

Name

Date

Handout 2-D

Archaeological Time Periods and the Old Testament

NAME	PERIOD	
Hellenistic (Greek)	332–64 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 330—Alexander the Great enters Palestine • 167—revolt of the Maccabees • 63—Pompey’s invasion of Palestine Molded glass vessels, Greek frescoes
Babylonian and Persian	539–332 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coins, figurines, underwater archaeological artifacts • Twenty-seven papyrus scrolls (Aramaic legal documents) found in the caves of Wadi ed-Daliyeh • The Israelites return to Canaan.
Iron (Late)	900–539 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divided kingdom—Israel and Judah • 539 BC—Babylonian Exile
Iron (Early)	1200–900 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition from bronze to iron tools • The Philistines settle in Canaan and build cities • The age of the Judges in Israel • The monarchy (Saul, David, Solomon)
Bronze (Late)	1550–1200 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses and the Exodus event • Israelite settlement of Canaan
Bronze (Middle)	2000–1550 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An urban period in Palestine: town planning, city walls, new ceramic forms, a simplified alphabet, and international trade • Ugaritic language, similar to biblical Hebrew • Age of patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph
Bronze (Early)	3200–2000 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing was invented about 3200 BC in Iran and at Warka • Stones, copper, and bronze were used for tools and weapons • Jericho was a walled city that flourished from 2900–2300 BC • Main artifacts are pottery • Age of pyramids in Egypt

Handout 2-D continued

NAME	PERIOD	
Chalcolithic	4500–3200 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hieroglyphics in Egypt • Stones and copper were used for tools and weapons; ivory and bone were carved • Evidence of metal working and flint tool production • Clay statues, probably used in religious rituals
Neolithic (Late)	4700–4500 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones were used for tools and weapons
Neolithic (Pottery)	6000–4700 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones were used for tools and weapons • Pottery was first used
Neolithic (Pre-pottery)	8000–6000 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones were used for tools and weapons • Extensive use of wheat and barley • Homes had rectangular rooms
Mesolithic	18,000–8000 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones were used for tools and weapons • Animals were domesticated • People became farmers and herders
Paleolithic (Upper)	45,000–18,000 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones and flints were used for tools and weapons • People were predominately hunters and food-gatherers
Paleolithic (Middle)	120,000–45,000 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones were used for tools and weapons • Human burials found under the floors of caves in Israel
Paleolithic (Lower)	1.6 million–120,000 BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stones were used for tools and weapons • Hominoid fossils (<i>Ramapithecus</i>) from 7 million years • <i>Homo erectus</i> fossils (humans) from 700,000 BC • “Galilee man” fossils—160,000 BC