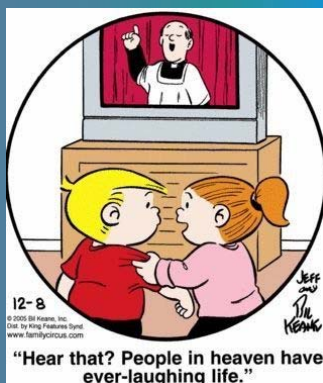


The Old Testament Holy Lands

Culture, Geography & Archaeology

NOTE: This class and presentation includes a number of Copyrighted images and items that are included as "fair use" for purposes of the class. These slides and the images and information contained herein may not be copied, reproduced, used or sold for other than individual purposes.





The Old Testament Holy Lands

Culture, Geography & Archaeology

Old Testament “Holy Lands”

➤ Archaeological Time Periods Used

- Stone Age Prior to 3,000 BC
- Bronze Age 3,000 to 1200 BC
 - Early Bronze Age - Egypt Old Kingdom
 - Middle Bronze Age – Middle Kingdom
 - Late Bronze Age – Later Kingdom
- Iron Age 1200 to 586 BC

Also used:

- Prehistorical 3,000 BC to 586 BC
 - Monuments, Stele
- Historical 586 BC to Present
 - Intentional Writings & Records
 - 586 – Roman Historians (485 to 400 BC) – Herodotus & Thucydides

➤ Temple Periods

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| - None (Adam to Moses) | |
| - Tabernacle Period (Moses through David) | |
| - First Temple Period (Solomon) | 960 to 586 BC |
| - Second Temple Period (Decree of Xerxes) | 516 to 5 BC |
| - Herod Temple Period | 5 BC to 70 AD |
| - Synagogue Period | 70 AD to Today |

Sources of Information:

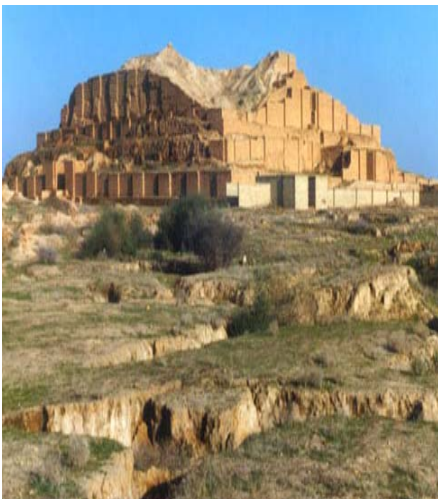
Archeaology:

- Material Discoveries
- Buildings & Available Methods

Writings:

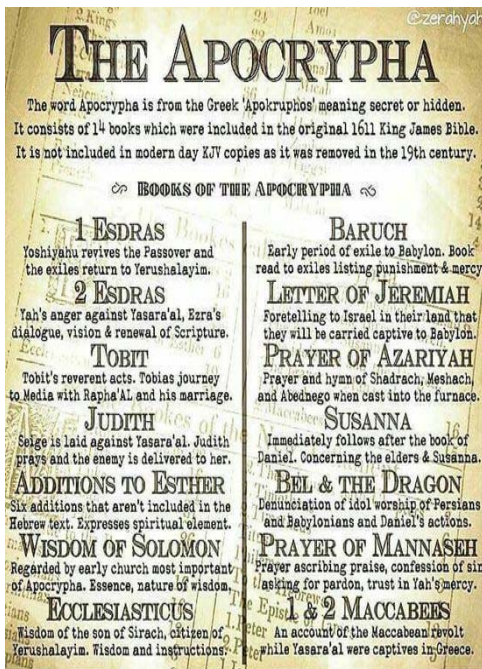
- Old Testament (1500 to 200 BC)
- Apocrypha (200 BC thru 400 AD)

Building Methods used



- Earth & Stone - stone age, including wood (mounds, tents)
- Dried Mud Bricks - Mesopotamia
- Fired Bricks – Later Ur / Babylon
- Cut Stone - Egypt
- Marble/Granite - 3rd century Greek
- True Concrete - 2nd century Rome
- **Ziggurat:** From The Assyrian Word "Ziqquratu" Meaning "Height or Pinnacle"
- Normally with a Temple at the top
- Found in nearly every larger city in Mesopotamia
- Common: Over 25 currently found and excavated

Apocrypha



- 14 or 15 Books of questionable origin
- Contained in “some” copies of the Septuagint (Greek version of the OT translated and compiled in Alexandria in about 250 BC)
- Declared to be part of Scripture by the Catholic Church at the Council of Trent in 1545 to 1563. (But without “divine” authority)
- Authority doubted by Jerome and left out of Latin translation (Vulgate) in 405.
- A couple apocryphal books found in Dead Sea Scrolls: ***Tobit; Ecclesiasticus; Letter of Jeremiah***
- Despite common thought, 1 & 2 Maccabees was not found in Dead Sea Scrolls. But found in the Septuagint.

➤ Temple Periods

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| - None (Adam to Moses) | |
| - Tabernacle Period (Moses through David) | |
| - First Temple Period (Solomon) | 960 to 586 BC |
| - Second Temple Period (Decree of Xerxes) | 516 to 5 BC |
| - Herod Temple Period | 5 BC to 70 AD |
| - Synagogue Period | 70 AD to Today |

Sources of Information:

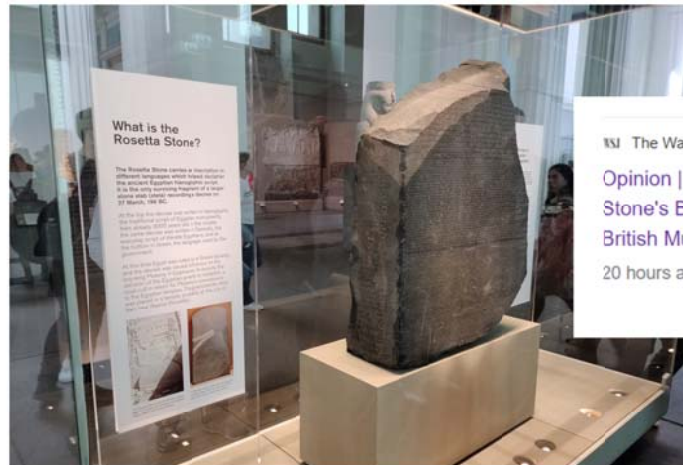
Archeaology:

- Material Discoveries
- Buildings & Available Methods
- Monuments/Stele/Cylinders

Writings:

- Old Testament (1500 to 200 BC)
- Apocrypha (200 BC thru 400 AD)
- Dead Sea Scrolls (200 BC to 70 AD)

Monuments / Stele / Cylinders



The Wall Street Journal

Opinion | The Rosetta Stone's Best Home Is the British Museum

20 hours ago

NEWS

Egyptians call on British Museum to return Rosetta Stone

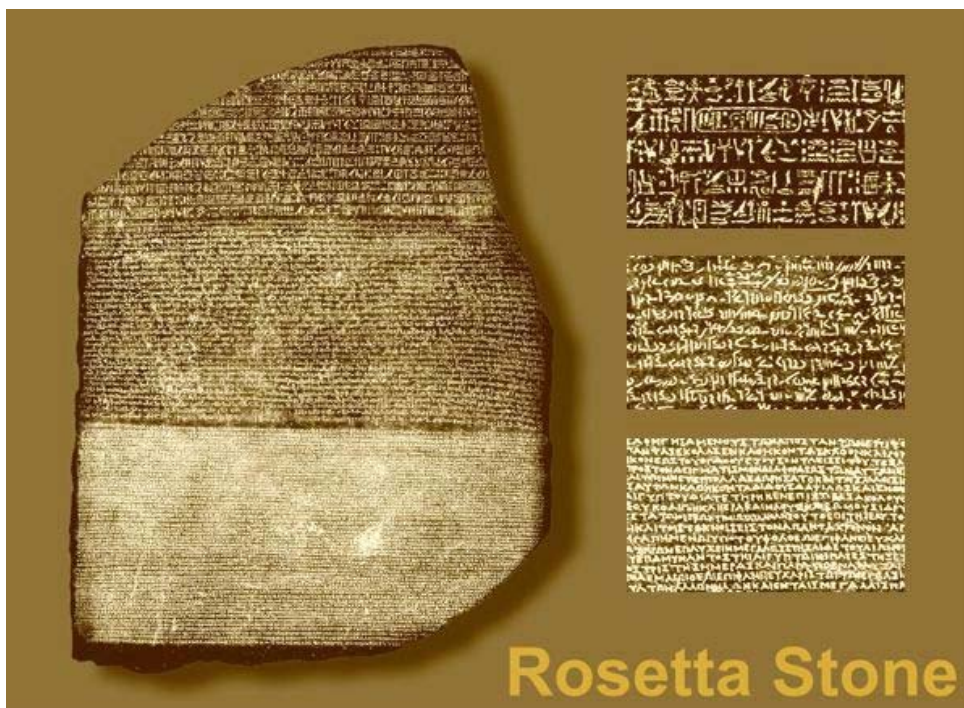
By Associated Press

November 30, 2022 | 4:42am | L

Currently
upper part
in Memphis,
V, that on
inscriptions

to
ed
ny
the

Monuments / Stele / Cylinders



Rosetta Stone

Monuments / Stele / Cylinders



Recording beer trade for wheat
Cuneiform (wedge form) - Est. 3000



Babylon area map Est. 500 BC
British Museum

Cyrus Cylinder – British Museum
Cuneiform
Est. 539 BC



Epic of Gilgamesh
Est. 1200 BC
British Museum

Monuments / Stele / Cylinders



Ishtar Gate – Babylon – Est. 575 BC
Currently in Berlin's Pergamon Museum
Reconstructed by Iraq at original site.

Monuments / Stele / Cylinders



Assyrian "Tree of Life"
Nimrod – Est. 800 BC
British Museum



"Siege of Jerusalem"
Babylon - Est. 580 BC
British Museum

- We have far more archaeological evidence of this time period than we have of the early Middle Ages
- Problem is that most include no direct "names" or written descriptions

Dead Sea Scrolls



- Not just religious Biblical scrolls
- Sectarian Rules
- Essene Code
- Temple Scroll
- Hymns
- Some Apocrypha
- Treasure map? Copper Scroll
- Written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek
- 981 different manuscripts – some duplicates

➤ Temple Periods

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| - None (Adam to Moses) | |
| - Tabernacle Period (Moses through David) | |
| - First Temple Period (Solomon) | 960 to 586 BC |
| - Second Temple Period (Decree of Xerxes) | 516 to 5 BC |
| - Herod Temple Period | 5 BC to 70 AD |
| - Synagogue Period | 70 AD to Today |

Sources of Information:

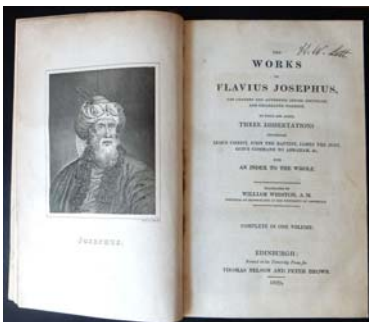
Archeaology:

- Material Discoveries
- Buildings & Available Methods
- Monuments/Stele/Cylinders
- Tools
- Daily Living Articles

Writings:

- Old Testament (1500 to 200 BC)
- Apocrypha (200 BC thru 400 AD)
- Dead Sea Scrolls (200 BC to 70 AD)
- Flavius Josephus (66 AD to 74 AD)
- Philo of Alexandria (40 AD to 45 AD)

Flavius Josephus



- Hebrew Name: Joseph ben Matityahu יוסף בן מתתיהו
- Born 37 AD Died 100AD
- Well educated – very Hellenized
- Bureaucrat in Galilee until the Great Revolt (67 to 73 AD)
- Fled to a Cave, eventually surrendered to Romans
- Wrote history of the Great Revolt (***The Jewish War***) while prisoner in Rome with approval of Emperor Vespasian
- Later wrote the ***Jewish Antiquities*** as a history of the Jewish people from the time of Alexander the Great to the destruction of the Second Temple

Philo of Alexandria

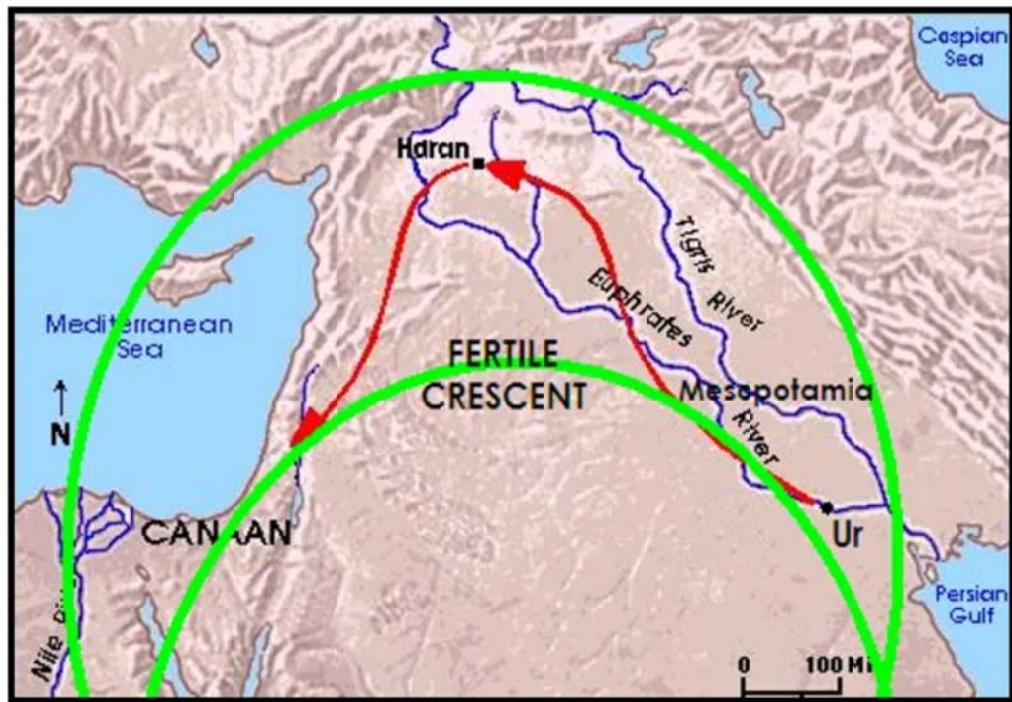


- Hebrew Name: Jedediah יְדִידְיָהּ,
- Born 20 BC Died 50AD
- Well educated – Hellenized Jewish Philosopher
- Greatly influenced Flavius Josephus
- Well respected commentary on the Septuagint
- Wrote a history of the disbursed (diaspora) Jewish culture, but very familiar with Jerusalem
- High society and a nephew married a daughter of Herod Agrippa
- Wrote nothing of Jesus or Christianity, but wrote much that allows us to authenticate times and places in the Jewish world.
- Believed to have influenced John and wrote about a philosophy of the Logos and God being “The Logos”

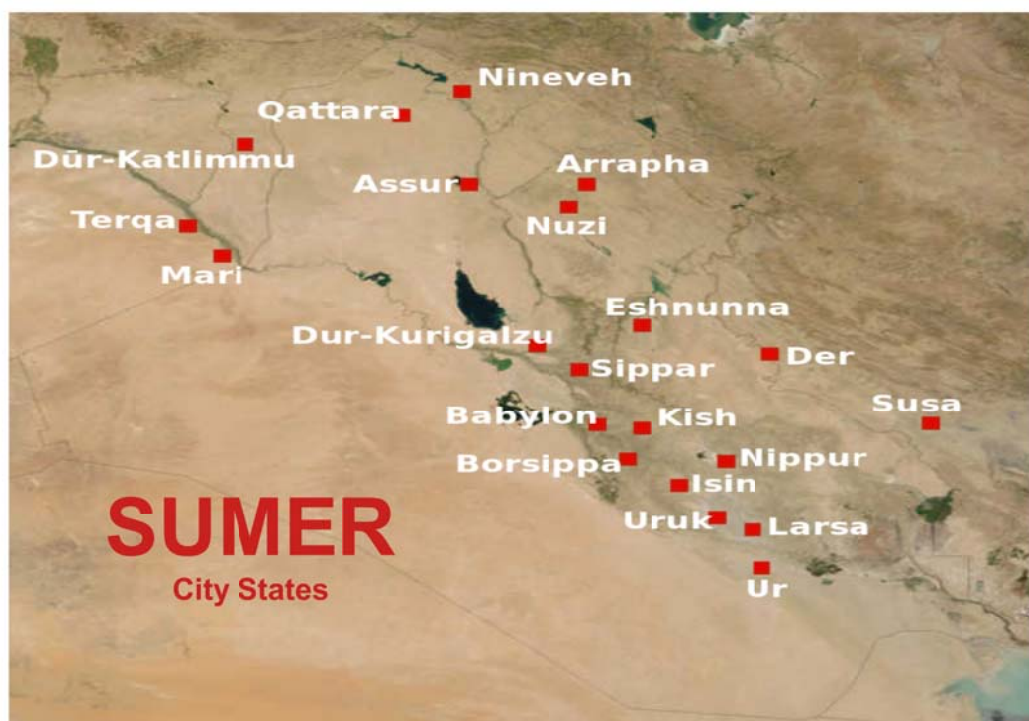
SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER...

- What does the lack of archeological or historical evidence prove???
- Was God existent and in control before his covenant with Abram?
- Does mankind's original desire to worship “something” conflict with the God of Abraham?
- Can a culture with special knowledge of God use previously existing ideas of God? Temples, Priests, Rituals
- Can each culture have memory and rituals based on events that slightly differ in their details?
- Does something (such as the flood) occurring in all of the known world at that time mean that the event had to cover the entire earth whether populated or not?
- Timelines and the Exponential nature of generations has no trouble explaining the huge growth and spread of humans over the earth.

Noah to Abraham



Noah to Abraham



The Old Testament Holy Lands

Culture, Geography & Archaeology