



THE HEBREWS



ORIGINS

- ✘ Semitic nomads of Mesopotamia
- ✘ Circa 2000 B.C.E. – patriarch Abraham led his people from Ur to the Mediterranean shore
- ✘ Circa 1400 B.C.E. – relocated to Egypt because of a drought
 - + Biblical story of Moses and Passover

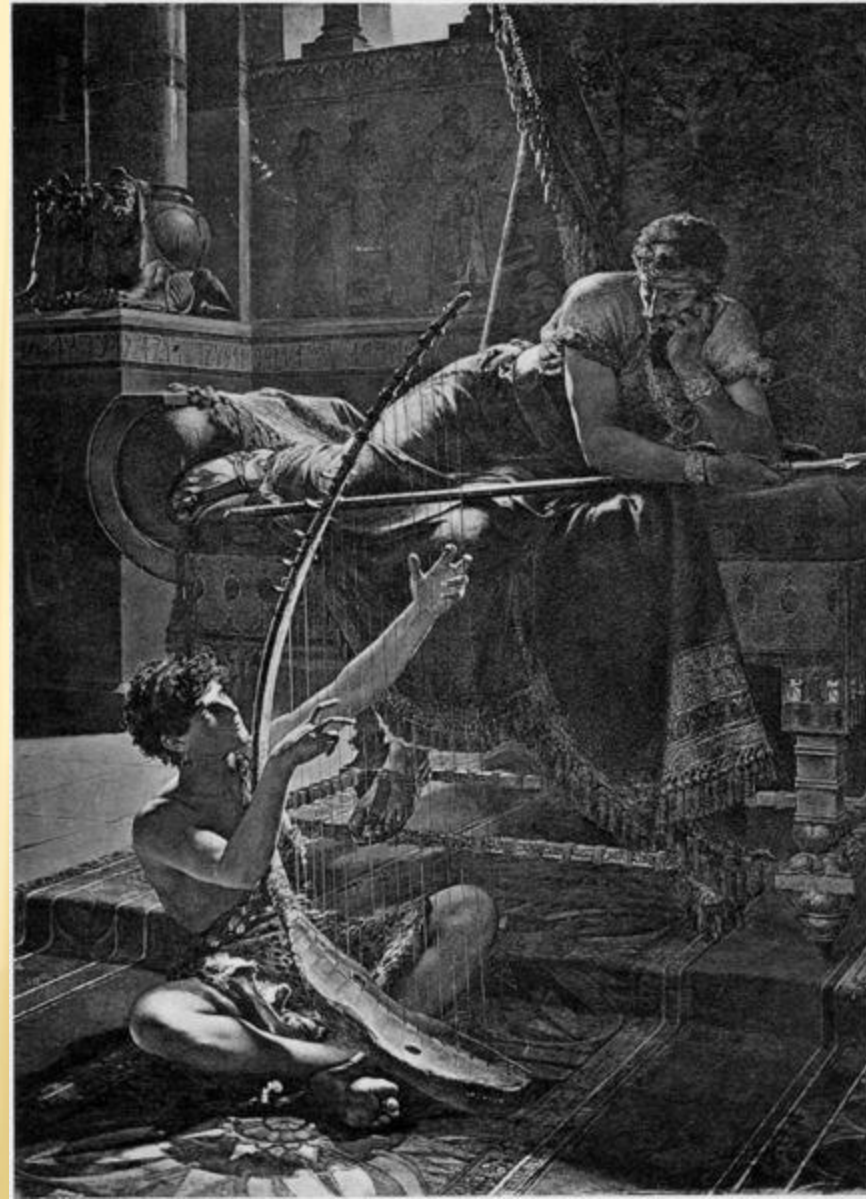
EARLY LEADERS

- ✘ Originally ruled by judges, tribal elders, or rabbis
- ✘ **King Saul**
 - + Reigned circa 1047-circa 1007 B.C.E.
- ✘ **King David**
 - + Reigned circa 1007-circa 970 B.C.E.
- ✘ **King Solomon**
 - + Reigned circa 970-circa 930 B.C.E.
- ✘ **King Rehoboam**
 - + Reigned circa 930-circa 915 B.C.E.

KING SAUL

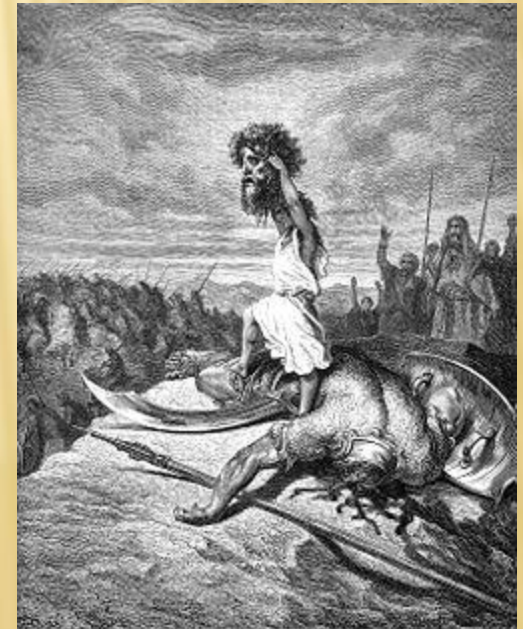
- ✘ First real king
- ✘ Anointed by Samuel
- ✘ United Hebrews

David and Saul by Julius Kronberg (1885)



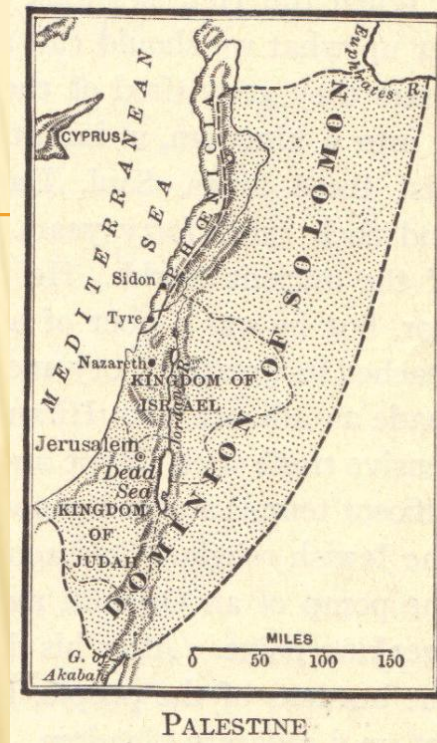
KING DAVID

- ✘ Biblical story of David and Goliath
- ✘ Extended boundaries
 - + Conquered Canaanites in Canaan
 - ✘ Canaanites eventually intermarried with Phoenicians
 - + Conquered Philistines
 - ✘ Origin of the term “Palestine”
- ✘ Strong united government
- ✘ Credited with writing “Psalms”



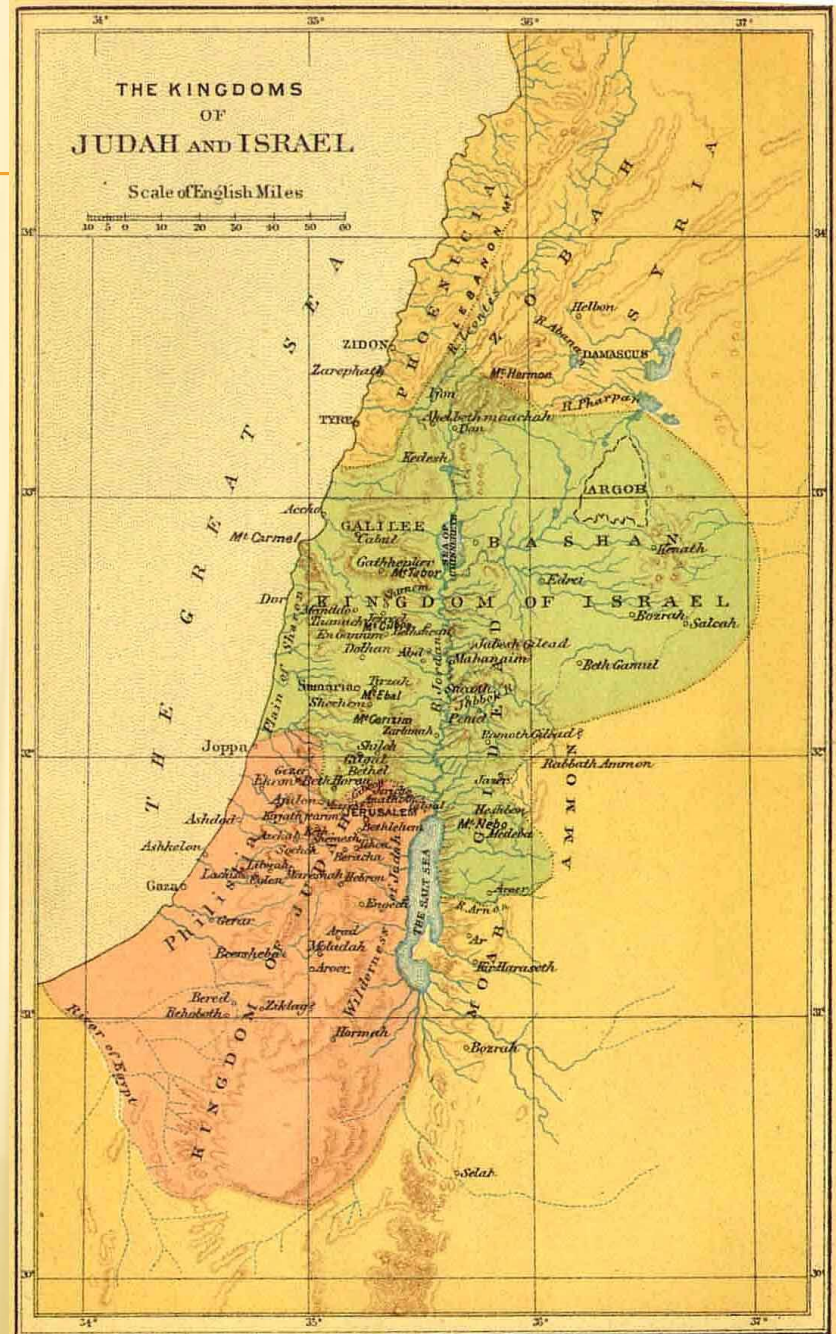
KING SOLOMON

- ✘ Built a large palace
- ✘ Built first Jerusalem Temple
 - + “First Temple Period”
- ✘ Levied high taxes to pay for construction projects
 - + Made him somewhat unpopular
- ✘ Credited with authoring “The Song of Solomon”



KING REHOBOAM

- ✘ Discontent over high taxes
- ✘ Ten northern tribes revolted and established kingdom of Israel (932 or 931 B.C.E.)
- ✘ Two southern tribes remained loyal as the kingdom of Judah
- ✘ Separate states not as strong as unified state



HEBREWS' FATE

✘ Israel

+ Conquered by Assyria (721 B.C.E.)

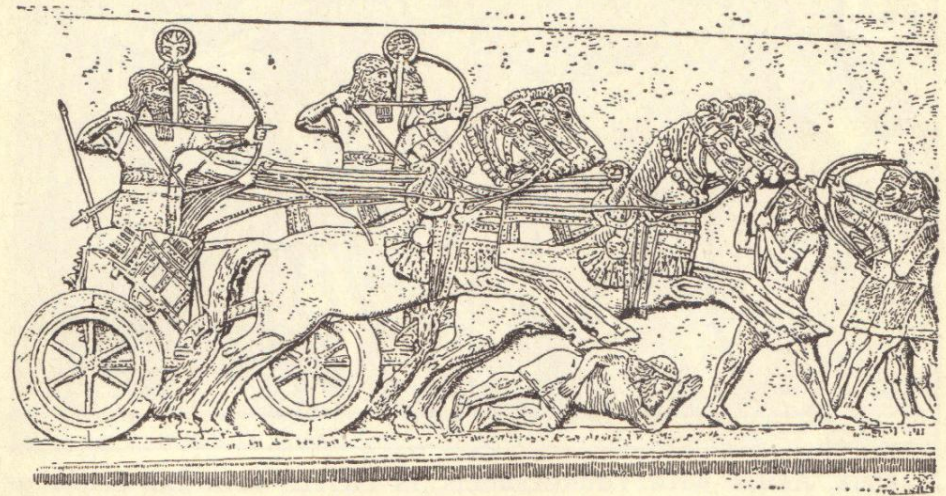
✘ Judah

+ Conquered by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (586 B.C.E.)

+ Temple destroyed

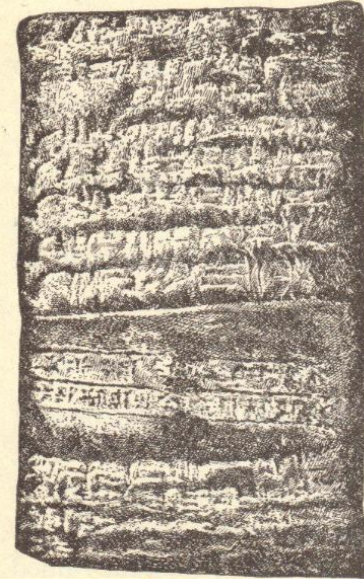
+ Babylonian captivity (586-538 B.C.E.)

✘ Ended when Babylon was conquered by King Cyrus of Persia, who allowed the Hebrews to return to Jerusalem



ASSYRIAN WAR CHARIOTS

From an Assyrian bas-relief. Notice that each chariot is drawn by three horses.



CUNEIFORM TABLET

Unearthed by the Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania. This records the sale of part of a house about 2000 B.C.

SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD

- ✘ Peace under Persian rule for two centuries
 - ✘ Jerusalem Temple rebuilt in 516 BCE
- ✘ Alexander the Great conquered Persia and took over Palestine (333-325 B.C.E.)
 - + Greeks ruled for approximately 150 years
- ✘ Maccabean Revolt (167-164 B.C.E.)
 - + Independent country for 100+ years
- ✘ Roman Conquest (63 B.C.E.)
 - + Jewish kings (Herodians) ruled under Roman protection
 - + 6 C.E. – became an imperial province

THE JEWISH-ROMAN WARS

- ✘ Jewish Rebellion, 66-73 CE
- ✘ Kitos War, 115-117 CE
- ✘ Bar Kokhba Revolt, 132-136 CE

FIRST JEWISH-ROMAN WAR

- ✘ Jewish rebellion (66-73 C.E.)
- ✘ **First Jewish-Roman War**
- ✘ Revolt crushed by future Emperor Titus
- ✘ Second Temple destroyed
 - + Treasures displayed in Rome



Detail from the Arch of Titus in Rome

KITOS WAR, 115-117 CE

- ✘ Revolt by Jews throughout the Roman Empire
- ✘ Cyprus, Egypt, Judea, Libya, Mesopotamia, and Syria
- ✘ Sparked when Roman forces fought the Parthians
- ✘ Romans won
- ✘ **Second Jewish-Roman War**

BAR KOKHBA REVOLT (132-136 CE)

- ✘ Last (Third) Jewish-Roman War
- ✘ Jews led by Simon bar Kokhba
 - + Many believed him to be the messiah
- ✘ Crushed by the Romans
 - + Led by Hadrian
- ✘ Results
 - + Jewish Diaspora (barred from Jerusalem)
 - + Early Christians began to separate themselves from Judaism

HEBREW CONTRIBUTIONS

- ✘ Monotheism – belief in one god
- ✘ Jewish Talmud
 - + Book of Jewish laws and thoughts
- ✘ Christianity and Islam
 - + World's two largest religions are based around Jewish beliefs, practices, and teachings
- ✘ Jewish Tanakh
 - + Largely the same as the Christian Old Testament
 - + Many stories have counterparts in the Muslim Qu'ran (Koran)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- ✘ Where did the Hebrews originate?
- ✘ Who is considered to be the first real king of the Hebrews?
- ✘ Who built the first Jerusalem Temple?
- ✘ How did the Hebrews come to form two separate kingdoms, Israel and Judah?
- ✘ What is the Babylonian captivity?
- ✘ Describe the Jewish revolt of 66-73 C.E. and its consequences.