

POWER FIGURES IN SCRIPTURE

PATRIARCHS AND MATRIARCHS

Abraham and Sarah

Isaac and Rebekah

Jacob and Leah, Rachel (and Bilhah, Zilpah)

Tribal heads in birth order: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah (by Leah); Dan, Naphtali (by Bilhah); Gad, Asher (by Zilpah); Issachar, Zebulun, (by Leah; also Dinah); Joseph, Benjamin (by Rachel)

DIVINELY APPOINTED LEADERS

Moses (charismatic mystic/prophet)

Aaron (first high priest; father of priestly caste)

Miriam (prophetess; liturgical leader)

Joshua (military leader)

JUDGES

Major Judges: Othniel, Ehud, Deborah (also prophetess), Gideon, Jephthah, Samson

Minor Judges: Shamgar, Tola, Jair, Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

Samuel (also prophet and priest)

KINGS AND QUEENS

One Kingdom

Saul

David

Solomon

18 Northern Rulers

including Ahab and

Jezebel

20 Southern Rulers

including Athaliah,

Ahaz, Hezekiah,

Manasseh, Josiah

PROPHETS

Early prototypes: Miriam, Deborah, Samuel

9th century miracle workers: Elijah and Elisha

Major classical prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel

Minor classical prophets: Amos, Hosea, Micah, Joel, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Obadiah, Malachi, Jonah, Daniel

Others: Balaam, Nathan, Isaiah's wife, Huldah, Anna (NT), Philip's daughters (Acts)

PRIESTS

Aaron

Ezra

Zechariah

Caiaphas and Annas

SAGES

Ben Sira

Qoheleth

SANHEDRIN

Joseph of Arimathea

Nicodemus