The People, Places, & Events of World History

This chapter requires a companion activity book in which students respond to questions on text content. A quiz follows every fifth lesson. Answers are found in the *Teacher's Resource Kit*



Chapter 1

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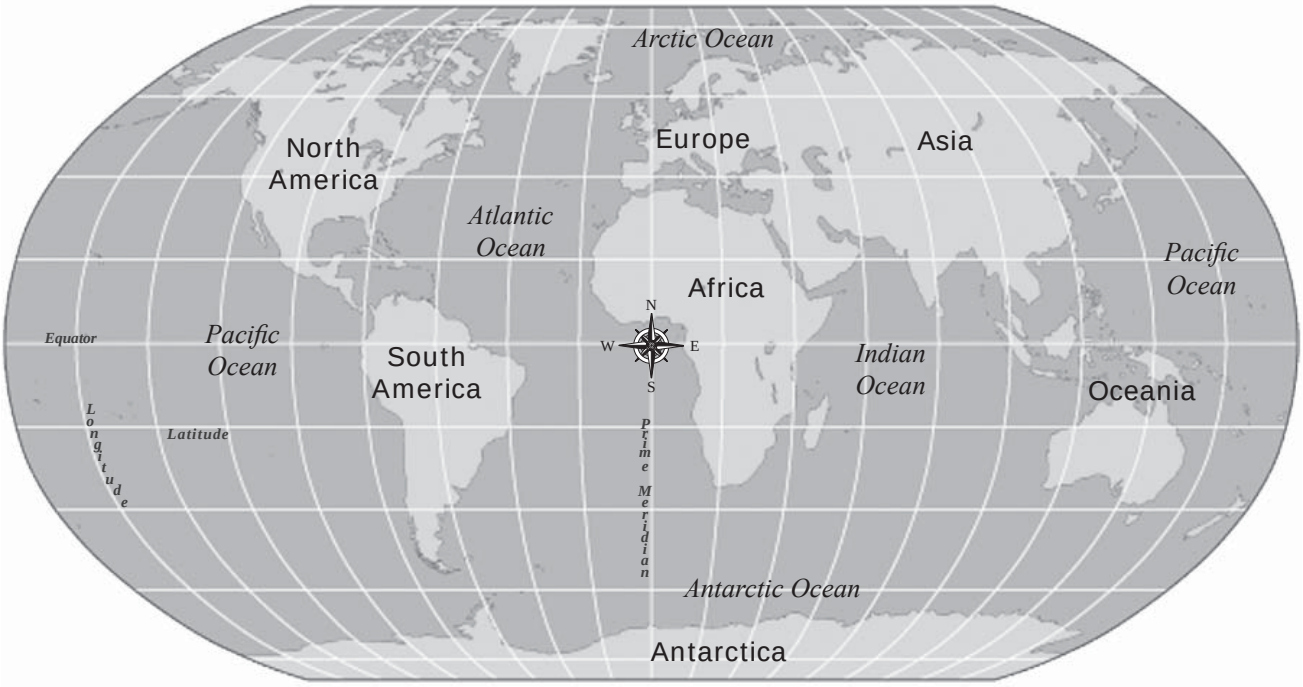
AUTHENTICITY

The People, Places, & Events of World History is a product of Paradigm Alternative Centers, Inc., Zephyr, Texas, U.S.A. A team of researchers, writers, artists, and editors produced the six-chapter course of World History. Careful attention was devoted to addressing the essential academic elements expected of a high school course in World History. Dates, names, events, and places were confirmed primarily through *What Happened When* by Gorton Carruth, (Signet, 1989 New York, New York) and *The Timetables of History* by Bernard Grun (Simon and Schuster/Touchstone, 1991, New York, New York). Events of recent years were substantiated through a variety of contemporary periodicals and books.

Stylebook, A Usage Guide for Writers and Editors (U.S. News and World Report 1997) was used as the official policy for grammar, punctuation, and appropriate use of terms for ethnic, political, and religious groups.

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The World



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What and How You Will Learn From This Course

This course consists of six chapters. Each chapter of text also has a companion student activity book. The format is designed for individualized or accelerated study. You will be able to progress through the chapters at a rate that is appropriate for you. The secret to performing well is to read each topic entirely, then complete the appropriate activity questions as you read through the text a second time. You will complete a section quiz at the end of every fifth lesson. Each chapter includes the following topics which are identified by icons:


Agriculture


Architecture, Art, Fashion, & Furniture


Communication


Discoveries & Explorations


Dominant Personalities


Literature, Music, & Education


Family & Home


Food


Government & Economics


Industry


Energy


Military


Religion


Sports & Recreation


Transportation

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The People, Places, & Events of World History

INTRODUCTION

Historians have debated the origin of man long before Charles Darwin proposed his thesis of evolution in 1859. Scholars have continued to debate how, where, and when human history began. Recent discoveries throughout the world have heated up the discussion. For example, archaeologists who found human footprints inside the prints of dinosaurs, embedded in the Paluxy River bed near Glen Rose, Texas, caused a major debate over the question of humans at the time of dinosaurs. Thousands of fossilized plants, marine life, and dinosaurs were discovered 3000 feet above sea level in Alberta, Canada, causing scientists to speculate that a cataclysmic world-wide flood seems to have occurred in antiquity. The universal flood concept was given credibility when Russian explorers discovered numerous fully preserved mammoths with straw still in their mouths and stomachs. Ancient pictographs and manuscripts found in such places as Japan, China, Middle East, and Europe depict a universal flood, advanced mathematics, and humans fighting dragons. Archaeologists have unearthed human accounts of a worldwide flood in North and South America, Asia, and the Fertile Crescent.

Archaeological discoveries of precision-built pyramids in Central America, China, and Egypt have made doubtful the concept that ancient man was a dumb cave dweller. So precise were the pyramid builders of 2500 BC, that they required an advanced knowledge of astronomy, geometry, and physics that surpasses skills known by modern civil engineers.

Some scientists claim that the age of the earth can be established through a process called carbon-14 testing. However, other scientists claim to have demonstrated that carbon-14 dating is not reliable or accurate as a means of establishing the age of ancient cultures. In 1972, Dr. Wernher Von Braun, the recognized world authority on physics and space, startled scientists with the statement,

> *"It is in scientific honesty that I endorse the presentation of alternative theories for the origin of the universe, life, and man in the science classroom. It would be an error to overlook the possibility that the universe was planned rather than happening by chance."*

This course does not attempt to answer all the questions which are debated among scholars who speculate on the origin of life, cataclysmic floods, and development of human history. The writers and editors have attempted to present *The People, Places, & Events of World History* as an honest and forthright account of history. The debate will continue; perhaps a young man or woman reading this course will discover a "break through" document or event that will startle the world. You may be that person!

Ronald E. Johnson, C.Ph.D.
Publisher

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Chapter 1
Timeline 4000-1000 BC









Circa

5000 Time began on earth
Origin of man, Bronze Age, Agriculture
4000 World Wide Flood (cataclysmic event), Humanity "started over"
3900
3800
3700 Early Fertile Crescent Civilization
3600
3500
3400
3300
3200
3100 Use of the wheel began
3000 Early Writing
2900 Egyptian First Dynasty; Hieroglyphics Used
2800 PreDynastic China
2700 Aegean Civilization; Gilgamesh Written
2600 Harappan Civilization
2500 Great Pyramids of Giza
2400 Canoes Used By Native Americans
2300
2200
2100
2000 Middle Bronze Age
1900 Hittite Empire
1800
1700 Hammurabi; Hyksos Invaded Egypt
1600 Late Bronze Age; City of Mycenea Founded
1500 Babylon destroyed; Thutmose I ruled
1400 Hatshepsut Ruled in 1479 BC
1300 18th Egyptian Dynasty
1200 End Bronze Age; Celts Formed; Israel's Judges; City of Phoenicia
1100 Ancient Pueblo Peoples; Prophet Deborah ca 1230-1047
1000 King David, Psalms

Note: Dates are estimates based on archaeological evidence and literary records that are subject to debate among scholars.

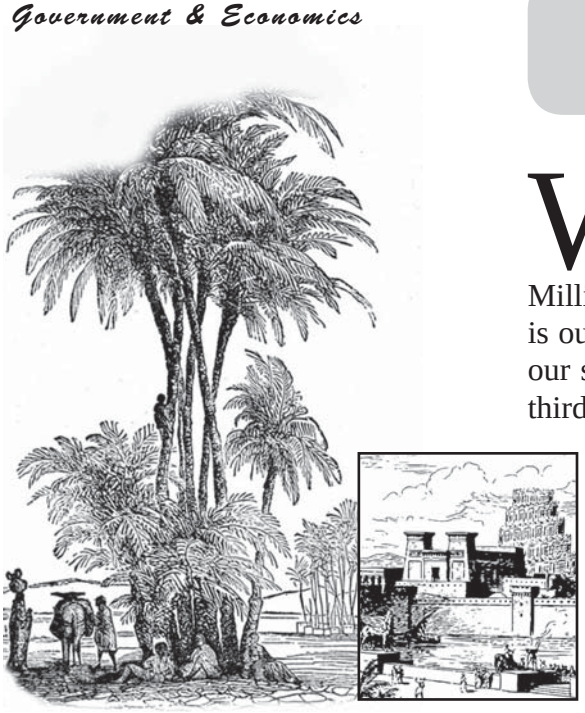


Lesson 1

Chapter 1

Section 1
Lessons 1-5

Government & Economics

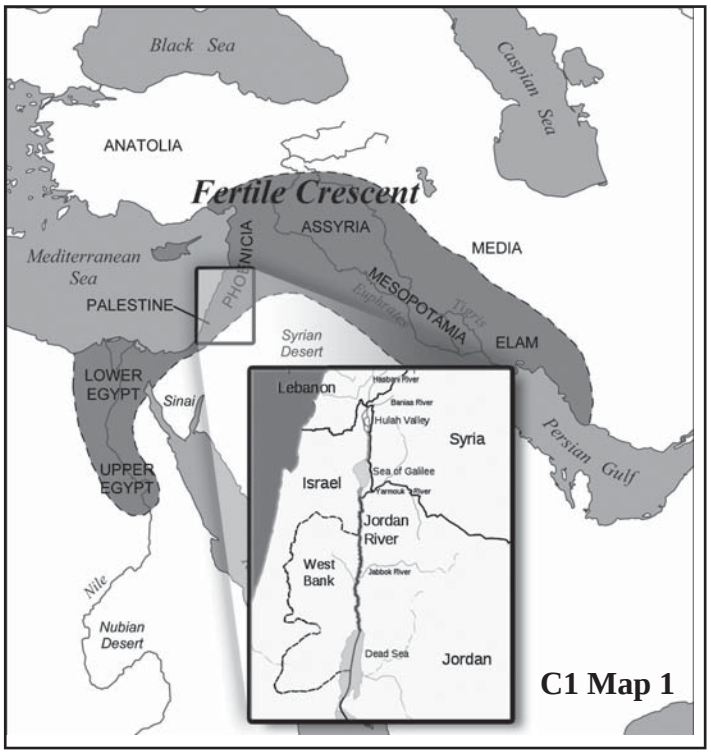


WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

When we look up into the sky, we can see an almost endless number of stars. Many of these stars are the center of their own solar systems. Millions of those stars together form the Milky Way which is our galaxy. Near one of the edges of the Milky Way is our solar system, consisting of a sun and its planets. The third planet from the sun is "Earth." It has five oceans and seven continents.

The region where Europe, Asia, and Africa meet is known as the "Fertile Crescent." Our timeline begins there about 4,000 BC when scientists agree that a cataclysmic event occurred (like a worldwide flood) that forced mankind to "start over." Scholars agree that the Fertile Crescent is where recorded or written history on Earth began; and in approximately 2,500 BC, some interesting things were happening there.

The Fertile Crescent was made up of Egypt, Palestine, Syria, and Mesopotamia ("The Land Between



C1 Map 1

VOCABULARY

Archaeologist: a scientist who excavates and examines ruins of the past in order to establish the foundations of a culture
Delta: the place at the end of a river where the water flow deposits debris, silt, gravel, and dirt, and builds up a mounded area
Cult: followers of a pagan deity
Deity: a god or object of worship
Caste: a societal level of importance in a culture
Assume: to take on the role of
Nomes: provinces or territories of Pharaonic Egypt.
Patron: a lord, master, or protector
Rear: to nurture in growth from childhood to adulthood
Harem: referring to many women who belong to one man and who live under the same roof in a household

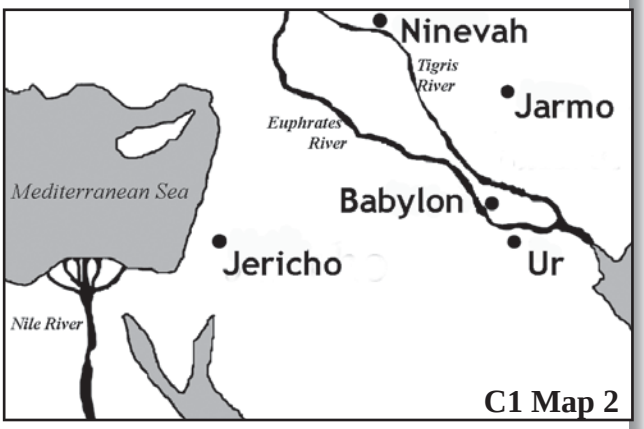
the Rivers"). Those areas centered around four major river valleys, from which tribes migrated to populate the Earth:

1. the Tigris
2. Euphrates
3. the Nile
4. the Jordan

In those and other river valleys, human cultural expression made its debut. At the eastern end of the Fertile Crescent was Mesopotamia. There, the Tigris and Euphrates rivers emptied into the Persian Gulf. The modern nations of the region include Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Iran. That part of the world is very much in the news today. It was where the Persian Gulf War ("Desert Storm") was fought in 1992. In 1996, the United States conducted a series of bombing raids on Iraq in an effort to force Saddam Hussein (the dictator of Iraq) to stop persecuting the Kurdish people living in Iraq. In the 1980's, Saddam Hussein spent millions of dollars rebuilding parts of the ancient city of Babylon and began to call himself the "New Nebuchadnezzar" (The original Nebuchadnezzar was an ancient Babylonian king). The universal principle, "there is nothing new under the sun," is true. The section of the world where civilization began continues to be important today, thousands of years later.

One of the most significant aspects of the history of the Fertile Crescent is that ***archaeologists*** believe human civilization in the area appeared suddenly—as if civilization was not, and then it was. Human life there seems to have been created instantly.

Another interesting truth is that regardless of minor differences in cultures throughout history, at various geographical locations around the planet, human beings have always been human beings. The people of the Fertile Crescent 4,000 years ago were not very different from us today! That is why we study history, to help us learn about the present. American philosopher George Santayana once said that those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Therefore, we study world history, so that we may avoid the mistakes of yesteryears.



C1 Map 2

The sites of Jarmo (in northern Iraq) and Jericho (in central Israel) are thought to be the two oldest human settlements on Planet Earth. They are both situated in the Fertile Crescent. Specifically in Mesopotamia, however, two groups of people initially established themselves as a political presence in the lower half of the region "Between the Rivers." The southernmost section was settled by the *Sumerians.* One of the primary Sumerian city-states was *Ur*. It was situated in the ***delta*** region of the two rivers.

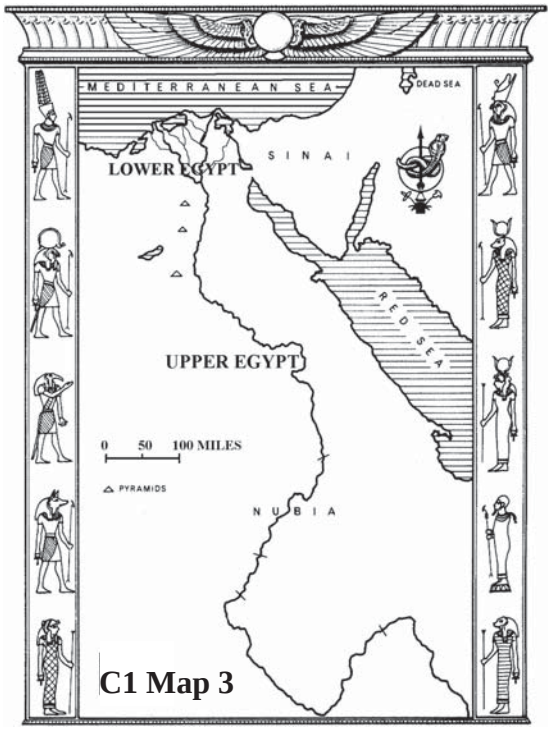
North of Sumeria was the kingdom of Akkadia, whose principal population center was Akkad. In time, however, those two ethnic divisions would merge. Eventually, the entire length of Mesopotamia would be occupied by two major empires—Assyria to the north and Babylonia to the south. The capital of Assyria was Nineveh, and the capital of Babylonia was Babylon. Babylonia was what the Akkadian-Sumerian coalition had become.

Every human society must have some form of government to guide its affairs. That is true for today, and it was true in the ancient past. As cultures have come and gone, the types of governmental systems they devised have varied. All, however, had the same purpose of producing order out of chaos. Our quest is to study those earliest governments in the Fertile Crescent.

Governments at the two ends of the Fertile Crescent were slightly different from each other. In Mesopotamia, the temple ***cult***

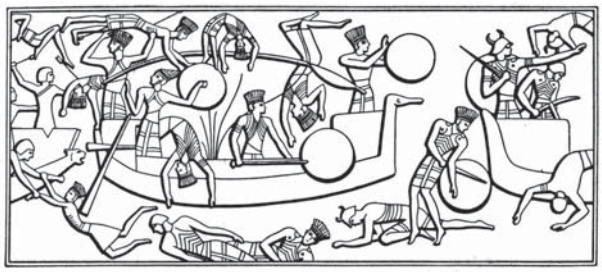
of the local ***deity*** dominated each city-state. Therefore, the priests of those local cults became the high-level prominent ***caste*** within society. The high priest of each community emerged as its most important citizen. Often the high priest would ***assume*** the duties of king, as well. Therefore, each Mesopotamian city-state was usually ruled by a priest-king. Government and religion were thus united.

In Egypt, on the other hand, religion and government developed into two separate areas of authority, but often with considerable overlap. Egypt was originally a series of minor kingdoms, each of which was ruled by its own chief or "king." In time, two major kingdoms emerged—the Kingdom of Upper Egypt and the Kingdom of Lower Egypt. In each was a number of provinces, or ***nomes***. Each of those nomes was ruled by a *Nomarch*. Finally, the two kingdoms of Upper and Lower Egypt united into the nation of Egypt. That new



C1 Map 3

country was governed by a king. The king of unified Egypt lived in a palace called the *pr-aA*. Eventually, the name of the king's palace became the title of its occupant, that is, the "Pharaoh." Until the reign of Pharaoh Sesostris II of Egypt's 12th Dynasty, the country's 44 Nomarchs were engaged in a struggle with the Pharaoh for supreme political power. Pharaoh Sesostris II broke the power of the Nomarchs forever and established the supremacy of the Pharaoh for the remainder of Egyptian rule.



Egypt also had a ***patron*** god or goddess for each town, city, and nome. Therefore, united Egypt worshipped hundreds of deities (lesser gods). Sometimes those divinities were contradictory. Certain of those gods became more popular than others. The priest of the more popular gods possessed more power. Again, a political power struggle developed among the different groups of priests and between them and the Pharaoh. Particularly was that true with the priests of the sun-god Amun-Ra. That struggle between the priests of Amun-Ra and Pharaoh reached a critical point in the last days of the 18th Dynasty during the reign of Pharaoh Amenhotep IV.

Human governments throughout history have ruled over the local population. The people in those societies were organized into families. Like governments, however, families have also been different from one another. Nevertheless, they have also been remarkably alike. Those truths can be seen in the Fertile crescent and distant China of long, long ago.


Family

EARTH'S FIRST FAMILIES

Every human society throughout history has functioned within the boundaries

of the system known as *family*. The biological family provided a means to produce children, nourish them, and ***rear*** them to adulthood.

The family served as a means to amass property and wealth, no matter how much or how little, and supplied a system whereby that property could be passed on to the next generation. The family has also given each person a sense of identity and a means to reckon descent.

Depending on the culture, that descent might be considered as coming through the father or the mother. The basic family unit consists of children and their parents. Those parents, however, may be manifested in a variety of ways. They may, for instance, be biological parents, single parents, step-parents, or grandparents. Nevertheless, all are families.

Some preserved legal documents from ancient Mesopotamia give us an idea of how important family relationships were in that culture:

1. "The tablet of adoption belonging to Kuzu, the son of Karmishe"
2. "Tarmiya, the son of Huya, appeared with Shukriya and Kula-hupi, with these two brothers of his, the sons of Huya, in a lawsuit before the judges of Nuzi"
3. "Sabitum, daughter of Ibbatum-Ibbatum, her father, delivered her into the house of Ilushu-ibni her father-in-law as wife to Warad-kubi, his son"

In each of those documents, the primary persons involved are identified in terms of his or her parent, offspring, sibling, or spouse. Three major cultures (Muslim, Hebrew, and Christian) refer to the Old Testament of the Bible as their source of cultural history and record of family history from the ancient Fertile Crescent region.

On the other side of the planet, the ancient Chinese and other Asians respected their ancestors to the degree that they began to regard them as objects of worship. Oriental tradition forbade anyone from doing or saying anything which showed disrespect to one's parents, grandparents, or adult relatives.

In Egyptian society, a man had one legal wife who was the mother of the man's heirs. A man could have a ***harem***, but those women were not legal wives, and their children were not heirs. Children of the era had much respect for their parents, who also highly valued the respect and affection of their family members. Tomb paintings and inscriptions bear witness to that fact. A typical Egyptian tomb inscription reads as follows: *"I was one beloved of his father, praised of his mother, whom his brothers and sisters loved."*

In Egypt, all inheritance in one's family came through the mother. The closest blood ties were those of the woman and her children. In the societies of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China, the family was of prime importance.

Governments and families are two of the primary of human institutions. Another one of equal importance is religion. To a very great extent, those three societal expressions give the people of any culture their identity. In the ancient Fertile Crescent and China, the people had great respect for their religious traditions.



LIFE PRINCIPLE

"When rulers are righteous, the people rejoice; when rulers are wicked, the people mourn."

—Hebrew Proverb



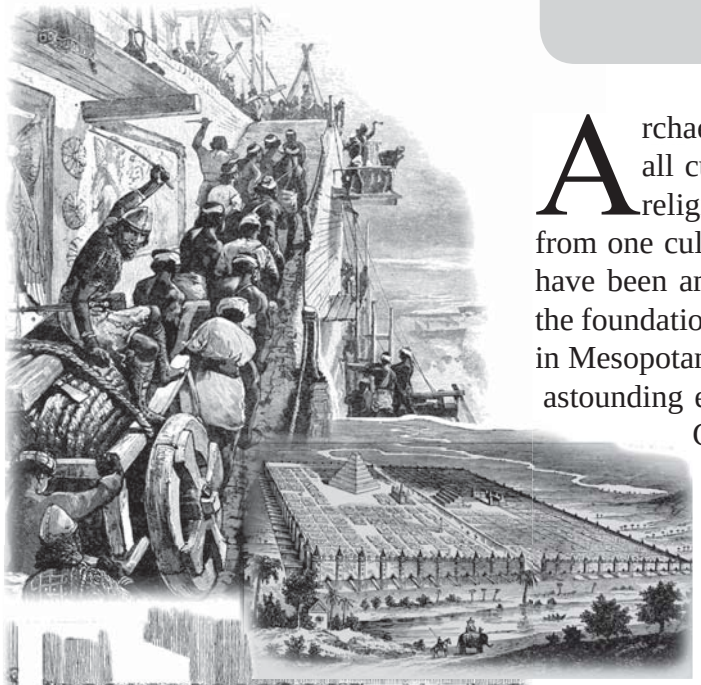
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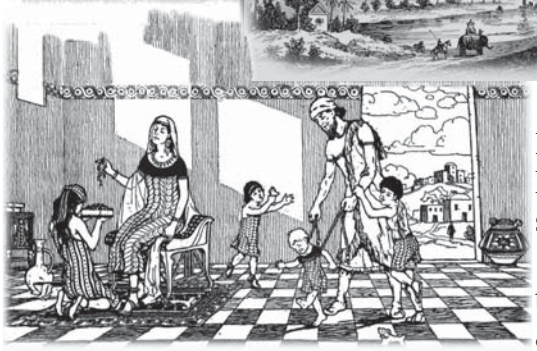
Chapter 1

Section 1
Lessons 1-5

Religion

FIRST FAITH





Archaeologists and historians have discerned that all cultures and societies on Planet Earth practice religion. Religious systems, however, differ greatly from one culture to another. Nevertheless, archaeologists have been amazed at the similarities in basic concepts in the foundations of faith from culture to culture. Excavators in Mesopotamia have unearthed written ***epics*** which reveal astounding evidence about religious beliefs in the Fertile Crescent. Mesopotamian records maintain that at the beginning of time, one God created all things, including mankind. In time, ***mythological*** gods were worshipped, some good and some bad. According to numerous ancient records, the gods tired of human beings and decided to destroy them by means of a worldwide flood. The original Deity, however, warned one man and told him to build a large boat. That Mesopotamian "Noah" and his family survived the flood, and mankind began again.

Yet another Sumerian epic has been found and translated which related that all human beings once spoke a single common language. Babylonian tradition also contends that before a worldwide flood, the earth was ruled successively by ten kings who lived for extremely long periods of time.

Far away in China, Chinese tradition embraces the same story. It also contends that the father of the Chinese people (Fu-hi) first appeared on the mountains of China just after a worldwide flood. Also in ancient China, we are told, the people originally believed in one god, the father-creator known as Shang-ti, "the Lord of Heaven." The same belief has been passed from generation to generation in Korea. Only there, the god was known as Hananim, "the Great One." At that time, in China and Korea only Shang-ti/Hananim was worshiped. Over the years, however, the people conceived other gods, and the existence of Shang-ti and Hananim were almost forgotten.

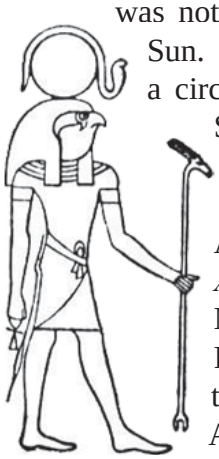
VOCABULARY

Epic: long, poetic narrations
Mythological: fictitious elements of a culture's religious beliefs involving superhuman or heavenly beings who interact with humans
Manifold: old English term meaning "many" or "plentiful"
Trappings: Material goods and characteristic accompaniments
Cuisine: pertaining to the food of a culture or group of people

Students studying the Chinese language have discovered another interesting truth. All Chinese words are made up of individual characters, each having a particular meaning. It has also been learned that those alphabet characters have retained their meaning since the very earliest days of Chinese history. The meaning of the characters making up certain Chinese words further attest to ancient Chinese religious beliefs. The word *to create,* for instance, is made up of the characters "dust," "life," "motion," and "walking." The word *boat* is composed of "vessel," "eight," and "mouth" (in other words, 8 people in a vessel). The characters "secret," "man," "garden," and "alive" form the word *devil*. "Devil" plus "trees" and "cover" make *tempter*. The Chinese characters and the related accounts of a devil tempter and a universal flood are quite similar to the Adam and Eve record and the flood account recorded in the Biblical book of Genesis accepted by Hebrews, Muslims, and Christians.

In Egypt, for centuries the Pharaoh and the priests of the sun god, Amun-Ra, were locked in a mighty struggle for political power. Then, near the end of Egypt's 18th Dynasty (the late 1300's BC), an absolutely amazing thing happened.

Over the years of Egyptian history, every town, city, and nome had its own god or goddess. National Egypt adopted all of them. Therefore, Egypt worshipped more than 700 deities. Then Pharaoh Amunhotep IV came to the throne. He thought the religious situation was utterly ridiculous. Amunhotep IV outlawed all the gods and goddesses of Egypt and decreed that there was only one god whom he called *Aten*, represented by the sun disc. Aten was not the sun disc, nor was he the Sun. He was, however, depicted by a circle representing the life-giving Sun.



Amunhotep (showing his relationship to the god Amun) changed his name to *Akhenaten* ("Aten is satisfied"). Naturally the priests of Amun-Ra were highly upset with the actions of Amunhotep/ Akhenaten. If the people followed Akhenaten's lead, the Amunist's power base would be destroyed. For the next few years the struggle between the priests of Amun-Ra and the Atenists intensified. Akehenaten ordered the destruction of idols and the chiseling out of the names of the other gods on monuments throughout Egypt. Akhenaten wrote many hymns to Aten. The following is an excerpt from Akhenaten's best known "Hymn to Aten."

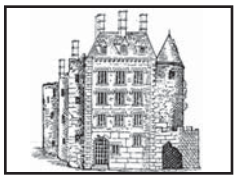
*How **manifold** are your works!*
They are hidden from before us,
O Sole god, whose powers no other possesses.
You did create the earth according to your heart
While you were alone:
Men, all cattle large and small,
All that are upon the earth,
That go about upon their feet;
All that are on high,
That fly with their wings.
The foreign countries, Syria and Kush,
The land of Egypt;
You set every man into his place,
You supply their necessities.

Akhenaten's family and many others embraced the worship of Aten. Finally Pharaoh Akhenaten died (possibly murdered by the priests of Amun-Ra). He was succeeded by his teenage daughter, Ankhesenpaaten, who was married

to Tutankhaten ("Tut with life from Aten"). Tutankhaten was possibly Ankhesenpaaten's half brother. They were two teenagers trying to carry on the struggle with the priests of Amun-Ra. Finally, the priests of Amun-Ra gained the upper hand. They restored the worship of Amun-Ra and the other gods and goddesses, and forced the royal couple to change their names to Ankhesenamun and Tutankhamun ("Tut with life from Amun"). Tutankhamun was the famous King Tut, "The Boy Pharaoh." Today, he is the best known of ancient Egypt's pharaohs because his tomb was the only one found intact by modern archaeologists.

After a while, 15-year-old King Tut died (possibly murdered by the priests of Amun-Ra). In ancient Egypt, as in most ancient societies, descent came through the female, but she could not rule. Only her husband could be Pharaoh. Poor little 13-year-old Ankhesenamun tried desperately to find a new husband and to carry on the fight for *monotheism* (belief in one god). At last, she too was murdered, and the Atenist reform was over. For a few years, however, the forces of monotheism had prevailed. Those who fought for the worship of Aten were truly courageous. It was an especially significant chapter in the history of ancient Egypt. It is also interesting that the son-in-law/son of Amunhotep IV/Akhenaten is today the best known pharaoh of ancient Egypt.

Governments, families, and religion all had tremendous effects on the daily existence of the people of the ancient past. In addition to being subject to government, expressing relationship through families and exercising worship through religion, the inhabitants of the ancient world lived in communities which, in appearance, were often amazingly modern. The cities of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the sub-continent of India, for instance, were architecturally of considerable interest and highly influential in the lives of their residents.



Architecture

WHAT THEY BUILT

As we (in our imagination) wander across the Fertile Crescent and other parts of the ancient world in approximately 2,000 BC, let us assume the role of photographer and take a series of snapshots of the people and places we see. As we enter a typical Mesopotamian city in "The Land Between the Rivers," we find the cities were surrounded by one, or even two, tall, thick walls of sun-dried clay bricks. Canals from the Tigris or Euphrates supplied the local population with water. The straight, paved streets that criss-crossed the city evidenced the fairly well-planned layout of a Mesopotamian town.

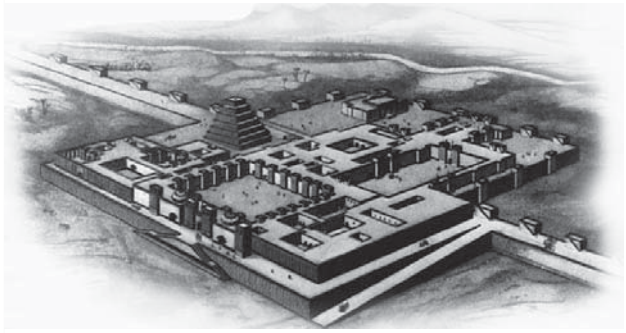
Half a world away, however, in yet another river valley, were two cities which evidenced the result of total urban planning. In the Indus River Valley on the subcontinent of India were located the two important ancient population centers of Harappa and Mohenjo-daro. Although these two habitation sites were 350 miles apart, they were almost identical in layout, as if the same architect had designed them both.



C1 Map 4

If one could obtain a view of Harappa and Mohenjo-daro from the air, it would be revealed that the streets were organized in perfect grids. Even the houses were remarkably the same, in that they were strong and stressed privacy. Each house was built around a central courtyard. It was there that the family cooked and ate their meals. Encircling the courtyard were rooms for storage and sleeping. Very few pieces of furniture adorned the homes of the Indus Valley. People slept on reed mats and sat on woven reeds or low stools of wood.

Diversity could be found in a Mesopotamian city. Housing styles and sizes varied throughout the community. The richer people possessed more elaborate houses. The homes of the wealthiest inhabitants of Ur and Akkad boasted running water, tiled baths, and an intricate system of sewage disposal.



Additionally, Mesopotamian cities consisted of stores, warehouses, "factories," libraries, schools, military barracks, and the other usual ***trappings*** of civilized, urban life. At the center of each Mesopotamian city was its temple-tower complex, devoted to the local god or goddess. Each city-state believed itself protected by its local deity. For instance, the city of Ur enjoyed the patronage of Nanna, the moon god. Every city was constructed around the temple and its chief god. The ancient region of Ur is considered to be the heart of the Fertile Crescent and the original home of humanity. Many scholars claim it was the site of the Garden of Eden and the place from which the patriarch Abraham began his journey to Canaan.

The temple-tower structure was composed of a series of square stages piled upon one another. The tower itself could reach heights of up to 300 feet. Highly decorated and brightly painted, the temple could be seen for miles. Long stairways led up to the top of each stage. On the summit of the tower was an ornate chapel to the divine being. The temple itself was surrounded by palaces for the priests, warehouses for equipment, and barracks for staff.

In Egypt, the homes of the common people were of sun-dried clay bricks like those of Mesopotamia and India. Palaces of wealthy people and public buildings were constructed of stone, such as granite, basalt, quartz, and limestone. Large portions of the population were involved in the construction of Egypt's public buildings. Public construction took place during the time of year when flood waters of the Nile covered major sections of Egypt, enabling the use of barges to transport large stones.

If we could explore the cities of the ancient world and take photos of what we encountered, we could well fill a photo album of houses, temples, and public buildings. It certainly would be intriguing to review those souvenirs of "Our sojourn to the Indus, Nile, and Tigris and Euphrates Valleys."

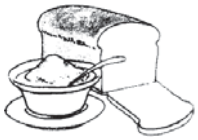
One thing that everybody who lived in those cities of the past did was eat. Sometimes, in certain places and certain times, the food that people consumed was very different from that which people eat today. More often, however, the typical *cuisine* of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China is still eaten today.

LIFE PRINCIPLE



"The god of the people determines the destiny of the culture."

— R.E. Johnson

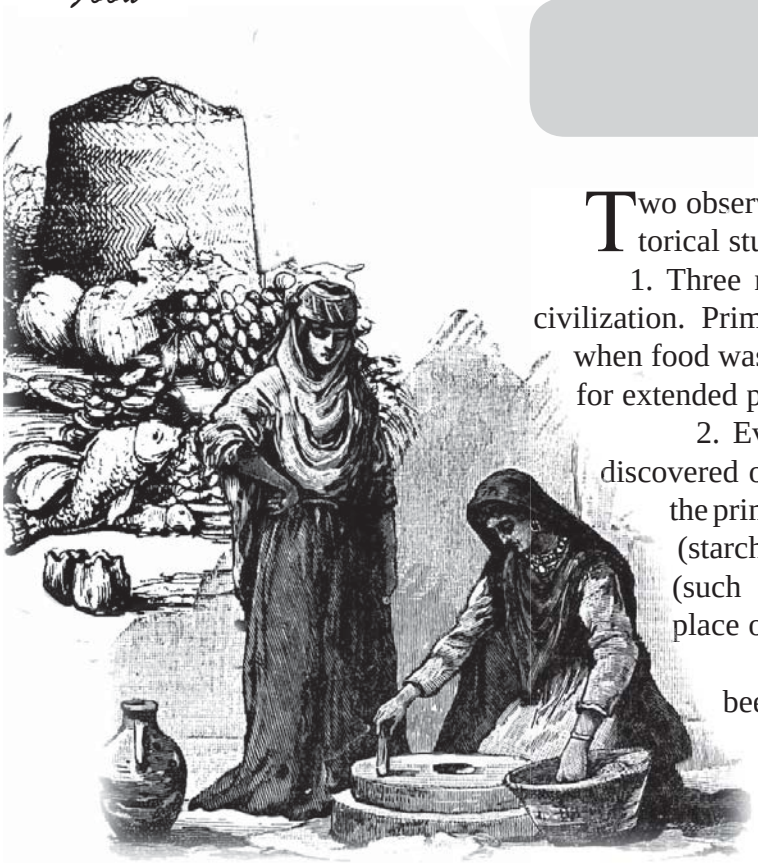


Lesson 3

Food

Chapter 1

Section 1
Lessons 1-5



FIRST FOODS

Two observations are clearly evident from our historical study of human cultures around the world.

1. Three meals a day is the product of advanced civilization. Primitive people generally stuffed themselves when food was available, and they were usually hungry for extended periods between meals.

2. Every society on Planet Earth has always discovered or developed a variety of cereal grains as the primary source of all-important carbohydrates (starches) in their diets. In some cases, tubers (such as potatoes and manioc root) took the place of cereal grains.

An essential food ***staple*** has always been a part of the local human environment. The cultures of peoples in ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China were no exception.

Daily diets of early Mesopotamians were both varied and limited. The nearness of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers provided ample water for raising crops and livestock. Ancient Mesopotamian texts list foods provided by human worshippers to gods in their temples. That list includes oxen, sheep, goats, doves, chickens, ducks, fish, dates, figs, cucumbers, butter, oil, and cakes.

The meats, however, were rarely eaten by the general public, except by the aristocracy. Excluding fish, the society was largely vegetarian. Non-meat foods were plentiful and numerous. Grain products (used as cereal and bread) included wheat, barley, millet, and sesame. Honey and milk augmented those grains. The Sumarians consumed such fruits and vegetables as olives, grapes, garlic, onions, lettuce, ***cress***, beets, turnips, radishes, and cucumbers. Peaches, and cherries were imported from other parts of the ancient, Near Eastern world. Licorice was another food item enjoyed by the ancient people at the eastern end of the Fertile Crescent.

VOCABULARY

Staple: a food product that is a main part of a culture's dietary habits
Cress: a cold-water plant of the mustard family whose leaves are used for salads and garnishes
Legumes: plants such as beans or lentils that provide pods, beans, or peas for food
Vermicelli: a type of pasta that has long, fine threads
Textile: referring to the creation of fabric and cloth by weaving, spinning, knitting, etc.
Circa (ca): of, about, or pertaining to a time period

Meanwhile in Egypt, the people had at their disposal a rich and varied diet. Much of what we know about Egyptian food comes from the tombs. Relatives of dead people believed that food should be left for the deceased to consume on their long journey to the next world. Tomb inscriptions list the types of food stuffs the dead expected. One such inscription listed the following: 10 different kinds of meat, 5 kinds of poultry, 16 kinds of bread and cakes, 11 kinds of fruit and sweets, and 10 kinds of drink. Yet another text inscription listed the following specific items: beef ribs, cooked quail, triangular loaves of bread, porridge made from barley, cooked fish, pigeon stew, berries, small round cakes, stewed fruits, and cooked beef kidneys. One further ancient text recorded what an Egyptian school boy was permitted to eat: 33 forms of flesh, 48 baked meats, and 24 varieties of drink. The chief items, however, of the common person's diet were cereal grains, fish, and meat (particularly beef and pork).

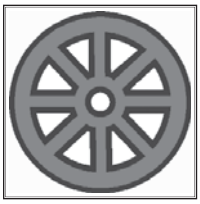
In far distant China, the diet of the rich, the well-to-do, and the poor varied greatly. The most common grains were millet and rice. Wheat and barley were available to a lesser degree. The people also ate garlic, onions, thousands of berries and fruits, and ***legumes*** such as soy beans and soy sprouts. The common drink in China was tea. Oxen and buffalo were available in China, but were generally used for plowing, rather than for food or milk. Animals which served as food were pigs, fowl, and fish. The upper classes were always on the lookout for new varieties. The well-to-do ate pork and chicken. The wealthy consumed large quantities of duck. Sometimes hundreds of courses of duck were digested at a single banquet meal. The Chinese loved to eat, and a rich man's typical dinner could have 40 courses, which took three to four hours to consume.

The poor, however, usually had two or less meals a day. They never really were secure from the possibility of starvation their entire lives. The typical diet of the poor was rice, macaroni, ***vermicelli***, a few vegetables, and fish.



The food items available in China to the upper classes were of a greater variety. Cow's milk was rare, and eggs were few, but soy beans and coconuts provided milk and were processed into cheese. Grasses, seaweed, and certain birds' nests were used to make soups. Delicacies such as shark's fins, fish intestines, locusts, grasshoppers, grubs, silkworms, horses, mules, rats, water snakes, cats, and dogs also graced the tables of the ancient Chinese upper classes.

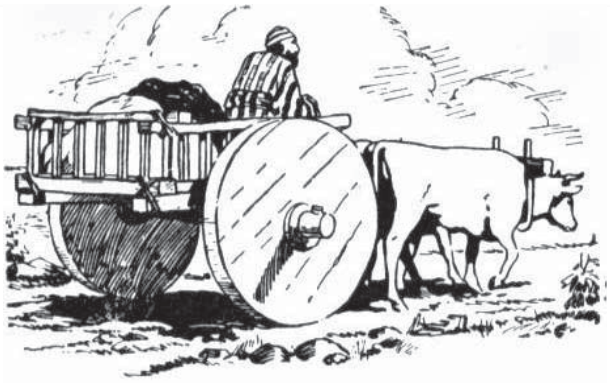
Around the world, human beings gathered or cultivated items to eat and sustain life. The consumption of basic foodstuffs feeds both our bodies and our brains. That combination enables the human being to accomplish many marvelous things. In those localities of the Fertile Crescent's remote past, industrial achievements produced the economic foundation for two great civilizations.



Industry

HISTORY'S FIRST SIGNS OF INDUSTRY

Politicians claim that contemporary Iraq is "democracy's greatest test." But historians agree that Iraq is rightly called "the cradle of civilization." Iraq, once ancient Mesopotamia, was likely home to the first agriculture, the first cities, and the first laws. It



was home to the first wheel and the first writings. Ancient manuscripts and stone records depict wisdom and extensive knowledge of astronomy and mathematics.

The people of ancient Mesopotamia studied the orbits of stars and planets, which promoted the invention of the wheel and the value of Pi (3.14).

One of the most basic inventions is the wheel. All developments of civilization start with it. The wheel in early Mesopotamia was put to several uses. It was utilized in the development of transportation. The wagon was employed in civilian commerce. Produce was transported to market and raw materials were transported to the sites where cities were being built. Furthermore, the military chariot was used in warfare. Once the value of the wheel was observed, it was only logical that the wheel be employed in other activities. The spinning wheel and the potter's wheel were the most significant. The spinning wheel launched a major Mesopotamian industry.

VOCABULARY

Fired: referring to a process in pottery making in which the clay form is exposed to fire or heat in order to be hardened into a vessel capable of holding liquids
Kiln: a furnace or oven for baking pottery or bricks
Alloy: a combination of various metals in order to produce a unique metal product

The Mesopotamian ***textile*** industry produced large "factories" which utilized what could only be termed *mechanization* and *specialization* of labor. In those ancient textile mills, hundreds of workers were employed. Each laborer performed a single task in the overall manufacture of cloth. The operation was a kind of ancient, Fertile-Crescent assembly line.



The Mesopotamian pottery industry, based on the invention and use of the potters' wheel, had the ability of manufacturing an amazingly fine grade of pottery. The Mesopotamian pottery items of ***circa*** 2,000 BC were especially beautifully shaped and decorated. They were almost paper-thin and produced a melodious ring when struck by a metal object. They had apparently been ***fired*** in a ***kiln*** which was capable of controlling its atmosphere at remarkably high temperatures.

Other industrial operations in "The Land Between the Rivers" showed the same degree of modernism. In the metalworking trades, the Mesopotamians knew exactly what percentage of different metals to combine in order to produce the best ***alloy***. Many artifacts from ancient times have reportedly been discoved in coal deposits, including an intricately fashioned gold necklace. Then, in 1934, a metal-headed hammer containing 96.6 percent iron (with a fossilized wood handle) was discovered protruding from layers of lower Cretaceous rock, which archaeologists date at having formed some 140 million years ago. The Iron Age, however, obstensibly began with the Hittites between 1700 BC and 1200 BC.

When casting bronze (copper and tin), Mesopotamians used approximately 10% tin. That is exactly what is used today. Inventors

have not been able to improve on some Mesopotamian techniques in nearly 4,000 years! On the other hand, metallurgists have reportedly been unsuccessful even in replicating the alloy content of the metal hammerhead, which showed no signs of rust even after thousands of years.

The industrialized situation in Egypt was about the same as other Fertile Crescent cultures. The basis of ancient Egyptian civilization was also associated with the wheel.

Unfortunately, the civilizations of the past were not always at peace with one another. All too frequently they were engaged in fighting. Therefore, it was necessary to develop techniques of warfare to enable them to survive. Sometimes those hostilities took place between different countries. At other times, however, the conflict was internal.

LIFE PRINCIPLE



"Profitable industry is one mark of a civilized culture."

— John R. Bennie III



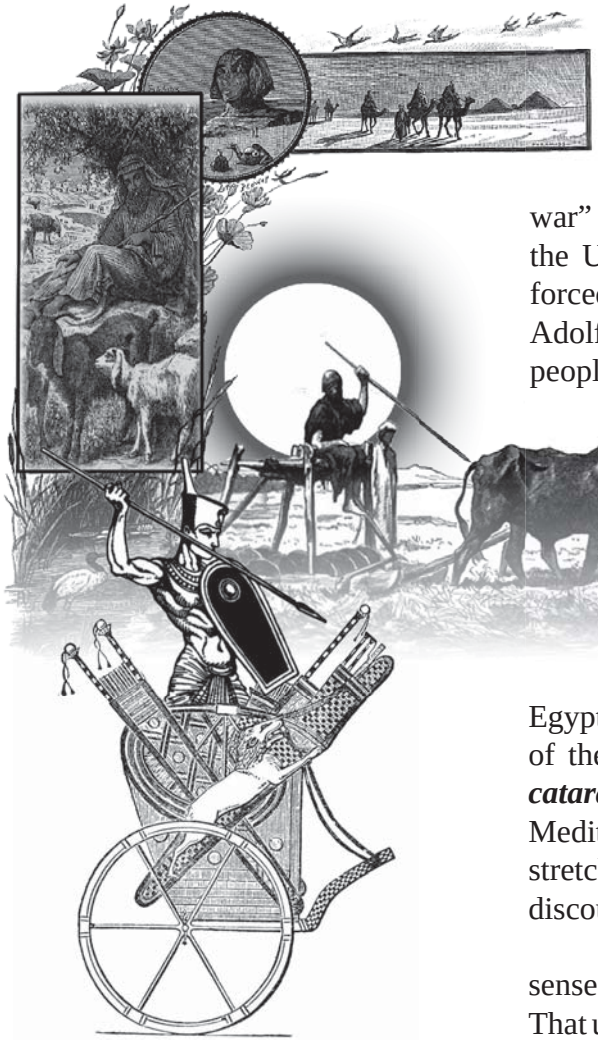
Lesson 4

Chapter 1

Section 1
Lessons 1-5

Military

WAR



War is a painful way to settle international differences. There are times when war is justified. It is always right for a nation to defend itself. Probably the best modern example of a "just war" was World War II. The Allies (Britain, France, the United States, Australia, Canada, and Holland) were forced to defend themselves against the aggression of Adolf Hitler and his Nazi plot to exterminate the Jewish people and usher in his plan of world dominion. Many wars, however, have no moral justification whatsoever. The conflicts of the ancient Fertile Crescent were of both kinds.

Two immediate differences come to mind in regard to warfare in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt. Mesopotamia was open country and therefore unprotected against invasion. Egypt, on the other hand was relatively isolated, because of the natural barriers which surrounded it. A series of ***cataracts*** and mountains extended across the south. The Mediterranean Sea formed the northern border. Vast stretches of almost uncrossable desert on the east and west discouraged invaders.

Because of that isolation, Egyptians developed a sense of identity which fostered unity and cohesiveness. That unity was lacking in Mesopotamia. The Mesopotamian city-states were constantly at war with one another. Such was not the case in Egypt. After the war of unification, Upper and Lower Egypt functioned as one culture.

On the other hand, neither India nor China enjoyed the natural barriers common to Egypt. Therefore, those two regions were subject to frequent military invasions.

In the very earliest eras of Mesopotamian history, a military leader was appointed as the "lugal" ("Big Man") during the time of war. After the war, the lugal returned to civilian life. However, as those periods of war grew longer and longer, the lugal ruled for greater periods of time.

VOCABULARY

Cataracts: waterfalls
Tribute: Money collected as a tax and paid to the victorious invaders.
Irrigation: the dispersion of water onto an agricultural area that does not usually have sufficient access to water
Supplement: to add in number or increase in volume

Eventually he did not surrender his position, and became "king."

In time, the Elamites invaded Mesopotamia from the mountains of the east. Later, the Amorites from the deserts of the west also invaded "The Land Between the Rivers." Those Amorites established what was to become the Babylonian Empire.

Over the years, the Egyptians repelled several would-be invaders. The Nubian tribes to the south, the Bedouins to the east, and the Libyans to the west were all prevented from invading Egypt. At last, however, a foreign group was able to invade Egypt successfully. In approximately 1700 BC a group of "foreign kings" from the Arabian Peninsula/Palestine/ Syria areas of the Near East invaded Lower Egypt (the delta region of the Nile). The Hyksos were Semites (distant cousins of the Hebrews), who occupied Lower Egypt, but contented themselves with exacting a ***tribute*** from Upper Egypt. Three or more Hyksos dynasties were established during the following decades. Then, in about 1570, at the beginning of the Eighteenth Dynasty, Pharaoh Ahmose I defeated the Hyksos and expelled them from Egypt.



One of the things that enabled Mesopotamia and Egypt to establish great civilizations which were able to wield strong military power was the presence of an agricultural base. Primitive societies which have to spend all their time hunting and gathering their food cannot rise to the cultural level of those which depend on agriculture. Agriculture enabled the Fertile Crescent to become powerful.



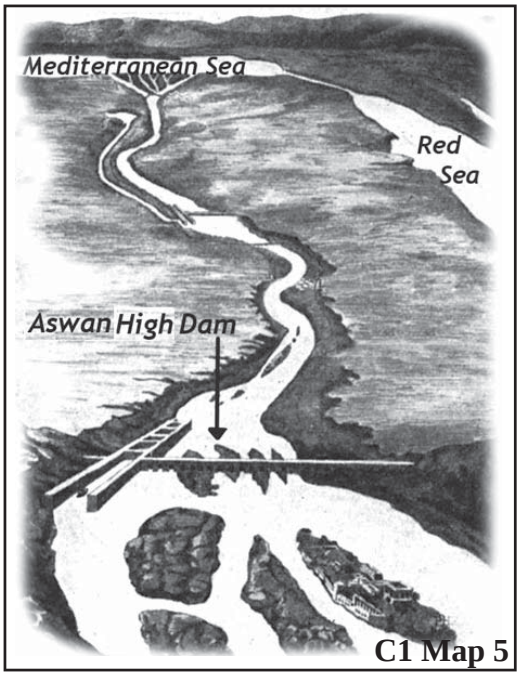
Agriculture

AGRICULTURE'S MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENT

Water and our position in space make the Earth unique among the planets of our universe. Without water, life as we know it could not exist. All human beings, animals, and plants depend on water for survival. The extensive rivers of the Fertile Crescent provided abundant water. Because of those rivers, the people living there were able to choose the way they made a living. They had the option of herding livestock or raising crops. Essentially, they were ranchers and farmers.

In Mesopotamia and Palestine, rivers allowed construction of a major ***irrigation*** system which supplied life-giving water for field cultivation. At the opposite end of the Fertile Crescent in Egypt, every year the Nile overflowed its banks. Irrigation was employed to ***supplement*** annual flooding. It has been said that Egypt was the gift of the Nile. In other words, the nation of Egypt had come into being because of the existence of a narrow strip of fertile land, on both sides of the Nile, in which crops could be grown. That fruitful soil existed only because the Nile river flooded its banks annually. Ironically, Egyptian engineers determined to improve on nature in the 1960's when the government of Egypt decided to construct the Aswan High Dam. That structure was planned as a means of flood control. The dam was completed in 1970 AD, and flooding was brought under control; but very quickly its builders realized they had caused more problems than they had cured. Because the river no longer flooded the Nile Valley each year, the silt which used to be deposited no longer

fertilized the ground. Furthermore, former agricultural property was rapidly taken over by housing developments. The result was that there was less farmable land in Egypt. Because of the Aswan High Dam, the Egyptians have had to extend their irrigation systems further and further into the desert.



C1 Map 5

In ancient times vast regions of desert extended away from the Nile, the Tigris, the Euphrates, and the Jordan rivers. In the land between the Tigris and Euphrates, and along the Nile and Jordan River valleys, however, food crops could be (and were) grown. Animals and crops raised on Mesopotamian farms were actually much the same as ours today. Mesopotamian farmers planted and harvested wheat, barley, beans, grapes, and dates. They also kept bees for honey. They harvested wool from sheep, eggs from chickens, and milk from cows and goats. In addition, all of those domestic creatures provided edible meat. Furthermore, the Mesopotamians added to their food supply by catching fish from the rivers. Their domesticated beasts of burden included camels, oxen, and donkeys. In addition, some smaller animals became pets.

Because of the option of herding and agriculture, many other aspects of life developed for the residents "between the rivers." For instance, they were not forced to live a nomadic life of following grazing herds. Instead, they could reside in permanent settlements. Stationary communities were able to grow large and prosperous. Individual farms became towns. Towns became cities and cities became city-states. In the era around 2,000 BC, such Mesopotamian city-states as Ur could boast a population of 30,000 people. In later eras and other places, the population of a typical Mesopotamian city-state would be several times that number.

The Mesopotamian agricultural economy of approximately 2,000 BC, produced such food surpluses that a meaningful segment of the local population was freed from the everyday task of producing food. Those individuals were able to pursue other activities. Therefore, some Fertile Crescent residents became weavers, potters, merchants, scribes, priests, civil servants, and government officials. The situation in Egypt was very similar.

Agriculture freed a significant portion of the population to pursue other activities. Among them, was writing. Thus the art of literature was cultivated. Human society was completely altered by the availability of literature. The literature of ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt has been invaluable in learning about these civilizations.



LIFE PRINCIPLE

"By the labor of his hands is a man made prosperous."

—Middle East axiom



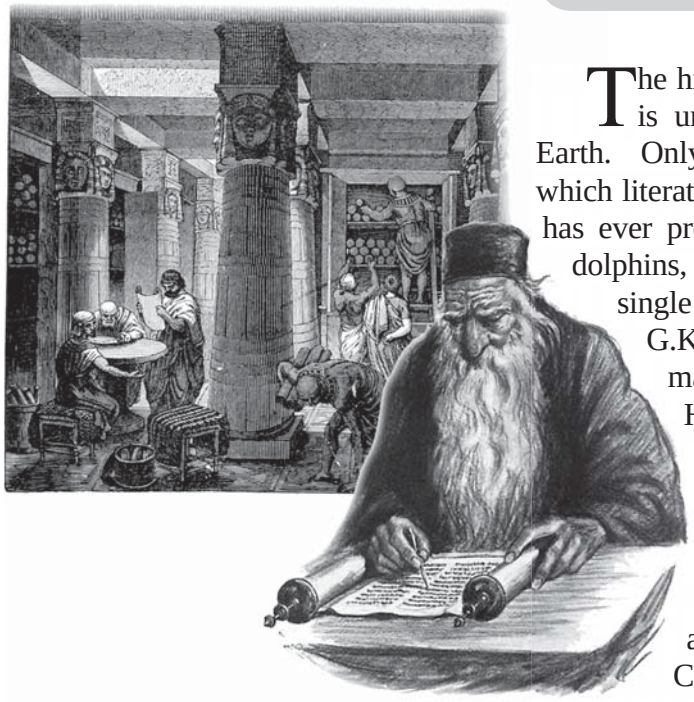
Lesson 5

Chapter 1

Section 1
Lessons 1-5

Literature, Music, & Education

LITERARY EXPRESSION



The history of the world is the history of man. Man is unique ("one of a kind") among creatures of Earth. Only human beings have produced art forms, of which literature is especially significant. No other creature has ever produced any form of literature. The smartest dolphins, monkeys, or whales have never composed a single volume of prose or poetry. The English author G.K. Chesterton in his book, *The Everlasting Man,* made two important comments about humans. He said that art was the signature of man, and that man was truly different from all other creatures because he was a creator as well as a creature. J.R.R. Tolkien, the English author of the fantasy stories, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, is of the opinion that man is creative because he was created in the image of the Creator of the universe.

Literature is a very important aspect of human nature. Literature is a ***microcosm*** of life. In some societies, literature is oral ("spoken") rather than written. Because of such oral literature, Native Americans were able to perpetuate or sustain their culture without the use of books.

Scholars agree that the greatest examples of literature written in the English language are the plays of William Shakespeare and the King James Version of the Bible. Undoubtedly, a great piece of Spanish literature is *Don Quixote de la Mancha* by Miguel de Cervantes. It is interesting to note that while Shakespeare and Cervantes lived, the King James Bible was translated. These occurred during the Elizabethan Age of England's history.



Shakespeare and Martin Luther

VOCABULARY

Microcosm: a small representation of a larger entity
Plied: diligently worked
Barge: a flat-bottomed water vessel for transporting freight
Bank: a row of like objects
Negligible: small or unimportant

A general rule among scholars is that authors should write about places and events of which they have personal knowledge. Ernest Hemingway wrote about the Spanish Civil War in *For Whom the Bell Tolls* because he fought in that war. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote about Sherlock Holmes' great powers of deduction. Dr. Doyle was able to do so because in medical school he had a teacher with those abilities. Robert Louis Stevenson and George MacDonald wrote about Scotland because they were Scottish. James Joyce wrote about Ireland because he was Irish. Dylan Thomas wrote about Wales because he was Welsh. Jack London wrote about adventures in frontier Alaska because he was there and had experienced them. The literature of ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt often was mythological in nature, but it apparently was based on a truth that the authors knew.

In the ancient Mesopotamian epic, *The Enuma Elish*, a tale is told of the creation of the world. According to the tale, there was originally only one god on Earth. The other gods were soon created, however. After a time, civil war broke out among the divine beings. In the midst of the resulting chaos, one good god created mankind to serve the gods. Those human beings were formed out of the blood of a particularly evil deity. Therefore, man has, at least in part, an evil nature. In another version of the Mesopotamian creation story, *The Epic of Atrahasis*, man was made from blood mixed with clay. In addition, humans were created in the image of one of the gods.

The *Epic of Gilgamesh* conveys the story of a worldwide flood which destroyed the earth. Gilgamesh, the king of the city of Uruk, wanted to meet Utnapishtim. The latter individual, with his wife, was the sole human survivor of that flood. Gilgamesh was told the story of the flood when he finally encountered Utnapishtim. One of the gods had warned Utnapishtim of the coming flood and instructed him to build a large boat. Because he did so, Utnapishtim was able to escape death. Before leaving the ship, he turned loose a raven and a dove, in an effort to discover the current state of the earth. After getting off the boat, Utnapishtim offered a sacrifice to the gods. Ancient Hebrew texts describe a worldwide flood survived by a man named Noah, his wife and three sons, and their wives.


Noah Building the Ark

In Egypt, some interesting pieces of literature have managed to survive. From the city of Memphis came *The Memphite Theology of Creation*, an Egyptian rendition of the creation story. The god responsible for creation accomplished that task in two stages. First he formed the thought in his mind. Then he brought everything into being by speaking that thought.

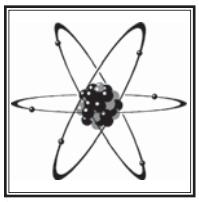
Arguably, the world's oldest literary work is called *Jōb*. It is an astonishing epic that includes amazing references to astronomy, oceanography, philosophy, theology, agriculture, and debates known in the Fertile Crescent.

In *The Story of Two Brothers*, two Egyptian brothers lived together in one house. The elder brother was married, and the younger was single. The unmarried brother did all the work and was really little better than a slave. Once, when the elder brother was not at home, his wife tried to get her innocent brother-in-law to commit adultery with her. He rejected her advances. Subsequently, he fled from the presence of his brother who attempted to kill him.

In another ancient Egyptian story, *The Tradition of Seven Lean Years in Egypt*, the Pharaoh is bemoaning the fact that the Nile River had not flooded its banks for seven years. Therefore, those seven years had been a time of hunger and misery. At the end of the story, an

agreement between Pharaoh and one of the gods seems to indicate that seven years of plenty are coming. These legends are amazingly similar to the Biblical account of a Hebrew youth named Joseph who became Prime Minister of Egypt.

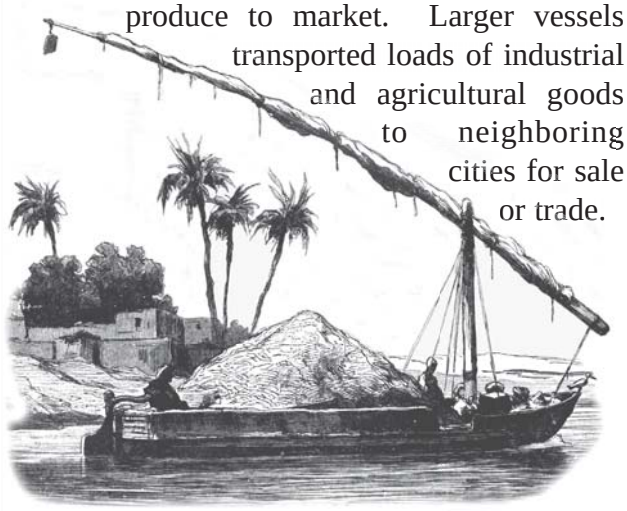
The practice of agriculture had enabled some inhabitants of the Fertile Crescent to choose careers other than food production. One of those activities was the introduction of literature. Another was the experimentation in various kinds of energy use. Mankind needed to accomplish those tasks essential to civilization. Let us now study the assorted methods of energy use employed in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt.



Energy

The First Known Sources of Energy

Four kinds of energy were employed in the early days of civilization at both ends of the Fertile Crescent— wind, draft animals, humans, and river current. All three major Fertile Crescent river systems—the Tigris, Euphrates, and Nile were used extensively as routes of travel for various purposes. Ships, boats, and barges of every size and shape ***plied*** the water routes. Individual small boats were utilized by fishermen and local farmers to carry produce to market. Larger vessels transported loads of industrial and agricultural goods to neighboring cities for sale or trade.



Indeed, all three rivers were alive with various kinds of watercraft. Some Egyptian-Mesopotamian boats measured up to 170 feet in length. ***Barges***, some 200 feet long and approximately one third as wide, brought large blocks of granite down the Nile, and huge, carved statues down the Tigris and Euphrates.

Most boats, ships, and barges going up river were propelled by ***banks*** of oars or poles. Crafts traveling downstream could rely on the river's current. Some river vessels used sails, but the latter were employed more often on larger bodies of water, such as the Persian Gulf (and beyond) south of Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean Sea north of Egypt. Both Mesopotamia and Egypt boasted large fleets of sailing ships for commerce and warfare. Each of those localities traded in foreign ports far and wide. Mesopotamian and Egyptian navies patrolled the seas of the known world. Merchant vessels from both ends of the Fertile Crescent sailed to modern day Spain and Britain in one direction, and India and China in the other.

Other industrial labor involved simple machines such as spinning wheels and potters' wheels, operated by manpower. This was not a ***negligible*** form of energy use. Whole "factories" of weavers, spinners, and potters were employed in the Mesopotamian industry. The vast majority of work accomplished in Egypt was done by hand. Other energy-using devices had not yet become common in the ancient Fertile Crescent during this period.

Human beings have utilized both land and water in transporting items from one place to another. On land, humans and draft animals were used for the production of energy and effective land transportation.

Life Principle



"A nation's literary and industrial achievements reveal its priorities."

—Anonymous



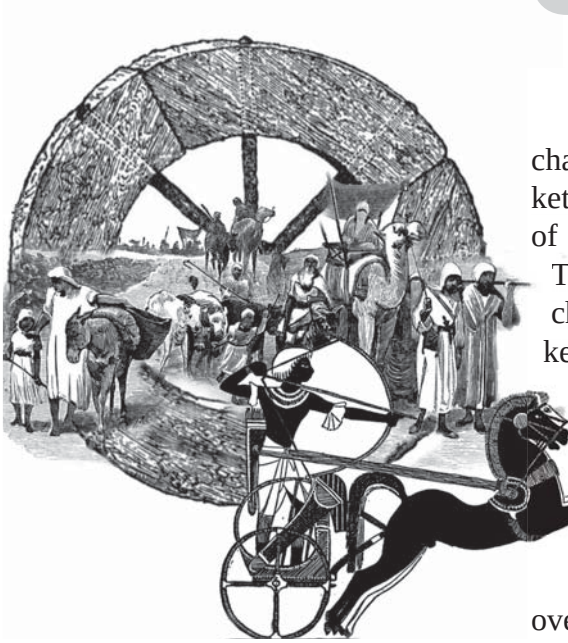
Lesson 6

Chapter 1

Section 2
Lessons 6-10

Transportation

WHERE WHEELS BEGAN TO ROLL



Land based transportation basically involved two kinds of wheeled vehicles—the wagon and the chariot. The wagon was used to transport goods to market and the job site. Wagons were usually drawn by pairs of yoked oxen. Oxen were slow, but steady and strong. Therefore, they were well suited to their task. War chariots in Mesopotamia were hitched at first to donkeys. Horses were not used as draft animals or to pull war chariots in the Fertile Crescent for many years. One of the reasons the Hyksos chariots were able to invade Egypt and defeat the Egyptians so easily was that Hyksos chariots were horse-drawn. Horses were faster and stronger than donkeys, and the Egyptian armed forces were completely overawed. The use of the horse to pull war chariots in the ancient Near Eastern world was a new and secret revolutionary development which literally changed the world.

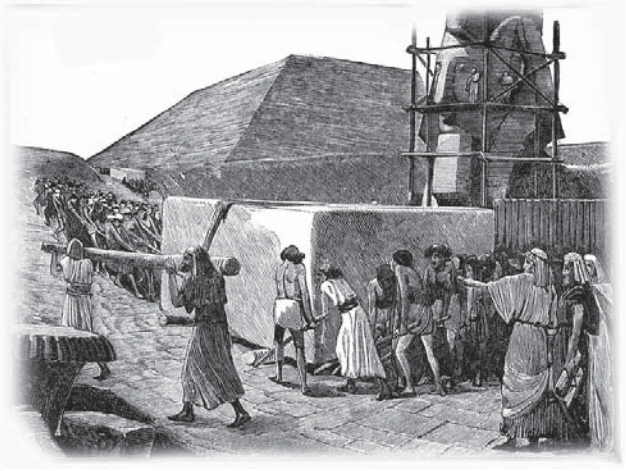
Land-based transportation was important on the plains of Mesopotamia with its large area of open land. In Egypt, on the other hand, the situation was very different. Egypt was a long, narrow strip of land on both sides of the Nile river. The primary transportation route for the entire country was the Nile. Boats of various sizes and kinds were much more important than wheeled vehicles. Furthermore, war chariots were much more valuable in war-torn Mesopotamia than in unified and secure Egypt. Before the Hyksos invasion, ***infantry*** were the main elements of the Egyptian army. After the expulsion of the Hyksos at the beginning of the 18th Dynasty, Egypt became more of a world military power, and the horse-drawn war chariot became an essential tool for defense and aggression.

The camel was also a beast of burden and a means of transportation in Mesopotamia. Camels, along with oxen, were used for ploughing. They were also used for riding and carrying loads. Mesopotamia was located at the crossroads of several caravan routes. Camel caravans

VOCABULARY

Infantry: foot soldiers
Papyrus: a tall water plant commonly found along the Nile River; when processed may be used as a surface for writing
Pith: the spongy tissue in the center of a plant's stem
Perpendicular: laid at right angles to another object
Palette: a thin surface upon which an artist daubs and mixes inks or pigments
Rush: a grass-like water plant that has pithy or hollow stems

toted products and materials throughout the Middle East of that era. Another instrument of transportation employed in both Mesopotamia and Egypt was human beings, often slaves, who carried items considerable distances. One improvement over simple man-power was the roller, by which huge blocks of stone were transported great distances. Stones were dragged over wooden rollers by teams of human laborers and slaves. Human labor built the great pyramids of Egypt.



One of the basic activities of a local human society is to develop exchanges between itself and its neighbors. A particular manifestation of that function is the transportation of industrial and agricultural goods. Another is the communication of ideas through writing. Indeed, writing has been considered one of the hallmarks of civilization.



Communication

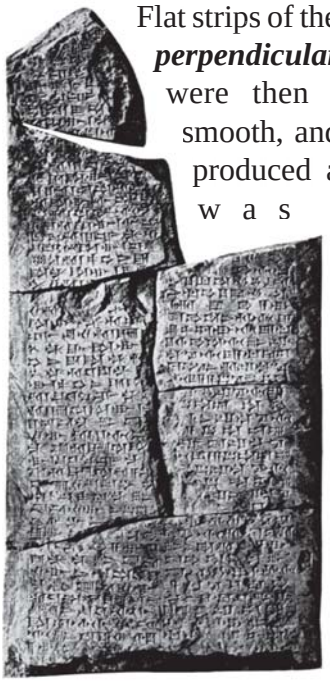
TALKING SYMBOLS

Language is one of those elements of human culture which makes mankind unique on Planet Earth. Man can communicate the meaning of even the most abstract of ideas to other human beings. The language spoken in Mesopotamia 4,000 years ago has importance to us today. For example, the names of the following plants come from Mesopotamian words: cassia (cinnamon), chicory, crocus, cumin, hyssop, myrrh, and saffron.

Of all the inventions brought forth in the Fertile Crescent, none was more important than writing. With writing, ideas and instructions could be recorded for future generations. However, the writing systems developed in Mesopotamia and Egypt more than 4,000 years ago were vastly different from one another.

In Mesopotamia, men wrote on soft clay tablets which were then baked to harden. Writers used the wedge-shaped end of a river reed to make marks in clay. Therefore, Mesopotamian writing was called *cuneiform* ("wedge shaped"). At first, Mesopotamian words were merely crude pictures of the things men wanted to represent. In time, however, the original picture became a symbol, and the symbol, or a combination of symbols, became words.

On the southwestern end of the Fertile Crescent, the Egyptians manufactured a paper-like material from the ***papyrus*** reed. That plant grew in abundance along the banks of the Nile. Flat strips of the plant's ***pith*** were laid ***perpendicular*** to each other. They were then moistened, pounded smooth, and dried. That process produced a writing surface. It was lightweight, portable, easy to store, and fairly durable. The extremely dry climate of Egypt helped to preserve those sheets of papyrus, even to today.



Clay Tablet

On those sheets of papyrus, the Egyptians wrote stories, recorded important

information, and gave instructions. The writing system they developed was called *hieroglyphics* ("sacred writing"). The hieroglyphic system included more than 700 symbols. Some indicated letters, others indicated sounds, and still others indicated words. Sometimes, the same symbol was used for multiple purposes.



Papyrus with Hieroglyphics

A stone or baked clay ***palette*** held the black ink which was applied with ***rush*** brushes. Learning the hieroglyphic system was not easy. A would-be scribe attended a special school for approximately twelve years. For those dozen years, he would study from dawn to dusk each day.

Writing is not the only evidence of an advanced culture. All cultures have heroes and dominant rulers. The ancient Fertile Crescent was not without such individuals.



LIFE PRINCIPLE

"Wise people ask, Where am I going and how will I get there?"

—Zig Zigler



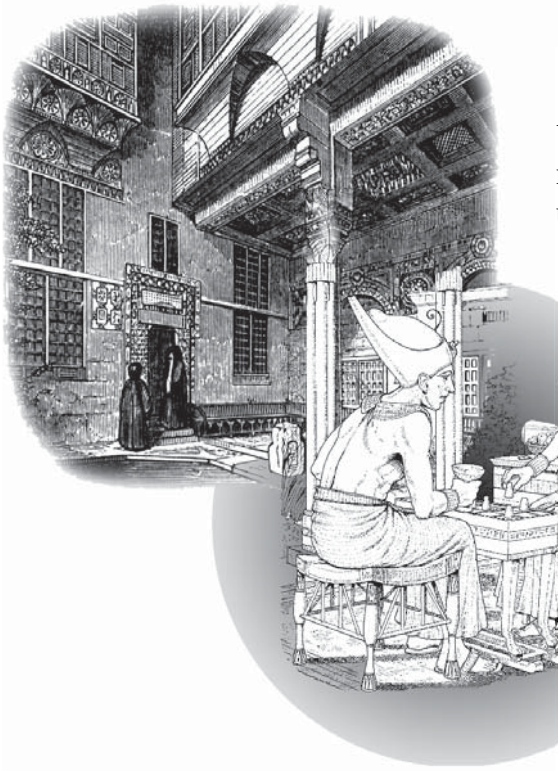
Lesson 7

Chapter 1

Section 2
Lessons 6-10

Dominant Personalities

LEADERS



Many prominent persons inhabited the Fertile Crescent region. Menes was the king of Upper Egypt, who is credited with uniting the two separate kingdoms of Upper and Lower Egypt into a single unified nation.

In Mesopotamia, there was Sargon the Great, the king of the city-state of Akkad who conquered other city-states in Mesopotamia and formed the first Mesopotamian empire. Some scholars claim that this was the Biblical person called Nimrod who built ancient Babylon.

Another important individual of that period was Hammurabi, king of Babylon, whose law-giving accomplishments were particularly noteworthy.

Most governments throughout history have been based on the expedient rule of man rather than on principles and virtues. Whether democracies, republics, monarchies, or dictatorships, ultimately the people were dominated by the whim of human leaders. In a situation where no written code of law (constitutional law) or historical precedence (common law) existed, that reign could be, and usually was, extremely ***arbitrary***. Rare indeed were cultures governed according to Divine or principle-based law. The Hebrews were the most prominent culture guided by a moral code. The Ten Commandments, written about 1450-1500 BC, were accepted as the Jewish national code of conduct. The 10 laws are summarized below:

1. Trust God only
2. Worship God only
3. Honor God's name
4. Rest and think about God weekly
5. Respect and obey parents
6. Protect human life
7. Be committed to your spouse

VOCABULARY

Arbitrary: decisions made on the basis of personal preferences and experiences; often unreasonable, foolish, or tyrannical
Secular: concerned with nonreligious matters.
Promulgate: to put into place by formal proclamation, order, decree, or law
Lapis lazuli: a deep sky-blue colored stone; azure; used mainly for ornamental purposes

8. Do not steal
9. Do not lie
10. Be satisfied with what you have.



In the 1700s BC, "Hammurabi-mukhush-nishi" ("Hammurabi-Abundance-of-the-People") became king of Babylon. He ruled for the next 43 years. By the time Hammurabi rose to power, Mesopotamian politics and religion had parted ways. Therefore, the leader of a Mesopotamian city-state, such as Babylon, was no longer the priest-king. The priest was in charge of the temple, and the king ruled the ***secular*** affairs of the city (commerce, family, military, education, etc.).

Once in power, Hammurabi proceeded to put an end to the constant fighting among Mesopotamian city-states. He refurbished *Babylon* the city, and *Babylonia* the empire. Because of his reforms, Babylon became one of the richest cities in the world at that time. In the second year of his reign, Hammurabi ***promulgated*** the famous Law Code that bears his name. Hammurabi's Law Code consisted of 285 laws which touched on every aspect of life.

The Hammurabi Law Code demanded a strict "eye for an eye" and "a tooth for a tooth". The king attempted to make the laws beneficial to his subjects and to cause them to be applied with equity. In the Prologue to the Code, Hammurabi stated the purpose of the laws.

> *"Hammurabi, the exalted prince, the worshipper of the gods, to cause justice to prevail in the land, to destroy the wicked and the evil, to prevent the strong from oppressing the weak... to enlighten the land and to further the welfare of the people."*



The statutes of King Hammurabi were not the first such Law Code, but was, indeed, one of the first. The Ten Commandments, delivered by the Hebrew, Moses, and the Hammurabi Law Code, were remarkable documents for their place in history. Their cultural rules produced a stability previously lacking in the region and, later, became the basis for rule-by-law adopted in Western Civilization.

Whether persons were dominant or average, the people of the past—like those of the present—took time out of their busy schedules for recreation. Many of the recreational activities of today have their origins in the ancient past of the early inhabitants of the Fertile Crescent and India.



Recreation

ANCIENT FUN

An old adage says, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." That does not mean that work should be neglected for the sake of pleasure. Human beings were meant to work to secure a living, but it is also a necessary part of human nature to have fun once in a while. Our ancient forebearers in the Fertile Crescent and elsewhere worked hard to produce civilization out of barbarism, but they also took time to enjoy recreation.

Many of the recreational activities in both Mesopotamia and Egypt were religious in nature. Pageants, festivals, morality plays, musical performances (which included singing

and dancing), wrestling or boxing exhibitions, and parades all had religious implications but entertained as well. Of a non-religious nature, Egyptian inscriptions depict dwarfs performing acrobatics and hunters pursuing waterfowl in the marshes along the Nile as leisure activities.

At home, the people at both ends of the Fertile Crescent played a variety of board games. Some of those games were very elaborate. The playing surfaces were comprised of squares of shell inlaid with ***lapis lazuli*** and red limestone. In some cases, the pieces were kept in a drawer in the board itself. Players cast dice or threw sticks to decide the moves.

One particular board game with a twenty-square playing board was especially popular in Mesopotamia. In time, that game spread westward to Egypt. It has been designated "20-Square." The Hyksos, when they invaded, introduced a number of new games to Egypt. The Egyptians also designed games. One especially popular game involved a team of hounds which competed with a team of jackals. Those hounds and jackals were represented by ivory pieces. The two teams chased each other around a palm tree on the board. The movement of the pieces was determined by the roll of dice. In addition, several Egyptian games closely resembled checkers.



Meanwhile, in India, a kind of chess was played. Historical records indicate that the game of chess probably originated in India. The word *chess* comes from the Persian word "shah" which means *king.* The term *checkmate* was originally "shah-mat" or "king dead." Persians called chess *chatranj.* Both the word and the game came through the Arabs from India. There, it was known as *chaturanga* or "four-angles"—elephants, horses, chariots, and foot soldiers. The Arabs still call the bishop *al-fill,* that is "elephant," from "alph-hind." That latter is Arabic for "ox of India." The Indians also played a game called "pachisi" (modern parchesi). In India, the game was played on squares cut into the pavement on which pretty slave girls were the living game pieces.

Even though the ancients took time to enjoy themselves, they did not neglect work or the intellectual preparation necessary to perform it. Through an ongoing search for knowledge, the people of the ancient Fertile Crescent were able to make great discoveries and complete tremendous achievements.



LIFE PRINCIPLE

"He who rules must be just."

—The Prophet Samuel



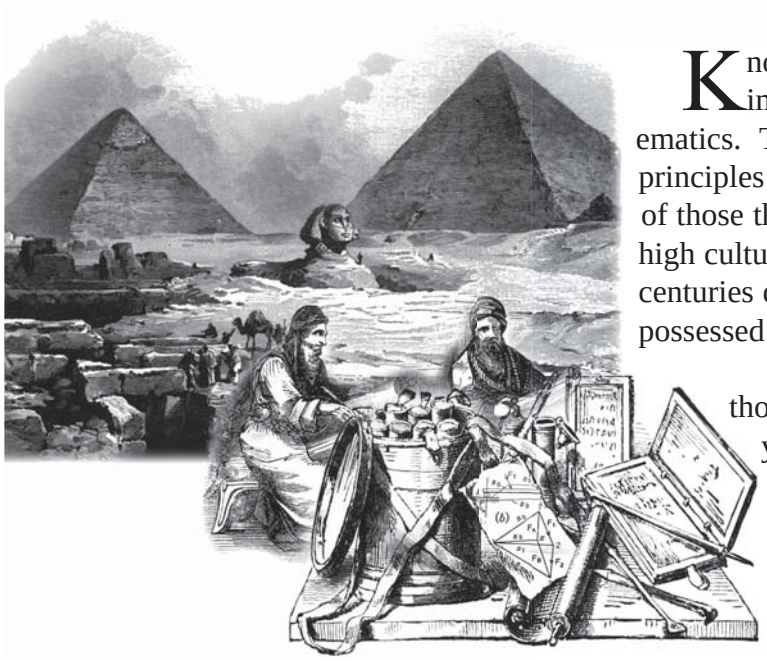
Lesson 8

Chapter 1

Section 2
Lessons 6-10

Discoveries & Explorations

MATH, RULERS, ASTRONOMY, AND PYRAMIDS

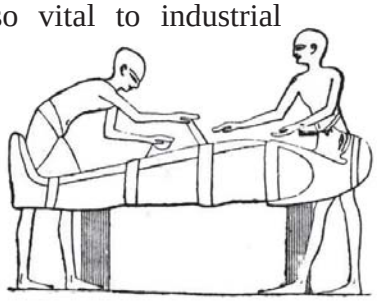


Knowledge is a precious thing. Among important intellectual knowledge is mathematics. The ability to use and understand the principles of math is basic to the accomplishment of those things which define civilization. The high culture of the Fertile Crescent endured for centuries due in part to the mathematical skills possessed by the Mesopotamians and Egyptians.

Early Mesopotamians achieved a thorough mastery of mathematics. By the year 2,000 BC they had devised tables of multiplication factors, squares, cubes, square roots, cube roots, and so forth. They had discovered the correct value of Pi (3.1416). They further knew how to calculate the area of rectangles, circles, irregular quadrangles, polygons, truncated pyramids, and cones. They also probably had developed ***logarithm*** tables. They had divided the hour into sixty minutes, and the minute into sixty seconds. They had laid the groundwork for the understanding and use of algebra, map-making, chemistry, and astronomy.

The possession of that body of information enabled them to understand and construct the other critical elements of civilized life. The very basis of Western Civilization began in Mesopotamia. That which Western Civilization derived from the Greeks, the Greeks first obtained from Mesopotamia. The Egyptians likewise shared the mathematical knowledge so vital to industrial development.

Probably the greatest physical achievement in ancient times was the building of the pyramids in the land later called Egypt. These massive structures testified to the

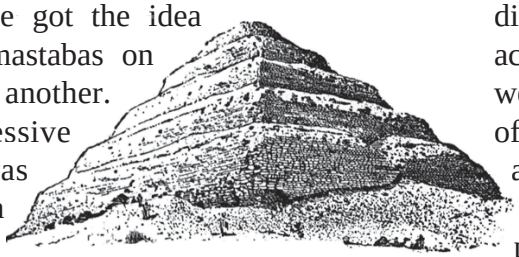


Mummafication of a Pharoah

VOCABULARY

Logarithm: in math, an exponent that indicates the power to which a member is raised to produce a given number
Hallmark: a distinguishing feature or characteristic
Edifice: a large, impressive building or structure
Antiquities: matters relating to ancient cultures
Patriarch: the father and ruler of a family or tribe
Alien: referring to foreign people not of one's nation or tribe
Tyranny: harsh political and social oppression; often includes slavery and extortion

Egyptians' obsession with death and the afterlife. Their religion demanded that a person's physical body be preserved for all eternity. In order to do so, the dead were mummified and elaborate tombs had to be constructed, especially for Pharoahs and the ruling class. The first Egyptian tombs were large, rectangular structures known as "mastabas." Later, in order to build a better tomb than any previous one, someone got the idea to pile up mastabas on top of one another. Each successive mastaba was smaller than the one under it.



A Step-Pyramid

What resulted was a "step pyramid"—several structures stacked one upon another.

The next logical step in tomb building was to erect a "true" pyramid. Those structures were made of large blocks of stone—often brought from considerable distances. Pyramid tombs, with their tunnels and chambers for the dead, became the *hallmark* of ancient Egypt. Pyramids still litter the country, but near the modern city of Cairo are the three largest: the pyramids of Giza. The largest one is known as the "Great Pyramid." The construction of Egypt's pyramids certainly required considerable knowledge of mathematics and astronomy. Nearly 4,000 years later, mathematics are used to build roads, *edifices*, bridges, furniture, signs, and so much more. A world without math would be unbelievably primitive.



Government

DIFFERENCES AND LIKENESSES AMONG TRIBES

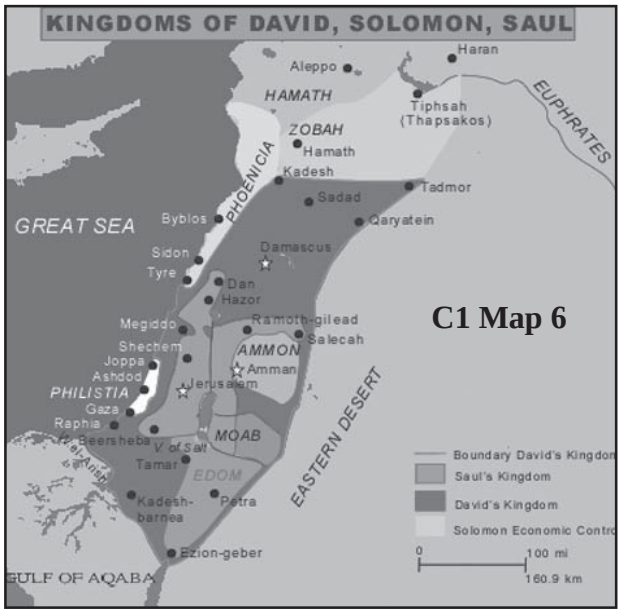
The history of this planet is the story of the multiple ethnic groups of mankind (Caucasians, Africans, Asians, and Aborigines), males and females, young and old, rich and poor, and their different religions. Human civilization began in Mesopotamia and spread to Palestine, Egypt, the sub-continent of India, and China. As human population expanded throughout the globe, those early inhabitants of the continents of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas developed cultural differences. It is important to understand and accept our differences and to realize how much we are all alike. We human beings are made up of many different ethnic divisions, but we are all of one race—the human race! That is why we study the history of all the various human populations of the world. We are all related; therefore, everybody's history is our history.

The ancient nation of Israel serves as an example of how different forms of human government held societies together. We can obtain much information about the ancient Hebrews from ***Antiquities** of the Jews* by first century AD Jewish historian, Flavius Josephus. He communicated his version of history concerning Abraham Ben Terah, the ancient founder of the nation of Israel, who is said to have migrated from Mesopotamia to Palestine. According to Josephus, Abraham and his male descendants (Isaac, Jacob, Esau) each assumed the role of ruler over his own extended Hebrew family. For the next several hundred years, Hebrew tribes were composed of extended families who descended from Israel (who was originally named Jacob). The twelve sons of Israel were the foundation of the nation of Israel. Each of these tribes was governed by a ***patriarch*** who administered over religious, political, and legal issues.

In the third chapter of *Book V* of *Antiquities*, Josephus explains a shift in the Israeli government from a patriarchal system to a judicial system governed by a single judge. During that era, the individual tribes making up the nation of Israel had no individual rulers. From time to time, however, all or part of

the country would be occupied by a foreign power, usually from Syria, Egypt, Ninevah, or Babylon. In each of those incidences of ***alien*** oppression, a local leader called a *Judge* would rise up to deliver the people of Israel from external ***tyranny***. That era of Israelite history was, therefore, known as the Period of the Judges. As in the patriarchal period, each judge performed both administrative and judicial duties, based on the Laws of Moses.

Following the Period of the Judges, the people of Israel decided they wanted to be like other nations and have a king instead of a judge. Israel's first king was a man named Saul, of the tribe of Benjamin. That man, however, was driven by fear and jealousy. The country went through a time of civil war in which the people of Israel became dissatisfied with Saul. A younger man named David gained favor with the people. Saul tried to hold onto his throne by attempting several times to assassinate David or run him out of Israel. Saul was eventually defeated and died in battle against a neighboring enemy tribe, the Philistines, who were not part of the nation of Israel. The Jewish people got their wish and, according to Josephus, crowned as king, David Ben Jesse, of the tribe of Judah. His descendants ruled the southern half of the kingdom for several hundred years. David's grandson came to the throne in the northern half of the land and formed his own government, military, and nation. The accounts of Josephus, an ancient historian, are amazingly similar to Old Testament Bible passages in the books of *Judges, Kings,* and *Chronicles*.



C1 Map 6

The king system provided a more efficient form of national government. The people, however, discovered that they had less individual freedoms under the centralized kingship. All three forms of government (patriarch, judge, and king) had pluses and minuses, as do all civil systems known to man. Government may sometimes prove to be a necessary evil. In order to live peaceful and prosperous lives, cultures have learned to involve religion, family, and government, the three essential components of human interaction.



LIFE PRINCIPLE

"Rulers should be just, soldiers should be courageous, and the people should be obedient."

—Aristotle (paraphrased)



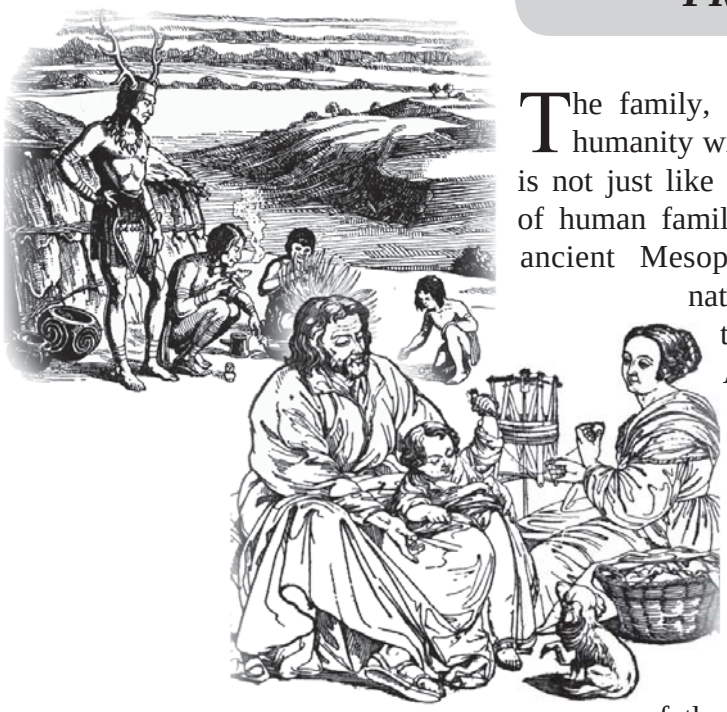
Lesson 9

Family & Home

Chapter 1

Section 2
Lessons 6-10

FAMILY AND FAITH PROVIDE STABILITY



The family, like government, is essential to provide humanity with an orderly life. Each family, however, is not just like every other family. Two different types of human families operated in societies worldwide. In ancient Mesopotamia, families were ***patriarchal*** in nature. In the pre-Columbian era, (before the arrival of Christopher Columbus to America) Native Americans (also known as American Indians, Amerinds, or Red Indians), devised family structures of two basic types. Some, like those of the Palestinian Hebrews, were patriarchal. Others, however, were ***matriarchal***. In either case, family meant life shared by a male and a female(s).

In a patriarchal community, the father was the head of the family. Descent was ***patrilineal***. That is why in the Hebrew families, each child was identified in terms of his or her father. Examples of such would be Joseph Ben Matthias (Joseph, "son of" Matthias) and Abraham Ben Terah (Abraham, "son of" Terah). A similar situation existed in Scotland, Wales, and Russia.

In Scotland, the word that indicated "son of" is "Mac." The Scottish formula is therefore, Ian MacDonald ("Ian, son of Donald"). Among the Welsh, the usage is "map", hence Gwyn Map Nudd ("Gwyn, son of Nudd"). The Russian method is slightly different, as in Nikolai Ivanovitch Novikov { Nicolas ("son of John") Novikov}. The terms "ben," "mac," "map," and "ovitch" are known as *patronymics* or "that which designates one's father." A girl is likewise so identified as the daughter of her father. Examples of such would be *bath* (Hebrew) "Rebecca Bath Laban" and *ovna* (Russian) "Natasha Ivanovna Novikova".

Usually, the patrilineal family was also *patrilocal* (that is, the ***nuclear family*** resided at the home of the father's extended family). Several Native American tribal groups, on the other hand, were *matrilineal* and

VOCABULARY

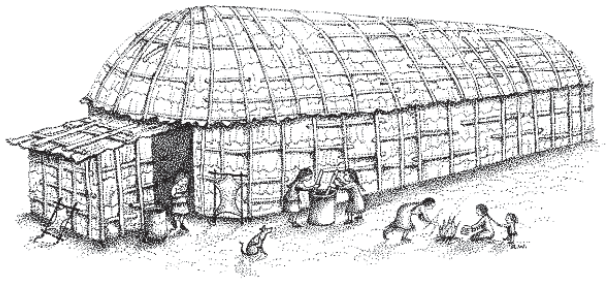
Patriarchal: led by the male head of a family or tribe
Matriarchal: led by the female head of a family or tribe
Patrilineal: decent is traced through the father's family line
Nuclear family: traditional family structure consisting of a husband, a wife and children
Polytheistic: belief in many gods
Idolatrous: worshipping idols
Theocratic society: one in which God (or other deity) and his commandments constitute the supreme law

matrilocal. The oldest woman was the head of the family. Descent was reckoned through the female line. The family lived with the mother's relatives, which was the case with the Native American Hopi of the desert Southwest, as well as the Iroquois of the Northeast Woodlands in the future United States of America.

In Hopi society, a person belonged to his or her mother's clan. The clan system was the very basis of Hopi culture. One's clan provided a person's status within the community. Throughout his married life, a man was merely a live-in guest in his mother-in-law's home. His true home was at his mother's residence. The biological father had nothing to do with the upbringing of his own children because they were not his clan. He was responsible to see that his sisters' children were properly taught the ways of the tribe and the clan. For his offspring, the task was reserved for their maternal uncles.

Among the American Iroquois, the tribe was led by a male chief, but the real tribal authority was the oldest matriarch. Descent was matrilineal, residence was matrilocal. A matriarch's entire clan lived together in a communal "long house." Although every young man became a warrior, he fought as a member of his mother's clan. When a chief died, his successor was chosen by a counsel of matriarchs (elderly women).

Around the world, throughout Earth's history, human societies have defined the family in a variety of ways. Most cultures, however, have considered the family's primary function to be the production and protection of children. Those measures have been carried out to differing lengths. In ancient Assyria, a law stated that a woman who aborted her unborn child should be executed and left unburied. Another law in early Israel said that if men fought and accidently hurt a pregnant woman so that her child was born prematurely, those responsible should be held legally accountable. If the child died, the person(s) to blame should be put to death. In ancient Greece, the physician Hippocrates, called the Father of Medicine, established an ethical oath for those entering the medical profession. Every would-be doctor in Western Civilization since the time of Hippocrates has taken that oath. The Hippocratic Oath requires each potential doctor to swear that he or she would not give a pregnant woman any instrument to produce an abortion. Those cultures of history valued the family, however defined, to such a degree that even the unborn child was protected by law and tradition.



Iroquois Long House



Religion

THE SEARCH FOR GOD

We have seen that ancient cultures all established their own religious beliefs. While few of those belief systems were monotheistic, there are two ancient cultures which did practice *monotheism* (belief in one God) and morality. The first of those cultures was located in the Fertile Crescent. While the Babylonians were ***polytheistic***, the Hebrews believed that there was one God who created everything and guided the people by a special law code called *commandments*. That law contained a rather strict moral standard which people were to obey. The ancient Hebrews believed they were commanded to remain separated from the ***idolatrous*** practices of pagan tribes. The Hopi Indians of the American Southwest tell a remarkably similar story about their ancestors from ancient Asia.

According to legends, thousands of years ago, the plains of central Asia were populated with groups of primitive peoples who made their living by hunting animals and gathering plants. As time passed, those Asian tribes began to follow the game herds ever eastward to the shores of the Bering Sea. In those days, the water level of the world's oceans may have been considerably lower. Some archeologists believe that a land bridge connected Asia with North America. If that were so, the advancing "Indians" walked across on dry land. Even if that conjectured land bridge did not exist, an ice bridge would have. Every year, even to this day, the Bering Strait freezes over each winter. Siberian hunters and Alaskan Indians trade with and visit each other. What the people do today, their ancestors could have done thousands of years ago. Even without any kind of bridge, the expanse of open water between the islands in the strait is less than 100 miles in length. The crossing could have been accomplished by the use of boats, during warmer months. Modern scientists have labeled such a journey the *Tran-Siberian Migration of Paleo* ("ancient") *Indian Peoples*. From that beginning, the Asian peoples likely entered North America and subsequently traveled to all corners of the American continents.

The Hopi tribe explains that series of events in their own way. They say that life in Asia was good for many years. That was the land which the Great Spirit had given to the Hopi people. Eventually, however, some of the people began to depart from the Great Spirit's laws. The rebels grew increasingly corrupt. Evil took over the land. Violence became an everyday occurrence. Immorality overwhelmed their society. Life was no longer good for the Hopis. Concerned for their families and their way of life, the tribal leaders met together to discuss what they should do. They sought the Great Spirit's guidance. It was decided that they should separate themselves from those who lived such evil lives.

Therefore, the people who wanted to live a moral lifestyle and follow the Great Spirit's leading, began migrating ever eastward. That journey took many generations to accomplish. Many children were born, grew to adulthood, and died along the way. Finally, the descendants of the original people arrived at the Bering Sea. By means of land bridge, ice bridge, or by boat across open water, they crossed the sea and arrived in North America. According to Hopi legend, they began to live the kind of lives both they and the Great Spirit wanted. Of all North American Indian tribes, the Hopis were best known for their ***theocratic society*** and peaceful ways.



Crossing the Bering Strait

In order to be true to their god and maintain a moral lifestyle, the ancestors of the Hopi left their home in Asia and went to the Americas. These ancient people accepted the fact that religion and morality were of primary importance for families and tribes.

LIFE PRINCIPLE



"Having someplace to go is home; having someone to love is family; having both...is a blessing."

—Anonymous



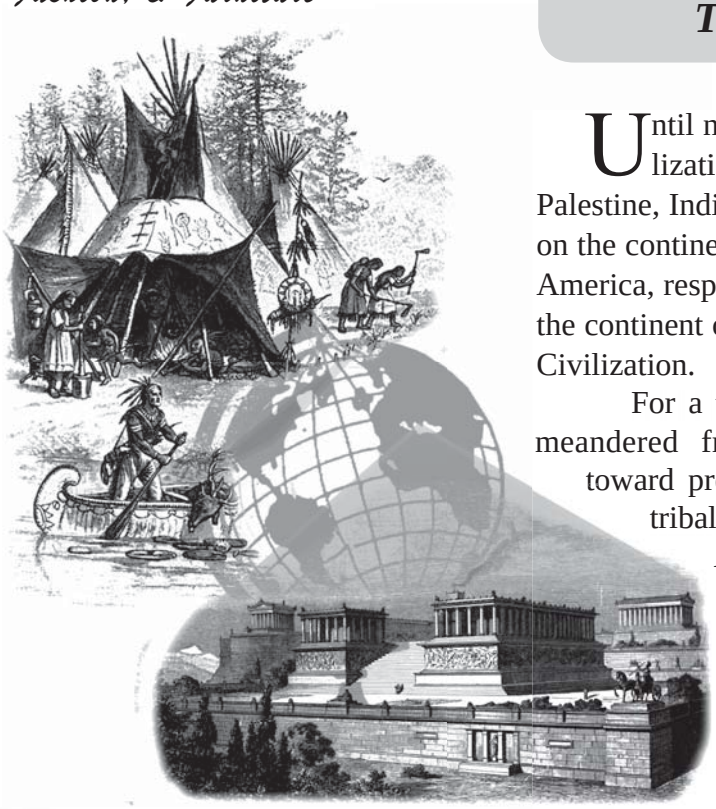
Lesson 10

Chapter 1

Section 2
Lessons 6-10

Architecture, Art, Fashion, & Furniture

FROM DIRT HUTS TO WALLED CASTLES



Until now our focus has been on the ancient civilizations and cultures of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Palestine, India, China, and Native America, located on the continents of Africa, Asia, and North and South America, respectively. At this point, we must include the continent of Europe, which is the cradle of Western Civilization.

For a thousand years, hordes of wandering tribes meandered from the mountains, valleys, and plains toward present-day Europe. In time, those invading tribal groups had established a series of Bronze Age city-states down the length of what was to become the Greek Peninsula, on the islands of the Aegean Sea, and along the western coast of Asia Minor.

In Greece proper, the two such principal towns were Mycenae and Tiryns. Both were located in the northeast corner of the Peloponneus (the prominent peninsula of southern Greece). Mycenae was situated approximately ten miles from the sea on a hill that dominated the local plain. The city was surrounded by a defensive wall, some forty feet high and twenty feet thick. That wall was constructed of huge stones which were so massive that local legend said it was built by giants. The main entrance featured a pair of enormous, carved-stone lions, which gave it the name "The Lion Gate." Mycenae was a city of immense wealth and near ***impregnability***. Before long, Mycenae achieved a political and social dominance among the Greek city-states in and around the Aegean Sea.



VOCABULARY

Impregnable: fortified; unable to be penetrated or conquered
Citadel: a fortress or stronghold that served as the headquarters for defending or commanding a city
Gypsum: a soft mineral used to make plaster of Paris for ornamental puposes
Adze: a hand tool used for stripping bark from trees and splitting rails for building purposes
Game: wild animals and birds that could be hunted for food
Mastodon: an extinct elephant-like mammal with long tusks
Mammoth: an extinct elephant characterized by long shaggy hair and long, curled tusks

Once inside Mycenae's walls, a broad ramp and staircase led to the *acropolis*, which was the king's official residence. Dozens of more humble structures housed the workshops of craftsmen and the homes of nobles and commoners who made up the king's subjects. The ***citadel*** consisted of palaces on stepped terraces which contained elaborate and luxurious apartments, halls, and courts. In the very midst of the edifice was a large, central courtyard. Huge and highly decorated columns stood around the edges of that courtyard. On the far side, one entered the palace's great hall, called the *megaron*.

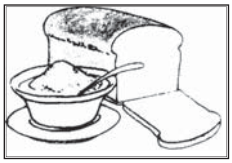
In the center of the *megaron* was a large hearth. To the right, facing the hearth, was the king's throne. The *megaron*'s floor was of painted stucco (a kind of fine plaster or cement used for interior surfacing), bordered by a row of ***gypsum*** slabs. The walls were highly decorated with brightly colored paintings of Mycenaean life, especially battle scenes.

As one traveled throughout the circum-Aegean area (the region in and around the Aegean Sea), one was struck by the fact that all the Mycenean cities were remarkably alike. The same architecture and interior decorations appeared in the homes and palaces of every city.

Other similarities also were evident. For instance, within those cities' walls, royal graveyards appeared off to one side. Those cemeteries contained the burial sites of earlier local rulers. Their tombs were huge stone structures shaped like giant beehives.

The local artisans who lived and worked in each Mycenaean walled city manufactured an almost endless variety of bronze implements. They included such items as axes, ***adzes***, saws, chisels, hammers, hoes, plowshares, sickles, swords, daggers, spearheads, and armor. The Mycenaeans also made beautiful pottery and exported hides, timber, wine, and olive oil.

Those architectural elements and artifactual items were amazingly universal throughout the area of Mycenaean civilization. Much that was Mycenaean was passed on to the Europeans of later days. It cannot be stressed too much that the Greeks were the real founders of Western Civilization.



Food

AMERICA'S EDIBLE TREATS

Everything done in this life has consequences, even if they are neither known nor purposed. There has been a great deal of discussion, in recent years, about the evils accompanying the European exploration of the American continents. Even though there were both intended and unintended negative results, there were other positive developments that no one could have possibly foreseen. Therefore, in our zeal to address the wrongs of the past, we must not be guilty of condemning exploration in search of a better life.



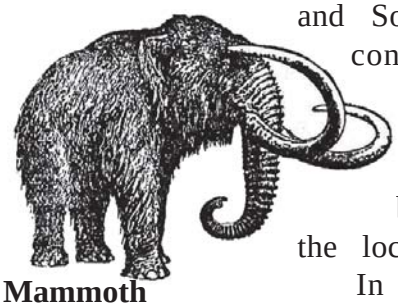
Scholars believe that North and South America were uninhabited by mankind for hundreds of years. Thus, plants and

animals living there were not cultivated. Then, a few thousand years ago, human beings apparently traveled to what later became known as the New World. From that time onward, local plants and animals began to experience ever increasing changes.

Those original human inhabitants of the Americas procured food in one of three ways or by some combination of the three:

1. Hunting
2. Gathering
3. Agriculture

Paleo-Indian hunters may have arrived in the Americas by following ***game*** herds. Until they became extinct, ***mastodons*** and ***mammoths*** were killed by early Native Americans. Later, as man journeyed to all parts of the North and South American continents, the primary game animals of each region became food for the local inhabitants. In the frozen reaches of the Arctic Circle, for example, food from polar bears and whales sustained the local population. On the North American Plains, however, the American Bison (often incorrectly called "buffalo") was the main food source. In the deserts of the Southwest, Indians hunted antelope, mule deer, and wild pigs. In the woodlands of the Northeast, deer, elk, moose, and bear were among the principal game of the region. Jungle beasts were stalked and killed in the rain forests of Central and South America. In several of those areas, salt and fresh-water fish, eels, shell fish, and birds supplemented the diet of local families and tribes.



Mammoth

Many tribal groups pursued a ***nomadic*** life while escaping from hostile neighbors or seeking the ripening plants from which people gathered the grains, berries, and nuts. For example, along the shorelines of lakes and marshes in many parts of North America, while Indian men made weapons of stone, women harvested cranberries, watercress, and wild rice. Even the desert cactus was ***edible***.

Some tribes began to cultivate crops of domesticated plants. Many and varied were the plants grown and harvested over time in the Americas. Some of those which were known only in the New World were as follows:

1. tomatoes
2. white potatoes
3. sweet potatoes
4. squashes
5. pumpkins
6. cranberries
7. peppers
8. pineapples
9. avocados
10. certain beans
11. Indian maize (that is, corn on the cob and popcorn)

Turkeys and bison were two animals unique to the Americas, which were raised or hunted by Native Americans.

The eleven kinds of plants and two animals listed above were unknown in the Old World (Europe) before explorers made contact with the New World (Americas). Yet within a couple of hundred years, many of those plants became staples in Africa and Europe. Potatoes became very popular in parts of Germany. In Ireland, the potato was at one time the only source of nutrition available to the Irish people.

VOCABULARY

Nomadic: referring to a lifestyle that involves moving from place to place without any permanent dwelling
Edible: good for food; able to be eaten

Eventually, the whole world would know the South American potato as the "Irish potato."

In many of the emerging African Third World countries today, New World plants, such as potatoes, maize, and squash have become the food crops upon which the local people rely for their continued survival.

The tomato was developed in Central and South America. It became an important food in Italy long before it was accepted by North Americans. The tomato did not come into general use in the United States until its third president, Thomas Jefferson, popularized it. Before that, Americans of European descent considered the tomato to be poisonous. Little did the European explorers know that the New World plants they took back with them would someday feed the world!

Life Principle



"A WISE MAN WILL BUILD HIS LIFE UPON A FIRM FOUNDATION; A FOOLISH MAN WILL BUILD HIS LIFE UPON SHIFTING TRENDS OF FRIENDS."

—Middle East Axiom

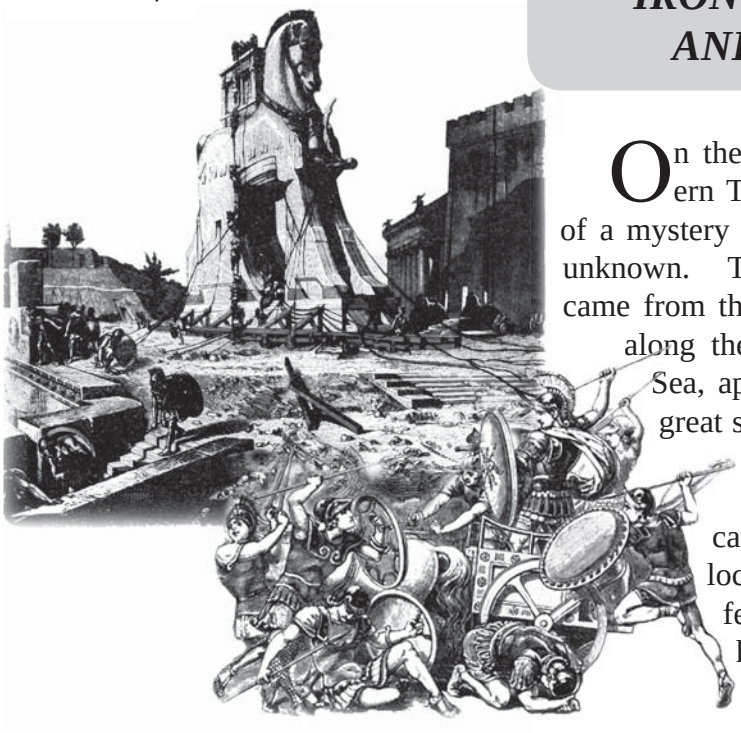


Lesson 11

Chapter 1

Section 3
Lessons 11-15

IRON SWORDS, CHARIOTS, AND A TROJAN HORSE



On the Anatolian Plateau of Asia Minor (modern Turkey) once lived a people who are a bit of a mystery because a great deal about them remains unknown. They were the Hittites. They probably came from the *steppes* (vast, treeless, grassland plains along the Europe-Asia border) around the Black Sea, approximately 1900 BC. It was a time of great social upheaval and mass movement in the region. Probably, a rapid increase in the population and conflicts among tribes had caused several groups to seek less-crowded locations. The Hittites were a loose confederation of warrior elites. They were, however, a highly literate people. They had their own form of ***hieroglyphics***, but adopted Babylonian ***cuneiform*** as well.

In Anatolia, the Hittites established two empires. The first lasted from 1900 BC to 1700 BC. During the First Empire, the Hittites marched 500 miles down the Euphrates River and conquered Babylon. In fact, the Hittites became known and feared throughout their portion of the world. They were constantly engaged in conquest without and revolutions, ***coups de tat***, power struggles, and assassination attempts within.

Around 1700 BC, the First Hittite Empire came to an end. For nearly 200 years they were totally preoccupied with palace ***intrigues*** and political power struggles at home. Then, in the early 1300s BC, Suppiluliuma I came to the throne. It was he who set in motion the Second Hittite Empire. By the middle 1300's, only Egypt was as powerful as the Hittite Empire. About that time, Suppiluliuma received a rather surprising letter.

Egyptian Pharaoh Tutankhamun had recently died. His teen-aged widow, Ankhesenamun wrote to the Hittite king, "My husband has died, and I have no sons. They say about you that you have many sons. If you would send me one of your sons, he could become my husband."

VOCABULARY

Hieroglyphics: an ancient writing system comprised of symbols and drawings

Cuneiform: an ancient writing system composed of wedge shaped characters gouged into clay and hardened as tablets

Coup de tat: (coo de ta) a sudden, forceful, illegal takeover of government; a French word often shortened to *coup* (coo)

Intrigues: treachery, betrayal of trust; involving traitors, deceptions

Smelt: to melt ore in order to separate the metal contained therein

Besiege: to surround and attack with ladders, arrows, and fire

The 13-year-old widow, Ankhesenamun, was engaged in a life and death struggle with the priests of Amun-Ra. She hoped that Hittite military strength would give her the edge in that struggle. Suppiluliuma was very suspicious, but finally, he sent one of his sons to Egypt. The Hittite prince never arrived, however. He was ambushed and murdered by the priests of Amun-Ra. Poor Ankhesenamun had to face her enemies alone.

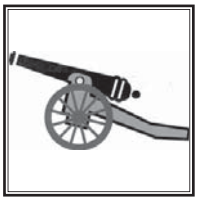
The Hittite Empire continued to prosper and expand. By 1334 BC, when Suppiluliuma died of a plague, the Hittites controlled an area of 260,000 square miles. That Second Hittite Empire lasted until about 1200 BC, when they literally disappeared from history.



C1 Map 8

The Hittites are important to the history of world civilization for two reasons: they had learned how to ***smelt*** iron, which gave rise to the Iron Age (preceeded by the Bronze and Stone Ages), and they had domesticated the horse. The Hittite iron tools and weapons made them superior to all their neighbors. Furthermore, in warfare, the Hittites combined their metal working techniques and their horse-training expertise. The horse drawn, iron-wheeled Hittite war chariots were all but invincible in battle against foot soldiers.

Half a world away in China, the same was true. The Chinese, like the Hittites, were the first in their part of the globe to smelt iron and domesticate horses. That combination gave the Chinese military advantage in the Far East. It was true, however, that the Chinese did not rely on chariots. Their soldiers, armed with iron weapons, rode into conflict mounted on horseback. This cavalry was the backbone of the Chinese army.


Military

THOSE WHO CONQUERED

In the midst of the Mycenaean Age, a power struggle for political dominance of the Aegean region developed between the Greek city-states of mainland Greece and those of Asia Minor. The result of that strife was one of history's major wars. Mycenae and its allies, and Troy and its allies, fought what has come to be known as the Trojan War. Troy was located on the northwestern coast of Asia Minor, not far from Europe.

Paris, prince of the Trojan royal house, led a military raid against several of the city-states on the Greek Peninsula. One of his principal targets was Sparta, from which he abducted its queen, Helen. Helen was married to Menelaus, who was the brother of Agamemnon, king of Mycenae. Because the other city-states of mainland Greece acknowledged the leadership of Mycenae and its king, Agamemnon was able to raise a large army. Subsequently, a Greek fleet sailed to Asia Minor. Meanwhile Troy prepared for the coming war and gathered their allies to the city of Troy. When the Mycenaeans arrived at Troy, they proceeded to ***besiege*** the city.

The warfare of that day was not like that of the modern age. From time to time, a band of Trojans would charge out from the city to engage the enemy. The two sides battled each

other from war chariots or on foot, fighting with swords, spears, bows and arrows. They protected themselves with crested helmets, large, figure-eight shields, and partial body armor.

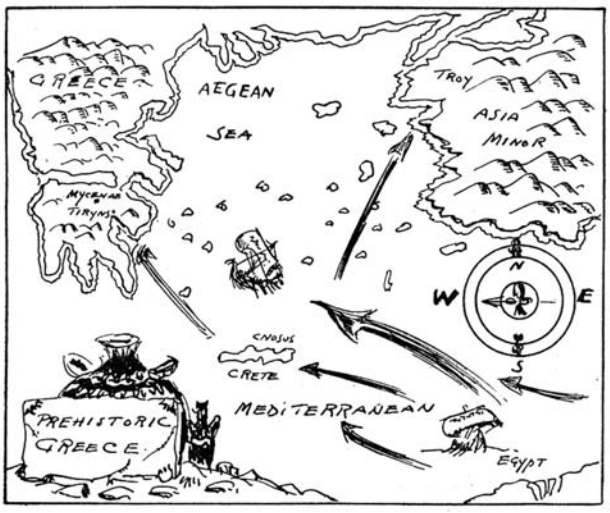
More often, however, a champion from one side would challenge one of his counterparts from the enemy camp. The two heroes would meet in single combat until one of them was killed. At that time, all conflict would stop. The dead hero's comrades would claim his body, and elaborate funeral festivities would take place. There would be athletic competitions, songs, stories, and feasting. Such activities could take days, weeks, or months, depending on how important the fallen champion had been.

On other occasions, there would be long periods when nothing happened at all, except that individuals from each side would hurl insults at each other. Because of that leisurely manner of conducting the combat, the war dragged on for ten, long years. The Greeks could not capture Troy, and the Trojans could not make the Greeks go away.

Finally, Odysseus, the cleverest man among the Greeks, devised a plan. The Mycenaeans (Greeks) built a giant wooden horse. When the horse was completed, the Greeks sailed away, leaving the horse outside the gates of Troy. Horses were sacred to the Trojan goddess, Athena, who was considered to be a special protector of Troy. The Trojans, therefore, presumed that the wooden horse was a gift from the Greeks in honor of Athena, signifying that the war was ended. The Trojans brought the horse into the city and celebrated their apparent victory over their Mycenaean enemies.

The so-called "Trojan Horse," however, was hollow; and inside it were Odysseus and a body of Greek soldiers. When the Trojans had fallen into an intoxicated sleep, Odysseus and his men came out of the horse and forced open the city's gates for the Greek army which had returned in the dark. The Mycenaeans proceeded to defeat the Trojans, burn the city, and rescue Helen. The long Trojan War was over, and the Greeks would continue to be the supreme power in the world for some time. European civilization would be greatly influenced by the Greeks and their successors, the Romans.

C1 Map 9



LIFE PRINCIPLE



"Beware of enticing temptations. Your enemies may place a Trojan horse in your path, but in the end their gift will bring destruction. "

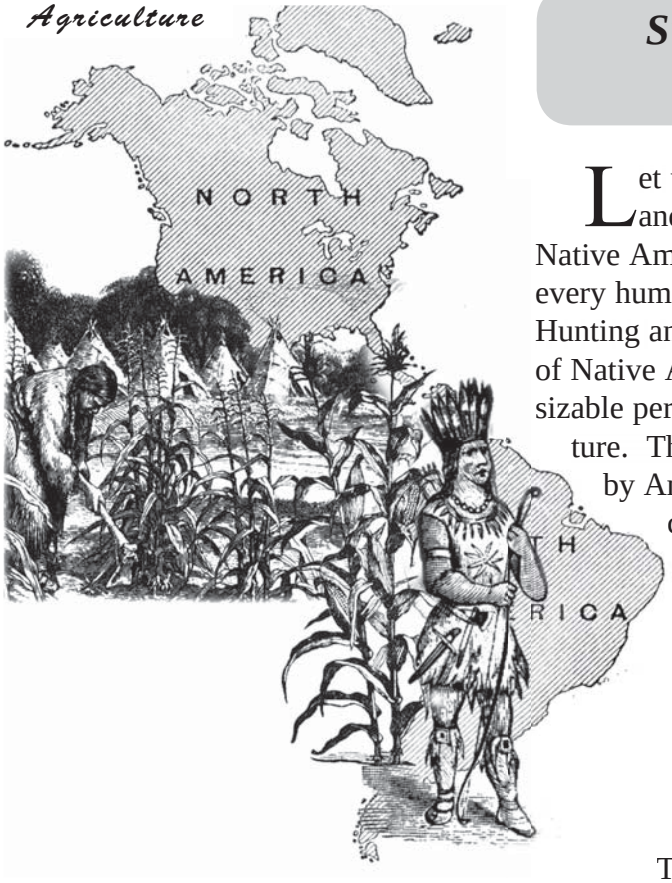
—Anonymous



Lesson 12

Chapter 1

Section 3
Lessons 11-15



STICKS, TERRACES, URNS, AND GARDENS

Let us return once again to the American continents and examine another aspect of pre-Columbian Native American life. Food is essential for life and every human culture has had to find a way to produce it. Hunting and gathering were practiced by a large number of Native American tribal groups. On the other hand, a sizable percentage had developed some form of agriculture. Three diverse types of agriculture were practiced by American Indian societies in various geographical locations. In simple terms, the following three situations prevailed:

1. Slash and Burn—in the jungles of Central and South America (as well as in Africa and Australia)
2. ***Tillage***—in much of North America
3. ***Terrace*** Farms—in the Andes Mountains of South America

The cultivation of Indian maize was another aspect of New World agriculture that took place throughout the pre-Columbian Americas. Interestingly, maize is now among the top three most important grain crops in the world, along with wheat and rice. Yet somehow, somewhere, corn on the cob, as we know it, was developed by the Indians very early after their arrival from Asia.

Domesticated corn on the cob (Indian maize) probably began as a wild grass which, through careful cultivation and controlled cross-breeding, became a plant with tiny ears of corn. The type we would recognize as such took considerably longer to produce. It must also be noted that maize, as we know it today, is the one type of grain which must always be cautiously cared for by man. Corn-on-the-cob does not grow wild — it reproduces only when kernels are planted by man.

Slash and burn agriculture was practiced in the rain forests of Central and South America. It was the simplest of agricultural techniques. The farmers merely selected a

VOCABULARY

Tillage: referring to the practice of using a tool or instrument to plow the earth in order to plant crops
Terrace: one of a series of level earthen areas rising one above the other in stair- step fashion
Beaker: a large drinking vessel with a wide mouth, similar to a pitcher without a handle
Tendrils: intricate, vine-like designs
Motif: a subject, theme, or idea that reoccurs in music, art, or literature

portion of jungle, felled the trees, and burned them along with the undergrowth. Once those tasks were accomplished, the crops could be planted with the aid of a pointed stick. For the most part, the local soil was too poor to produce a good yield of crops. The ashes resulting from the burning were used as a fertilizer; but in such a situation, the soil wore out very quickly. That meant a large population could not be supported. Because of the quick depletion of the soil, the farming community had to move often. Therefore, the slash and burn farmers were forced to depend on hunting and fishing as well.

The *tillage* method of farming was a simple but effective type of cultivation. It was employed throughout much of North America. With a specially prepared digging stick, the tiller scratched at the surface of the ground and prepared the topsoil for planting. The garden was planted in May. The farmer placed three or four kernels of maize and a few beans in rows at intervals of about three feet and heaped small hills of dirt over them. When the seeds sprouted, bean vines climbed the growing corn stalks and, at the same time, the ground around the hills was kept free from weeds. Pumpkins and squash were often planted between the stalks. Many Native American groups considered beans, squash, and maize to be "the three sisters." Among the New England tribes, beans and corn prepared together were known as "succotash." It is still called that name today. The tillage gardens were fertilized with manure, dead fish, seaweed, or decayed vegetable matter.

The third manner of New World farming has been called the highest point of ancient American agricultural development. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were considered to be one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The "hanging gardens" of the Andes Mountains of South America were much larger than those of Babylon. In those South American mountains, pre-Columbian farmers planted crops on narrow terraces arranged up the steep sides of the Andes. Those *terrace*



Andean Terrace Farm

farms consisted of a series of garden plots behind expertly constructed retaining walls. The *terraces* were often 8-15 feet wide and several hundred feet long. The retaining walls were from 15-20 feet high. The stones used to construct them were ground and fitted together so that the seams were difficult to see. Behind each retaining wall, the builders tamped down two distinct layers of earth. In the first layer, they dumped subsoil made up of small coarse stones and clay. In the second was 2 inches of topsoil, often brought from considerable distance. Local legends say that some topsoil for those terrace garden plots came from more than 1000 miles away. The terraces were so well built that most of them are still in use today.

Meanwhile, back in Europe, a new people were stepping onto the stage of world history.



Art

CELTIC ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Successive waves of invaders poured into Central Europe. Those people came from one or more of three possible locations:

1. The Anatolian Plateau of Asia Minor
2. The steppes (plains) around the Black Sea
3. The area of the Danube River (in Northern Europe).

The first such migrants probably arrived on the scene sometime in the early 2000's

BC. Because of the great numbers of stone or copper shaft-hole axes found in graves, archaeologists have named those early settlers, the *Battle Ax People.* They were likely the first people in Central Europe to speak *Indo-European* (the parent-language family from which all European languages are descended).

A few centuries later, a second group showed up. Again, that particular immigrant population has been designated in terms of a prominent feature of their material culture. Because archaeological research has uncovered considerable numbers of fine, large, reddish, bell-shaped pottery vessels, the individuals who made them were termed the *Bell* ***Beaker*** *People.*

In time, the combination of the Battle Ax and the Bell Beaker peoples, when mixed with other cultural streams entering Central Europe, produced ethnic groups which could be considered proto-Celtic (ancestral to the Celts) and subsequently Celtic. The last such proto-Celtic group became fully established approximately 1250 BC. The members of that society burned the bodies of their dead, placed the ashes in urns, and buried them in large cemeteries or "urnfields." Therefore, that cultural expression has been called the *Urnfield Culture.* The Battle Ax and Bell Beaker people and the Urnfield Culture gave rise to the Celts. The Celts settled in a crescent-shaped band across Central Europe (north of where the Greeks and Romans lived) stretching from Asia Minor to the Iberian Peninsula (modern Spain and Portugal). Because of the shape of their occupation area, it could be called the "Celtic Crescent," similar to the "Fertile Crescent" of Egypt, Palestine, Syria, and Mesopotamia. It was the Celts, who in many ways founded, civilized, and later Christianized Europe. They and their forbearers produced an art form unique in world history.

Piece of Celtic Art



Celtic art consists of intricate and highly stylized intertwined lines, spirals, and curling *tendrils.* The Celtic artist attempted to reproduce nature in such a way that the lines were reduced to basic and repetitive designs. Since their introduction nearly 4,000 years ago, Celtic art *motifs* have resurfaced again and again throughout history. For instance, the worldwide art deco movement of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s AD embodied many Celtic artistic elements. Even today, a great interest in Celtic art exists.

C1 Map 10

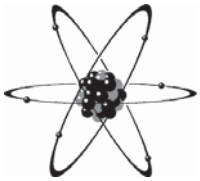


LIFE PRINCIPLE



"Religion and art spring from the same root and are close kin."

—Willa Cather



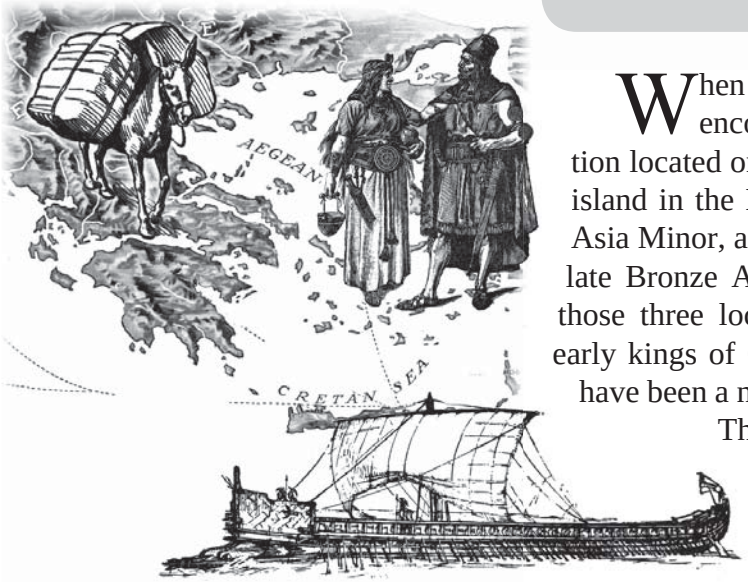
Energy

Lesson 13

Chapter 1

Section 3
Lessons 11-15

WIND POWER AND THE SEA





VOCABULARY

Minotaur: a bloodthirsty, mythological monster that was half bull and half man
Maritime: relating to navigation or commerce of the sea
Convey: to transport from one place to another
Draft: to pull a load
Cumbersome: awkward, clumsy, bulky difficult
Alpaca: a llama-like animal that can be sheared like a sheep for it's wool
Prow: the front or foremost part of a boat or ship; the bow

When Greek tribes migrated southward, they encountered an already established civilization located on the island of Crete. That 160 mile-long island in the Mediterranean Sea was between Europe, Asia Minor, and Egypt. It was the meeting place in the late Bronze Age (4,000 BC) for the inhabitants from those three localities. Tradition says that one of the early kings of Crete was Minos. The term *Minos* may have been a name or a title like "Pharaoh" or "Caesar." Therefore, because of the prominence of King Minos, or The Minos, Cretan civilization of that era was called "Minoan." Greek historian Thucydides wrote that it was Minos who built the world's first navy.

Minoan civilization may have developed only slightly later than those of Egypt and Mesopotamia. It was certainly the oldest in Europe. The Greek poet, Homer, said that there were 90 cities on ancient Crete, the most important being Cnossus. That latter urban center probably had a population of at least 100,000 people and became the capital of the country. Because Crete was an island nation, its political and military might was maintained by its navy. Thus the primary method of energy use on Crete was that of wind power on the sails of its ships.

The island's economy depended upon trade. With its merchant fleet, Crete traded with the entire Mediterranean world. The coastal city of Phaestus, on the opposite end of the island from Cnossus, was the country's chief port. Especially was that true for voyages to the south, to Egypt, etc. In addition, there were many other smaller ports, each of which served the Minoan foreign markets.

Militarily, the Minoans relied on their vast navy for defense. The cities of Crete were not even walled. With the aid of their navy, the Cretans established distant colonies and gained political control throughout the circum-Aegean region (the islands in the Aegean

Sea, the Greek Peninsula, and the western coast of Asia Minor), the area which would later be dominated by the Mycenaeans.



Slaying of the Minotaur

A traditional Cretan story relates that because of her naval superiority, Crete was able to demand a tribute from the city of Athens every ninth year for 30 years. The tribute was 14 youths (7 males and 7 females) who were sacrificed to the ***Minotaur*** that supposedly lived in an elaborate maze under the palace at Cnossus.

Circa 1200 BC, Cnossus and the Minoan civilization were destroyed. At that time, the balance of naval power shifted to the Phoenicians on the northern Palestinian coast. Phoenicia then became the new ***maritime*** presence in the Mediterranean world. The Phoenician cities of Tyre, Sidon, and Byblos became the trade centers. The Phoenicians were called the "People of the Sea" and traded purple dye, lumber, copper, tin, iron, textiles, bronze armor, weapons, war chariots, gold and silver vessels, inlaid furniture, glass, and pottery to every port on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. Because of her sea power, Phoenicia was able to establish colonies throughout the area.

The North African city of Carthage was Phoenicia's most famous colony. The Roman poet, Virgil, in his poetic epic, The *Aeneid*, wrote that the Trojan prince, Aeneas, visited Carthage after fleeing the destruction of his home city at the end of the Trojan War.

The Phoenicians are also well known for two gifts they gave to future world cultures. The city of Byblos gave its name to the English words, "Bible" and "book." The Phoenicians also gave us the alphabets used by many Indo-European languages today.



Transportation

GETTING AROUND

A basic social need in any human community is how to ***convey*** goods from one place to another. Throughout world history, different cultures have solved the transportation problem in a variety of ways. Resolutions often involved the degree of local inventiveness along with the availability of ***draft*** animals. Examples of such divergent solutions can be found in human populations of Bronze Age Europe and the pre-Columbian Americas.

Among the early Greeks, the ox was a primary beast of burden. However, several problems existed in regard to the use of the ox for hauling. The ox was slow and ***cumbersome***. The wagons it pulled were fragile, and broke down easily and often. In addition, they frequently became bogged down in the mud of what passed for roads in that era. It was generally better to pack a smaller load of goods on the back of a mule, or even a horse.

There was no government postal service in ancient Greece. The only way to send a message was by means of a private carrier. Land transport was simply not a particularly efficient operation in Mycenaean Greece. Roads were extremely poor at best, and often non-existent.

Furthermore, the Greek Peninsula was intersected with lofty mountain ranges, making land travel very difficult. The ocean, on the other hand, was never very far away. It has been said that Greece was separated by mountains and united by the sea. No place in the interior of Greece was very distant from salt water. The Greek coastline was greatly indented with numerous inlets. Many of those areas of the sea reached far inland.

Thus, water transport was easier and cheaper. That was especially true if the voyages were limited to the calmer summer months. As for passenger service, the fare was quite inexpensive. The ships, however, did not cater to passengers. Bronze Age Greek vessels were designed to carry trade goods and/or wage war. The Mycenaean ocean-going crafts were propelled either by wind in their sails or slaves pulling at banks of oars.

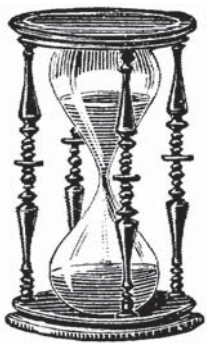


Meanwhile, thousands of miles to the west, the residents of the New World approached the problem of transportation in vastly different ways. The Americas lacked any large draft animals, therefore, wheeled vehicles were never developed in North and South America during the pre-Columbian era. The only potential beasts of burden at the disposal of the local inhabitants were the dog and the llama or ***alpaca***. The dog was utilized as a draft animal throughout both North and South America, whereas the llama and alpaca appeared only in the Andes Mountains of South America.

The Eskimo of the far north, in very early times, invented the sled to which they hitched teams of wolf-like dogs. On the Plains of North America, the Indians modified the sled into what became known as the *travois*. That device consisted of two slender poles tied on either side of a dog and allowed to drag on the ground behind. Across those poles were lashed items the Indians wanted to transport. Packs of 40 to 50 pounds each were also secured on the backs of dogs. The same technique was used with the llamas and alpacas in the Andes.

Boats were generally small. Canoes of various types served in nearly every part of the two continents. Large, *prowed,* cedar-plank canoes were used by the Indians of the Northwest coast of North America to hunt whales. Birch bark and dug-out canoes saw service in many American streams and lakes. Canoes constructed of large bundles of lashed-together reeds were made in South America, Egypt, and Phoenicia. On the rivers of the North American Plains, the natives used "bull boats." These employed animal hides stretched over circular wooden frames. Some Indians made and used rafts. South American Indians may have migrated to the Polynesian Islands in the Pacific Ocean on balsa wood rafts.

LIFE PRINCIPLE



"One minute of patience, ten years of peace."

—Greek proverb



Lesson 14

Chapter 1

Section 3
Lessons 11-15



TALKING TRAILS

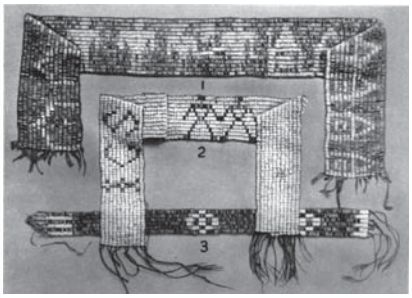
The art of writing is a particularly important ability performed by people throughout history and around the world. An amazing variety of writing systems were devised by human beings to communicate their thoughts and ideas. Many societies, however, never developed that ability. Nevertheless, those ***illiterate*** human populations invented means to express themselves without writing, and sometimes without talking. Only in the Valley of Mexico and Central America did American Indians produce a true written language. Just a few hundred years before the arrival of Europeans, the Aztecs, Olmecs, and Mayas devised hieroglyphic writing.



Mayan tablet

Nowhere else in the pre-Columbian New World was writing developed. Nevertheless, elaborate means of communication were contrived and practiced among the various American Indian tribes.

Among the Iroquoi tribes in the Northeastern Woodlands of the future United States and Canada, ***wampum*** belts were used to keep tribal records and commemorate events. Local residents also devised a set of trail markers which were left at strategic locations in the forest to impart certain information to individuals or war parties who might be coming along later. Rocks and cut sticks were placed in meaningful patterns. Slashes and marks on tree trunks were also prominently displayed. Today, we define such signs as part of general "woods lore." Modern young peoples' organizations



Wampum

VOCABULARY

Illiterate: unskilled in reading or writing
Wampum: "belts" of various sizes with small sea shells and beads woven into designs; contained figures, symbols and geometric patterns in contrasting colors
Quipu: a bundle of knotted strings that held specific meanings in the styles of knots
Principal: main
Regent: ruling with supreme authority
Diplomacy: the careful maneuvering of political situations through polite communication rather than force or war

such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have adopted such devices for their own uses.

Three different means of non-written communication were devised by the Indians of the North American Plains. Smoke signals were used during the day to send messages long distances. One, two, or three columns or puffs of smoke meant different things. Also, different kinds of wood were burned to produce dark or light-colored smoke. At night, signal fires were used. Drums constituted another means of communication that often conveyed a message of warfare soon to begin.

In that vast area lived many tribes, each of whom spoke a different dialect or language. In order for them to communicate when they met, a system of sign language was invented. It is the most effective, non-verbal communication known to man. Finger and hand gestures enabled speakers of diverse tongues to "talk" to one another with great fluency. The system was so easy to learn that a person could acquire great skill at "signing" with little practice.

In the Andes Mountain region of South America another means of non-written communication was devised—the *quipu* that recorded complicated mathematical calculations and possible simple narratives. A less elaborate form is still in use among the Indians of that region.



Dominant Personalities

THE LADY HAS HER DAY

At first glance, this early period of earth's history might appear to be one solely dominated by men. In the main, such indeed was the case. Even in such a period, however, history records examples of women who were able, by personal determination and courage, to rise above the limitations imposed upon them. Let's examine the lives of four such women from Africa, Asia, and Europe.

In Egypt's 18th Dynasty appeared one of the most remarkable women in human history. The daughter of Pharaoh Thutmose I was named *Hatshepsut*. The princess' mother was Thutmose's ***principal*** wife. The royal title came through Hatshepsut, but she could not rule because she was a woman. Only her husband could be pharaoh. She married a royal prince, Thutmose II. When he died, Hatshepsut married her husband's brother, Thutmose III. At that time she managed to get herself declared co-***regent***. She and Thutmose ruled together.



Hatshepsut

Throughout their co-reign, however, a fierce struggle took place between them in regard to which public policies Egypt should pursue. Hatshepsut was able to gather around her a considerable following. In time, her "party" gained the supremacy. The queen's group favored peace. Her husband's group favored war. In the end, she prevailed. At the death of her second husband, Hatshepsut grew tired of the whole game. She declared herself to be pharaoh and ruled in her own right. She was the only woman in ancient Egypt's history to do so. Hatshepsut turned out to be one of Egypt's most able rulers. She expanded the kingdom, mainly through ***diplomacy*** rather than war. Her long reign was one of peace and prosperity. She instituted a massive public-works project with slave labor. Many edifices in ancient Egypt were erected during Hatshepsut's reign.

During the Hebrew Period of the Judges, another remarkable lady occupied history's center stage. Flavius Josephus, in his *Antiquities of the Jews* tells the story of this judge. That account is also found in the Bible. A Canaanite



king named Jabin oppressed the nation of Israel for 20 years. Finally, the Israelites chose another judge to liberate them from their foreign conquerors. That time, however, they selected a woman—Deborah, a Hebrew prophetess. She chose Barak, of the tribe of Naphtali, to be military commander. Deborah instructed Barak to choose 10,000 men as an army to fight against Jabin. Barak, however, refused to go into battle unless Deborah accompanied him, which she agreed to do. They achieved victory over their enemies and the land had peace; Deborah judged Israel for 40 years. Out of the dozen or more judges of the nation of Israel, Deborah was the only woman judge.

In Mycenaean Greece, legend says that Odysseus, king of Ithaca went off to fight in the Trojan War. That war dragged on for 10 years. On the journey home, Odysseus was confronted with a series of major problems. Storms blew him off course. He was shipwrecked on remote islands. He was held prisoner for several years. Because of all those incidents, he spent another 10 years getting home. Therefore, he was gone for a total of 20 years.

Meanwhile, back in Ithaca, history alleges that his wife, Penelope, had her own difficulties. Her major problem was the same as Hatshepsut's. She was Queen of Ithaca, but only her husband could actually rule. Her husband, however, was missing for two decades. During that time, Penelope was under constant pressure to remarry so that her new husband could be Ithaca's king. She managed to rear her son, Telemachus, resist the pressure to remarry, hold the kingdom together, and remain loyal to Odysseus. Eventually, Odysseus returned, threw out Penelope's unwanted suitors, and took his rightful place as Ithaca's king.

During the reign of Persian King Xerxes (486-465 BC), Esther, a young Jewish girl, was selected to be queen of the vast Persian empire. However, Haman, an assistant to King Xerxes, was jealous of Queen Esther's cousin, Mordecai, who refused to bow when Haman passed nearby. Therefore, Haman persuaded King Xerxes to order the death of all Jews in Persia. Queen Esther risked her life to intercede. Her principles, courage, and faith prevented a mass slaughter of the Jewish people. Because of Esther's willingness to face death for a noble cause, people often use the phrase attributed to her as she faced possible death to save her people: "If I perish, I perish."

In the instances cited above, four extraordinary women from the planet's ancient past were very much a part of the events of their own eras. Hatshepsut the Egyptian, Deborah the Israelite, Penelope the Mycenaean, and Esther the Jew chose to affect the world around them. Therefore, they each stepped out of the roles usually assigned to their peers and changed the futures of their countries.

LIFE PRINCIPLE



"A wise woman takes care of her house; a foolish woman causes strife."

—Hebrew proverb

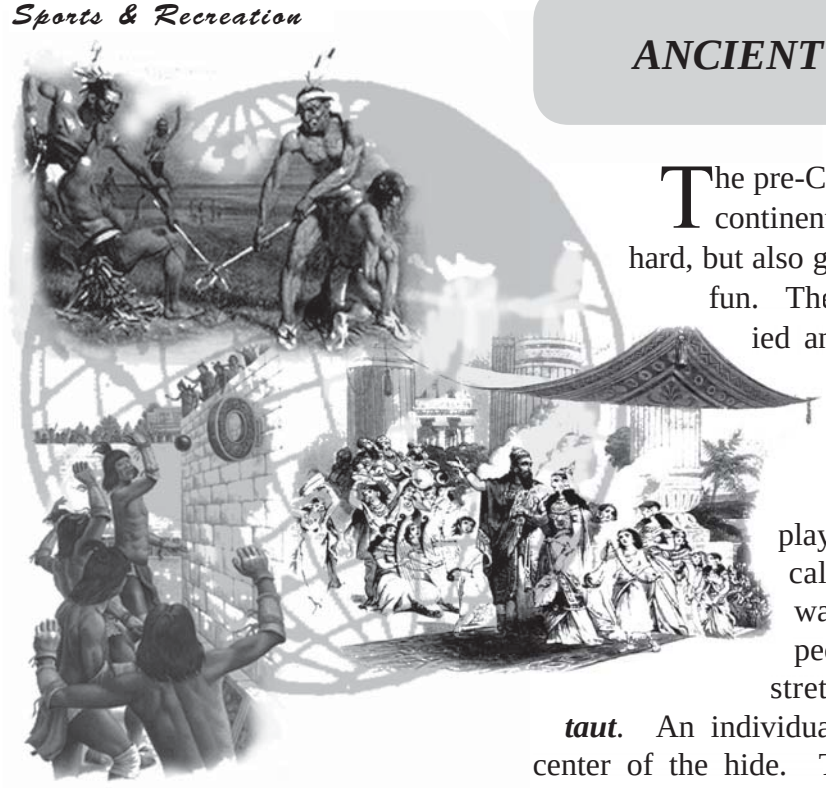


Lesson 15

Chapter 1

Section 3
Lessons 11-15

Sports & Recreation



ANCIENT FUN AND GAMES

The pre-Columbian residents of the American continents were a ***robust*** people who worked hard, but also greatly liked to play games and have fun. Their recreational activities were varied and usually quite physical. Typical American Indian sports included wrestling, foot racing, and jumping associated with battles.

In the far north, the Eskimos played a game which we might well call "blanket tossing." A large walrus skin was held by 40 or 50 people in a circle. The hide holders stretched the "blanket" level and ***taut***. An individual volunteered to be placed at the center of the hide. Then he or she was bounced into the air, sometimes reaching a height of 15 to 20 feet.

In the Northeastern Woodlands of the future United States and Canada, native tribes played a popular winter game called "snow snake." A long smooth furrow was made in the snow. Water was poured down the length of the furrow and allowed to freeze. Then long straight poles were smoothed and carved, sometimes in the likeness of a snake. Those poles were thrust forward along the prepared ice pathway. The person whose "snake" slid the furthest, won the game.

Those Woodland American Indian tribes east of the Mississippi River also played *lacrosse*. Teams were formed which often consisted of entire villages or even whole tribes. To many Native Americans, lacrosse was their "national game," to the same degree that baseball is today to modern inhabitants of North America.

Every player was equipped with two, long-handled, webbed rackets. With those devices, each team attempted to advance a stuffed deerskin ball down the field to the opponents' goal. Lacrosse was usually played with such ferocity that bones were broken and blood was spilled.

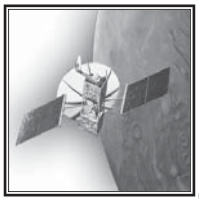
VOCABULARY

Robust: strong, capable, full of life
Taut: very tight
Idol: an object or concept worshipped by a culture, and to which the people make sacrifices
Sub-Saharan: in Africa, south of the Sahara Desert
Neolithic Revolution: the domestication of plants and animals

Often, a lacrosse match was more of a battle than a game. Native American players considered lacrosse the "little brother to war." To them it was not just a form of recreation, but also a training ground for warfare. The game of lacrosse was adopted by European immigrants to the new world and is still played today by various groups.



***Tlachtli* was a ball game played in the Valley of Mexico and Central America. It combined elements of basketball and soccer. Tlachtli was played in a large, paved and walled (but roofless) court. Using just elbows, knees, and hips players attempted to drive a solid rubber ball through a stone ring mounted high on the opponents wall. Some Tlachtli courts were as large as modern football fields. The game often involved a large number of players. Like lacrosse, Tlachtli involved broken bones and bloodshed. Sometimes the teams were composed of prisoners of war. In that situation, the players who lost the game were killed as sacrifices to one of the *idols*. Therefore, the teams literally played for their lives!**



Discoveries

African Advancements

Perhaps the historical era with which we are presently concerned is a little early to think in terms of ***sub-Saharan*** Africa demonstrating evidences of high cultures. There are, however, several particularly significant indications that some of the societies in the region were already on that upward path. It is clearly evident that many of the area's tribes had progressed from nomadic hunters and gatherers to settled farmers and herders, often using donkeys and camels. In other words, the so-called "***Neolithic Revolution***" had taken place. In the period under discussion, the non-Egyptian portions of the African continent had become a part of developing world history.

The kingdoms of Nubia and Kush, south of Egypt, fought with the Egyptians and threatened their southern border for centuries. Those cultures were important enough and advanced enough to be worth the concern of the Egyptian civilization. Subsequently, Egypt penetrated militarily into that region, and in time, Nubia and Kush assimilated much of Egyptian culture. As the Egyptian presence in Nubia continued over the years, the Nubian soldiers, who were integrated into the Egyptian campaigns, brought home with them further influence from the land of the pharaohs.

That influence went the other way also. For instance, Egypt imported a great many Nubian goods and slaves. The fact that Egyptian commerce with Nubia was so extensive proved that the Nubian culture was sufficiently well developed to have something to trade with the most powerful nation on Earth at the time. Such commodities were ivory, ebony, osterich feathers, exotic items, slaves, and gold from Nubian tribes.

The Egyptian presence did not stop with Nubia. Egypt continued to push southward through Nubia into the Kingdom of Kush. Egyptian trading posts in Nubia and Kush were well fortified, indicating, once more, that the Nubian and Kushite military threat was considered potentially



A Nubian trading caravan

dangerous. When internal problems prevented Egypt from concentrating on her southern neighbors, the latter continued to grow and develop on their own. Eventually, beyond the scope of this chapter, Nubia would conquer Egypt and establish several Nubian dynasties.

Other popularly held beliefs tell of a visit to or a visit from an advanced African society in the period of Earth's history covered by this chapter. Hebrew, Ethiopian, and Jamaican traditions maintain that Israel's King Solomon was visited by the Queen of Sheba. She was said to have arrived in Jerusalem, accompanied by a large caravan, many servants, and a fortune in gold and precious stones. The latter was a gift to Solomon. The queen was also in possession of great intelligence and learning. Jewish historian Flavius Josephus in his *Antiquities of the Jews, Book VIII*, refers to her as the Queen of Ethiopia. If Josephus is correct, then Ethiopia was obviously a very highly-developed, ancient African culture.



Hatshepsut's Merchant Fleet

Another Hebrew tradition involves a great fleet which was jointly commissioned by Israel's King Solomon and Phoenicia's King Hiram of Tyre. The two kings were said to have sent their fleet to the fabulous country (or city) of Ophir. From there, the fleet brought back a tremendous fortune in gold. Ophir may have been in eastern Africa on the Mozambique coast. Ophir has also been suggested as being the same as the ancient land of Punt (also known as Put or Phut).

History tells us that Queen Hatshepsut of Egypt's 18th Dynasty dispatched a merchant fleet to the Somali coast. That, too, has been tentatively identified as Punt. Once again, if either or both of those identifications are correct, that region of Africa may have produced high culture in ancient times.

LIFE PRINCIPLE



"The person who grows up without correction will find his mouth slipping instead of his foot."

—Ethiopian proverb