

CIVILIZATIONS OF THE  
**ANCIENT WORLD**

Meeting 11 The Success of the Persian Empire

- Babylon
- The Persians and the Medes
- The Great King
- The Midterm Exam

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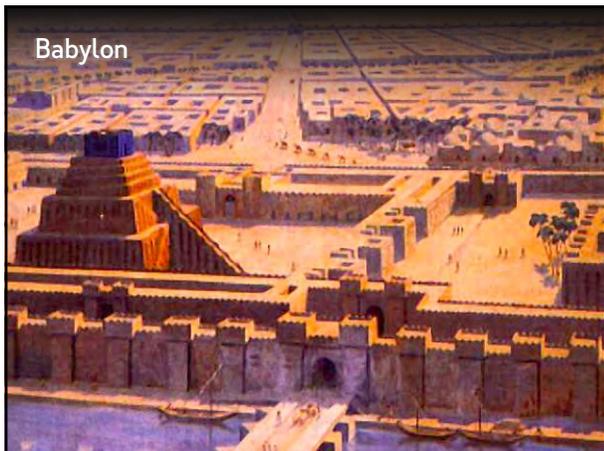
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The Hanging Gardens

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"Tower of Babel"

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Etemenanki Ziggurat

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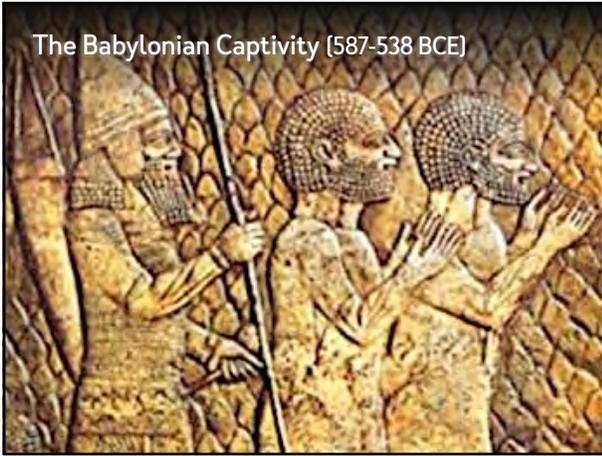
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The Babylonian Captivity (587-538 BCE)

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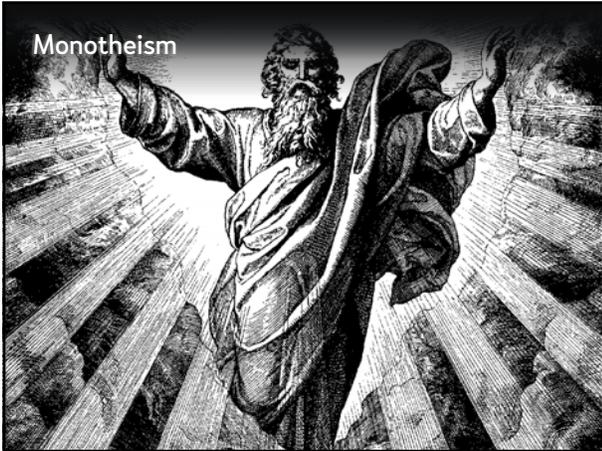
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Monotheism

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**Ancient Religions**

**Polytheism**

- Mesopotamia – Sumer, Akkad, Babylon, Assyria
- Egypt
- Anatolia – Hittites
- Aegean – Minoans, Mycenaeans, Greeks

**Dualism**

- Persia (Zoroastrianism, Mithraism)

**Monotheism**

- Israel and Judah (Judaism)
- Christianity

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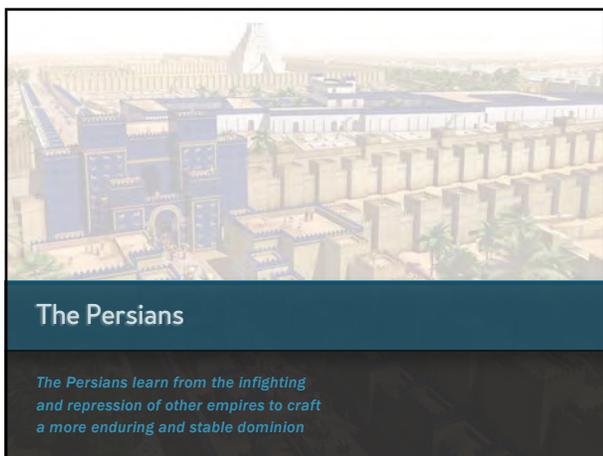
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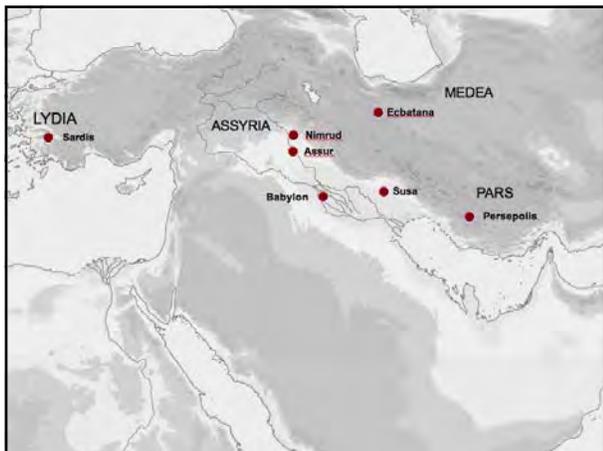
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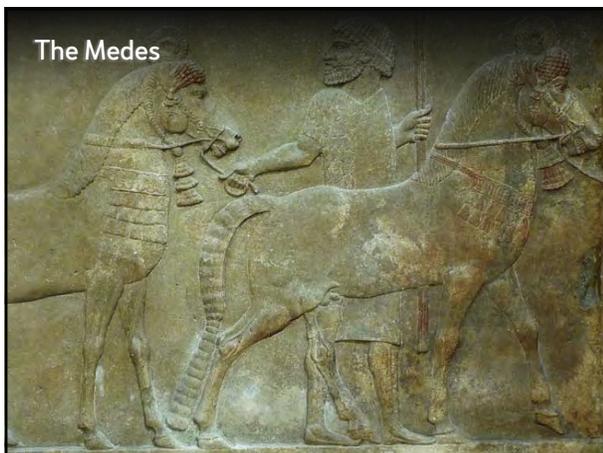
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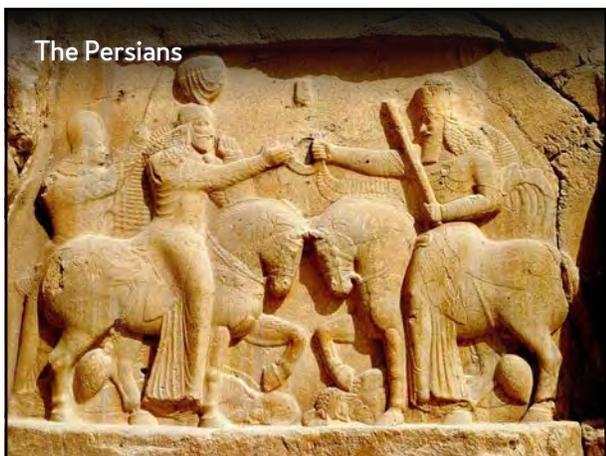
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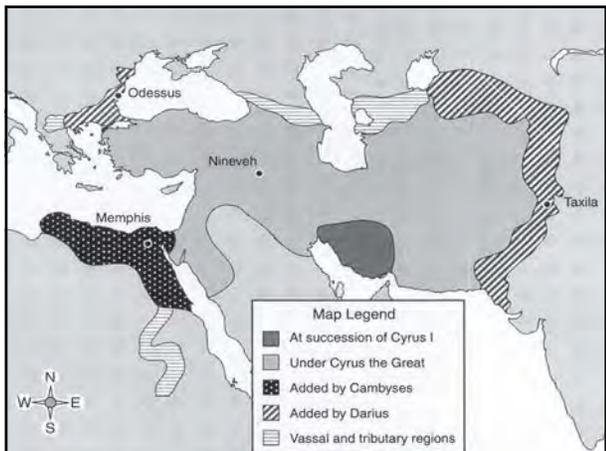
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The Great King

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Cyrus

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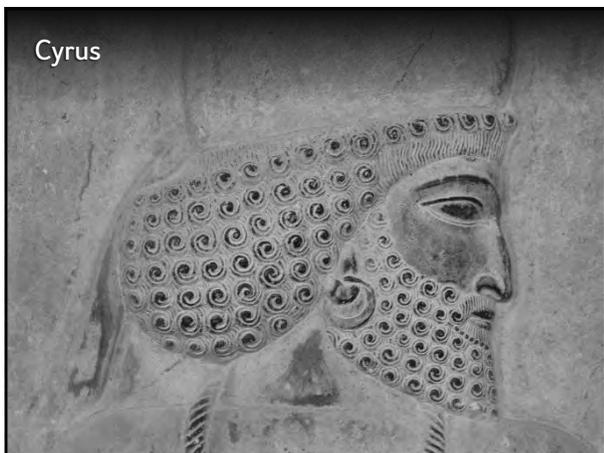
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Cyrus

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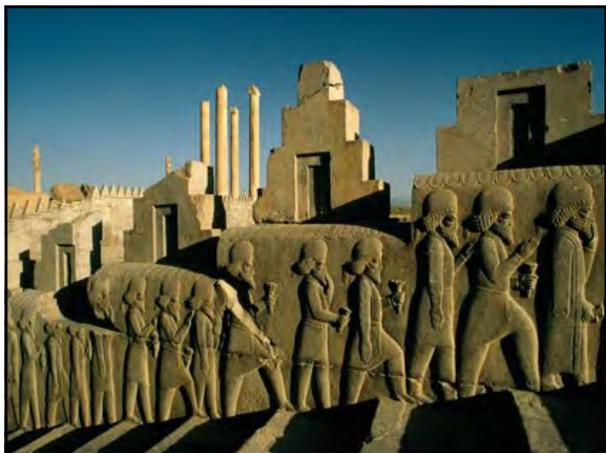
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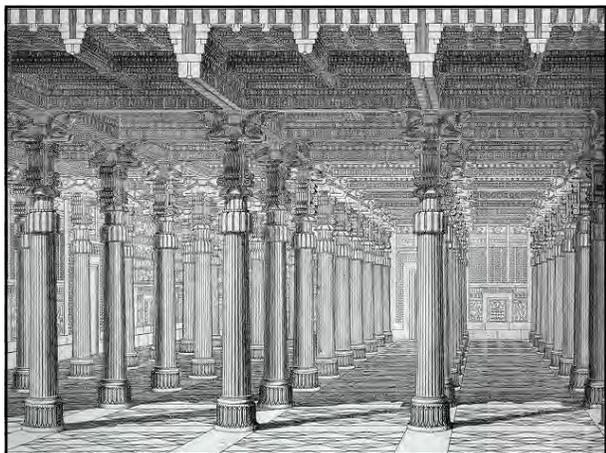
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### Key Reasons the Persian Empire Works

- Minimized oppression / threat to identity
- Benefits of empire
- Satrapies
- The Great King
  - Larger than life
  - Not a god

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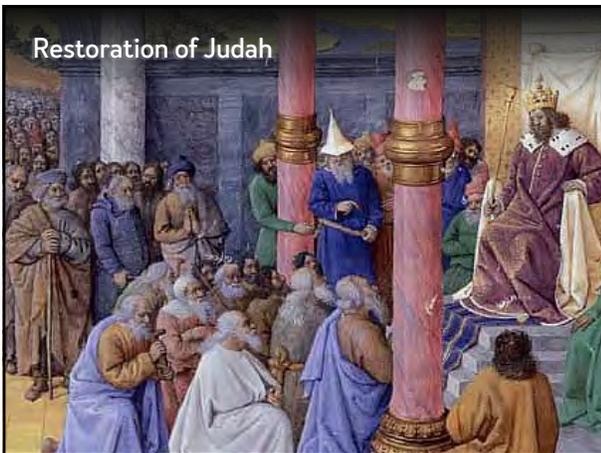
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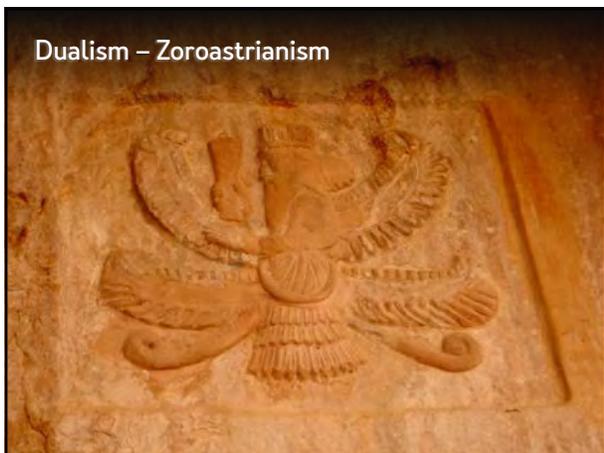
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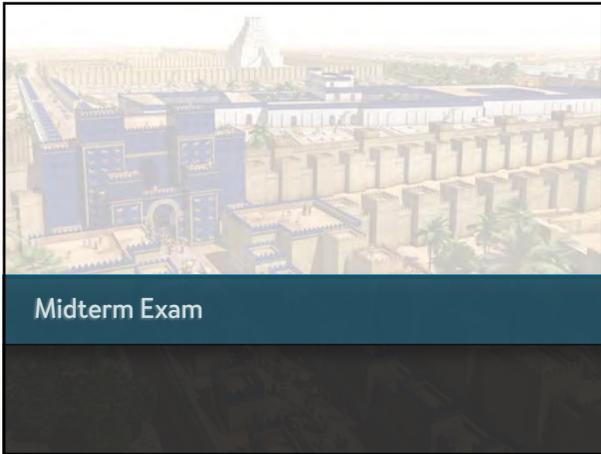
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### Kinds of Questions

- **Identification and Impact (5 or so)**
  - You'll be provided with a term and you'll need to give both (a) a description of what it refers to and (b) its significance or importance
  - All terms will come from the review sheet
- **Multiple Choice (6)**
- **Map**
  - Locate on a blank map important cities, peoples, and key geographic features
- **Short Answer (2)**
  - A couple of paragraphs on a topic we've discussed with examples.
- **Essay (1)**
  - Your interpretation and analysis of a major theme we've covered
  - You'll be asked to give an opinion and support it with evidence in the form of examples from three societies we've studied

For each section except Multiple Choice, you will have at least twice as many choices as you need.

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### Approach to Preparing

- Lectures, class discussions, the textbook, and the assigned tablets of *Epic of Gilgamesh* are fair game, and can be used by you for examples of points you are trying to make in your answers
- Review your notes and other materials, like the quiz notes on the backs of the quizzes
- Make a list of the five or six most important milestone events in the periods we've discussed
  - CAUSES - Make sure you can identify key factors that helped cause these events - including long-term ("the environment") and short-term factors ("the spark")
  - LEGACIES - Identify the legacies of the milestone event. How did it change the culture, society, etc.? What impact did it have on future milestones and events?
- There is seldom only one answer to these kinds of questions
  - WHY almost always means "For what reasons...?"
  - HOW almost always means "In what ways...?"

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## Approach to Preparing

- Preparation for the essay:
  - Consider the major themes of the course and how they apply to actual civilizations we've talked about
  - Try to come up with possible essay questions and map out in advance the kinds of examples and interpretations that might strengthen your point
  - Discussion groups can be helpful in comparing others' interpretations of topics and ideas with your own
- Concerning dates
  - I'm not going to ask you for dates but you should know the period in which a people are important or an event occurs, and which events occur before or after which other events
  - You're best off if you know centuries. At the very least you should know if a person, event, or concept is associated with the Stone Age, the Bronze Age, or the Iron Age

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## Peoples

For each, you should be able to discuss the distinctive nature of their geography, social structure, religion, trade, gender roles, and other aspects of their society that we read about or discussed, as well as relations to each other

<b>Earliest Civilizations:</b>	Sumerians – Egyptians (Old Kingdom) – Minoans	
<b>Bronze Age:</b>	Egyptians (New Kingdom) – Akkadians – Assyrians (Bronze Age)	<u>Indo-Europeans (Bronze Age):</u> Hittites – Mycenaean Greeks
<b>Iron Age:</b>	Phoenicians – Hebrews – Aramaeans – Chaldeans/Babylonians – Neo-Assyrians – Etruscans	<u>Indo-Europeans (Iron Age):</u> Dorian Greeks – Sea Peoples/Philistines – Persians – Medes – Latins

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## Places

You should be familiar with key geographic places and where they are in relation to each other, and how their environments and neighbors relate to the development of local cultures

(Don't forget that you have maps on the website)

<b>Southwest Asia:</b>	Mesopotamia – Sumer – Tigris and Euphrates Rivers – Fertile Crescent – Canaan	<u>Cities:</u> Uruk – Akkad – Babylon – Assur – Jerusalem
<b>North Africa:</b>	Nile River – Upper Egypt, Lower Egypt	<u>Cities:</u> Memphis – Thebes
<b>Eastern Mediterranean:</b>	Anatolia – Aegean Sea – Black Sea – Crete – Peloponnese – Greek mainland	<u>Cities:</u> Troy – Knossos – Mycenae – Athens
<b>Western Med:</b>	Italy – Etruria – Magna Graecia	<u>Cities:</u> Rome – Carthage

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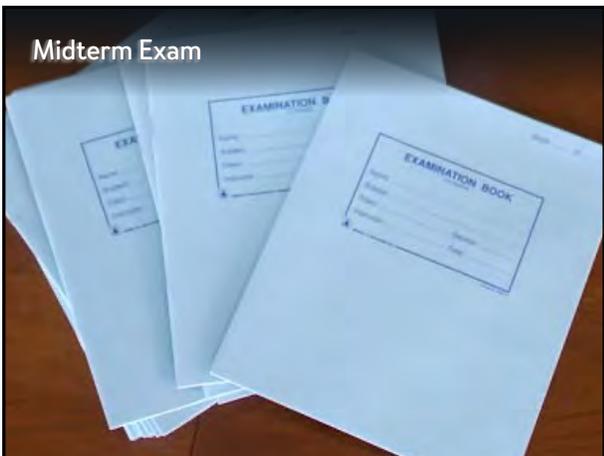
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