



King David

c. 1055 B.C. Anointed as a child by Samuel to be king of Israel, he went from shepherd boy to king. His unshakable faith allowed him to slay the giant who fought for the Philistines, Goliath. His heart for the Lord is evident in his writings in the *Psalms*.

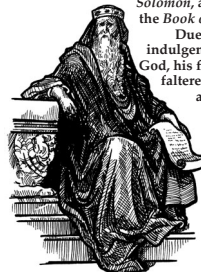


The Phoenician Civilization

c. 1000 B.C. Living on the coast of the Mediterranean with their capital being Sidon (meaning "catch fish"), the Phoenicians were originally the Canaanites. Known for their sea-faring trades along the Mediterranean, they are best remembered for their beautiful purple-red dye, made from the gland of the murex snail. Greeks and Romans alike clamored after materials dyed in this rich hue and it was soon marked a color of royalty. Their 30-letter alphabet is the basis for our phonetic alphabet today.

King Solomon

c. 1015 B.C. The son of David whose request for wisdom pleased the Lord. He used his tremendous wealth to erect a magnificent temple for the Lord, which became the sacred resting place of the Ark of the Covenant. He authored the *Book of Ecclesiastes*, the *Song of Solomon*, and most of the *Book of Proverbs*.



Due to his later indulgences against God, his faithfulness faltered, bringing about God's wrath.



Division of Hebrew Kingdom into Israel & Judah

c. 925 B.C. Due to Solomon's lack of faithfulness and sin in his later years, God had told him his kingdom would be torn in two due to his disobedience and the harsh reign of Solomon's son, Rehoboam. The tribes gave in to pagan worship and dishonored God.



The Kings of Southern Kingdom of Israel (Judah)

c. 925-586 B.C. The term "Jew" comes from the name Judah, referring to Israelites. Made up of the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin, with Rehoboam as their first king, the subsequent kings were: Abijah, Asa, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Ahaziah, Athaliah, Joash, Amaziah, Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Manasseh, Amon, Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoikim, Jehoiahin, and Zedekiah.



The Kings of Northern Kingdom of Israel (Israel)

c. 925-721 B.C. Ten tribes of Israel with Jeroboam I as their king. Subsequent kings were: Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri, Ahab, Ahaziah, Joram, Jehu, Jehoahaz, Joash, Jeroboam II, Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah, and Hoshea.

Elisha c. 840 B.C. Old Testament Hebrew prophet and successor to Elijah. As Elijah ascended to heaven on a chariot of fire, he threw down his mantle to Elisha to enable him to continue God's work.

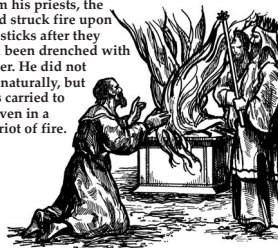


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Greek Language Gains an Alphabet

c. ninth century B.C. Derived from the script of the Phoenicians, the Greek alphabet included improvements, such as the introduction of vowels and new letters for sounds absent from the Semitic languages. Although originally written from right to left, after the sixth century the written language went from left to right.

Elijah c. 859 B.C. Old Testament prophet to the people of Israel whose mission was to abolish idolatry and restore God's law. Among his adversaries was the cult of Baal, whom he challenged by a contest of fire. After Baal did not light a fire from dried sticks upon petitions from his priests, the Lord struck fire upon the sticks after they had been drenched with water. He did not die naturally, but was carried to heaven in a chariot of fire.



Joel c. 835 B.C. A prophet to the people of Judah during the reign of Jehoash, a king who did right in the sight of the Lord. However, the Lord spoke through Joel to the people who were not worshipping the one true God, using the calamity of the current locust plague to illustrate the future of their country if they did not repent.