

4 ? Jews? Progenitors of western Civilization?

5 Jews first to break out of the cyclical view of the cosmos. (only new human) des? - ?

21 Innana in Sumerian - Eshita in Akkadian - Sumerian society - was intensely competitive

35 - Gilgamesh - Where do you roam - Let your stomach be full - enjoy yourself

Greek Appreciate the Child Who holds your hand Let your wife enjoy herself in your lap. - Sumerian on DEATH

39 - Sumerian Holy Prostitution - Human Copulation seen as the localized expression of the cosmic Heaven/Earth

44/45 - Massive Sex

47 - Gilgamesh - see 35 - Tried to find answer to question of death ^{did not!} _{Wow} - origin of Sky as transcendent, unchanging, pure, ideal and w/ duality / Earth-base - opposite Heaven holy / Earth not

48 - Origin of Religion - Heaven worship was core of first Religions - Gimbatus et al wrong - goddess centrality came with the advent of Agriculture.

- moon cycle - approximates human condition - or female cycle

49 - Euthrogenic Feeling - of feeling ourselves as belonging to the cosmos.

50 The Sky - still our principal metaphor for limitlessness and transcendence

56 Cicero - Beyond the moon are all the eternal things

61 - In the Jerusalem temple - 6th Cent BC Israelite Women still "weeping for Tammuz" - still open hearting ^{signs} / doctrinal diversity.

89 - Differentiation - of Jews - not an impersonal manipulation - like Sumer - but "face to face friendship."

94 - Abraham went - but in cyclical religion "goes nowhere"? Prior to Abraham faith had no place in religion feeling??

One trap - "since time now not cyclical but one way and inevitably personal history is now possible? and an individual life can have value??

104 Moses Finds Shelter in Land of Midian - then slaughters them

104 Moses sez Stranger in a strange land.

105 - When he see what his name is Y H W H

111 Totally Bizarre scene - Moses sent off to free of the New as positive value.

130 - manikinds first attempt to write history. - the Future for the first time, holds only promise, not just same old thing?

133 - Jew constantly whining & complaining to their god.

136 - The 10 Commandments

140? No document in all his torres of world like 10 Commandments Humans are offered a code without justification

146 - Gift of the Commandments allows us to live in the present - in the here and now - Paucity of rewards for THE GIFTS obeying

147 - Still, at this time, Eternal life is promised to no one

153 - 5 century BC - when old Testament was compiled

154 - Torah sez - "Thou shalt not suffer a wick TO LIVE" Execute Homosexuals - Leviticus - or both parties in incest.

But Jewish Law really a suffering (relatively) - 6 carous a presumption that all humans (even slaves) are sacred - AND - bids away from rich powerful - toward poor - toward the underdog, our sense of Justice is Jewish

Moses returns - They are worshipping the calf - He makes them eat it - Then allies with sons of Levi to kill - massacre all Jew who did not step out his line. - After he smashed the Tablets he had brought down

Absolutist rationale for theological or ethnic cleansing OUTRAGEOUS - "Oppresses the readers spirit"

159 - Despite "thinning their numbers" the Jews don't improve, whine close heart - So god makes them wander in Sinai desert 40 yrs - complain die out

161 - The 10 Words - Commandments and the Name He who is He who will be there

The Double Revelation of Sinai

Quote - allow the goddess life to retire uses make us fitting instruments for her revelation. Entire first Treekinning - Gods fire & indeed - it will perfect us it will not destroy us - "monthly illumination"

170 - That accomplishment is intergenerational - Deepest of all Hebrew Insights - ? - Egypt - Sumer.

171 The Genocidal Slaughter of the Canaanite Tribes
- Their precious metals - priestly booty - people exterminated?

173 After conquering - the Hebrews went straight to Pagan gods - Baal - & Asherah (Astarte?)

★ Evenapoem - TO YHWH and his Asherah - cool

176 Saul - First King - military - dis owned - makes sacrifices

Second King David - Really A moral

Then Solomon? - worshipped as pagan?

181 Danced with joy - Saul has killed his thousands David his ten thousands?

200 David Danced Naked (only for YHWH)

THE HINGES OF HISTORY
- City of David - Jerusalem - he set up Hebrews a Every time Justify Genocide

9th cent BC - 210 - Jezebel & Ahab build Temple

to Baal - Asherah - This is in Israel

Five additional volumes are planned.

212 Amos - Trier to go straight out "Idolaters Israel"

211 Israel - under Baal Asherah were enjoying high flying economic success.

Now Amos sees this conspicuous consumption on a grand scale as "just a new form of social injustice?"

214 Rant for Justice Anti materialism - when they were down they wanted freedom justice economic fairness - - when on top - Do Ethnic Cleansing

222 For Prophets - profound link between idol worship and injustice (sacrifice etc.)

The Lord, requires you to do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your god.

226 Early 6th cent BC Religion - then was about sacrifice.

230 Each will be responsible for his own sins

idea of the individual - the single spirit, begins to take hold?

239 Why being linear - Non cyclical was so great

245 Wow - Against Genocide - Sez - We must reject parts of the bible as unworthy of a god we would be willing to believe in!

246 Agree Jews developed "whole new way of experiencing reality"? - linearity? Yes!

THE HINGES OF HISTORY

We normally think of history as one catastrophe after another, war followed by war, outrage by outrage—almost as if history were nothing more than all the narratives of human pain, assembled in sequence. And surely this is, often enough, an adequate description. But history is also the narratives of grace, the recountings of those blessed and inexplicable moments when someone did something for someone else, saved a life, bestowed a gift, gave something beyond what was required by circumstance.

In this series, THE HINGES OF HISTORY, I mean to retell the story of the Western world as the story of the great gift-givers, those who entrusted to our keeping one or another of the singular treasures that make up the patrimony of the West. This is also the story of the evolution of Western sensibility, a narration of how we became the people that we are and why we think and feel the way we do. And it is, finally, a recounting of those essential moments when everything was at stake, when the mighty stream that became Western history was in ultimate danger and might have divided into a hundred useless tributaries or frozen in death or evaporated altogether. But the great gift-givers, arriving in the moment of crisis, provided for transition, for transformation, and even for transfiguration, leaving us a world more varied and complex, more awesome and delightful, more beautiful and strong than the one they had found.

249 Capitalism & Communism are both madness

Democracy grows from Jewish - THOMAS CAHILL

roots to individual etc - "No way it could have been

"self-evident that all men were created equal" without Bible?

250 Judaism is the origin of the process the world view that has taken over (as opposed to cyclical)

252 - Sick Boy Claims that ~~is~~ this yHWH
god is necessary for successful human effort
Necessary to have justice? - Jewish
god of justice and Compassion ???????
How do they get that?

Dostoevsky - The Suffering of Children is
the greatest proof against the existence of
god
Without justice there is no God & Judeo/Christian
brings the opposite of justice

255 - Counter cyclical view - "Show how far we have
come from our Pagan antecedents" ASSHOLE

257 - Israelite Religion - unique among thought systems
of ancient world - & responsible for the unique values of
the west" Justice? No Terminal Materialism

258 Admits - The Sumerian

259 - Argument - Individuality - is the flipside of Monotheism

THE GIFTS OF THE JEWS

*How a Tribe of Desert Nomads
Changed the Way Everyone
Thinks and Feels*



THOMAS CAHILL



Nan A. Talese Doubleday
New York London Toronto Sydney Auckland

Crest Pauls

Lesh

Borenstein

TV show

Sumerians thought humans were here just to do the work that the gods didn't want to do

Jews Image of god - an improvement?
- Not slaves

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- But I do of being modern, the image of god is one that inspires the concept of inalienable rights and fundamental dignity - humans not bound to be slaves.