

God's Plan for Humanity

# SALVATION HISTORY

PART I

# The Patriarchs

- ⦿ Chapter 12 in Genesis marks a shift from Historical Etiology to more simply “historical”.
  - I believe it safe to say that most Scholars would see Abraham as a historical figure in the common sense of the term.
- ⦿ He received the Promise, “You will be a father of a great nation.”

# Abraham

- From Abram to Abraham and Sarai to Sarah... God gives them a new name, it points to a new level of intimacy.
- But they wait... and wait and wait, in their impatience Hagar comes on the scene and becomes the mother of Ishmael – Moslems claim him as their line.

# Isaac

(name means to Laugh)

Isaac has Jacob and Esau

- ◎ Jacob (Israel) fathers the 12 tribes

- Reuben,
- Simeon,
- Levi
- Judah,
- Issachar,
- Zebulun,
- Dan
- Naphtali,
- Gad,
- Asher,
- Benjamin
- Joseph (Ephraim and Mannasseh)

- ◎ Esau

- He was “red” and “hairy”
- Means “red one”
- This is the line of the Edomites (this was the line of Herod in the New Testament)

# Joseph

- ⦿ Later Joseph was split into two tribes, Ephraim and Manasseh the two sons of Joseph
- ⦿ Joseph was sold into slavery because of the jealousy of his brothers.
- ⦿ This story explains how the Jewish people found its way to Egypt, and became oppressed and suffered the fate of cruel slavery.

# The Exodus Event

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*I will be your people, and you will be my God!*

- ◎ Let my people go!
  - Moses led the people from the cruel oppression of slavery.
  - The final plague?
    - The first born was to be taken via the Angel of death
  - How were the Israelites spared?
    - The blood of an **unblemished male lamb** on the doorpost
    - They were set free, but pursued until Moses used Aaron's staff to split the Red Sea
    - They rejected God's plan, but God provided them with manna from heaven

# The People's Sin

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“Make for us a god in our image”

- God's plan is rejected, and Moses pleads his case
  - After the people create a god in that fits the world they had grown accustomed to in Egypt, God proposes to Moses to start over with him.
    - Moses suggests, “What would the neighbors think? You go to all the trouble of delivering this people, only to sacrifice them in the dessert? Very bad PR.
    - The people are spared, and when they refuse to take possession of the promised land, the generation who betrayed God a banished to wander in the dessert for 40 years, but their offspring survive. God still meets their physical needs.

# Early Structures of Leadership

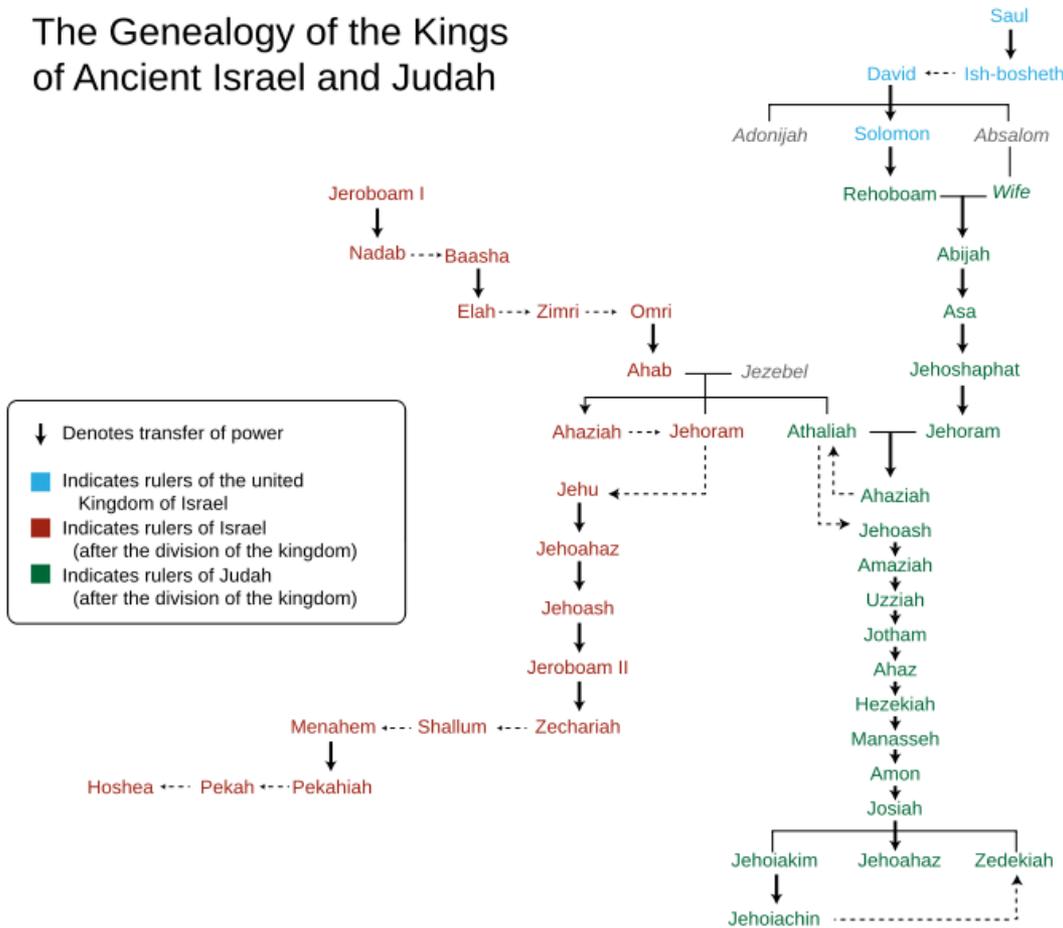
- When the Israelites settled in the promised land there was set up a system of Judges.
- A judge is understood by some as a non-hereditary leader of the people.
- From the Book of Joshua to Samuel there is a list of judges.

# The Judges ~ 1200 BC-1030 BC

- ⦿ In the Book of Joshua
  - Joshua†
- ⦿ In the Book of Judges
  - Othniel
  - Ehud
  - Shamgar
  - Deborah
  - Barak†
  - Gideon
  - Abimelech†
  - Tola
  - Jair
  - Jephthah
  - Ibzan
  - Elon
  - Abdon
  - Samson
- ⦿ In First Samuel
  - Eli
  - Samuel
- ⦿ †Not explicitly described as a judge

# The Kings of Israel —from Wikipedia

The Genealogy of the Kings of Ancient Israel and Judah



# The United Kingdom (~1000 BC – 931 BC)

- ◎ The people wanted a King, God tried to talk them out of it, but they refused.
  - God honored their freedom
  - God always honors our freedom
- ◎ The First Three Kings of Israel
  - Saul (between 1030 BC – 1010 BC)
  - David (1010 BC – 970 BC)
    - Bathsheba and Uriah
  - Solomon (to 931 BC)

# The Divided Kingdom

## ○ Israel (The North)

- Jeroboam I
- Nadab/Baasha
- Elah/Zimri/Omri
- Ahab
- Ahaziah/Jehoram
- Jehu
- Jehoahaz
- Jehoash
- Jeroboam II
- Menahem/Shallum/Zechariah
- Hoshea/Pekah/Pekahiah
- Fall of Samaria 721 BC

## ○ Judah (The South)

- Rehoboam
- Abihah
- Asa
- Jehoshaphat
- Jehoram
- Ahaziah
- Jehoash
- Amaziah
- Uzziah
- Jotham
- Ahaz
- Hezekiah
- Manasseh
- Amon
- Josiah
- Jehoiakim
- Jehoahaz
- Zedekiah
- Jehoiachin
- Falls in 586 BC

# Map of Israel — from wikipedia



# Babylonian Exile and Return

- Israel is exiled in 587 BC, the first Temple is destroyed
- King Cyrus invites them home and Temple is rebuilt 538 BC and 530 BC
- Shift from prophets to sages and scribes
- Hellenism becomes a stronger influence
- Septuagint is translated in about 260 AD
- Jews become autonomous but under the rule of the Roman Empire
- The High Priesthood becomes very political

# Some Major Jewish Groups

- Sadducees - “sad you see”, because they did not believe in the resurrection
- Pharisees – believed in the resurrection and supernatural spirits
- Essenes – Very austere group, may have been connected to John the Baptist
- Zealots – Very zealous for the faith
- Sicarii – “dagger bearers” – ancient terrorists

# Messianic Expectations

- Judas Maccabeus – a Jewish revolt that led to the rededication of the Temple which is commemorated by the modern Jewish Holiday Hanukah.