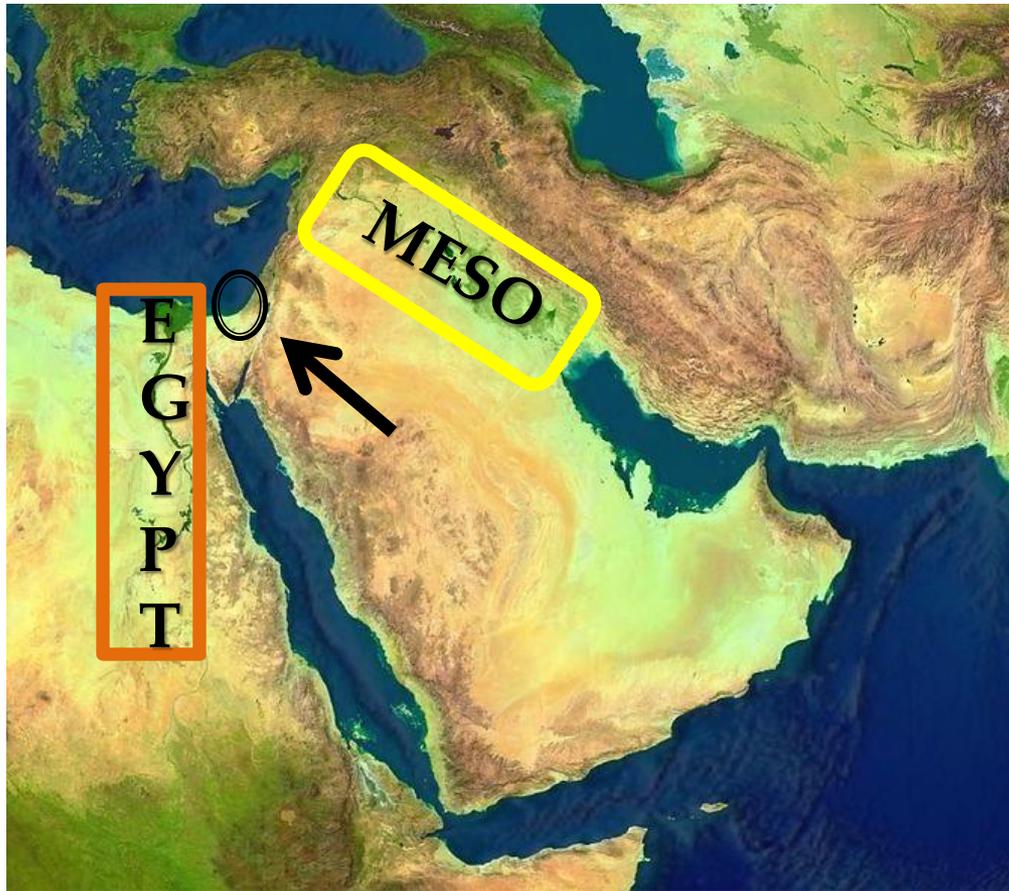


Hebrews Legitimacy and Trauma

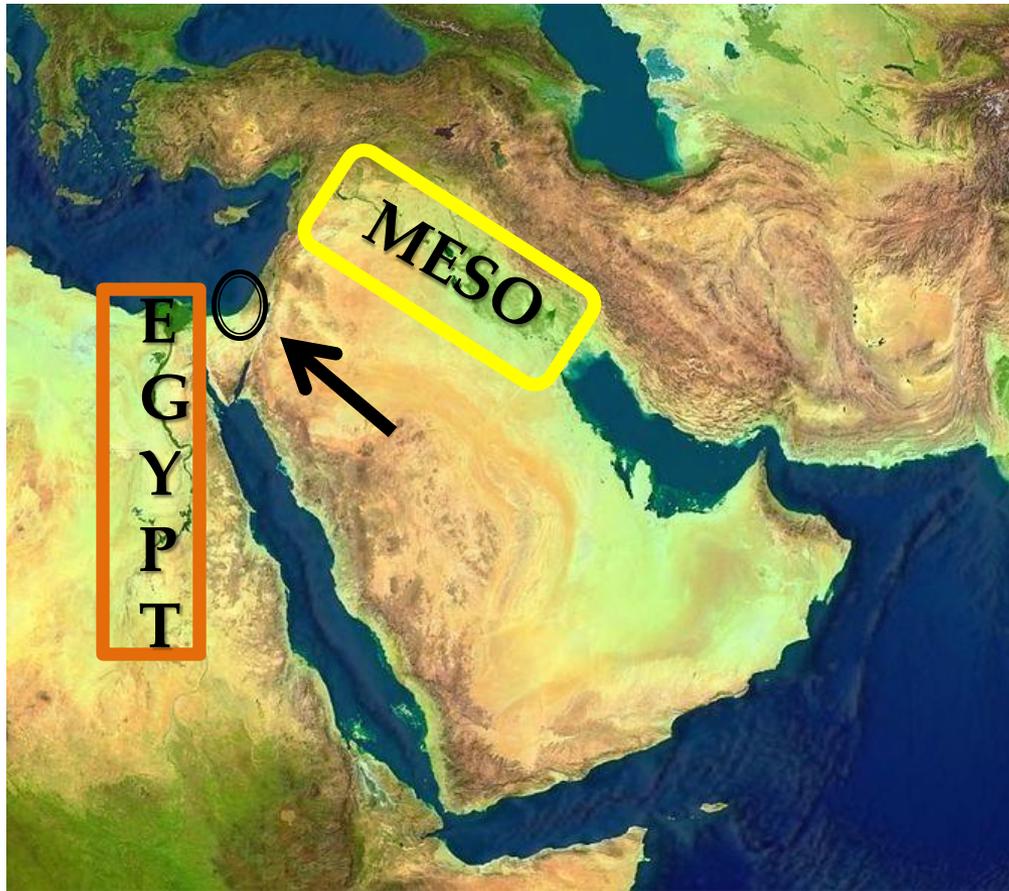
Canaanite people on the move = Bronze Age Collapse





Geography

between Jordan River
+
Mediterranean Sea



Geography

between Jordan River

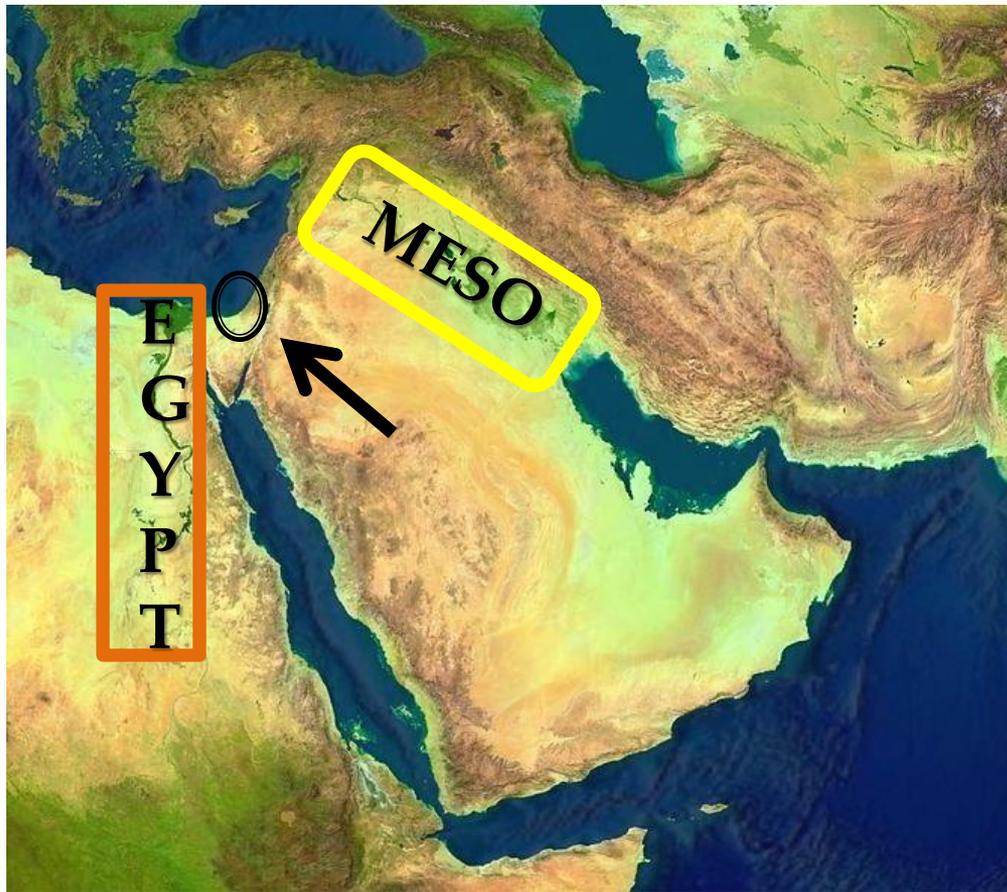
+

Mediterranean Sea

=

East Egypt

SW of Babylon



Geography

between Jordan River

+

Mediterranean Sea

=

East Egypt

SW of Babylon

+

Jerusalem is not a port.

= lack connections

= less trade

=

adv

disadv



Hebrew Culture

1. mesopotamian with babylonian influences
(esp after 586 bc) = law, temple design, language

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Hebrew Culture

1. mesopotamian with babylonian influences
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2. tight political alliance with egypt
3. separated from other caananite peoples
(diet, circumcision, religion)

Religion

polytheism: many gods control aspect of nature = provide protection

monolatry: right god but others exist
= we're special but weak in dangerous world
= God helps us win!
(moses, joshua, chronicles)

monotheism: only one god exists, controls everything
= we're chosen ppl
= it is God's play and we are but the players
(prophets, after 722 and 586)

Monotheism

=

Transcendental god = not human

= better than ppl

= more moral – Sex? Drugs?

= more powerful (omnipotent)

= more knowledge (omniscient)

= not knowable, understandable

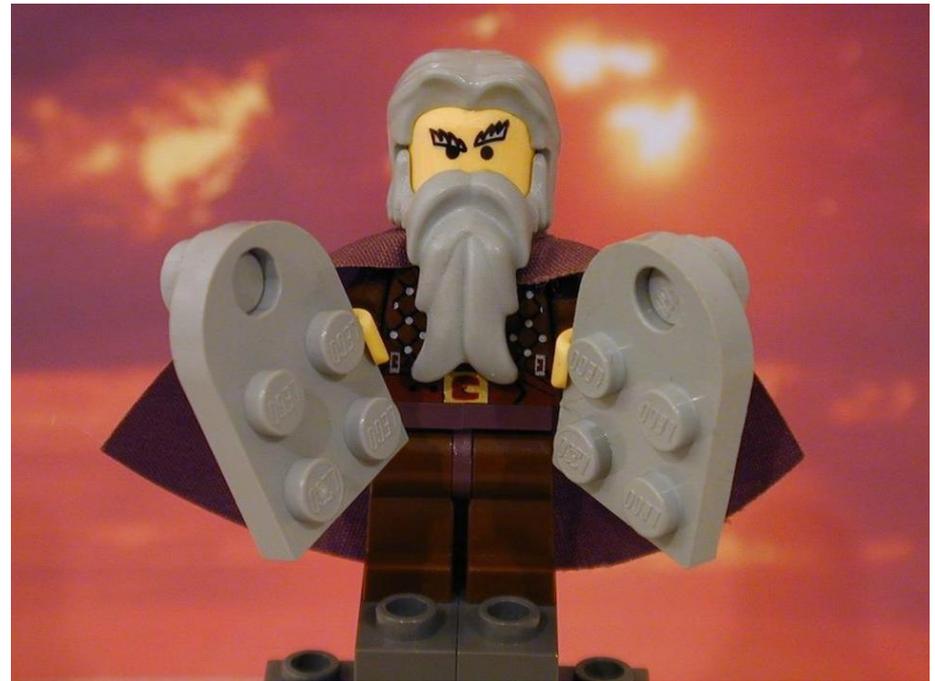
Monotheism

One god controls = ?

One god cares about = ?

=

Rules about?



<http://www.aish.com/h/sh/se/48945081.html?s=mpw>

(218/322 = hair), (139 – 175 = sex) (176-203 = food) (no debt = 7 year/jubilee) (580/581 = no change)

<http://youtu.be/LdtoMbbmVUk> (2.00)

<http://youtu.be/S1-ip47WYWc> (1.30)

Monotheism

Advantages?

right god = god LOVES us
= helps us (miracles), guides us (laws)
= chosen ppl = best ppl in world
(most moral, most true/real)

[Insane idea.

Babylon = most advanced place

Egypt = richest/oldest

Hebrews = small out of the way ppl

= no major ports, no \$, no real army]



Monotheism

Disadvantages?

1 god + anger = problems
(A/E, Noah, Jeremiah, Job...)



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Monotheism

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rules = behavior = changes?

why does evil exist if God is good?
= philosophical quandary (job)

(polytheism has evil gods = Set, Loki)



Legitimacy

=

You and God are Bffs



Legitimacy

=

You and God are Bffs

=

problem

Legitimacy

=

You and God are Bffs

=

problem

=

who gets to speak for God?

Kings.



Priests



Kings chosen by God

Priests are professionals, its their job to know God. They have the temple + edu.

Kings + Priests = authority + tradition + typical of Babylon/Egypt/Phoenicia

(vaguely cool w/ polytheism/monolatry)

versus.....

Prophets



Amateurs = no institutional support, charismatic preachers from the desert
(talk to God directly, bypassing Kings and Priests)

strict monotheists = Jeremiah, Isaiah

morality, conservatism, youth behavior vs old ways = strict adherence to the laws.

“crazy” folk who gained followers, especially in difficult times, promising better life...

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ultimate winner (destruction of kings/temple in 585bce, Jerusalem in 70ad,
Jesus, Paul, NT, Islam)

Hebrews Trauma

Early Success = cleared out Canaanite tribes
= David creates kingdom (1050 – 970)

= builds Jerusalem
= mesopotamian city = serious ppl

Everything is great!



Success = cleared out Canaanite tribes
= David creates kingdom (1050 – 970)
= builds Jerusalem
= mesopotamian city = serious ppl

= Solomon build temple = religion most important
(30% area, H.o.Holies, thousands priests)

Everything is Even Better!





Success vs Canaanites = tough but complete

War vs Philistines = draw (Gaza carve out coast, hebrews interior)

Phoenicia? = major trading partners + tech exporters



Crushed by more professional troops of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon

725 bc: Assyria Destroys Israel

= Ten Lost Tribes (depopulation)



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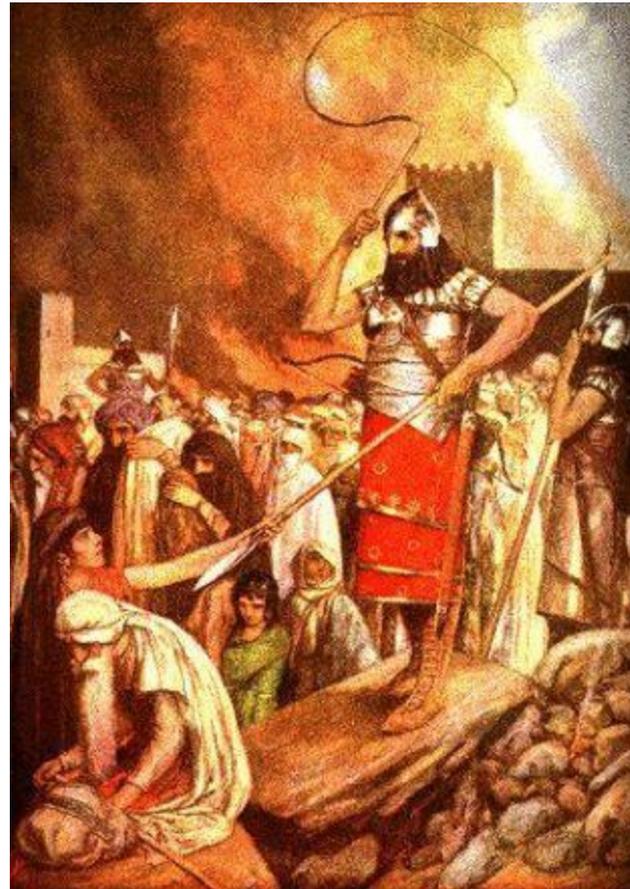
= punishment for not being
Hebrew enough.

= conservatism = literal view of Law

(great, judah should survive as small, conservative state in larger empire)

(nothing bad should ever happen again)

In 585 BC Babylon Destroys Jerusalem



585. Babylon Destroys Jerusalem

- destroy temple

= babylonian captivity

= TRAUMA = God has a legitimacy problem



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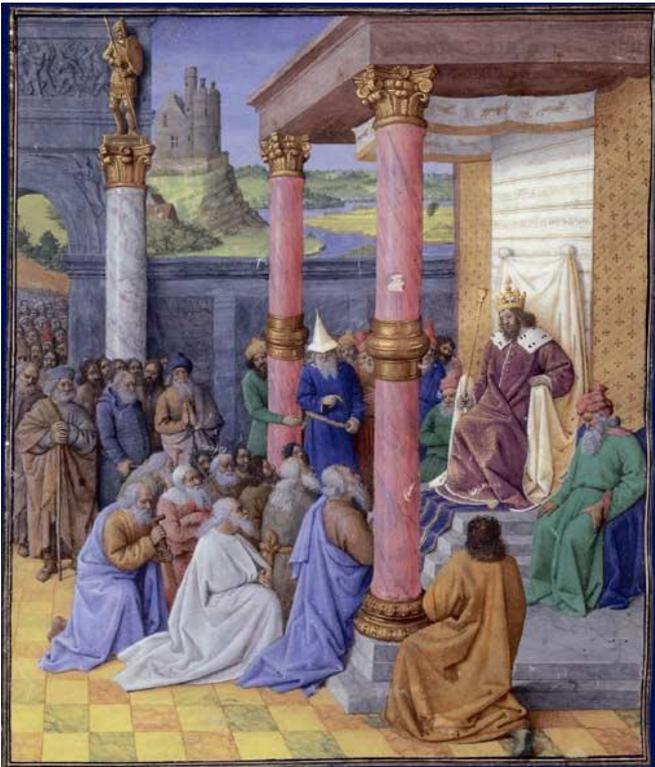
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= Cyrus (538)



Result = transition of Hebrews into Jews = Culture not geography = people

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(book/word matters = christianity, islam)

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Rebuilt Temple = new priestly class = allied to foreign empires?

Judah exists but not independent = Persia, Greeks, Romans run it
= incorporation not assimilation
into larger empires = success not disappearance