

THE TROJAN WAR

1200 B.C.

Key Participants:

Greeks: Agamemnon, Odysseus, Achilles, Diomedes, Ajax, Menelaus, Helen, Nestor, Patroclus, Sinon Trojans: Priam, Hector, Paris, Aeneas

Key Location(s):

Troy

Event Description:

The Trojan War was waged on the shore, in the open plains, and at the gates of the city of Troy. The war began as a result of a prince of Troy named Paris stealing the most beautiful woman in the world from her husband Menelaus, the king of Sparta. The brother of Menelaus used the capture of Helen as an excuse to attack and conquer the city of Troy. The war went on for ten years, each side experiencing its own periods of victory. The greatest Greek hero of the Trojan War was Achilles, the son of the sea nymph Thetis. The end of the war came about as the result of the crafty genius of the Greek king of Ithaca, Odysseus. Odysseus had the Greeks create a large wooden horse and leave it for the Trojans. The Greeks feigned retreat and left a man named Sinon to present a crafty story to the Trojans. Sinon succeeded in convincing the Trojans that the horse was a gift, and they proceeded to bring the offering within the city gates. Once inside, soldiers hiding within the horse opened Troy's gates to the Greek army, and the city of Troy was overthrown.

UNITED KINGDOM (SAUL, DAVID, SOLOMON) 1000 B.C.

Key Participants:

Saul, David, Solomon, and the people of Israel

Key Location(s):

Canaan- Judea- Jerusalem

Event Description:

For many years, in the land of Canaan, the people of Israel were ruled by judges and prophets. There came a time when the people asked to have a king just as the surrounding nations. God gave them their request, and Samuel anointed Saul as the first king of Israel. Saul was unfaithful to God, and David succeeded him as king. David was the greatest king Israel would ever know. David was followed by his son Solomon, who was a very wise king. During the reign of these three men, Israel was united as one kingdom in the land of Canaan. When Solomon's son Rehoboam took the throne, he showed himself to be a harsh and unwise ruler. Many people suggested that a man named Jeroboam should rule instead. The people were divided because of this dispute, and the one kingdom was split into the Northern Kingdom (Israel), with Jeroboam as its king, and the Southern Kingdom (Judah), which was ruled by Rehoboam (931 B.C.).

HOMER

800 B.C.

Key Participants:

Homer- the poet

Key Location(s):

Greece

Event Description:

Homer is best known as the author of the epic poems, the Iliad and the Odyssey. Little

is known about the author outside of these works and a few other speeches. However, Homer will forever be remembered for introducing the Western world to the heroes in the Trojan War. This era of demigods and immortal heroes has been appropriately deemed the Homeric Age.