

# Ancient Civilizations: History Starts Here

By Maggie Hogan

History: an orderly and systematic study of humans' activities in the past.

<p>History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What happened?</li><li>• Whom did it affect?</li><li>• What were the results?</li><li>• How is it relevant to our lives today?</li><li>• What does the Bible say about it?</li></ul> <p>Why Biblically?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bible stories or history stories?</li><li>• Parallel universes or one universe?</li><li>• Take Christ out of His Story?</li></ul> <p>Why chronologically?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• God created order</li><li>• Cause and Effect</li><li>• Faith Building</li></ul> <p>Why Ancient Civilizations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To understand our own culture</li><li>• To understand other cultures</li><li>• To see the Bible in light of cultures</li></ul>	<p>Make Your Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How long will you spend?</li><li>• How much time per week?</li><li>• What are your overall goals?</li><li>• What are your specific goals?</li><li>• How to teach all ages together?</li></ul> <p>How will you divide the time periods? For example:</p> <p>These nine units could be done over two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Genesis</li><li>• Rise of Civilizations</li><li>• Hebrews</li><li>• Egyptians</li><li>• Assyrians</li><li>• Babylonians</li><li>• Medo-Persian</li><li>• Greece</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rome</li> </ul>
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### One Possible Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Light	Heavy	Independent	Independent	Various
Timeline	Discussion day	Read	Read	Field Trips or
Maps	Tapes/talking	Read	Research	project or
Reading	Read Aloud	Read	Map work	speaker or
Catch up	Make plans	Research	Catch up	activities

**This schedule might work for a family with younger students**

Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Discussion	Read Aloud	Special Events or
Read Aloud	Maps or timeline	Catch up day

### Goals

- Ignite interest in history & to develop a life-long love of learning
- Develop research and critical thinking skills
- Learn and understand basic facts
- Grasp a basic timeline of ancient civilizations
- Long-term retention of core information
- Recognize where event happened, why events happened, when events happened

## Resources and References

- The Bible
- [\*The Mystery of History Volume 1\*](#) by Linda Hobar (Creation through Christ)

This exciting book makes teaching the ancients fun and pain free! Great for all ages – a busy mom’s dream course.

- [\*Guides to History Plus\*](#) - Design-a-Study
- *A Family Guide to the Biblical Holidays or Celebrate the Feasts*
- Creation resources from Institute for Creation Research
- That the World May Know - video series from Focus on the Family
- [\*Student Bible Atlas\*](#) by Tim Dowley
- [\*Rand McNally Historical Atlas\*](#)
- [\*Usborne Book of World History Dates\*](#)
- *DK History of the World*

**Tip:** Buy core materials you’ll draw from heavily: reference books, maps & atlases, audio tapes, high quality games, posters, “pretend” toys that will be enjoyed for years to come and items that hold special appeal to one or more of your children.

## Web sites

[www.hyperhistory.com](http://www.hyperhistory.com)  
[www.thehistorynet.com](http://www.thehistorynet.com)  
[www.thehistoryplace.com](http://www.thehistoryplace.com)  
[www.paulasarchives.com](http://www.paulasarchives.com)  
[Mystery of History Yahoogroup](#)

## Tie in with Literature

It would seem that there are fictional books available for every time period imaginable. Be discerning, look for recommendations from sources you trust and don’t try to read it all! Choose high quality - avoid “junk food” fiction.

## Look for

- Appropriate reading level
- Appropriate interest level

- Appropriate thematic level
- World View
- Accuracy

### **Goals for choosing historical fiction**

- Flavor of a period or place
- Gripping account of a specific event
- Opportunity to put oneself into a time period
- Exposure to Godly heroes and role models--inspiration

### **Everything Happened Sometime - Timelines**

Ruth Beechik, in her excellent book *You Can Teach Your Child Successfully* says:

"For children, timelines are not for pulling together the scattered pieces of knowledge, as they do so well for adults; children haven't yet collected enough pieces to pull together. What timelines can do for children is to provide a framework into which they can put pieces of knowledge as they learn them. For this framework purpose, timelines should be very simple – so simple that children can memorize them."

- Information versus activity
- Strands ~ series of spirals
- Maximize your timeline - use in conjunction with maps

### **Everything Happened Somewhere - Maps**

- Information versus activity
- Outline maps
- Atlases
- Research
- Communicate

### **Projects & Field Trips**

Don't do every project you come across. Be choosy!

Choose projects and field trips that are:

- Appealing
- Illustrative
- Within budget
- Age appropriate
- Timely
- Fun & memorable