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**I. Biblical stages of Salvation History (12 stages). A bird's eye view to the narrative history of the chosen people of God.**

A. Each stage has the book (and chapter) from Sacred Scripture and the time in which the events took place. You will also find a brief note or two that helps describe what is going on in the time period put forth (along with the prophets that fit that time period).

1. Gn.1-11-- **History of the early world:** Adam and Eve, Noah...up to 2000 B.C.

a. Myth is "a story about God," an aid to explain a reality as we see it today. Myth is temporal language used to describe an event, which relates to eternity and time, a story about activity that lies behind all stories.

1. Modern history does not convey history like antiquity.

2. Myth as symbol can be used to teach truth--not mythology as we understand it in contemporary terms.

Always note writing style of the period.

a. Pentateuch is more relevant than linear.

2. Gn.12.50--**Patriarchal age:** Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and the formation of the twelve tribes of Israel....2000-1700 B.C.

3. Exodus--**Israel in Egypt:** Golden Calf, Leviticus, worshipping false Gods, Exodus...1700-1300 B.C.

A. Tribe of Levi stands up and is counted for their faithfulness to God. They were asked to offer up animal sacrifice to show their atonement for their idolatry. Cain offering up animal as a thanksgiving sacrifice-Eucharistic!

4. Joshua--**Conquest of Canaan:** Promised Land, exodus, fall of Jericho, Mt Sinai covenant, Deuteronomy covenant (land, sanctuary, and kingship)...1300-1200 B.C.

5. Judges--12 leaders who are provisionary leaders of the 12 tribes...1200-1050 B.C.

6. 1 and 2 Samuel--**United Kingdom** (monarchy): establishment of the Davidic dynasty in Jerusalem, building of the first temple, first scene of the spoken prophets: Nathan... 1020-920 B.C.

7. 1 Kings--**Divided Kingdom:** tribes break into Northern fork (Israel) and Southern fork (Judah and Benjamin), Jeroboam and Rehoboam (Solomon)...Christ from the line of Judah (Is.11.1)...written prophets: Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah, Joel, Jonah; spoken prophets: Elijah, Elisha, and Gad...920-721.B.C.

8. 2 Kings—**Exile:** Assyrians take the North and the Babylonians finish the job and take the south. Babylonian captivity is three fold (605, 597,

586), written prophets: Nahum, Daniel, Baruch, Ezekiel, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, Habakkuk...721-539 B.C.

9. Ezra--**the Return**: Cyrus of Persia allows the return of the Jews and the rebuilding of the temple, completed in 486...539 -167.B.C.

10. Maccabees--**Maccabean revolt**: Judas defeats Antiochus IV to get back the temple and its practices. Antiochus rule of forced Hellenization--common culture...167 B.C...

11. Luke--**Birth of Christ**: keeps the narrative story going; Christ is the fulfillment and embodiment of every Old Testament promise

12. Acts--**Early Church**: Council of Jerusalem in 50 A.D (Acts 15). A benchmark event in the early church. This council saw the dispute of Gentiles and Jews and the question of circumcision in the practice of the new religion. Church becoming universal. The faith of Israel was directed toward universality.

a. Church is the climax of salvation history...What Christ came to institute!

b. Church expanding: Acts 1.1-8.5 (Jerusalem area), Acts 8.5-13.1 (Judea-Samaria--outer region), Acts 13.1-28 (ends of the earth).

B. Fourteen (73 books in all) chronological books...**Know these books in order**

1. Books that keep the narrative story going: Genesis, Exodus, numbers, Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, Ezra, Nehemiah, Maccabees, Luke, Acts