

Themes From Readings

The Early Complex Societies, 3500-500 BCE	Mesopotamia: "The Land Between the Rivers"	Ancient Israel
Agricultural Revolution	Basic Geography/Fertile Crescent	Ethical Monotheism
Catal Huyuk	Sumer, city-states	Phoenicia
Societies, States Complex Societies	Patriarchy	The Old Testament
Pastoral Nomadism	Akkad	The Unification of Egypt
Indo-Europeans	Babylon	Egyptian Polytheism
	Chaldea ("New Babylon")	
	Hammurabi's Code	
	Assyria	
	The Epic of Gilgamesh	

Bucket/Themes

Geography/Environmental factors (e.g., influences on the rise, development, weakening, and fall of society)

Religion and faith (e.g., how did religion shape society and even influence events)

Political development and structure (e.g., how power was acquired and held, succession of power, power roles and relationships)

Economic systems (e.g., what was produced, traded, and/or sold, how was this done, who benefited/who was harmed, role of government in the economy)

Social structures (e.g., who played what roles, nature of hierarchy)

Cultural development and diffusion (e.g., traditions and rituals, arts, philosophy, literature; influences between and among societies)

Ancient Civs. Around Fertile Crescent



Definitions

Pastoral Nomadism
form of agriculture based on herding domesticated animals. This was the major opposition to farm based agriculture

Sumer
an area in southern Mesopotamia, where cities first appeared. Also credited for cuneiform and other scientific breakthroughs like wheels and etc.

City-States
an early city that was like a small, independent country with its own laws and government. Each would have its own king and unique government and set of laws.

Patriarchy
A society dominated by men. Very typical in all ancient societies.

The Epic of Gilgamesh
Mesopotamian narrative poem that was first told in Sumer. HEAVY influence on the bible and longest lasting famous tale.