

Archaeological Periods in the Levant

PERIOD	DATES*	DESCRIPTION	HISTORICAL EVENTS
IRON II — A, B, C	1000—586 B.C.E.	Israelite II	Kingdom of Judah falls to the Babylonians (586 BCE) Kingdom of Israel falls to the Assyrians (722 BCE) Construction of the First Temple commenced with groundbreaking (968 BCE)
IRON I —A, B, C	1200—1000 B.C.E.	Israelite I	
LATE BRONZE—I, IIA, IIB	1550—1200 B.C.E.	Late Canaanite	
MIDDLE BRONZE—I, IIA, IIB, IIC	1950—1550 B.C.E.	Middle Canaanite	The Exodus (ca. 1443 BCE) and The Conquest (ca. 1403 BCE)
EB—IVA, IVB/MB—I	2300—1950 B.C.E.		The Noachian Deluge (between EB IVA and IVB)
EARLY BRONZE—I, II, III	3300—2300 B.C.E.	Early Canaanite	
CHALCOLITHIC	4300—3300 B.C.E.	Chalcolithic—Ghassulian Culture	The Creation of Adam and Eve (ca. 4000 BCE)
NEOLITHIC	8300—4300 B.C.E.	“New Stone Age”—Yarmukian Culture	
MESOLITHIC (Epipaleolithic)	18,000—8,300	“Middle Stone Age”—Natufian Culture (hunters & gathers) and the development of agriculture about 12,000 years ago	End of the Ice Age.
PALEOLITHIC	45,000—18,000	Upper Paleolithic Era [Old Stone Age]	Ice Age.
	120,000—45,000	Middle Paleolithic Era [Middle Stone Age]	Ice Age.
	1,000,000—120,000	Lower Paleolithic Era [Early Stone Age—Middle Pleistocene]	Ice Age.

*Approximate dates as given in *The New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land*. Vol. 4. Jerusalem: The Israel Exploration Society, 1993.