

The Old Testament Holy Lands

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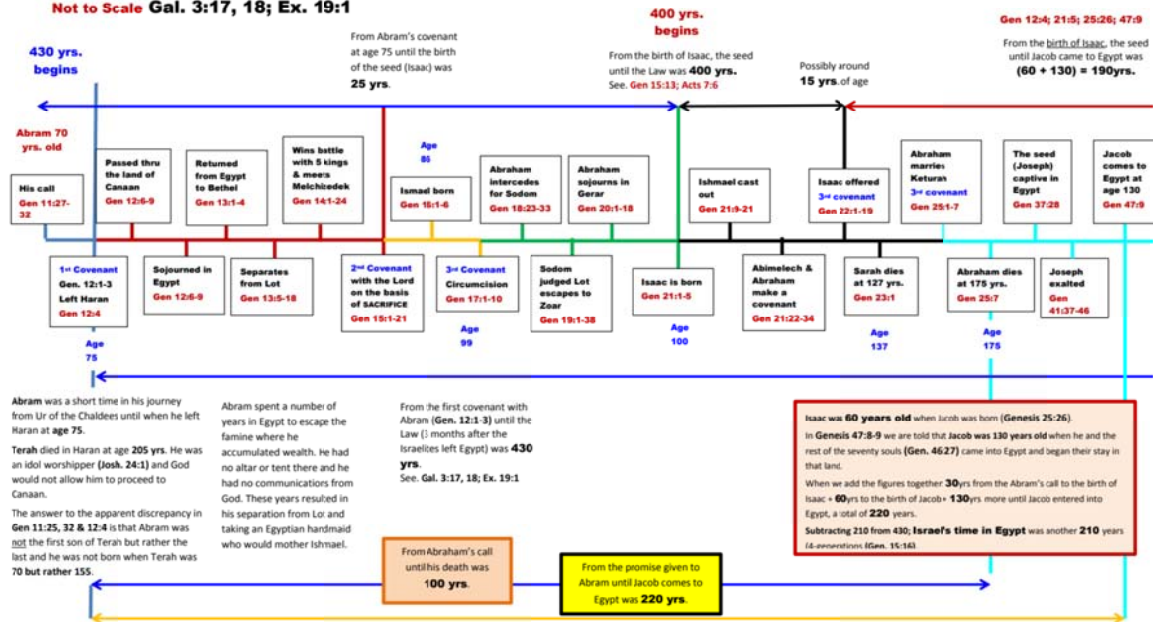
Culture, Geography & Archaeology



Noah to Abraham

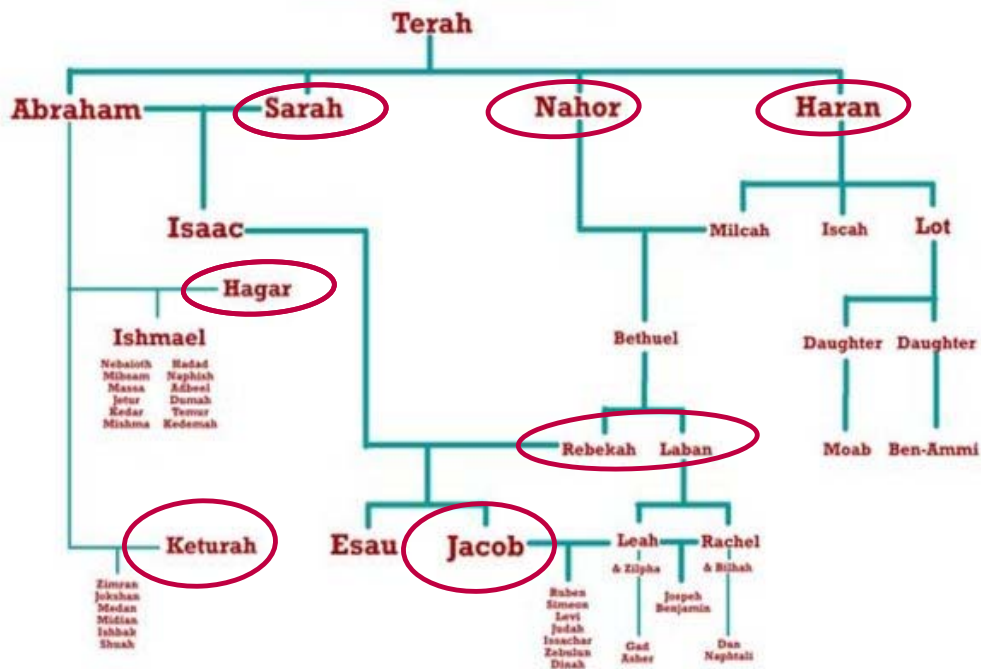
TIMELINE FOR ABRAHAM (ABRAHAM) from the promise given at age 70 (Gen. 12:1-4) until JACOB ARRIVES IN EGYPT - 220 YEARS

Not to Scale Gal. 3:17, 18; Ex. 19:1



Abraham to Moses

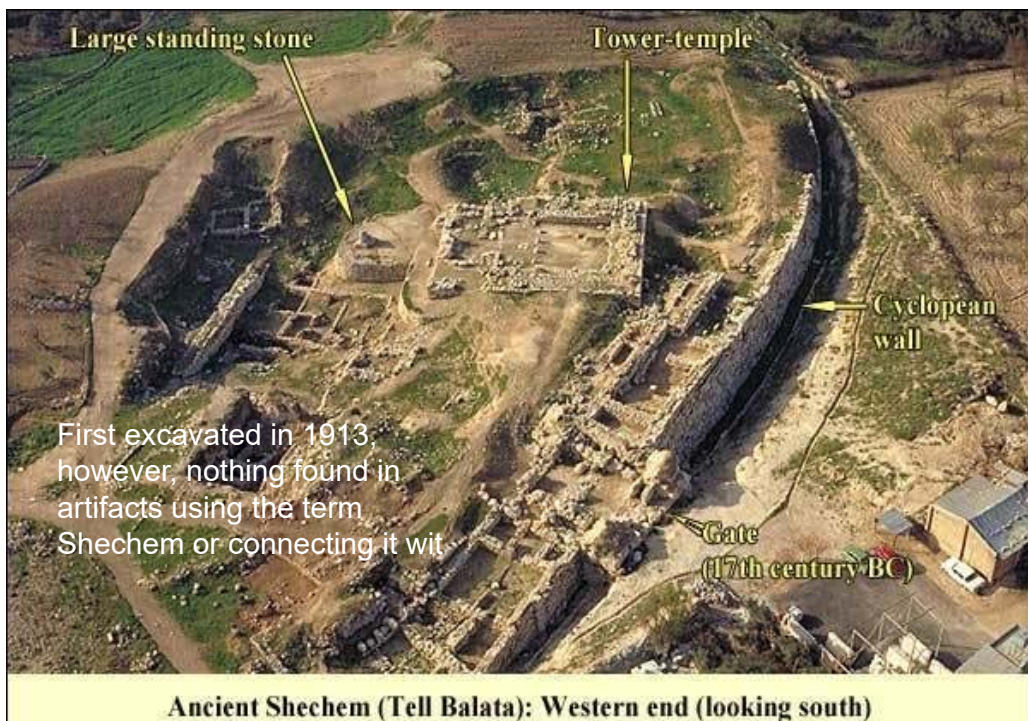
Genealogy of Terah



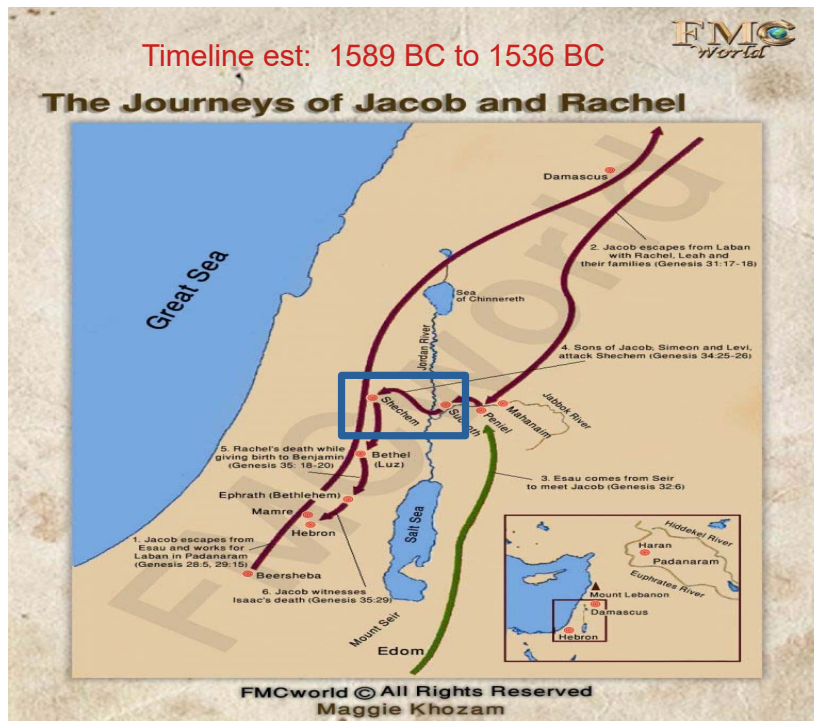
Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses

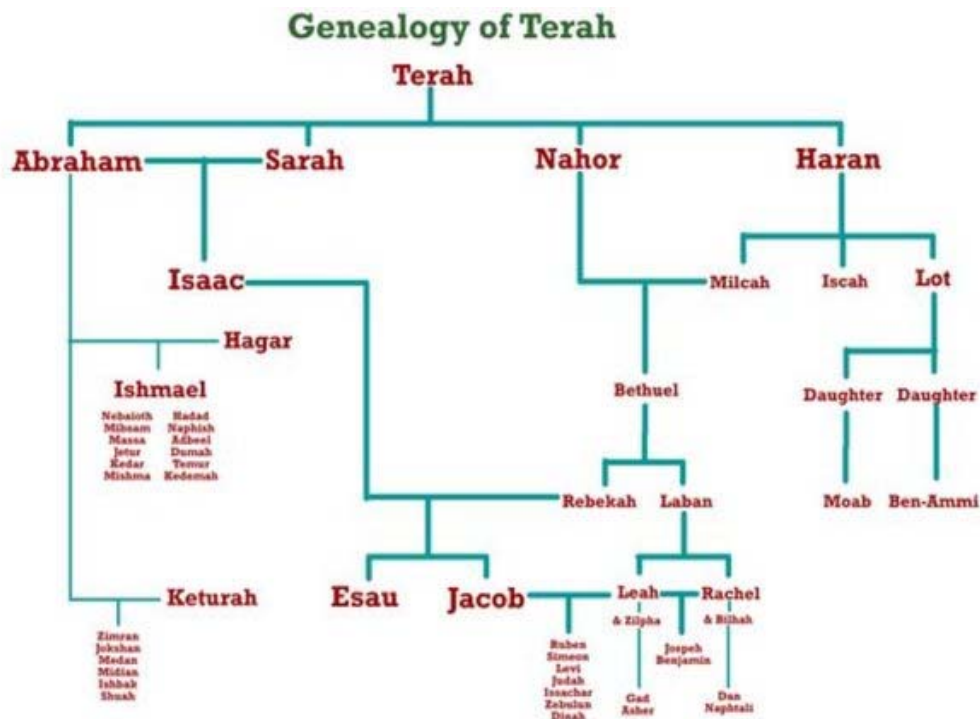


Abraham to Moses

JACOB

- Jacob receives birthright from Issac. Rebekah disgusted with Hittite women.
- Thus Issac sends Jacob back to the house of Laban (Rebekah's brother) to find a wife.
- Esau gives birth to the Edomites ("Red" for area of red sandstone)
- Note in Deuteronomy 23:7, Israelites told "Do not despise an Edomite, for the Edomites are related to you."
- Edomites still fight Israel on several occasions and are eventually forced to become Jews during the Macabean times and are renamed "Idumaeans". King Harod the Great was an Edomite (Idumaeon)
- Idumaeans lose their identity over the years.

Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses

Leah & Rachel:

- Jacob sent back to Haran to find a wife
- Jacob works for Laban – Laban had two daughters
 - Leah & Rachel: “Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Jacob was in love with Rachel” Genesis 29:16-18
- Jacob agrees to work 7 years for Laban. His wage: Rachel’s hand in marriage
- Laban tricks Jacob into marrying Leah
- Laban agrees to give Rachel to Jacob also for another 7 years work
- God enables Leah to conceive, but not Rachel
- Rachel’s allows her servant to conceive, Leah gives her servant to conceive
- Finally, Rachel gives birth to Joseph

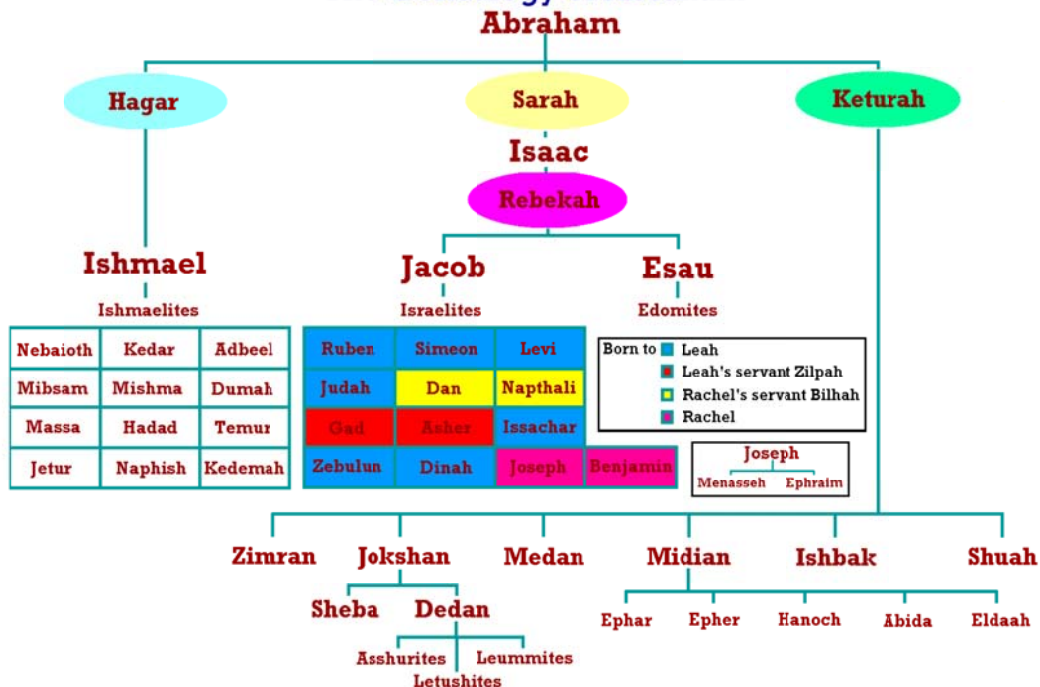
Abraham to Moses

JACOB:

- Rachel's family worships many gods and Rachel steals Laban's icons
- Jacob gives birth through Leah, Leah's Servant, Rachel's Servant, and Rachel to the 12 Israelite Tribes
 - Joseph is first born of Rachel, Rachel dies giving birth to Benjamin. (Genesis 35)

Abraham to Moses

The Genealogy of Abraham



Abraham to Moses

JACOB:

- Rachel's family worships many gods and Rachel steals Laban's icons
- Jacob gives birth through Leah, Leah's Servant, Rachel's Servant, and Rachel to the 12 Israelite Tribes
 - Joseph is first born of Rachel, Rachel dies giving birth to Benjamin. (Genesis 35)
- Jacob wrestles with God (Genesis 32) – renamed Israel
- Jacob returns to Shechem. (Genesis 33)
- Daughter Dinah is raped by Shechem, son of Hamor (chieftain in Shechem). (Genesis 34)
- Jacob and Hamor make deal and men of Shechem are circumcised.
- Sons of Jacob kill Hamor and men of Shechem (Jacob – "I've become odious to the people in this land")
- Jacob and family move to Bethel. Jacob insists on putting away their foreign gods, purify themselves and change their dress (Genesis 35)

Abraham to Moses

Bethel: בֵּית אֵל - House of El or House of God

"et-Tell" Little left standing ... small excavation found in 1838 by Edward Robinson, but little else found of import. Believed to have later been the site of the Canaanite town of Ai.



Abraham to Moses

Sons of Jacob:

- **By Leah:**
 - **Ruben** - Northern Tribe (lost identity)
 - **Simeon** - Eventually absorbed into Judah (lost identity)
 - **Levi** - Priests and Temple Attendants (Split between N & S)
 - **Judah** - Most powerful tribe – Source of David and Solomon
 - **Issachar** - Northern Tribe (lost identity)
 - **Zebulun** - Northern Tribe (lost identity)
 - (& Daughter Dinah)
- **By Zilpah** (Leah's servant)
 - **Gad** - Known for military spirit - Northern Tribe (lost identity)
 - **Asher** - Settled among the Phoenicians - Northern Tribe (lost identity)
- **By Bilhah** (Rachel's servant)
 - **Dan** - Source of Samson – West of Jerusalem (lost identity)
 - **Naphtali** - Northern Tribe (lost identity)
- **By Rachel**
 - **Joseph** – Sons were
 - **Manassah** - Largest land area (lost identity)
 - **Ephraim** - Powerful tribe – Source of several Kings – Just above Jerusalem
 - **Benjamin** - Source of Israel's first King (Saul)

Abraham to Moses



Joseph (What have we discovered?)

- Joseph had a coat of many colors??



- Traveled from Hebron, up to Shechem and discovered brothers in Dothan where he was sold.
- Dothan was right on the main trade route (later referred to as the King's Highway) used for trade between Northern and Arab countries and Egypt. Makes sense he would be taken to Egypt.
- Very possible Arabs using highway were descendants of Ishmael
- Likely taken during the 17th Dynasty in Egypt (a time of upheaval in Northern Egypt)

Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses

Three Kingdoms of Ancient Egypt

OLD KINGDOM	MIDDLE KINGDOM	NEW KINGDOM
<p>Pharaohs organized a strong central state, were absolute rulers, and were considered gods.</p> <p>Egyptians built pyramids at Giza.</p> <p>Power struggles, crop failures, and cost of pyramids contributed to the collapse of the Old Kingdom.</p>	<p>Large drainage project created arable farmland.</p> <p>Traders had contacts with Middle East and Crete.</p> <p>Corruption and rebellions were common.</p> <p>Hyksos invaded and occupied the delta region.</p>	<p>Powerful pharaohs created a large empire that reached the Euphrates River.</p> <p>Hatshepsut encouraged trade.</p> <p>Ramses II expanded Egyptian rule to Syria.</p> <p>Egyptian power declined.</p>

Famine in Egypt

- Egypt, although normally including the fertile Nile delta, has shown a propensity for a series of catastrophic famines over the years. Soil records have seemed to support lasting famines in:
 - 2620's BC - 3rd Dynasty – Rule of Djoser (Famine stele)
 - 2030's BC – 10th to 11th Dynasty - Rule of Mentuhotep II
 - 1540's BC – Early 17th Dynasty (right in line with Joseph's time)
 - 1220's BC - Rule of Ramesses II

Abraham to Moses



FAMINE STELE

Located on Sehel Island in the Nile, Aswan, Upper Egypt

Refers to a 7 year famine under Djoser, but stele believed to have been created in 300's BC by Ptolemy V.

Egypt in 16th to 17th Dynasty



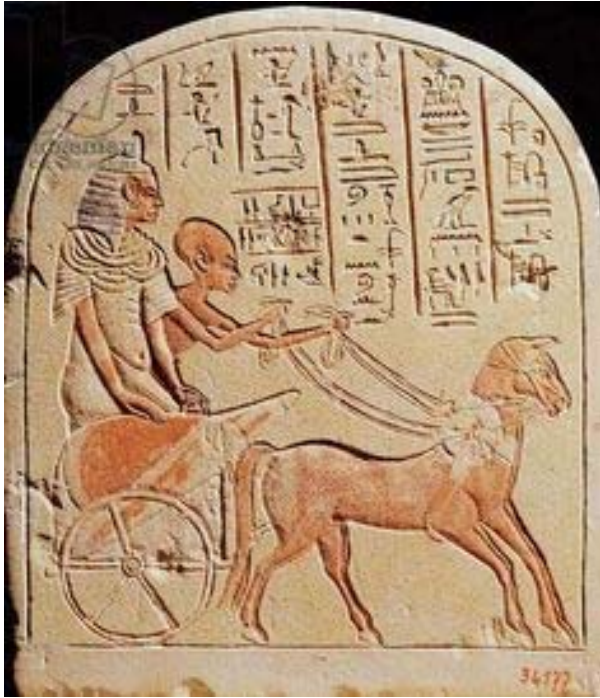
Who were the Hyksos?

- Northern Egypt during the late 15th through the beginning of the 17th Dynasty was a period of large migration from Canaan, Asian territories, Northern Africa (Libya), and Edomites (likely increased during times of famine)
- During this time, the leaders of the older Egyptian Dynasties lost power and were forced to retreat to southern Nile areas, where they settled in Thebes (among many of their southern Temples and Tombs)
- This wasn't a time of outside invasion, but a time of defeat from within, insurrection from the migrants.
- The Hyksos (as they were called) established their centers of power in Avaris and Zoan (a/k/a Tanis).
- Although ruled by non-Egyptians, the Hyksos took on many of the characteristics of older Egyptian rules, were deemed divine and were called Pharaohs.

Who were the Hyksos?

- First known leader from stele records was "Salatis", a Canaanite invader
- The Hyksos have been credited with introducing several technological innovations to Egypt, such as the horse and chariot, as well as the sickle sword and the composite bow
- No stele show a chariot in them until the dates of Hyksos rule, approximately 1600 BC.
- The Bible states that Joseph had a chariot:
 - "When they arrived in the region of Goshen, Joseph had his chariot made ready and went to Goshen to meet his father Israel." Genesis 46:28

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Stele found at Tell al-amarna

Near Memphis

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Abraham to Moses



Egypt in 16th to 17th Dynasty



Abraham to Moses



Excavation at Avaris
Tell el-dab'a

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Excavation at Tanis /
Zoan

Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses



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Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Egypt in 16th to 17th Dynasty

Kemoses Stele:

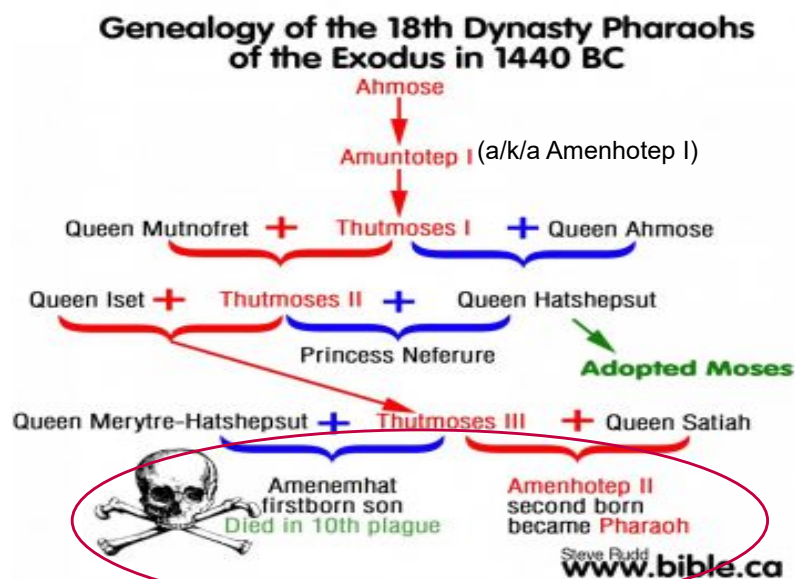
Kemose was the last Pharaoh of the 17th Dynasty that eventually attacked and overcame the Hyksos, allowing the Thebian rulers to return to Northern Egypt.

Located at the Temple of Karnak, Egypt



"The Mighty Ruler in Thebes, Kamose the Strong, protector of Egypt. I sailed north in my might to repel the Asiatics through the command of Amun..."

Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Tomb of Ahmose

Located in Karnak, Egypt

Shows the Egyptian final success in regaining Northern Kingdom where the right hand of the Hyksos warriors was cut off and non-egyptian population turned into slaves.

Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Burial ground near Avaris where numerous bodies showed right hands cut off

Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



TOMB OF SOBEKMOSE

Found at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston

Sobekmose was a Treasury official under Amenhotep (successor to Ahmose) -1525 to 1504 BC

Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



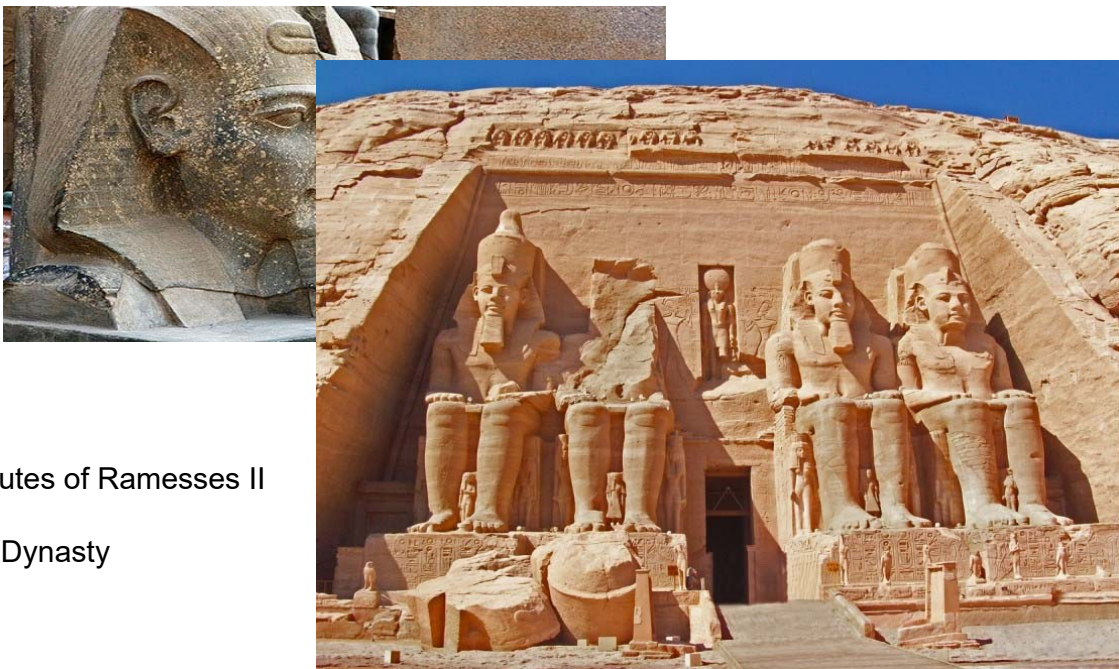
VALLEY OF KINGS

Located on opposite shore of the Nile River from THEBES (site of Temple of Karnak) now LUXOR, EGYPT)

Egypt in 19th Dynasty



Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Statues of Ramesses II

19th Dynasty

Abraham to Moses

“Moses can’t have existed
... we have nothing naming
him!”

**So what evidence do we
have about Moses???**

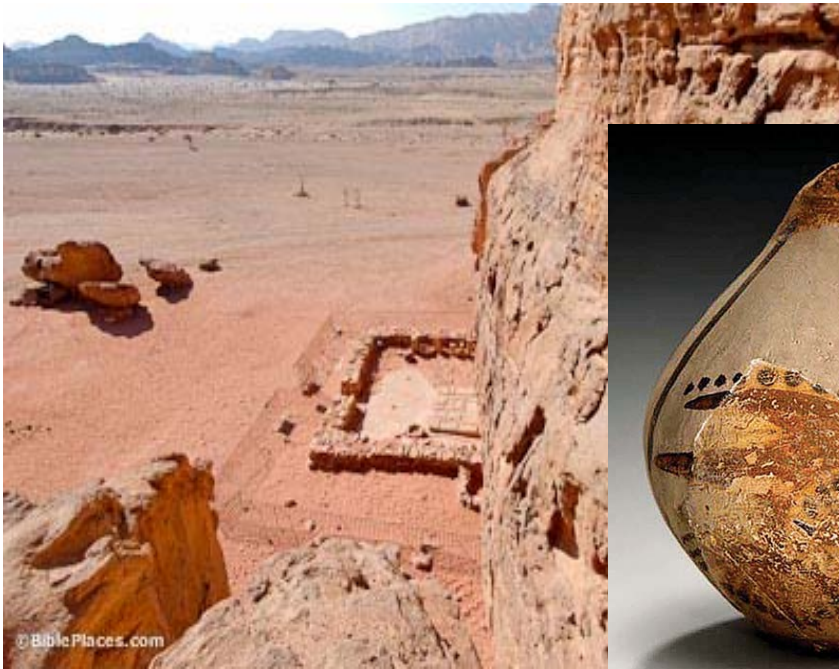
- Biblical time period fits right into what we NOW know about Egypt
- Little known about Hyksos period until recently, and that search was made due to Biblical accounts and resulted in numerous discoveries and corrections
- It's known that Hyksos typically had “sub-rulers” ... often Canaanites
- Discovered that when Southern Egypt Pharaohs in late 17th Dynasty sought to regain and keep control of Northern Egypt, rulers built huge armies with their available Egyptian men
- Resulting in needed large pool of “others” needed to do routine labor
- Changed from being free men under Hyksos rule to slaves - fits right into Biblical narrative and explains slave stele found in 18th Dynasty.
- Name fits right in with other rulers during that time, many ending in “mose” or “moses”
- Makes sense that Moses would eventually discover his true heritage

Abraham to Moses

Pre-Exodus

- Bible shows Moses running from Egypt to friendly Midian area – where Jethro lived in the Midian desert
- Midian was the son of Abraham and Ketura and Midianites derived from his line.
- Midian believed to also accept monotheism and the “God of Abraham”
- Jethro was a priest of the Midianites.
- Little archaeology has been found of Midianite sites, but they think that a site found in the Timna Valley (area of copper mines) was Midianite and contained a slew of believed Midianite pottery.

Abraham to Moses



Timna Valley



Abraham to Moses



Timna, just
above current
day Elat

Abraham to Moses

Saint Catherine's Monastery is the oldest continuously inhabited monastery in the world.

Founded by Emperor Justinian I in 530 AD, it contains a bush that has existed and thrived since before the monastery was built and is "claimed" to be the "burning bush".

The monastery is situated at the base of what is also believed to be Mount Sinai.



Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses



Abraham to Moses



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