COVENANT Episode Summary

CHALLENGED: 931 TO 63 BC

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1. ESSENTIALS

What Do You Need to Know First About This Era?

SPAN: ***931–63 BC:*** Divided Kingdom to Rome
BOOKS: ***Kings–Malachi:*** Plus Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah
COVENANT: ***Challenged:*** But Not Abandoned
KEY PEOPLE: ***The Prophets:*** Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel
SETTING: ***Israel & Judah:*** Then Babylon & Persia
PURPOSE: ***Call to Return:*** Repent & Realign with God

2. STORYLINE

Where Does This Era Fit in the Story of the Bible?

From the Split to the Silent Years

- Begins: The Kingdom Splits
- Prophets Call Both Kingdoms Back
- Assyria, Then Babylon, Conquer
- A Remnant Returns Under Persia
- Ends: 400 Silent Years

KEY VERSES

"Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth."

- Hosea 6:1-3

3. THEMES & IDEAS

What Major Biblical Concepts Do We Find in This Era?

- Divided Hearts, Divided Kingdom
- Prophets: God's Messengers
- Repent & Realign with God
- Judgment Through the Empires
- A Faithful Remnant
- Challenged, Not Abandoned
- Covenant Loyalty in a Greek World
- Preparing for the Messiah

4. TURNING POINTS

What are this era's 4 turning points?

931-586 BC: 9. Nation Splits & Prophets Arise
The kingdom divides, and God sends prophets

722-539 BC: 10. Dispersion & Exile
Assyria scatters Israel; Babylon exiles Judah

539-332 BC: 11. Returning, Rebuilding, Restoring
A remnant returns to rebuild under Persia

332-63 BC: 12. The Inter-Testamental Period
400 silent years from Greece to Rome



4. TURNING POINTS

4. What happens at each turning point?

5. What do we learn about God from each of these sections?

6. What do these sections offer our Christian life?

931-586 BC: 9. NATION SPLITS & PROPHETS ARISE

Two nations, north and south, hear God's messengers calling them to repent and realign

1 KGS 12: The Kingdom Divides
Rehoboam makes the yoke heavier, and the kingdom splits: Israel in the north, Judah in the south

ISAIAH-MALACHI: The Prophets
Seers and messengers call God's people to repent: Amos and Hosea in the north, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and more in Judah

722-539 BC: 10. DISPERSION & EXILE

The north is scattered and the south exiled, but the covenant is challenged, not abandoned

2 KGS 17: Assyrian Dispersion (722 BC)
All 19 northern kings are evil; Assyria conquers Israel and scatters its people

2 KGS 25: Babylonian Exile (586 BC)
Judah, with eight good kings and revivals, lasts longer, but Nebuchadnezzar carries it into 70 years of exile

539-332 BC: 11. RETURNING, REBUILDING, RESTORING

God brings his people back to the land, and his Word returns to the center of their life

EZRA 1-6: The Temple Rebuilt
A remnant returns with Zerubbabel, and Haggai encourages them as the second temple rises

EZRA 7-NEH 13: The Law & the Walls
Ezra restores God's law and Nehemiah rebuilds Jerusalem's walls, bringing hearts back under God's Word

332-63 BC: 12. THE INTER-TESTAMENTAL PERIOD

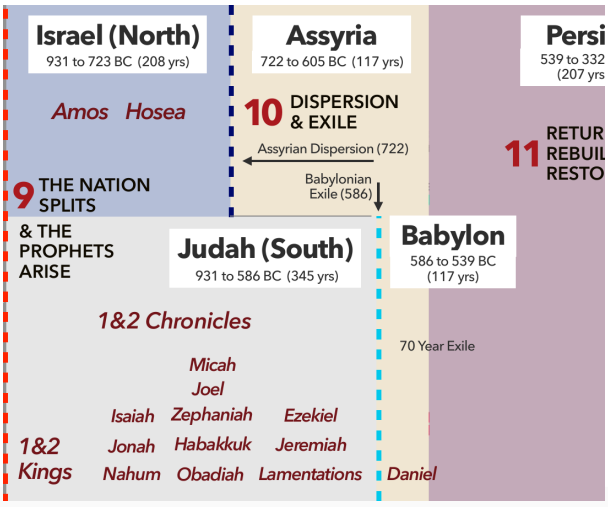
Hellenization tests covenant loyalty, and the groups Jesus will meet take shape

332-142 BC: Greece & Hellenization
Alexander spreads Greek culture and language; the Septuagint translates the Old Testament into Greek

142-63 BC: Revolt & Independence
Seleucid persecution sparks the Maccabean revolt; the temple is restored, and Pharisees and Sadducees emerge

5. HOW THIS ERA POINTS TO CHRIST

- Isaiah points ahead to the coming Messiah
- Hosea 6: "On the third day he will raise us up"
- John the Baptist, the voice crying out to prepare the way
- The Greeks gave the language, Rome the roads



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