

Judaism Monolatristic Pre Babylon

~1429 BCE — 598 BCE

Monolatristic: multiple gods exist, but only one is worshipped.

- “I am LORD your God... you will have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3, the First Commandment
- “The LORD presides in the congregation of gods, in the midst of them he judges.” Psalm 82:1
- “There is none like you among gods LORD.” Psalms 86:8



Babylonian Captivity

597 BCE — 538 BCE

Monotheism legitimizes the Jewish god



Kingdom of Judah is defeated by Babylonian Empire (605 BCE)

- » Jews deported (597 BCE) after second siege of Jerusalem
- » Temple destroyed in 587 BCE¹

Deutero-Isaiah written during exile, introduces monotheism²:

- “I am the first and I am the last, and besides me there is no god” Isaiah 44:6
 - The first declaration of monotheism in Abrahamic texts

Monotheism = nationalism³:

- “Hearken to Me, you stout-hearted, that are far from righteousness. I have brought near My righteousness, it shall not go far, and My salvation shall not delay, and I will give salvation in Zion, to Israel, My glory” Isaiah 46:12,13
 - Promises salvation and return to Israel

Sources: 1 - *Out of Exile, not out of Babylon!*. Volker Glissmann. Mzuni Press, 2019, 1. 2 - *Evolution of God*. Robert Wright. Little, Brown and Company, 2009, 180. 3 - “Genesis 14: A Diaspora Novella.” Volker Glissmann. *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* Vol. 34, 1 (2009), 32-35.

Images: 1 - *King David*, f. 88 of Book of Hours, Use of Chartres. C.1480-1490. 2 - “Jews leaving Israel.” Jacques Joseph Tissot, c. 1896-1902 3 - “An den Wassern Babels.” Gebhard Fugel. C. 1920.