

The Kingdom

A Timeline

| Year | Events |
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| -404 | The Old Empire invades, driving many natives into the hills and forests |
| -170 | The Old Empire withdraws its garrison, leaving the Kingdom to find its own rulers and fend for itself. |
| 0 | Queen Paedaitis unites the feuding factions to create the modern nation |
| 621 | High Bishop Sian Numoteris declares the Third Crusade, and King Bynnfyr IV departs with it |
| 623 | Lady Zarastaen, the King's sister, declares that crusades and similar foolishness are an inevitable result of rule by kings, and leads an insurrection against not just the King but against the rule of monarchs itself |
| 624 | The King is gravely wounded in capturing the Holy City, and returns home to fight for his throne |
| 625 | Unbidden, unwanted, and unfortunate, the plague comes. |
| 627 | The King dies of plague, and Zarastaen's forces seize the capital, thus ending the civil war. |
| 628 | The crusade ends in disaster — the Holy City falls after an insider poisoned the wells, and a foolish counteroffensive at Pedemos is broken with a mass slaughter of crusaders. |
| 629 | Today |

State of Play

Queen Vaisviet remains under house arrest in Claudeign. The rebels would use her as a symbol of legitimacy, but she is in no fit state. Lady Zarastaen acts as First Minister, but her Parliament of Worthies is fractious.

Crown loyalists hold Bretallac, the second city, an Old Empire fortress that is all but impregnable. They are fatalistic, disordered, and cynical.

The Church professes neutrality, though it's no secret that they would see rule by Church Prince Asmevodas, who is "neither man nor woman, neither young nor old" and would rule with divine wisdom. Asmevodas holds court in Melasaos, on the eastern border of the kingdom, but few have seen it in the flesh.

The plague, having glutted itself on a third of the population, has mostly abated. But pockets persist, and flare-ups occur. Rumours spread of "bearers" who suffer but cannot die.

Outposts remain in the Holy Land, where a tenuous peace holds.