## I. The Phoenicians

- A. Sea-Trading Power
  - 1. Controlled Trade throughout the Mediterranean Sea
  - 2. Brought exotic goods from all around the Mediterranean
- **B. Phoenician Alphabet** 
  - 1. Used 22 Symbols to represent the sounds of a language
  - 2. Forms the basis of many alphabets used today, including the English alphabet
  - 3. Phoenicians spread their alphabet through sea-trade

## II. The Israelites

- A. Abraham
  - 1. Led his people to practice monotheism, a belief in one god
  - 2. Followed god's direction to lead his people out of Mesopotamia
- **B. From Canaan to Egypt** 
  - 1. While living in Canaan, a famine caused the Israelites to flee to Egypt
  - 2. The Israelites lived in Egypt for hundreds of years, most of the time as slaves.
- C. The Desert
  - 1. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt
  - 2. They wandered in the desert for 40 years
- D. Return to Canaan
  - 1. Israelites were united in Canaan under the first king, Saul
  - 2. Under the second king, David, they created the capital in Jerusalem
- **E. King Solomon** 
  - 1. Built a temple in Jerusalem that became the Israelites' main place of worship
  - 2. After his death, the country split into the northern kingdom, Israel, and the southern kingdom, Judah
- F. The Exile
  - 1. The Assyrians exiled thousands of Israelites to distant parts of their empire
  - 2. Eventually the Medes and Chaldeans conquered Assyria created the New Babylonian Empire
  - 3. The Chaldean King, Nebuchadnezzar, exiled the people of Judah to Babylonia