JUDAISM



Biblical Patriarchs

The Fertile Crescent

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Biblical Patriarchs

Gilgamesh Epic used for the basis of Genesis 1-11. It was the first great epic poem that dealt with Gilgamesh's search for immortality and meaning of life

The Patriarchal narrative begins at Genesis 12.

Code of Hammurabi 1792-1750 BCE containing 282 rules based upon status

Biblical Patriarchs

• Covenant People

• Ethics/morality

Monotheism

JEDP authors of Genesis

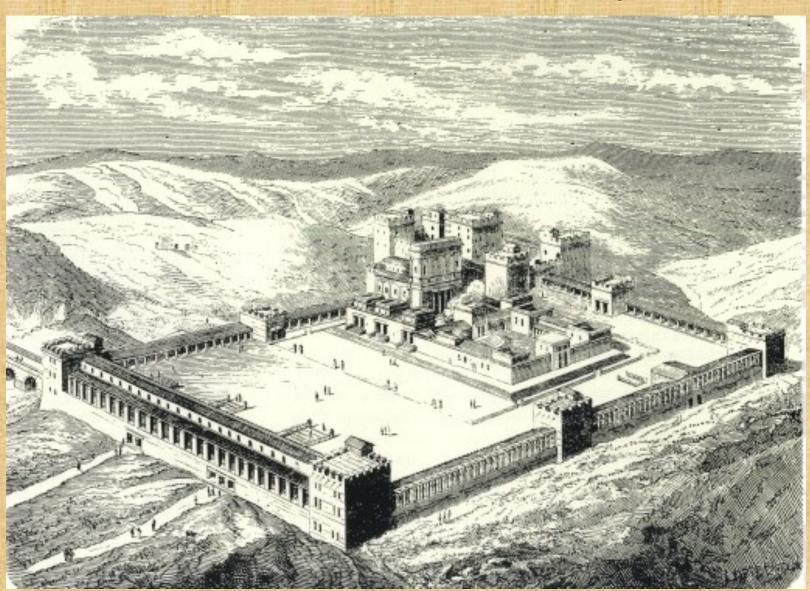
Exodus to Sinai and the Ten Commandments

After the Exodus from Egypt, a period of time is spent wandering in the desert until the giving of the Law

The Ten Commandments were guidelines for harmonious society—not as a means to enter heaven

Fence Laws soon added

Hebrew Monarchy



Solomon's Temple ca. 1000 BCE

Prophetic Movement, Exile, and Return

Prophets were social critics not predictors of the future

After Solomon Israel divided north and south

The Divided Kingdom



The Babylonian Captivity

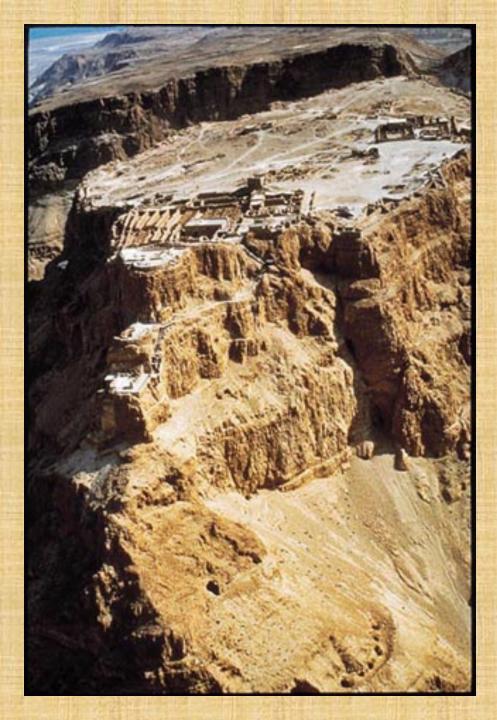
• The fall of Judah 586 BCE

 Nebuchadnezzar exported Hebrews to Babylon "By the waters of Babylon...."

Exiled artisans and leaders...not all the people of Israel went into exile

Diaspora

- With the destruction of Israel, the Jewish people started to get spread all over the world
- The spun off the synagogues since the Temple wasn't around
- Rabbis began teaching responsibilities
- Four groups within Judaism:
 - 1. Sadducees—aristocratic leaders
 - 2. Pharisees—teachers with a messianic idea
 - 3. Essences—ascetics and writers of the Dead Sea Scrolls
 - 4. Zealots—revolutionaries



Masada, the fortress where the Zealots held off the Romans ...then committed mass suicide

Qumran, site of the Dead Sea Scrolls





http://www.theholylandexperience.com/map/

Judaism from the Crusades to the Modern World

Anti-Semitism goes back to the crucifixion

Crusades accelerated attacks against Jews

Luther added to this anti-Semitism

Ghettos ironically probably preserved Jews as a people

• 4th Lateran Council did also



- Started with the Dreyfus case
- Herzl decides that a state of Israel was necessary and called his movement—Zionism
- Then the British decided to get into the fray with Balfour Declaration
- Then the Holocaust adds guilt to Western imperialism
- State of Israel and the Palestinian problem