

The Big Story – Part II

God & Sons: Boom & Bust

By Colin Barnes 2013



A partnership between God and Man

Make or Break – Genesis 1-11

Boom and Bust – from Abraham to Exile

A Winning Formula – Jesus Christ

World Beaters – the Church finishes the job





The Lord strikes back...

The OT - progressive
revelation to a nation

The Patriarchs

The Nation

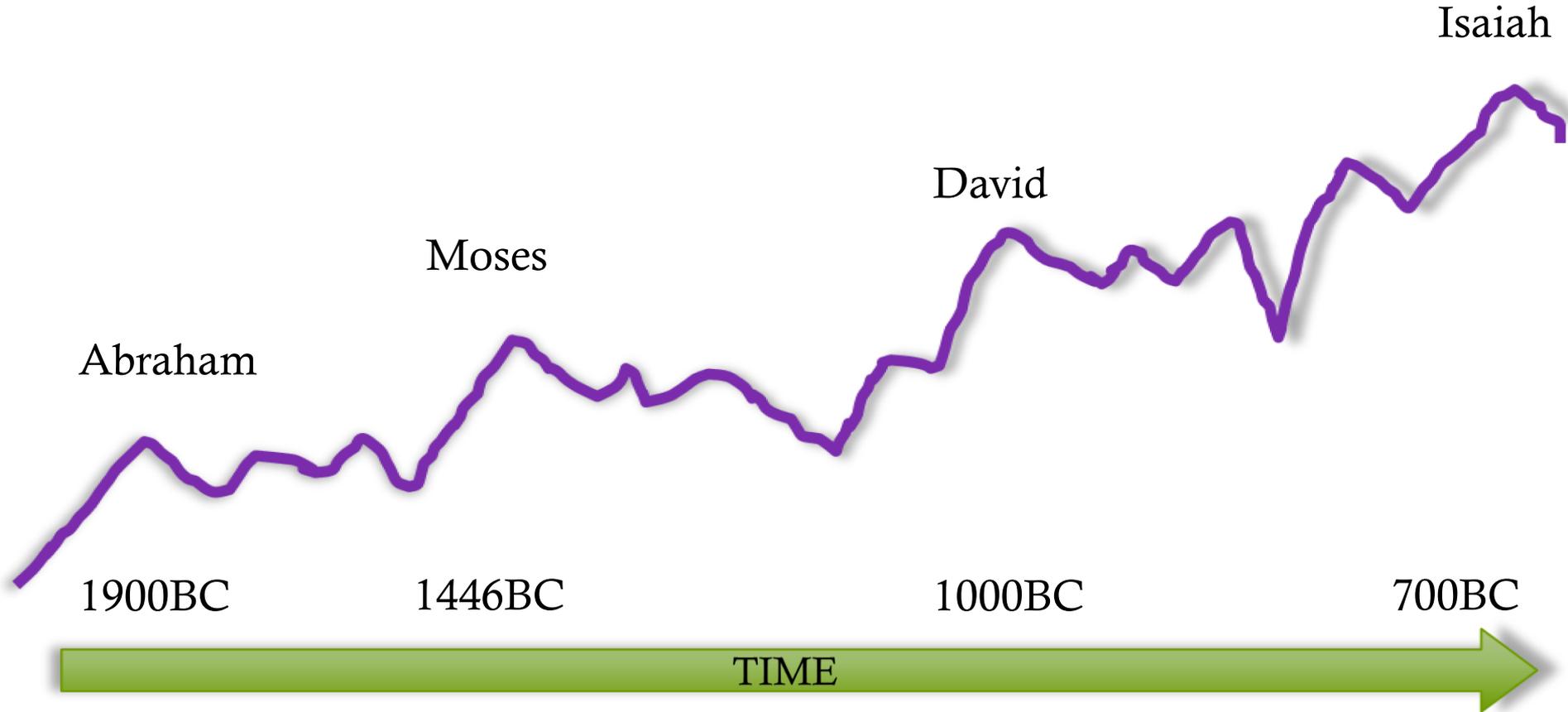
The Kingdom

The Prophets

The Exile

Preparing for the ultimate
revelation

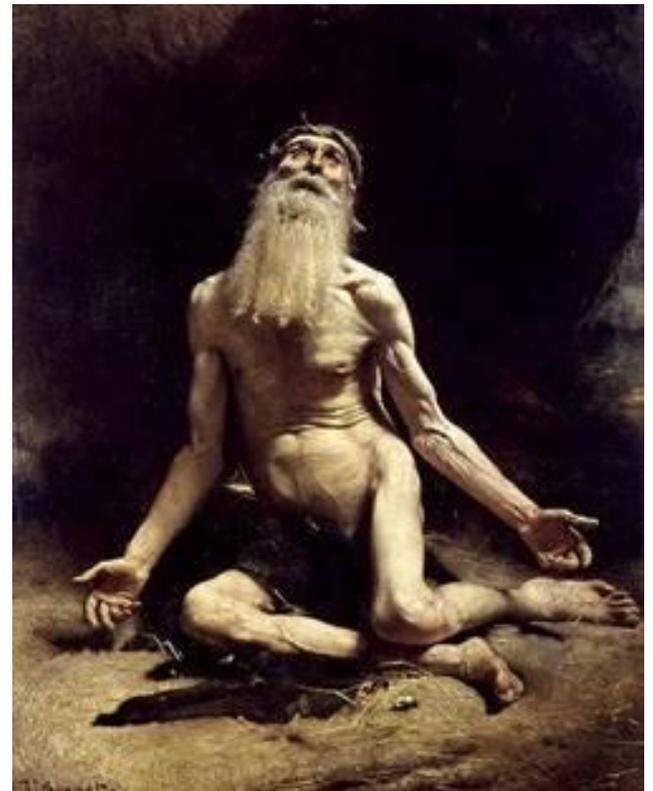
Progressive Revelation...



Job

c.2000-1200BC

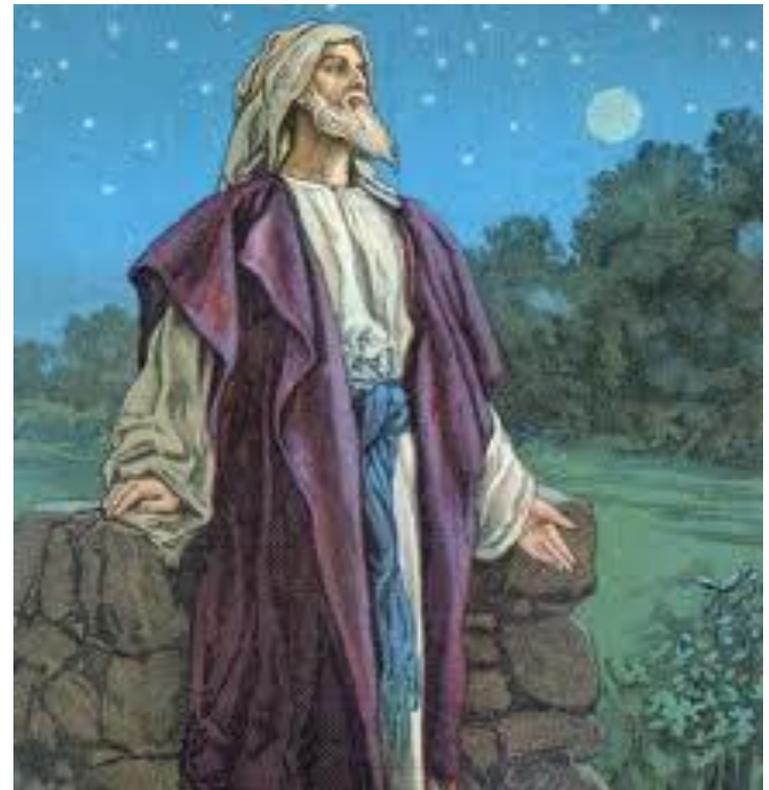
- 🔹 Abraham's contemporary?
- 🔹 Our enemy named – The Adversary or Satan
- 🔹 God is in charge, but does not control
- 🔹 Man's real problems are spiritual



The Patriarchs – Abraham

c.1900BC

- ◆ God's will is to bless all men
- ◆ God blesses man's bad choices!
- ◆ God is faithful!
- ◆ Vessel for revelation?
Circumcision
- ◆ God needs a man





The Patriarchs

- Isaac

- ◆ God is patient
 - Birth
 - Life
- ◆ God will provide a sacrifice

The Patriarchs - Jacob

- ◆ God's favour is key
- ◆ God's partners are His dwelling places
- ◆ Blessing comes through wrestling
- ◆ Vessel - Israel



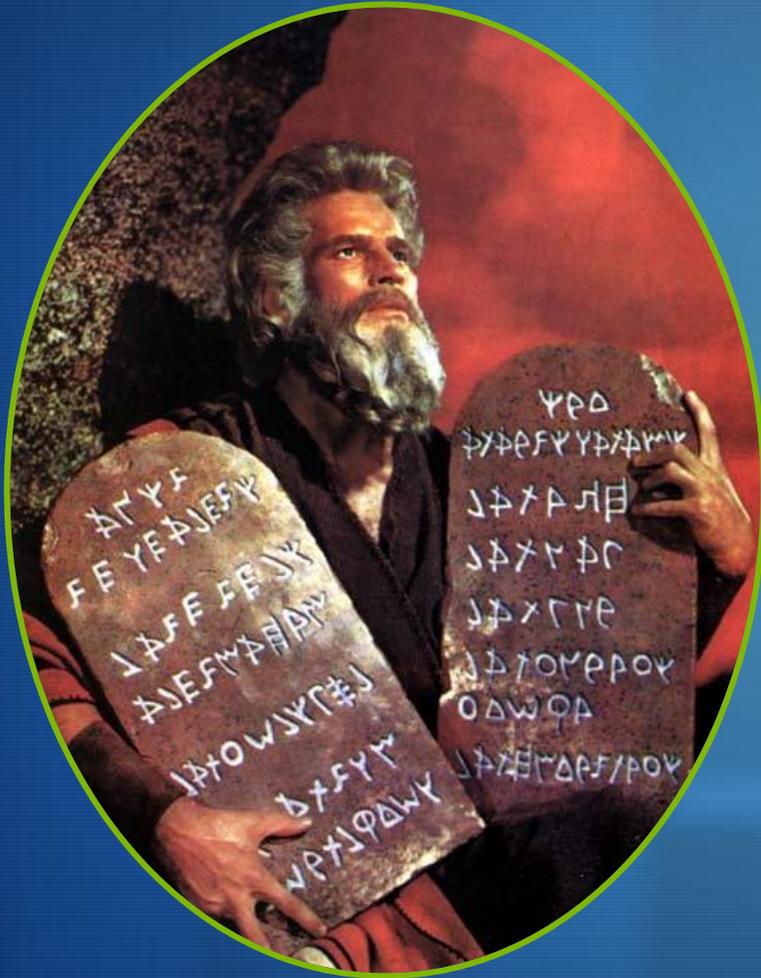


The Patriarchs - Joseph

- God reveals mysteries
- God raises the humble
- God is a merciful saviour
- God needs a man

The Nation

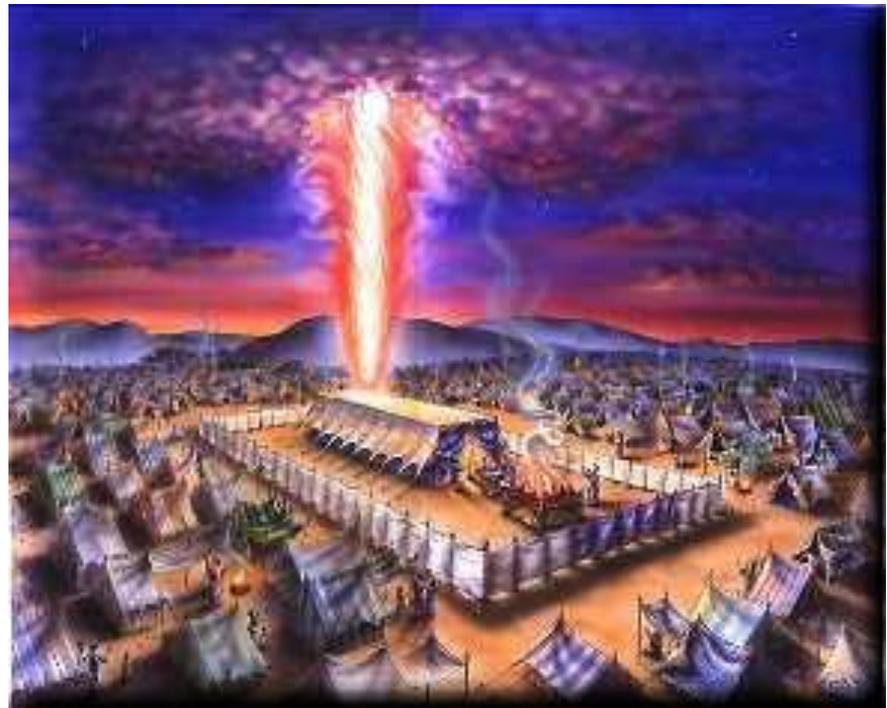
Moses c.1450BC

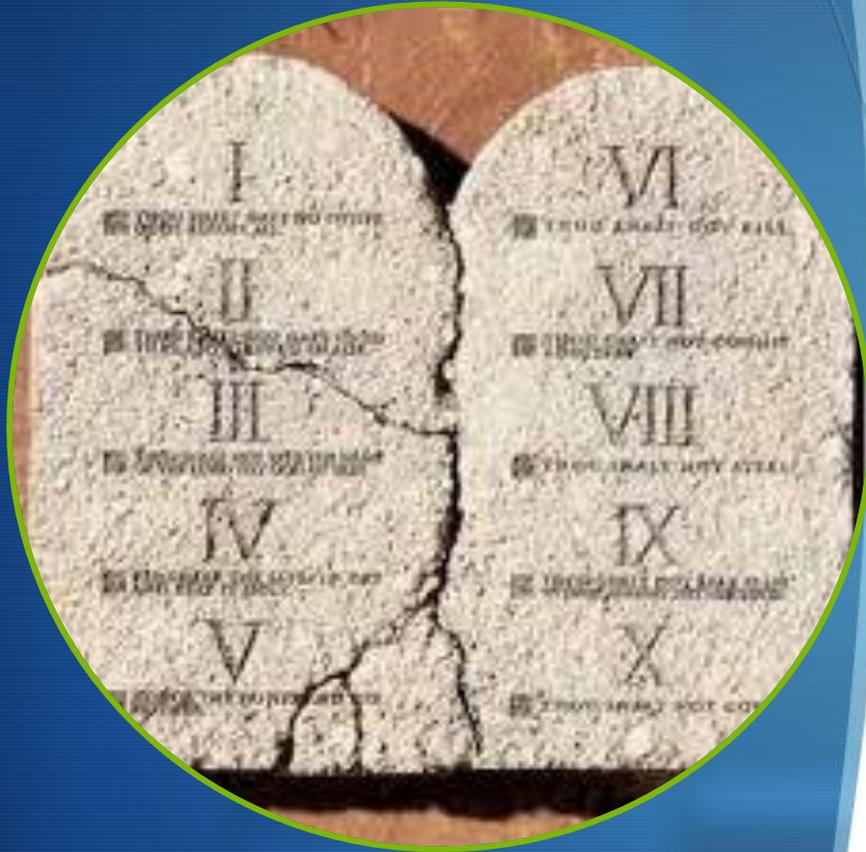


- ◆ God's favour attracts persecution
- ◆ God is a strong deliverer
- ◆ God needs a man
- ◆ God is intimate
- ◆ Vessel – Passover
- ◆ A mixed multitude

The Tent of Meeting

- ◆ God wants to live with man
- ◆ Man cries out for His presence but is scared
- ◆ Did they know God?





The Law

- Building a communion not an empire
- God cares for widows, orphans and aliens
- Love God, love people

The Conquest

c.1400-1350BC



- ◆ God allows man to delay His plans 40 years
- ◆ “I am with you” – Joshua 1:9
- ◆ God is relational
- ◆ Jericho – the war is a partnership
- ◆ God still wants man to subdue the earth

The Judges

c.1350-1050BC



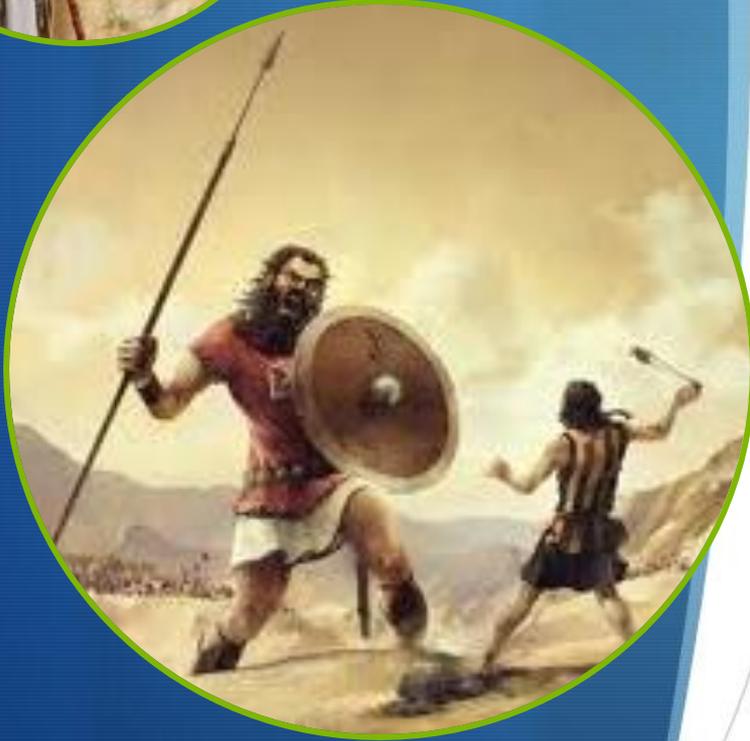
- Everyone did what was right in his own eyes...
- Cycle of rebellion, cries & a saviour
- God gives His Spirit to transform men
- God allows more delay

We Want A King!

1050BC

- ◆ 1 Samuel 8:1-9
- ◆ This was man's idea
- ◆ God allows man to affect His plans
- ◆ God redeems bad choices





The Kingdom David 1010BC

- ◆ Chosen by the Lord
- ◆ Chooses the Lord
- ◆ God is a shepherd
- ◆ God guides those who ask
- ◆ God's anointing opens the way

The Kingdom – Solomon

970-930BC

- ◆ Chose wisdom
- ◆ God's house is built by men of peace
- ◆ God is abundant



The Kingdom – Split!

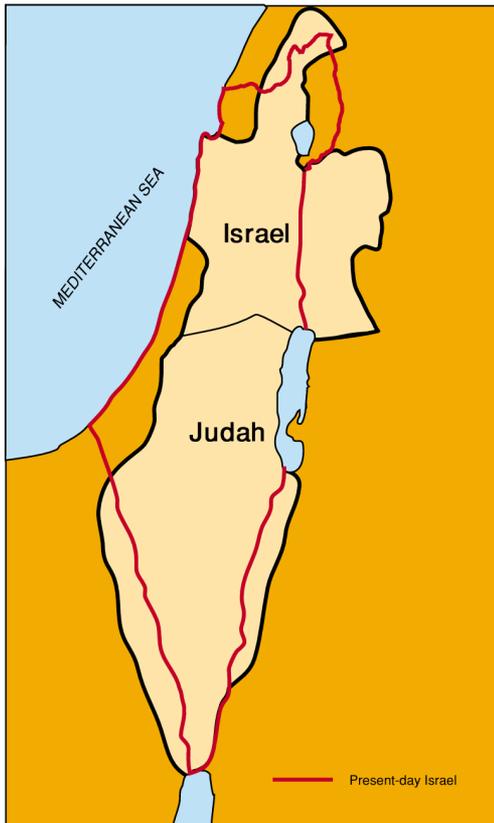
930BC

- ❖ Caused by idolatry
- ❖ God raises up whom He pleases
- ❖ Rehoboam clung to power & growth
- ❖ Wisdom is recognising the season



Two Kingdoms Decline

970-586BC



The Divided Kingdom,
10th - 6th Century BCE

- 🟢 God speaks through His prophets
- 🟢 When man listens he prospers
- 🟢 God does nothing unless He reveals it to His prophets – Amos 3:7

The Prophets

- ◆ God is relational
- ◆ Not declaring what *will* happen...
- ◆ But what will happen *if* we don't change
- ◆ Jonah



The Prophets could see...

- ◆ Israel's failure & exile
- ◆ God's grace
- ◆ God coming to save
- ◆ Man's need of His Spirit



Exile

722 & 586BC

- 🔹 God's patience does eventually run out



Summary

- ◆ God revealed Himself over time
- ◆ He began by revealing His faithfulness and heart to bless the world
- ◆ He allows man to affect His plans
- ◆ He is in charge but not in control

Summary

- ◆ His sovereignty is worked out relationally
- ◆ Israel struggled to partner faithfully
- ◆ God continued to bless
- ◆ Something better is coming

Next Time we see...

- ◆ How God steps into creation!
- ◆ How He is fully revealed
- ◆ How the spiritual battle was won