

The 12 Colors of *The Bible Timeline*® Learning System

The *Bible Timeline*® Learning System has helped millions of Catholics read and understand the Word of God. By mapping out the 12 time periods of salvation history and distinguishing each one with a unique color, it leads readers through the story of Scripture. Learn about each of the 12 time periods and what their color symbolizes below!



Catholic Bible

1. EARLY WORLD

Turquoise: the color of the earth viewed from space

Creation to
2200 BC



Genesis 1-11

.....

God creates an ordered and good world, but Adam and Eve's disobedience leads to separation from God.

2. PATRIARCHS

Burgundy: God's blood covenant with Abraham

2200 BC to
1800 BC



Genesis 12-50

.....

God calls Abraham to leave his homeland and beget a great nation. Jacob becomes the father of twelve sons, and his youngest son, Joseph, becomes a powerful ruler in Egypt.

3. EGYPT AND EXODUS

Red: the Red Sea

1800 BC to
1446 BC



Exodus

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The descendants of Jacob, the Israelites, are oppressed in Egypt and led to freedom by Moses. God makes a covenant with them.

4. DESERT WANDERINGS

Tan: the color of the desert

1446 BC to
1406 BC



Numbers

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God guides the Israelites to the borders of the Promised Land but they repeatedly complain and are punished with 40 additional years in the desert.

5. CONQUEST AND JUDGES

Green: the hills of Canaan

1406 BC to
1050 BC



**Joshua, Judges,
1 Samuel 1-8**

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Under Joshua, the Israelites enter the Promised Land and conquer it, but they later fall into a recurring pattern of sin.

6. ROYAL KINGDOM

Purple: the color of royalty

1050 BC to
930 BC



**1 Samuel 9-31,
2 Samuel,
1 Kings 1-11**

.....

God reluctantly gives the Israelites a king as they request. Their kings are Saul, David, and Solomon.

7. DIVIDED KINGDOM

Black: Israel's darkest period

930 BC to 722 BC



1 Kings 12–22,
2 Kings 1–16

.....

The kingdom of Israel splits in two and God sends powerful prophets to bring Israel back to him. The Northern Kingdom breaks off and is ultimately destroyed.

8. EXILE

Baby Blue: Judah “singing the blues” in Babylon

722 BC to 538 BC



2 Kings 17–25

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The Southern Kingdom continues to be unfaithful to God despite the prophets. The kingdom is conquered by Babylon.

9. RETURN

Yellow: Judah returning home to brighter days

538 BC to 167 BC



Ezra, Nehemiah

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Babylon is conquered by the Persians, whose king allows the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple.

10. MACCABEAN REVOLT

Orange: fire in the oil lamps in the purified Temple

167 BC to AD 1



1 Maccabees

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The Persians are defeated by the Greeks, who begin to oppress the Jews. A group of Jews revolt and win but later become a client state of Rome under Herod.

11. MESSIANIC FULFILLMENT

Gold: the gifts of the Magi

AD 1 to AD 33



Luke

.....

Jesus Christ, fully God and man, a descendant of David, is born of a virgin. He establishes a new Israel around himself and allows himself to be killed for the salvation of the world.

12. THE CHURCH

White: the spotless bride of Christ

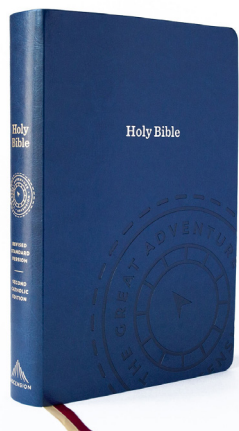
AD 33 to present day



Acts

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Jesus appears to the Apostles and gives them the Holy Spirit. The Church, as established by Jesus, continues to the present day.



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