

III. Mesopotamian religion, 3000-1600 B.C.

140-149

- a. Comparison with Egypt.
 - 1. Political disturbances complicated Mesopotamian religion.
 - A'. Polytheism more clear-cut.
 - B'. Dynamism restricted to magic.
 - C'. Magic related to embryonic science.
 - 2. Mesopotamian gods not strictly limited by geography.
 - A'. Pantheon stabilized very early.
 - B'. An & Enlil throughout Babylonia.
 - C'. Tendencies toward syncretism and monolatry, but not strict monotheism.
 - D'. Tendency toward universalism.
 - 3. No clear totemic or sexual particularization
 - 4. Myths centered around selected figures (e.g., Tammuz) like those in Egypt and elsewhere.
- b. Alleged Babylonian logos remote rather than direct ancestor of Greek logos.
 - 1. The creative plan is primitive dynamism.
 - 2. The creative word is shattering divine thunder.
- c. Semitic additions to Sumerian religion not important.
- d. Results of stability and prosperity of Hammurabi Age - ca. 1760.
 - 1. Advances in empirical science; stabilization of knowledge.
 - A'. Mathematics, astronomy.
 - B'. Divination and magic.
 - C'. Lexicography, theology.
 - 2. Non-analytical, empirical logic.
- e. Morality and ethics stressed as socially effective.
 - 1. Codification of law.
- f. Negative attitude to after-life stressed this life.

CHAPTER IV - WHEN ISRAEL WAS A CHILD

(Early date and originality of Israelite monotheism)

- A. Chronological setting. 150-151
 - I. Pre-Mosaic background is to be found in period 1600-1200 B.C.
 - a. Patriarchal Age 1900-1750; period of invasions 1750-1600; international period 1600-1200; Exodus ca. 1290.
- B. Political and cultural background, 1600-1200. 151-155
 - I. Invasions of Near East.
 - a. Hyksos conquest of Egypt.
 - 1. Destroyed feudalism.
 - 2. Liberation resulted in military empire, and
 - 3. Egyptian interest in other countries.
 - b. Submergence of Mesopotamia.
 - 1. Kassite conquest.
 - 2. Mitannian empire.
 - A'. Indo-Iranien; horse.
 - c. By 18th century, non-Semites all over Hither Asia.
 - 1. Broad heads; non-Semitic names.
 - 2. Well-populated, fortified cities.
 - 3. Manufactures, trade, wealth in Syria-Palestine.
 - II. Egyptian Empire. 155-157
 - a. Loose suzerainty for tribute, 1550-1450.
 - b. Conquest, policing, and bureaucratic control, 1450-1200.
 - 1. Corrupt bureaucracy.
 - 2. Impoverishment of Syria-Palestine.