Seventeen Bible Periods

by Wayne Goff

An excellent way to navigate your way around the Bible is to memorize and understand the seventeen Bible periods. Then if you can remember what period an event might have happened, it's easier to locate it. The descriptions are helpful information. You don't have to memorize them.

1. Before the Flood

From Creation and early civilization, Genesis 1-5

2. The Flood

The world-wide flood which destroyed all mankind except Noah's family, Genesis 6-10

3. Scattering of the People

God confuses man's language at the Tower of Babel, Genesis 11

4. Patriarchs

The families which descended from Shem, Genesis 11-50

5. Exodus from Egypt

Sons of Jacob enslaved in and freed from Egypt, Exodus 1-14

6. Wandering in the Wilderness

Israel wanders in the wilderness for forty years, **Exodus 15—Deuteronomy**

7. Invasion & Conquest of Canaan

The next generation of Israelites invade and conquer Canaan, Joshua

8. Judges

Israel's four hundred years being delivered by Judges, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel 1-7; 1 Chron. 1-9

9. United Kingdom

Israel asks for a king; Saul, David, Solomon, 1 Samuel 8-11; 1 Kings, 1 Chronicles 10 — 2 Chronicles 9

10. Divided Kingdom

The kingdom divides into Israel (10 tribes) and Judah (2 tribes), 1 Kings 12—2 Kings 17; 2 Chronicles 10-28

11. Judah Alone

Israel is destroyed, 721 B.C.; Judah alone is God's favored nation, 2 Kings 18-25, 2 Chronicles 29-36

12. Captivity

Judah rebels against God and is destroyed; survivors go to Babylon for 70 years, 2 Kings 24-25, 2 Chronicles 36, Ezekiel, Daniel

13. Return from Captivity

King Cyrus or Persia releases Judah's captives and some return to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple, Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

14. Years of Silence

God reveals nothing to Israel for four hundred years

15. Life of Christ

Birth, Life, and Death of Jesus, Matthew — John

16. Early Church

Beginning of the church in Jerusalem and its growth, Acts

17. Letters to the Christians

Writings of inspired apostles and prophets to Christians and churches in the first century, Romans — Revelation 354104