

Dr. Ernest Martin's Home Study Course: Lesson 6

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These notes, composed from 2013 on, are based on taped Home Study Course made between 1977-98 by Dr. Ernest L. Martin Ph.D. Former Head of Theology for the Worldwide Church of God; he resigned in January 1974 because of his unresolved doctrinal issues with the administration. Sadly Dr. Martin died in January 2002, a great loss to the world and to those who seek Biblical truth.

HOME BIBLE STUDY LESSON 6 BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY & HISTORY

Please note: When listening to the tape, it is clear that Dr. Martin's Home Study 6 lecture was recorded in several sections at different times. The time frame of some of the sections overlap, others cover similar periods but contain additional material. As far as possible the notes have been compiled in chronological order.

Note also: The dates given in this paper are intended as a guide, and should not be regarded as absolutely accurate. Due to the difficulties in the exact interpretation of the chronology of the Bible or archeological artifacts, dates may need to be revised as our understanding of history improves in the light of more research.

It is essential to be aware of what is going on in the Middle East, with especial regard to any archeological activity, and whether the discoveries fit in with the Scriptures. Archeologists do not always have respect for the historical accuracy of the Holy Bible. They tend to look at what the Bible says in connection with what they are working on to see if it fits their understanding, and if not they pronounce the Bible inaccurate. It seems that they feel that their 'take' on any find is the authority, but indeed it is the other way around, the Bible is **the** authority.

There are many thousands of 'tells', or mounds all over the Middle East. History shows that the practice over centuries was to build new cities over ones which had decayed. They used the stones as foundations and the building materials in new construction. There are millions of tablets and other written material buried under many layers in the historical sites.

There are also millions pieces of material with written information which has been ignored and 'buried' in the archives of museums that have never been researched. We need to be aware of what peoples of the past, who lived at different times actually wrote of their lifestyle, politics, and religions, and the events of the time.

Due to lack of trained expertise, funding, local and professional politics, and religious bias, little is being explored in our era.

The Bible IS the standard. It was written by YHWH, our Creator, Lord, and Master. The Bible covers seven major historic (idealised) periods.

1st 4000 B.C. - 2344 B.C.

The first 1656 years of man on earth before the flood.

2nd 2344 B.C. - 1491 B.C.

The Flood and the Patriarchal period from Noah to the Exodus. Genesis and Job throw light on that, Egypt at the peak of its power, then crashed after the plagues and the death of the firstborn.

3rd 1491 B.C. - 1067 B.C. Israel wandering 40 years in the Sinai desert until they all died, then the 400 year period of the 'Dark Ages' from Joshua to the time of David and Solomon which was a type of millennium then Palestine went into a steady decline. Israel and the Jews were taken into captivity and Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed.

4th 1067 B.C. - 483 B.C. The first year of Cyrus to Christ's birth.

5th 2 B.C. - 96 A.D. Then Christ came, from the revelation of the mystery in 63 AD to the end of the 1st Century AD 40 years of very hazy information.

6th 96 A.D. - 2nd Advent

7th Post Millennium – Eternity

These periods should be taken as 'idealised', but this does not mean they are not a realistic representation of an overview of history.

OVERVIEW OF HISTORY FROM ADAM TO ETERNITY

1st 4000 B.C. - 2344 B.C.

Reformation of the earth and the creation of Adam and Eve - Flood

There were 1656 A.M. Years (**A.M.** = After Man) from the creation of Adam until the flood came.

Genesis 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Genesis 5:5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.

2 Peter 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

Adam died within the 'day' God's day which is as a thousand years.

687 A.M. Methusaleh, was born in His name meant 'when he dies, it will come' referring to the flood) lived for 969 years, the longest of any man recorded in the Bible.

1056 A.M. Noah was born

Genesis 5:29 And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord hath cursed.

Genesis 6:5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7 And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

Genesis 6: 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. 9 These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

1650 A.M. At the end of the pre-flood era, men and women were working to limited way with metals, they had musical instruments, but the structure of society was primitive, and wild idolatrous and immoral practices abounded, to the extent that God 'repented' or was sorry that He had made man. But of course He had a Master plan which had been devised since before the world began.

1656 A.M. Methusaleh died in the year when the flood came in 1656 A.M. Or approximately 2369 B.C. Christ the second Adam came almost exactly 4000 years after the first Adam.

Genesis 5:25 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.

Thanks to Noah being 'just', 'walking with God', and being 'perfect in his generations which meant he had not indulged in improper inbreeding practices, God allowed eight people, Noah and his wife and children and their wives to be saved from the flood. Every other person was drowned.

Genesis 7:6 And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

At that time there were 'bands' of ice around the earth high up in the atmosphere similar to those visible around some planets now. These bands caused very different climactic conditions on the earth.

As the earth rotated, there would be periods of darkness or semi-darkness even during the times when the sun would be shining onto the earth. It was these ice bands that melted and fell as rain onto the earth at the time of the flood. There is an indication of this in Job 38 when God is asking Job, where were you when I created the earth?

Job 38:8 Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb? 9 When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it,

It was God who contained the seas, and the clouds and the thick darkness caused by the 'swaddlingband' around the earth.

Job 38:10 And brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, 11 And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?

And God who broke up those 'swaddlingbands' for His purpose of flooding the earth, and makes the Moon to cause the tides, but prevents the waves from coming any further than they do.

2nd 2344 B.C. (or 1656 A.M.) - 1491 B.C.

The Flood occurred 1656 years after the creation of Adam and Eve. and the Patriarchal period from Noah to the Exodus. Genesis and Job throw light on that, Egypt at the peak of its power, then crashed after the plagues and the death of the firstborn.

Noah, whose name means 'comfort' was ordered by God to construct the Ark, a truly enormous boat, in which He would cause all that breathed upon the earth to enter in before the waters covered the earth.

Genesis 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth. 5 And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him. 6 And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth. 7 And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

The fact that Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth gives an important benchmark when anyone is attempting to study the chronology of the Bible.

Genesis 7:15 And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life. 16 And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the Lord shut him in. 17 And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

Note that God, (Christ) shut the door of the Ark just before the rains came, preventing any others from entering in.

Genesis 7:4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

Genesis 8 gives another exact benchmark date.

Genesis 8:13 And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry. 14 And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried.

Genesis 8:20 And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

When God actually pronounced meats to be 'clean and unclean' for the benefit of all humankind is not recorded in the Bible, but clearly the

distinction existed shortly after Adam and Eve were created because of the Cain and Abel scenario.

It is important to note that God had ordained that animals would be 'clean' and 'unclean' long before the flood. Abel's sacrifice was acceptable to God, but Cain's was not, and it does not say why in the Bible. And here after the deliverance of the flood, Noah, walking with God, builds an altar and sacrifices 'clean' animals and birds to God.

Because of ignorance of the Scriptures, people call the laws of 'clean & unclean' meats, 'Jewish'. If this date of Noah's sacrifice is taken as being around 2344 B.C. and it is realized that Judah (Yehudah) was born in approximately 1739 B.C., about six hundred years after the flood, then to call the food laws 'Jewish' does not make any sense at all.

Because of the sin of Adam and Eve, God had cursed the ground of the earth.

Genesis 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

At this time God removed the curse that had been on the ground of the earth since the sin of Adam and Eve. And God also gives a promise that seedtime and harvest and the seasons will never cease as long as the earth exists.

Genesis 8:21 And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, **I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake;** for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. 22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

During those years before the flood, no rain fell on the earth. The weather patterns were completely different.

Genesis 2:5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. 6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

God also now makes the promise to His children that the earth will never again be flooded, and appoints the rainbow as His sign of that promise.

Genesis 9:8 And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, 9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; 10 And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. 11 And I will establish my covenant with you, neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. 12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: 13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. 14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: 15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. 17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

People can sneer at this promise made to humankind, and say that a rainbow is just a natural phenomenon of white light being broken into the spectrum by droplets of rain. That fact is true, but without this inspired revelation we would not know that it is a perpetual sign of an absolute promise from God that there will never again a flood to destroy all flesh.

The flood happened, Christ says so. It was a time for new beginnings. The earth was cursed before the flood because of sin, but that this curse was lifted, and God also made promises to humans that the climate would change and provide seasons, and that the earth would never again be flooded.

3rd. THE BIRTH OF NATIONS: The third historic period is that of the birth of the nations after the flood, Patriarchal period, post Exodus, until the time of David and Solomon and the building of the Temple.

After the flood in 2344 B.C. there were only eight people on earth, and it would clearly take some time and many generations before there would be a substantial number of people on the planet.

In Genesis 12 it speaks of Abraham going down to Egypt and the whole nation knew he was there. This was around 1921 B.C. about 400 years after the flood and there still would not have been a large population on earth.

Genesis 13:1 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

Then Abraham and Lot went to live in Canaan, but strife developed between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot.

Genesis 13:8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. 9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

So Abraham gave Lot the choice as to where he would live. He chose the plains, where the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were. Abraham went to live in the land of Canaan.

Genesis 13:18 Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord.

Lot was living on the plain, and four 'kings' came and took him away. These 'kings' were probably family or tribal chiefs, as by that time the nations were still not really developed to any real size.

Abraham took 318 people as an army to rescue Lot, defeated those who had taken him away, and delivered him and his family.

Not long later, the situation in Sodom and Gomorrah had deteriorated to the point where everyone in those cities was involved with homosexual immoral activities. The account says that **all** the men of Sodom surrounded Lot's house, and demanded that he bring out the 'men' who were actually angels so that they could 'know' them as it says in the KJV. So for all the men of the city to assemble, there was still a relatively small population.

Abraham and Sarah were childless, but God promised that they would not only have a child, but his descendants would be like the sand of the sea. So through the miraculous intervention of God, Isaac was born.

Genesis 21:5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac to God, and it was this test that proved him to God, who accepted him as righteous.

In his old age, Abraham did not want Isaac to take a wife from the Canaanites, so he commissioned his servant to go to Mesopotamia to find her. When he arrived in the area the servant asked God for a sign to help him to find the right wife for Isaac. The sign he asked for would be that as women came down to the well to get water, the one who not only willingly gave him to drink but offered to draw water for his ten camels as well. This would represent a most unusual attitude of willing service. Even before he had he finished praying, a woman came to draw water, not just any woman but a relative of Abraham.

Genesis 24:15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. 16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up. 17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher. 18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. 19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking. 20 And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.

Genesis 24:28 And the damsel ran, and told them of her mother's house these things. 29 And Rebekah had a brother, and his name was Laban: and Laban ran out unto the man, unto the well.

The narrative goes on to tell the wonderful story of just how God so miraculously provided Isaac with a beautiful wife Rebekah.

Rebekah was barren, and Isaac entreated God that she might have a child. The follows the very important historical fact that Rebekah bore twins who

were Jacob and Esau who were destined to play a vital part in the development of God's plan for Israel.

Genesis 25:19 And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham begat Isaac: 20 And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian. 21 And Isaac intreated the Lord for his wife, because she was barren: and the Lord was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived. 22 And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the Lord. 23 And the Lord said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger. 24 And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. 25 And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau. 26 And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.

Even with those who God selected to work with through history were afflicted with deceitful ways, sometimes over most important issues that would have consequences for thousands of years to come.

2327 B.C. Noah: Got drunk two nights in a row, and his daughters who feared Noah's line would end instead of trusting God, they had sex with Noah. Then Ham took advantage of Noah being drunk, and emasculated him, and as a result Noah lost his ability to have more children.

Genesis 9:23 And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness. 24 And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son (Ham) had done unto him. 25 And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

Canaan was the fourth son of Ham, so it was appropriate that God selected him to receive the punishment because of his father's sin.

Abraham: Lied to the Pharaoh of Egypt telling him that his wife was his sister. The Pharaoh did not appreciate this as the potential was to get him in trouble with God.

Genesis 12:18 And Pharaoh called Abram and said, What is this that thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife? 19 Why saidst thou, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go thy way. 20 And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

1897 B.C. Isaac was born.

1872 B.C. Abraham showed that he was willing to sacrifice Isaac, but God provided the ram instead.

Genesis 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Notice Abraham rose up early in the morning, he was hastening to obey God even over such a horrendous test.

Genesis 22:13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

1838 B.C. Jacob and Esau are born.

Genesis 25:19 And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham begat Isaac: 20 And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian. 21 And Isaac intreated the Lord for his wife, because she was barren: and the Lord was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived. 22 And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the Lord. 23 And the Lord said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger. 24 And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. 25 And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment;

and they called his name Esau. 26 And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.

Genesis 25:26 And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.

Genesis 25:27 And the boys grew: and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents. 28 And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob. 29 And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: 30 And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. 31 And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. 32 And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? 33 And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

When Isaac was old, and his eyes were dim, he called Esau to him and told him to go out hunting to kill a deer and come back and prepare his favourite savoury meat dish for him.

1805 B.C. Jacob bought Esau's Birthright for a bowl of soup, then conspired with his mother to cheat Esau out of his blessing from Isaac.

Isaac's wife Rebekah overheard the request, and immediately summoned Jacob, and told him to prepare the food for his father. Then by trickery and deceit managed to deceive Isaac into thinking that Jacob was Esau, and Isaac unaware of the switch, gave Jacob the blessing, the birthright which should have gone to the elder Esau. As quoted above, Esau had 'sold' his birthright to Jacob some time before for a bowl of soup because he was so hungry after being out hunting. In this way Esau despised the value of his birthright.

Jacob had served Laban for two periods of seven years in order to be allowed to marry his daughters. Laban married Jacob off to Leah by deceit, and Jacob was willing to work another seven years to have Rachel as his wife. When serious ill-will developed between Laban and his family and Jacob and his family,

Genesis 31:1 And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory. 2 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before. 3 And the Lord said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee. ...

1739 B.C. Over time, there had been serious friction between Jacob and Esau, so much so that Jacob was fearful for his life as Esau approached with 400 men.

Genesis 32: 6 And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him.

The awful warring situation in the country called Israel in our era between the 'Jews' and the Palestians is actually friction between the descendants of two twin brothers which makes it totally tragic. It may be that the majority of those living in Palestine are Edomites as well as descendants of Jacob!

1729 B.C. Joseph thrown down into a pit by his brothers.

Genesis 37: 23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him; 24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

Genesis 37:28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

1729 B.C. Joseph is made chief of the household of a high official of the Pharaoh.

Genesis 39:1 And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither. 2 And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. 3 And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand. 4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

1721 B.C. Joseph's master was an official of the Pharaoh. His master's wife lusted after Joseph, and was determined to have him.

Genesis 39:7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. 8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand; 9 There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

Potiphar's wife proceeded to vent her wrath because Joseph had refused her.

Genesis 39:10 And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her. 11 And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within. 12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out. 13 And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth, 14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice: 15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

Potiphar's wife cried out to her husband's servants and told them that Joseph had tried to rape her.

Genesis 39:16 And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home. 17 And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me: 18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out. 19 And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled. 20 And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison.

1721 B.C. God's law forbids bearing false witness against anyone, it is a terrible crime often with dreadful consequences. But God was looking after Joseph's interests.

Genesis 39:21 But the Lord was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

1715 B.C. Pharoah has a dream which none of his 'wise' men can interpret, but finally Joseph is brought out of prison and tells the Pharoah the meaning of the seven lean and seven fat cattle. As a result, Pharoah promotes Joseph to be second only to the Pharoah over the whole land of Egypt.

In this sense, Joseph is a type of Christ, being taken from prison and in one day sitting at the right hand of the Pharoah, as happened to Christ after His abasement, suffering and death, who after His resurrection ascended to the Right Hand of the Father in Heaven in one day.

Genesis 41:39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: 40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou. 41 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt. 42 And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck; 43 And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt. 44 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt. 45 And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnathpaaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt. 46 And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt.

Joseph rose to a position of immense power in the 18th Century B.C., and at that time the population began to explode as the exponential doubling curve began to take effect. Joseph was also involved in the development of the Pyramids, and other great buildings and infrastructure.

Egypt was a very civilised place, people were highly educated, sophisticated, had extensive libraries, amazing knowledge of the heavens and astronomy, technical knowledge of architecture. The pyramids were built in the time of Joseph's rule next to the Pharoah, and his administration of the seven good years.

Then exactly as God had revealed to Joseph concerning the forthcoming famine all over the world and in Egypt, Joseph had stored up vast quantities food in the good years.

Genesis 41:56 And the famine was over all the face of the earth: and Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold unto the Egyptians; and the famine waxed sore in the land of Egypt. 57 And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands.

Genesis 42:1 Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another? 2 And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt: get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die. 3 And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt.

Then follows the story how Joseph engineers the situation where Jacob who had been grieving all those years since he had been shown Joseph's coat of many colours covered in blood, and was convinced that he was dead, Jacob and his twelve sons including Benjamin are brought into Egypt.

Genesis 45:25 And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father, 26 And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not. 27 And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived: 28 And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.

1705 B.C. Jacob and his family go down to Egypt, and are there for the next 215 years. The children of Israel prospered greatly and quickly grew in number until

Genesis 46:1 And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac. 2 And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I. 3 And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation: 4 I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes. 5 And Jacob rose up from Beersheba: and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. 6 And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed with him:

7 His sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and all his seed brought he with him into Egypt.

Genesis 47:5 And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph, saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee: 6 The land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest any men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

1634 B.C. Joseph dies.

Exodus 1:5 And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already. 6 And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation. 7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

1588 B.C. Now there was a new Pharaoh or king over Egypt who had no experience of Joseph or what he had done for the country.

Exodus 1:8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. 9 And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we: 10 Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land. 11 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses. 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel. 13 And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour: 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

By this time the Children of Israel had grown to 600,000 men plus their wives and families, and the Pharaoh had taken steps to reduce the birthrate.

1573 B.C. Moses is born to a Levite couple, and is saved miraculously by God from the effects of the law issued by the Pharaoh that all male Hebrew children born in Egypt should be slain, as they were getting too many and too strong for the Pharaoh's liking. His mother put him in a basket lined with pitch and tar to make it waterproof.

Exodus 2:2 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. 2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. 3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink. 4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

Exodus 2:5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it. 6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

Pharaoh's daughter plucks Moses out of the river and brings him up as her own. As a result, Moses received the best possible education in the arts and sciences living in the most advanced civilisation in the world which prepared him for the work he would do in his life. Moses was responsible for making adjustments to the Hebrew Calendar during the period of the wanderings in the Sinai Desert. When the Spring and Autumn official days were changed.

1533 B.C. Moses then murders an Egyptian who is beating an Israelite, he flees and goes to live in Midian.

1490 B.C. The end of 215 years children of Israel were in Egypt. God appears to Moses in the burning bush, and gives him his commission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

3rd 1491 B.C. - 1067 B.C. Israel wandering 40 years in the Sinai desert until they all died, then the 400 year period of the 'Dark Ages' from Joshua to the time of David and Solomon which was a type of millennium then Palestine went into a steady decline. Israel and the Jews were taken into captivity and Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed.

Exodus 3:11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

Exodus 12:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying, 2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Prior to the Exodus, years were counted from Spring to Spring, and the Passover was in the Spring. After the Exodus, the official year was taken

from the 1st of Tishri, and everyone had the same birthday, and all kings and official reigns began and ended in the Autumn. Christ was born on the Feast of Trumpets on the 1st Tishri, 2-3 B.C. So when it talks in Genesis about the birth of Cain and Abel being “in the process or time in the King James, the Hebrew actually means “in the end of days, meaning the end of the official year for counting purposes.

This establishment of Day of Trumpets is mentioned in the Psalms.

Psalm 81:3 Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. 4For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob. This he ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: where I heard a language that I understood not.

1491 B.C. The beginning of the plagues on Egypt and the Exodus.

By the time that the Children of Israel left Egypt they had grown in numbers. There were armed men of Israel 600,000 + women and children, so the number who went through the Red Sea numbered a total population of around 2 million.

Exodus14:8 And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.

Taking much wealth with them, gold, jewelery, and other valuable things no doubt rejoicing, but not for long.

Exodus14:9 But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon. 10 And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the Lord. 11 And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? 12 Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

The children of Israel had for ever been guilty of complaining to Moses for all their hardships, never looking past Moses to see that God had a hand in everything they did. So patient Moses as always tells them to trust God that He will deliver them,

Exodus 14:13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever 14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Moses told them to be quiet, but inside he also was in an attitude of complaining to God, so God said to Moses:

Exodus 14:15 And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: 16 But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

Exodus 14:21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. 22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

So the children of Israel went through the sea dry shod, witnessing the miracle of the power of the Almighty God.

Exodus 14:29 But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. 30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. 31 And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord, and his servant Moses.

Yes, the children of Israel saw and experienced the miraculous deliverance God provided for them, and feared the Lord and believed Moses. But for how long? How long did they remember this event and continue to fear God and respect Moses? Not long at all, less than three days!

Exodus 15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water. 23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. 24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? 25 And he cried unto the Lord; and the Lord shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them.

The Children of Israel continued in the desert for about six weeks, and once again fell into a murmuring attitude against Moses and against God. They were supposed to be preparing to enter the Promised Land.

1490 B.C. God said, send out men to search out the land of Canaan.

Numbers 13:13 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them. 3 And Moses by the commandment of the Lord sent them from the wilderness of Paran: all those men were heads of the children of Israel. So one leading man was chosen from each of the tribes of Israel to go and spy out the land.

Numbers 13:17 And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain: 18 And see the land, what it is, and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many; 19 And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; 20 And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.

Numbers 13:23 And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs. 24 The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence. 25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days. 26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land. 27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

They spent 40 days exploring, and found indeed that the land was 'flowing with milk and honey' as promised by God, with bunches of grapes that took two men to carry them! But those that were sent to search out the land were not willing to trust God to help them conquer the land.

Numbers 13:28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. 29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan. 30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. 31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the

people; for they are stronger than we. 32 And **they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel**, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. 33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

So once again the children of Israel rebelled against God's appointed servants, and therefore against God, were fearful and refused to go into the Promised Land.

Numbers 14:14 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night. 2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! 3 And wherefore hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? 4 And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt. 5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

The leaders, Joshua and Caleb, the only survivors of the original Israelites which came out of Egypt were devastated.

Numbers 14:6 And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: 7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. 8 If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. 9 Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not. 10 But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel. 11 And the Lord said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them? 12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

Once again Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Caleb were in fear of their lives, being threatened with stoning, a terrible way to die. God wanted to destroy them all, but Moses pleaded for the lives of the tribes of Israel. But God had

had enough of their rebellion, and decided they would all die in the desert and only their descendants would enter the Promised Land.

The children of Israel had left Egypt in a state of devastation, after the plagues, and especially the last one when God killed all the firstborn of the land, Egypt was in chaos from which it did not recover for four hundred years.

At the time of the Exodus, when the 600,000 men of Israel plus their families came out of Egypt under Moses, they were some of the most skilled professional architects, builders, designers, stone masons, carpenters and joiners in the world. They had been involved with the building of the Pyramids and many other of the magnificent buildings of Egypt, canal systems and other marvels.

Had they gone into the promised land of Canaan at that time, it would not have taken them very long to recreate the type of civilisation they had left behind in Egypt. But because they refused to go into the land, and did not trust God to take care of them and empower them to overcome the Canaanites, and due to their idolatrous activities and their rebellion against God at every turn, God became very angry with them, and the result should be an object lesson to everyone who reads the Biblical record to see what God does when a people disobey Him.

Their punishment was to wander in the Sinai desert for 40 years until all but two had died. It was their children that would go into the promised land. But during that forty years, the children of Israel lost all the knowledge they had in Egypt, they lost all their professional and artisan skills completely. When their children finally entered the promised land they were an ignorant, nomadic people of around two million, totally incapable of building up a new civilisation. This is why during the next four hundred years the Israelites remained in a type of 'dark ages'.

Exodus16:1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: 3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

What the children of Israel did not realise was that they were testing God's patience to the absolute limit. But God in His mercy provided them with flesh in the form of Quails, and Manna from heaven, and had provided water too.

Exodus 16:33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations. 34 As the Lord commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.

This was the pot of Manna that was to be kept in the Tabernacle and later in the Temple for a continuous testimony to God's providing for Israel.

As they travelled, they once again had no water, and they immediately turned on Moses who then feared for his life!

Exodus 17:3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst? 4 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

And once again, God heard Moses' prayer, and provided water. Not long after this an army of Amalakites came after Israel.

Exodus 17:8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

Once again, God came to their rescue and delivered them miraculously, but Moses had to keep his hands high for Israel to win the battle.

Exodus 19:19 In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

So after three months, God is preparing to give the children of Israel His Covenant and the ten commandments. So He reminds them how He has taken care of them.

Exodus 19:4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. 5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. 7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the Lord commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord.

Once again the children of Israel are moved to comply, but again not for long. Despite all the evidence they had of God's power, they chose to forget that, and demand of Aaron to make gods for them to worship. Idolatry is the worst sin, and in the case of Israel, it overlay their lack of appreciation for all God had done for them at every turn.

Exodus 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. 2 And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me. 3 And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. 4 And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. 5 And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To morrow is a feast to the Lord.

Here is the prime example of using objects as a focus to worship God, which He expressly forbids, as nothing physical can remotely represent the glory of God.

1451 B.C. At the end of the forty years of punishment in the Sinai Desert because they would not go into the Promised Land,

Exodus 16:35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

1451 B.C. Moses blessed Joshua, and then died. Joshua was full of the Spirit of the Lord, and wisdom.

Joshua 1:1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, 2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

Notice the expansion of the territory that God was giving to the Israelites, it was now to include from the wilderness, to Lebanon, to the Euphrates, and

all the land from the Euphrates to the coast of the Mediterranean. So they were given much more land.

Israel met the Amalekites – God once again delivered the Children of Israel. With help, Moses kept his arms and hands high, so they won the battle.

B.C. 1397 Once again, Israel had lost sight of Yahweh and His love for them.

The whole world went into a deep dark age of economic depression for 400 years until David came on the scene.

End verse of Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

1074 B.C. Israel had God, Christ, their Creator watching over them and giving them support whenever they were in an obedient frame of mind which was not very often! As usual they were grumbling and dissatisfied, and wanted to be like all the other nations around them and have a human king to look to.

This is really one of the saddest stories in the history of Israel. The results of their actions at this time in their past are still affecting them in this era.

1 Samuel 8:8 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. 3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

Samuel had lost control of his own children, had not kept them in line, and had allowed them the freedom to pursue money and pervert judgement.

1 Samuel 8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, 5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. 6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the Lord.

Now Samuel is allowing himself to be pressured by the 'Elders' who are demanding a human king, and prays to the Lord about it.

1 Samuel 8:7 And the Lord (Christ Jesus) said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they

have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. 8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.

This was a moment of enormous historical importance. God tells Samuel, yes, give them what they want, but I will tell you what the result of having human kings will be. The Lord gave to them, but he warned that a human king would **TAKE** from them in every aspect of their lives, and so it is unto this day!! So God tells Samuel what it is going to be like under a human king, and so Samuel tells all the people what God has told him:

1 Samuel 8:9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. 10 And Samuel told all the words of the Lord unto the people that asked of him a king.

Here is fair warning from Christ to His people of the consequences of their choice to reject Him, but of course they do not listen, they just want their own way. **A human King will always TAKE from you.**

1 Samuel 8:11 And he (Samuel, repeats what God, Christ had) said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will **TAKE** your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. 12 And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. 13 And he will **TAKE** your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. 14 And he will **TAKE** your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. 15 And he will **TAKE** the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. 16 And he will **TAKE** your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. 17 He will **TAKE** the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants. 18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day.

Despite all these very serious warnings Israel refused to listen.

Samuel 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; 20 that we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles. 21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the Lord. 22 And the Lord said to Samuel, Harken unto their voice, and make them a king.

So God, Christ said to Samuel, 'Listen to the people, and give them what they want.'

And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city.

It was not long however, that God regretted that he had allowed His children this 'freedom' to choose to have a king. Saul was the chosen one, and he very quickly descended into idolatry of the worst kind and rejoiced in it.

1074 B.C. Saul was made king over Israel. He and his son Jonathan began to get the tribes of Israel together to form a united nation.

1 Samuel 11:15 And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the Lord; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

And God regretted ever making Saul king.

1 Samuel 15:35 And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and **the Lord repented (was truly sorry) that he had made Saul king over Israel.**

1073 B.C. What we find now during the 400 years after the Exodus from Joshua to the time of David, Israel and Palestine had been in a low state of barbarism and ignorance which applied also to Egypt, and to Babylon and Assyria of which there is no mention in the Bible concerning that time. This was indeed a 'dark age' period.

The Bible IS the standard, it was written by Christ, and its historical details are correct, and it is the authority.

1 Samuel 13:19 Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears: 20 But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock. 21 Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads.

So at the end of the 400 year period after the Exodus, there were no qualified blacksmiths in the whole of Israel. They had a few simple tools like files, but to get their ploughs, axes and other tools made, they had to go to the Philistines, but now the Philistines were coming to war with Israel. None

of the people of Israel had any weapons, nor had they been able to work with metals at all. Only King Saul and Jonathan had weapons.

1 Samuel 13: 22 So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.

The Philistines on the coast are mentioned and the indication is that their state of civilisation there was superior to that of Israel and Palestine in that period. Even at the end of this 400 year period, the time of King Saul and Jonathan, when David was beginning to get the tribes of Israel together, and unifying the land, Israel and Palestine were still in an age of primitive barbarism. If archeological finds appear to contradict this, it is because they are being incorrectly dated and interpreted.

This indicates the low state of civilisation that Israel was in. They had lost all their skills in the 40 years of wandering in the Sinai desert, and even 440 years after the Exodus they were still in a state of appalling ignorance, and in a 'dark age' indeed.

This is an object lesson to all who ignore God's instructions, and throw His wishes for our best in His face. Because the children of Israel failed to trust that God would protect them as they went into the land, they all died in the Sinai desert, and although their children finally went into the land of Canaan, they remained in a low, uncivilised state of ignorance for the next 400 years until prosperity finally came when Solomon's reign began.

When the children of Israel came out of Egypt in the Exodus, they were among the most expert and skilled architects, builders, stone masons, carpenters, and artisans of all kinds in the whole world. They had been involved in constructing the marvels of Egypt during the 215 years ??? they were there, including the pyramids, and other wonders of ancient Egypt.

However they left Egypt's civilisation in a state of ruin due to the ten plagues, and especially with the effect of the death of all their firstborn.

Even though they had witnessed so many miracles of deliverance and protection God had given them, within a few weeks they made the golden calf, committed idolatry in a big way, turned on Moses and refused to go into the land of Canaan because they were afraid of the Canaanites instead of trusting God to deliver them safely. They could have easily built

themselves a greater civilisation than they had had in Egypt in a few decades, but their lack of trust in God resulted in them spending 40 years in the desert, during which time, they lost all their knowledge and skills. Any artifacts that show 'primitiveness' can therefore be dated to this time period if we use the Bible as the standard.

1073 B.C. The battle of Michmash

1 Samuel 13:23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash.

Michmash was 7 miles North of Jerusalem, and in 1 Samuel 14 it tells how God intervened in the battle and caused a great earthquake, so they won the battle.

Anyone who wants to destroy a civilisation and a culture simply keeps moving them.

Here is an example of 1day=1year. During the 40 years wandering in the Sinai Desert, Israel lost all their expertise in every area, became ignorant nomads, no skills were maintained or passed on to the children, there was no means to do so or to use them. They wore the same shoes until they died.

They lived only on Manna and the water that gushed out of the Tabernacle. They moved from place to place until every last one of them died except two, Joshua and Caleb.

God was seriously angry with Israel. When they left Egypt dark ages fell onto that country and Palestine for 400 years.

1 Samuel 13:19 In Saul's time, Israel was still in a low state evidence by the fact that there was no smith in Israel to work with metals, they had to get help from the Philistines. There were no weapons of iron in the land apart from the King and his son.

4th 1067 B.C. - 483 B.C. The first year of Cyrus to Christ's birth.

1067 B.C. David was anointed by the Lord, and the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul.

1 Samuel 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah. 14 But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.

Another example of how the Lord uses evil to forward His purposes.

1067 B.C. David slays Goliath. As time went on David united the North and the South, got an army together to defend Israel, obeyed God, and prosperity began to return.

1067 B.C. Solomon anointed by Zadok and becomes King of Israel.

1 Kings 1:39 And Zadok the priest took an horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet; and all the people said, God save king Solomon.

1015 B.C. David dies.

When David died, under Solomon, Israel enjoyed a period of vast prosperity and archeological sophistication began. Solomon built the Temple, and Israel in Jerusalem, and for the next 40 years enjoyed a type of Messianic and Millennial reign. Israel became the top nation in the entire world which recognised this and many kings and Cleopatra came to witness for themselves the vast wealth and prosperity of Solomon's kingdom.

Israel became the top nation in the world enjoying unprecedented wealth, prosperity and renown globally for 40 years, and in a sense had some control politically and financially over Egypt, Babylon, and Assyria.

So when archeologists look at Egyptian, Babylonian, and Hittite artifact of this period, the evidence should reflect the prosperity of the era. This is exactly what they will find if they accept the authority of the Scriptures.

When further exploration of tells in the Middle East is undertaken, it will certainly help to fill in more details to supplement the gaps in the Biblical record.

1 Chronicles 29:26 Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. 27 And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem. 28 And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour: and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

From the end of David's reign, who was a type of the Messiah to come, and 'out of his loins' came Christ humanly speaking through Mary.

1014 B.C. Solomon to build Temple

2 Chronicles 2:1 And Solomon determined to build an house for the name of the Lord, and an house for his kingdom.

1011 B.C. Solomon begins to build the Temple

992 B.C. Queen of Sheba visits Solomon

2 Chronicles 9:19 And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels that bare spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

975 B.C. Solomon reigned 40 years.

1 Kings 11:42 And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. 43 And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

After Solomon's reign, Israel broke into two nations. Any break up causes decline. However for the next 320 years there was fairly good prosperity, but nothing like there was under Solomon. Rehoboam taxed the people excessively. The ten tribes headed by Ephraim made their capital in the North, and Judah, Benjamin, Simeon and Levi took over the South with the capital in Jerusalem.

971 B.C. Shishak – Cipher for King of Babylon removes Temple treasures

2 Chronicles 12:9 So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house; he took all: he carried away also the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

772 B.C. The Assyrians conquered the Northern Tribes and carried them away to Assyria. From this point on, there would be two kingdoms of Hebrews: in the North - Israel, and in the South - Judah. The Israelites had

formed their capital in the city of Samaria. From the time of Israel's captivity, they became 'lost' to the world to all intents and purposes. The Judaeans kept their capital in Jerusalem. These kingdoms remained separate states for over two hundred years. The history of the both kingdoms is a litany of ineffective, disobedient, and corrupt kings.

608 B.C. Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed by the King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and the Judaeans were taken captive to Babylon for a period of 70 years, although this period is disputed by many historians, this is inspired scripture written by Christ, so is correct.

Daniel 11:1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. 2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

605 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar has a dream of World domination, one government, one God and one religion, Daniel interprets it. Thus is born the concept of World Government.

Daniel 2:1 And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

He could not remember the dream and none of his astrologers could tell him what the dream was. But God was with Daniel and he told Nebuchadnezzar what he had dreamed and the king knew it was right.

Daniel 2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, 33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. 34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

The Head of Gold was Babylon, then Silver was Medo-Persia, then Iron was Greco-Macedonian Empire, then the fourth of Iron mixed with clay shows the deterioration of world domination through the ages.

Daniel 2:36 This is the dream; and we (God and I) will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. 37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. 38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. 39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. 40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. 41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. 44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Nebuchadnezzar progressively came to know the true God during his reign, as God was using him to set up the Babylonish, confused government which would dominate the world until the second coming of Christ.

Daniel 2:47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

Many religious people interpret the fourth kingdom of iron and miry clay as being Rome, the Catholic Church, and a Germany dominated Europe to precede Christ's Second Coming, but nowhere does the Bible suggest this.

When the Bible says Babylon, it means Babylon not Rome! The fourth kingdom and the ten kings will arise in the future in the same area of Babylon and the Middle East, as God has always focussed on that area of the world.

Babylon means confusion which certainly describes human governments to this day in the 21st Century. The confusion will continue until Christ returns and smashes all the kingdoms of this world into fine dust, and sets up His Kingdom of God.

538 B.C. Cyrus proclamation ordering the rebuilding of the Temple

The Jews under Zerubbabel and Joshua the High Priest returned from the Medo Persian captivity in 586 B.C. to Jerusalem bearing the proclamation from Cyrus authorising them to rebuild the Temple.

Ezra 1:1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, 2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

But as usual, Judah and the High Priest failed to start work on the Temple as instructed, but instead built themselves some rather superior residences, so God says, "Consider your ways!" They were complaining about the lack of blessings, and God said in effect, what did you expect? You are not building My house but your own.

Haggai 1:1 In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, 2 Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built. 3 Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying, 'Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? 5 Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.'

446 B.C. Nehemiah.

The whole story of the Bible is that when people obey God, blessings follow, when they fail to obey God, there are no blessings, and even what they do have is taken away. Christ told us of this principle.

Matthew 25:29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken even that which he hath.

Palestine has always been the key area, and Jerusalem its centre, the focus of God's attention. The Bible is the key to history, and to the future of the world.

By the 8th Century B.C. Israel were in captivity with the Assyrians. Then 130 years later in 586 B.C., Israel went into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar. The Temple, Jerusalem, and the cities of Palestine were destroyed completely.

For the next 70 years, every mound excavated for this period showed the destruction. Professor Albright, Israeli head of research reviewed the time of the Babylonian captivity and found every tell or mound showed destruction just as Jeremiah and Ezekiel had prophesied. The nation's artifacts for the same period including those from Egypt mentioning Pharaoh Hophra show the same. Before this time, especially from before the 9th Century B.C., chronology is very difficult to unravel. After that there is more related evidence to go on.

There are also important astronomical evidences written down which can be checked with the information and data we have available to us in this era.

Virtually no historians accept that the Babylonian captivity was of 70 years duration, most would say around 50 years. Is God telling the truth in the Bible, or are the historians right? No contest! There is a need for extensive historical investigation to find more written evidence of this period.

Joshua to Saul was 400 years of a dark age – historians say it was prosperous! The design of pottery was clearly different in different eras, like 1930's cars were different from those made in 2000 not difficult to tell apart! Before the 9th Century, it is very difficult for archeologists to piece together the chronology but from the 8th Century B.C., on the decree of Cyrus in 538-515 B.C., and his decree to rebuild the Temple.

Then there is a gap until Alexander the Great who came on the scene in 332 B.C., From Daniel the mid 6th C to mid-4th C, there is not enough information to go on.

Prior to the 9th BC all archeology is based on Egypt, and due to the Egyptian habit of extending periods of Egyptian history by naming all the dynasties in succession when many were concurrent as shown in Velikowsky's Ages in Chaos, the timing is all wrong.

Egyptian historian Manetho about 305-285 B.C. made up 31 dynasties, the first after the flood. He lists them all as successive, but many were concurrent leading to 'expanded' history which is blithely accepted by many.

Velikowsky was more Bible based, archeologists have a 400 year mismatch with the Bible and vice versa.

The Biblical history is the standard, not the other way around, and is correct in every detail as it was written by God (Christ) the Word.

The Bible shows in a few places that there were several kingdoms in Egypt, kingdom against kingdom,

Jeremiah 46:25 The Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, saith; Behold, I will punish the multitude of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with their gods, and their **kings**; even Pharaoh, and all them that trust in him:

II Kings 7:6 For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host: and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the **kings** (plural) of the Egyptians, to come upon us.

Psalms 105:30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their **kings**. (kings plural of Egypt)

4th 1067 B.C. - 483 B.C. The first year of Cyrus to Christ's birth. Seventy weeks means seventy weeks of years. Seventy weeks of seven days or a period of 490 years. From Cyrus 490 years onward we would find the Kingdom of God emerging on the earth, and the Messiah appearing as well.

The 70 weeks prophecy in Daniel is divided into three sections, or four divisions. 7 weeks to begin with or 49 years, followed by a period of 434 years or 62 weeks, put those together and you get 69 weeks, or 483 years which leads up to the Messiah appearing. There would then be one week of seven years left, and that was to be divided in half, 3½ on one side and

3½ on the other. People have wondered about the 70 weeks prophecy for years, it is difficult as we are not given all the chronological benchmarks or events that would make this clear. These periods were 'cut out' of history, does this mean there were some gaps? These are still questions.

**SUMMARY OF BIBLICAL LINKS TO ENABLE CHRONOLOGY
FROM ADAM TO THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**

The time of man on earth from Adam to Christ Jesus was a period of 4000 years. (Idealised)

From Adam to Abraham's 99th year = 2107 +

ADAM - Noah and the Flood 1656 years + 451 years (?) =2107

Abraham's 99th year to the Exodus 430 years = 2537 +

Exodus 12:40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. 41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt.

Period of Judges 480 years Joshua – King Saul = 3017

1 Kiings 6:1 And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the Lord.

4th year of Solomon to end of reign 36 years = 3053 +

1 Kings 11:42 And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. (4th year to end of reign = 36 years)

Kings of Israel Rehoboam – Zedekiah 393 years = 3446 +

The list of Kings and length of reign is identical in both Kings and Chronicles

End of 70 years Captivity 1st of Cyrus = 3476 +

Jeremiah 25:11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

1st Year of Cyrus to birth of Christ + 483 years = 3999

Daniel 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: (7x7=49 + 62x7= 434 =483)the street shall be built again...

5th 2 B.C. - 96 A.D. Then Christ came, from the revelation of the mystery in 63 AD to the end of the 1st Century AD 40 years of very hazy information.

6th 96 A.D. - 2nd Advent - Millennium The time of man on earth from Christ Jesus to the Second Advent appears to be a period of 2000 years. (Idealised)

The number of man is six, and the Bible seems to indicate that man's time on earth will be 6000 years, followed by God's number of seven, the

beginning of the Kingdom of God, and the Millennium of 1000 years making 7000 years.

-2/3 B.C. - 33 A.D. Christ's birth, His life, ministry, death and resurrection.

33 A.D. - 96 A.D. The development of Christianity, the revelation of the mystery, and the canonisation of the New Testament.

96 A.D. - Second Advent A.D. A period of 1900 years of the perversion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ being mingled and taken over with the absorption of pagan and idolatrous practices by false prophets and ministers.

7th Post Millennium - Eternity

After that period, eternity will begin to arrive as God extends his Government forever.

Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.