

EXPLORING RELIGION



CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION

- Fertile Crescent
- Called Canaan (now Israel & Palestine)
- 2000 B.C. Israelites moved to area to escape slavery in Egypt
- Jews - Worshiped one God – Monotheism
- Moses leads Israelites to Canaan (Passover)

CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION

PEOPLE ARE ORGANIZED BY ETHNIC GROUPS

- Language & Religion
 - Jews
 - Arabs
- Much tension in the region

JUDAISM - Origin

- 2000 BC
- Founder – Abraham
- Holy City – Jerusalem
- Supreme Being – Yahweh / God
- Holy Text – Torah
- Place of Worship - Synagogue

JUDAISM - Beliefs

- Worshiped one God – Monotheism
 - God is HE
 - Rewards good / punishes bad
 - Believe that Jews are to be a good example to others

- Follow a system of ethics
 - Strong beliefs about right & wrong
 - Responsibility to the community
 - Strong traditions

JUDAISM - Beliefs

- Holy Scriptures
 - Religious writings
 - Hebrew Bible
 - Torah – LAW
 - Nevi'im
 - Ketuvim
 - Talmud – used to explain the Torah

- Ten Commandments
 - God gave these rules to Moses
 - Create peaceful society
 - Justice is important – legal system, democracy, ethics all over the world