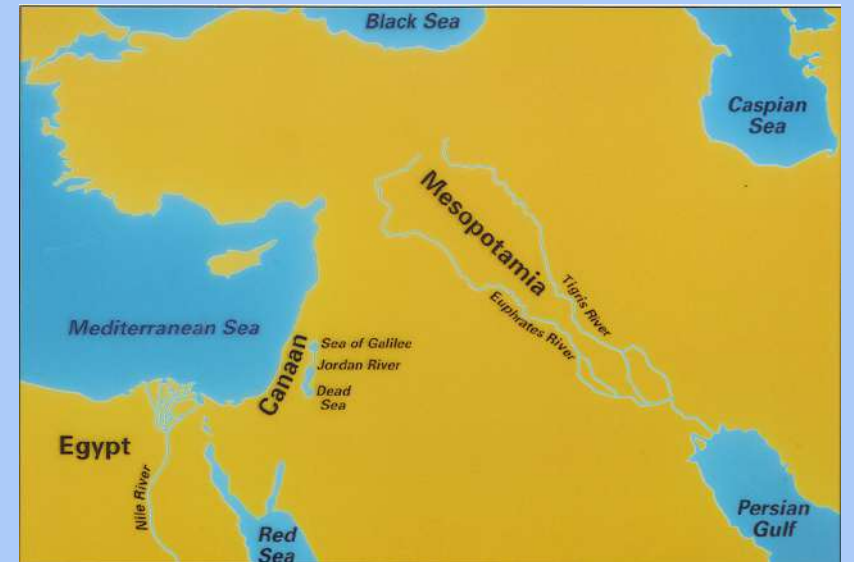




THE ANCIENT ISRAELITES

The First Israelites

- Israelites were monotheist which meant they only believed in one god.
- Israelite faith become the religion known today as Judaism. (Jewish)
- Judaism influenced Christianity and Islam
- Israelites spoke Hebrew
- The Israelites wrote the Hebrew Bible., the Torah.
- The Christians call this book the Old Testament.
- Around 1200 B.C., Israelites built a kingdom in Canaan.



Who is Abraham?

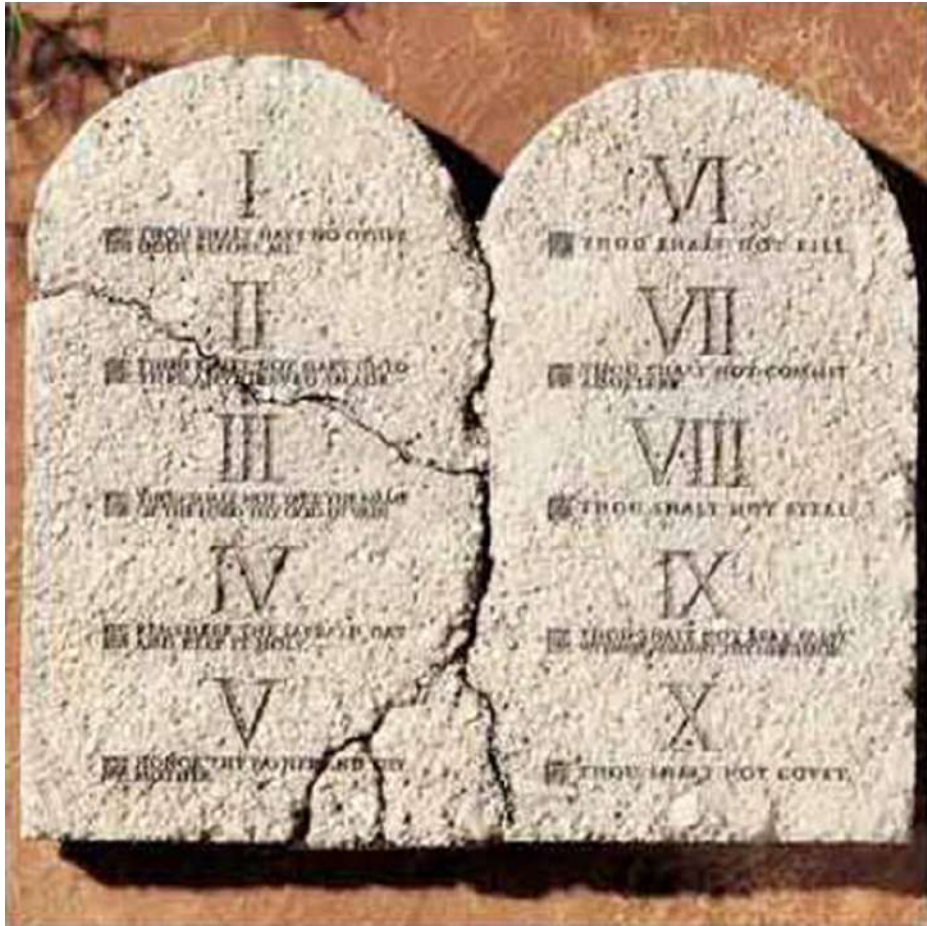


- The Israelites believed they descended from a man named Abraham. (Father Abraham)
- The Hebrew Bible says that God told Abraham and his people to leave Ur in Mesopotamia and settle in Canaan.
- Abraham's grandson Jacob (also called Israel) raised 12 sons in Canaan. His family then divided into what is known as the 12 tribes of Israel.

The Story of Moses

- After 100 years of living in Canaan, there was a drought. This led the Israelites to Egypt.
- The pharaoh enslaved Israelites and ordered all baby boys killed.
- In order to save him, Moses' mother sent him in a basket down river. The pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him as Egyptian royalty.
- One day, Moses found a **burning bush** and heard God's voice instructing him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt to freedom.
- God sent 10 plagues to trouble Egypt. This convinced the pharaoh to let the Israelites go.
- On the way back to Canaan, Moses went to the top of Mount Sinai and received the **Torah**. In the Torah were the **10 commandments**.





Ten Commandments

- On top of Mt. Sinai, Moses spoke to God
- Basis for civil and religious laws of Judaism
- New covenant between Hebrews & God

Ten Commandments

- You shall have no other Gods but me.
- You shall not make for yourself any idol, nor bow down to it or worship it.
- You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
- You shall remember and keep the Sabbath day holy.
- Respect your father and mother.
- You must not kill.
- You must not commit adultery.
- You must not steal.
- You must not give false evidence against your neighbor.
- You must not be envious of your neighbor's goods. You shall not be envious of his house nor his wife, nor anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Promised Land

- Canaan was inhabited by Canaanites.
- Israelites conquered Jericho, in Canaan.
- A group of Canaanites called the Phoenicians created the first alphabet.
- This idea was spread to the Greeks, and later the Romans.



Israelites vs. Philistines

- The Israelites lived in Canaan with the much stronger Philistines. Philistines had much stronger tools and weapons.
- A **prophet** is a person who Israelites thought was instructed by God.
- Saul was the Israelites first king but he was replaced by David for disobeying Gods commands.
- David united the tribes.
- David grew the Israelite empire and is known as one of the greatest kings in history. Established Jerusalem



and the 2 kingdoms

- Son of David, Solomon built a stone temple in Jerusalem.
- Solomon was known for his **proverbs**, or wise sayings.
- He was disliked by some Israelites for charging high taxes.
- When Solomon died, the 12 tribes separated into two kingdoms:
 - In the North, the kingdom of Israel
 - In the South, the kingdom of Judah (Jews)



Prophets and the Fall of Israel and Judah



- Prophets brought hope to the kingdom of Israel during times when they feared attacks from the Assyrians and Chaldeans.
- Israel fell to attacks by the Assyrians in 722 B.C.
- 586 B.C., King Neb of the Chaldeans captured Jerusalem, the capital of Judah

The Persians and Judah

- In the 500's B.C. the Persians defeated the Chaldeans and took over Babylon.
- King Cyrus of the Persians permitted the Jews to return to Judah. Jews rebuilt Jerusalem but paid taxes to and followed the rules of the Persians.



The Greeks

- In 334 B.C. Alexander the Great of Greece set out to conquer western Asia. He defeated the Persians but allowed Jews to stay in Judah.
- Diaspora or “scattering” of Jews occurred.
- These scattered Jews learned much of Greek culture and helped copy the Hebrew Bible into Greek. As a result, Jewish ideas spread into the Mediterranean world.



The Jews and Romans

- In 63 B.C. Romans conquered Judah and changed its name to Judaea. They allowed Jewish rulers to run Judaea.
- Eventually though Romans replaced Jewish leaders with Romans. This divided Jews and angered them.
- In response to Roman abuse, Zealots rebelled against Romans. This caused the destruction and death of Jerusalem and many Jews. Judah then became known as Palestine.
- Although they lost their land, Jews managed to survive. Rabbis were teachers of the Torah and spread Judaism.



(Jewish celebrities)



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