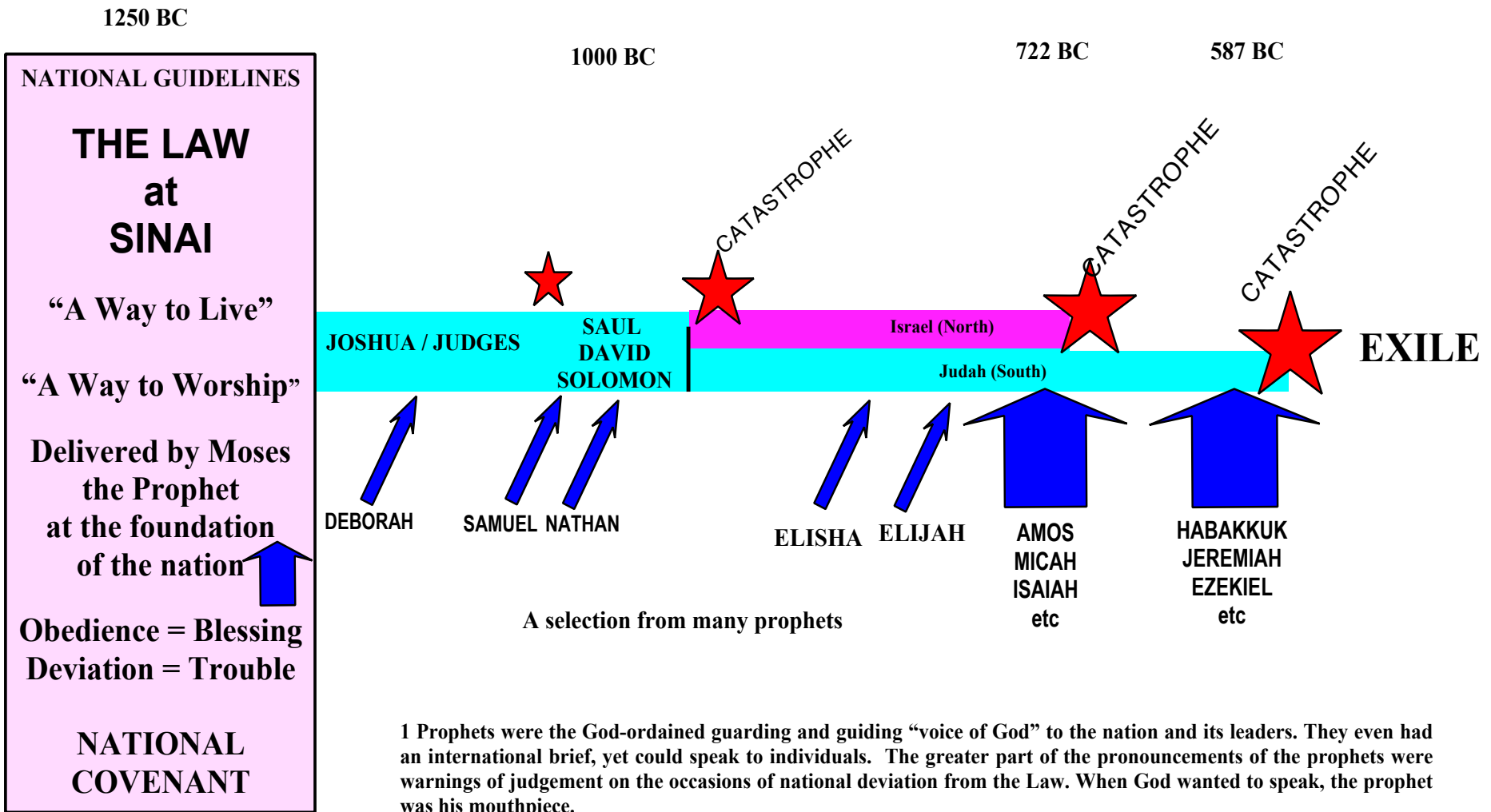


PLACE and PURPOSE of the PROPHETS in JEWISH HISTORY



1 Prophets were the God-ordained guarding and guiding “voice of God” to the nation and its leaders. They even had an international brief, yet could speak to individuals. The greater part of the pronouncements of the prophets were warnings of judgement on the occasions of national deviation from the Law. When God wanted to speak, the prophet was his mouthpiece.

2 There was a constant stream of prophets in the national life of the Jews. They were there in each generation, frequently in “schools”. The absence of the prophetic voice (A “famine of the word of the Lord”) was a severe form of judgement.