

# WEEK AT A GLANCE

## WEEK 05

### WORLDVIEW

*The Miracle of the Scarlet Thread*, Ch. 1

Worldview of ancient Mesopotamia

### ANCIENT HISTORY

*Western Civilization*: Intro pp. xxxiii-xxxiv; pp. 5-15

### TIMELINE

Place the figures in blank timeline book.

### GEOGRAPHY

Map Trek: Mesopotamia

# THE MIRACLE OF THE SCARLET THREAD

BY DR. RICHARD BOOKER

## CH. 1: INTRO TO A DUSTY OLD BOOK

The author writes that he had trouble understanding the Bible and developing his relationship with God. He had something in his life that was more important to him than God was.

1. What is the term for something in your life that is considered to be more important than God?
2. Whose portrait is the Old Testament painting? What is the message?
3. What were Jesus' own words about the Old Testament Scriptures in relation to Himself? (John 5:39-40)
4. How are the two testaments linked together?  
The Old Testament  
The New Testament
5. What is considered the "scarlet thread" that runs through both testaments?

---

### POINT TO PONDER

Examine your own heart to see if you might be putting something ahead of your relationship with God. If so, ask the Lord to help you seek Him first and to tear down the idols that have taken His place as the number one priority in your life.

## JESUS IN EVERY BOOK OF THE BIBLE

For each book of the Bible, write how Jesus is portrayed in it.

Jesus in	Jesus in	Jesus in
Genesis	Joshua	Job
Exodus	Judges	Psalms
Leviticus	Ruth	Proverbs
Numbers	Samuel	Ecclesiastes
Deuteronomy	Kings and Chronicles	Song of Solomon
	Ezra	
	Nehemiah	
	Esther	

Jesus in

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Lamentation

Ezekiel

Daniel

Jesus in

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

Jesus in

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

---

Jesus in

Acts

Jesus in

Romans

Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

Thessalonians

Timothy and Titus

Philemon

Jesus in

Hebrews

James

Peter

1,2,3 John

Jude

Revelation

# WESTERN CIVILIZATION

BY JACKSON J. SPIELVOGEL

## BEFORE YOU READ:

This textbook follows the flow of the history of Western civilization. Although it is not necessarily told from a Christian perspective, the narrative is engaging, and it contains many primary source documents,, helpful maps, illustrations, and photographs. It is possible to utilize sources and texts that aren't by Christian publishers as long as you are aware of the possibility of bias and always weigh the facts that are presented against the truth found in the Bible and other reliable sources.

With that in mind, read the first paragraph only under the heading The First Humans:

1. According to the author of the textbook, on what does their understanding of prehistory rely? Why?
2. What is conjecture? Look up the definition if you're not sure.
3. In your opinion, how reliable would a theory based on conjecture be?

Historians who claim to know the history of the earliest humans are relying on conjecture. That means the section that follows is all a guess, a speculation, with no real evidence or proof. God has already told us the truth about earliest man, and we have already read about it in Genesis 1-11. Adam and Eve were the first people, and God placed them in the Garden of Eden and had daily fellowship with them. He taught them to farm, and He gave them dominion over all the rest of His creation. Life did not rise out of some primordial soup, and humans did not evolve from apes into Homo sapiens. Men were made in God's image, and, because of that, they have value. When you encounter something that doesn't line up with the Word of God, you mustn't fall for it. Everything must be weighed against Scripture, and if there is a dispute, remember that God doesn't lie and that His Word is true.

Cave drawings are a fact that can't be disputed. People drew those drawings, but it all happened after Adam and Eve were created and their descendants began to populate the earth. For those reasons, we will skip the section on The First Humans, and instead, we'll begin reading this text on p. 5 at the section titled: The Emergence of Civilization.

READ THE DATING OF TIME SECTION IN THE INTRODUCTION ON PP. XXXIX - XL.

1. Give the meaning for the following abbreviations:

BC

AD

BCE.

CE

2. Since the dates are the same using AD or CE, speculate why BCE and CE have replaced BC and AD

# CH. 1: THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST: THE FIRST CIVILIZATIONS

BEGIN READING ON P. 5 - THE EMERGENCE OF CIVILIZATION

1. What are the six basic characteristics of a civilization?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

## CIVILIZATION IN MESOPOTAMIA

1. What does the word “Mesopotamia” mean?
2. What are the names of the two rivers?
3. Define theocracy. Who had the power in Sumerian cities and how was the government run?
4. Around 2340 BC, Sargon led his army into Mesopotamia, overran the Sumerian city-states and established his empire which reached west to the Mediterranean. What was this vast empire called?
5. How and when did the Akkadian empire end, and what replaced it?
6. Why was Hammurabi known both as a man of war and a man of peace? Explain your answer.



7. Study the picture of the Stele of Hammurabi at the bottom of p. 10. What scene is depicted on the upper part of the stele? Do you think this would persuade the people to obey the laws more than if that scene weren't there? Why or why not?

HISTORICAL VOICES: THE CODE OF HAMMURABI  
LOOK SPECIFICALLY AT LAWS # 196, 198, AND 199

8. What was the crime in all three of those laws?
9. What was different about the punishments in those laws?

NOW LOOK AT LAWS #209, 210, 211, 212, 213, AND 214.

10. What do you notice about those crimes and punishments?
11. Based on your findings above, draw a conclusion about Mesopotamian society.

---

**POINT TO PONDER**

Consider some of the crimes and punishments in the United States in the 21st Century. Are our laws as strict as those in ancient Mesopotamia and at the time of the Old Testament? Which laws seem more just? Would you rather have our laws or their laws? Why or why not?

12. Read the following verses in your Bible and summarize in the spaces below:

Exodus 21:24-25:

Exodus 21:26-27:

Leviticus 19:15:

13. How was Hammurabi's Code the same as God's Law?

14. How did Hammurabi's Code differ from God's Law?

15. What was the most important part of the Mesopotamian culture?

---

#### POINT TO PONDER

The Sumerians devised number systems using base 10 and base 6. You're probably familiar with the base 10 number system (Think decimals and multiplying and dividing by 10.) Can you think of a system that we use today that uses a base 6? (Hint: How many seconds in a minute? How many minutes in an hour? How many hours in a day? All of those are multiples of 6!)

16. Explain how the physical environment of Mesopotamia affected religion and the Mesopotamian view of the universe.

17. Define polytheism:

18. List some of the major achievements of the Mesopotamian civilization, particularly in their form of writing and mathematics .

19. How do pictograph signs differ from phonetic writing?

20. Judge how having a system of writing can leave a longer lasting legacy for a civilization.

# WORLDVIEW

Let's continue to use the *Western Civilization* text to examine how our worldview questions would be answered by the ancient Mesopotamians. From your reading, analyze the worldview of the people of ancient Mesopotamia and complete the chart on the following pages.

WORLDVIEW OF ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

General Info: When and where lived, other

List the four main gods of the Mesopotamians and give their domains.

What is the nature and character of the gods?

What is the nature and origin of the universe?

Describe how the Babylonians would answer the above question according to the creation story known as Enuma elish.

WORLDVIEW OF ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

What is a human being? What is the nature of man?

What happens to a person after he dies? Describe the afterlife. For more information, visit <http://www.ancient.eu/article/7> Did the ancient Mesopotamians believe in an afterlife? If so, what was it like?

What is the basis for ethics and morality?

WEEK 05

# TIMELINE

PLACE THE FOLLOWING FIGURES IN BLANK TIMELINE BOOK.

Sumerian City-States (c. 3000-2340 BC)

Sumerian Cuneiform (c. 2800 BC)

Epic of Gilgamesh (c. 2600 BC)

Akkadian Empire (c. 2340-2000 BC)

Code of Hammurabi (c. 1790 BC)

# GEOGRAPHY

## MAP TREK: MESOPOTAMIA

USE MAP 1.3, THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST IN YOUR WESTERN CIVILIZATION TEXT TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

LABEL THE REGION KNOWN AS THE FERTILE CRESCENT. SHADE WITH A GREEN MAP PENCIL.

LABEL THE FOLLOWING BODIES OF WATER. SHADE WITH A BLUE MAP PENCIL:

Mediterranean Sea, Caspian Sea, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Tigris R., Euphrates R., Nile R.

LABEL THE FOLLOWING DESERTS. SHADE TAN OR BROWN:

Sahara Desert, Syrian Desert, Arabian Desert

DRAW MOUNTAIN RANGES AND LABEL:

Taurus Mountains., Caucasus Mountains., Zagros Mountains.

LABEL THE FOLLOWING REGIONS IN ALL CAPS:

ASIA MINOR, ASSYRIA, AKKAD, SUMER, IRAN, PHOENICIA, CANAAN, LOWER EGYPT, SINAI

LABEL THE FOLLOWING CITIES (YOU MAY NEED TO ADD DOTS TO YOUR MAP):

Ur, Eridu, Uruk, Umma, Lagash, Babylon, Ashur, Nineveh, Ebla, Tyre, Jericho, Jerusalem