

The Hebrews & Judaism



C. Jews / Israelis



Let's have some fun! For 10 points extra credit answer the following question:

- ▶ **Define and explain what are the differences between the following:**
 - ▶ 1- The Hebrews
 - ▶ 2- The Hebrew
 - ▶ 3- Hebrew
 - ▶ 4- Israel
 - ▶ 5- Israel
 - ▶ 6- Israelites
 - ▶ 7- A Jew
 - ▶ 8- Judaism

The Hebrews, Jews & Judaism

- ▶ Who are the Hebrews? What is their origins?
- ▶ What does the word Hebrew mean?
- ▶ What is the Hebrew Epic?
- ▶ Who is a Jew?
- ▶ What is the Judaism ?
- ▶ What is the Hebrew Bible?
- ▶ What is the Torah?
- ▶ What is the Covenant?



C. Jews (Israelis)

- About 7 million people in the region are Israelis living in Israel.
- Of these, about 82% are Jews; the remaining 18% are mostly Arabs.
- In 1948, Israel was founded as a Jewish State.
- Tensions between Arabs and Jews resulting in 4 wars (1948 – 1973) that have brought severe hardship between the Muslims and the Jews.



The Beginning of the Story!

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- ▶ According to Biblical tradition, the Hebrews are peoples descended from **Shem**, one of Noah's sons, through **Eber**, the ancestor, and **Abraham**.
- ▶ [Gen. 7:22](#), reports that the flood destroyed all life except that in Noah's ark;
- ▶ consequently, the whole human family descended from Noah and his sons: **Japheth, Ham and Shem**.
- ▶ With Abraham the story of the Hebrews begins.
- ▶ We read that Abraham, in response to a divine summons, left Mesopotamia and journeyed to Canaan with his wife, Sarah.



What does Hebrew mean?

- It means a **wanderer** or crossing from the other side (the other side of the Euphrates River to Canaan.)
- Abraham believed in the **One True God**.
- God told Abraham to leave Sumer and to go to **Canaan**.
- Abraham took his wife Sarah and crossed /wandered to Canaan to live.



What is The Origins of Hebrews?

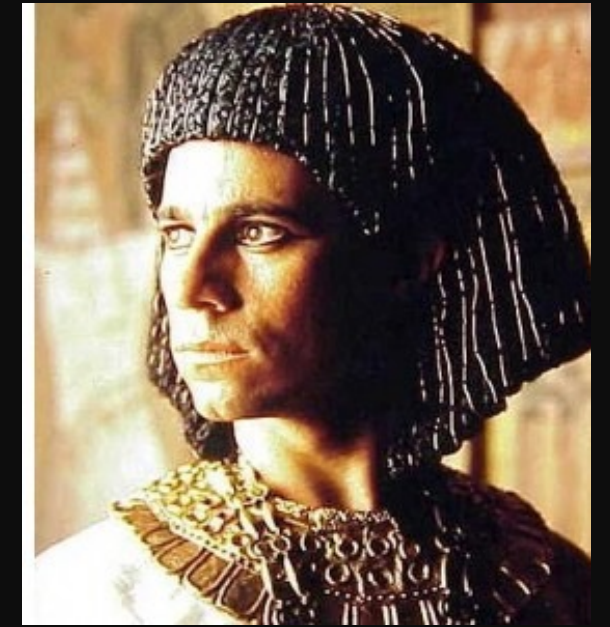
- ▶ Abraham was a Sumerian from the city-state of Ur.
- ▶ Abraham got Isaac and Ishmael,
- ▶ then Isaac got Esau and Jacob.
- ▶ They were the Patriarchs of the Hebrews.
- ▶ Now, God made a Covenant with Jacob, to bless him and his offspring.
- ▶ God called Jacob, **Israel** (Struggled/Wrestled with God)



The Epic of the Hebrews

Joseph, the King of Dreams!

- ▶ Jacob (Israel) had 12 Children (12 Tribes)
- ▶ Joseph, Jacob's favorite son get betrayed by his brothers and sold him as a slave to Egypt.
- ▶ In Egypt, after 13 years of hard time & imprisonment.
- ▶ Joseph interpret the Pharaoh's dream.
- ▶ The Pharaoh likes the smart Joseph & appoint him the Vizier (P.M.) of Egypt.
- ▶ Joseph become the seed of his family in Egypt.



An Imaginary image of Joseph



An Imaginary image of Joseph

The Epic of the Hebrews

- ▶ Now, there is a **famine** in Canaan.
- ▶ Jacob (Israel) and his children and their families **70 people** total went down **to Egypt** because of the famine.
- ▶ Jacob (Israel) family lived in Egypt 400 years. (ca. 1850 – 1450 BCE)
- ▶ During this years; some were good ~150 years; some were mystery ~120 years, and others were bad (force-labor) ~130 years.



The Kingdom of Israel

- ▶ King Saul ca. 1075 – 1010 BCE
- ▶ King David ca. 1010 -970 BCE
- ▶ King Solomon 970 to 931 BCE
- ▶ The Construction of The Temple 966 BCE



King Solomon's Temple



An Imaginary image of King Saul



An Imaginary image of
King Solomon



King David, M. Angelo

Kingdom of
United Israel
1100s – 900s
BCE



Divided
Kingdom
after
Solomon
900s – 800s
BCE

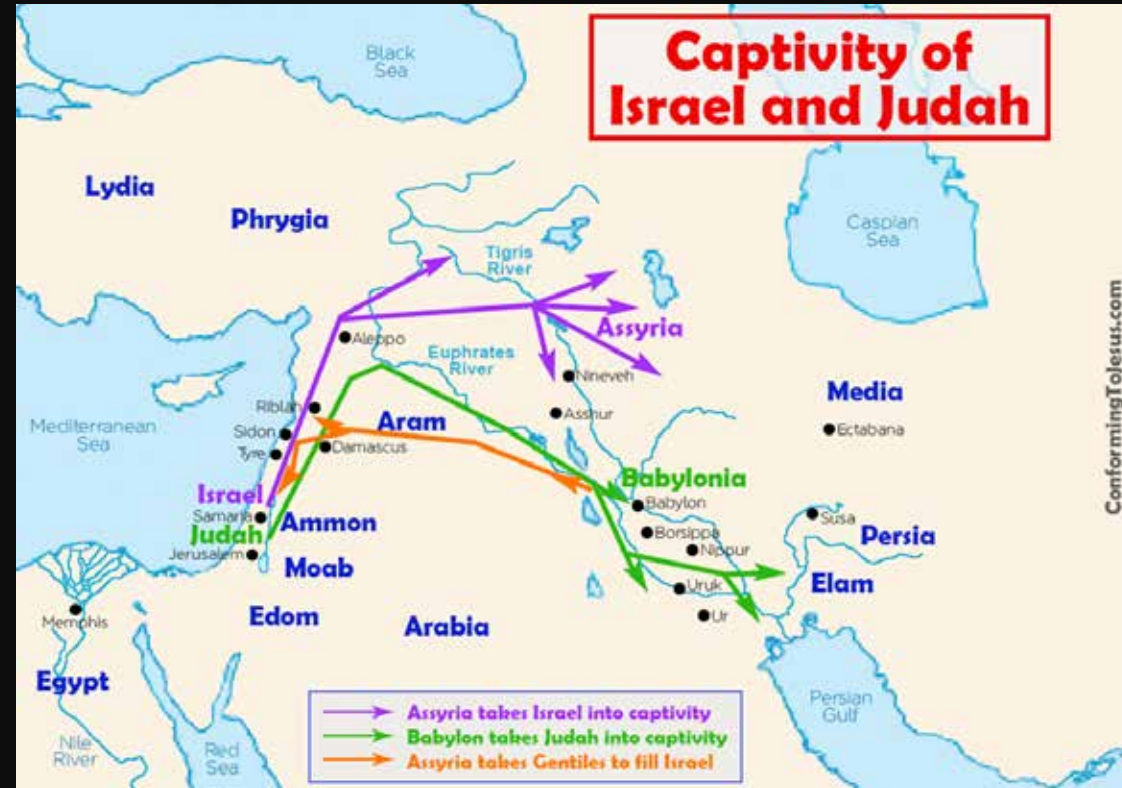
The Divided Kingdom

- ▶ Solomon rules a united Israel, and build the Temple, have good and peaceful relations with his neighbor countries.
- ▶ Solomon had **300 wives** and **700 concubines**.
- ▶ He pleased his pagan wives and allow them to build shrines to their gods on the Holy Mount Zion
- ▶ God became very upset.
- ▶ He decided to punish Solomon and the Israelites.
- ▶ After Solomon's death a major split among the tribes:
 - ▶ 10 become the state of Israel
 - ▶ 2 become the state of Judah



The Captivity of Israel & Judah

- **The Assyrians** take Israelites (Hebrews) into Captivity, (c. 734 – 732 BCE & 724 – 721 BCE)
- The Assyrians take Gentiles to fill Israel (721 BCE – onwards)
- **The Babylonians** took Judah (Jews) into captivity (604 – 586 BCE)



**And Now, Let's know
Who is a Jew?**

Who is a Jew?

- ▶ The terms "Jew" and "Judaism" come from the tribe or kingdom of **Judah**.
- ▶ "Jew" now refers to all **physical** and **spiritual** descendants of **Jacob**, or Children of Israel (Jacob).
- ▶ A person can be Jewish **by birth** or by **conversion**.
- ▶ Traditionally, Jewish status passes through the **mother**, not the father.



Jewish Religion

Judaism

- Judaism **does not distinguish** clearly between **religious, national, racial, or ethnic identities.**
- Judaism is a restrict monotheism based on the worship of an all-powerful true God they called him **Yahweh.**



Torah

Jewish Religion Judaism

- ▶ They wrote down their religious **ideas, traditions, laws, advices, prayers, hymns, history,** and prophecies in a series of books gathered centuries later to form **the Hebrew Bible.**
- ▶ **The Torah**, the **first five books** of the Hebrew Bible, “**Known as the fives books of Moses.**”
- ▶ Those who lived by these laws came to be called **Jews**, and their religion, **Judaism.**



The Ten Commandments

The Covenant

- ▶ The Covenant is a fundamental believe in the Jewish religion.
- ▶ It is an agreement that Jews believed to exist between themselves and God (Yahweh), to worship only him as well as to obey and follow his commandments.
- ▶ In return, He will protect and bless them



History of Ancient Israel and Judah explained in 5 minutes



▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZybFYikBMLg>

Good luck!

