

## *The most important questions for life*

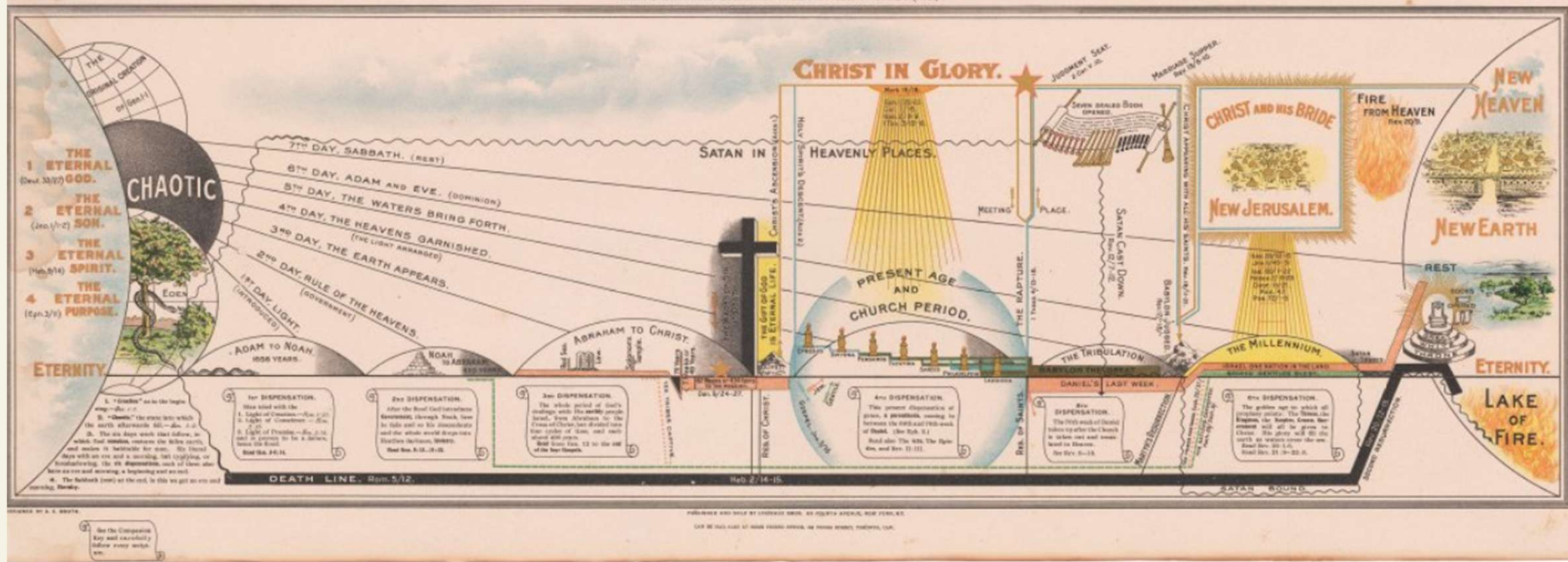
- *What do you think rises to the top of surveys on this question?*

# God Builds a People to be His

- What on earth is God doing?
- What has He said about it?
- What does it mean to us?

## A CHART ON THE COURSE OF TIME FROM ETERNITY TO ETERNITY.

"FROM ETERNITY TO ETERNITY, THOU ART GOD." — Psa. XC. 2 (N.B.)



## *Lessons from His leadership over His people*

- *Summer series*
  - *Some snapshots of the leadership of His people*
  - *Stories from Creation to the end of the Era of His Kings*
  - *Particular focus on the stories of the "good" kings of Israel*

**GOD IN ETERNITY BEFORE TIME PLANNED IT ALL**  
Eph 1:3

ETERNITY WHEN TIME SHALL BE NO MORE





## *Summer Series 2025: God's Building of a People for Himself*

<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>God's Sovereign Leadership</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From David</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Solomon &amp; Sons</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Asa</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Jehoshaphat</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Joash &amp; Amaziah</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Uzziah &amp; Jotham</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Hezekiah 1</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Hezekiah 2</b>
<b>If You Seek Me, You will Find Me</b>	<b>Lessons From Josiah to Nebuchadnezzar</b>

## *...As God Builds People for Himself*

<b>Years BC</b>	<b>God's Governance</b>	<b>Relational</b>	<b>Stories</b>	<b>Reference</b>
<b>Noah: 2970 to 2020</b>	<b>Theocracy (direct)</b>	<b>Familial</b>	<b>Creation to Noah</b>	<b>Gen 1 to 11:26</b>
<b>Abraham B 1996 to Joseph D 1805</b>	<b>Theocracy (direct)</b>	<b>Patriarchal</b>	<b>Abram to Joseph</b>	<b>Gen 11:27-End Gen</b>
<b>Moses B 1526 to End Judges 1050</b>	<b>Theocracy (direct)</b>	<b>Patriarchal/Covenant/Priest</b>	<b>Moses through Judges</b>	<b>Exodus ... 1 Samuel</b>
<b>Reign:1050 to 1010</b>	<b>Theocracy (indirect)</b>	<b>Monarch</b>	<b>Saul</b>	<b>1 Samuel</b>
<b>B 1040, R 1010–D 970</b>	<b>Theocracy (indirect)</b>	<b>Monarch</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>1 Samuel Kings Chronicles</b>
<b>B 990 BC, R 970– D 931</b>	<b>Theocracy (indirect)</b>	<b>Monarch</b>	<b>Solomon</b>	<b>Kings Chronicles</b>
<b>930-EXILE 722</b>	<b>Theocracy (indirect)</b>	<b>Monarchs (Divided)</b>	<b>Falls to Assyria</b>	<b>Kings Chronicles</b>
<b>930-EXILE 586</b>	<b>Theocracy (indirect)</b>	<b>Monarchs (Divided)</b>	<b>Falls to Babylon</b>	<b>Kings Chronicles</b>

## Key moments- in God's words: Adam and Eve

- God's Creation: "Let there be.. And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, [it was] very good."
- Let us make man in our own image..male and female created He them
- Let them have dominion..
- God's Mandate: "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."
- The Gift of Choice Commands:
  - Let them eat of this and not that
- The people's response
- The eviction from Eden
- God continues to seek them



## Key moments- in God's words:Noah

- **Noah:** Found favour. Righteous man, blameless among the people, walked with God.
- **God's Judgment & Warning:** "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark.. (Gen 6:13)
- **Noah's response:** Preacher of righteousness (2 Pe 2:5)
- **God's Covenant:** "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth."  
"Whenever the rainbow appears ..., I will see it and remember "
- **Noah's failure & legacy**





# Key moments- in God's words: Abraham

## • God seeks Abram

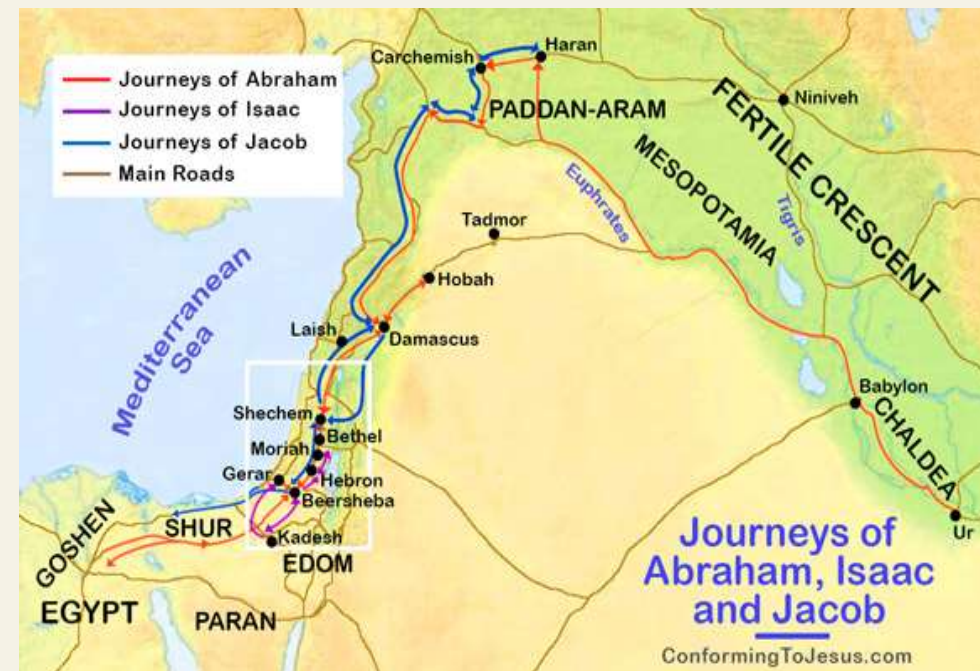
- Via his father who moved his family from Ur towards Canaan, settled in Haran
- Via calling Abram, an act of grace, righteousness granted upon his response
- ..and go to the land I will show you.. all peoples on earth will be blessed through you..
- Via God's faithfulness even when Abraham falters and fails (Egypt in famine)
- Do not be afraid, Abram. I am ..your very great reward....Abram believed... counted to him as righteousness

## • God's Covenant

- I Am the Lord, promise of land and offspring
- Covenant of circumcision
- Affirmed through Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph

## • God Protects His Promise in Egypt

- I will make you into a great nation there
- And then a Pharaoh did not know Joseph



## *Key moments- in God's words:Moses*

- *God's Call of Moses: I am who I am. Lead my people out of Egypt*
- *God's Covenant: I am the Lord your God;  
Here is the covenant*





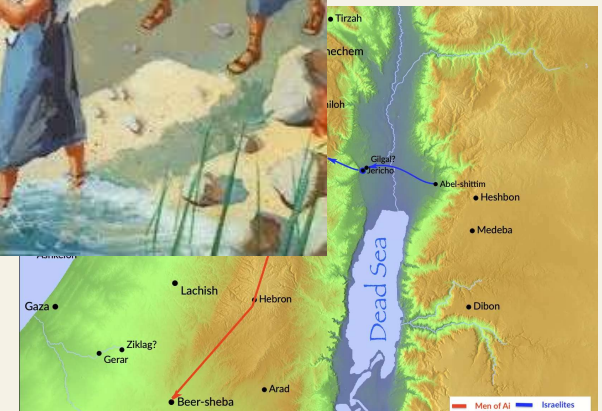
## *Key moments- in God's words:Moses*

- *Those who seek Him:*
  - *The midwives*
  - *The priest of Midian*
  - *Here I am*
- *God's Covenant:*
  - *I AM the God of..*
  - *When you have brought.. You shall worship*
  - *His deliverance and renewal "I AM the Lord your God who..*
  - *"I set before you today life and prosperity...*
- *God's deliverance via Moses:*
  - *First 40 years*
  - *Second 40*
  - *Last 40*
- *Learnings*
  - *Your call, the phases of our lives*



# Key moments- in God's words: Joshua

- **The development of His Man for the Promised Land**
  - By Moses side in war, at Mount Sinai, at tent of meeting, as spy
  - God: Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it ..
  - Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth;
  - Meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do
- **The Covenant Affirmed**
  - Today I will begin to exalt you
  - The people will know I am with you
  - You will drive out the people
- **The ark of the Presence**
  - While the people crossed Jordan
- **Joshua faithful**
  - To death
  - The Lord says..
  - The people..idols





## *God's Judges: Joshua to Samuel*

<b>Judge</b>	<b>People Seeking God</b>	<b>God's Calling</b>	<b>Israel's Faithfulness</b>	<b>Time Period (approx.)</b>	<b>Key Scripture</b>
<b>Othniel</b>	<b>People cried out</b>	<b>Spirit of the Lord came upon him</b>	<b>Repented &amp; delivered</b>	<b>1350–1310 BC</b>	<b>Judges 3:10</b>
<b>Ehud</b>	<b>People cried out</b>	<b>The Lord gave him</b>	<b>Repented &amp; delivered</b>	<b>1310–1230 BC</b>	<b>Judges 3:15</b>
<b>Shamgar</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Not recorded</b>	<b>Deliverer</b>	<b>~1230 BC</b>	<b>Judges 3:31</b>
<b>Deborah</b>	<b>Cried to the Lord</b>	<b>Prophetess</b>	<b>Faithful post-delivery</b>	<b>1230–1190 BC</b>	<b>Judges 4–5</b>
<b>Gideon</b>	<b>Cried to the Lord</b>	<b>Angel &amp; Spirit</b>	<b>Faithful, then declined</b>	<b>1190–1150 BC</b>	<b>Judges 6–8</b>
<b>Abimelech/Tola/Jair</b>	<b>Little detail</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>Presumed stable</b>	<b>1150–1100 BC</b>	<b>Judges 9, 10:1-5</b>
<b>Jephthah</b>	<b>Cried to the Lord</b>	<b>Spirit of the Lord</b>	<b>Repented &amp; delivered</b>	<b>1100–1080 BC</b>	<b>Judges 11:29</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Not recorded</b>	<b>Little information</b>	<b>1080–1060 BC</b>	<b>Judges 12:8–15</b>
<b>Samson</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Angel &amp; Spirit</b>	<b>Spiritually weak</b>	<b>1060–1020 BC</b>	<b>Judges 13-16</b>
<b>Samuel</b>	<b>Corrupt priesthood, looking for king</b>	<b>God called and continued to support him</b>	<b>Turned back to God</b>	<b>1070–1020 BC</b>	<b>1 Samuel ch 1-7</b>

# Samuel

- *The faith of a Mother*
  - *Hannah in a polygamous marriage*
  - *Seeks the Lord in worship and in prayer*
  - *The commitment of her first son, the Lord answers*
- *The failure of the Priesthood*
  - *The Lord speaks to Eli for his failures*
  - *The Lord declares "I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest"*
  - *The Lord directly calls Hannah's son Samuel*
  - *Speak Lord, your servant is hearing*



# Samuel

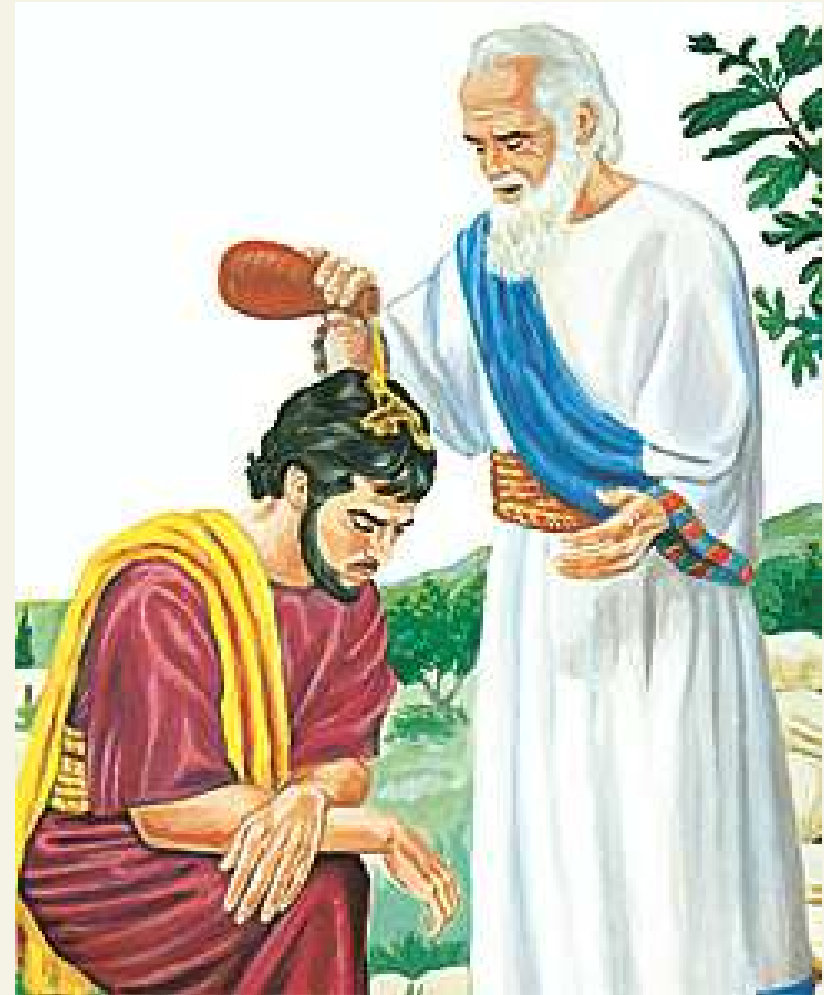
- **Samuel the faithful leader and judge**
  - Brings peace to the land
  - The return of the ark and the people to God
- **Samuel failure with children**
  - Appointed his sons as judges
  - But his sons did not walk in his ways
  - They turned aside from God
- **The Elders demand a King**
  - 7 And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king.
  - 8 As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you.
  - 9 Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do."



# King Saul

- The people cried out, God responded*

Segments	God's View	Reference
Israel's request for a king	Rejection of God	1 Sam. 8:7
Saul chosen	God's appointed deliverer	1 Sam. 9:16
Saul's disobedience at Gilgal	Kingdom will not endure	1 Sam. 13:13–14
Amalekite failure	God regrets making Saul king	1 Sam. 15:11, 23
Seeking the medium	Saul condemned	1 Sam. 28:17–19
Death	Judgment fulfilled	1 Sam. 31





## *The Story of God and His People*

- *God's design and desire*
  - *People who respond and seek Him in covenant relationship*
  - *People who continue faithful to Him*
- *God's calling to all*
  - *Via Creation*
  - *Via the witness of the Spirit, His ambassadors, His Word, His Truth*
  - *Comes with His grace and guidance*

## *The Story of God and His People*

- *People's Response*
  - *Propensity to reject and rebel*
  - *Prefer selfish self interest rather than have Someone over them*
  - *Even those who respond to Him go through cycles of their choosing*
    - *Repent, Receive, Rebel, Return*
  - *God continues to encourage where repentance is the response*

# *The Story of God and His People*

- *God's governance*
  - *The One and Only*
  - *Sovereign and Omnipotent*
  - *Presents as the Chief Shepherd*
  - *But also as the Judge*
- *Leadership*
  - *God's focus on their response to Him*
  - *Basis of judgment how they live for Him, obey their part of the covenant, lead His people*
  - *Theocracy, Judges, Kings, Priests-most in the way*
  - *Some individuals and small groups follow Him in spite of leadership*
- *OUR vows of faithfulness to His calling*