

*WORLD HISTORY
ANCIENT RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS
ANCIENT HEBREW NOTES*

The ancient Hebrews are the only surviving nation of people who lived in the Fertile Crescent. Today, they are known as Jews.

THE PROMISED LAND

According to the Bible, God appeared to a nomad named Abraham. God promised to give Abraham and his descendants a land of their own if they worshipped only Him (around 1500BC)

After years of wandering the desert, they eventually settled in the land of Canaan (modern day Israel), which was “flowing with milk and honey.”

Around 1400BC, the Jews migrated to Egypt to work for the invading Hyksos. After about 100 years, the Hyksos were kicked out of Egypt, and the Jews (Hebrews) were made slaves in Egypt.

THE EXODUS

Moses led the enslaved Hebrews out of Egypt around 1200BC. The Hebrews were the slaves of the pharaoh, probably Ramses II. The word, “Exodus,” means departure from Egypt.

Before the pharaoh set the Hebrews free, several plagues afflicted Egypt. These were:

1. Nile River turned to blood.
2. Frogs
3. Lice/flyies
4. Plagues
5. Boils
6. Hail/meteors
7. Locusts
8. Eclipse
9. Angel of Death

The Hebrews were not affected by the plagues.

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PASSOVER

The Hebrews were instructed to sacrifice a lamb and paint its blood over their door to prevent the Angel of Death from killing their first-born child. Passover is still celebrated today by modern-day Jews to remember this event from their history.

King David (dad) and King Solomon (son) were two Hebrew kings. Before David was a king, he was a shepherd. He fought Goliath. King Solomon was known for his wisdom and the palaces he built.

The Hebrew kingdoms were Israel in the north and Judah in the south. (around 900BC)

MONOTHEISM

Belief in one God

POLYTHEISM

Belief in many Gods

COVENANT

An agreement

TORAH

“law,” the first five books of the Bible.

TABERNACLE

A shrine or place of worship.

EXAMPLES OF A COVENANT:

Noah and the ark

Moses and the Ten Commandments which he received on Mt. Sinai