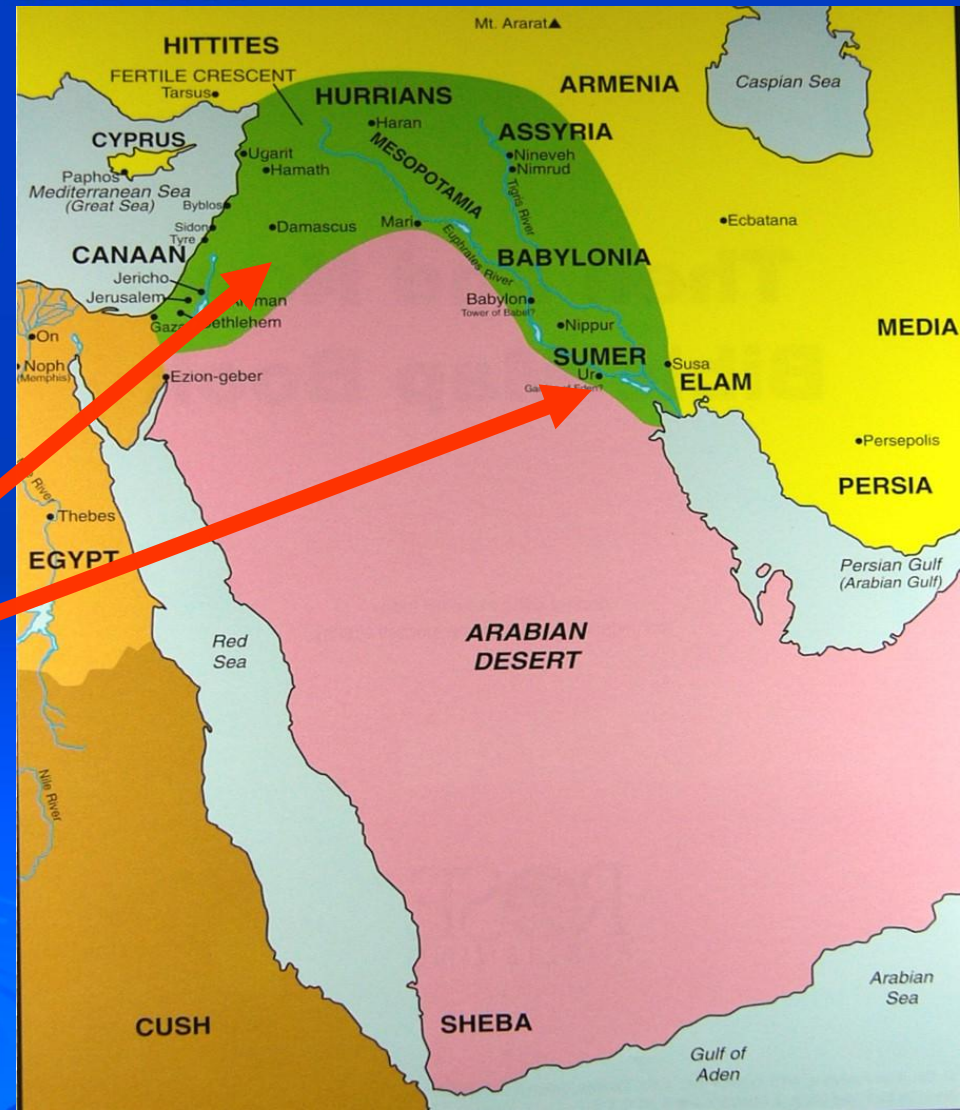
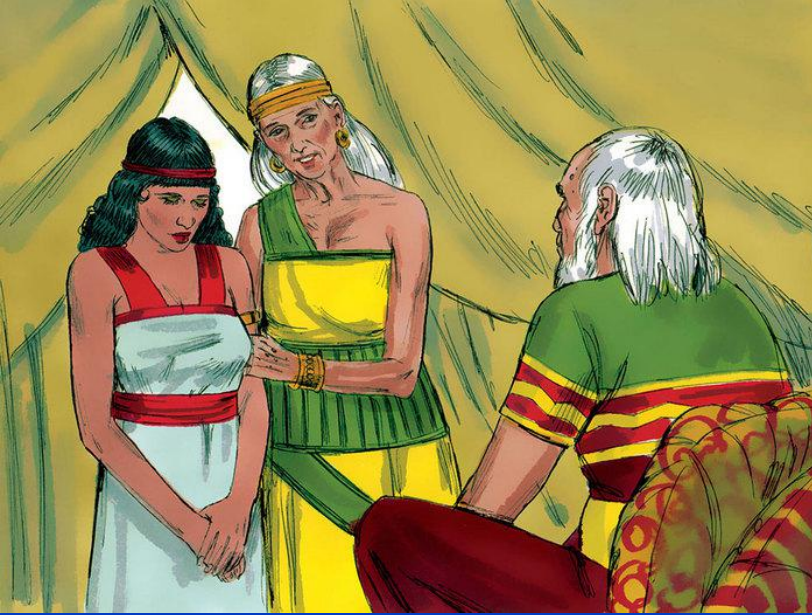


OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY: THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL BEGINS WITH ABRAHAM

- **AVRAHAM = ABRAHAM**
- **ABRAHAM NEITHER AN
“ISRAELITE” NOR A
“JEW”**
- **AMORITES**
- **FERTILE CRESCENT**
- **UR**



SARAH AND HAGAR



- Sarah too old to bear children, gives her servant Hagar to Abraham
- She was likely Pharaoh's daughter
- Hagar becomes pregnant, Sarai becomes jealous
- God formalizes His covenant with Abraham
- The rites of male circumcision are established
- This covenant was a promise from God; Abraham had no obligations

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT



ABRAHAM'S SERVANT GOES TO NAHOR TO FIND ISAAC A WIFE

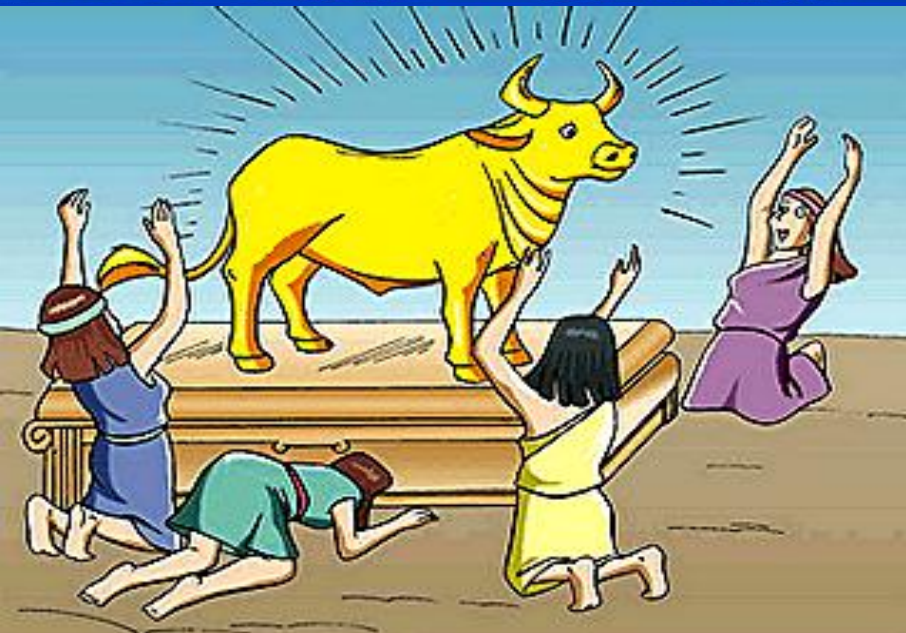


NAHOR = HARAN



THE ANCIENT NAMES OF GOD

- Israelite culture's roots come from Mesopotamia
- Nimrod produced the Mystery Babylon religions
- From the hierarchy of many gods came “the highest god”.....the “EL”
- Idolatry followed the Hebrews through all Biblical times



HEBREW CULT PRACTICES

- Hebrews instinctively held onto many gods
- Prophets constantly chastised Israelites for idolatry
- Concept of One God runs against man's sinful nature



YAHWEH

יהוה

HWHY

heh vav heh yud



“EL” TAKES ON A DOUBLE MEANING

- El (or “IL”) went from indicating the title of the highest god to being the NAME of the highest god
- Some Hebrew words incorporate BOTH concepts simultaneously
- El-Beit’el El = A formal name for God
Beit = “house of”
‘el = generic name for god

JEHOVAH IS ENGLISH FOR YAHWEH or YEHOVEH

YAHWEH

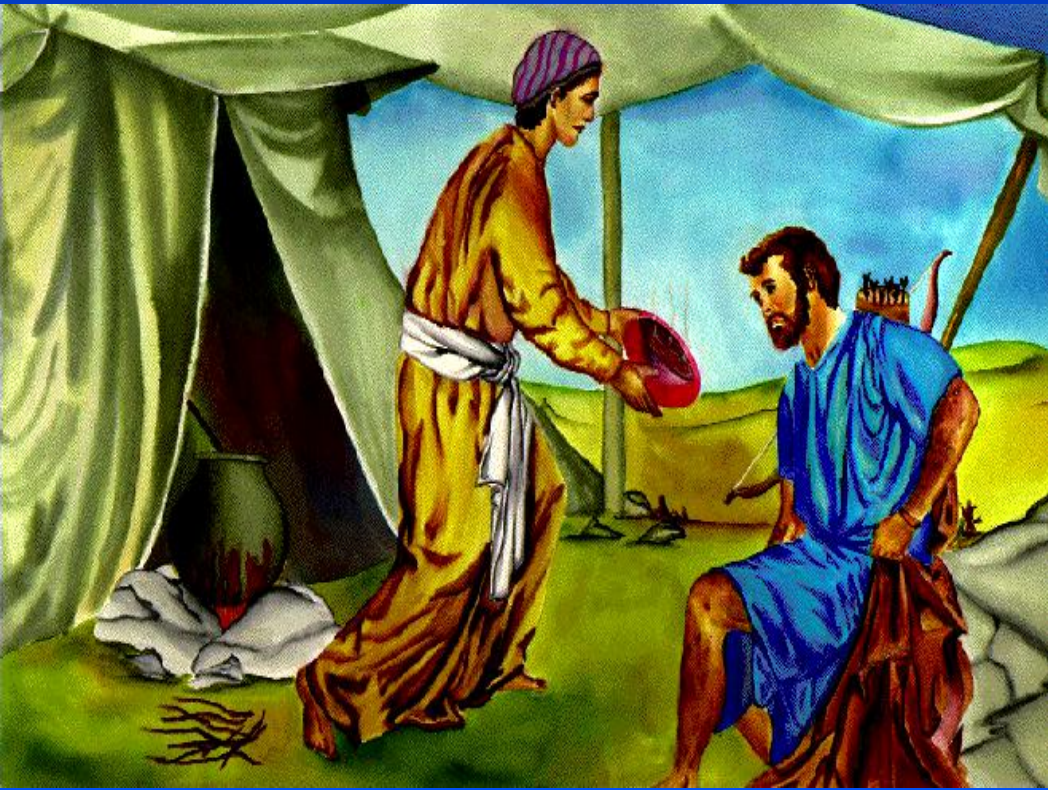
יהוה HWHY

heh vav heh yud

A TABOO TRANSFORMS THE USE OF GOD'S NAME

- 500 BC the use of “El-ohim” as God’s name begins
- “im” can indicate EITHER the plural form, or “the plural of GREATNESS”
- El- Roi, El-Shaddai, El-Elyon, etc.
- 300 BC the name of God (YHWH) is no longer spoken or written
- A new word is SUBSTITUTED for Yahweh...adonai
- The name “YHWH” is used over 6000 times in the original Hebrew Bible.....but Christianity has dropped it and substituted the words “Lord” or “God”

ESAV SELLS HIS BIRTHRIGHT TO YA'ACOV



YITZ'CHAK IS DECEIVED

- Isaac (*Yitz'chak*) is 135 years old, nearly blind
- Birthright given to Ya'acov (the younger)
- Ya'acov means “heal catcher”probably an idiom for “deceiver”
- All of Isaac's wealth and authority will be transferred to Jacob



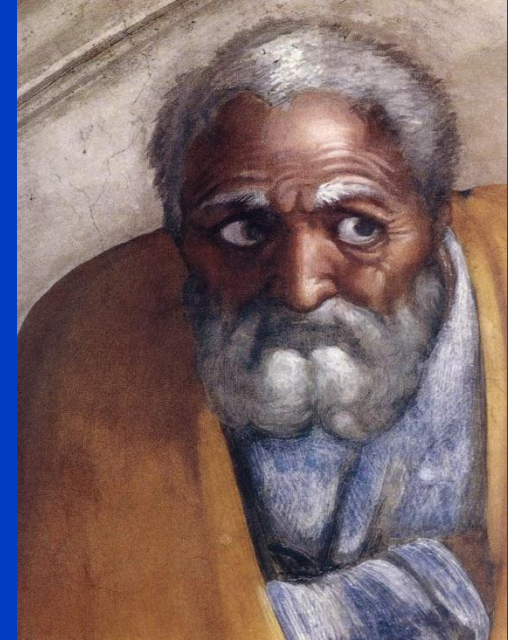
YA'ACOV (JACOB)



- Jacob flees to his ancient family homeland (Mesopotamia)
- Marries Rachel
- Pays 7 years of bond servitude
- Leah is switched for Rachel
- Ya'acov pays another 7 years to finally receive Rachel

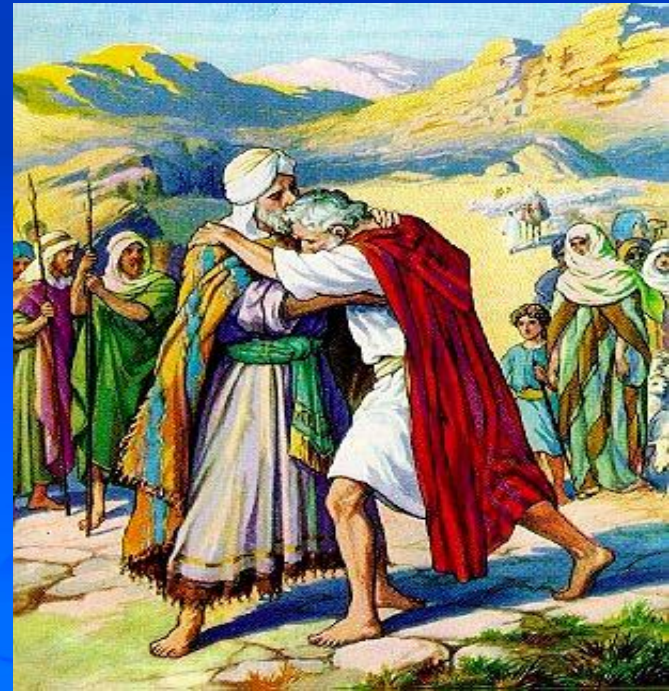
JACOB FLEES FROM LABAN

- Ya'acov 84 years old when he marries Rachel
- Spent 20 years in servitude to Laban
- Rachel stole her father's gods
- Possessor of gods indicates rightful owner of family wealth



JACOB CONFRONTS ESAU

- After wrestling with a strange being, Jacob's name is changed to *Yisra'el* Israel
- Israel-ites = Jacob-ites
- Jacob encounters his twin brother Esau, and there is reconciliation

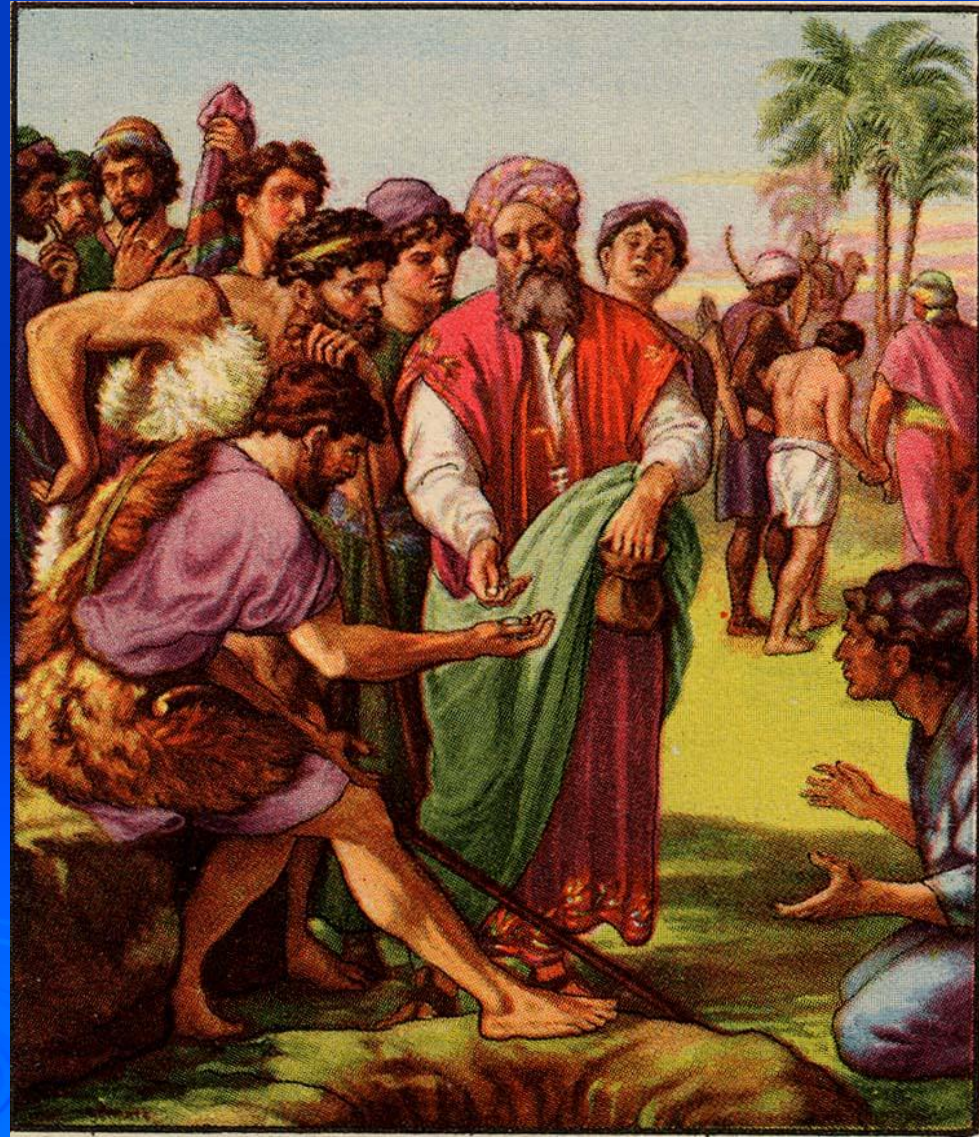


JACOB IS NOW CALLED "ISRAEL"



Y'HOSEPH (JOSEPH)

- 17 years old, sold into slavery
- 10 jealous older brothers tell father Jacob that Joseph was killed
- Taken to Egypt and sold to Potiphar as a house slave
- Interprets Pharaoh's nightmares and is elevated to 2nd in command of Egypt



JOSEPH IS THE VIZIER OF EGYPT



- Jacob (Israel) sends his sons to buy grain from Egypt
- Joseph reveals himself to his brothers
- Israel brings entire family to Egypt
- Total of 70 individuals said to come to Egypt (however there were more than that)

JACOB'S CROSSHANDED BLESSING

- GENESIS 48
- Joseph's younger son Ephraim given firstborn rights
- Jacob gave firstborn rights to a GRANDSON instead of to the rightful heir, Rueben

