OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Genesis: Authorship Issues

Lesson 01

Part 2

Biblical-Literacy.com

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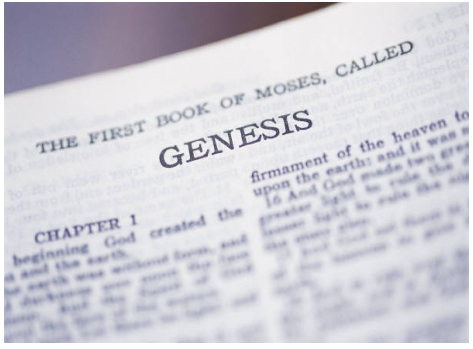

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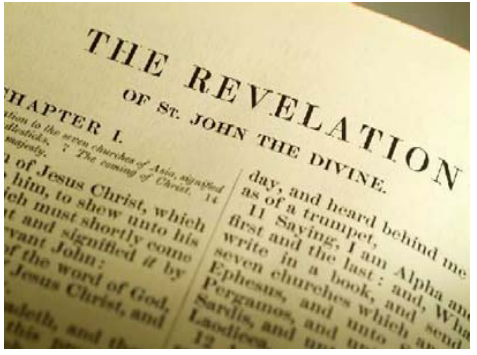
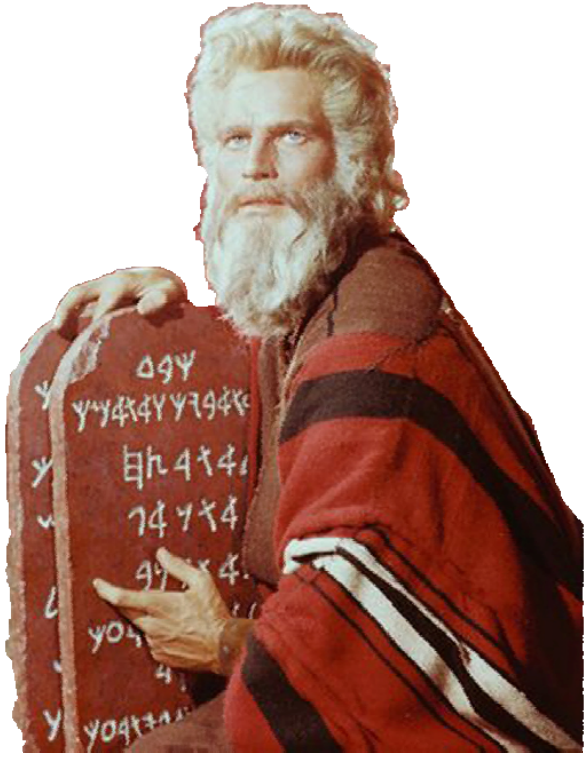


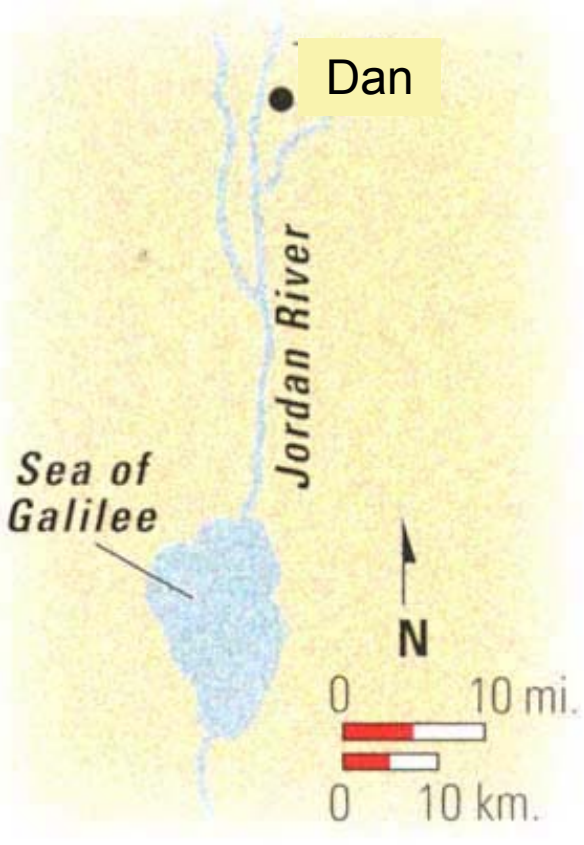
BIBLICAL SURVEY
Genesis: Authorship Issues
Who Wrote Genesis (Pt 2)

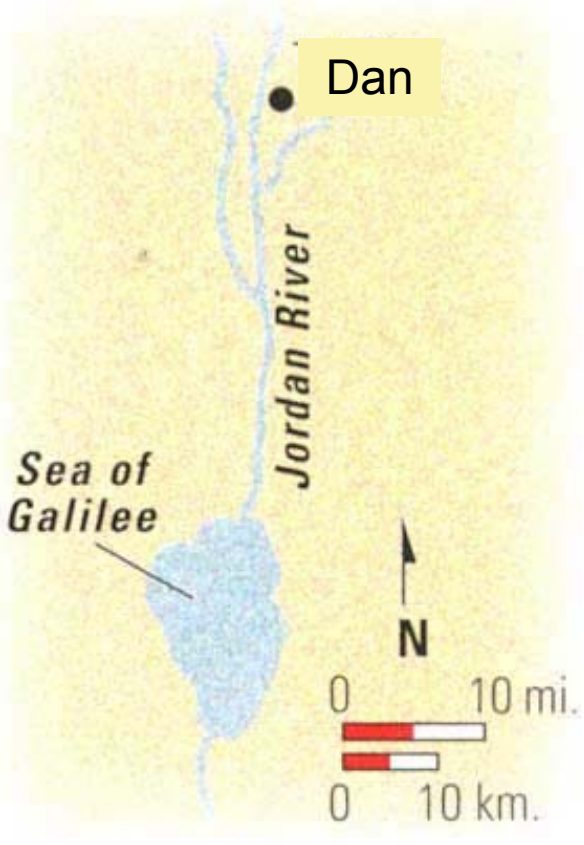
So who wrote Genesis?

So who wrote Genesis?

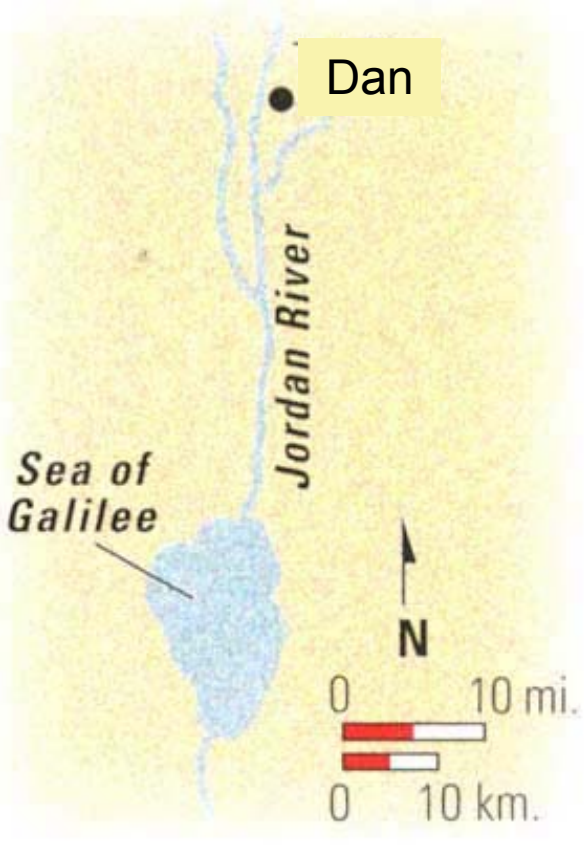


Moses?


Dan
Jordan River
Sea of Galilee
N
0 10 mi.
0 10 km.



"Abram went in pursuit as far as Dan"
14:14) – Moses?

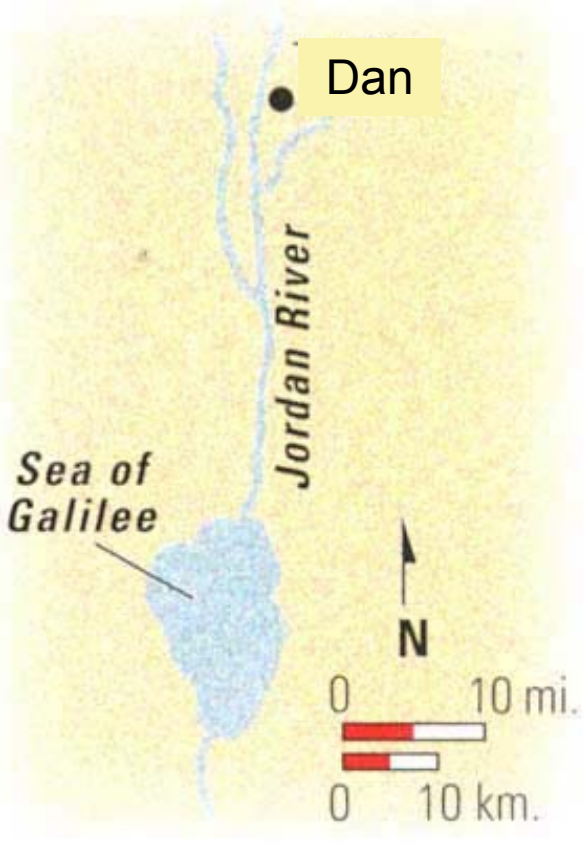


"Abram went in pursuit as far as Dan"

14:14) – Moses?

Jdg. 18:29 - "They rebuilt the city and named the city Dan but the name of the city was Laish at the first"

- Over 100 years after Moses



"Abram went in pursuit as far as Dan"

14:14) – Moses?

Jdg. 18:29 - "They rebuilt the city and named the city Dan but the name of the city was Laish at the first"

- Over 100 years after Moses

"Dan"

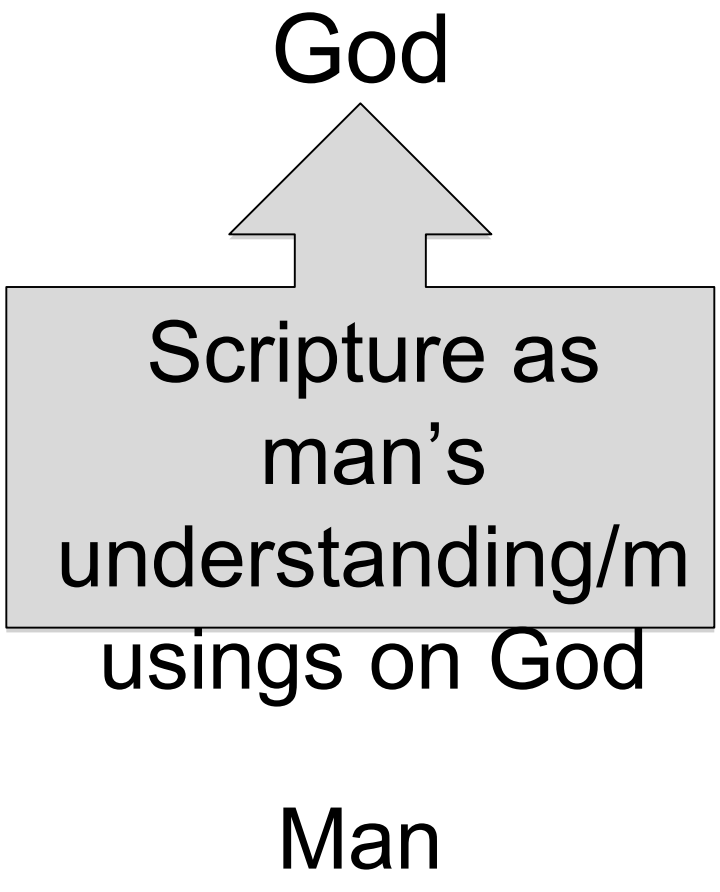
The Problem

To us, authorship is important

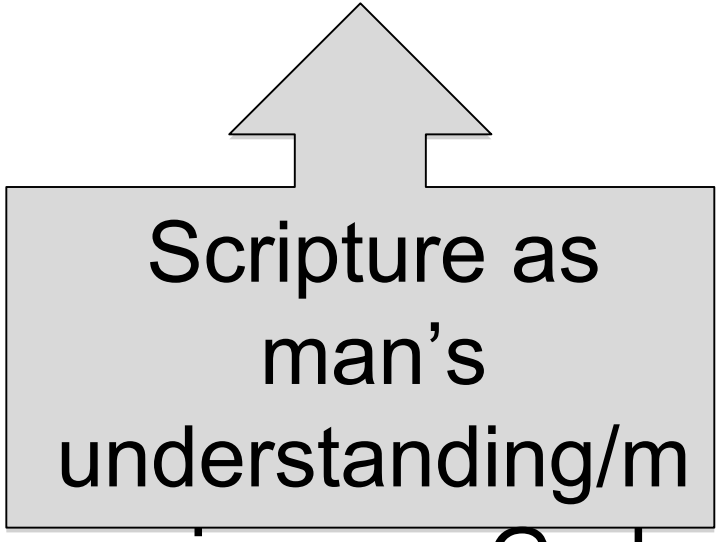
To us, authorship is important

But not to them!

Man

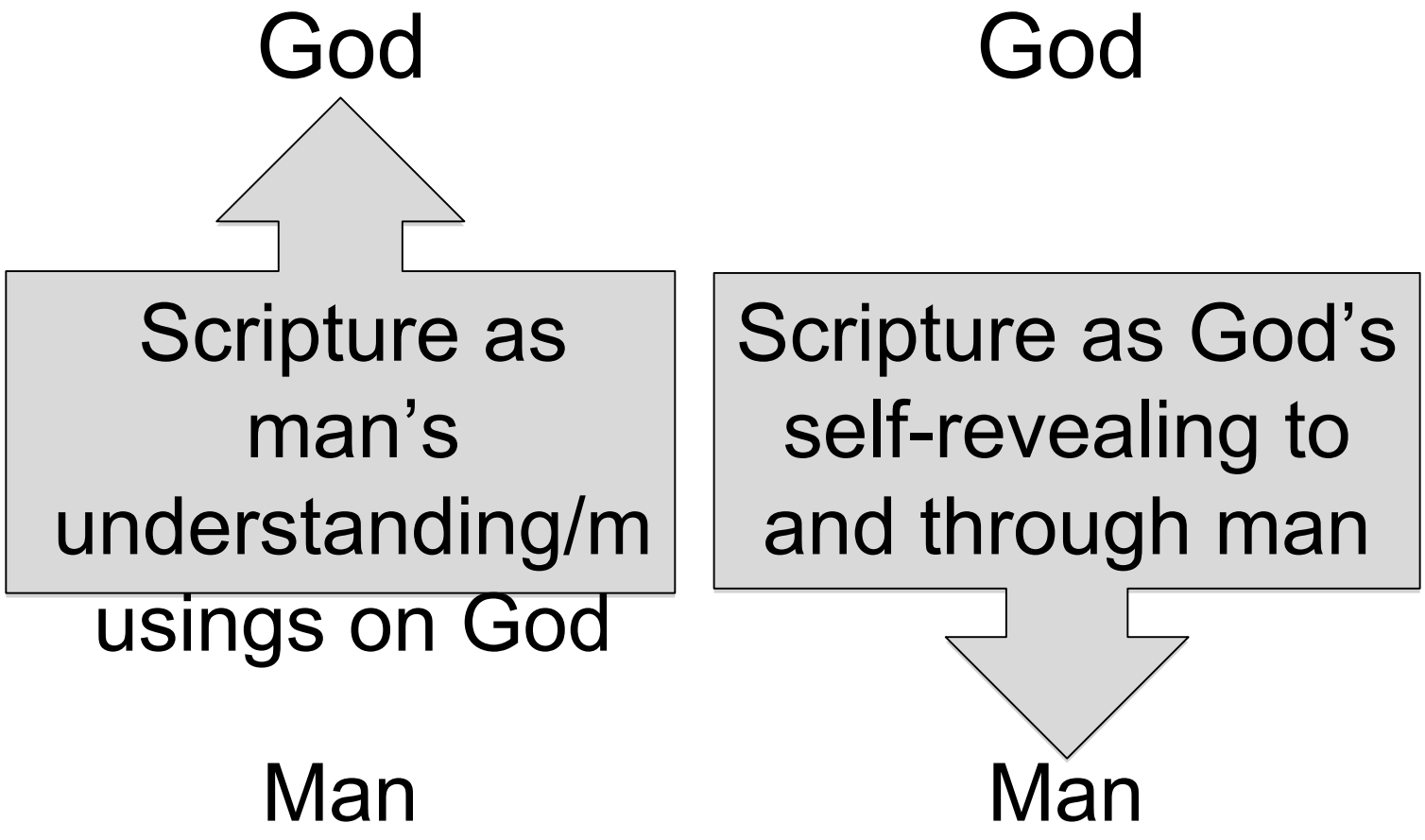

God
Scripture as man's understanding/musings on God
Man

God



Man

God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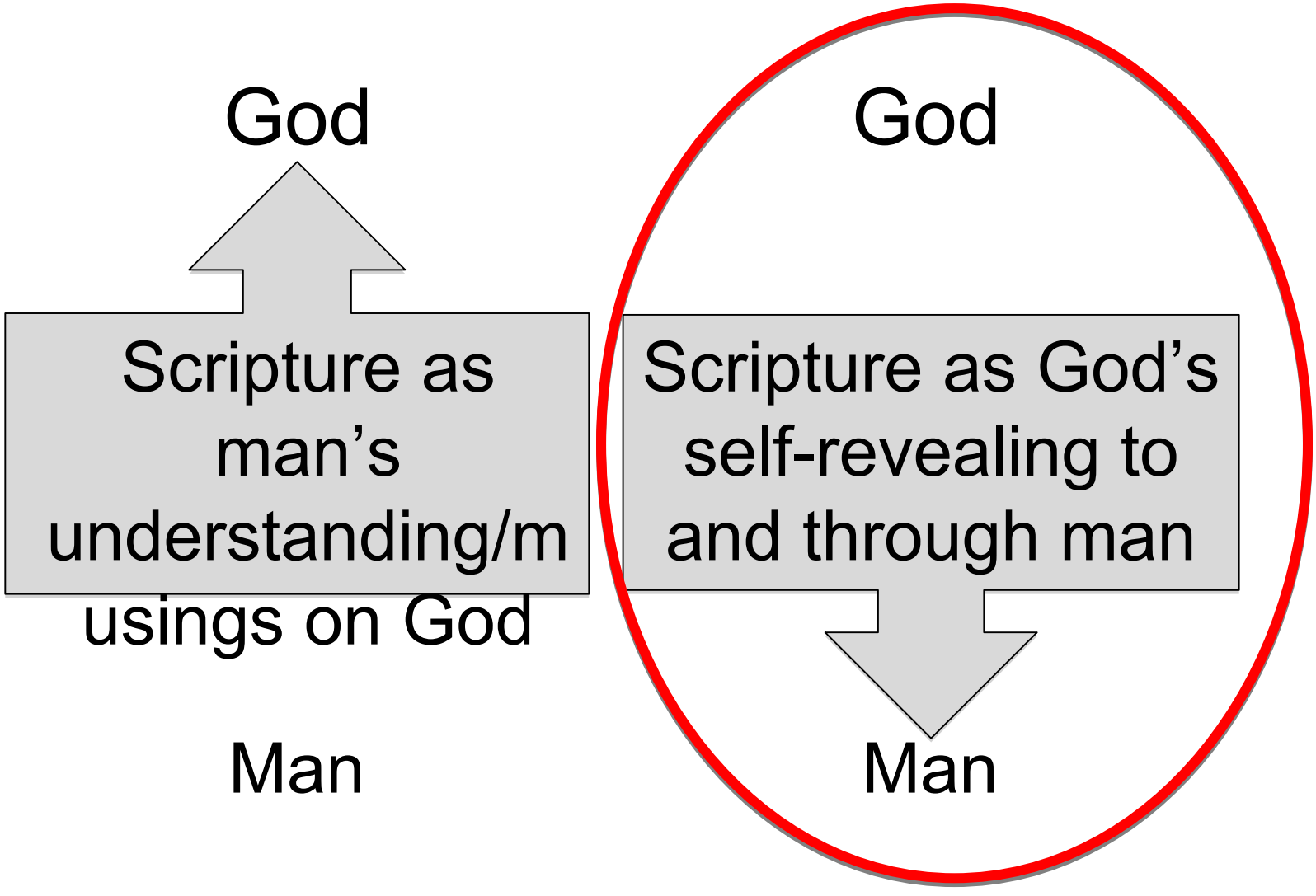
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Inerrancy key is “**direction**”

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Inerrancy:

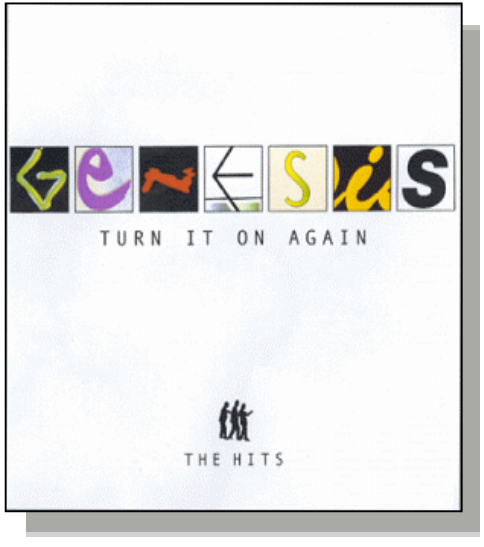
Inerrancy key is “**direction**”

Inerrancy:

God’s revelation to man that says exactly what he wants it to say in the way he wants it said.

Syllabus:

Lesson 1:



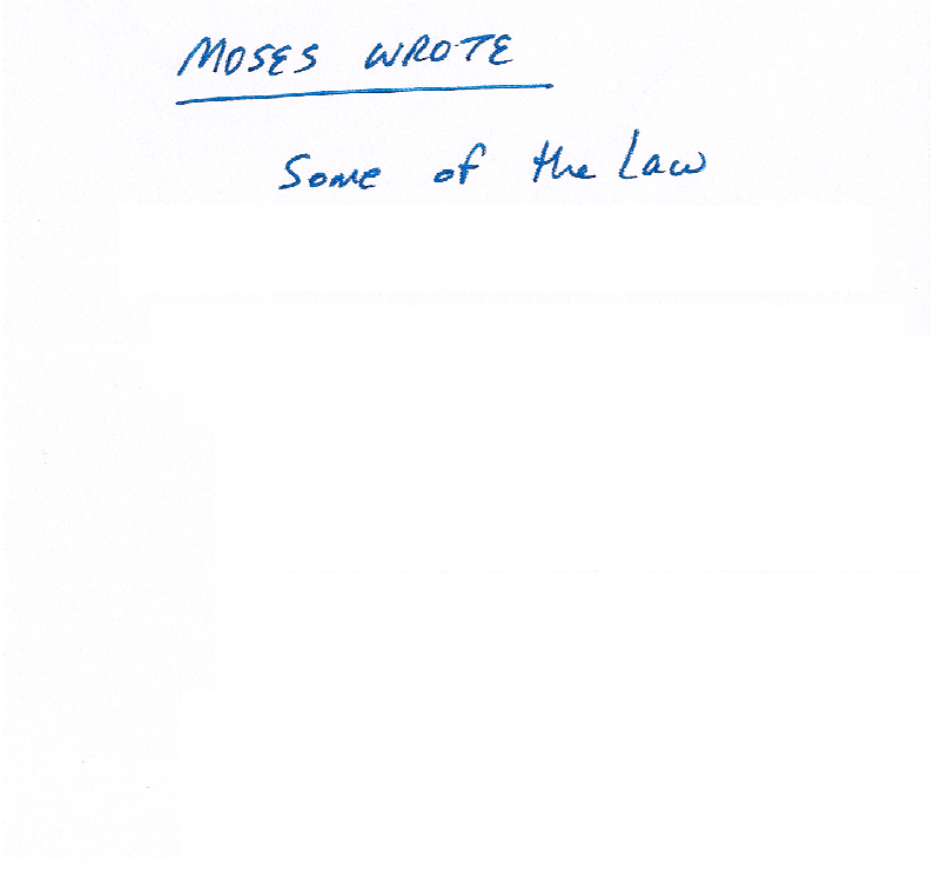
Genesis – authorship, structure, creation comparisons

So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible say?

So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible say?



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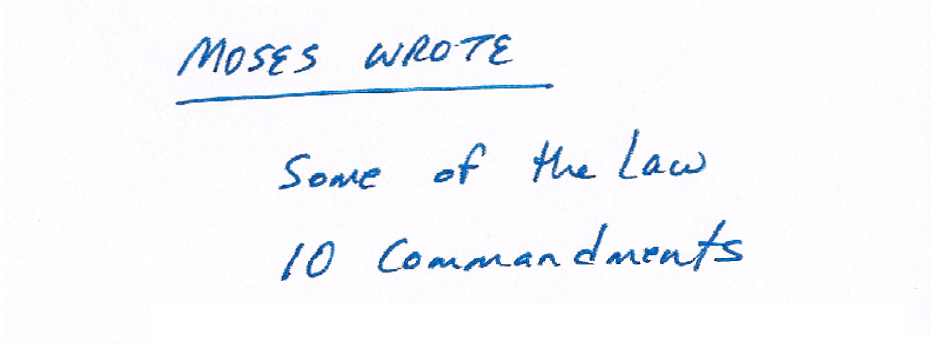

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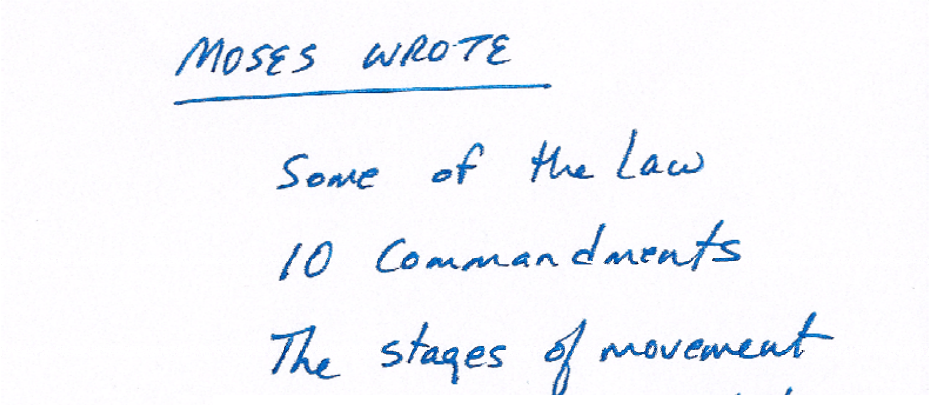

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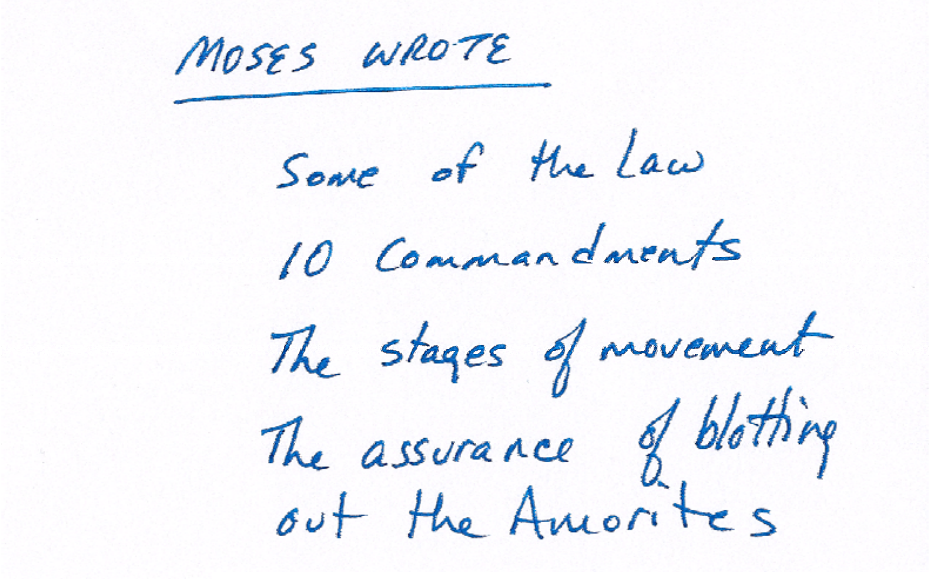

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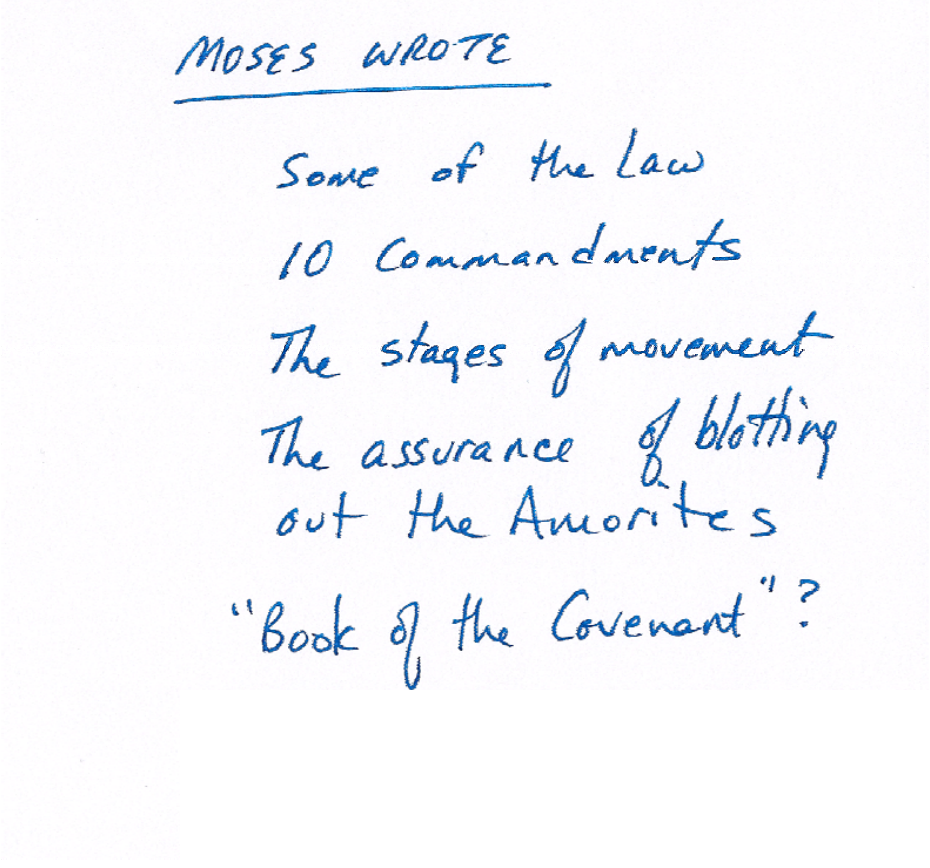

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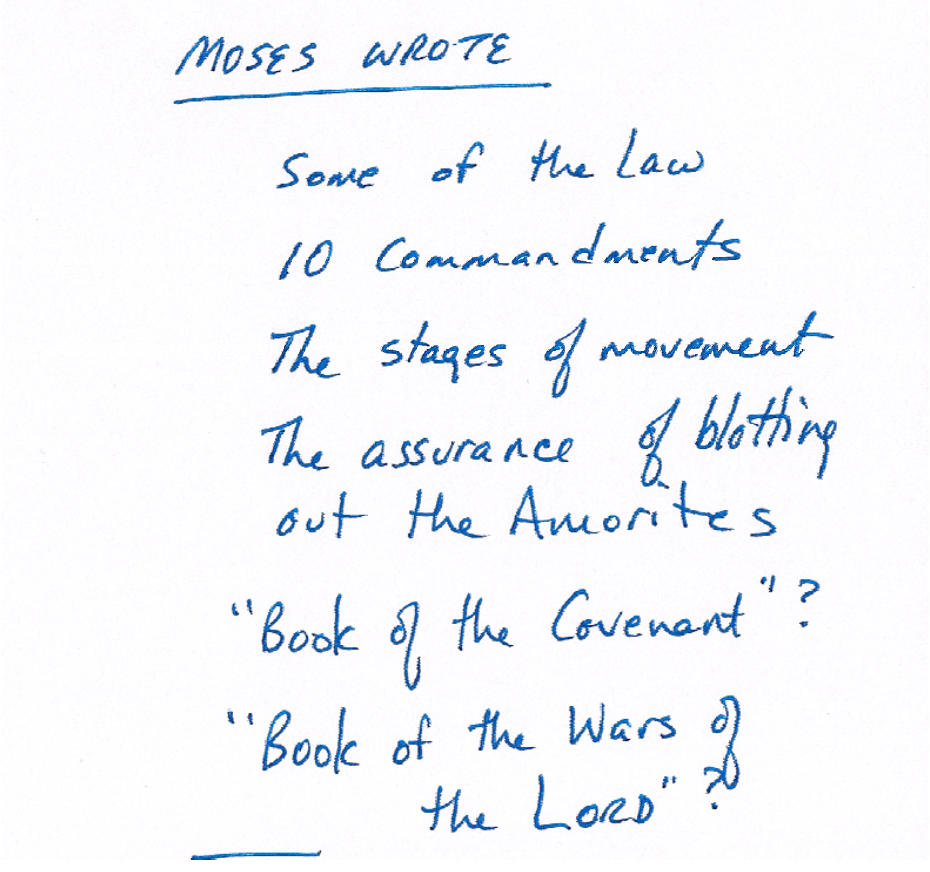

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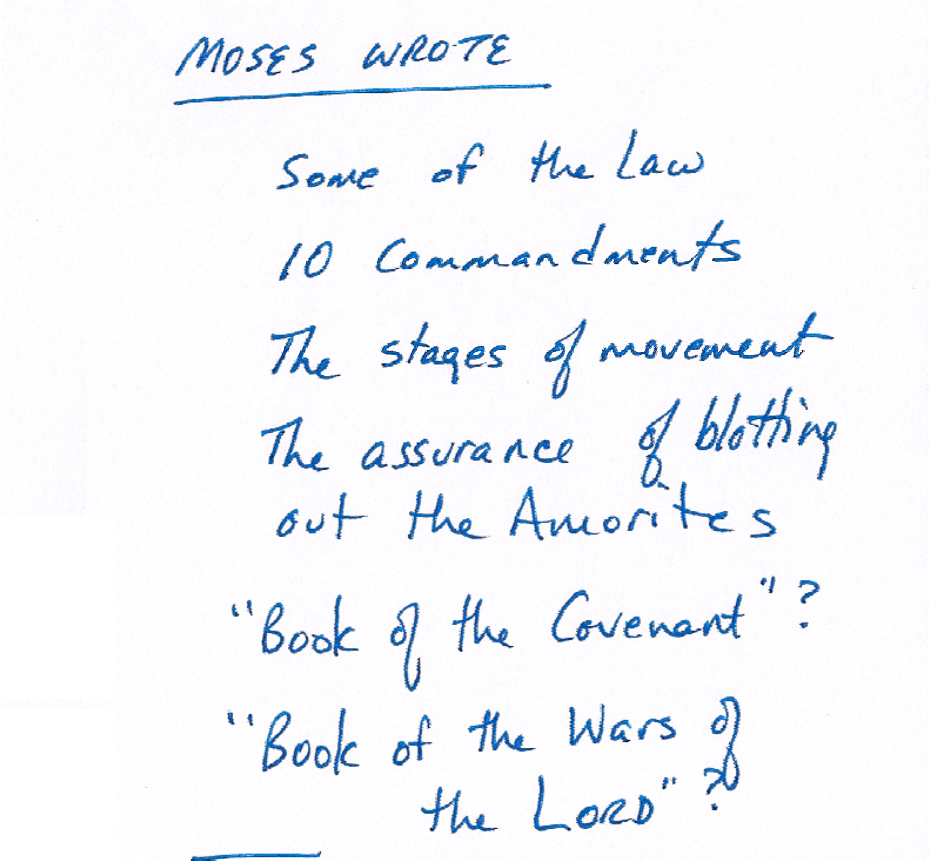
He wrote of Jesus (Dt. 18:18?)



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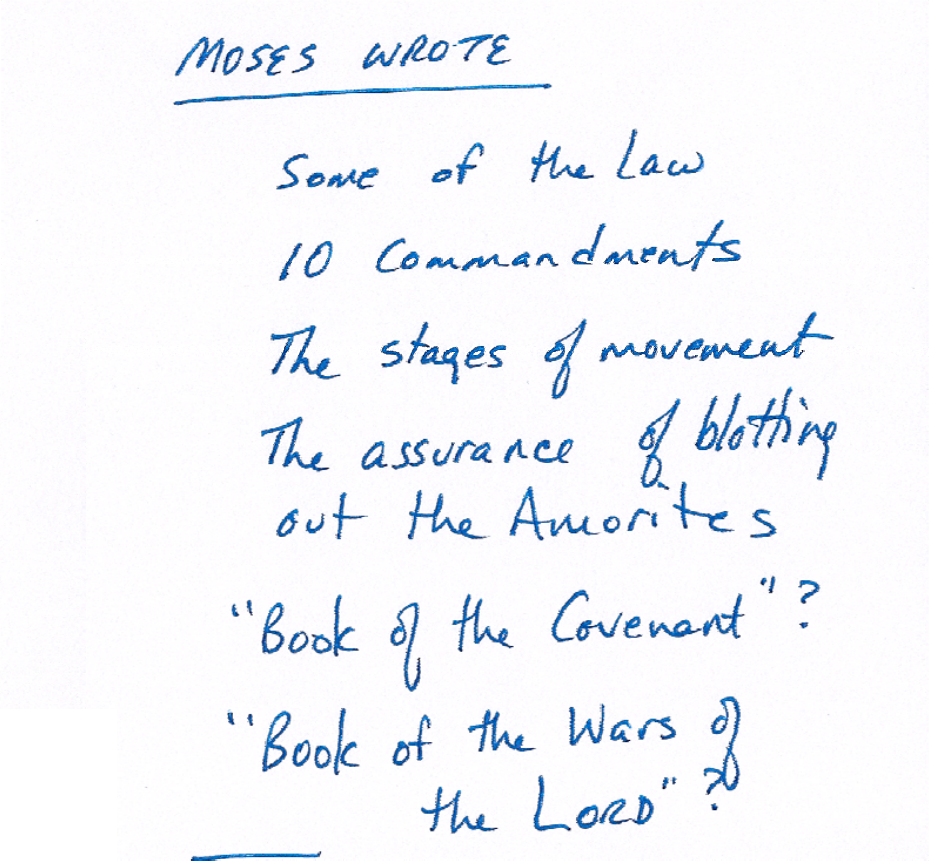


So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible

He wrote of Jesus (Dt. 18:18?)

The divorce law (Dt 24:1-4)

Righteousness by law (Lev. 18:5?)

MOSES WROTE

Some of the Law

10 Commandments

The stages of movement

The assurance of blotting out the Amorites

"Book of the Covenant"?

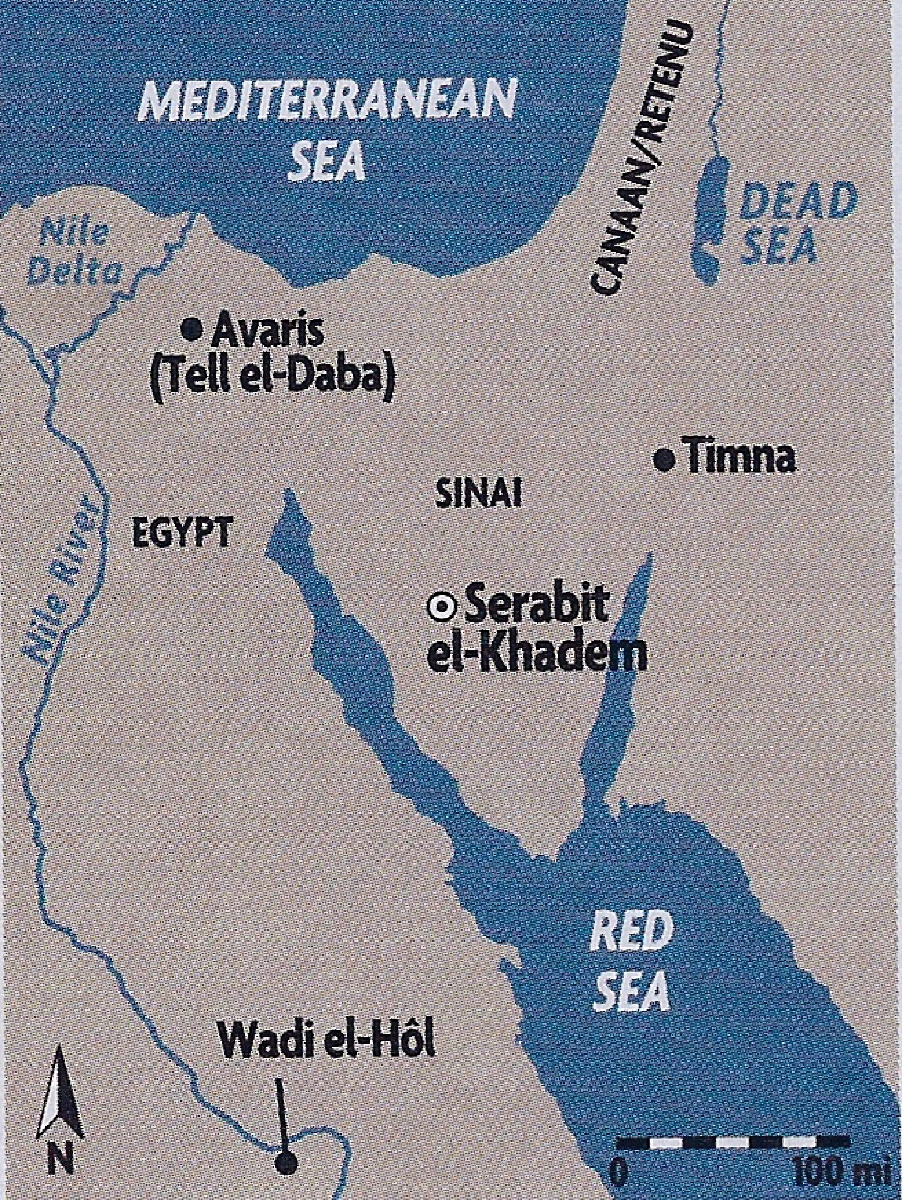
"Book of the Wars of the Lord"?

So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible say?

So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible say?
- Was there writing at the time of Moses?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CANAAN/RETENU
DEAD SEA
Nile Delta
Avaris (Tell el-Daba)
Timna
SINAI
EGYPT
Nile River
Serabit el-Khadem
RED SEA
Wadi el-Hôl
N
0
100 mi

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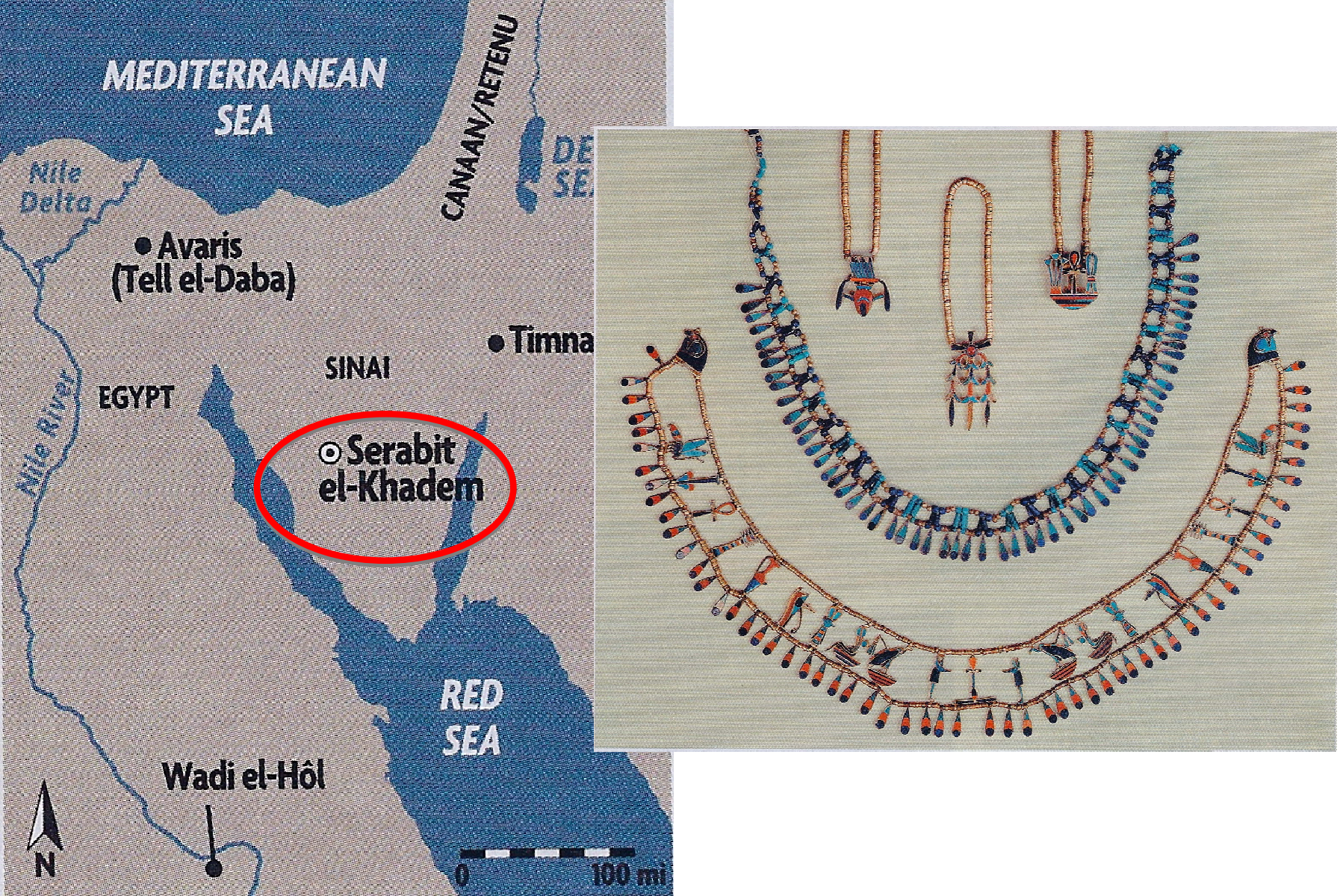
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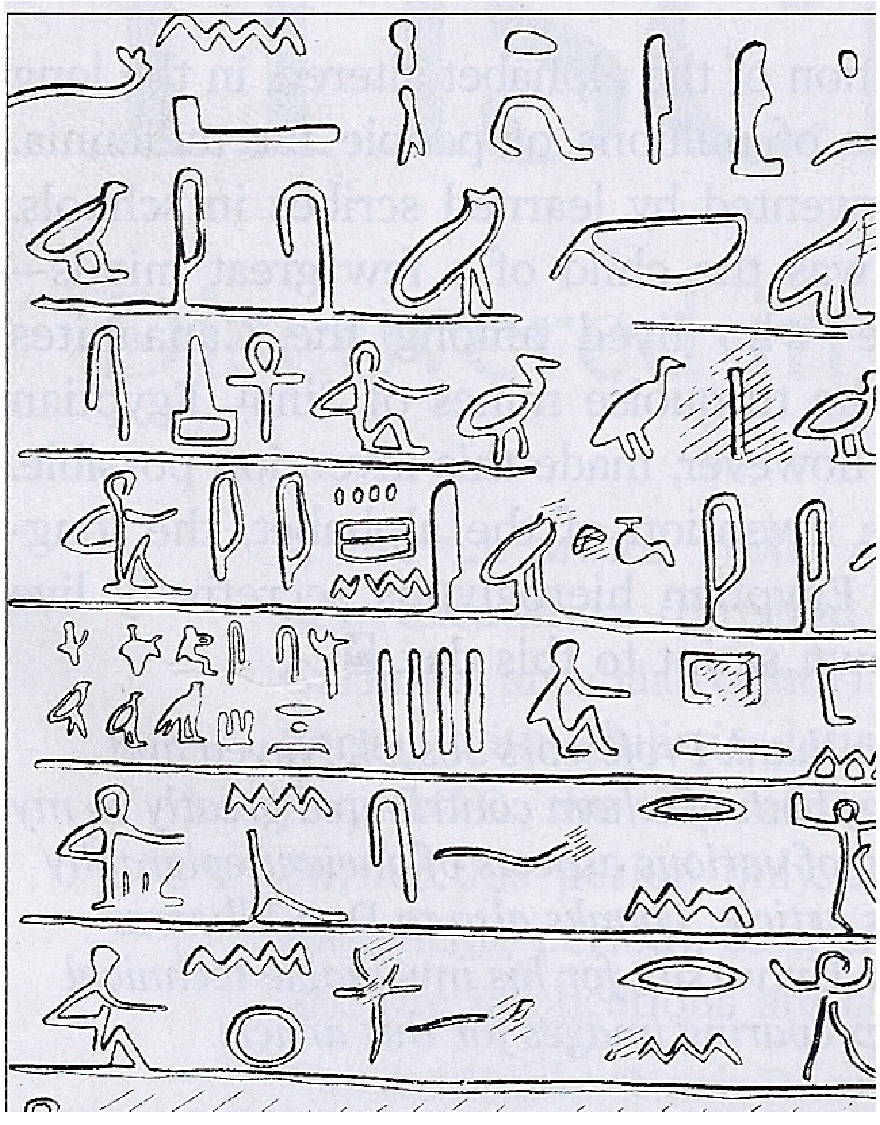
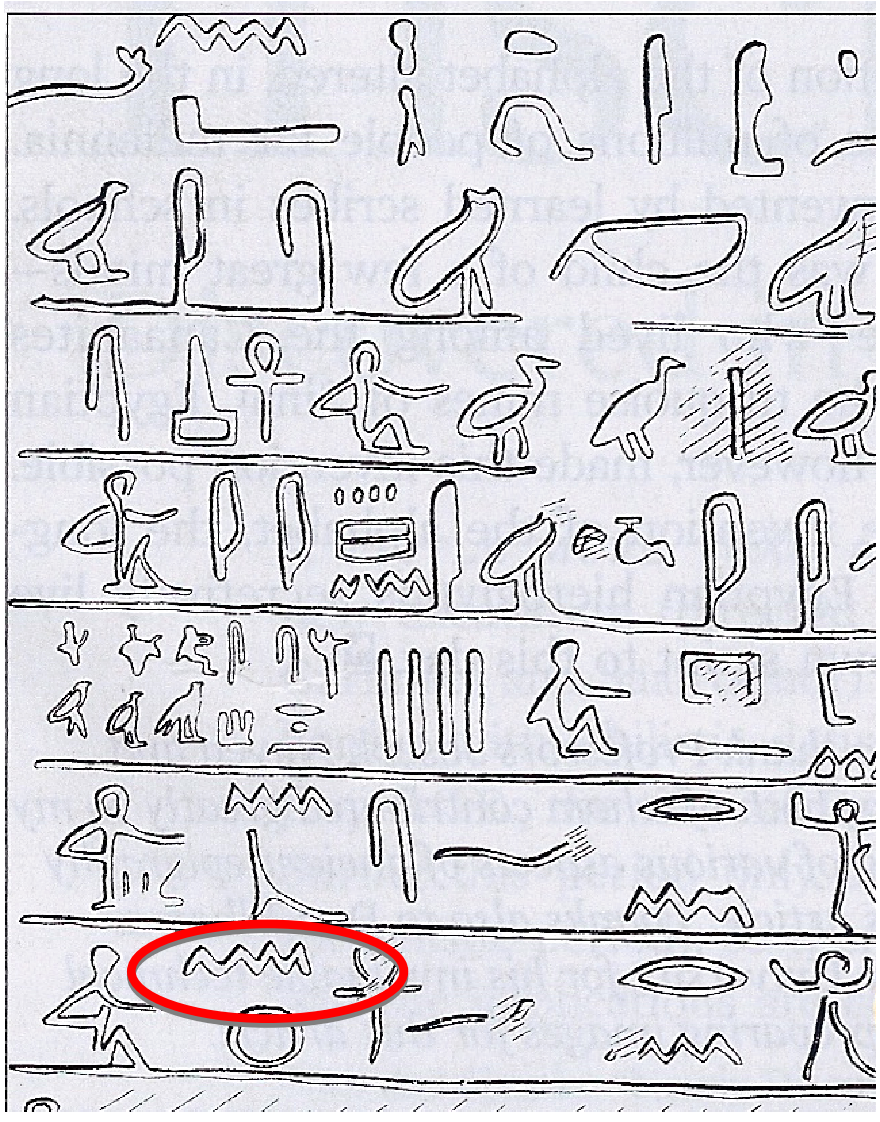
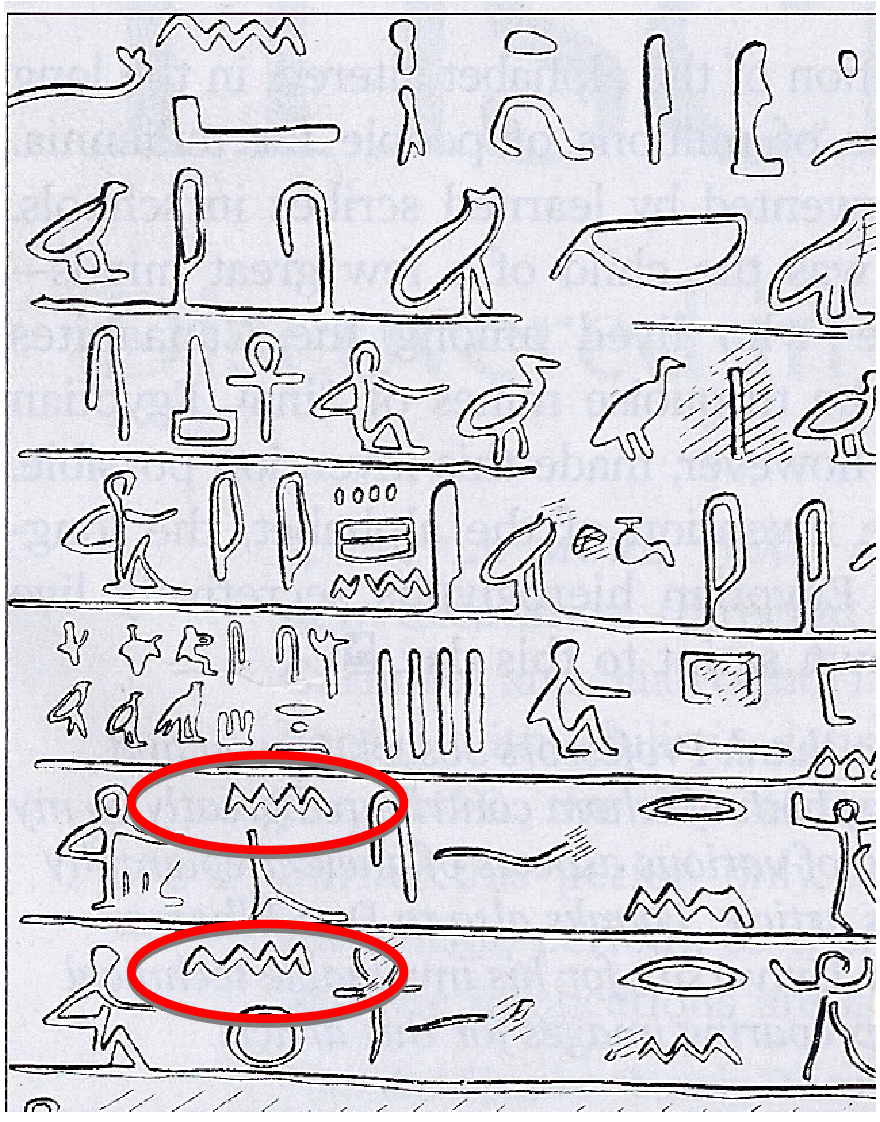
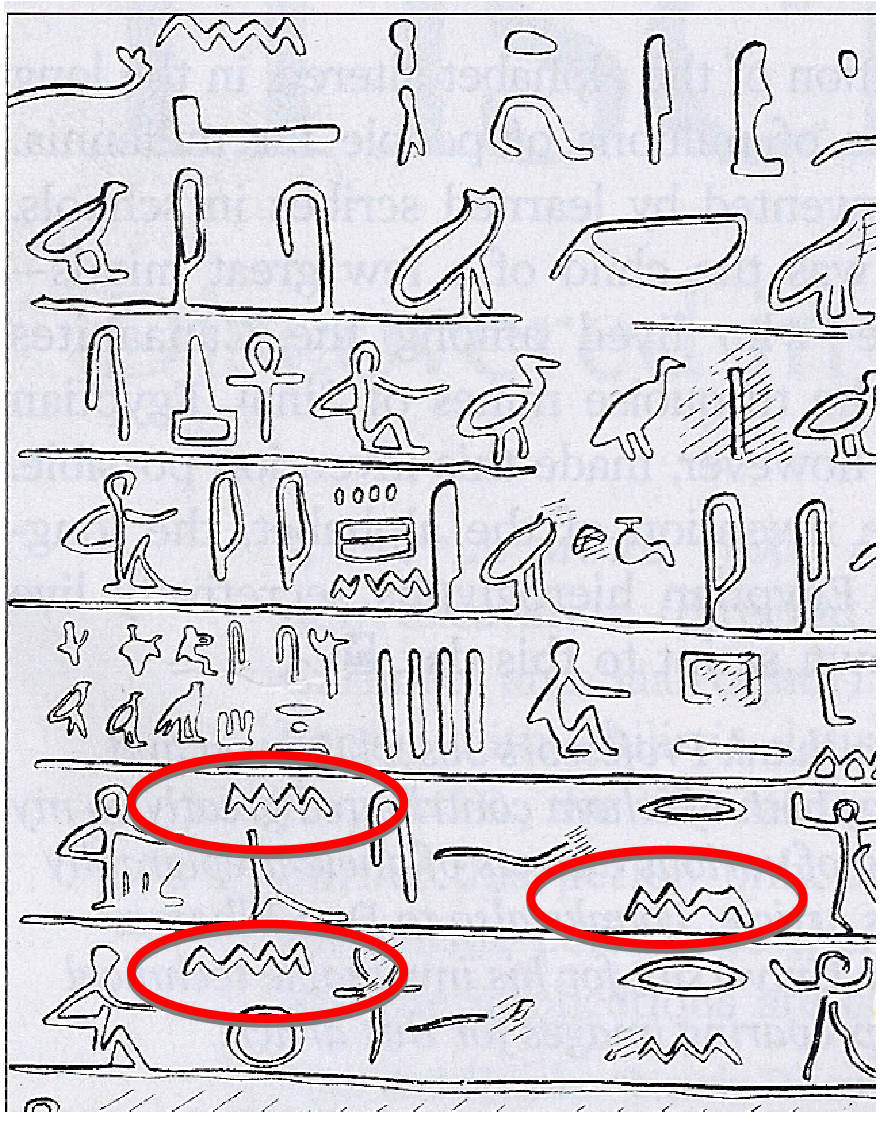
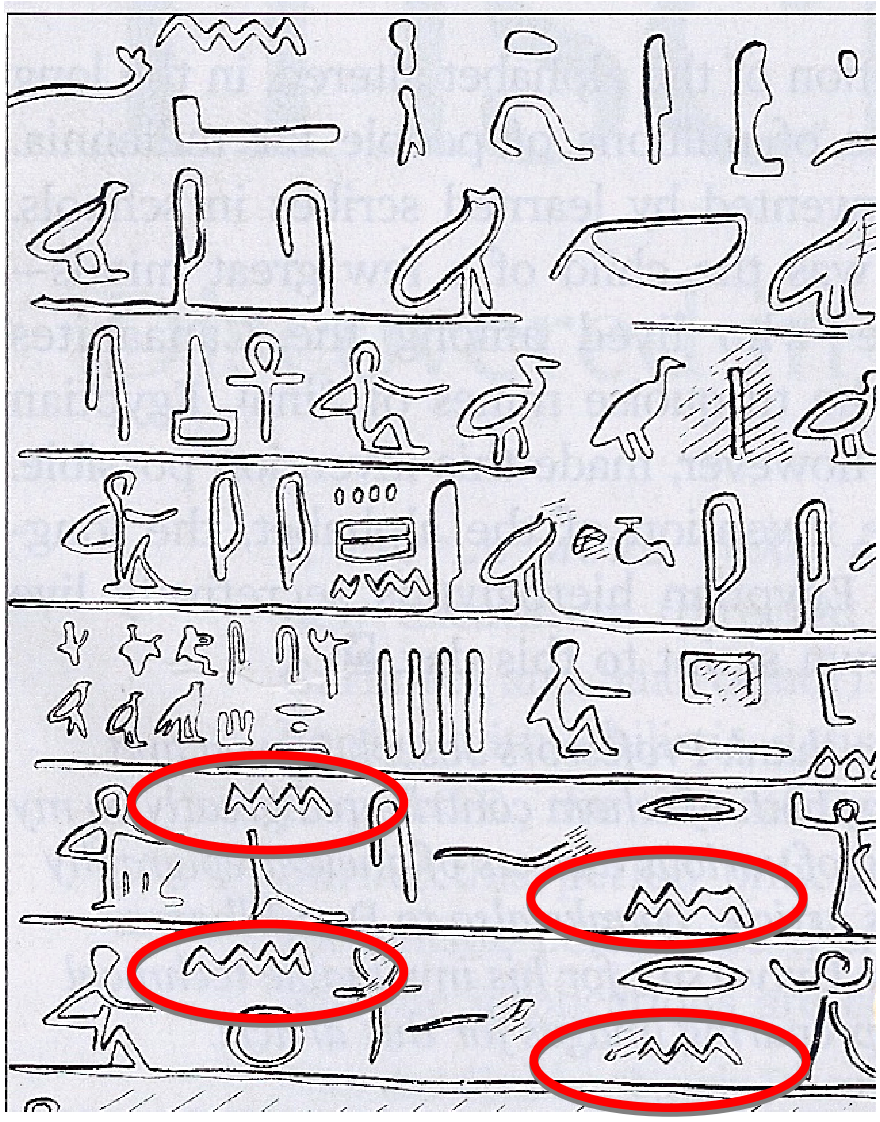
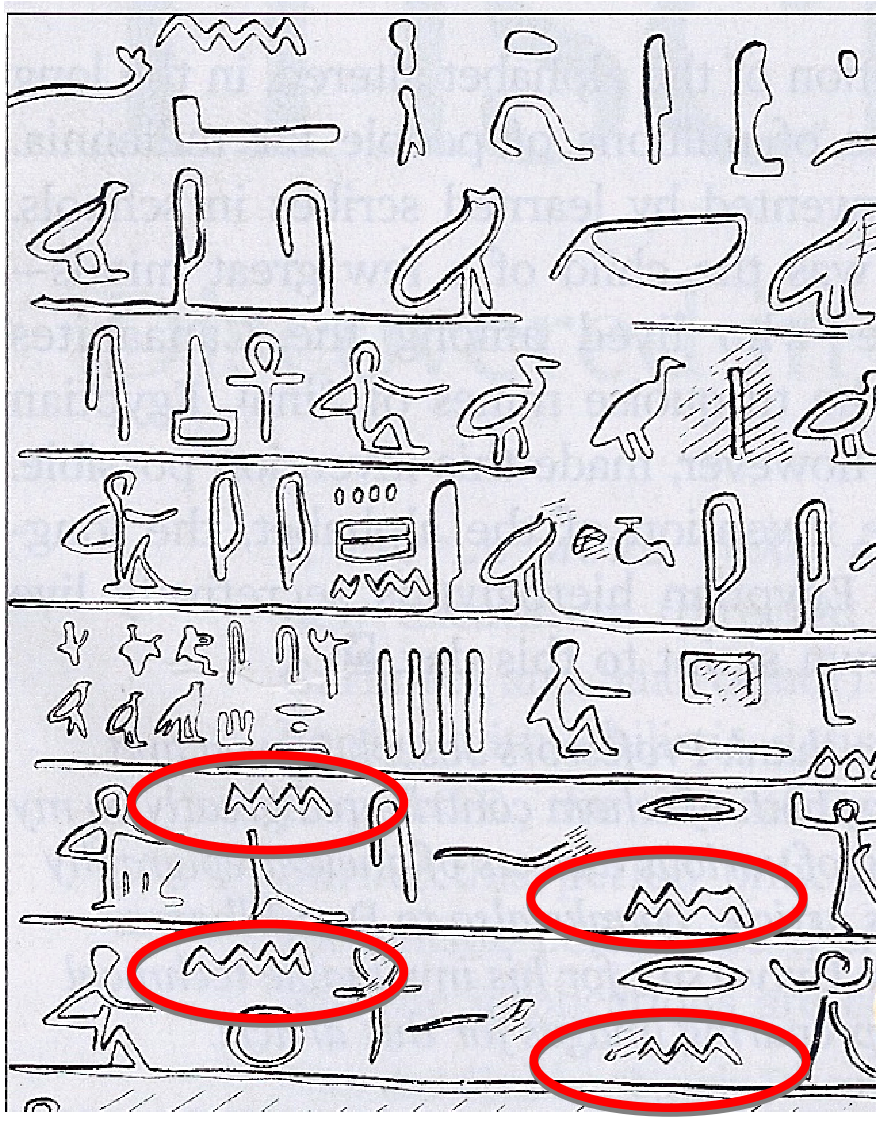


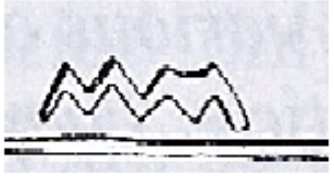


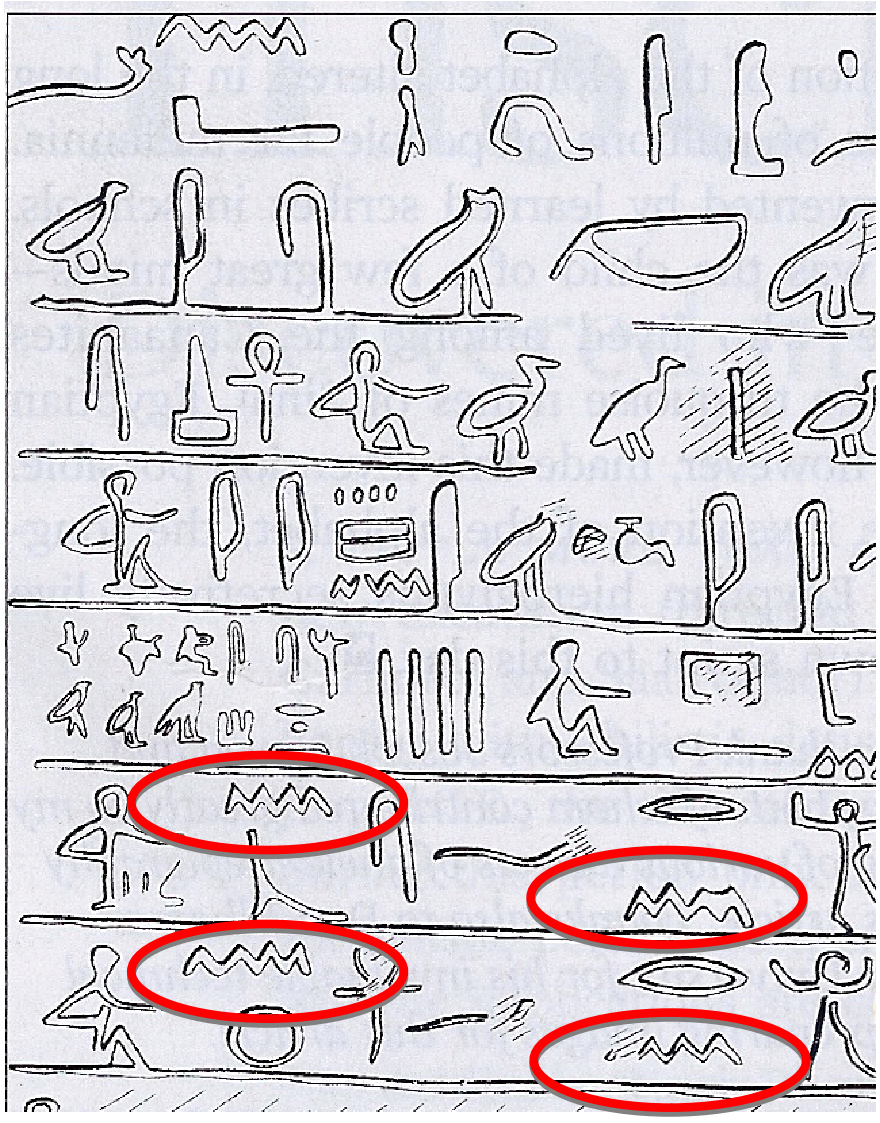


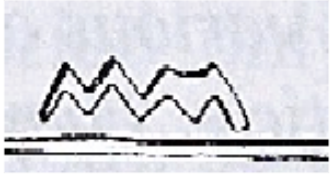




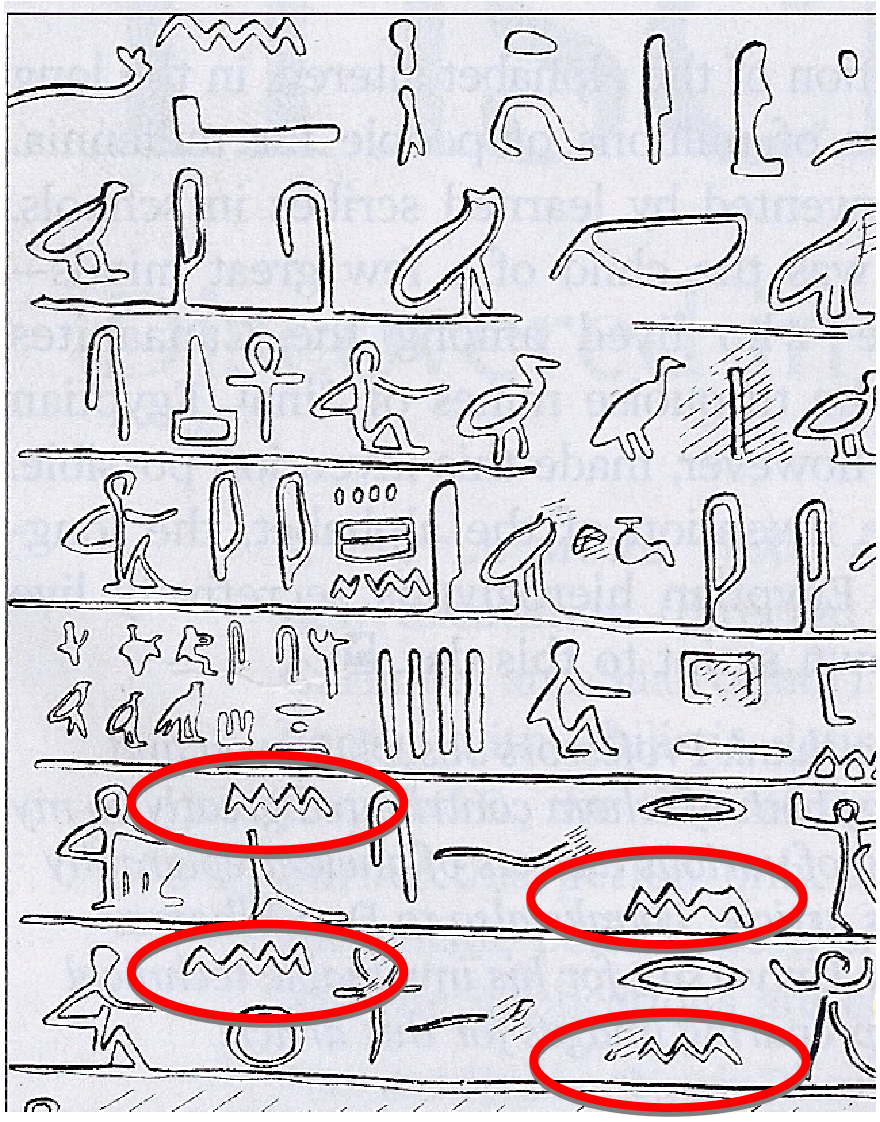


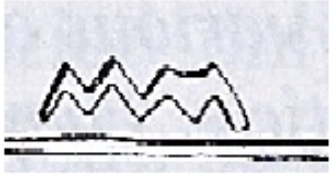




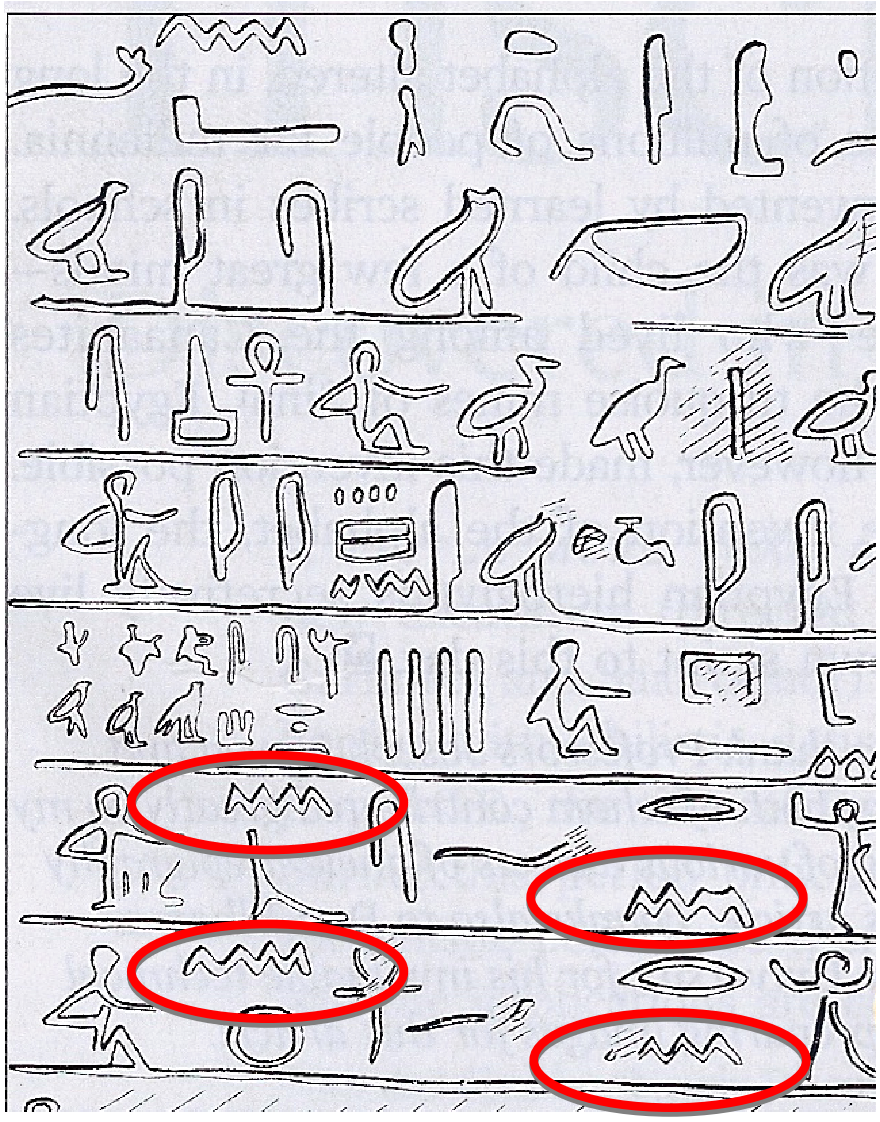


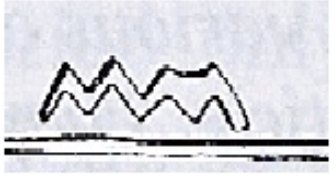
“Water”





“Water”
“mayim”





“M”

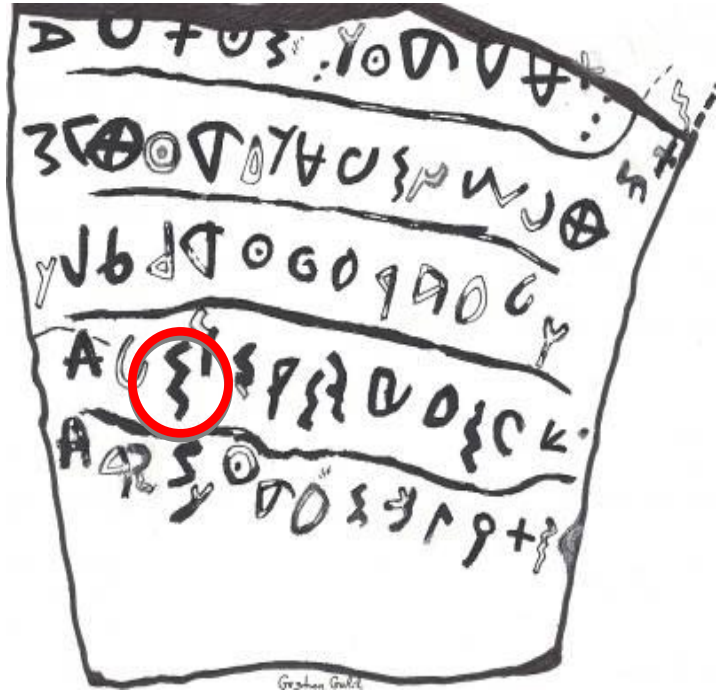
“Water”
“mayim”

Age and dating of Hebrew writing

' you shall not do [it], but worship the [Lord]. □' Judge the sla[ve] and the wid[ow] / Judge the orph[an] □' [and] the stranger. [Pl]ead for the infant / plead for the po[or and] □' the widow. Rehabilitate [the poor] at the hands of the king. □' Protect the po[or and] the slave / [supp]ort the stranger.

An Evolving Alphabet

Hieroglyphic	Proto-Sinaitic	Phoenician & Paleo-Hebrew	Early Greek	Greek	Latin	Modern Hebrew
				A	A	א
				B	B	ב
				E	E	ה
				K	K	כ
				M	M	מ
				N	N	נ
				O	O	ע
				P	R	ר
				Σ	S	ש
				T	T	ת



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				P	R	ר
				Σ	S	ש
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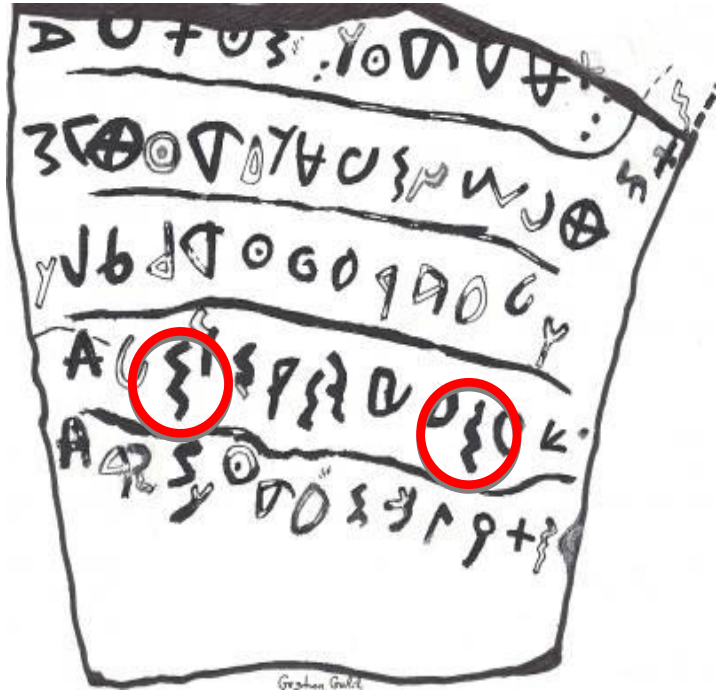

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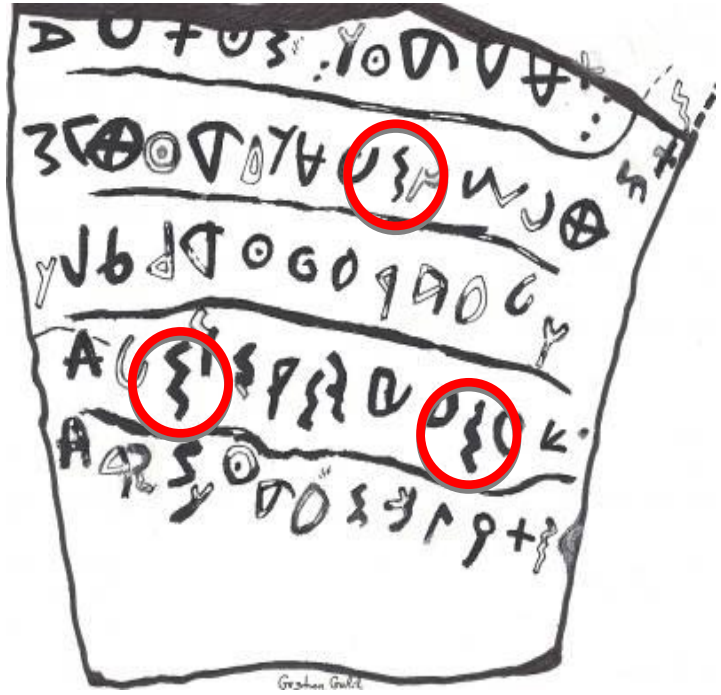
				Σ	S	ש
				T	T	ת



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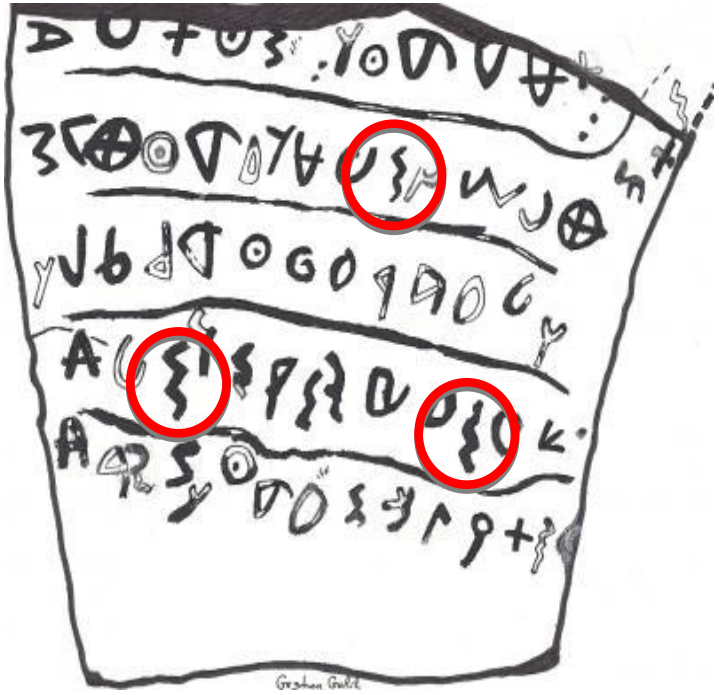

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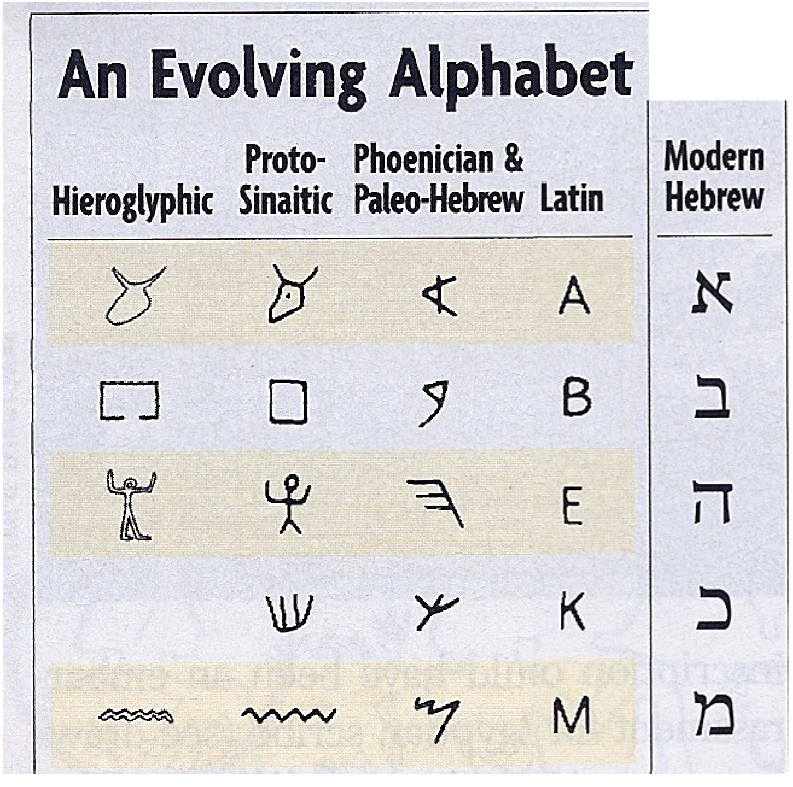
What of our Hebrew Bibles?



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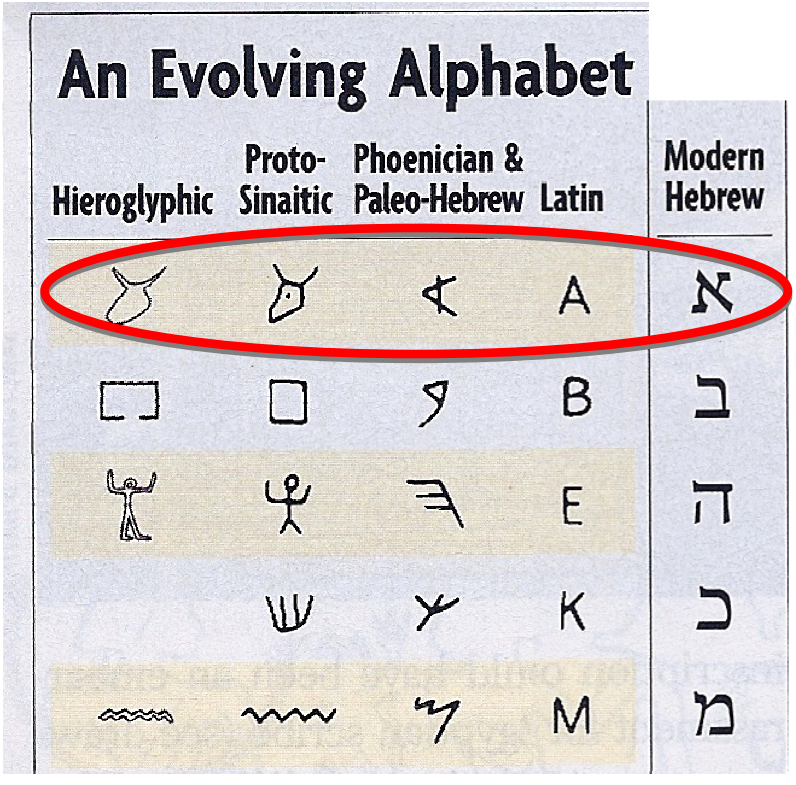

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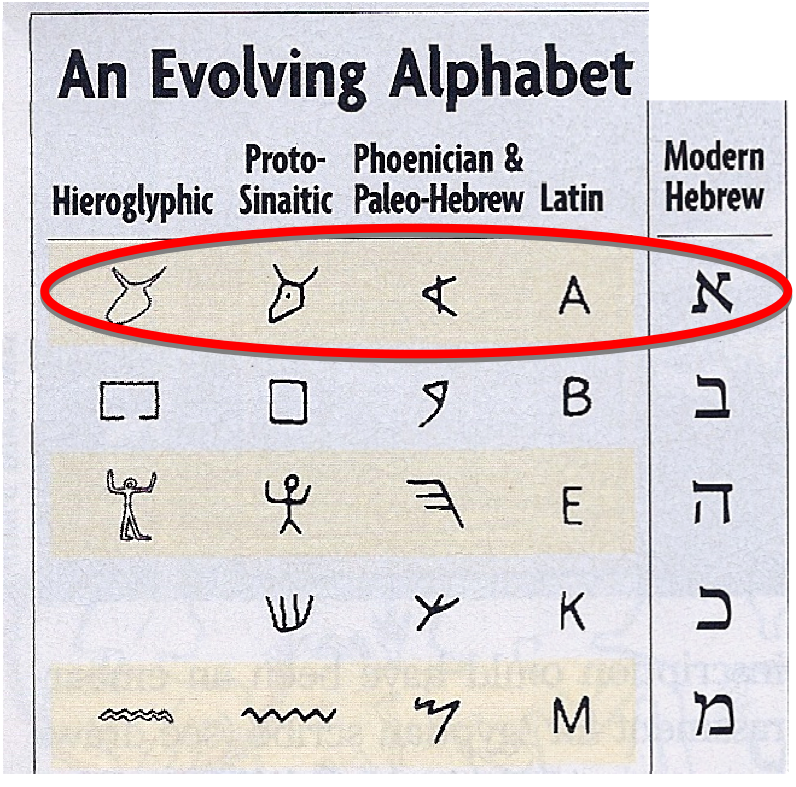

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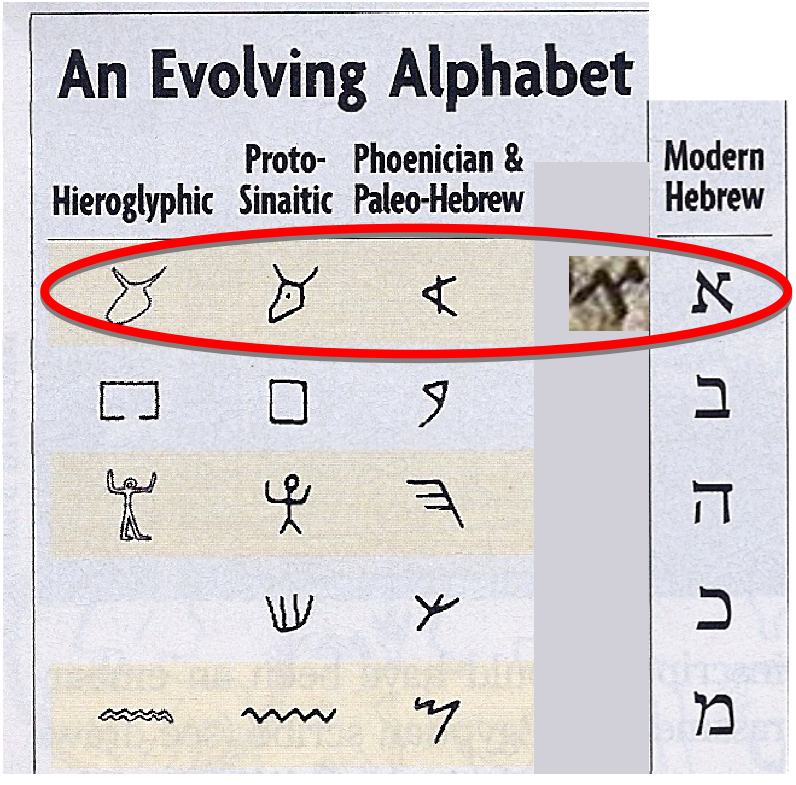

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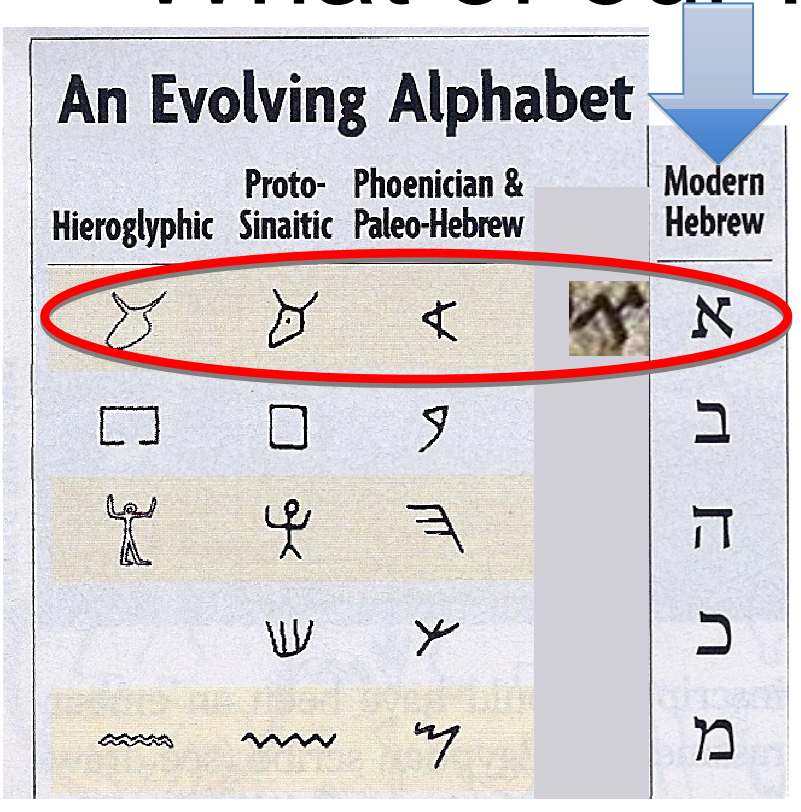

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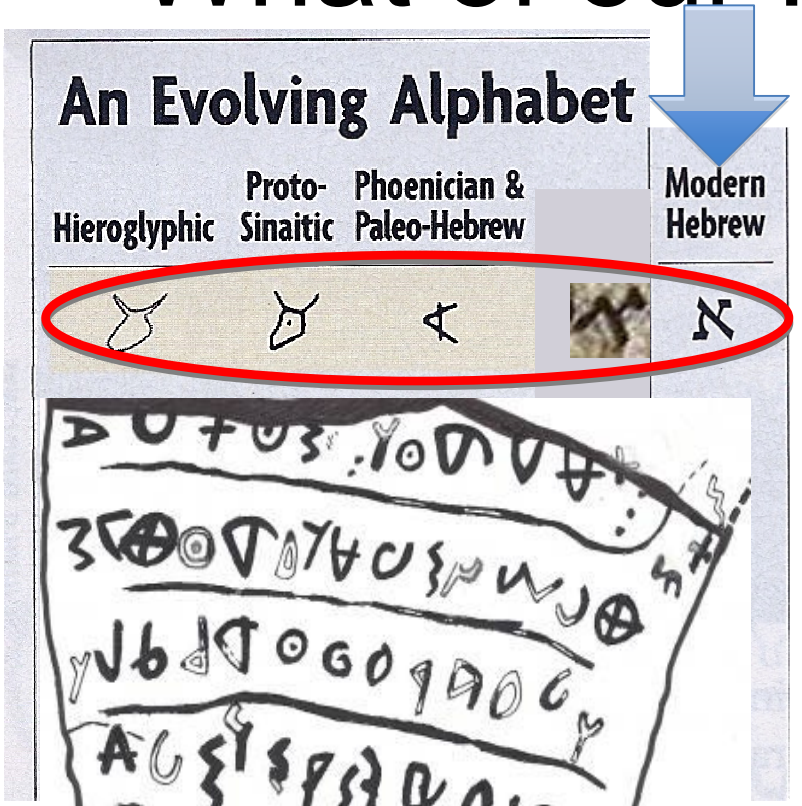

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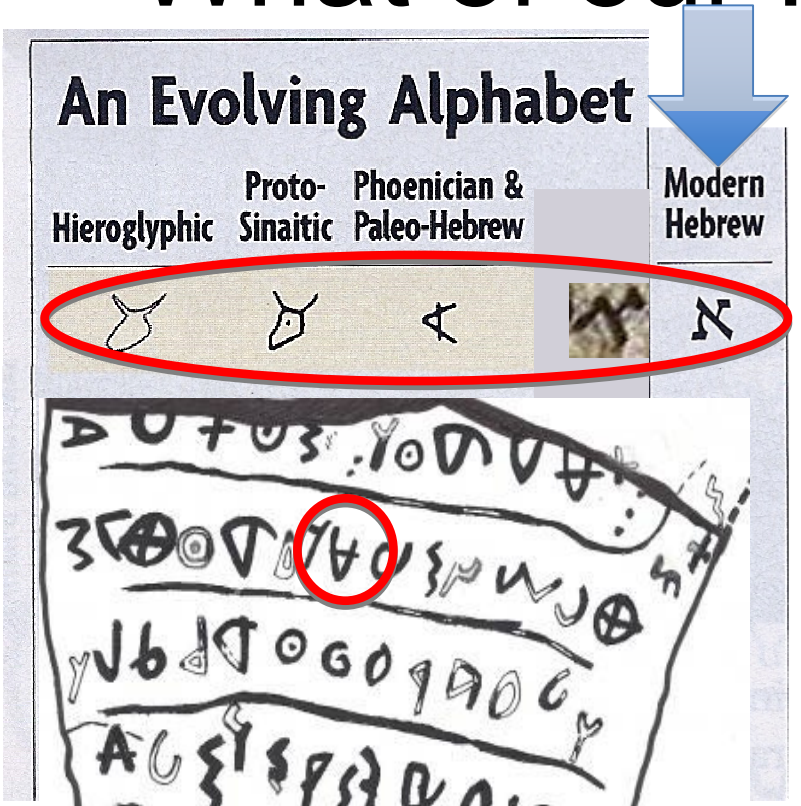

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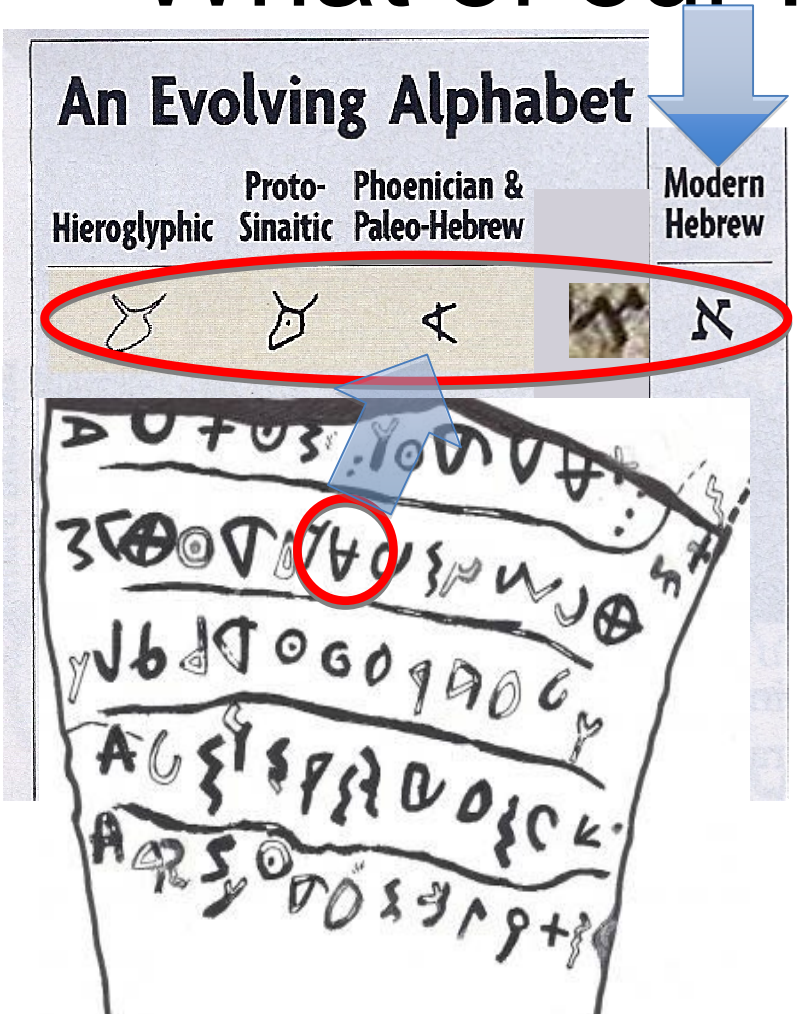

What happened?

Ezra (?) wrote the Old Testament into Aramaic Script

So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible say?
- Was there writing at the time of Moses?

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- Was it a gathering of source documents?

Remember there are a number of Hebrew ways to refer to God

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Yahweh = LORD = "Jehovah"

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Elohim = God

Adonai = Lord

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh =
LORD =
“Jehovah”

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh =

LORD = The “J” source

“Jehovah”

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

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Elohim
= God

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh =
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The “E” source

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The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh = LORD = “Jehovah”

“Deutero-nomist”

The “J” source

The “E” source

Elohim = God

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh = LORD = “Jehovah” → The “J” source

The “E” source ← *Elohim* = God

“Deutero-nomist” → The “D” source

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh = LORD = “Jehovah” → The “J” source

The “E” source ← *Elohim* = God

“Deutero-nomist” → The “D” source

Priests

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

Yahweh = LORD = “Jehovah” → The “J” source

The “E” source ← *Elohim* = God

“Deutero-nomist” → The “D” source

The “P” source ← Priests

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

The “J” source

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

The “J” source

The “E” source

The “Documentary Hypothesis”

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Often the failures with source theories are "Why?" "When?" "Where?" etc.

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There is also a clear unity to Genesis
"*toledot*"

Inerrancy key is “**direction**”

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Inerrancy:

Inerrancy key is “**direction**”

Inerrancy:

God’s revelation to man that says exactly what he wants it to say in the way he wants it said.

So who wrote Genesis?

- What does the Bible say?
- Was there writing at the time of Moses?
- Was it a gathering of source documents?
- Was it a co-opting of local legends?

MS 5108
Atra-Hasis Epic, tablet 2. Babylonia, ca. 1900-1700 BC

Atrahasis

Enuma Elish

Enuma Elish

David Fleming
(3/21)

Creation -- Evolution
(3/28)

Points for home

“And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Write these words…’”

(Ex. 34:27)

Points for home

“And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Write these words…’”

(Ex. 34:27)

God Communicates in Scripture!

Points for home

“I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers”

(Dt. 18:18)

Points for home

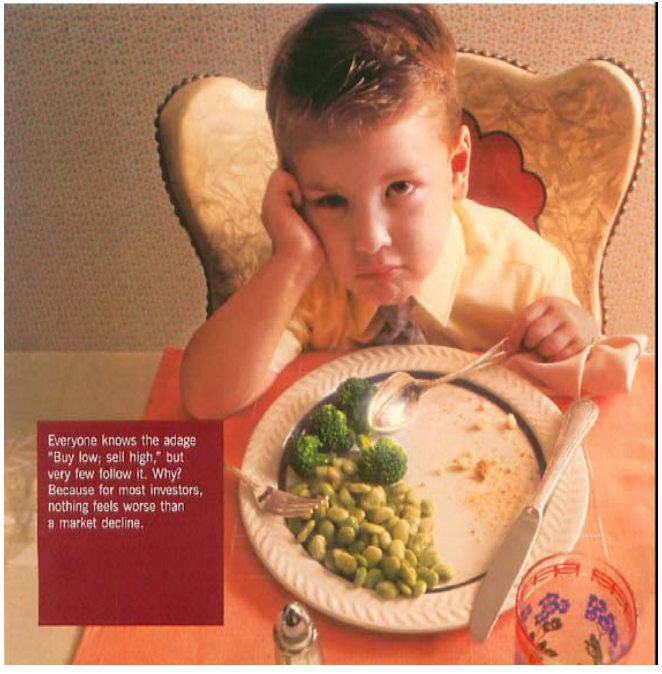
“I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers”

(Dt. 18:18)

Christ is God’s Word!

Want more?

Wantmore@biblical-literacy.com



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Does the "*toledot*" structure of Genesis have anything to say about whether Genesis 1 and 2 give different accounts of creation?