

### Old Testament Books

| Book                    | Author             | Date (BC)     | Contemporary Scene                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---|
| Genesis                 | Moses              | Creation-1850 | Fertile Crescent, trade routes in Mesopotamia and Egypt |
| Exodus                  | Moses              | 1520-1440     | Pharaoh Thutmose III                                    |
| Leviticus               | Moses              | 1440-1438     |   |
| Numbers                 | Moses              | 1438-1400     |   |
| Deuteronomy             | Moses              | 1400          | Rise of Greece / Mycenaeans (Sea Peoples)               |
| Joshua                  | Joshua?            | 1400-1360     | Egyptian hegemony begins to wane                        |
| Judges & Ruth           | Samuel?            | 1360-1080     | Collapses of the Hittite (c. 1200 BC)                   |
| 1 & 2 Samuel            | Samuel/Gad/Nathan? | 1070-970      |   |
| 1 & 2 Kings             | Samuel/Gad/Nathan? | 970-586       | Neo-Assyrian Empire (911-820 BC)                        |
| 1 & 2 Chronicles        | Ezra               | 1010-538      | Early Foundations of Rome (c. 750 BC)                   |
| Ezra                    | Ezra               | 538-450       | Persian Empire (648-330 BC)                             |
| Nehemiah                | Nehemiah           | 445           | Artaxerxes I (465-424 BC)                               |
| Esther                  | Mordecai?          | 480           | Xerxes I (485-465 BC)                                   |
| Job                     | ?                  | 2200?         |   |
| Psalms                  | Various            | 1000          |   |
| Proverbs                | Solomon            | 970-950       |   |
| Ecclesiastes            | Solomon            | 970-950       |   |
| Song of Solomon         | Solomon            | 970-950       |   |
| Isaiah                  | Isaiah             | 740-680       | Second Assyrian Empire (745-627 BC)                     |
| Jeremiah & Lamentations | Jeremiah           | 640-586       | Babylonian exiles (605, 597, 586 BC)                    |
| Ezekiel                 | Ezekiel            | 597-560       | Solomon's temple destroyed (586 BC)                     |
| Daniel                  | Daniel             | 605-536       | Neo-Babylonian Empire (626-538 BC)                      |
| Hosea                   | Hosea              | 740-730       |   |
| Joel                    | Joel               | 850-840       | Contemporary of the prophets Elisha and Obadiah         |
| Amos                    | Amos               | 750           | King Jeroboam II (Northern Kingdom of Israel)           |
| Obadiah                 | Obadiah            | 850-840       | Edom's revolt (2 Chronicles 21; 2 Kings 8.16-23)        |
| Jonah                   | Jonah              | 780-750       |   |
| Micah                   | Micah              | 740-710       | Fall of the Northern Kingdom (722 BC)                   |
| Nahum                   | Nahum              | 700           |   |
| Habakkuk                | Habakkuk           | 610           | Fall of the Southern Kingdom of Judah (605 BC)          |
| Zephaniah               | Zephaniah          | 630           |   |
| Haggai                  | Haggai             | 520           | Exiles Return (538 BC), Rebuilding of the Temple        |
| Zechariah               | Zechariah          | 520           | Exiles Return (538 BC), Rebuilding of the Temple        |
| Malachi                 | Malachi            | 430           | Peloponnesian War (between Sparta and Athens)           |

## New Testament Books

| Book            | Author                  | Date (AD) | Contemporary Scene   |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| Matthew         | Matthew                 | 58-60     | Written to convince Jewish readers that Jesus is the Messiah |
| Mark            | John Mark               | 56-60     | Written to Gentile readers in Rome                           |
| Luke            | Luke                    | 60-62     | Written to introduce Jesus to cultured Greek readers         |
| John            | John                    | 65        | Jesus as the eternal Son of God, sent into the world         |
| Acts            | Luke                    | 63        |  |
| Romans          | Paul                    | 57        | Written from Corinth during Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey    |
| 1 Corinthians   | Paul                    | 55        | Written from Ephesus during Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey    |
| 2 Corinthians   | Paul                    | 57        | Written from Ephesus during Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey    |
| Galatians       | Paul                    | 49        | Written from Antioch, Syria. Perhaps earliest NT writing.    |
| Ephesians       | Paul                    | 61        | Paul imprisoned in Rome                                      |
| Philippians     | Paul                    | 62        | Paul imprisoned in Rome                                      |
| Colossians      | Paul                    | 61        | Paul imprisoned in Rome                                      |
| 1 Thessalonians | Paul                    | 51        | Written from Corinth during Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey    |
| 2 Thessalonians | Paul                    | 52        | Written from Corinth during Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey    |
| 1 Timothy       | Paul                    | 63        | Written from Philippi after Paul's release from prison       |
| 2 Timothy       | Paul                    | 67        | Paul martyred by Emperor Nero c. AD 67                       |
| Titus           | Paul                    | 65        | Paul traveling in Northern Greece (Titus 3.12)               |
| Philemon        | Paul                    | 61        | Written same time as letter to Colossians                    |
| Hebrews         | ?                       | 64        | Written to Jewish believers being persecuted by Nero in Rome |
| James           | James, brother of Jesus | 50        |  |
| 1 Peter         | Peter                   | 65        | Written to believers along the South Coast of the Black Sea  |
| 2 Peter         | Peter                   | 67        | Peter martyred by Emperor Nero c. AD 67                      |
| 1 John          | John                    | 65        |  |
| 2 John          | John                    | 65        |  |
| 3 John          | John                    | 65        |  |
| Jude            | Jude, brother of Jesus  | 68        |  |
| Revelation      | John                    | 70        | Written from the Island of Patmos                            |

### Additional Resources

Frank Viola, *The Untold Story of the New Testament Church*

Bruce M. Metzger, *The New Testament: Its Background, Growth and Content*, Third Edition, Chapter 4

Merrill F. Unger, *Unger's Bible Handbook*, First Edition