

Twenty-sixth Dynasty 663-525
Psamtik I 663-609

Manasseh 696-641*
Amon 641-639
Josiah 639-608

Esarhaddon 681-669
Ashurbanipal 669-627?
Ashur-etil-ilani 627?-626?
Sin-shar-ishkun 626?-612
Ashur-uballit II 612-?

Necho II 609-594

Jehoahaz 608 (Closing events in last
Jehoiakim 608-598 reigns of Judah)
605 1st stage of Babylonian captiv-
ity; Daniel taken to Babylon
(Nebuchadnezzar's accession yr.)
Jehoiachin 598-597
597 Fall of Jerusalem; captivity of
Jehoiachin and Ezekiel

BABYLONIA

Nabopolassar 626-605
Nebuchadnezzar II 605-562

Psamtik II 594-588
Apries (Hophra) 588-569
Amasis 569-526

Zedekiah 597-586
586 Destruction of Jerusalem (19th
yr. of Nebuchadnezzar)

Amel-Marduk 562-560
Nergal-sharusr 560-556
Labashi-Marduk 556
Nabonidus 556-539
Belshazzar co-
regent 539?-539

539 Fall of Babylon to Cyrus (Oct.,
Cyrus' accession yr.)

PERSIA

(Darius the Mede 539-537?)
Cyrus (Persian) 539-530

Psamtik III 526-525

* The Hebrew reigns thus marked (*) are reckoned as overlapping; that is, the earlier years of one reign coincide with the closing years of the preceding reign, representing coregencies. The one exception is Pekah, whose years seem to have been reckoned from 752 B.C., ten years before he took over actual control of the kingdom by murdering Menahem's son Pekahiah.

† Dates of the Egyptian kings of dynasties 22 to 25 are unknown, and the dynasty dates here given are approximate only.

‡ The dates of Assyrian kings from about 900 B.C. and on are generally accepted today as fixed with reasonable certainty within a year (for example, Sargon's reign began at some time between spring 722 and spring 721); a few are more exact than that.

§ Babylonian dates are well known, for Nebuchadnezzar's B.C. dating is completely certain; an astronomical tablet from his 37th year aligns that year with 562/61 B.C., spring to spring.

¶ The dates assigned to most of the Hebrew kings are tentative; the Judah and Israel lines are aligned according to the most reasonably workable interpretation of the Bible data, then the B.C. dates are arrived at on the basis of synchronisms of the last kings of Judah with the known years of Nebuchadnezzar. Since certain B.C. dates of Judah's line are fixed, and there is a synchronization of the years of Ahab and Jehu of Israel with Assyrian data for Shalmaneser III, the chronology of the Hebrew kings may be considered approximately correct. Any difference of interpretation might shift the earlier reigns, but the difference would be a very few years.

These regnal years are not given in exact form (as 931/30, etc., to indicate that the year began in either the spring or fall of 931 and ended in 930, etc.). Hence a plus or minus 1 should be allowed unless exact dates of accession appear in the dictionary articles under names of specific kings.