## I. Beliefs of Judaism

## A. Basic Beliefs

- 1. The Israelites were monotheistic, believing in only one god
- 2. Israelite beliefs developed into the religion we know today as Judaism
- B. A Promise to the Israelites
  - 1. Israelites believed that God is present everywhere
  - 2. The Israelites believed god made a promise to them that he would make them kings and build a nation for them
  - 3. Israelites considered themselves God's "chosen people"
- C. Ten Commandments
  - 1. The commands set out religious duties and correct behaviors for the Israelites to follow
  - 2. Like Hammurabi's code, many Israelite laws tried to match the punishment to the crime
- **D. Justice and Morality** 
  - 1. Prophets preached a code of ethics, or moral behavior that urged people to live good and decent lives
  - 2. They also called on the rich to protect the poor and weak
  - 3. To the Israelites all people were equal before god, whether a King or a Shepard

## **II. Effects of Judaism**

- A. On Christianity and Islam
  - 1. Both religions originated in the same geographical area as Judaism
  - 2. They both followed the Israelite belief of one God
  - 3. Jews, Christians, and followers of Islam all honor Abraham, Moses, and the Prophets
  - 4. All share the same moralities the Israelites developed