

High Priests Scriptures in the Old Testament – Floyd Nolen Jones, Th.D, Ph.D.

1 Chr 6:1-15	1 Chr 9:11	Ezra 7:1-5	Neh 11:10-11	Supplementary Data
Aaron		Aaron		
Eleazar		Eleazar		
Phinehas		Phinehas		
Abishua		Abishua		
Bukki		Bukki		
Uzzi		Uzzi		
Zerahiah		Zerahiah		
Meraioth I		Meraioth I		
Amariah I				
Ahitub I				
Zadok I				
Ahimaaz				
Azariah I				
				Amariah II - 2 Chr. 19:11
				Jehoiada - 2 Ki. 11:4-19
				Zechariah - 2 Chr. 24:20-22
Johanán				
Azariah II				
				Urijah - 2 Ki. 16:10
				Azariah III - 2 Chr 31:10, 13
Amariah III		Azariah III		
Ahitub II	Ahitub II	Ahitub II	Ahitub II	
	Meraioth II		Meraioth II	Ezra 7:1-2
Zadok II	Zadok II	Zadok II	Zadok II	
(Me) Shallum	Meshallum	(Me) Shallum	Meshallum	
Hilkiah	Hilkiah	Hilkiah	Hilkiah	
Azariah IV	Azariah IV	Azariah IV		
Seraiah		Seraiah	Seraiah	
Jehozadak				
				Jeshua – Neh. 12:10
				Joiakim – Neh. 12:10
				Eliashib – Neh. 12:10
				Joiada – Neh. 12:10
				Jonathan – Neh. 12:11
				Jaddua – Neh. 12:11

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	Name	Scripture	Vita	c.BC Date
1.	Aaron	1 Chr. 6:2	Moses' older brother, Exo. 7:7	1490-1452
2.	Eleazar	1 Chr. 6:3	Mother was Amminabad's daughter, Elisheba of Judah	1452-1422
3.	Phinehas	1 Chr. 6:4		1422-1400
4.	Abishua	1 Chr. 6:4		1400-1350
5.	Bukki	1 Chr. 6:5		1350-1300
6.	Uzzi	1 Chr. 6:5	With Deborah, Barak, and Ruth (?)	1300-1250
7.	Zerahiah	1 Chr. 6:6		1250-1200
8.	Meraioth I	1 Chr. 6:6	Eli, descendant of Ithamar the son of Aaron	1200-1150
9.	Amariah I	1 Chr. 6:7	Ahitub, son of Phinehas & Eli's grandson 1 Sam 14:3	1150-1100
10.	Ahitub I	1 Chr. 6:7	Ahijah & brother Ahimelech I, 1 Sam 14:3, 22:9, Saul king	1100-1050
11.	Zadok I	1 Chr. 6:8	Abiathar of Ahimelech I, 1 Sam 22:20, David king	1050-1000
12.	Ahimaaz	1 Chr. 6:8	2 Sam. 15:27, in Solomon's & Rehoboam's reigns	1000-961
13.	Azariah I	1 Chr. 6:9		961-921
14.	Amariah II	2 Chr. 19:11	Jehoshaphat's reign	921-891
15.	Jehoiada	2 Ki. 11:4-19	Joash's reign, 2 Chr. 24:15-24	891-846
16.	Zechariah	2 Chr. 24:20-22		846-841
17.	Johanan	1 Chr. 6:9		841-796
18.	Azariah II	1 Chr. 6:10	Opposed Uzziah's attempt to burn incense, 2 Chr 26:17-18	796-751
19.	Urijah	2 Ki. 16:10	Ahaz's reign	751-731
20.	Azariah III	Ezra 7:3	2 Chr. 31:10, 13 – in Hezekiah's reign	731-706
21.	Amariah III	1 Chr. 6:11	Ezra 7:3	706-697
22.	Ahitub II	1 Chr. 6:11	1 Chr. 9:11; Ezra 7:2; Neh. 11:11	697-682
23.	Meraioth II	1 Chr. 9:11	Ezra 7:1-2; Neh. 11:11	682-672
24.	Zadok II	1 Chr. 6:12	1 Chr. 9:11; Ezra 7:2; Neh. 11:11	672-656
25.	(Me) Shallum	1 Chr. 6:12	1 Chr. 9:11; Ezra 7:2; Neh. 11:11	656-643
26.	Hilkiah	1 Chr. 6:13	Ezra 7:1; Neh. 11:11 - Josiah's reign	643-611
27.	Azariah IV	1 Chr. 6:13	1Chr. 9:11; Ezra 7:1-2;	611-598
28.	Seraiah	1 Chr. 6:14	Ezra's father: slain by Nebuchad , Ezra 7:1; 2 Ki. 25:18-22	598-586
29.	Jehozadak	1 Chr. 6:14	Carried away to Babylon & died there as he did not return	586-541
30.	Jeshua-Joshua	Ezra 3:2; Zec. 1:7	Returned with Zerubbabel, Hag. 1:1	541-501
31.	Joiakim	Neh. 12:26	Contemporary with Ezra & Nehemiah; Jos. <i>Antiq.</i> xi.5.1	501-469
32.	Eliashib	Neh. 3:1, 13:4-5	Young contemporary of Nehemiah: allied to Tobiah	469-442
33.	Joiada	Neh. 12:10		442-439
34.	Jonathan	Neh. 12:11	Contemporary of Nehemiah (?), 2 Maccabees 1:23	439-407
35.	Jaddua	Neh. 12:11, 22	until Darius the Persian (Nothus ; Neh. 12:10-11, 22)	407-387

We know little of Ithamar, Aaron's 4th and youngest son (Exo. 6:23). He oversaw the Levites of Gershon and Merari (Num. 3:36, 4:28 & 33, 7:8) in their Tabernacle duties (curtains, sockets, boards etc. – Exo. 38:9-21). Eli was his descendant. For c.150 years Eli & his offspring had charge of the Tabernacle. Abiathar was the last high priest in his lineage (1 Ki. 2:26-27). A priest of Ithamar's family (a Daniel) returned from the Captivity (Ezra 8:2).

Nehemiah recorded six chief priests down to Jaddua's administration, which extended to the reign of "Darius the Persian" (Neh. 12:22). Josephus says this was Darius III (Codomannus), the ruler whose empire fell to Alexander the Great in 331 BC. Thus, beginning at Eliashib, Josephus lists the same high priests as Neh. 12:10–11. He goes on to say that after defeating Darius III at Issus Alexander took Damascus, Sidon and Tyre (*Antiquities*, XI.8.3-5). After this, he adds that Alexander came to Jerusalem and that Jaddua, who was then high priest, came forth to greet him.

But the *Talmud* says that the high priest who met Alexander in 331 BC was Simon the Just, son of Onias, son of Jaddua – not Jaddua (*Talmud*, Soma fol. 69, I. The *Encyclopedia Judaica* sides with the Talmud against Josephus, vol. 9, p. 1246.). If so, Jaddua did not live to the end of the Persian Empire as Josephus stated. The *Chronology of the Old Testament* (Floyd Nolen Jones, pp. 198-199) details that the *Talmud* is correct and further, that "Darius the Persian" was Darius II Nothus (as did Sir. Isaac Newton in his chronology; pp. 363-373).