

PEAKS

Creation

Genesis 1–2

God created everything, including human beings, and His handiwork was declared “very good” (1:31).

Promise

Genesis 12–50

God told Abram to leave his homeland. God promised that the family of Abram would become a great nation and that “all peoples on earth” would be blessed through him (12:3).

Nation

Exodus 3–40,
Leviticus

God delivered His people from Egypt and made a covenant with them at Sinai.

Conquest

Joshua

The obedience of Joshua and the new generation of Israelites led to the conquest of the Promised Land.

Kingdom

1 and 2 Samuel,
1 Kings 1–11,
1 Chronicles,
2 Chronicles 1–9,
Poetic books

David unified the kingdom and wrote many psalms. Solomon built the great temple and wrote poetry and wisdom books.

Judah

2 Kings 18–24,
2 Chronicles 29–35,
Jeremiah,
Habakkuk,
Zephaniah,
Nahum

After the defeat of the northern kingdom, the southern kingdom of Judah was all that remained of the once-great nation. This era begins with the defeat and captivity of Israel in 722 BC and ends with the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC.

Return

Ezra,
Nehemiah,
Haggai,
Zechariah

These books record how God brought His exiled people back to the Promised Land.

Failure

Genesis 3–11

Adam and Eve sinned. Soon, sin had pervaded all of God’s creation.

Slavery

Exodus 1–2

God’s people were slaves in Egypt. They cried out to God for help.

Wandering

Numbers,
Deuteronomy

After two years in the wilderness, the Israelites came to the border of the Promised Land, but they turned back in unbelief. They wandered in the wilderness for another thirty-eight years.

Chaos

Judges,
Ruth

Israel’s incomplete obedience led to a series of cycles that spiraled down into spiritual chaos.

Division

1 Kings 12–22,
2 Kings 1–17,
2 Chronicles 10–28,
Isaiah,
Hosea,
Joel,
Amos,
Obadiah,
Jonah,
Micah

After Solomon died, the nation split in two. The northern kingdom was called Israel; the southern kingdom was called Judah. Israel was unfaithful to the Lord and was taken into captivity in 722 BC.

Exile

2 Kings 25,
2 Chronicles 36,
Esther,
Lamentations,
Ezekiel,
Daniel

The book of Lamentations and the last chapters of 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles describe the fall of Jerusalem and the exile of the people. The prophets Daniel and Ezekiel were taken into captivity by Babylon. Esther describes life in the Persian court.

Hardness

Malachi

Malachi prophesied about one who would call the nation to repentance before the coming of the Messiah.

VALLEYS