

MAIN IDEAS

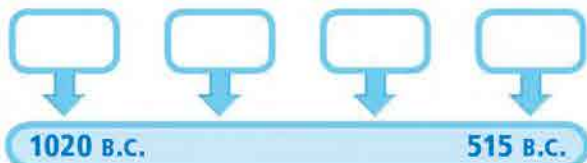
- 1 **Government** The Israelites built a small nation.
- 2 **Government** Conflict divided the Israelites and made them vulnerable to outside invaders.
- 3 **Belief Systems** The exiled Israelites returned to their homeland with beliefs that carried them through difficult times.

TAKING NOTES

Reading Skill:

Explaining Chronological Order and Sequence

To put events in sequence means to put them in order based on the time they happened. As you read Lesson 2, make a note of things that happened in the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Use a time line like this one to put events in order.



 Skillbuilder Handbook, page R15



▲ **Mezuzah** Traditionally, Jews keep a scroll of an important scripture passage in a mezuzah (a container often attached to a doorpost) like the one shown here. This practice is in keeping with the teachings of Deuteronomy 6:9 and 11:20.

Words to Know

Understanding the following words will help you read this lesson:

dispute an argument or quarrel (page 336)

Often, kings act as judges, settling important legal disputes.

outcome something that happens as a result or consequence (page 337)

The division of Israel was an outcome of disagreements among the kingdom's different tribes.

threat a warning of possible danger (page 337)

Faced with an external threat, the tribes united to defend themselves.

sustain to support the spirits of (page 338)

Sustained by their religious faith, the Jews were able to overcome tremendous hardships.

Kingdoms and Captivity

TERMS & NAMES

David
Solomon
Babylonian
Captivity
Messiah
prophets

Build on What You Know You have learned that the Israelites came back to Canaan from Egypt. When they returned, they fought to regain control of the land and clashed with their neighbors.

The Kingdom of Israel

1 ESSENTIAL QUESTION Who were some of the early kings of Israel?

The Israelites' belief in one God and their religious practices set them apart from others in the region. They traded with other groups in Canaan but did not adopt their culture or beliefs. However, sometimes individuals from different groups did mix. One such example is the story of Ruth and Naomi, which you read at the beginning of the chapter.

Saul and David About 1029 B.C., the Israelites faced the Philistines, another people in the area. The Philistines invaded and conquered Israelite territory.

The Israelites agreed to unite under one king in order to fight the Philistines, although many feared a king with too much power. A judge named Samuel shared these concerns, but helped select the first kings of the 12 tribes.

Connect to Today

Judah and Philistia A flock of sheep grazes in hills once part of the kingdom of Judah. ▼

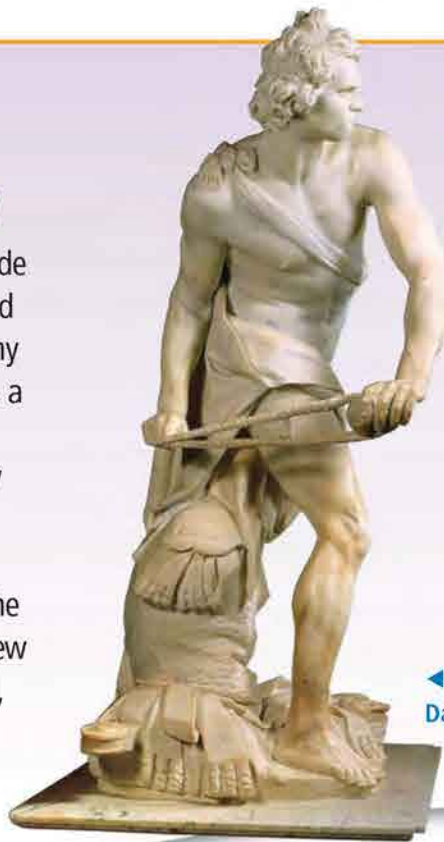


History Makers

David (ruled during the 900s B.C.)

David organized a central government and made Jerusalem the capital of Israel. He expanded the borders of Israel and helped its economy grow by encouraging trade with Phoenicia, a neighbor on the Mediterranean coast.

According to the Hebrew Bible, David slew the Philistine giant Goliath. David, who was Israel's second king, was also a fine poet and musician. He is said to have written many of the beautiful prayers and songs found in the Hebrew Bible's Book of Psalms. By the time David died, Israel had become an independent and united kingdom mostly at peace with its neighbors.



◀ Sculpture of David by Bernini

A New Leader The Israelites chose Saul, a respected military leader, as their first king in 1020 B.C. Under Saul, the Israelites fought the Philistines. These battles forced the Philistines to loosen their control over the Israelites. After Saul's death, the Israelites looked for a new leader.

According to the Hebrew Bible, Samuel chose a young man named **David** as the next king. The choice was a wise one. In about 1000 B.C., David and the Israelites drove out the Philistines. David won control of Jerusalem.

P Primary Source Handbook
See the excerpt from the Hebrew Bible: Psalm 100, page R50.

Solomon David established a line of kings. He chose his son **Solomon** to succeed him. Solomon became the third king of Israel in about 962 B.C. Solomon, too, was a strong leader.

P Primary Source Handbook
See the excerpt from the Hebrew Bible: Proverbs, page R49.

During Solomon's rule, Israel became a powerful nation. Solomon built on the trade ties between Phoenicia and Israel established by David. Solomon also formed new trade alliances.

Solomon oversaw many building projects. His most famous was the Temple in Jerusalem. (See pages 318–319.) The Temple became the center of religious life for the Israelites. People came there from all parts of the kingdom to say prayers and leave offerings. Many also came to ask the wise king to settle their disputes.

REVIEW Why did the Israelites decide to choose a king?

The Kingdom Divides

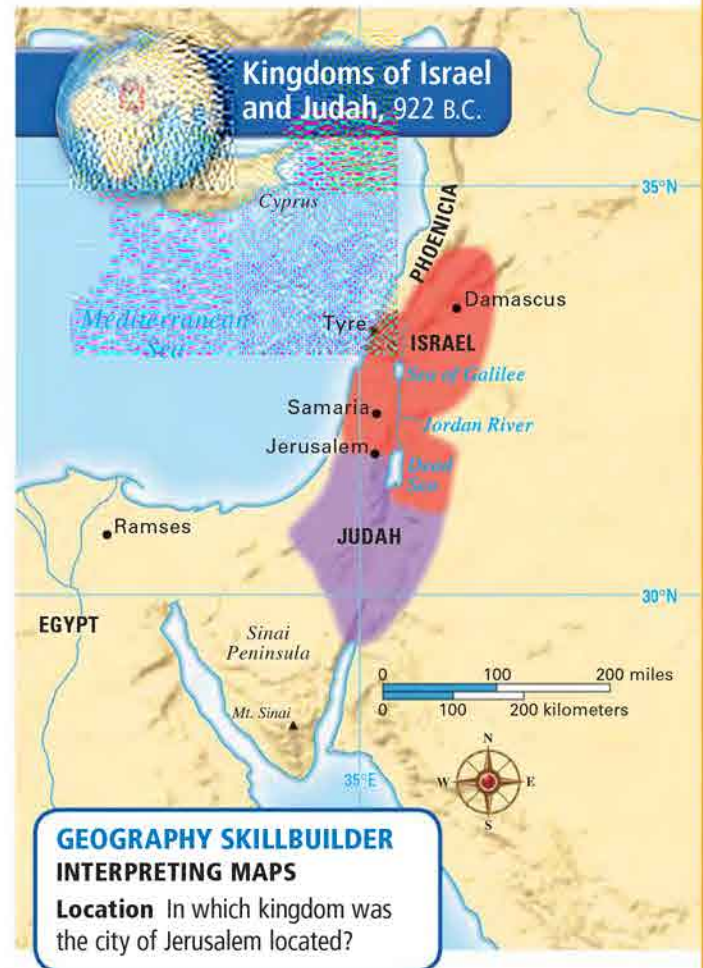
2 ESSENTIAL QUESTION What was the outcome of the conflict among the Israelites?

Faced by a threat of attack, Israelite tribes formed the kingdom of Israel. When the threat ended, the kingdom divided.

Israel and Judah King Solomon died in 922 B.C. When Solomon's son became king, the northern tribes refused to pledge their loyalty until he agreed to lighten their taxes and end their labor on building projects. When he refused, the tribes rebelled. Only the tribes of Judah and Benjamin remained loyal.

Israel split into two separate kingdoms. The northern part continued to be called Israel. The two tribes in the southern area, which included Jerusalem, called their new nation Judah. The words *Judaism* and *Jews* come from the name Judah.

Two separate kingdoms existed for about two centuries. Throughout this period, Jerusalem remained an important center of worship.



Assyrians and Babylonians Take the Land By 738 B.C., both kingdoms faced new threats to their independence from the Assyrians. The Assyrians forced Israel and Judah to pay tribute. In 722 B.C., Assyria invaded Israel, whose army was weak, and conquered it. The kingdom of Israel ended. Around 612 B.C., the Assyrian Empire fell to the Babylonians. (You read about this in Chapter 4.)

For many years, King Nebuchadnezzar ruled Babylonia. In 586 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem. When Judah's leaders resisted his rule, the Babylonians destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem. They took thousands of Jews to Babylon as slaves.

REVIEW What conflicts caused Israel to split into two kingdoms?

Jewish Exiles Return to Judah

3 ESSENTIAL QUESTION What hope sustained the Jews in exile?

The exiles from Judah spent about 50 years in Babylon. This time is known as the **Babylonian Captivity**. During this period, the Israelites became known as the Jews.

Beliefs During the Babylonian Captivity During their years in Babylon, the Jews struggled to keep their identity. They continued to observe religious laws, celebrate holy days, and worship as they had in Judah. They hoped someday to return to their homeland in Judah and rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.

The exiles also looked forward to a time when they would have their own king again. Before the exile, Hebrew leaders were anointed, or had special oils poured on their heads, when they assumed their offices. The Hebrew word **Messiah** (mih•SY•uh) means an “anointed one” charged with some task or leadership. Throughout the centuries of foreign rule, the people kept hoping for their own king. This was sometimes expressed as a hope for an anointed king, an heir to the throne of David, a Messiah.

During times of trouble, both in Judah and in exile, the Jewish people turned to spiritual leaders called **prophets** for advice. These were men and women thought to have a special ability to interpret God’s word. They warned the people when they strayed from the Jewish code of conduct. They criticized rulers who were not living according to God’s laws. The prophets also comforted the people in times of trouble.

The Temple Is Rebuilt In 539 B.C., the Persians conquered Babylonia. As you learned in Chapter 4, Lesson 3, the Persian

Primary Source Handbook

See the excerpt from the Hebrew Bible: Daniel in the Lions’ Den, pages R47–48.

Cyrus the Great This engraving shows Cyrus giving objects from the destroyed Temple to the Jews. ▼



king Cyrus set up a policy of religious toleration in his empire. In 538 B.C., Cyrus freed the Jewish exiles from captivity and allowed them to return to their homeland in Judah.

Soon after most of the exiles returned to Judah, they began rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem. The beautiful Temple Solomon had built lay in ruins. Grass grew between the crumbling walls. Workers completed the new Temple sometime around 515 B.C.

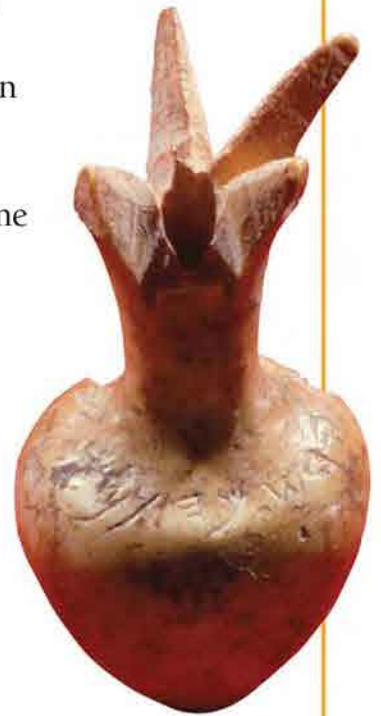
REVIEW How did the exiles maintain their identity in Babylon?

Lesson Summary

- Saul, David, and Solomon were the first kings of Israel.
- After the death of Solomon, the kingdom of Israel split into two smaller kingdoms—Israel and Judah.
- The Babylonian conquest destroyed the Temple and forced the people of Judah into exile in Babylon.

Why It Matters Now . . .

During the years in captivity, the exiles maintained the religious beliefs and practices that are part of Jewish life today.



▲ **Ivory Pomegranate** This ivory fruit is believed to be the only remaining relic from Solomon's Temple. Almost two inches high, the object may have decorated an altar.

2 Lesson Review

Terms & Names

1. Explain the importance of
- | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----------|
| David | Babylonian Captivity | prophets |
| Solomon | Messiah | |

Using Your Notes

Explaining Chronological Order and Sequence

Use your completed time line to answer the following question:

2. Which empire destroyed the kingdom of Israel, and which empire took the Jews into captivity?



Main Ideas

3. What were Solomon's achievements as king of Israel?
4. What was the role of prophets in Jewish life in the ancient world?
5. What event ended the Babylonian Captivity?

Critical Thinking

6. **Drawing Conclusions** How did fighting among the tribes of Israel make it easier for their enemies to conquer them?
7. **Making Inferences** Why do you think Jewish exiles wanted to rebuild the Temple as soon as they returned to their homeland?



Homework Helper
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Activity

Writing a Narrative Look at the illustration on pages 318–319 and reread "Solomon" on page 336. Write a narrative story about one of the visitors or travelers to the Temple.

Constructing Time Lines

Goal: To construct a time line in order to understand events in the history of the Hebrews

Learn the Skill

Making a time line is a good way to understand material that includes a lot of dates. Events are placed on a time line in the order that they happened. When events are in the proper order, you can see the relationships among them.

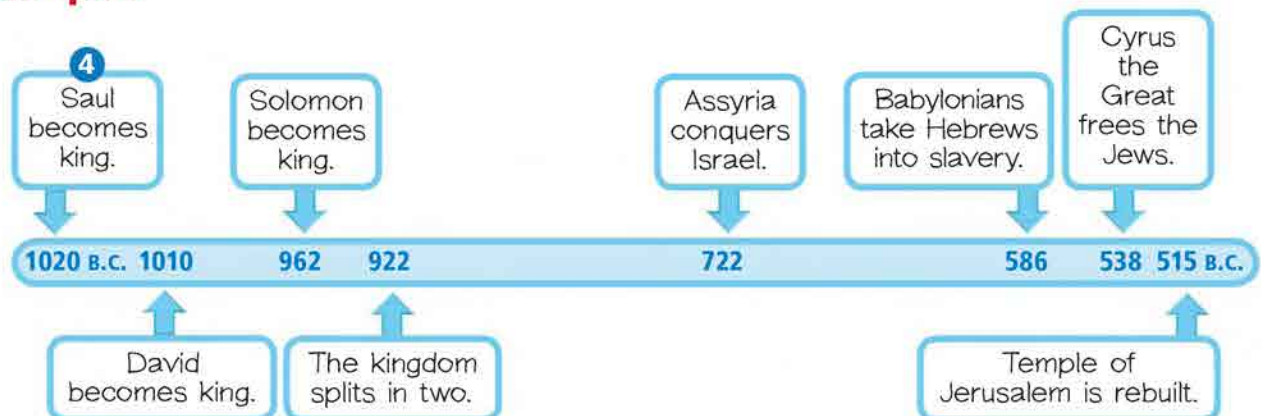


See the Skillbuilder Handbook, page R14.

Practice the Skill

- 1 Look for clue words about time as you read the passage at right. These are words such as *first*, *next*, *then*, *before*, *after*, *finally*, and *by that time*. Some of these are identified for you in the passage.
- 2 Use specific dates provided in the text.
- 3 Look for phrases that link two events together to help you find an exact date. For example, to figure out the date of Solomon's death, subtract 40 (the number of years he ruled) from 962, the year his reign began. Remember that B.C. dates decrease as they move forward in time.
- 4 Use a time line like the one below to help you put the events in a passage in the right order. Look for the earliest date to know how to mark the beginning of the time line and latest to mark the end of the time line. This time line is based on the passage you just read.

Example:



Secondary Source

In the following passage, the author describes the history of the Hebrew kingdoms. Notice that the passage covers a long period of time. Use the numbered strategies listed under Practice the Skill to help you follow the order of events.

The Rise and Fall of the Hebrew Kingdoms

The **1** first king of Israel was Saul. He became king in **2** 1020 B.C. His successor, King David, reigned from **2** 1010 B.C. to 970 B.C. David expanded the kingdom and established a dynasty that lasted for about 400 years.

The kingdom of Israel reached its peak during the reign of David's son Solomon. He took the throne in **2** 962 B.C. and reigned for **3** 40 years. His greatest achievement was the construction of a great Temple in Jerusalem. **1** After Solomon's death, the kingdom split in two. The northern kingdom was called Israel, and the southern kingdom was called Judah.

The kingdom was not as strong **1** after the split. In **2** 722 B.C., Assyria took over Israel but not Judah. **1** Then in **2** 586 B.C., the Babylonians conquered Judah. Thousands of Jews were taken to Babylon as slaves.

The Jews remained slaves in Babylon until **2** 538 B.C. **1** At that time, Cyrus the Great of Persia conquered the Babylonians. He freed the Jews and allowed them to return to Judah. **1** After their return, the Jews rebuilt the Temple of Jerusalem. It was completed in **2** 515 B.C.



▲ Mosaic King David and King Solomon are shown in this detail from a Byzantine mosaic of the 11th century.

Apply the Skill

Turn to Chapter 13, Lesson 3. Read the sections "Julius Caesar" and "Emperors Rule Rome." Make a time line like the one at left to show the order of events.