

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

PERIODS	CULTURAL FEATURES, EVENTS, AND LEADING PERSONALITIES	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES REFERRED TO IN THIS BOOK, WHERE REMAINS OF THE PERIOD HAVE BEEN FOUND
<b>PALAEOLITHIC</b> (Old Stone Age)		
Lower Palaeolithic 600 000 — 100 000 B.C.	Pebble culture (Primitive man) Hunting Hand axes First cave deposits	Ubediye (Jordan Valley) Mount Carmel caves
Middle Palaeolithic 100 000 — 50 000 B.C.	Galilee man	Wadi Amud Mount Carmel caves
Upper Palaeolithic 50 000 — 12 000 B.C.	Homo sapiens	Mount Carmel caves
<b>MESOLITHIC</b> (Middle Stone Age)		
12 000 — 7500 B.C.	Beginnings of agriculture Gathering of grain Hoes, picks, sickle-blades and stone mortars Beginnings of plastic art	
<b>NEOLITHIC</b> (New Stone Age)		
7500 — 4000 B.C.	Yarmuk culture Permanent settlement Developed agricultural villages Domestication of animals Permanent shrines Fertility cults Beginnings of pottery towards end of period	Sha'ar Hagolan Tel Aviv area Jericho
<b>CHALCOLITHIC</b> (Copper Stone Age)		
4000 — 3150 B.C.	Towns, villages Round and rectangular houses Underground dwellings Ghassulian culture Introduction of copper Well developed art — ivory, copper, stone, frescoes Secondary burials in house-shaped ossuaries	Lowest strata of Megiddo and Beth She'an Tel Aviv Azur Abu Ghosh Tell Gath Beersheba Caves of Bar Kochba Ein Gedi

## BRONZE AGE

Early Bronze  
3150 — 2200 B.C.

Fortified towns  
Sanctuaries  
Cultural contacts with Egypt,  
Mesopotamia, Anatolia, Cyprus

Hazor  
Beth Yerach  
Beth She'an  
Megiddo  
Tell Gath  
Lachish

Middle Bronze  
2200 — 1500 B.C.

Exorcism Texts  
Age of the Patriarchs —  
Abraham, Isaac, Jacob  
Political and cultural ties with  
Egypt  
Hyksos invasion and domination  
of Canaan and Egypt  
Beginnings of pictographic  
alphabet  
Ceramic and metal industries

Hazor  
Beth She'an  
Megiddo  
Jaffa  
Ashkelon  
Lachish

Late Bronze  
1500 — 1200 B.C.

Egyptian rule in Canaan with  
vassal city-kings  
Tell el-Amarna archives  
Exodus of the Israelites from  
Egypt — Moses  
The Ten Commandments  
Conquest of Canaan by Israelite  
tribes — Joshua  
Flourishing international trade  
Alphabetic writing

Hazor  
Beth She'an  
Megiddo  
Jaffa  
Ashkelon  
Lachish

## IRON AGE I

1200 — 922 B.C.

Invasion of the "Sea Peoples" —  
including the Philistines  
Settlement of Israelite tribes in  
Canaan  
Period of the Judges — notably  
Ehud, Deborah, Gideon,  
Jephthah, Samson  
Philistine city-states  
Samuel  
United Monarchy (Saul, David,  
Solomon) 1020—922  
David makes Jerusalem capital of  
Israel  
Solomon builds Temple, and  
guides Israel to peak of  
political, economic and cultural  
prosperity  
Ties with Phoenicia

Hazor  
Ein Gev  
Beth She'an  
Megiddo  
Tel Aviv (Tell Kasile)  
Azur  
Gezer  
Jerusalem  
Ramat Rachel  
Lachish  
Ein Gedi  
Solomon's mines

## IRON AGE II

922 — 587 B.C.

*Divided Monarchy: kingdoms of Israel (922—722) and Judah (922—587)	Hazor
The prophets Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Hosea, I Isaiah (Chapters 1—39) and Micah	Ein Gev
Fall of Samaria, 722	Megiddo
The prophets Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk	Tel Aviv (Tell Kasile)
First deportation to Babylon, 597	Gezer
The prophet Ezekiel	Jerusalem
Destruction of Jerusalem and of the First Temple, 587	Ramat Rachel
Second deportation to Babylon, 587	Lachish
	Ein Gedi
	Solomon's mines

## PERSIAN PERIOD

587 — 332 B.C.

Babylonian captivity, 587—536	Hazor
The prophet II Isaiah (Chapters 40—66)	Tel Aviv (Tell Kasile)
Edict by Cyrus granting Jews the right to return, 538	Jerusalem
Return of the Jews from Babylon	Ramat Rachel
Zerubbabel, governor	Ashkelon
The prophets Haggai and Zechariah	Lachish
Building of the Second Temple (completed about 515)	Ein Gedi
The prophets Obadiah and Malachi	
Judea an autonomous province of Persian empire	
Ezra and Nehemiah and rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem	

## HELLENISTIC PERIOD

332 — 63 B.C.

Hellenistic domination of the country with the conquest of the Persian empire by Alexander of Macedonia (Alexander the Great) in 332.	Beth Yerach
Rule of the Ptolemies, 312—198	Acre
The Septuagint	Jewish tombs in Jerusalem
Rule of the Seleucids, 198—167	Ramat Rachel
Maccabean War of Liberation, 167—141	Ashkelon
(Mattathias and his son, Judah the Maccabee (166—160), Jonathan (160—142), Simon (142—134), Eleazar and Johanan)	Mareshah
	Ein Gedi

\* Names and dates of the 19 kings of Israel and the 20 kings of Judah are given in a separate table.

ROMAN PERIOD  
63 B.C.—324 A.D.

Rededication of Temple, 164  
Hasmonean Dynasty (The Macabees), 141—63 (and, partially, up to 37): John Hyrcanus (134—104), Judah Aristobulus (104—103), Alexander Jannai (103—76), Salome Alexandra (76—67), Aristobulus II (67—63). High Priest Hyrcanus was nominal ruler under the Romans after 63, and Jewish freedom was briefly regained under Mattathias Antigonus (40—37).  
Pompey's conquest (63) and beginning of Roman rule  
The Sages Hillel and Shammai

Hellenistic-Roman culture  
Herodian Dynasty,  
    37 B.C.—70 A.D. (Herod the Great, 37 B.C.—4 B.C.)  
Pontius Pilate, Roman Procurator  
Jesus and the beginnings of Christianity  
First Jewish war against the Romans, 66—70 A.D.  
Fall of Jerusalem and destruction of the Second Temple, 70 A.D.  
Epic of Masada, 73 A.D.  
Jewish religious centre at Yavne — Rabbi Yohanan Ben Zakkai

Second Jewish war against the Romans, led by Bar Kochba, 132—135 A.D.

Rabbi Akiva  
Emperor Hadrian changes name of country from Judea to Syria Palestina (Palestine), and name of Jerusalem to Aelia Capitolina

Completion of the Mishnah — Rabbi Yehudah Ha'Nasi

Roman theatres

Early synagogues

BYZANTINE PERIOD  
324—640 A.D.

Palestine part of Byzantine empire  
Building of synagogues  
Completion of "Jerusalem"  
Talmud

Galilean synagogues of Capernaum, Bar'am and Khorazin  
Beth She'an  
Beth She'arim  
Caesarea  
Jerusalem  
Ramat Rachel  
Ashkelon  
Avdat  
Shivta  
Masada  
Caves of Bar Kochba

Synagogues of Beth Yerach, Hammath (Tiberias), Beth She'an, Beth Alpha, Caesarea.

Building of churches  
Well-developed mosaic art  
Persian conquest, 614  
Re-conquest by Byzantium, 627  
Beginning of Moslem conquest,  
634

Churches and  
monasteries at Beth  
Yerach, Beth She'an,  
Beth She'arim,  
Caesarea, Abu Ghosh,  
Jerusalem, Ramat  
Rachel, Avdat, Shivta.

#### MOSLEM PERIOD

640 — 1099 A.D.

Palestine becomes an unimportant  
province of the Moslem empire  
Decline and impoverishment of  
the country

Minya  
Tell Kasile  
Ramla  
Jerusalem  
Ashkelon

#### CRUSADE PERIOD

1099 — 1291 A.D.

Development and fortification of  
coastal cities  
Building of castles  
Feudal agriculture in Crusader  
estates  
Rabbi Moses ben Maimon  
(The Rambam, Maimonides)

Safad  
Horns of Hattin  
Belvoir  
Acre  
Mount Tabor  
Montfort  
Yehiam  
Athlit  
Caesarea  
Ramla  
Lod  
Abu Ghosh  
Jerusalem  
Ashkelon  
Mareshah  
Beth Govrin

#### MAMELUKE PERIOD

1291 — 1517 A.D.

Systematic destruction of coastal  
cities  
Economic decline  
Neglect of land

Tell Kasile  
Jaffa  
Ramla  
Lod

#### OTTOMAN PERIOD

1517 — 1917 A.D.

Minya  
Tiberias  
Safad  
Acre  
Jaffa  
Abu Ghosh  
Ashkelon