

Old Testament Overview Facts & Stats

Division of the 39 Books of the Old Testament

1. Pentateuch
Genesis – Deuteronomy
2. Historical Books
Joshua – Esther
3. Wisdom & Poetry (Books)
Job – Song of Songs (Solomon)
4. Prophets – Major & Minor
Major Prophets: Isaiah – Daniel
Minor Prophets: Hosea – Malachi

Important Old Testament Dates & Time Periods

These are taken from Halley's Bible Handbook, page 34. While these dates are not necessarily precise, they do give a good perspective on Old Testament times.

Adam	4000 BC
The Flood	2400 BC
Abraham	2000 BC
Jacob	1900 BC
Joseph	1800 BC
Moses	1400 BC
The Exodus	1400 BC
Ruth	1150 BC
Samuel	1100 BC
Saul	1053 BC
David	1013 BC
Solomon	973 BC
Division of the Kingdom (1Kings 12)	933 BC
Galilee Captivity	734 BC
Captivity of Israel	721 BC
Judah Captured by Babylon	606 BC
Jehoiachin's Captivity	597 BC
Destruction of Jerusalem	586 BC
Return from Captivity	536 BC

Temple Rebuilt	520 BC
Esther becomes Queen of Persia	478 BC
Ezra goes to Jerusalem	457 BC
Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall	444 BC

Notice that the time period between Adam and Abram (Gen 1:1 – Gen 12:1) covers about half of the entire 4000 year period covered by Old Testament.

Periods

Ante-Diluvian World (Before the Flood)	1600 years	4000-2400 BC
Between Flood and Abraham	400 years	2400-2000 BC
Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac & Jacob	200 years	2000-1800 BC
Israel's Sojourn in Egypt	400 years	1800-1400 BC
Period of the Judges	300 years	1400-1100 BC
The Kingdom: Saul, David & Solomon	120 years	1053-933 BC
The Divided Kingdom	200 years	933-721 BC
The Captivity	70 years	606-536 BC
Period of Restoration	100 years	536-432 BC

Dispensations Covered by the Old Testament

Five of the Seven Dispensations are covered during the period of the Old Testament. A dispensation refers to the way in which God dealt with man during a certain period of time. The dispensations covered by the Old Testament are as follows.

1. The Dispensation of Innocence – Ended with the Fall of Man
2. The Dispensation of Conscience – Ended with the Flood
3. The Dispensation of Human Government – Ended with the Tower of Babel
4. The Dispensation of Promise – Ended with the Captivity in Egypt
5. The Dispensation of the Law – Ended with the preaching of John the Baptist and the coming of Christ.

The final two dispensations, which are covered by the New Testament, are

6. The Dispensation of Grace (the Church Age), ending with the Rapture, and
7. The Millennial Reign of Christ, which ends with the final revolt led by Satan and the Great White Throne of Judgment.