

# THE HISTORY *of* MAN & GOD THE UNFOLDING STORY OF MAN'S REDEMPTION

WEEK 3: **The Unfaithful People of God – Part I**

September 18, 2014

*But Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good." – Joshua 24:19-20 ESV*

Out of all the individuals who lived on the face of the earth at the time, God hand-picked Abraham to become His chosen instrument to bring blessing to the nations. God promised to make of Abraham a mighty nation and to bless all the nations of the earth through one of his descendants. God would make a series of covenants with Abraham and his offspring, guaranteeing to give them their own land and to make them into a mighty nation. God kept His part. He remained faithful to His promises, but the people of Israel, the descendants of Abraham, would prove to be unfaithful, time and time again.

**Take Notes (Teaching):**

As you listen to today's lesson, write down anything significant that you hear. Be ready to share them with the men at your table during the discussion time.

- **Take Part (Discussion):**

Sometimes God has a way of speaking through others as they provide insights or different applications from the lessons. As you discuss around your table, write down anything you hear that makes an impact on you. Or if you hear another man share a struggle or concern, write it down so that you can pray for him during the week.

- **Take Time (Prayer):**

Be sure and leave a few minutes for the sharing of prayer requests. Remember, keep your requests short and sweet. Don't let the details bog you down. We don't have to understand all that is going on to pray effectively.

# HOMework

## Homework for week 4

To get ready for next week, spend some time preparing.

### Read 1 Samuel 8:4-9

What does this passage tell us about the faithfulness of Israel?

Why was their request for a king so offensive to Samuel?

### Read 1 Samuel 8:19-22

What did God instruct Samuel to do? What kind of king do you think God was going to give them?

According to 1 Samuel 9:1-2, what kind of king did they get?

According to 1 Samuel 13:13-14, how did God characterize Saul's reign as king?

### Read 1 Samuel 15:1:9

What did God command Saul to do?

But how did Samuel disobey God's command?

### Read 1 Samuel 15:10-23

What does God accuse Saul of and how does he react?

Who does Saul blame for his predicament?

According to verses 22-23, what did God want from Saul?

### Read 1 Samuel 15:26-28

What did God tell Saul was going to happen and why?

What kind of man was God going to replace Saul with?

**Read Acts 13:22**

What was the difference between David and Saul according to these verses?

David proved to be a faithful servant of God. He was far from perfect, but he continued to serve God obediently and faithfully all the days of his life and was replaced on the throne by his son, Solomon.

**Read 1 Kings 2:1-4**

When he was nearing death, what was the advice that David gave his young son, Solomon, before he took the throne of Israel?

**Read 1 Kings 4:20-34**

What do these verses tell us about the kingdom during the reign of Solomon?

**1 Kings 11:1-3**

What does this passage tell us about the heart of Solomon toward the end of his illustrious reign? What had happened? How had he disobeyed the advice of his father, David?

According to **1 Kings 11:31-33**, what did God do and why?

**Read 2 Kings 17:5-7, 13**

What did God eventually do to the northern kingdom of Israel and why?

**Read 2 Chronicles 36:15-20**

What did God eventually do to the southern kingdom of Judah and why?

**Read Jeremiah 29:10-14**

But in spite of the sins of the people of Israel, what did God say He would do for them?

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WEEK 3

The Unfaithful People of God – Part I

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**Who are we?** The chosen people of God

**Where are we?** The Promised Land

**What is wrong?** Nothing yet

**What is the solution?** Time will tell

- **The Falling Away** – Deuteronomy 7:1-14
  - Devote them to complete destruction
  - Make no covenant with them
  - Show no mercy to them
  - Don't intermarry with them
  - Destroy their false gods
  - Remain holy and set apart
  - Be careful to do the commandments and the statutes and the rules that I command you today

God had promised to love them, bless them, and multiply them. (Deuteronomy 7:13-14)

**BUT THEY FAILED**

- They didn't do as God had commanded
- They failed to drive out the inhabitants (Judges 1:19, 21, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33)
- They failed to obey the voice of God (Judges 2:1-3)

Doubt led to disbelief. Disbelief led to disobedience. Disobedience would lead to God's discipline.

### **Disobedience**

*And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel. And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth. – Judges 2:10-13 ESV*

### Discipline

So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. **And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies**, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies. Whenever they marched out, the hand of the Lord was against them for harm, as the Lord had warned, and as the Lord had sworn to them. And they were in terrible distress. – Judges 2:14-15 ESV

### The Period of the Judges

Then **the Lord raised up judges, who saved them** out of the hand of those who plundered them. – Judges 2:16 ESV

- God delivered them – in spite of them (Judges 2:18)
- Yet they would not listen to their judges (Judges 2:17)

**Who are we?** The chosen people of God

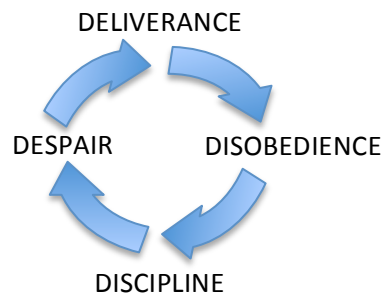
**Where are we?** Living in the Promised Land

**What is wrong?** We are in rebellion against God and under His punishment

**What is the solution?** God must provide a deliverer

### The Cycle of Sin

- The people rebel
- God brings punishment
- The people cry out
- God delivers
- Repeat



This cycle would last 400 years

It ends with the birth of Samuel

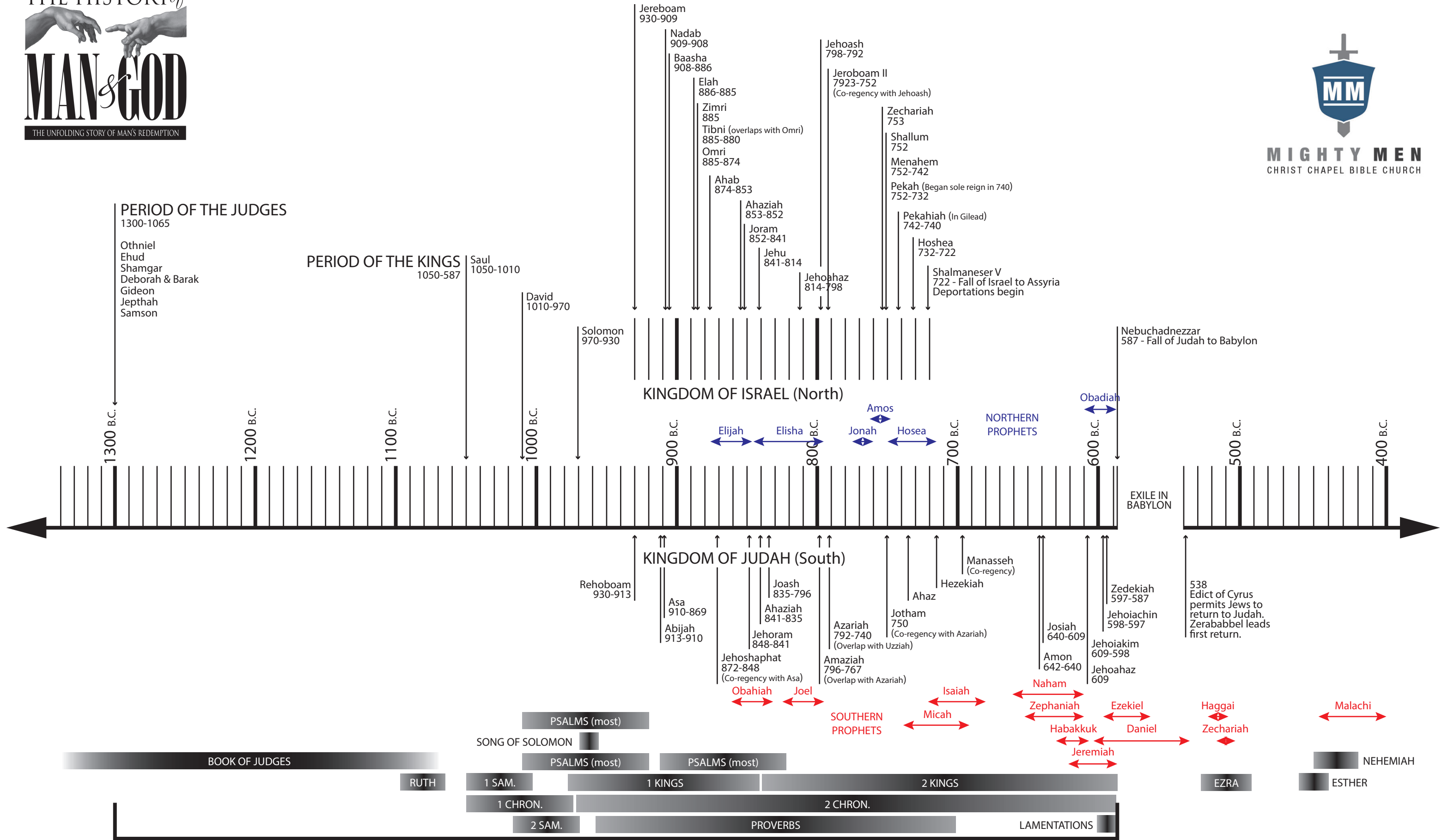
His judgeship would lead to the period of the kings

### God delivers

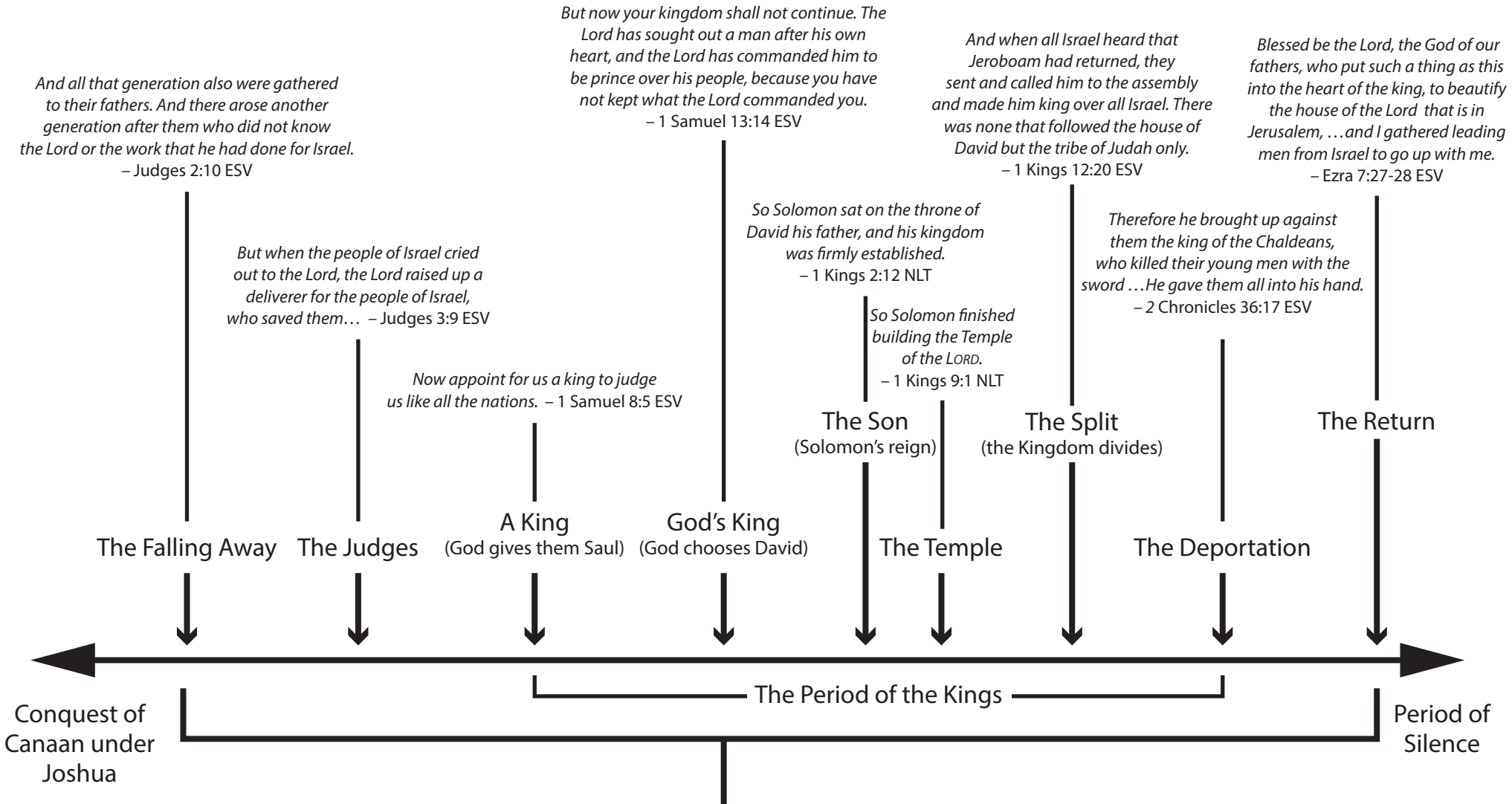
- He delivered creation from chaos
- He delivered Adam and Even into Eden
- He delivered Noah from destruction
- He delivered Abram out of Ur
- He delivered Moses out of exile
- He delivered the Israelites out of captivity
- He delivered His people into the Promised Land
- He delivered His people from own stubbornness

*He has **delivered** us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.* – Colossians 1:13-14 ESV

**deliver** –  $\rho\eta\sigma\upsilon\mu\alpha\iota$  – to rescue, deliver, draw to one's self



# Week 3 Timeline



## THE UNFAITHFUL PEOPLE OF GOD