

Before Christ Outline

8,000-2,000 BC – Agricultural Revolution (Neolithic = New Stone Age 10,000-3,000)

7,000 BC – domestication of animals

Allow people to build more permanent structures/societies (government, religion)

Civilization

Fertile Crescent

Mesopotamia – Tigris and Euphrates

Sumerians – Ur and Uruk (3500)

Polytheism

Writing first 3300 – cuneiform

The wheel – 3000

Already extensive trading

Bronze – alloy copper and tin

Sargon – Akkadian – 2350-2230 BC

Hammurabi (r 1792-1750) – Law Code in Babylon

Hittites dominate Anatolia 1700-1200 – move into Mesopotamia 1590

Speak Indo-European language -> Celtic, Greek, Italic, Slavic, Germanic

Akkadians and Babylonians spoke Semitic language -> Arabic, Hebrew

Assyrians (800-600)

New Babylonians – 612 defeat Assyrians

King Nebuchadnezzar recreate Babylon splendor, Hanging Gardens

Ancient Egypt

Some villages along Nile by 5500 BC

Agriculture and burial traditions by 4000 BC

Unification around 3100 BC

Hieroglyphs – 3000s BC – pictographs

Old Kingdom (2700-2200 BC)

Era of pyramids (mostly 2700-2500)

First Intermediate Period (2200-2050)

Middle Kingdom (2050-1700)

Reunified kingdom – increased trade with Mesopotamia

Second Intermediate Period (1700-1570)

New Kingdom (1570-1075)

Ramses the Great (r1290-1224)

Israel

Crossroads of Egypt, Mediterranean, Middle East (Mesopotamia)

Abraham possibly around 1800 BC

Migrate from Ur to Syria/Canaan/Palestine

Jacob (Israel)

Saul – 1020 BC

David (r 1010-1003) – more successful

Solomon – 960-920

High point of monarchy

Northern kingdom – Israel – defeated by Assyrians

Southern kingdom – Judah – preserve culture (Jews)

Jerusalem destroyed by Babylon 587 (Nebuchadnezzar)

Temple rebuilt 516

Persia

From Iranian plateau

Earliest evidence of agriculture around 8000 BC

Medes and Persians – both speak Farsi

Cyrus 550-530 BC

King of Kings

Darius I (r 521-486)

20 provinces under satrap

Zoroastrianism – Ahuramazda (1300-1000?)

Magi

Ancient Greece

Mycenaeans – mainland Greece (called Hellas) – 1650-1150

Linear B

Dark Ages 1100-800

“Archaic” Period – 800-480

First true alphabet – 22 symbols for consonants

Athens

Sparta

Persian Wars

Marathon 490

Xerxes (r 486-465)

Thermopylae 480

Classical Period 480-323

“Golden age” of Greek culture

Socrates (470-399) – ethics and human behavior

Plato (428-347) – Academy (380s) – literacy – wrote dialogues – “Socratic method”

Aristotle (384-322) - empiricist

First Peloponnesian War 450s

Second Peloponnesian War 431-404

Philip of Macedon (r 359-336)

Alexander (r336-323)

Hellenistic Age 323-30 BC

Greek Empire split up

Spread of Greek culture and link East with West

Church History Schedule:

Church Fathers (0-400)	May 11
East & West (400-1050)	May 18
Christendom/Crusades (1050-1400)	May 25
Renaissance/Reformation (1400-1600)	June 1
Enlightenment and Revolution (1600-1900)	June 8
Modern Church/Church in America (1900-2000)	June 15