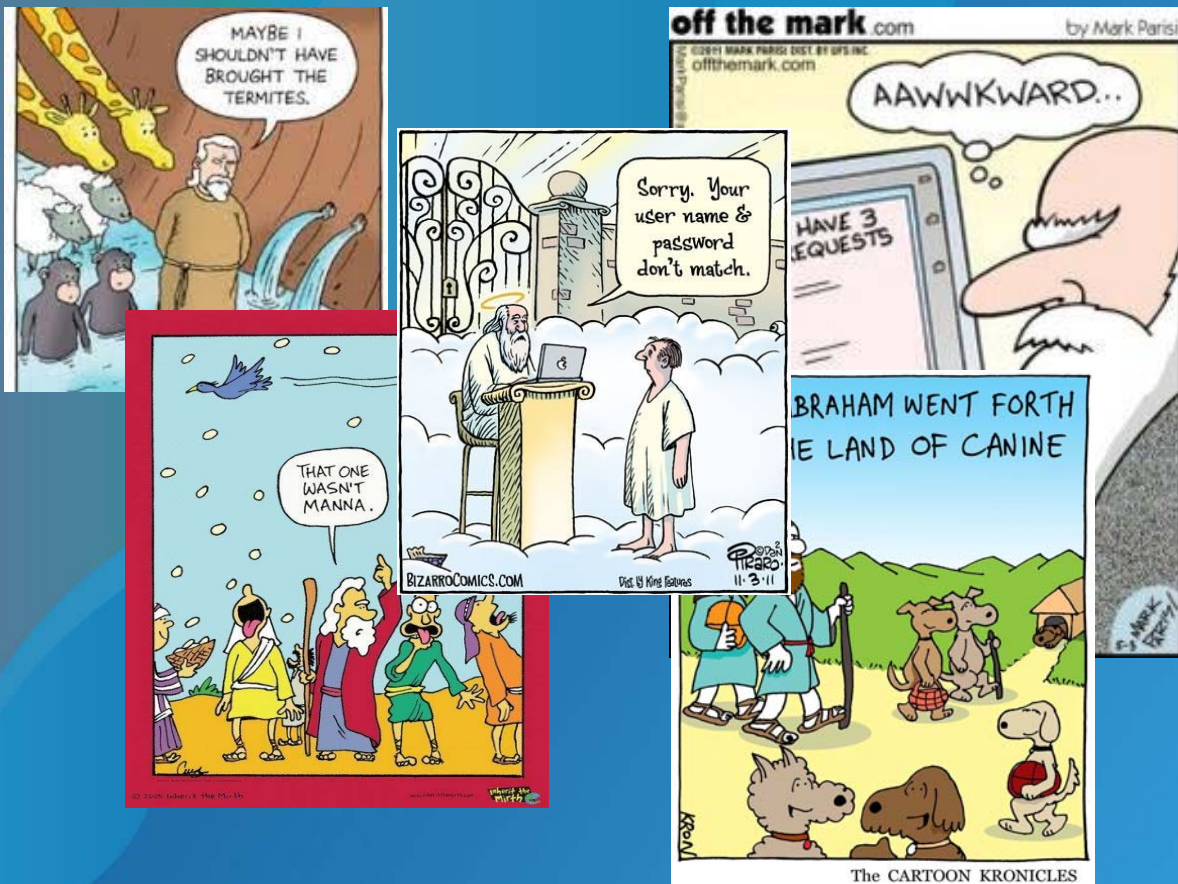


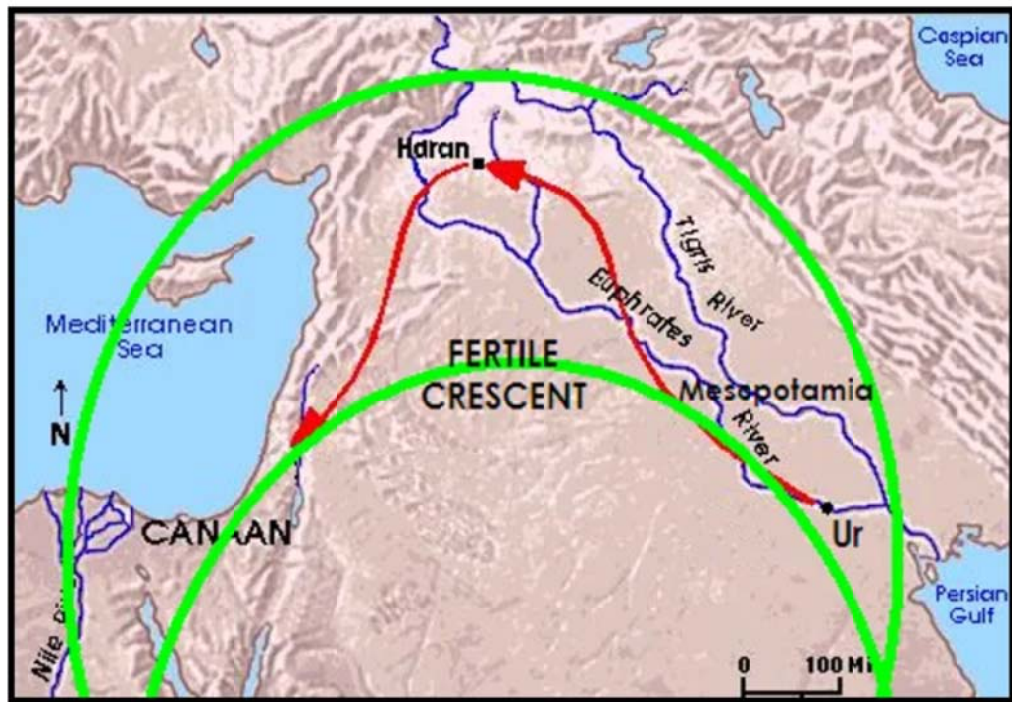
The Old Testament Holy Lands

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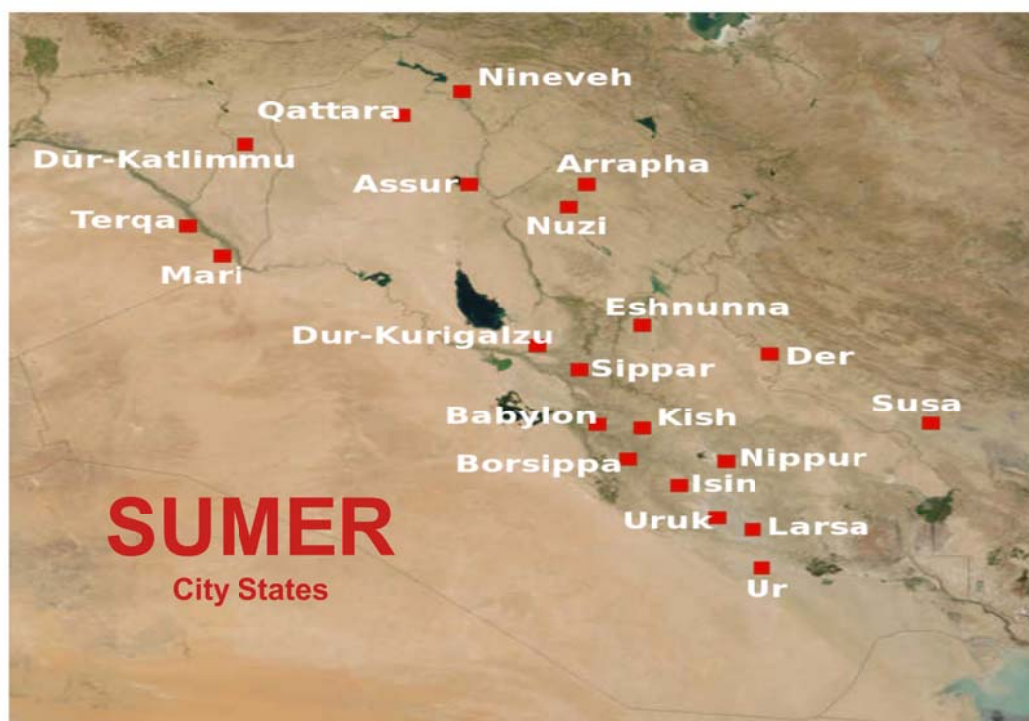
Culture, Geography & Archaeology



Noah to Abraham



Noah to Abraham



Adam & Eve to **NOAH**

EPIC OF GILGAMESH



- Discovered in 1850's in a Library at Ninevah
- Believed to be compiled around 1200 BC from oral tradition
- Currently located in British Museum
- Gilgamesh could be same as Nimrod
- 12 major tablets / several minor
- "Book of Giants" tablet found at Qumran refers to Gilgamesh



Tablet V – found
Located – Sulaymanila
Museum in Iraq

Adam & Eve to Noah

EPIC OF GILGAMESH

- Enkidu/Shamhat similar to Adam / Eve
- Gilgamesh & Noah flood stories very similar (Tablet 11 & 4) - names different
- Noah vs. Utnapishtim
- The "Epic" suggests that Uruk was never rebuilt and that new centers were in Ur and Borsippa / Babylon



Believed to be Utnapishtim
and his wife

Dated to 2600 BC

Found in Nippur, Iraq with
images of animals in 2's

Noah to Abraham



Adam & Eve to Noah

Interesting Noah Tidbits

- Explanations for the flood range from
 - Simply an abnormal, but annual Euphrates and Tigris river floods
 - Melting of the Greenland ice cap
 - A meteorite that hit in the Black Sea or the Aegean Sea
 - Upwelling of submerged sub-crust water
 - ????
- Besides the Bible & Gilgamesh stories, there are over 30 recorded archaeological remains recounting a great flood in that area, all within about the same time period.
- The Quran (Koran)
 - In the Quran, Noah is referred to as Nuh. He makes up one of the five prophets of Islam alongside Adam, Moses, Abraham and Jesus. The book of Surah tells of Noah speaking as a prophet of God to forewarn his neighbors about the dangers that will happen if they do not turn from their evil ways.
 - 48 occurrences of Nuh (Noah) in the Quran, but in disjointed Surah that don't form a chronological narrative.

Adam & Eve to Noah

Interesting Noah Tidbits

- All have the Ark or large boat settling in about the same area - Mt. Ararat or Mt. Judi (Qardū)
- Silt deposit records from various digs in the area suggest maybe a flood that combined the Black, the Aegean, the Mediterranean, and the Red Sea for a period of time.
- Given what is known about woodworking and shipbuilding skills in early Mesopotamia, few if any remain who argue that the Ark could not have been built and could not have carried a large number of animal species with the appropriate supplies. (The Ark Encounter in Williamstown, KY actually helps destroy this objection)



Noah to Abraham



Noah to **ABRAHAM**

Next:

TOWER OF BABEL: Genesis 11: 1-8

Estimates at about 3000 to 2600 BC

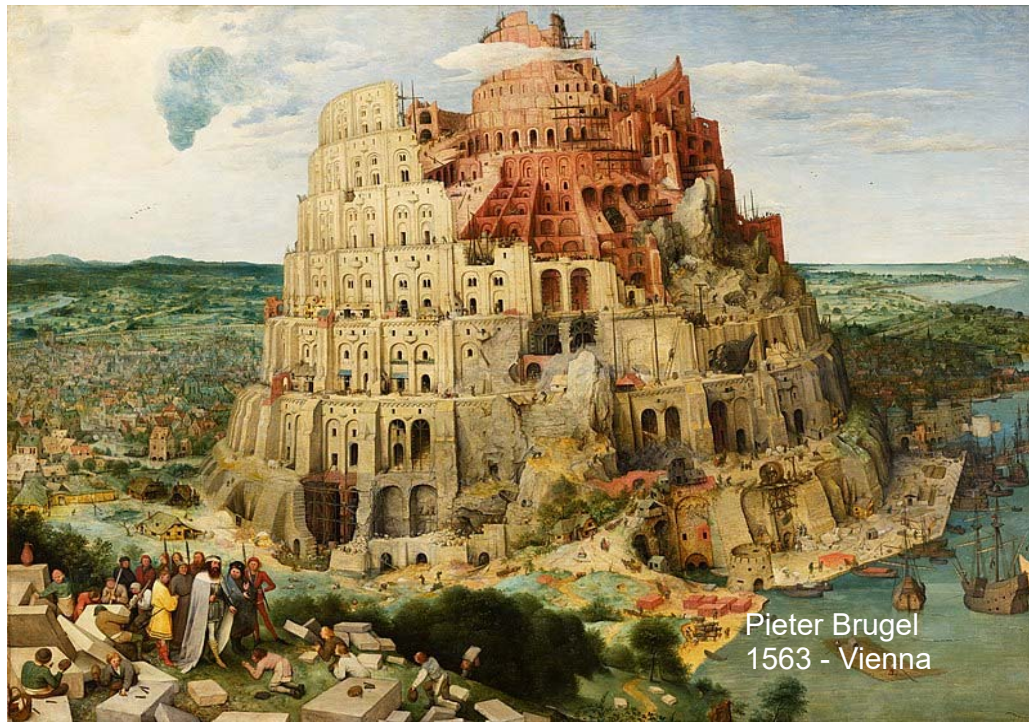
BABEL

- Interesting mix of two words...
 - *Bab-ili* - "gate of the Gods"
 - *Balal* - (hebrew) "state of confusion"

Noah to Abraham



Noah to Abraham

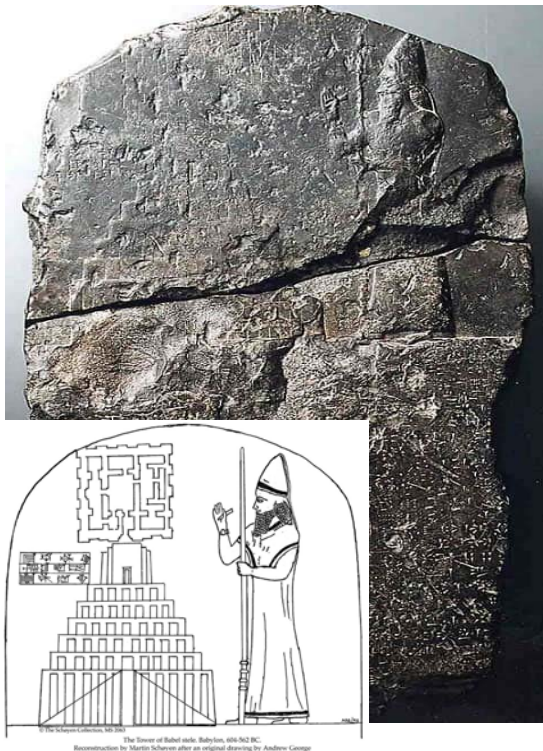


Noah to Abraham

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. **2** And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. **3** And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. **4** Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." **5** And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. **6** And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. **7** Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." **8** So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. **9** Therefore its name was called **Babel**, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

GENESIS 11: 1 - 9

Noah to Abraham



- Two Towers believed to have been started in Borsippa & Babylon about 2200 BC
- Stele found in Babylon
- Housed at the Louvre
- Est. 700 to 600 BC
- Time of Nebuchadnezzar
- Inscription suggests past building never completed ... to be completed in this time
- Starts out "*Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon am I, in order to complete E-Temen-Anki and E-Ur-Me-Imni-Anki I mobilized all countries everywhere*"

Noah to Abraham



- Borsippa Inscription
- 7.5 miles NW of Babylon or "Shinar"
- Birs Nimrud "Nimrod" - Nimrod (of the line of Noah) – King of Shinar
- Found in Borsippa
- Translated: "Since a remote time, people had abandoned it, without order expressing their words. Since that time the earthquake and the thunder had dispersed the sun-dried clay. The bricks of the casing had been split, and the earth of the interior had been scattered in heaps. Merodach, the great god, excited my mind to repair this building. I did not change the site nor did I take away the foundation."

Noah to Abraham



Noah to Abraham



Noah to Abraham

Ur: Major town after Uruk not reconstructed after flood.

- Believed to be one of the first organized cities in the fertile crescent (6000 BC). Certainly before Ninevah or Babylon.
- At mouth of both Tigris and Euphrates rivers.
- Believed to be on the shores of the Persian Gulf originally until the Gulf receded (fertile without need of irrigation)
- Early occupation discovered below later civilization under layers of soil indicative of a huge flood
- Second era became first truly “planned” city under rule of Ur -Namma (matches time of Abram & father Terah)
- Subject to major fighting with Elam (to Southeast) during time of Abram.
- Numerous Gods (focusing on Moon) including “Ningal” and “Nannar” (Moon God and Godess)

Noah to Abraham



Ziggurat – est 2100 BC
Reconstructed 600 BC
by Babalonian empire

Noah to Abraham



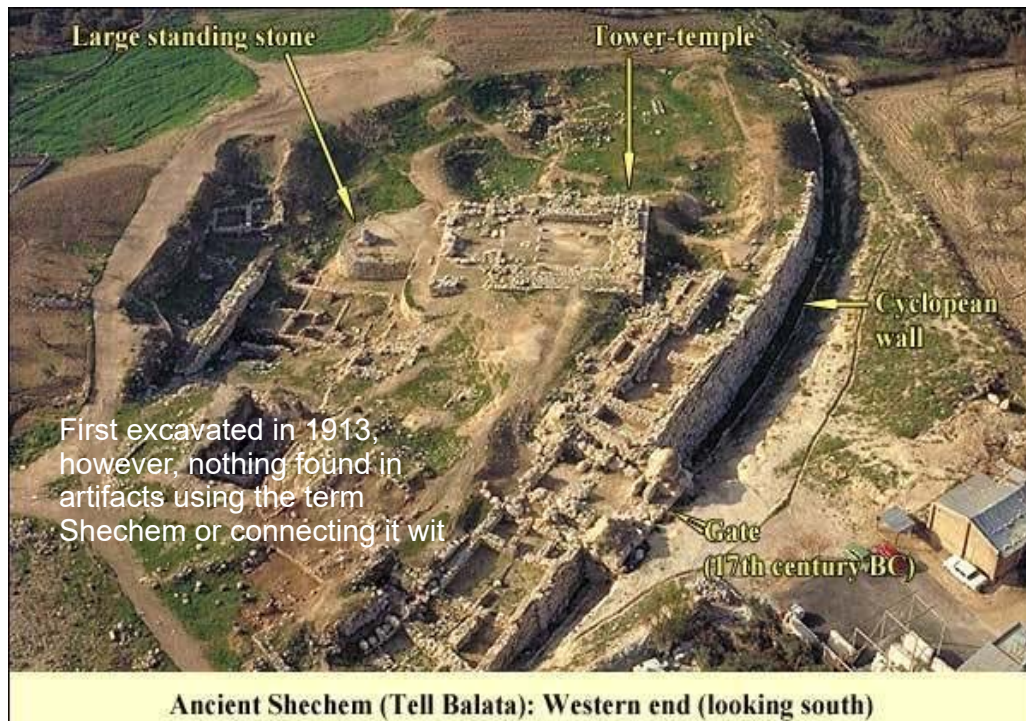
STANDARD OF UR

- Hollow wooden box
- From Ur's 1st Dynasty (est 2600 BC) – after Uruk destroyed.
- Housed in the British Museum
- First known depiction of the "wheel"
- Mosaic of shell & limestone
- Found in a royal tomb in Ur

Noah to Abraham



Abraham to Moses



The Old Testament Holy Lands

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