



The Origins of Judaism

A Break from the Past

Quick Write

- What are some of the benefits of worshipping many gods? What are some of the drawbacks?

Origins of Judaism

Ancient Palestine

- **Palestine** was region on eastern shores of Mediterranean
- Hebrew people settled in **Canaan**, land promised to them by God



From Ur to Egypt

- *Torah, first five books of Hebrew Bible, tells early history of Hebrews
- *In **Torah**, God chose **Abraham**, a shepherd, to be father of Hebrew people
- *Abraham moves family and herds from Ur to Canaan around 1800 B.C.
- *Around 1650 B.C. Abraham's descendants move to Egypt



The God of Abraham

- Hebrews are **monotheists**, believing in one God only—Yahweh
- Yahweh is all powerful, not a physical being
- A mutual promise, **covenant**, is made between God and Abraham
- Abraham promises to obey God, Yahweh promises protection



Moses and the Exodus

Hebrews Migrate to Egypt

- At first Hebrews are honored in Egyptian kingdom; later become slaves



“Let My People Go”

- Hebrews flee Egypt between 1300 and 1200 B.C.
- Bible tells of God’s command that Moses lead this “Exodus”

A New Covenant

- **Moses** receives Ten Commandments—become basis of Hebrew law



The Land and People of the Bible

- Torah tells of the Hebrews wandering Sinai Desert for 40 years
- Arrive in Canaan form twelve tribes; judges provide leadership



A Hebrew Law

- Women and men have separate roles, responsibilities
- Law includes strict justice softened by mercy
- Prophets arise later to interpret the law
- They teach people to live moral lives

The Kingdom of Israel

Canaan

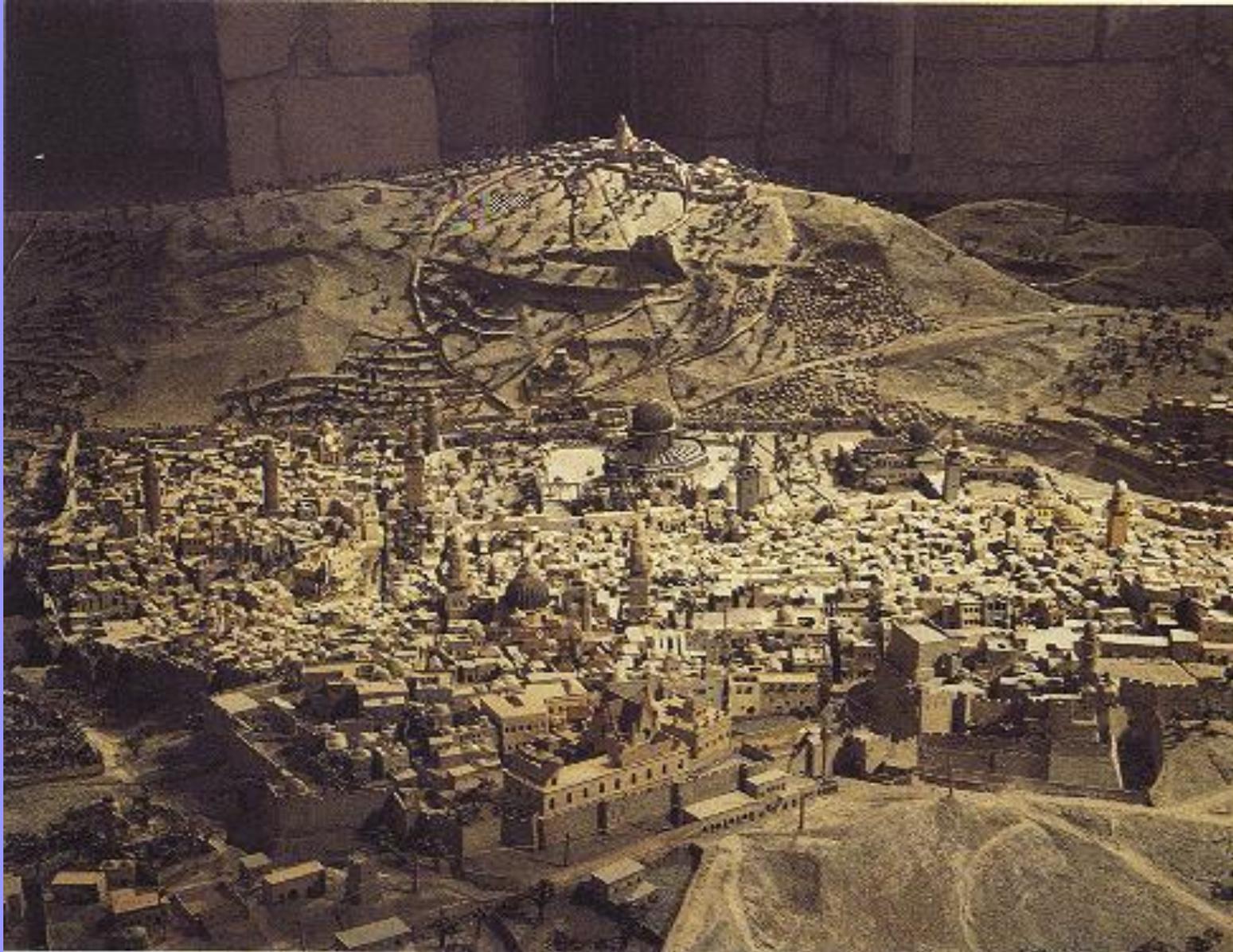
- Land that Hebrews believe God promised them
- Canaan land is harsh; Hebrews expand south and north
- Only one tribe remains, **Judah**; Hebrew religion called *Judaism*
- From 1020 to 922 B.C. Hebrews (Jews) unite; new kingdom called **Israel**

Saul and David Establish a Kingdom

- Hebrews threatened by Philistines to the north

- King David establishes Jerusalem as capital





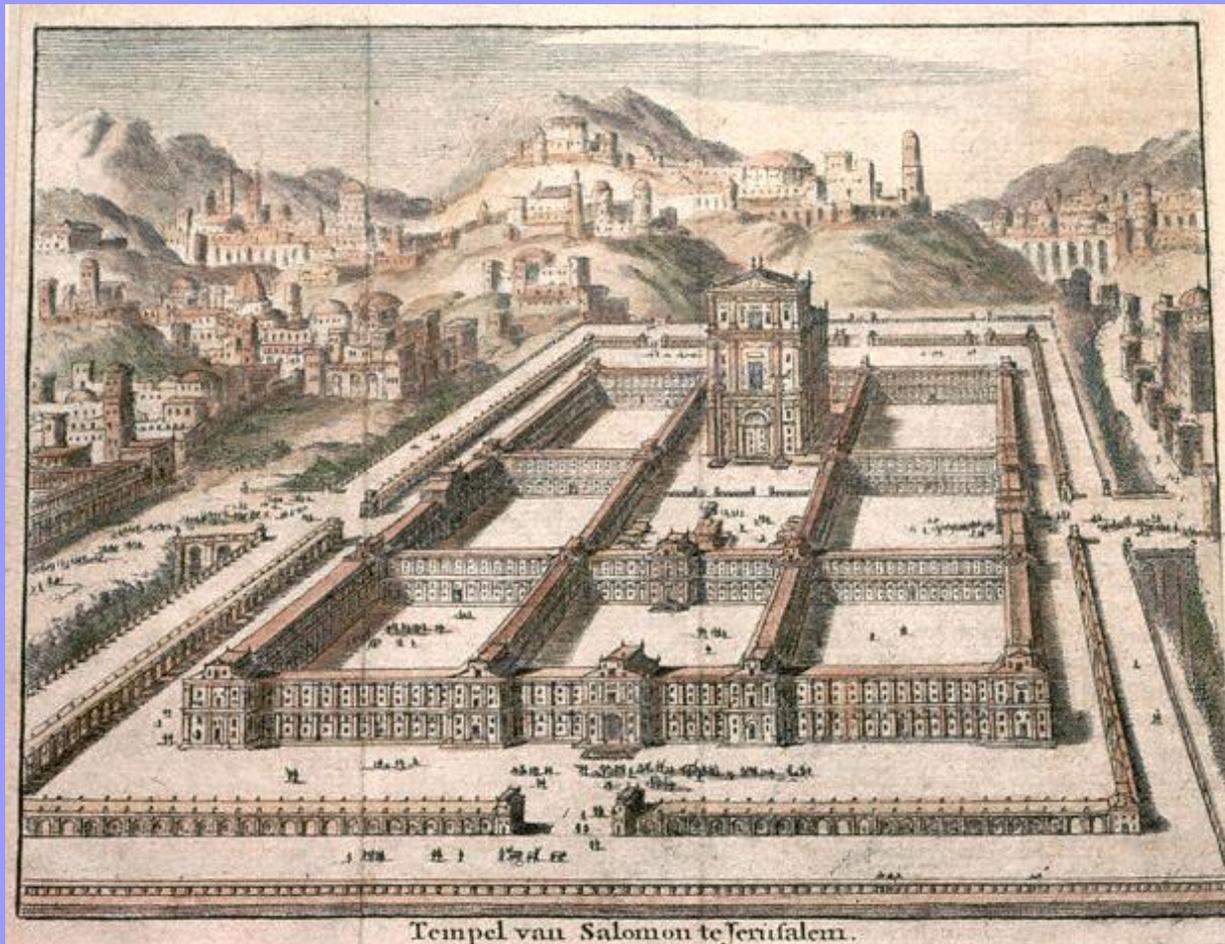
Conard Schich, a famous Architect who lived in Jerusalem at the end of the nineteenth century, created a three dimensional model of Jerusalem

Solomon Builds the Kingdom



- David's son Solomon becomes King; makes Israel a trading empire
- He builds a magnificent temple and royal palace in Jerusalem

King Solomon's Temple



The Kingdom Divides

- High taxes and forced labor lead Jews in north to revolt
- By 922 B.C. kingdom divides in two— Israel in north, Judah in south
- 200 years of conflict follow