

**SS7G8** The student will describe the **diverse cultures** of the people who live in Southwest Asia (**Middle East**).

c. **Compare** and **contrast** the prominent **religions** in Southwest Asia (Middle East): **Judaism, Islam, and Christianity**.



# Judaism

People who believe in Judaism are called Jews.





# Jews Believe that Abraham is the Founder of Judaism.

Christians and Muslims also believe Abraham to be the founder of their religions, but they believe key people-Jesus or Mohammad-changed the religion to what we know today





Abraham

Isaac

Ishmael

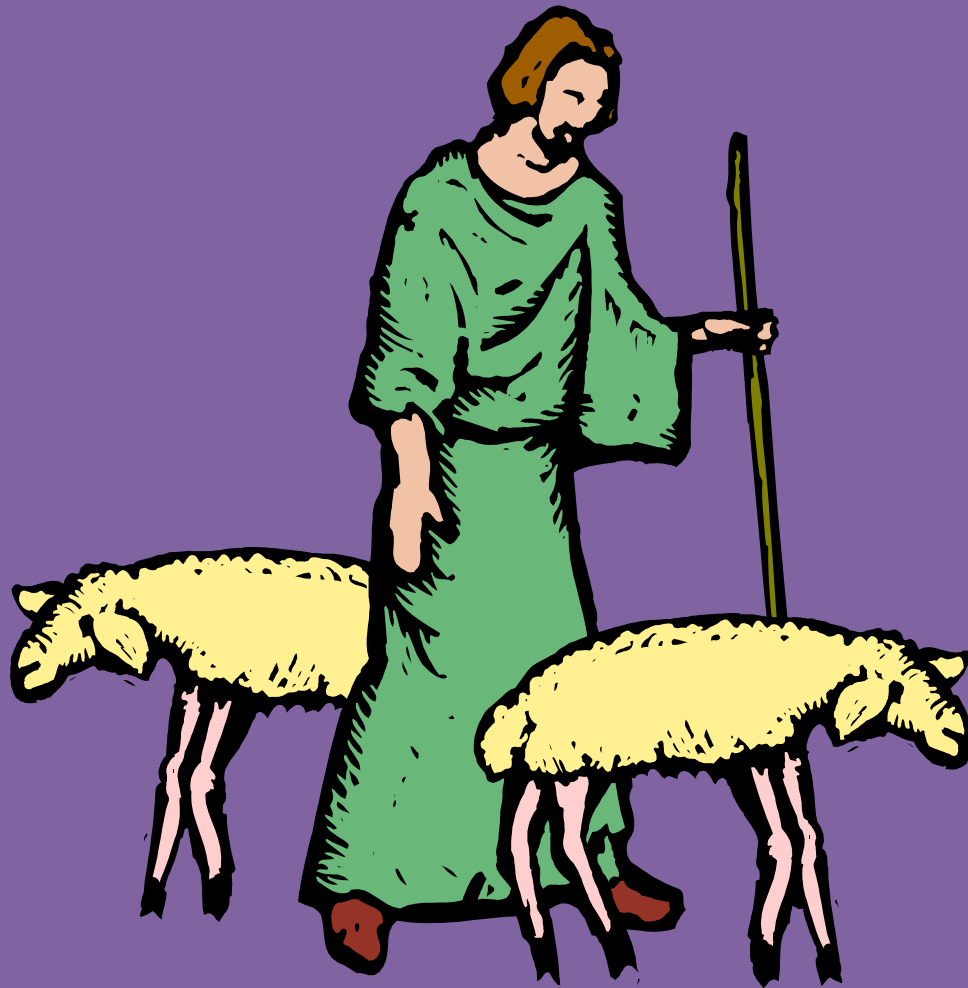
Jews

Christians

Muslims



**Abraham** is considered the **Patriarch of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam**. And sometimes Judaism, Christianity and Islam are called the **Abrahamic Religions**.



**Judaism developed in the Middle East around 1800 BCE.** This means Judaism is about 4,000 years old.



At sometime many Jews moved to live in Egypt. They believe that they were enslaved by the Egyptians and a Great leader named **Moses** freed the people from slavery in Egypt and **led** them to “the **promised land**” or **Israel**. This migration from Egypt to the Promised Land is called the **Exodus**.





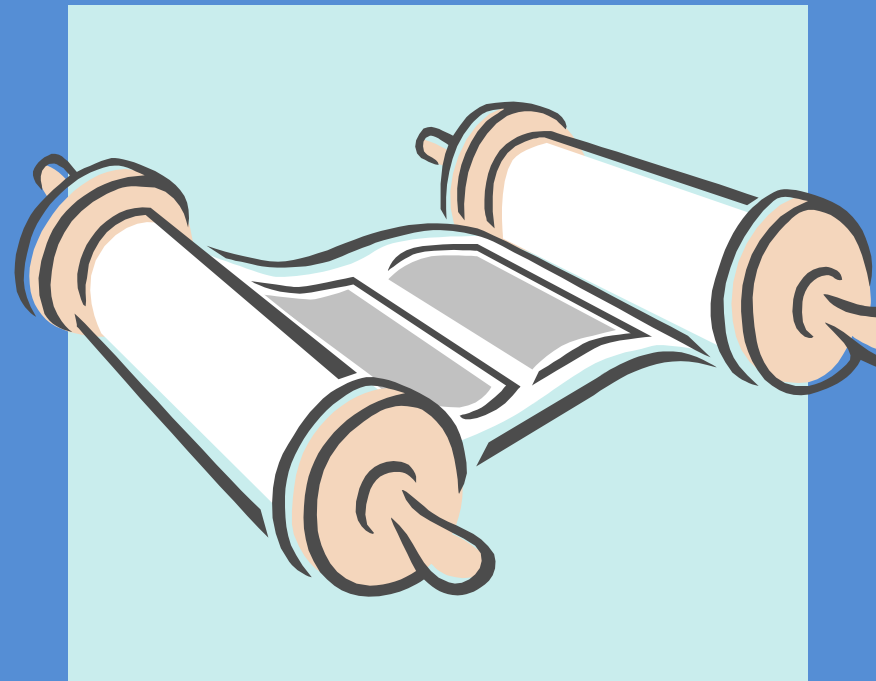
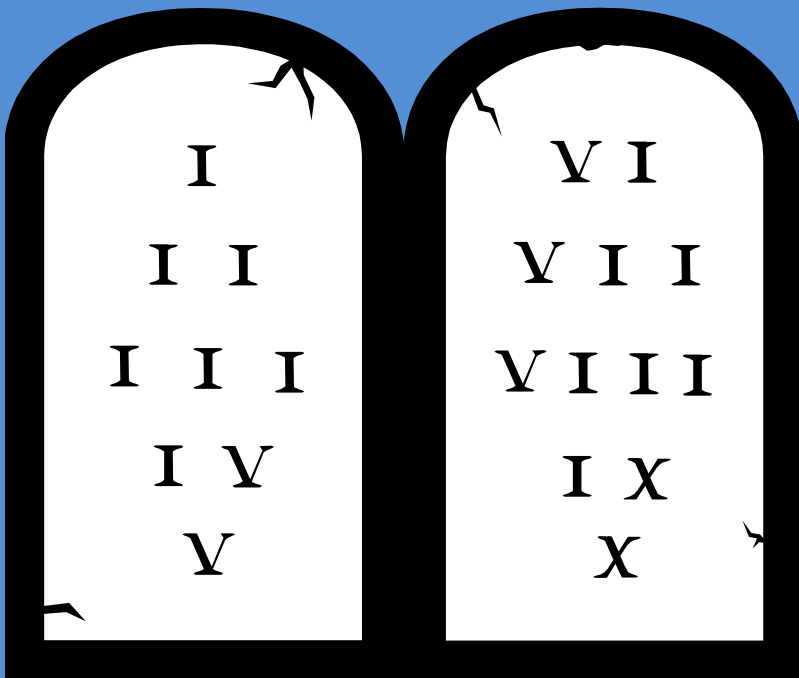
## Ten Commandments

I	VI
I I	V I I
I I I	V I I I
I V	I X
V	X

During the **Exodus** Jews believe God gave them a list of 10 rules to live by, called the **Ten Commandments**.

The first law is that Jews will only have one GOD. Jews are considered the first **Monotheistic** religion, or people who only **believe in 1 God**

Jews believe in order to be Jewish you must follow the **10 Commandments** and the **Torah**, or the first 5 books of the Bible.





# What does it mean to be Jewish?

- Jews pray on Friday Night and Saturday (Shabbat)
- Jews pray in a Synagogue
- Some Jews just maintain an Ethnic identity, but do not pray
- Some Jews only in certain foods (Kosher)
  - They do not eat pork
  - They do not eat Milk and Meat together
  - They do not eat shellfish

<b>Holidays</b>	<b>Meanings</b>
<b>Shabbat — The Sabbath</b>	Friday Night and Saturday Morning Celebration. Part of 10 commandments.
<b>Rosh Hashanah — The Jewish New Year</b>	In September. God judges each person based on their deeds.
<b>***Yom Kippur — Day of Atonement</b>	A day to apologize and ask God and Friends for forgiveness for past misdeeds.
<b>Hanukkah — Festival of Lights</b>	Has become more popular in Western Society, because it coincides with Christmas.
<b>Pesach — Passover</b>	Honor's the Exodus Story. Coincides with Easter.
Lunar Calendar	Holidays follow Moon cycles and are NOT the same day every year.

## Types or Sects of Judaism

**Reform:** Most "liberal." Have less strict interpretation of Rules

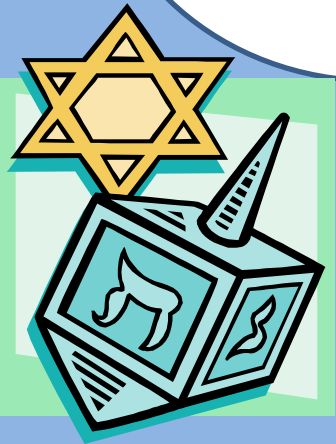
**Conservative:** In between Reform and Orthodox. Stricter than Reform, but not as strict as Orthodox. May follow diet and holidays.

**Orthodox:** Strict following of Rules. Eat strict diet. Follow more laws from the Torah. Dress very conservatively

Many live in the  
USA, Israel,  
France, Russia,  
the Ukraine, and  
Canada



There are 3 main  
sects or types of  
Jews



## Judaism Today



The Diaspora and  
Holocaust have  
spread Jews to  
many places  
around the World



Some Jews just  
identify Judaism  
as a Ethnic  
Group, but do not  
practice the  
religion