

# Judaism

<b>Name of God (if any):</b>	<b>Basic Beliefs:</b> First monotheistic religion
God, G-d	God called Abraham to go from Ur in Mesopotamia to Canaan (about 1800 BCE).
<b>Founder (if any):</b>	Israelites went to Egypt due to a famine in Canaan; enslaved by a subsequent pharaoh; stayed for 400 years
Abraham is the <u>father</u> of Judaism	Moses: rose up to get Israelites out of Egypt; spoke with pharaoh; God sent plagues, including locusts, frogs, killing of first born sons -- led Israelites out of Egypt -- received Ten Commandments (- parted the Red Sea to escape pharaoh's troops)
<b>Holy Book or Writings (if any):</b>	Exodus—migration of Israelites from Egypt Ten Commandments: basis of the laws of the Israelites, used by Jews & Christians
Torah (first 5 books of the Old Testament Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) Talmud	Headed back to Canaan; had to regain land (fought with others who were living there now)  Saul—1 <sup>st</sup> king, fought with and weakened Philistines David—2 <sup>nd</sup> king, fought with Goliath, defeated Philistines, made peace with neighbors (the David in “Star of David”), served a long time Solomon—3 <sup>rd</sup> king, David’s son, known for wisdom, built temple  Messiah: “Anointed One”, Jews looked for a new king to lead them Prophets: interpreted God’s word, advised, warned, criticized, comforted  Diaspora: “Scattering” around the world (after Romans crushed rebellion) Rabbi: Teacher, spiritual leader Synagogue (Temple): place of worship Mezuzah: container with prayer inside to remember God’s blessings
<b>Where practiced:</b>	Holy days (holidays): Rosh Hashanah—New year, begin reflection/repentance Yom Kippur—Day of Atonement, fasting, pray for forgiveness of sins Passover—Commemorates God’s intervention in Egypt (plague “passed over” the homes of the Israelites) Hanukkah—Festival of Lights, rededication of (second) temple, miracle of oil lasting  Kosher: observing dietary restrictions (ex: no pork, no shellfish, meat & dairy not mixed) Branches: Orthodox (most strict), Conservative, Reform (least strict)
Israel, US	