

TIMELINE of Critical Events and Persons in the Story of the Bible

Humanity begins at Creation in God's presence in the Garden. Because of Adam's indifference to God's Word, resulting in disobedience to God, the 1st couple was thrown into Exile, thrust from God's presence. Their offspring remained in the state of exile. But by God's grace, thru Abraham (and Isaac, Jacob), an Exodus from exile occurred, although the Gentile nations remained in a state of exile. A Journey by the elect families toward the presence of God was sadly thwarted by sin. The failures of the sons of Jacob, imitating the Canaanites' ungodliness, resulted in another Exile, to the land of Egypt. By God's grace, through Moses, another Exodus occurred. Thus began another Journey toward God's presence. David and his offspring mediated this prolonged journey. Sadly, sin and failure occurred again, repeatedly, necessitating another Exile. But in God's grace, Jesus, the 2nd Adam, the Son of God, entered humanity, so that another Exodus could occur. This began the Church Age, which is essentially another Journey toward God's presence for the followers of Jesus. Because of the better Exodus mediated by Jesus, this journey at last by means of a re-Creation (resurrection), leads into God's Presence, first in the millennial Kingdom, then in the eternal state in heaven. Jews who will believe in Jesus at His 2nd Advent will leave their Exile and directly enter the Kingdom and God's presence. Those Gentiles and Jews who refuse to enter the timeline remain permanently, eternally in Exile, in hell.

There are 3 Exiles, 3 episodes of Exodus from Exile and 3 Journeys toward the presence of God, the last one reaching God's presence. There are 5 main persons on this timeline: Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus. The 1st and 2nd journeys, all the O.T. narratives, document sin and failure. The 3rd journey is the story in the New Testament, which is to prepare believers for a successful journey into God's presence. Each Exile is a judgment, but at each Exodus event, there is salvation thru judgment. In the 1st Journey, God is present promissorily, in the 2nd, God's presence is promissory and veiled in the Cloud and then Holy of Holies. For the 3rd Journey, God's presence is promissory, by the indwelling Spirit, then in the Person of the ruling King, and then finally in His full visible glory. During each Journey, the people are to proclaim God's glory.

Subthemes, such as two seeds, the covenants, dispensations, etc, are necessarily omitted here.