

# Kingdom of God

in the beginning

# Israelite Timeline

Theocracy - God is king. Earthly rulers act on his behalf - but no true king.

Under David they are a Theocratic Monarchy - David sits on throne but no true King but God! David is his representative. Symbolized in return of Ark and Solomon building temple. Temple and King went together. High point in Israel - free, powerful, prosperous.

Monarchy forgets God is true king. Begins to slide in all regards. Prophets call leaders and people back to God as King.

Israel punished/exiled for forgetting God. Assyria first then Babylon. Temple destroyed symbolizing that God had left his people.

Nehemiah "rebuild Jerusalem" - few return. All lament - "where is the glory of old?" No "shekinah" in Temple.

Still no King, occupation/exile continues.

"King" Herod first "King". Builds temple - something is fishy! People long for Isaiah's "King David" figure. Their "messiah" who will welcome God as King of Israel! With his shekinah presence in the temple. They are longing for David the 2nd! Isa. 11



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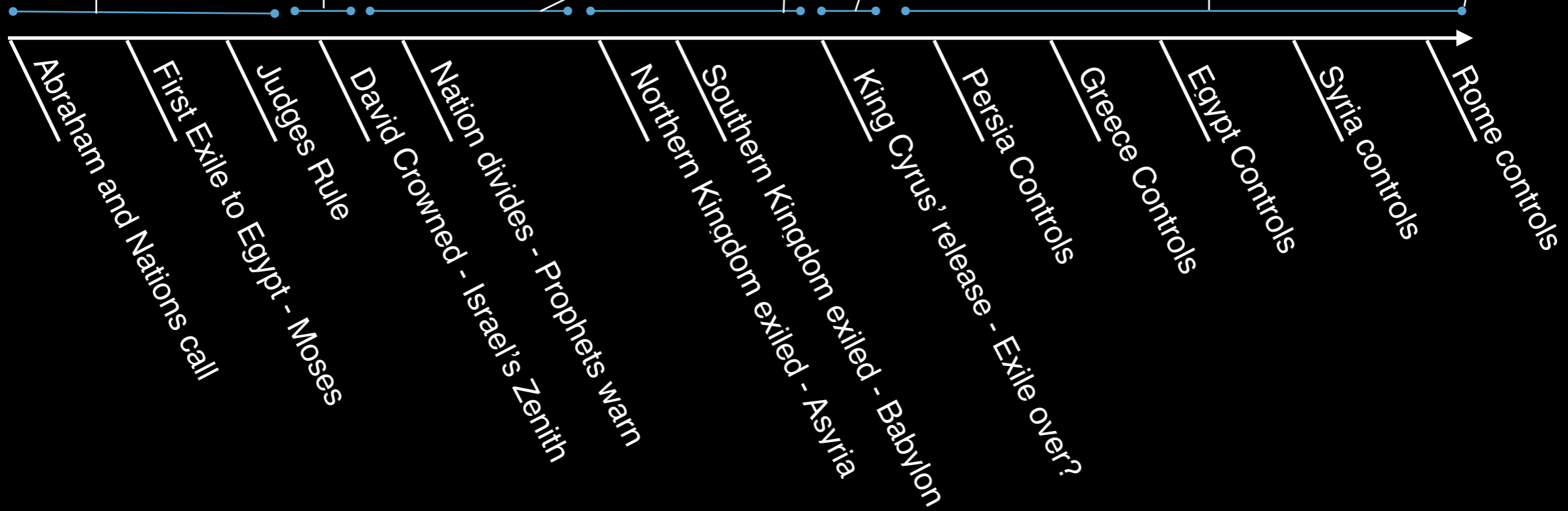
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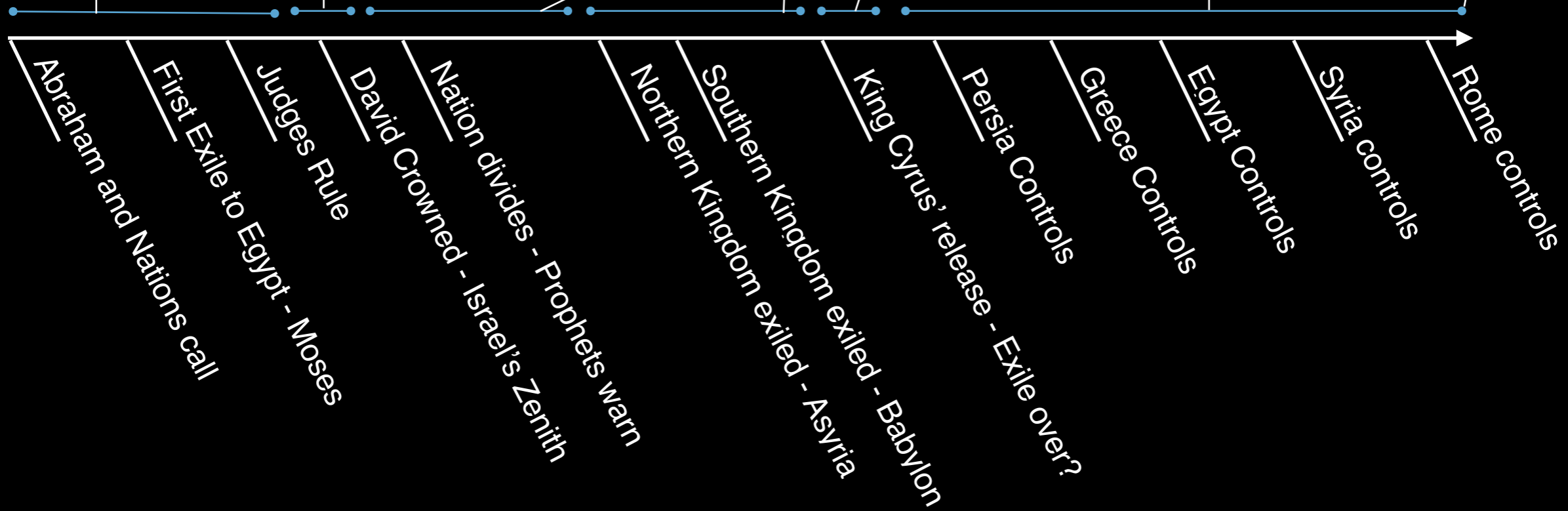
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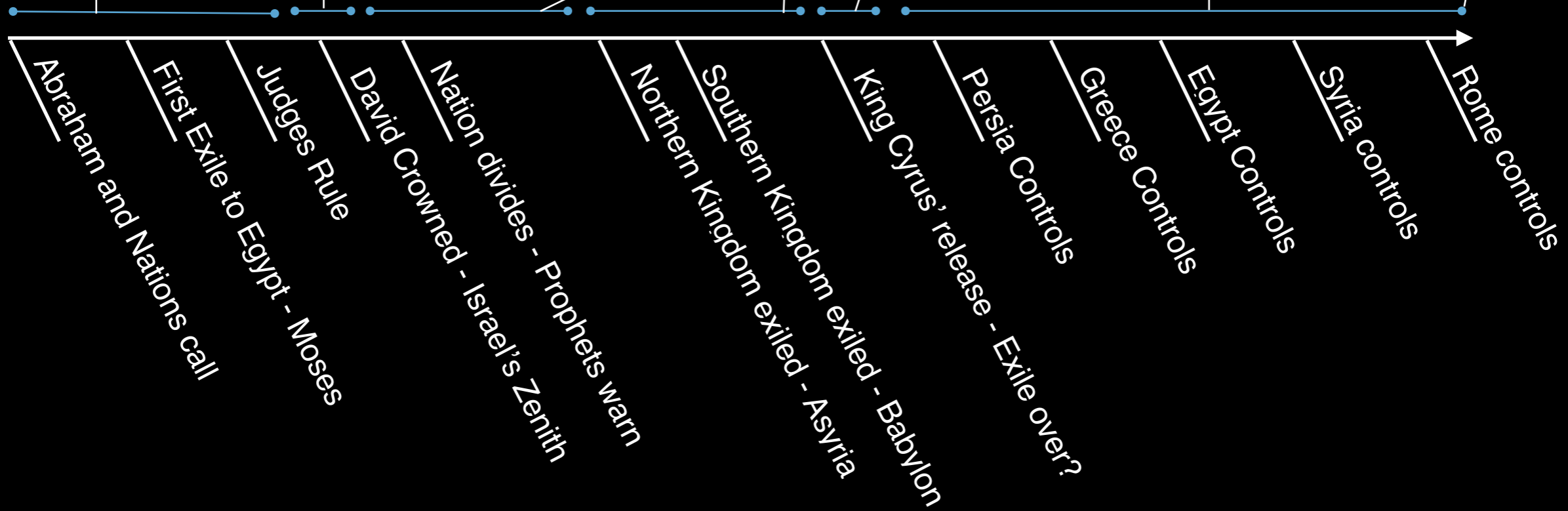
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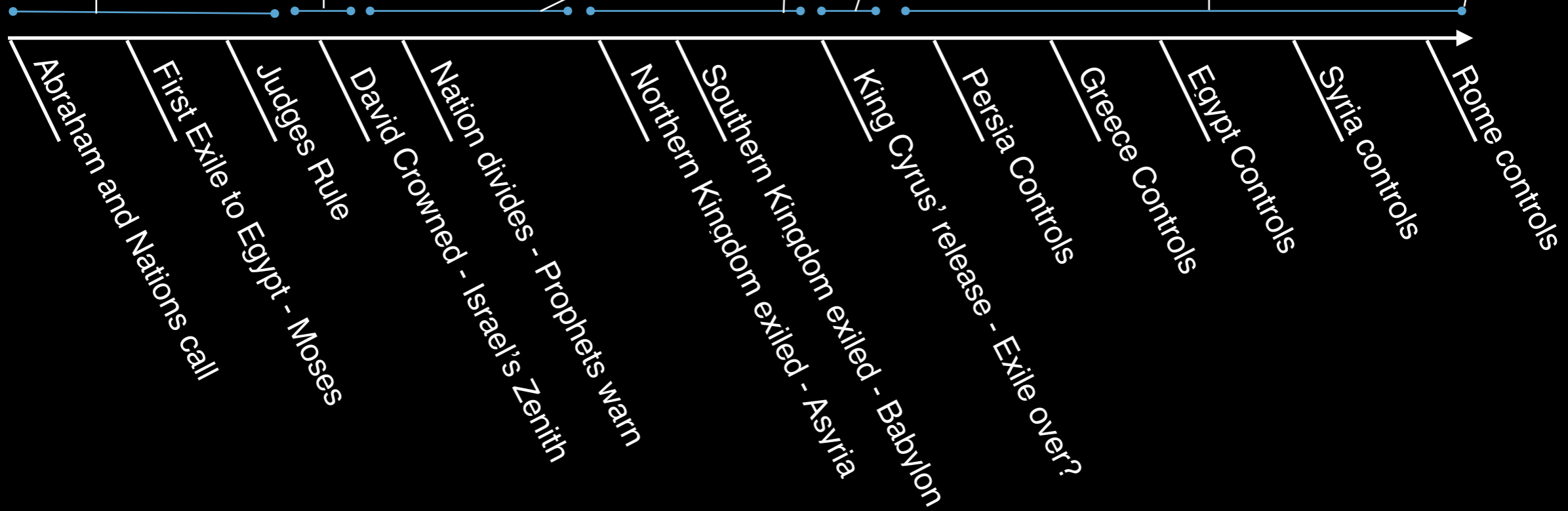
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# Theological Background

## Isaiah 11

### The Branch From Jesse

1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of power,  
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the

LORD -

3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.  
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of  
the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the  
wicked.

5 Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

He's coming from Jesse - David's Father! Meaning,  
he is going to be one like David.

The Spirit of God is going to be with him! And he will  
serve the Lord in fear.

He will care for those that had been cast out - the  
nation of Israel, of course.

Like David, He will be a mighty warrior, defeating the  
enemies - of Israel, of course.

# Theological Background

## Isaiah 11

**6** The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling [a]  
together;  
and a little child will lead them.

**7** The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

**8** The infant will play near the hole of the cobra,  
and the young child put his hand into the viper's  
nest.

**9** They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the  
**LORD**  
as the waters cover the sea.

**10** In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a  
banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him,  
and his place of rest will be glorious. **11** In that day  
the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to  
reclaim the remnant that is left of his people from  
Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, [b]  
from Cush, [c] from Elam, from Babylonia, [d] from  
Hamath and from the islands of the sea.

Where there was once enmity and fighting, where  
there was once disruption and chaos - he will bring  
peace.

He will fill the earth with the name of the Lord! Look  
what YHWH has done!

He will end the exile, defeat the enemy, bring rest  
and draw all exiles home. Even the nations will be  
gathered to him.

# Theological Background

## Isaiah 52

**4 For this is what the Sovereign LORD says:**

**"At first my people went down to Egypt to live;  
lately, Assyria has oppressed them.**

**5 "And now what do I have here?" declares the  
LORD.**

**"For my people have been taken away for  
nothing,**

**and those who rule them mock, [a] "  
declares the LORD.**

**"And all day long  
my name is constantly blasphemed.**

**6 Therefore my people will know my name;  
therefore in that day they will know  
that it is I who foretold it.  
Yes, it is I."**

**7 How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good news,  
who proclaim peace,  
who bring good tidings,  
who proclaim salvation,  
who say to Zion,  
"Your God reigns!"**

**Oppression and exile once again recalled.**

**Into this exile, one is coming, and he's announcing  
"good news!" What is this "good news"?**

**"Your God reigns! God is coming to Zion" The  
Shekinah of God is returning to his people. The  
kingdom of Israel under God will be restored! God's  
kingdom is coming again!**

# Theological Background

## Isaiah 52

**8 Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;  
together they shout for joy.**

**When the LORD returns to Zion,  
they will see it with their own eyes.**

**9 Burst into songs of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.**

**10 The LORD will lay bare his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth will see  
the salvation of our God.**

**11 Depart, depart, go out from there!  
Touch no unclean thing!  
Come out from it and be pure,  
you who carry the vessels of the LORD.**

**12 But you will not leave in haste  
or go in flight;  
for the LORD will go before you,  
the God of Israel will be your rear guard.**

**God is coming again to reign in Zion! Just like in the days of David. One truly is coming from Jesse!**

**And when he comes what will he do?**

**He will defeat the enemies with his holy arm and bring salvation (physical and spiritual deliverance) to his people.**

**He will say to his people, “depart!” Come out from the exile, be restored and delivered. Return to Zion. God will watch your back, be your rear-guard, as you do - just as he did in Egypt.**

# Theological Background

## Summary

**How did Israel understand Isaiah's promise!**

**There will be a servant, a messiah/deliverer coming! He will announce "Good News!"  
And what will be the good news?**

- 1. God is returning to Jerusalem. The Shekinah of God. Ushered in by David like the ark. And he will "reign". In other words, he will establish his kingdom.**
- 2. With God's power (through the working of this great servant), he will bring salvation to his people and defeat all their enemies.**
- 3. He would bring all Israel back from exile, into this kingdom. Hear Israel would be free from oppression, free to worship and there would be peace. What about the nations? If they were going to worship YHWH, they too would be welcome, other wise they would be defeated.**

# Theological Background

## Summary

**The servant comes announcing Good News.  
And what is the good news?**

**1. God is restoring his Kingdom!**

**It will be the Kingdom where **God reigns**. It will be the kingdom of  
God.**

**With this...**

**2. The enemies of God and his people are defeated!**

**3. The exile will be over, and all who worship YHWH will return  
to the Kingdom to live in peace.**

# Theological Background

## Summary

The “good news” of the Kingdom?

1. **God reigns.**
2. **Enemies of God defeated!**
3. **People (Israel & people of “nations” that align themselves with God) welcomed home to worship YHWH in peace.**

# Theological Background

## Expectations

**“...you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. His kingdom will never end.”**

**Luke 1:31-32**