

# Israelite Kings Date Chart

(Based on the chronology of John Bright)

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Good kings, in terms of religious leadership or reforms

Good political leaders, but faulted for lack of commitment to God

Especially bad kings, as either political or religious leaders, or both

Kings assassinated or deposed

Underlined names are active links to Old Testament History articles.

The United Monarchy				
Dates (BC)	Kingdom of the Israelites			
1020-1000	Saul			
1000-961	<u>David</u>			
961-922	<u>Solomon</u>			
The Divided Kingdoms				
Dates (BC)	Israel (Northern)		Judah (Southern)	Dates (BC)
922-901	<u>Jeroboam I</u>		<u>Rehoboam</u>	922-915
			<u>Abijah</u>	915-913
901-900	<u>Nadab</u>		<u>Asa</u>	913-873
900-877	Baasha			
877-876	<u>Elah</u>		<u>Jehoshaphat</u>	873-849
876	<u>Zimri</u>	<u>Tibni</u>		
876-869	<u>Omri</u>			
869-850	<u>Ahab</u>			
850-849	Ahaziah		<u>Jehoram</u>	849-843
849-843	<u>Joram (Jehoram)</u>		<u>Ahaziah</u>	843
843-815	Jehu		<u>Athaliah (non-Davidic Queen)</u>	843-837
815-802	Jehoahaz		<u>Joash</u>	837-800
802-786	<u>Jehoash (Joash)</u>		<u>Amaziah</u>	800-783
786-746	<u>Jeroboam II</u>		<u>Uzziah (Azariah)</u>	783-742
746-745	<u>Zachariah</u>		<u>Jotham (co-regent)</u>	750-742
745	<u>Shallum</u>		<u>Jotham (king)</u>	742-735

745-737	<b>Menahem</b>		
737-736	<b>Pekahiah</b>		
736-732	<b>Pekah</b>		
732-724	<b>Hoshea</b>	<b>Ahaz</b>	735-715
<b>721</b>	<b>Fall of Samaria</b>		
		<b>Hezekiah</b>	715-687
		<b>Manasseh</b>	687-642
		<b>Amon</b>	642-640
		<b>Josiah</b>	640-609
		<b>Jehoahaz</b>	609
		<b>Jehoikim (Eliakim)</b>	609-598
		<b>Jehoiachin (Jeconiah)</b>	598-597
		<b>Zedekiah (Mattaniah)</b>	597-587
		<b>Fall of Jerusalem</b>	<b>587</b>

This chart is based on the chronology of John Bright (*A History of Israel*, 3rd edition, Westminster, 1981). There are other chronologies of the Israelite kings that differ in some details, e.g., that of J. Maxwell Miller in *Harper's Bible Dictionary*.

The problem of OT chronology is complicated by various factors:

- 1) some biblical numbers are symbolic or schematized;
- 2) variant manuscript readings differ;
- 3) various date references are given in different portions of Scripture;
- 4) little external verification to cross check dates;
- 5) different systems of dating;
- 6) problem of transferring lunar dates into solar dates;
- 7) different methods of figuring the regnal years of kings;
- 8) possibility of co-regencies of kings (we know of only one, that of Uzziah and Jotham), etc.

All of these factors make figuring a chronology of the Israelite kings much less precise than we are accustomed.

The purpose here is not to solve the historical debates but to provide a general relative time frame of Old Testament events for the purposes of biblical interpretation. The reader should be aware that these dates are not absolute, and could change in light of new evidence.

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