**Tracking the Abrahamic family tree and the Hebrews’ Travels**

The first man – Adam – has several children – First Cain, then Abel, then Seth (and then others)

Noah (from the Great Flood story) is descended from Seth

Noah had 3 sons, one of them was Shem

About 8 generations later, Terah (a descendant of Shem) was born. He was an idol merchant. He had several children, including Abraham and Sarah

When he was 75, Abraham got a msg from God that he should lead his people to a promised land. Sarah got a msg that she would bear a child who would be the father to a great nation

Abraham and Sarah had a son – Isaac (He also had a son, Ishmael, w/Hagar)

Isaac married Rebekah – they had twin sons – Esau and Jacob

After Sarah’s death, Abraham marries Keturah – they have 6 sons together

Later God renames Jacob “Israel” – he has 12 sons

One of Jacob’s 12 sons was Joseph – Each of them is the father of the “12 tribes” of the Hebrew people (aka the “12 Tribes of Israel”)

Joseph was Jacob’s 11th son - his brothers were jealous of him because Jacob favored him; They sold him to traders – he ended up sold as a slave in Egypt

Jacob assumed his son Joseph was dead

When famine strikes the land of Canaan ca. 1750 BCE, Jacob & his family head for Egypt

Lo and behold – there is Joseph, vizier to the pharaoh in Egypt

Jacob & his sons settle in Egypt (the Land of Goshen)

Joseph asked that when he died his bones would be taken back home to the Promised Land

**Timeline of the line of Abraham… According to the Hebrew teachings…**

2000 BCE

Abraham leads his people across Fertile Crescent to Canaan

1750 BCE

Joseph is sold into slavery and ends up in Egypt; Jacob believes he’s dead

Jacob & his family head for Egypt due to famine in Canaan

Joseph becomes vizier (chief advisor) to the pharaoh

Joseph is reunited with his family in Egypt

1400 BCE – 1200 BCE (difficult to pin down a date)

Moses is born, raised as a prince in the Egyptian palace

Grows up and leads the Hebrews out of Egypt and back to Canaan

Moses takes Joseph’s bones w/him back to Canaan, as Joseph requested

Hebrews arrived back in Canaan, but took a while to set up a formal gov’t

The Hebrew people cry out for a leader, but God is hesitant to give them one

1050 BCE

Saul is 1st king of this new country called Israel, but is considered somewhat

ineffective and doesn’t always listen to God’s wishes

Saul is clearly a military leader; bases gov’t in Jerusalem

God chooses another king - David

David is descended from Judah, son of Jacob

David is considered a good, but flawed, king

David unites the 12 individual tribes under his one banner

Kingdom passes to his son Solomon after his death

Solomon builds a wealthy and impressive kingdom, incl. a great temple

931 BCE

Power vacuum ensues after Solomon’s death

Hebrews don’t accept Solomon’s son Rehoboam as leader

Kingdom divides – Israel in North (w/10 of the tribes), and Judah in South

(w/2 of the tribes –Judah and Benjamin- in the south)

722 BCE

Assyrians conquer the northern portion (Israel) – the Hebrews are split and

lose track of each other – today they are known as the 10 Lost Tribes of Israel

586 BCE

Under direction of Nebuchadnezzar, Babylonians conquer the southern portion (Judah), demolish Solomon’s Temple, & kidnap the ppl of Judah

These Hebrews from Judah (Jews) are in captivity in Babylon – they write

down and compile their ancient teachings – these make up the Jewish holy book *The Torah* (which is the same as the 1st 5 chapters of the Christian Bible)

539 BCE

Persian king Cyrus the Great frees the Hebrews – some make it back to their promised land and rebuild Solomon’s Temple

4 BCE

Birth of Jesus – a Jew – near Jerusalem. He will grow up to found a new religion – Christianity. He will teach the same ancient stories as the Hebrews/Jews tell, but with an addition that he is the messiah (savior) that they’ve been waiting for all these years. Some Jews will follow him, and become Christians, while others will not believe he’s the one they’ve been waiting for, and will remain Jews.