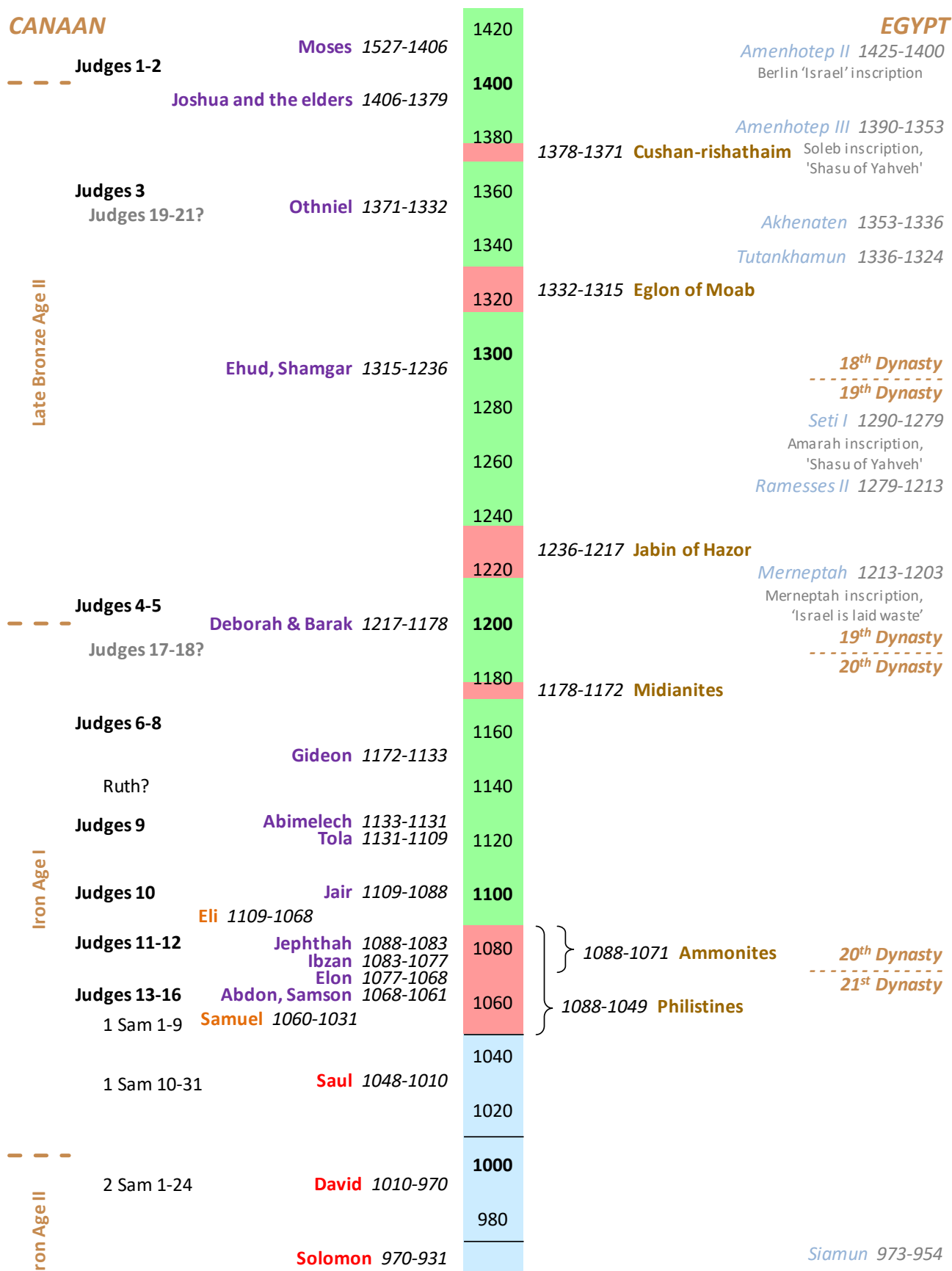


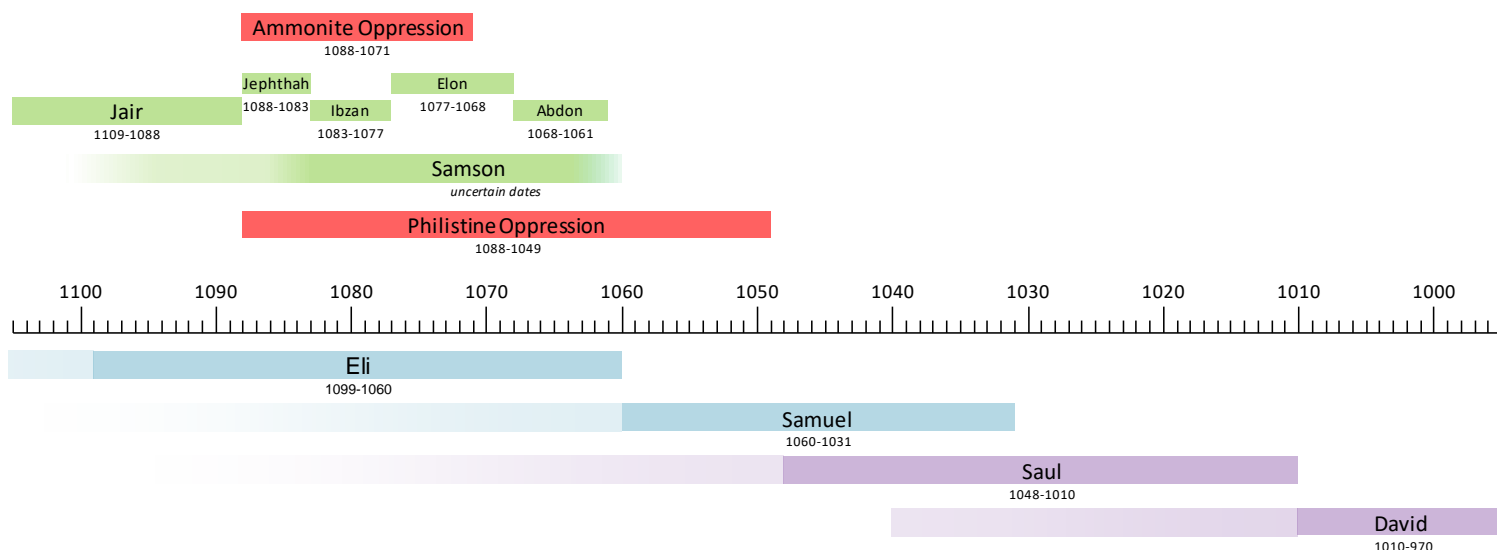
The Judges Period in Israel

This chart is based on Andrew Steinmann, "The Mysterious Numbers of the Book of Judges," *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 48/3 (2005): 491-500.



The Judges Period in Israel

Samson was one of the last judges of Israel. He lived during the 40-year Philistine oppression (Judges 13:1) and judged Israel for twenty years (Judges 15:20). His life likely overlapped those of Eli, Samuel, and Saul, and he would not have predated David by much.

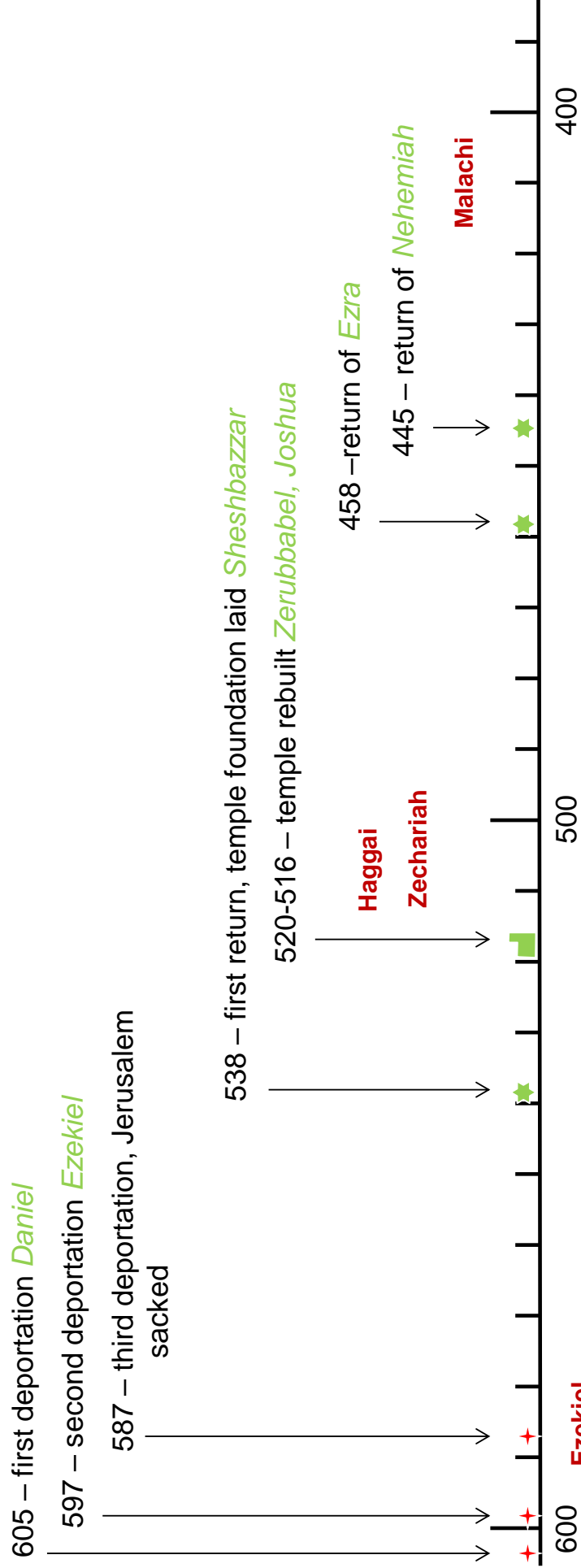


The overlap of the Ammonite and Philistine oppressions is indicated by Judg 10:7.

Judges 10:7 And the anger of the Lord burned against Israel, and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the sons of Ammon.⁸ And they afflicted and crushed the sons of Israel that year; for eighteen years they *afflicted* all the sons of Israel who were beyond the Jordan in Gilead in the land of the Amorites.

Judges 13:1 Now the sons of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, so that the Lord gave them into the hands of the Philistines forty years.

Exile & Return

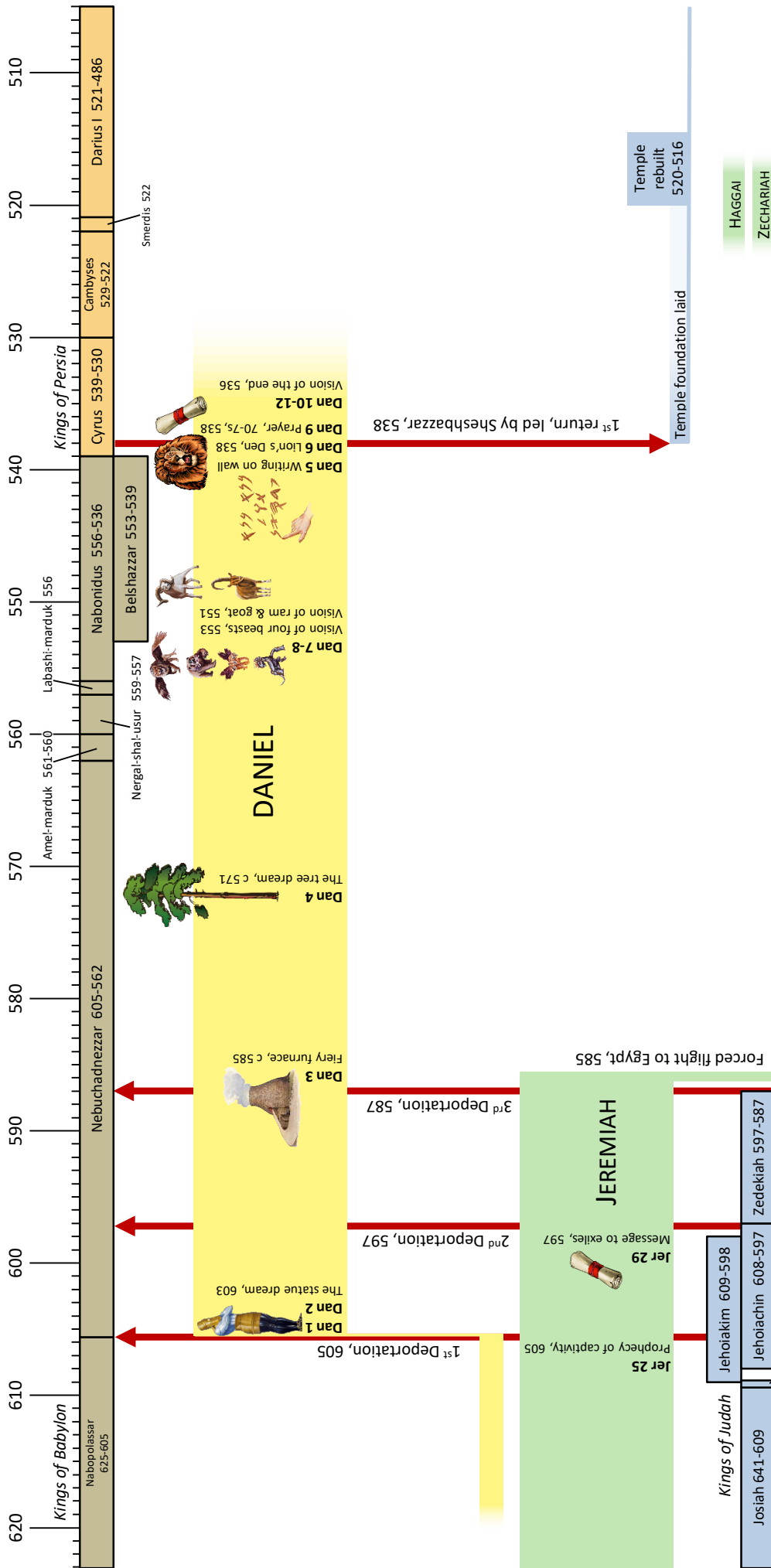


Daniel	
Nebuchadnezzar 605-562	Nabonidus 555-539
Cyrus 539-530	Darius I 522-486
Xerxes I 486-465	Artaxerxes I 465-423
Esther	Darius II 423-404
Artaxerxes II 404-359	

Amel-Marduk – 561-560
 Neriglissar – 559-556
 Labashi-Marduk - 556

Cambyses – 530-522
 Gaumata – 522

Life of Daniel

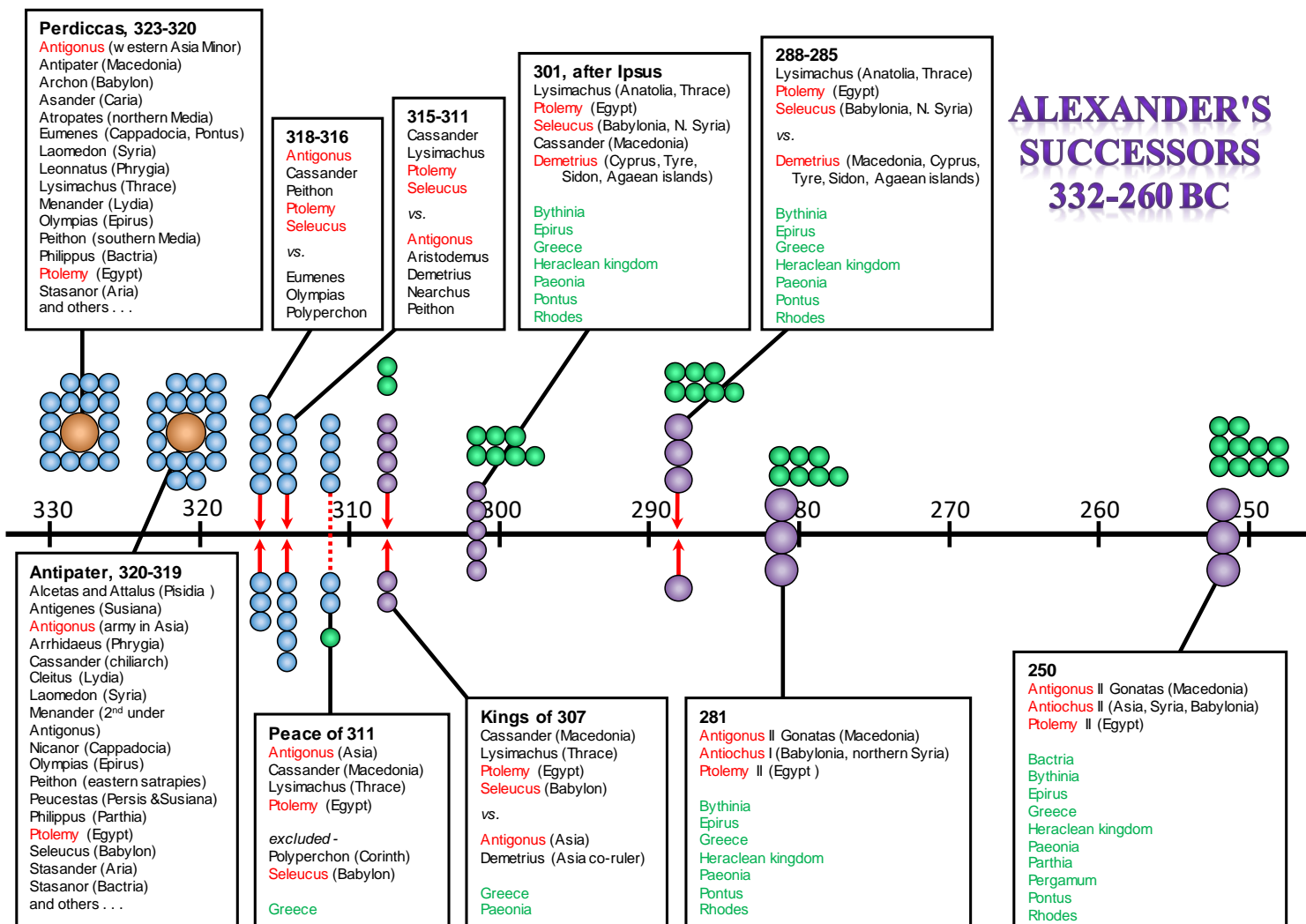


Babylon to Alexander

What happened to Alexander's empire after he died?

Daniel 11:1 "And in the first year of Darius the Mede, I arose to be an encouragement and a protection for him. ² "And now I will tell you the truth. Behold, three more kings are going to arise in Persia. Then a fourth will gain far more riches than all *of them*; as soon as he becomes strong through his riches, he will arouse the whole *empire* against the realm of Greece. ³ "And a mighty king will arise, and he will rule with great authority and do as he pleases. ⁴ "But as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom will be broken up and parceled out toward the four points of the compass, though not to his *own* descendants, nor according to his authority which he wielded; for his sovereignty will be uprooted and *given* to others besides them.

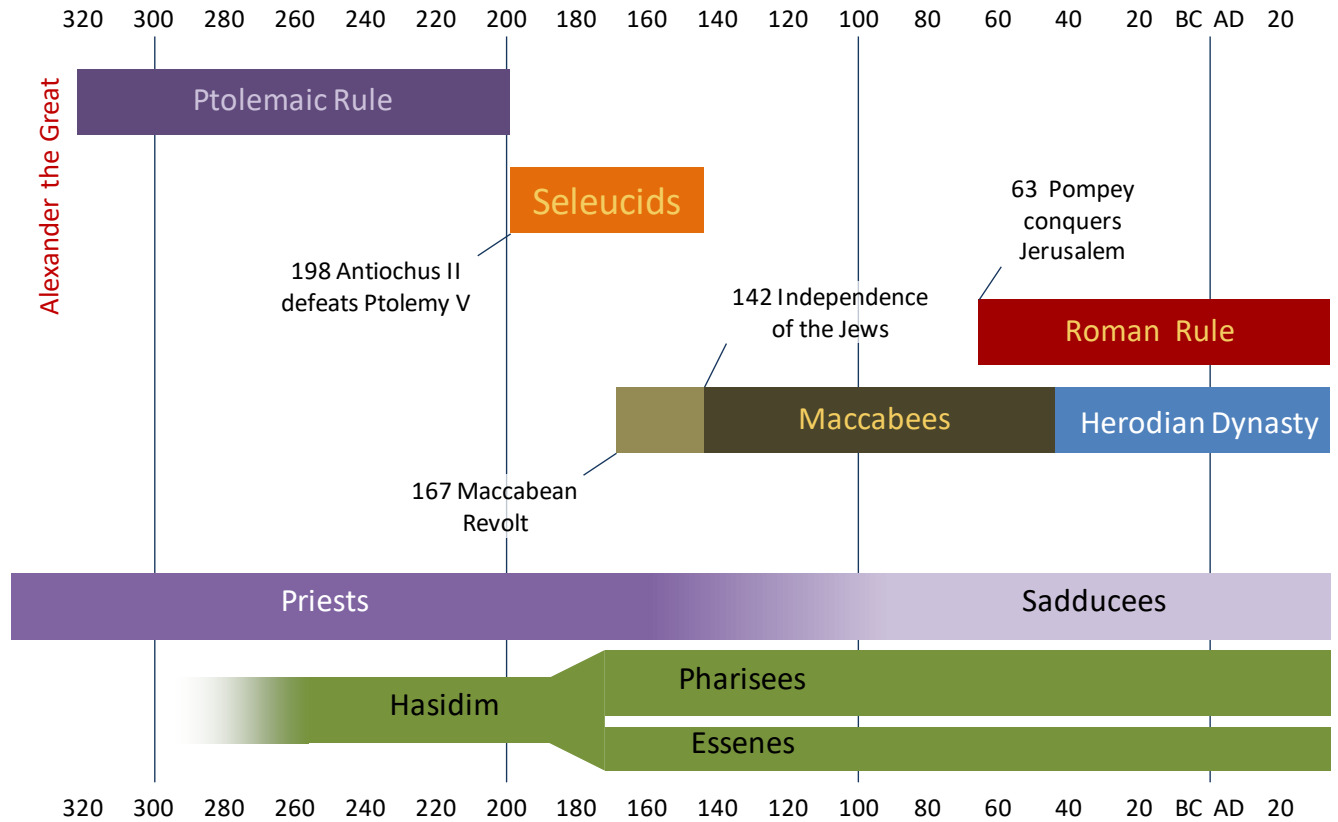
ALEXANDER'S SUCCESSORS 332-260 BC



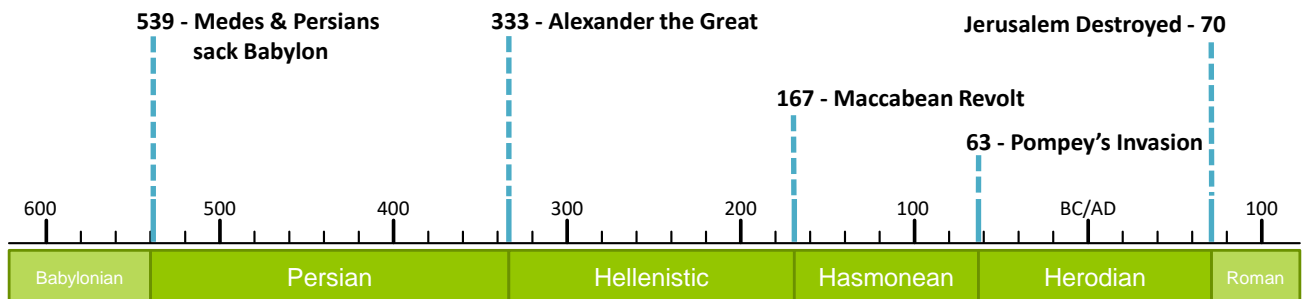
Contrary to popular perception, Alexander's empire was not split into four kingdoms or among four of his generals (contra NIRV "It will be divided up into four parts"). Rather, the phrase "to the four points of the compass" (NAS) or "to the four winds of heaven" (ESV) is a common biblical and ANE expression that indicates the empire will be fragmented in all directions.

Intertestamental Rulers of Palestine

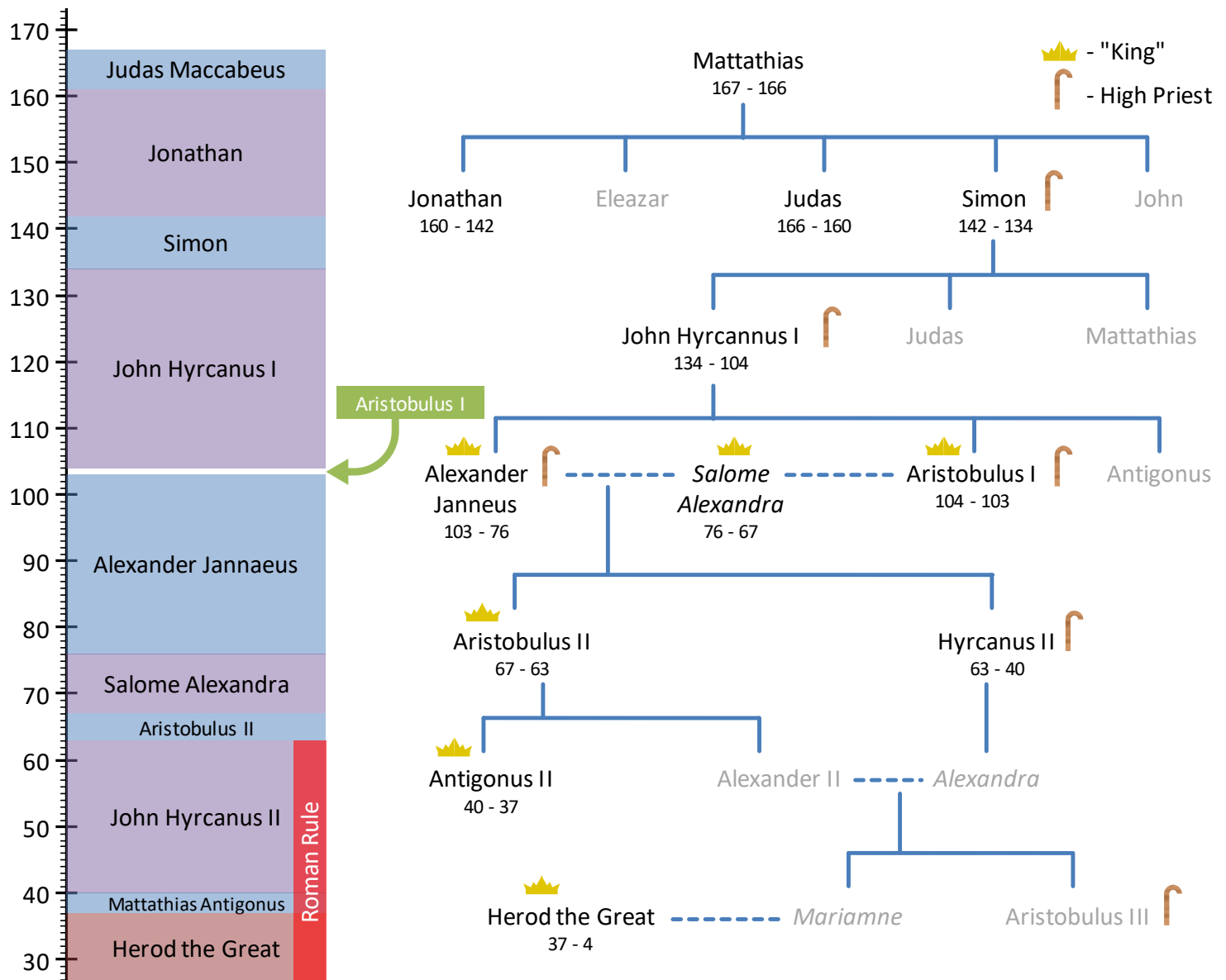
After the return from Babylonian captivity, the land of Israel, now called “Judea” was administered by the Persian Empire. This empire was conquered by the Greeks under Alexander the Great. Upon his death, Judea became a province under the rule of the Ptolemies in Egypt, although the region was contested by the northern kingdom of the Seleucids. The land came under Seleucid rule after the Battle of Panium in 198 BC. The offensive activities of Antiochus IV Epiphanies sparked the Maccabean Revolt in 167.



This period also saw the birth of several religious groups that appear in the NT but are not known at the close of the OT. These include the sects of the Sadducees and the Pharisees. The Sadducees seem to have arisen from the priestly class, while the Pharisees appear to have come from a pietistic group with uncertain roots during the intertestamental period.



Maccabean Rulers



Some important dates and events in the Hasmonean Period:

164 - Rededication of the temple in Jerusalem

142 - Independence of the Jews granted by Demetrius Nicator of Syria

141 - The Akra in Jerusalem was finally captured by the Maccabees

John Hyrcanus I grew the kingdom significantly when he annexed Idumea, Samaria, and Galilee.

Alexander Jannaeus crucified 800 Jewish rebels, and may have minted the first Hasmonean coins.

Salome Alexandra constructed twin palaces at Jericho for her two sons.

63 - Pompey invaded and conquered Judea, beginning Roman rule

40 - Antigonus was installed as a puppet king by the Parthians; Herod fled to Rome