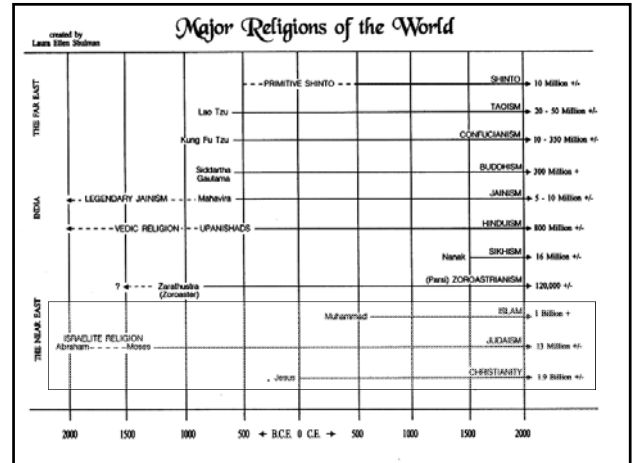
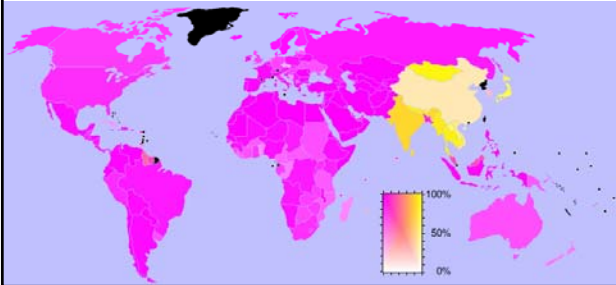


Abrahamic Religions Judaism, Christianity, and Islam



What is Genesis 1-3?

- The first three chapters of the first book of the Hebrew Bible.
- and ...
- The first three chapters of the first book of the Christian Bible.



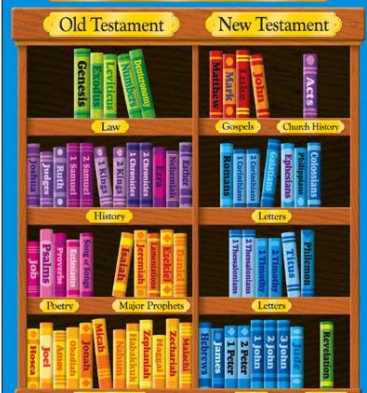
Hebrew Bible

The Tanakh

- Torah (teaching)
 - 5 books of Moses
- Nevi'im (prophets)
- Ketuvim (writings)

Books of the Bible

Hebrew Bible = Old Testament



Christian Bible = Old Testament + New Testament

Genesis



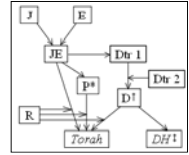
The Creation of Man



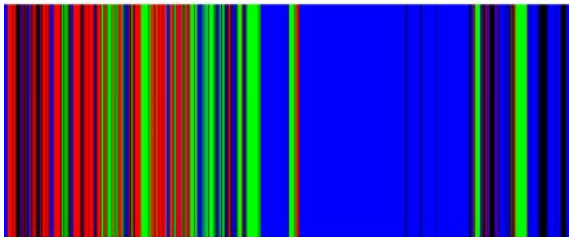
Documentary Hypothesis

The documentary hypothesis holds that the five Books of Moses were derived from originally independent, parallel and complete narratives, which were subsequently combined into the current form by a series of editors.

- The **Yahwist** source (**J**): written c. 950 BCE in the southern kingdom of Judah.
- The **Elohist** source (**E**): written c. 850 BCE in the northern kingdom of Israel.
- The **Deuteronomist**: written c. 600 BCE in Jerusalem during a period of religious reform.
- The **Priestly** source (**P**): written c. 500 BCE by Aaronid priests in exile in Babylon.
- The **Editors/Redactors**: first JE, then JED, and finally JEDP, producing the final form of the Torah c.450 BCE.



Yahwist (J) ■ ■ Priestly (P)
 Elohist (E) ■ ■ Redactor (R)



Genesis | Exodus | Leviticus | Numbers

The Fall – Adam and Eve expelled from Eden

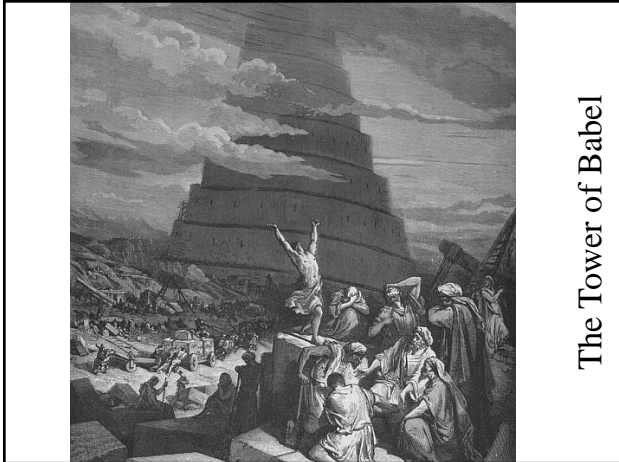


How to interpret the Bible?

- Literally
– Everything in the Bible is actually true.
- Allegorically
– The stories in the Bible are symbolically true.

The Flood and Noah's Ark





The Tower of Babel

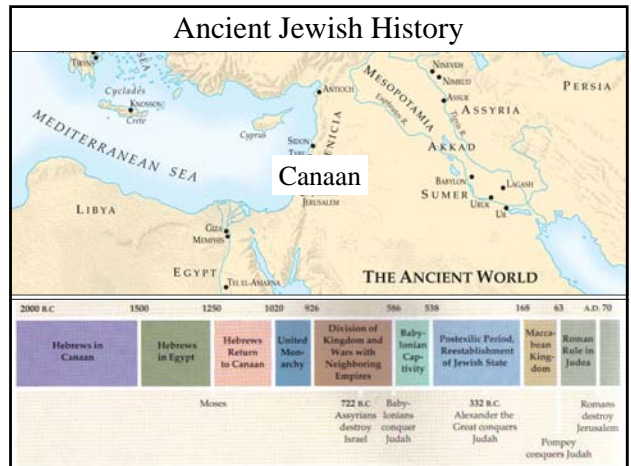


Judaism

Abraham

The LORD said to [Abraham], "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you . . . I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."



The Covenant between Abraham and God

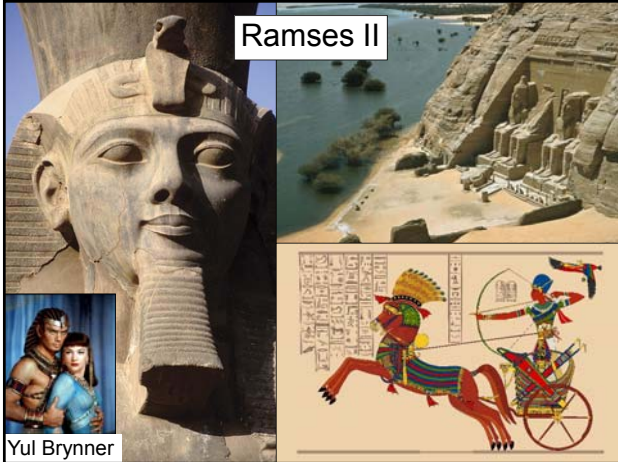
Abraham promised:

- Worship God
- Obey God
- Circumcision

God promised:

- Great nation
- Promised land
- Blessing and cursing
- All people will be blessed "through" Abraham





Ramses II

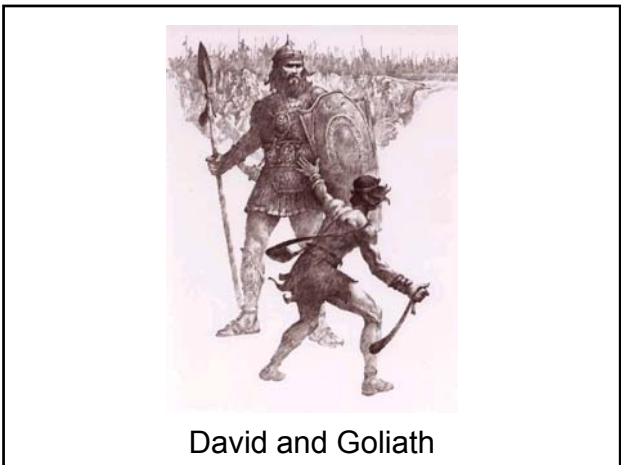
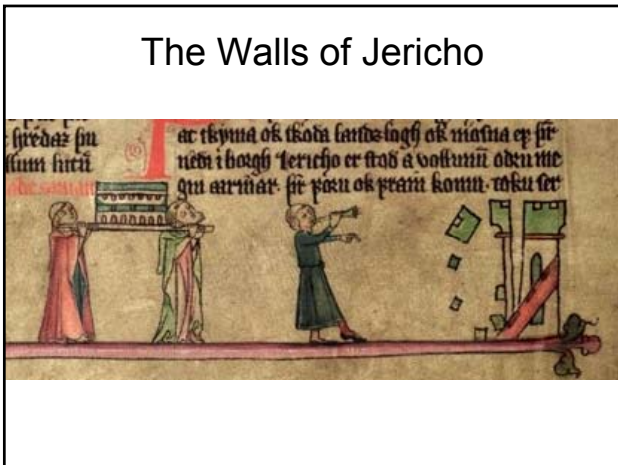
Yul Brynner

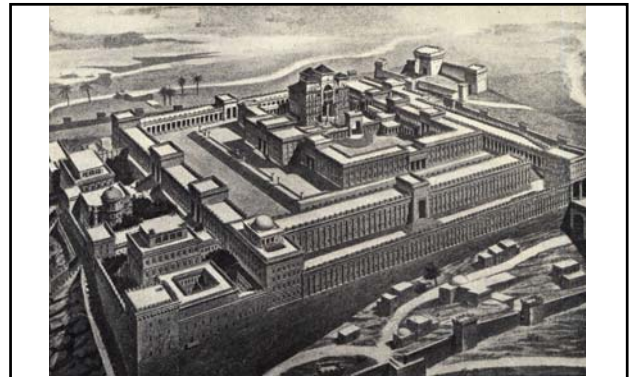
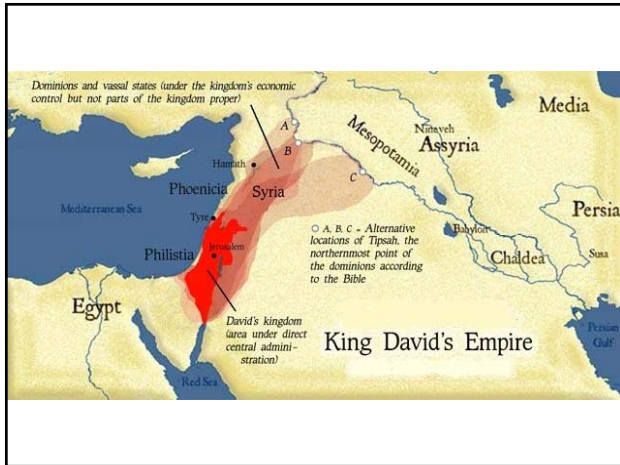
Moses

- Renewed the covenant between God and the Hebrews.
- Led the Hebrews on the Exodus from Egypt to Canaan, the "Promised Land".
- Gave the Hebrews the Torah, a.k.a. the "law" or the "teaching".
 - Including the Ten Commandments



The Ten Commandments	I am the Lord your God
	You shall have no other gods before me
	You shall not make for yourself an idol
	You shall not make wrongful use of the name of your God
	Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy
	Honor your father and mother
	You shall not murder*
	You shall not commit adultery
	You shall not steal***
	You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
You shall not covet your neighbor's house	
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife	

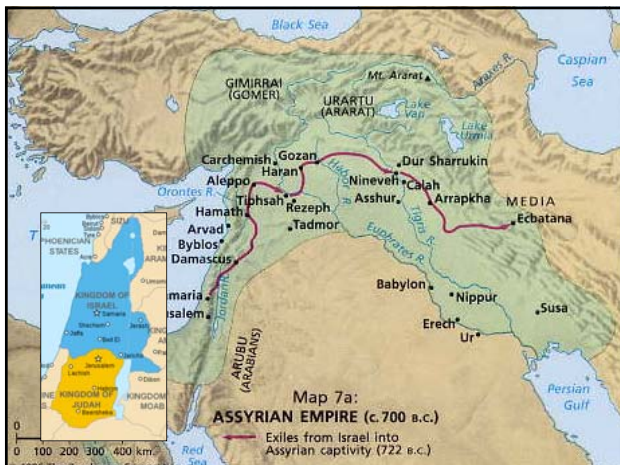




According to the Hebrew Bible, Solomon's Temple, also known as the First Temple, was constructed by Solomon, king of the ancient Israelites, in Jerusalem. It housed the Ark of the Covenant and functioned as a religious focal point in ancient Judaism.



The Foundation Stone, the holiest site in Judaism.

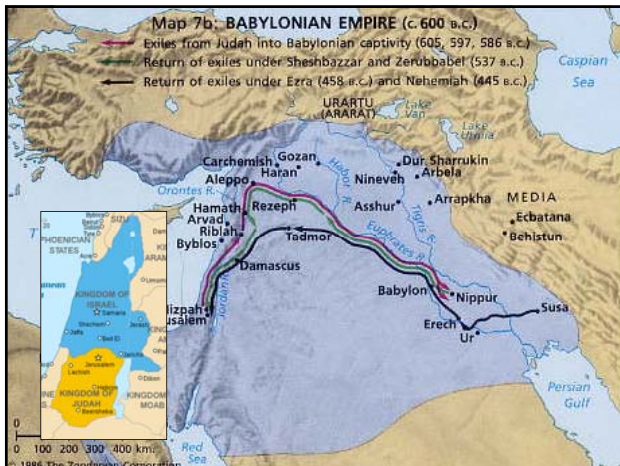


Heirs to the Mesopotamian and Egyptian Cultures

After the first Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations fell, a series of other civilizations in the region battled for supremacy, most notably the Assyrians, Neo-Babylonians, and Persians.

Event	Start Date	End Date
Rise of Assyria	2000	850
Assyrian Empire	850	612
Rise of Medes	700	612
Median Empire	612	550
Persian Empire	550	327

Ashurbanipal was the last great king of ancient Assyria. He is most famous for the library at Nineveh where he attempted to gather all cuneiform literature available by that time.

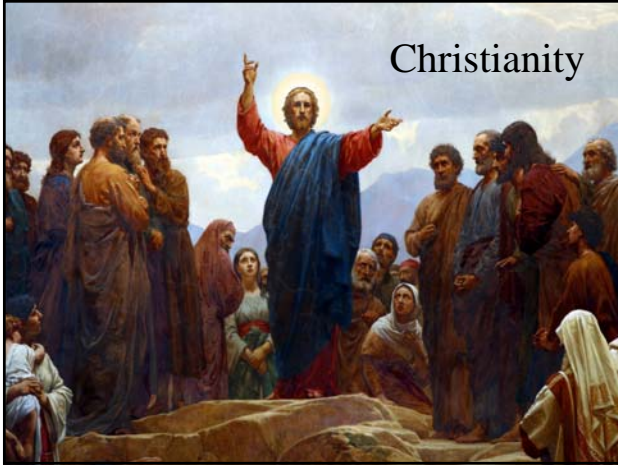


Judaism

- Monotheistic
- History lays out a path for the future.
- Relationship with God is an agreement in which both parties have rights and responsibilities.
- Is the covenant with God exclusively for Jews?
 - What does “all peoples on earth will be blessed through you” imply?
 - What does the story of Jonah tell us about these ideas?

The Story of Jonah and the Whale



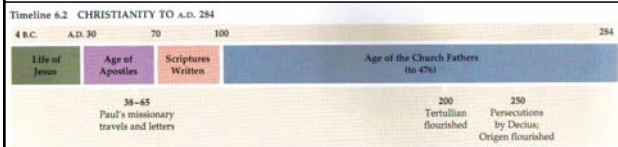


What we know about Jesus of Nazareth

- He was born c. 4 BC in Bethlehem.
- He was raised in Galilee.
- He was circumcised.
- He appeared in the temple at the age of 12.
- He was baptized by John the Baptist.
- He preached publicly for perhaps three years.
- His teachings in Jerusalem eventually led to his public execution on a Friday, c. 30 AD.

Jesus Christ

- Christ, from Greek for “the anointed one.”
- Universalized the “old” covenant (testament).
- While performing miracles and healing the sick, he urged his followers to practice a demanding and loving ethic (love God, love your neighbor)



The Sermon on the Mount

- “If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.”
- “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
- “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.”



The Last Supper



The Kiss of Judas



The Crucifixion

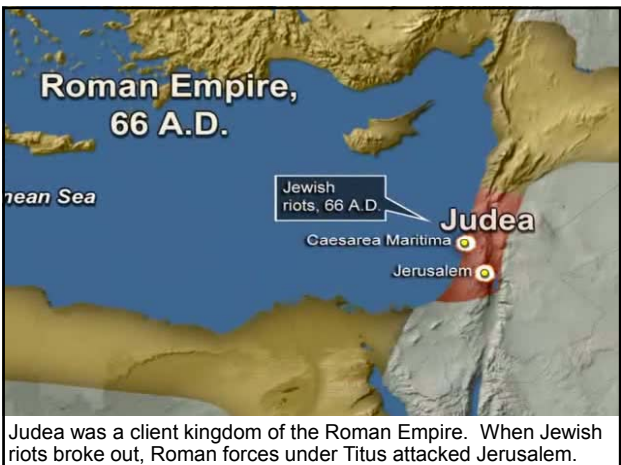


The Resurrection of Jesus

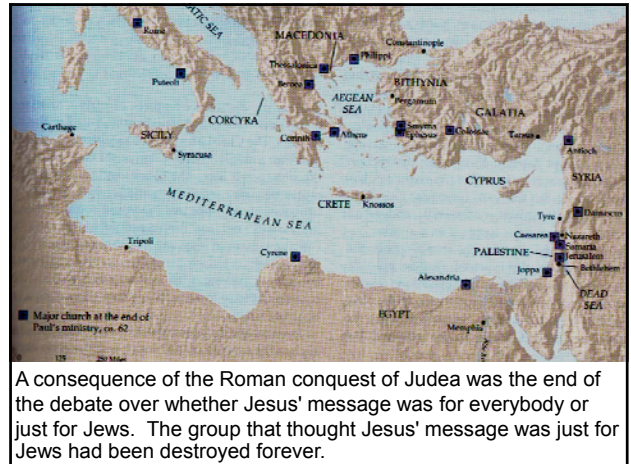
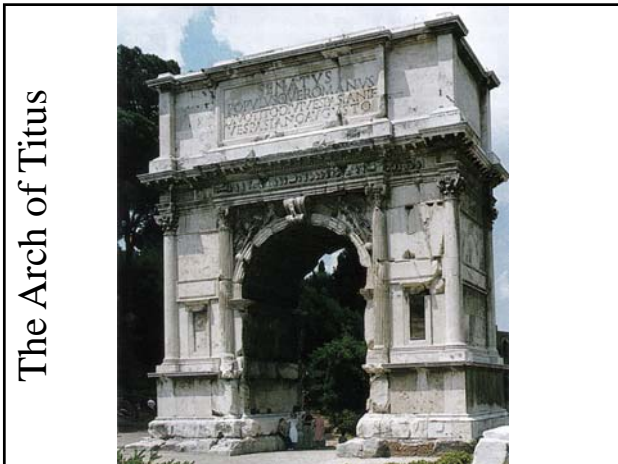
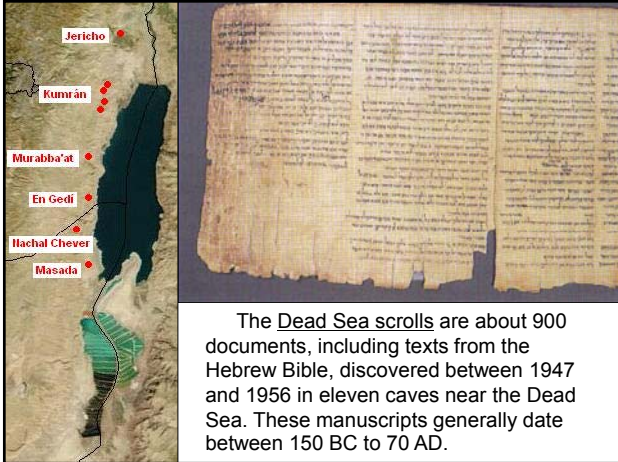


Christianity Spreads

- The resurrected Jesus' final instruction to his followers (the Twelve Apostles) was to go and spread his teachings to all nations.
- Peter (St. Peter) went to Rome.
- Saul of Tarsus (St. Paul) went everywhere else.
 - Tireless missionary
 - Non-Jewish converts
 - Theological letters
- Social, religious factors for growth
 - Peace (*Pax Romana*), ease of travel, Koine Greek
 - Receptive audience, no class distinction
 - Emphasis on salvation, freedom



Judea was a client kingdom of the Roman Empire. When Jewish riots broke out, Roman forces under Titus attacked Jerusalem.



Roman Persecution of Christians

- Christians as traitors to the state
 - Christians refused to express *pietas* (love and reverential fear) to the Roman gods.
- Christians as martyrs
 - Apologists*: Justin Martyr (100-165)

Timeline 7.1 LATE ROME, 284-476					
284	303	311-313	361-363	395	476
Growth of Christianity	Christian Toleration	Christian Toleration	Christian Rome		
284-305 Reign of Diocletian Great Persecution	Edict of Milan 313 Founding of Constantinople 330	Reign of Julian 361-363	Christianity proclaimed official religion of Rome by Visigoths 410	Sack of Rome by Vandals 455	Romulus Augustulus deposed 476





Early Christian Art

- To avoid persecution, Christians met in secret and hid their art in catacombs, underground cemeteries.
- Frescoes, Statues, Mosaics
 - Jesus and the Apostles
 - Martyrs being burned
 - Christ as the Good Shepherd
 - Carved sarcophagi (Jonas)
 - *Ichthys*



The fish and the chalice were symbols used by early Christians. *Ichthys* (ΙΧΘΥΣ, *fish*) is formed from the first letters of “Jesus Christ, God’s son, savior” when written in Greek.

Constantine

- First Christian Roman emperor (ruled 306-337 CE)
- Converted to Christianity in 312 CE.
- The *Edict of Milan* (313 CE) was a letter signed by Constantine that proclaimed religious toleration in the Roman Empire.



Battle of the Milvian Bridge, 312
In hoc signo vinces:
“in this sign you will conquer”



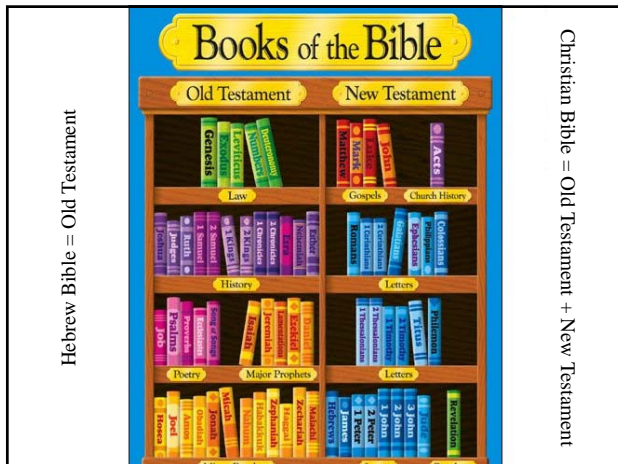
THE ROMAN EMPIRE, AD 337

Christianity

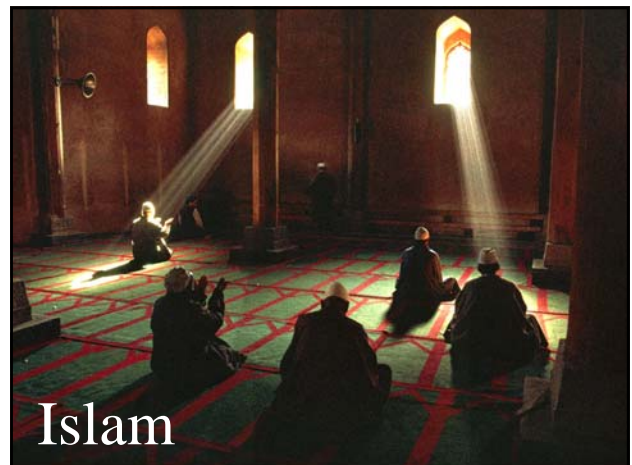
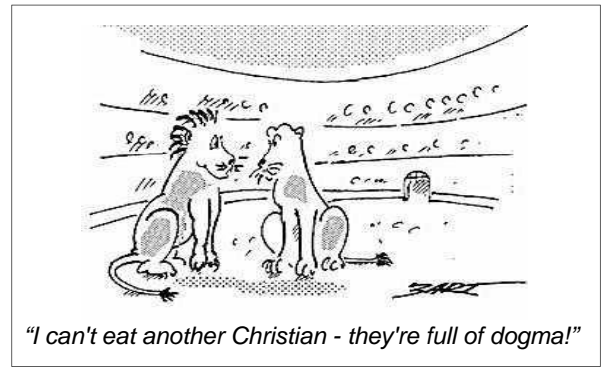
- Evolved from Judaism: Jesus universalized the covenant with God so that all people could join.
- Evangelical: The largest group of Jesus' followers to survive Rome's conquest of Jerusalem was the one intent on spreading his message.
- Christian theology evolved over time.
- The Christian Church eventually emerged and organized all (European) Christians.
- Belief in doctrine eventually became the standard by which Christians were measured.

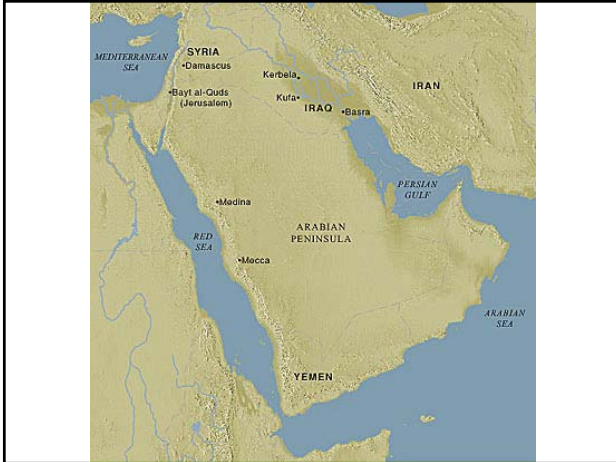
The Christian Bible is a combination of the Old Testament and the New Testament.

- The Old Testament is based on the Hebrew Bible.
- The New Testament comes from Christian texts written between 45 and 140 AD and includes (in part):
 - Four Gospels: "first-hand" accounts of Jesus' life.
 - Acts of the Apostles (what they did).
 - Letters from Paul to new Christian communities.
 - The Book of Revelation which describes the final confrontation between the forces of good and evil.



Homework: Explain this cartoon to somebody that doesn't understand it.





Muhammad

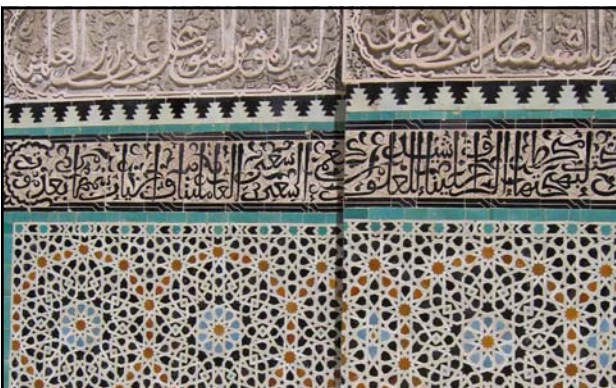
- Born in Mecca, 570 CE.
- In 610, he experienced a spiritual transformation that convinced him that Allah had called him to be His prophet to the Arab people.
- By the time of his death in 632, he had united Arabia and brought peace to the region under the banner of Islam.



Central tenets of Islam include the beliefs that there is only one God, Allah, and that Muhammad was his messenger.

The Qur'an

- The Qur'an is considered by Muslims to be the literal, undistorted word of God, and is the central religious text of Islam.
- Muslims believe that the Qur'an was repeatedly revealed from Allah to Muhammad verbally through the angel Gabriel over a period of approximately twenty-three years, beginning in 610 CE, when he was forty, and concluding in 632 CE, the year of his death.
- Other sacred texts of Islam include the *Sunnah* and the *Hadith*, which record the deeds, sayings, and habits of the prophet.



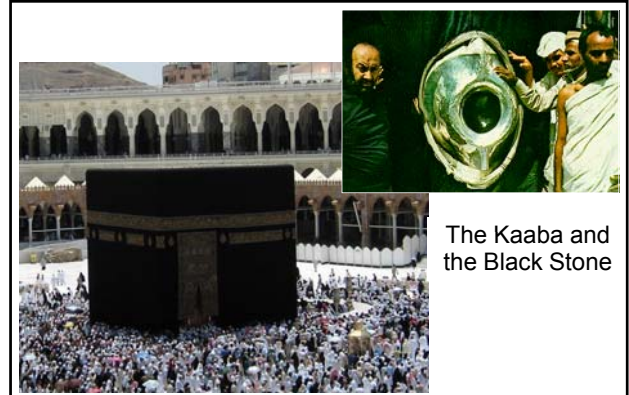
Aniconism in Islam is a proscription against the creation of images of God. Other common forms of aniconism in Islam prohibit the depiction of Muhammad or even any living creatures.

Five Pillars of Islam

- Profession of faith (Muslim: one who submits to God)
- Prayers (Five times daily, oriented towards Mecca, on Fridays in a mosque)
- Almsgiving (giving to the poor)
- Fasting and prayer, especially during Ramadan
- Pilgrimage to Mecca

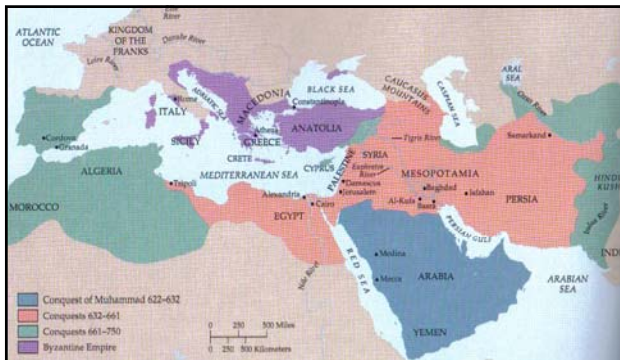


The Pilgrimage (Hajj) to Mecca.



The Kaaba and the Black Stone

According to the Qur'an, the Kaaba was (re)built by Abraham and his son Ishmael.



Imperial Islam.

Jihad is a religious duty of Muslims. In Arabic, the word means *struggle*. Muslims use jihad to refer to three types of struggles:

- An internal struggle to maintain faith
- The struggle to improve the Muslim society
- The struggle in a holy war
- In western societies the term jihad is often translated as "holy war". Muslim authors tend to reject such an approach, stressing non-militant connotations of the word.

"One of the collective duties of the community as a whole is to lodge a valid protest, to solve problems of religion, to have knowledge of Divine Law, to command what is right and forbid wrong conduct."



The Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

