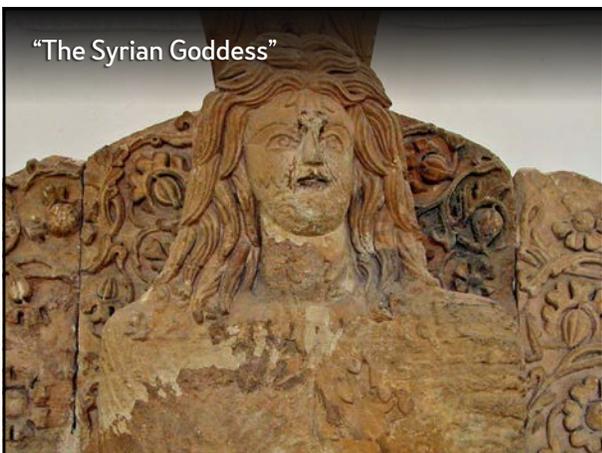


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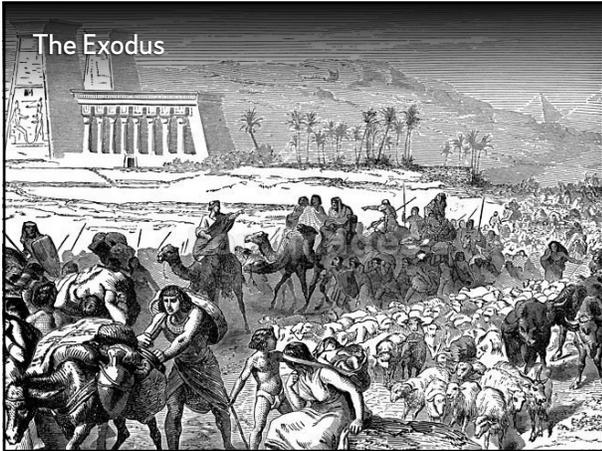
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6

El vs. Baal



- Abrahamites worship El
 - High god of Canaanite pantheon
 - Goddess worship suppressed in later records
- Insistence on choosing El
 - Many worship storm god Baal
 - Means of cultural/tribal unification
- Jerusalem cult under the kings
 - Prevalence of cult exaggerated in scriptures
- Importance of prophets

7



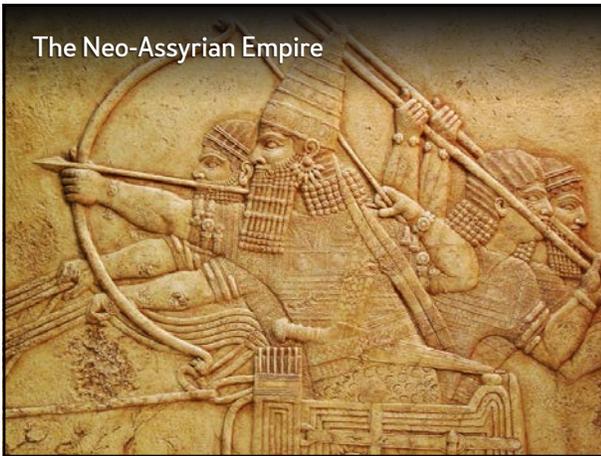
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Expansion of the Kingdom of Israel



THE EMPIRE OF DAVID AND SOLOMON c. 1000-900 B.C.

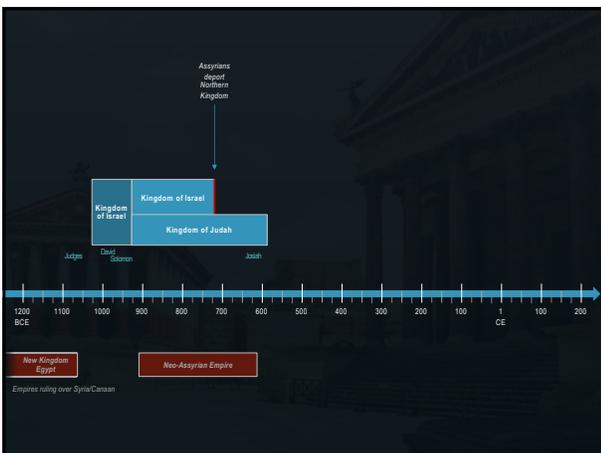
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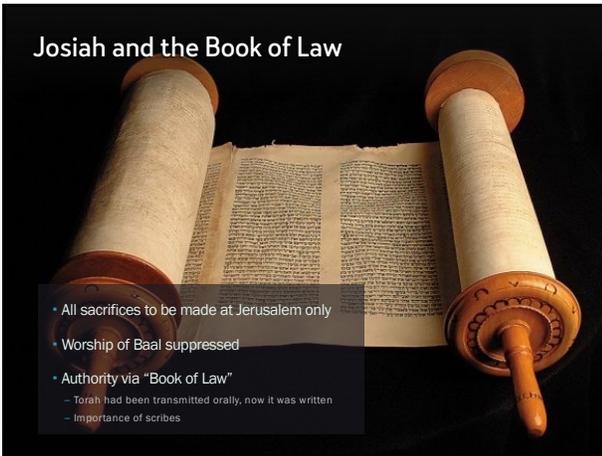
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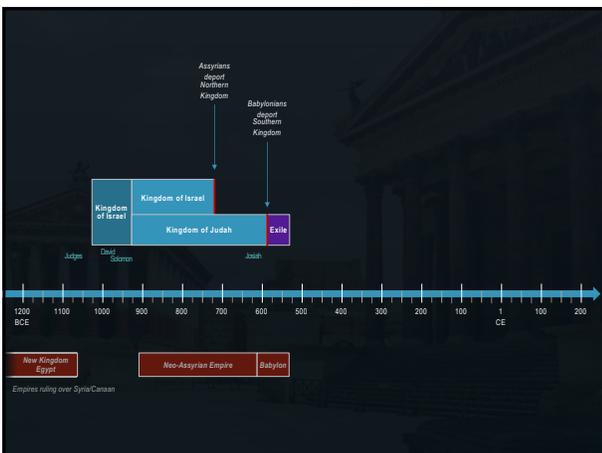
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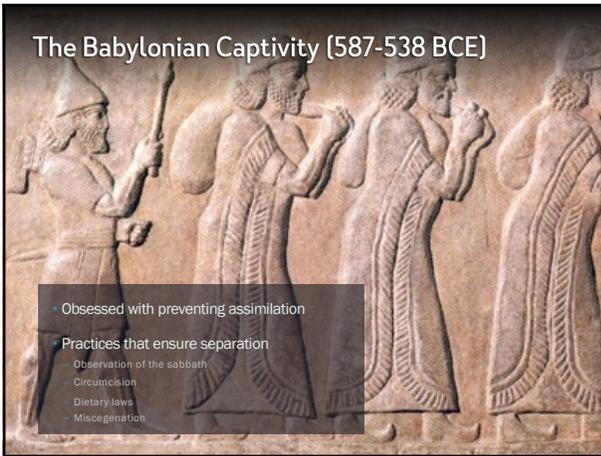
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15



The Babylonian Captivity (587-538 BCE)

- Obsessed with preventing assimilation
- Practices that ensure separation
 - Observation of the sabbath
 - Circumcision
 - Dietary laws
 - Miscegenation

16



The Return and the Second Temple

- Judeans allowed to return, rebuild temple
- Temple cult controls Judea
- Book of the Law expanded
 - Emphasis on traditions and purity
 - Restrictions once binding on priests now applied to all
- Ezra forces dismissal of foreign wives, children

17



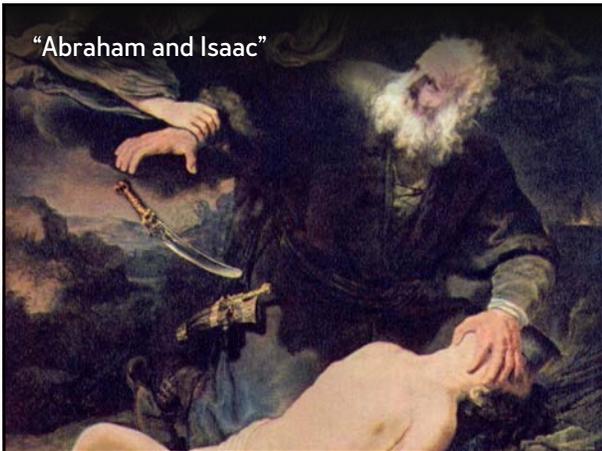
The Maccabean Revolt

- Greek influence
 - Division among Jews, persecution of devout in Judea
 - Diaspora less concerned with purity; sees commonalities with gentiles
 - Seleucid king persecutes strict adherence to Jewish Law
- Maccabee family sparks revolution
- Apocalypticism
 - Judgment of individuals
 - Prediction of ends of historical eras

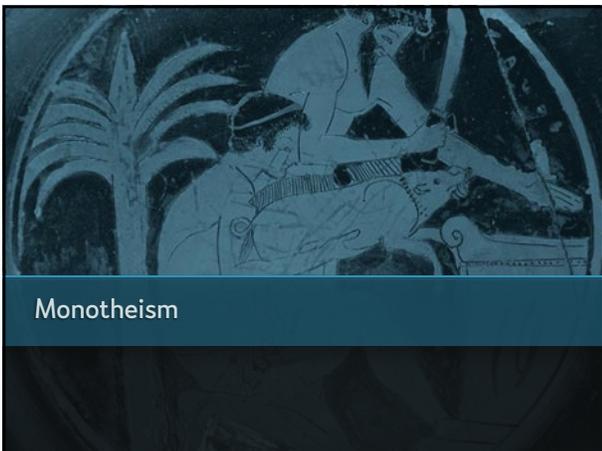
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23



24

Evolutionary monotheism



- Translating gods
- Hyphenating gods
 - Not equation but correlation
- Unity of gods
 - "The many names of Marduk"
 - Dominant god takes responsibility for divine world
- Hypsistos ("superdeity")
- Local names and rites remain
 - Preserve heritage and social identity

25

Revolutionary monotheism



- "Negative" religion
 - Defines what god is not
 - Break from how one acts (paganism) to what one believes
- Covenant
 - Deliberate choice demanded of every individual
- Scripture as a normative force
- Orthodoxy, temptation, and sin
- Theologization of justice
 - God acts not only as judge but also as legislator

26
