David Kimhi)	De Leon writes <i>Sefer HaZohar</i>
		1254- 1324 Marco Polo	1194-1270 Nakhmanides (R. Moses ben Nakhman)	
1336-1405 Timurlane	1300 CE	1380 start of Ottoman Empire	<u>Gerona and Barcelona</u> Rise of Kabbalah circles	
1400 Damascus sacked by Timurlane	1400 CE	1453 Ottomans conquer Constantinople -Istanbul 1492 Last Muslims leave Spain	1488 Joseph Caro (<i>Shulhan Arukh</i>) born 1492 Expulsion of Jews from Spain	