

THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

GREAT MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL

THE ISRAELITES WERE A SET OF SMALL TRIBES IN THE MIDST OF GREAT CIVILIZATIONS OF THE TIME. A PEOPLE STAMPED BY THE MENTALITY OF THE NEAR EAST.

VARIOUS NOMADIC CLANS SETTLED IN CANAAN AROUND 1800 B.C.

THE EXODUS HAPPENED AROUND 1200 BC.

DAVID BECAME KING AROUND 1000 BC. A TIME OF LITERARY ACTIVITY.

MANY MYTHS IN THESE GREAT CIVILIZATIONS EXISTED REFLECTING ON HUMANITY'S BIG QUESTIONS.

INSPIRED BY THE GREAT MYTHS, NOTABLY THE CREATION STORIES THE BIBLE RETHINKS THEM AS A FOUNDATION OF ITS FAITH IN A SOLE GOD WHO INTERVENES IN OUR HISTORY AND WILLS US TO BE FREE.

CREATION STORIES:

THEY ARE NOT HISTORY AS SUCH. RATHER THEY ARE THEOLOGY TOLD IN STORIES.

ITS STARTING POINT IS FAITH IN GOD AND IT USES ANCIENT MYTHS.

THE STORY BEGINS OPTIMISTIC AND THEN THERE IS A PROLIFERATION OF EVIL.

THE CURSE FALLS 5 TIMES IN SUCCESSION, ADAM AND EVE, CAIN, NOAH, BABEL.

EACH TIME GOD FORGIVES OR PROMISES SALVATION.

THE PATRIARCHS:

ABRAHAM, ISAAC, JACOB.

THESE STORIES AGAIN ARE LEGENDARY TRADITIONS BASED ON A HISTORICAL FOUNDATION.

THE PATRIARCHS, PARTICULARLY ABRAHAM AND JACOB, ARE MODELS OF FAITHFULNESS TOWARDS GOD.

ABRAHAM APPEARS AS THE GUARDIAN OF THE DIVINE BLESSING FOR ALL PEOPLES.

THE CYCLE OF MOSES. (1250 BC)

MOSES REMAINS THE KEY FIGURE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

ISRAEL HAS ALWAYS CONSIDERED THE DEPARTURE FROM EGYPT AS A SPECIAL MOMENT IN THEIR HISTORY.

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MOSES THEY LEFT EGYPT.

IN THE WILDERNESS AND THEIR ENCOUNTER WITH GOD THE ISRAELITES BEGAN TO DISCOVER WHO THEIR GOD WAS:

“GOD IS THE ONE WHO BROUGHT US OUT OF SLAVERY:”

THIS IS THE TITLE USED OVER AND OVER AGAIN THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE.

THE JEWISH PASSOVER EXPRESSES IT VERY WELL. IT IS NOT SEEN AS JUST A PAST EVENT.

THE WHOLE OF LIFE IS SEEN AS AN EXODUS.

AND THE FIRST CHRISTIANS CONTINUED THE MEDITATION, FOLLOWING CHRIST TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

TIME OF THE JUDGES (1250BC – 1000 BC)

THE ISRAELITS SETTLED IN CANAAN. THEY CONQUERED THE LAND. GOD ALLOWED THEM TO DO SO, THE CONQUEST WAS A GIFT.

THERE WERE 12 TRIBES, LOOSELY LINKED.

WHenever one tribe or another was threatened a judge, a saviour, emerged and called all the people to arms, and then everyone returned home.

HOWEVER BECAUSE OF THE PRESSURE FROM THE AMMORITES AND THE PHILISTINES VARIOUS TRIBES REALIZED THEY NEEDED A STRONG CENTRAL POWER.

SO THEY ELECTED A KING.

KING DAVID

AFTER ABIMELECH AND SAUL DAVID BECAME KING.

DAVID WAS THE SON OF JESSE.

HE CAPTURED JERUSALEM AND MADE IT THE CAPITAL OF A KINGDOM, BRINGING TOGETHER THE TRIBES OF THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH.

SOLOMAN, DAVID'S SON, WHO BECAME KING AFTER DAVID DIED PROVIDED THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE KINGDOM.

SOLOMAN GOVERNED WELL AND BUILT A MAGNIFICANT TEMPLE FOR HIS GOD AND EVEN A LARGER PALACE FOR HIMSELF.

IN THIS WAY THERE WAS: A LAND, A KING, A TEMPLE.

THIS WAS SEEN AS THE GOLDEN ERA IN THE SACRED HISTORY OF ISREAL.

THIS WAS AN ERA OF GREAT LITERARY ACTIVITY.

PEOPLE BEGAN WRITING DOWN THEIR MEMORIES OF THE PAST: THE EXODUS, OR THE LIBERATION FROM EGYPT AS IT WAS CALLED, BECAME THE FOUNDATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN WHICH GOD WAS DISCOVERED TO BE THE LIBERATOR, THE SAVIOUR.

AFTER THE DEATH OF SOLOMAN THE KINGDOM BROKE INTO TWO: JUDAH AND ISREAL

THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD LASTED ONLY 70 YEARS.

THE PROPHETS

A PROPHET IS SOMEONE WHO SPEAKS IN THE NAME OF GOD, WHO HAS BEEN PRIVY TO GOD'S PLANS AND NOW SEES THROUGH GOD'S EYES.

PROPHETS OF THE KINGDOM OF JUDAH:

ISAIAH OF JERUSALEM (740 BC – 700 BC) A GREAT POET, AN ASTUTE POLITICIAN, ABOVE ALL A PROPHET.

MICAH: CONTEMPORARY OF ISAIAH. HE MAKES A MAGNIFICANT COMBINATION OF THE MESSAGES OF 3 PROPHTETS OF THAT PERIOD;

AMOS WHO PREACHES JUSTICE,

HOSEA WHO PREACHES GOD'S TENDERNESS

ISAIAH OF JERUSALEM: WHO PREACHES HUMBLE FAITH.

'ACT JUSTLY, LOVE TENDERLY, WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD.' (MICAH 6:8)

HIS MESSAGE IS A MESSAGE OF HOPE: HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL KING, WHO WILL PASTURE THE FLOCK OF YAHWEH.

PROPHETS OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NORTH: ELIJAH, AMOS, HOSEA.

PROPHETS OF THE BABYLONIAN EXILE: JEREMIAH AND EZEKIEL.

JOHN THE BAPTIST.

MARY AND JOSEPH

**JESUS: JESUS IS GIVEN MANY TITLES, IDENTITIES THAT ARE STEEPED IN
SCRIPTURE REFERENCES: JESUS IS EMMANUEL, GOD-WITH -US.**

THE FLOWER OF JESSE,

THE SON OF DAVID

THE RADIANT DAWN

THE KING OF THE GENTILES.