

Chapter 2
Section 3
New Centers of
Civilization

Pastoral Nomads

Nomadic peoples who lived in the areas surrounding the great civilizations of the ancient Middle East.

They domesticated animals for food and clothing and moved along regular migratory routes.

They did trade with the settled peoples of the area and helped to establish long-distance trade networks. This also allowed for the spreading of culture and technology (Cultural Diffusion)

Indo-Europeans

Probably came out of the steppe region north of the Black Sea. Their language influenced Greek, Latin, Persian, Sanskrit, and Germanic languages.

Some of these people settled in Anatolia around 1750 B.C. and helped to establish the Hittite Kingdom.



Hittites

The Hittites created their empire between
1600-1200 B.C. (BCE)

*They were the first people to learn to smelt
(separate metal from ore) iron.

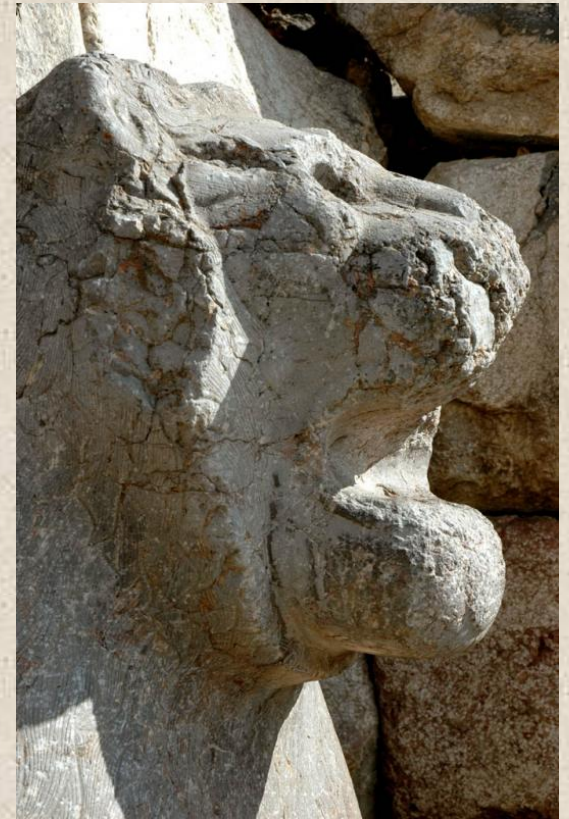
They were eventually weakened and defeated
by the Sea Peoples.

The *Sea Peoples* is the term used for a
mysterious confederacy of seafaring raiders
who sailed into the eastern shores of the
Mediterranean, invaded Cyprus, and the Levant,
and attempted to enter Egyptian territory

The end of the Hittite kingdom allowed for the
rise of other people in this region



The Hittite capital city of *Hattusha*



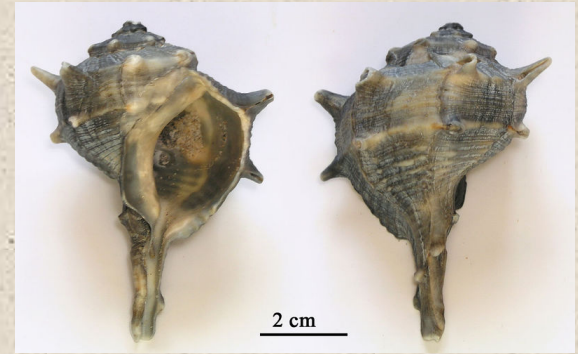
Phoenicians

Lived: The Phoenicians established a trade empire, and colonies, throughout the Mediterranean.

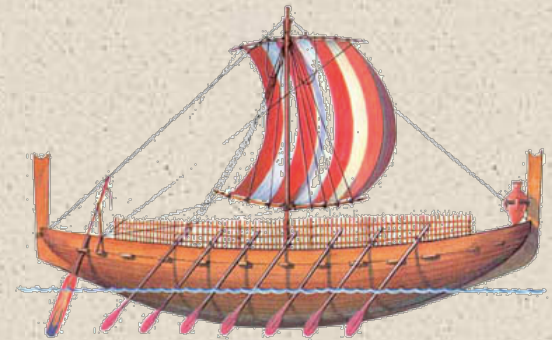
Made Living: They traded several goods including glass and lumber.

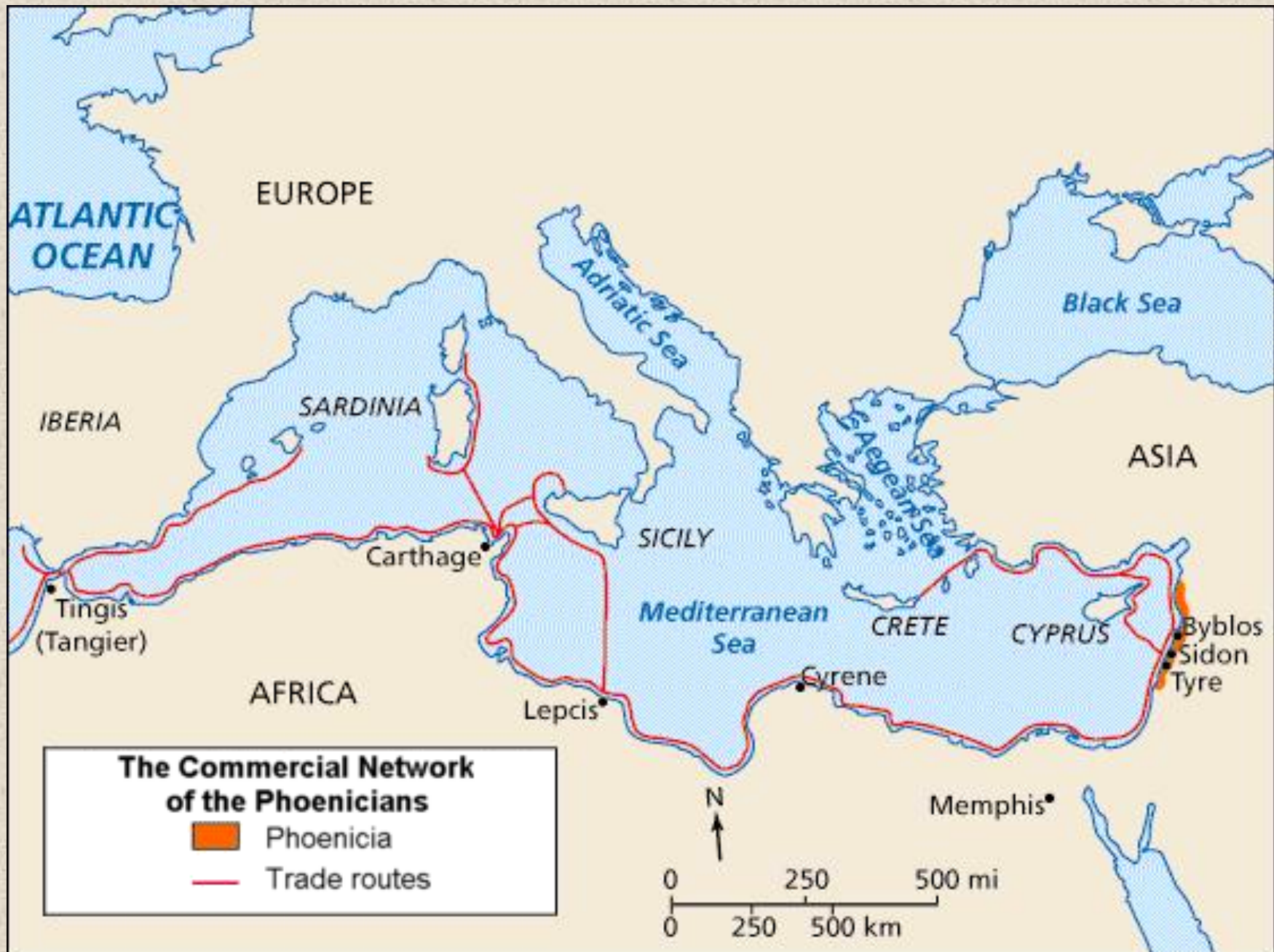
Goods: Their most important product was Tyrian purple, a dye made from boiling the Murex snail.

This purple dye was very difficult and expensive to produce. It was very valuable to the rich.



Murex snail





The Phoenicians spread their alphabet throughout the Mediterranean

Their alphabet consisted of 22 letters, it did not have vowels.

Unlike many early alphabets which were made of pictograms, the Phoenician alphabet was phonic (based on sound). These sounds could be assembled to make words.

The Greeks eventually adopted this alphabet, which influenced the Latin Alphabet which we use today.



Phoenician Artifacts





Children of Israel

Israelites

Semitic-speaking people who lived south of the Phoenicians in the Levant.



Compared to other groups in the region, they were a small group.

Their religion, known today as Judaism, continues as a world religion and influenced the development of Christianity and Islam.

History of the Hebrews

Abraham

Abraham is seen as the Patriarch, or father, of Judaism as well as Christianity and Islam.

According to Jewish tradition Abraham is brought by God from his home in the ancient city of Ur into a new land, Canaan (the holy land), where he enters into a covenant (agreement) with God:

in exchange for sole recognition of Yahweh as supreme universal authority, Abraham will be the father of a great nation.

Exodus

The escape of the Israelites from their captivity in Egypt.

Moses was the leader of the Hebrew Exodus. The story goes that the Hebrew God had to curse Egypt with 10 plagues in order for the Pharaoh (Ramses II) to free the Israelites.

10 Plagues

The Nile turned to blood

Frogs

Fleas and Lice

Flies

Epidemic disease which exterminated the Egyptian livestock.

Boils

Storm (Hail)

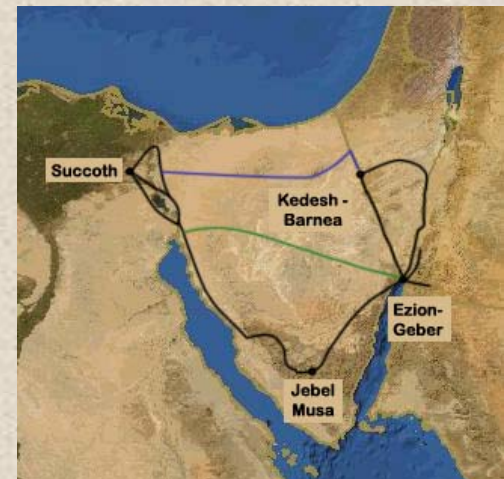
Locusts

Darkness

Death of the first born son

(Passover Holiday comes from this event)

According to the *Torah*, the Israelites disobeyed God and wandered the desert for 40 years before reaching the holy land.

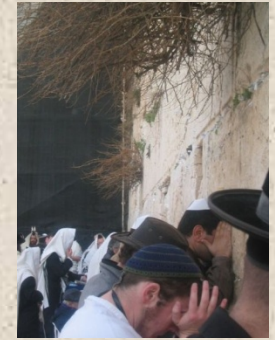


King Solomon 970-930 BCE

United the tribes of Israel into the Kingdom of Israel

Solomon was the son of King David, and was known as a wise king.

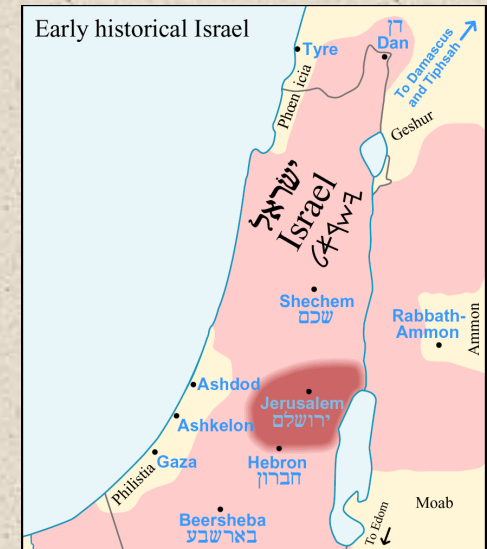
During this time Jerusalem became the capital of the Kingdom of Israel



Under the leadership of Solomon, Israel reached the height of its power.

He built a great temple in Jerusalem which became the focal point of the Jewish Religion.

The remains of this temple, now known as the Western Wall or Wailing Wall are still a focal point of the Jewish faith.



■ = A rough approximate map of the lands inhabited by Israelites or under direct central royal administration during the United Monarchy (according to the Bible). This is basically what is referred to by the recurring Biblical phrase "from Dan to Beersheba". ■ = The central core of ancient Judea. This area was part of a Jewish kingdom, or a Jewish province within a larger empire, almost continuously from the days of King David down to 135 CE.

The Babylonian Captivity of the Jews was known as the first Diaspora.

The Diaspora is the scattering of the Jewish people.

There have been two Diasporas.

The first was the Babylonian captivity, which ended when the Persians freed the Jews and the Jews returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt the temple.

During the Captivity there was an Age of Prophecy

The Prophets such as Isaiah and Ezekiel

The prophets declared that the people needed to return to the original covenant or face punishment.



The Jews stayed in Israel until the Romans destroyed the Temple again in 70 CE beginning the second Diaspora.

After that the Jews were scattered throughout Europe. European anti-Semitism in the Middle Ages and the Holocaust of WWII forced many Jews to emigrate to the United States and many began to return to Israel.

This led to the formation of the state of Israel by the United Nations in 1948 ending the second Diaspora. Many Jews consider any Jew not living in the Holy Land to still be in the Diaspora.



Judaism

Began: Judaism began with Abraham.

Were From: It is thought that Abraham was from the Sumerian city of Ur.

Abraham believed that he had been selected by Yahweh (God) to be the father of a great nation.

Abraham is seen as the Patriarch of Judaism.

Monotheism: Judaism was the first religion to worship only One God. The Jews viewed Yahweh as being all-knowing (Omniscient), and all-powerful (Omnipotent)

Yahweh: The Jewish name for God. Jews view this name as sacred and will not say the full name or write the name out. They will use abbreviations in writing, or say another name for God when speaking of God.

Covenant: Jews believe that Abraham made a Covenant, or Agreement with God that he and his descendants would have no other God.



Obligations:

-Jews promised not to worship any other God.

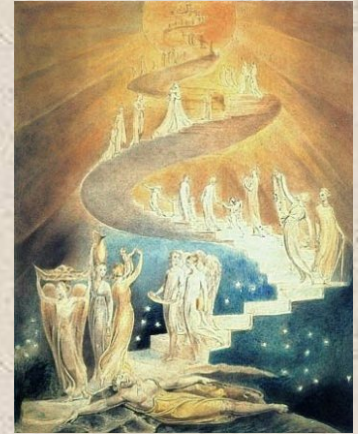
-The Jews promised to practice Bris, or Circumcision, as a symbol of the Covenant.

-In exchange the Jews believe that God promised them Canaan, or the Holy land.



People of Israel

The term people of Israel refers to the descendants of Abraham through his son Isaac, and his Son Jacob who became known as Israel. Jacob was name Israel after he struggled with an angel and won, it means he who prevails with God." .



Torah

The Torah is the holy book of Judaism, the laws of the Jewish people.

It is the first five books of the Christian Bible

The Torah is also known as the Five Books of Moses or the Pentateuch



Talmud

Books written to explain and interpret Jewish law

History of the Jewish People

The history of the Hebrews begins in the Ancient Middle East with Abraham.

Abraham forms a Covenant with Yahweh (God) to be the chosen people and worship only that God.

Abraham's people settle in Canaan where they live for many years.

A famine falls on the area and many of the Hebrews go to Egypt, the breadbasket of the Mediterranean, seeking food. There they stay and grow in number and so they are enslaved by the Egyptians.



The **Exodus**, is the story of the escape of the Jews from Egypt led by Moses.

After fleeing Egypt and wandering the desert for 40 years, the Israelites return to the promised land.

Later, they establish the Nation of Israel under king Solomon.

Solomon dies, Israel is divided into Israel and Judah.

Israel is scattered and destroyed by the Assyrians.

Judah is defeated by king Nebuchadnezzar and the Jews are taken into the Babylonian Captivity where they record the Torah.

Diaspora: The Babylonian Captivity is the first Diaspora, or scattering, of the Jewish people.

They are freed by Cyrus the Great, return to Jerusalem and rebuild their city.

They are eventually conquered by the Roman and become the Roman province of Judea.

The Romans destroy the Temple of Jerusalem for the second time in 70A.D., thus starting the **Second Diaspora**.

The second Diaspora, many believe, ended with the est. of the Nation of Israel in 1948.



Jews and History

The Jewish people view history as having a purpose. They believe that everything that happens, does so because it is part of their God's ultimate plan.

Jewish Holidays and Observances

Bris ceremony within Judaism that welcomes infant (8 days old) Jewish boys into a covenant between God and the Children of Israel through ritual circumcision performed by a *mohel* ("circumcisor") in the presence of family and friends.



According to Jewish law, when Jewish children reach the age of maturity (12 years for girls, 13 years for boys) they become responsible for their actions. At

this point a boy is said to become Bar Mitzvah one to whom the commandments apply.

A girl is said to become Bat Mitzvah

Before this age, all the child's responsibility to follow Jewish law and tradition lies with the parents.



Shiv'ah is the name for Judaism's week-long period of grief and mourning for the seven first-degree relatives: father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, or spouse; grandparents and grandchildren are not included



Rabbi

A Rabbi is a teacher of the *Torah*.

Phylactery

Boxes that contain certain verses from the Torah.





Shabbat is the weekly day of rest in Judaism. It is observed, from before sundown on Friday until after nightfall on Saturday. During this time no work is supposed to be done.

Yom Kippur

A Jewish Day of Atonement (Asking for forgiveness). It is 25 hours of prayer and fasting. Although the fast is required of all healthy adults, fasting is specifically forbidden for anyone who might be harmed by it.

Passover commemorates the Exodus and freedom of the Israelites from ancient Egypt. As described in the Book of Exodus, Passover marks the "birth" of the Children of Israel who become the Jewish nation, as the Jews' ancestors were freed from being slaves of Pharaoh and allowed to become followers of God instead.

Hanukah

Jewish Holiday often called the Festival of lights. It celebrates the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem.

The Jews had only enough lamp oil to burn for one day, but it lasted 8 days, which was enough time to make and bless more lamp oil.



Menorah and Dreidel

The Western (Wailing) Wall in Jerusalem
The most important of all Jewish monuments
It is the remnants of the Temple of Solomon
after its destruction by the Romans in 70 A.D.



The Divided Kingdom

After Solomon's death the kingdom of Israel split into two parts

Division: The Kingdom of Israel was the ten northern tribes with the capital city of Samaria.

The Kingdom of Judah was the two tribes in the South with the capital of Jerusalem.

The Assyrians destroyed the kingdom of Israel and scattered the people in 722 B.C., these are known as the lost tribes of Israel.

The Kingdom of Judah remained until it was destroyed by the Chaldeans (Neo Babylonians) and King Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. beginning the Babylonian captivity which would last until the defeat of the Chaldeans by the Persian Empire and Cyrus the Great.

