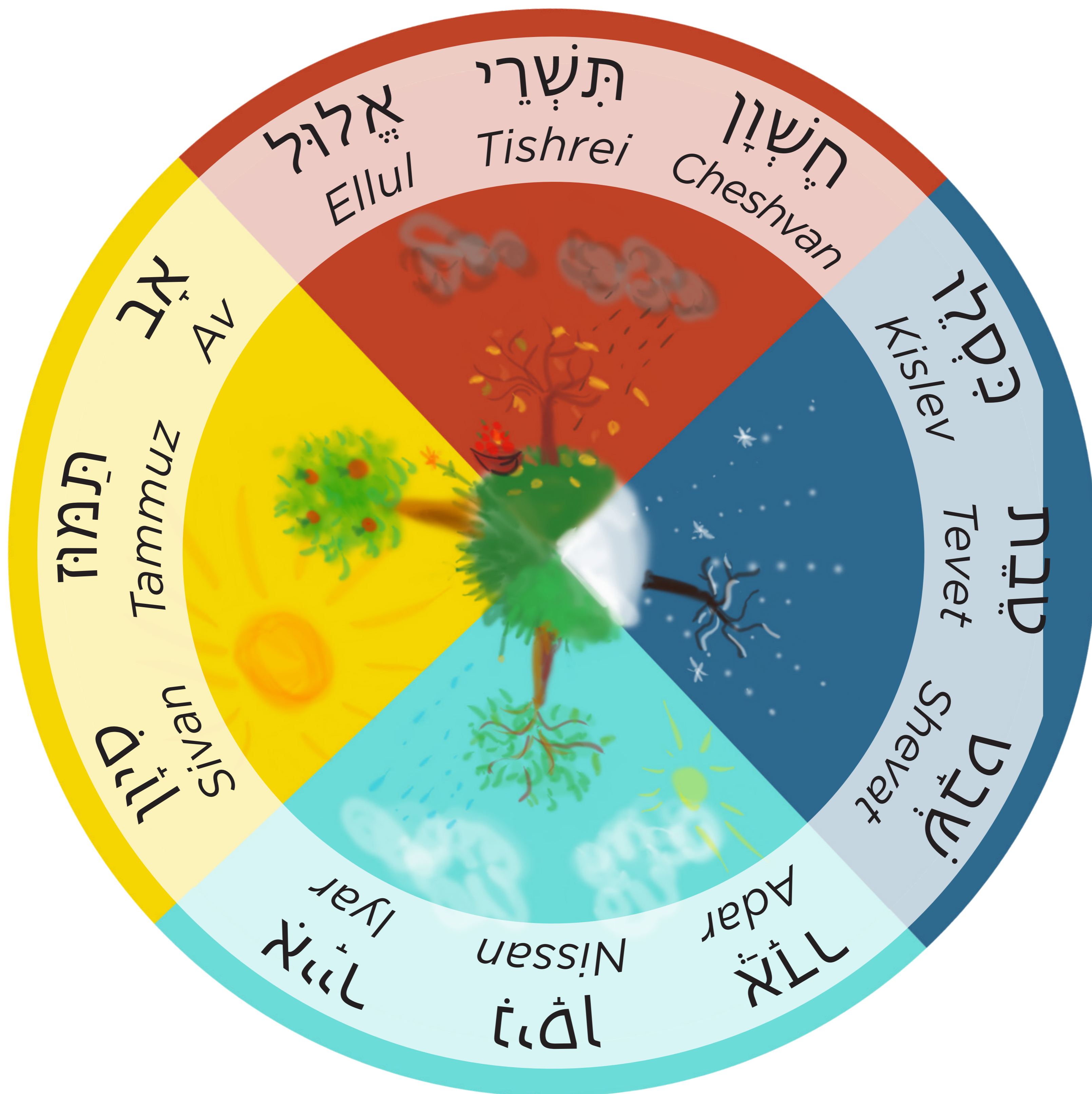


The Months of the Year



The first month of the year is *Nissan* – the month in which we left Egypt and became a free people.

Sometimes, we call *Tishrei* the first month of the year, because it begins with *Rosh Hashanah* (Head of the Year).

The *Shalosh Regalim*

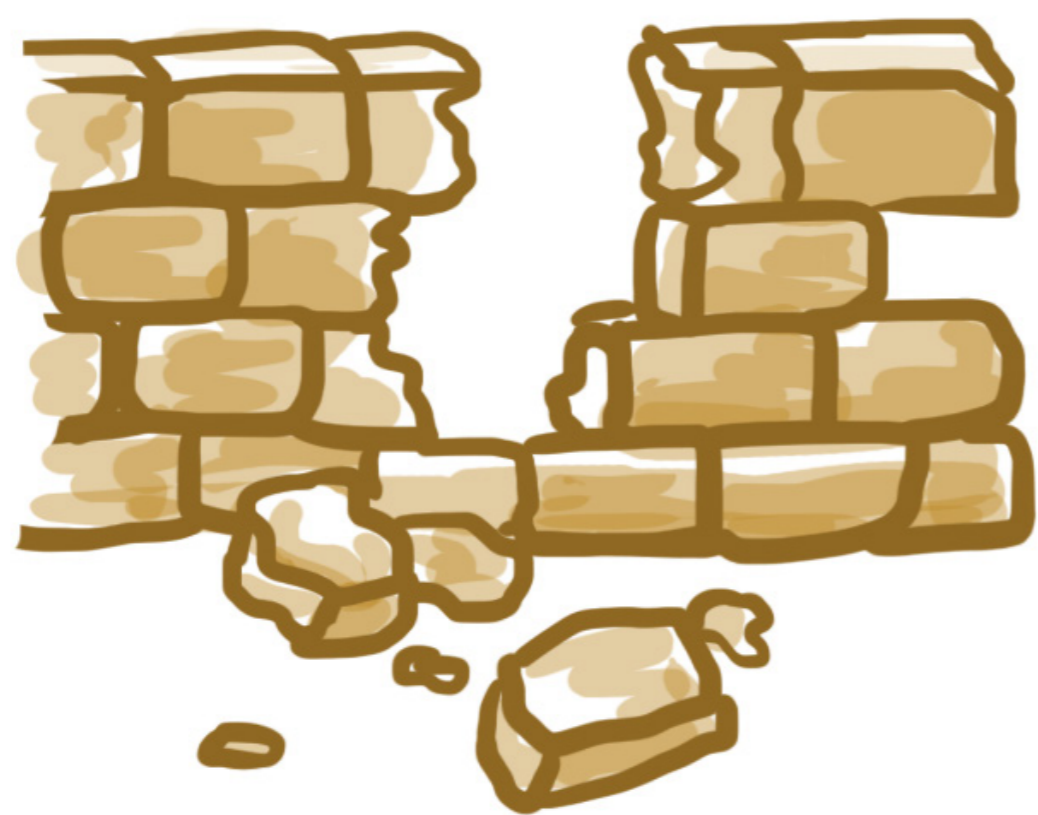
When the *Bet Hamikdash* stood in Jerusalem, Jews would come from all over Israel to visit it. They came in particular on three festivals - *Pesach*, *Shavuot* and *Succot*. Because most people travelled on foot - these are known as the **שְׁלוֹשׁ רֶגְלִים** (3 Foot Festivals).

Many Jews at that time were farmers and they would bring their first fruits to the *Bet Hamikdash* as a gift to God.



17th *Tammuz* & 9th *Av*

2000 years ago the Romans destroyed the second *Bet Hamikdash*.



17th of *Tammuz*:

The Romans broke through the city wall of Jerusalem.



9th of *Av*:

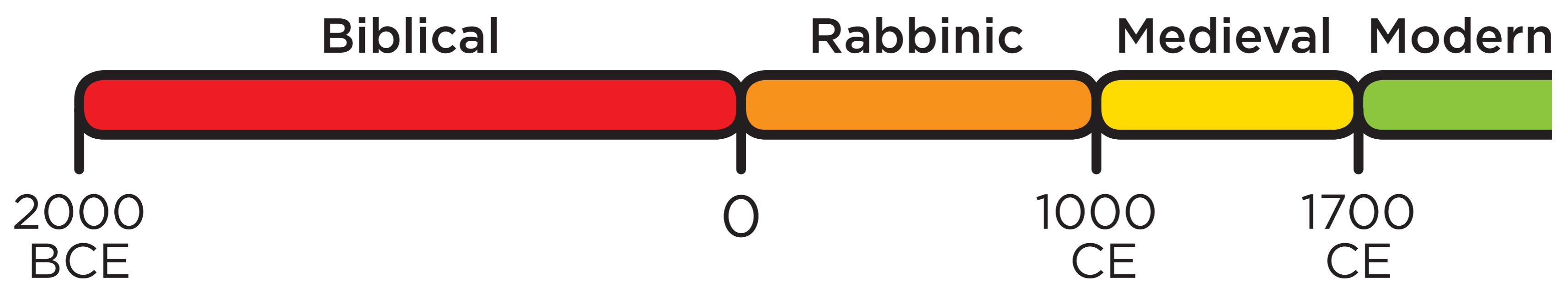
The Romans burnt the *Bet Hamikdash* to the ground.

The 'three weeks'

The three weeks is the saddest time of the year for us – so we don't hold a *simchah* and we don't cut our hair during this time.

According to tradition, the 9th of *Av* is also the day on which the first *Bet Hamikdash*, built by King Solomon, was destroyed.

Jewish History

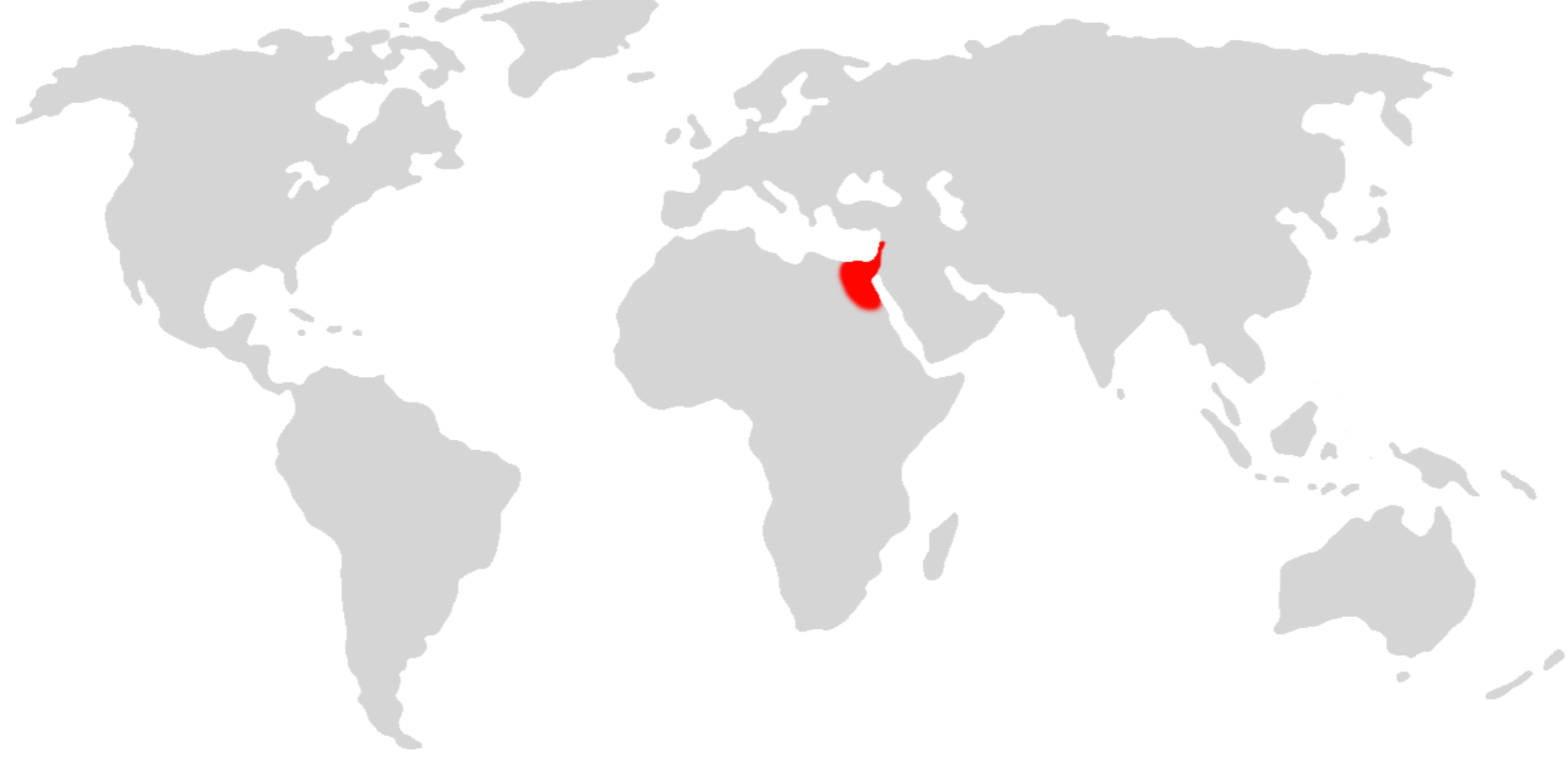
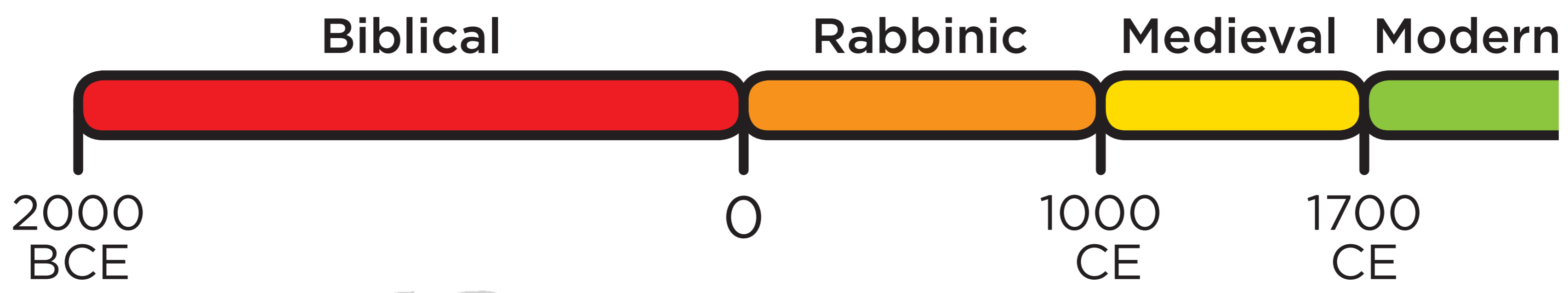


Jewish history can be divided approximately into four periods:

Period	Begins	Key characters
Biblical	2000 BCE	<i>Avraham, Miriam, Moshe, Eliyahu, Devorah, David</i>
Rabbinic	0	<i>Hillel, Shammai, Rabbi Akiva, Bruriah, Yehudah HaNasi</i>
Medieval	1000 CE	<i>Rashi, Rambam, Ramban, Yehudah HaLevi</i>
Modern	1700 CE	<i>Ba'al Shem Tov, Theodore Herzl, Sarah Schnierer, David Ben Gurion, Golda Meir</i>



Where Jews Have Lived



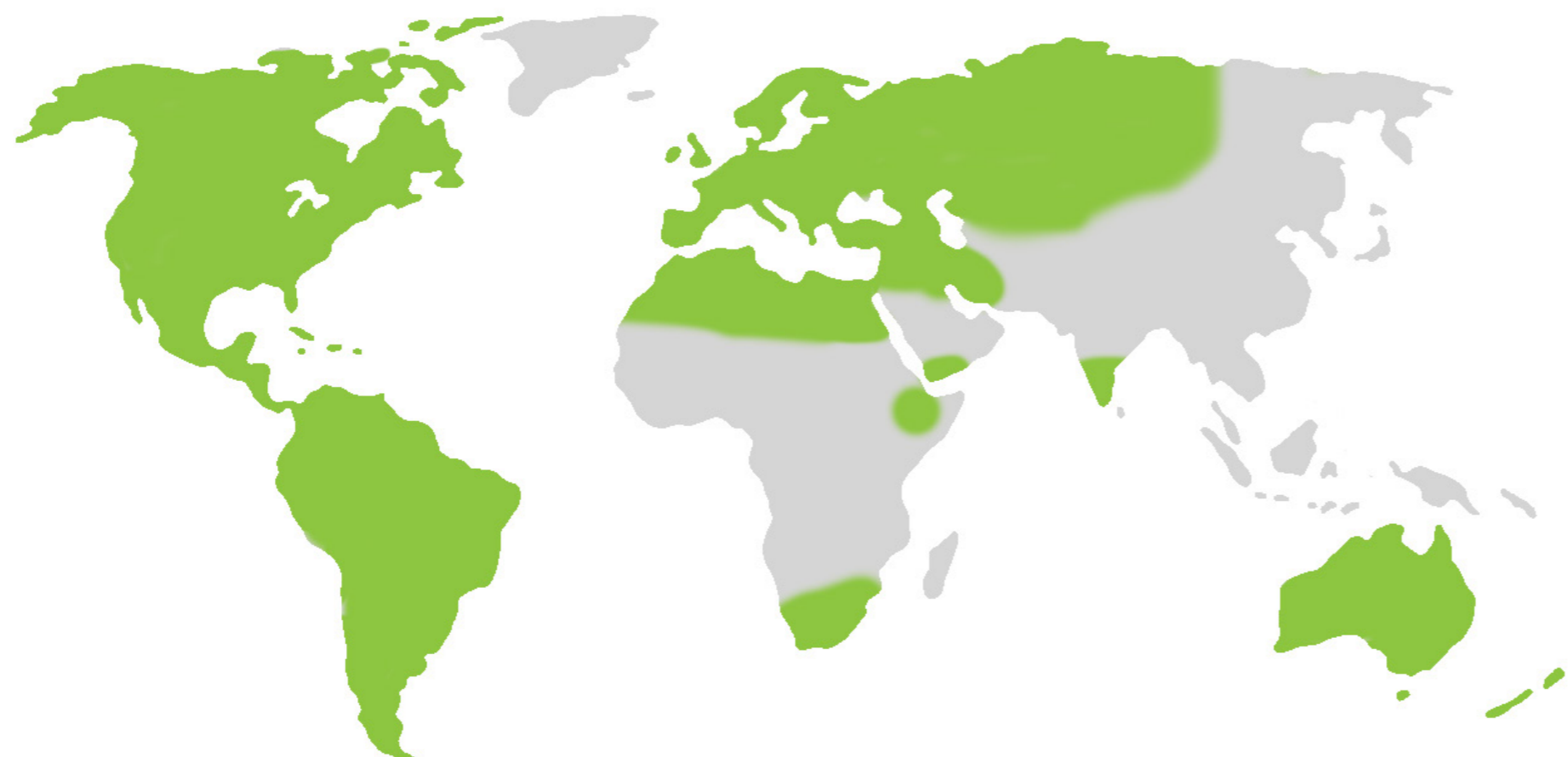
Israel,
Egypt



Israel,
Babylon (Iraq),
Egypt,
Eastern Europe



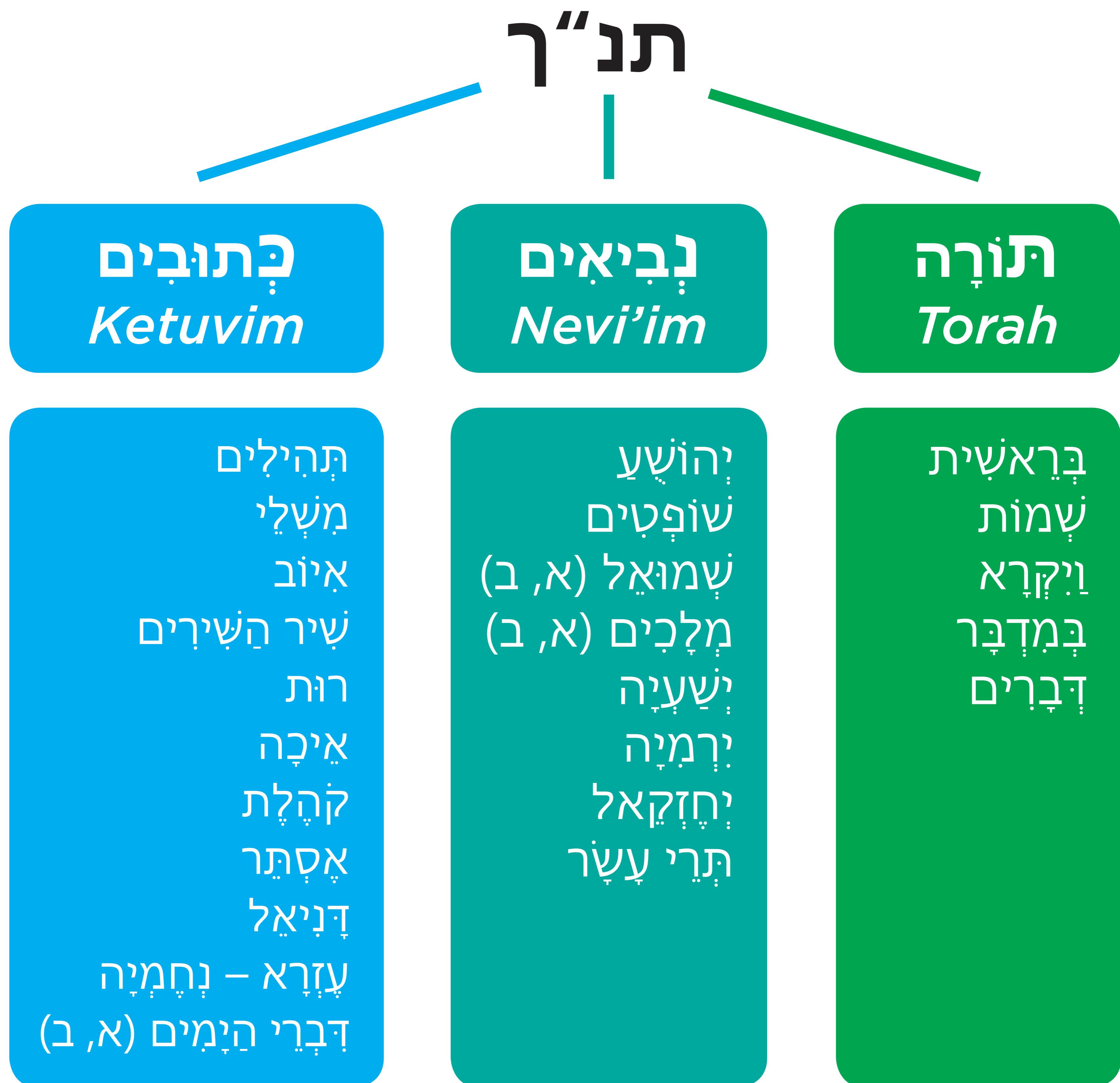
Israel
North Africa,
Europe



Israel,
N & S America,
N & S Africa,
Europe,
Australasia

תנ"ך *Tanach*

The *Tanach* is made up of 24 books

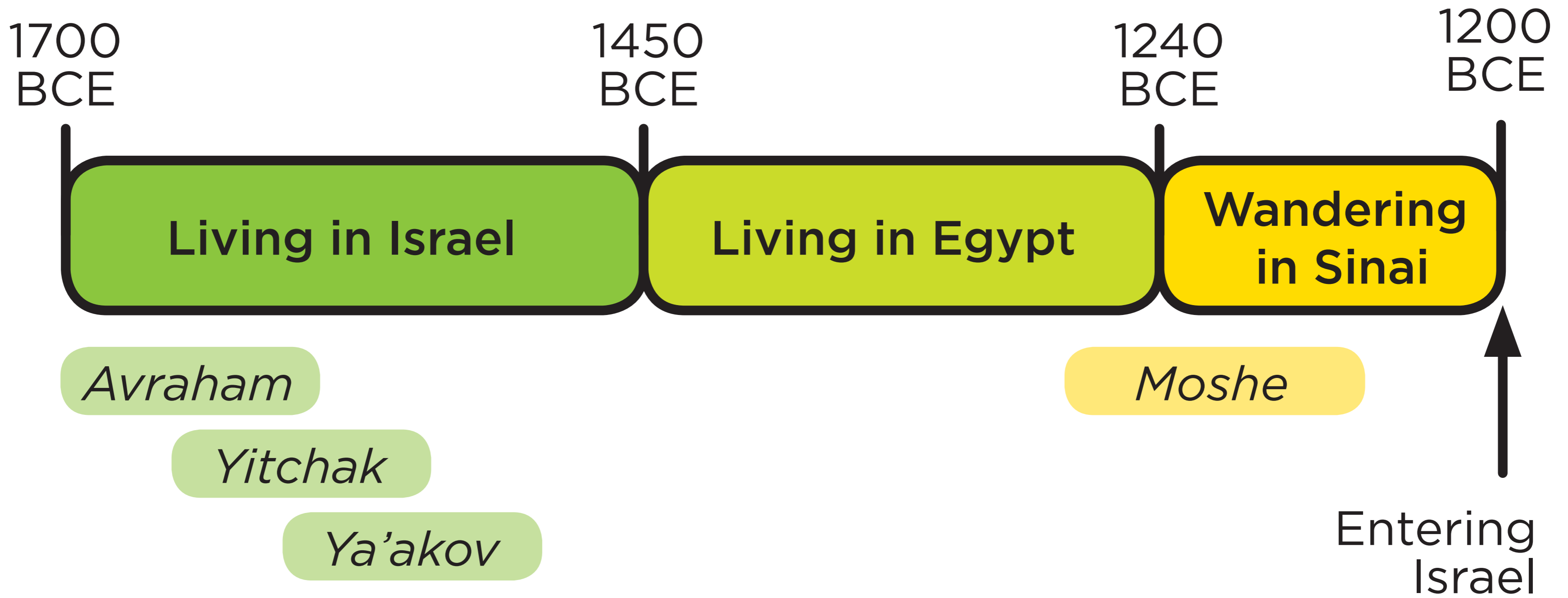


Torah tells the story of the Jewish people up to the point when they went into the land of Israel.

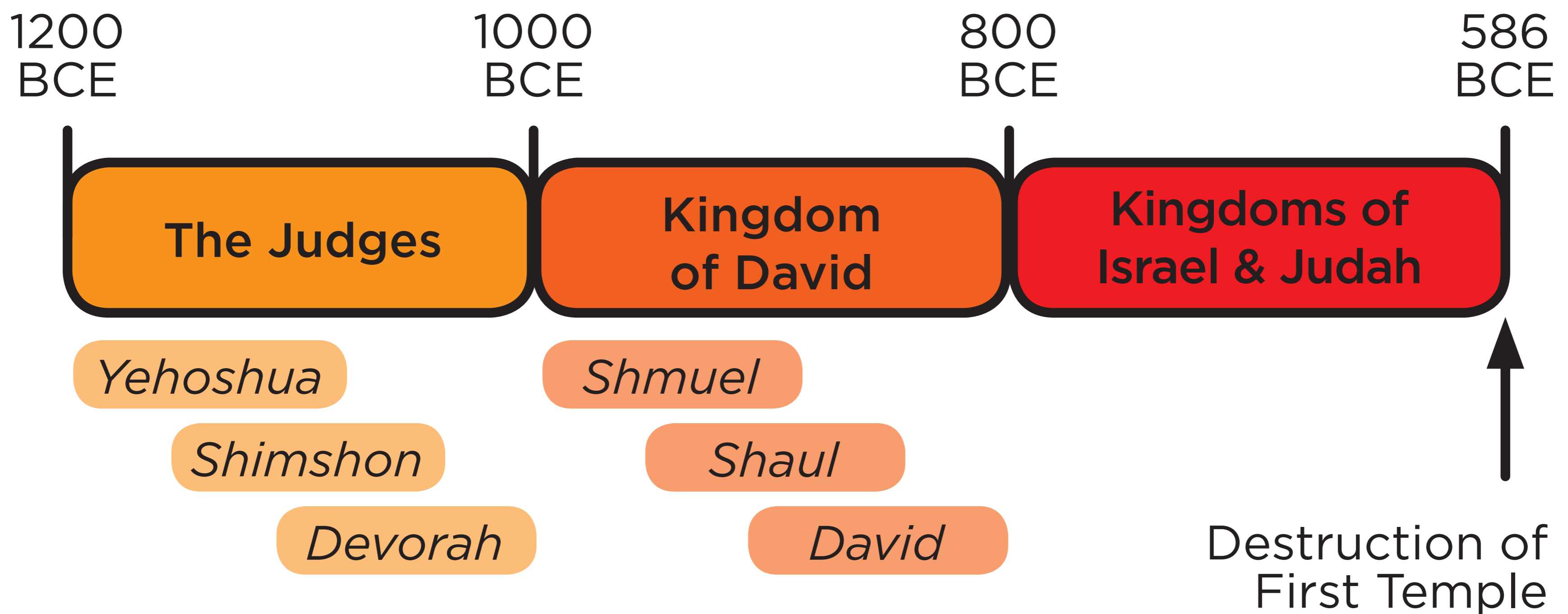
Nach (*Nevi'im* and *Ketuvim*) is the story and writings of the Jewish people living in the land of Israel.

Tanach Timeline

תּוֹרָה



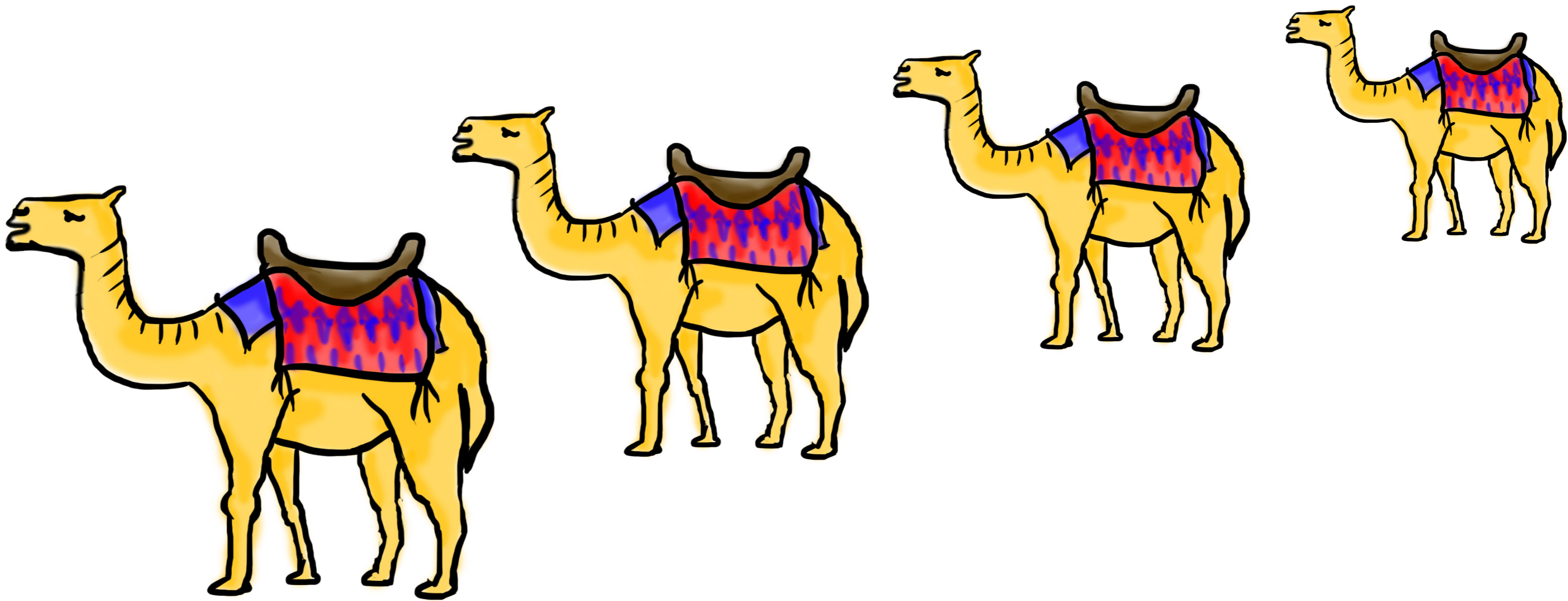
נְבִיאִים



The dates on the timeline are approximate.

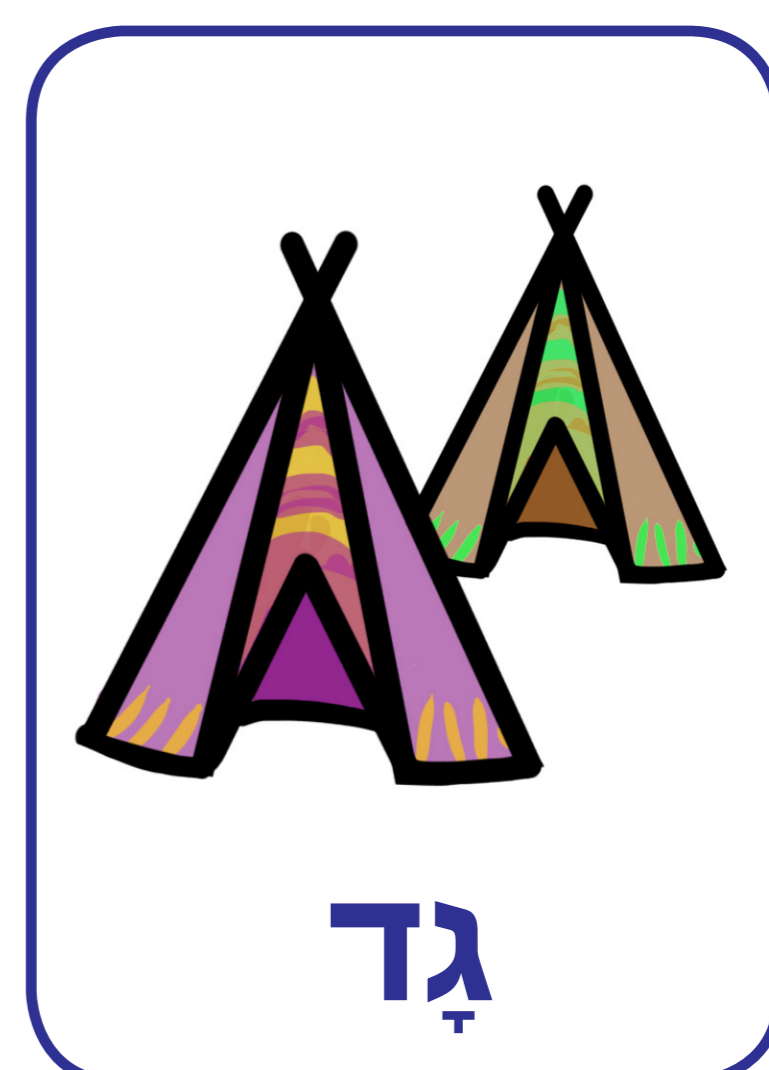
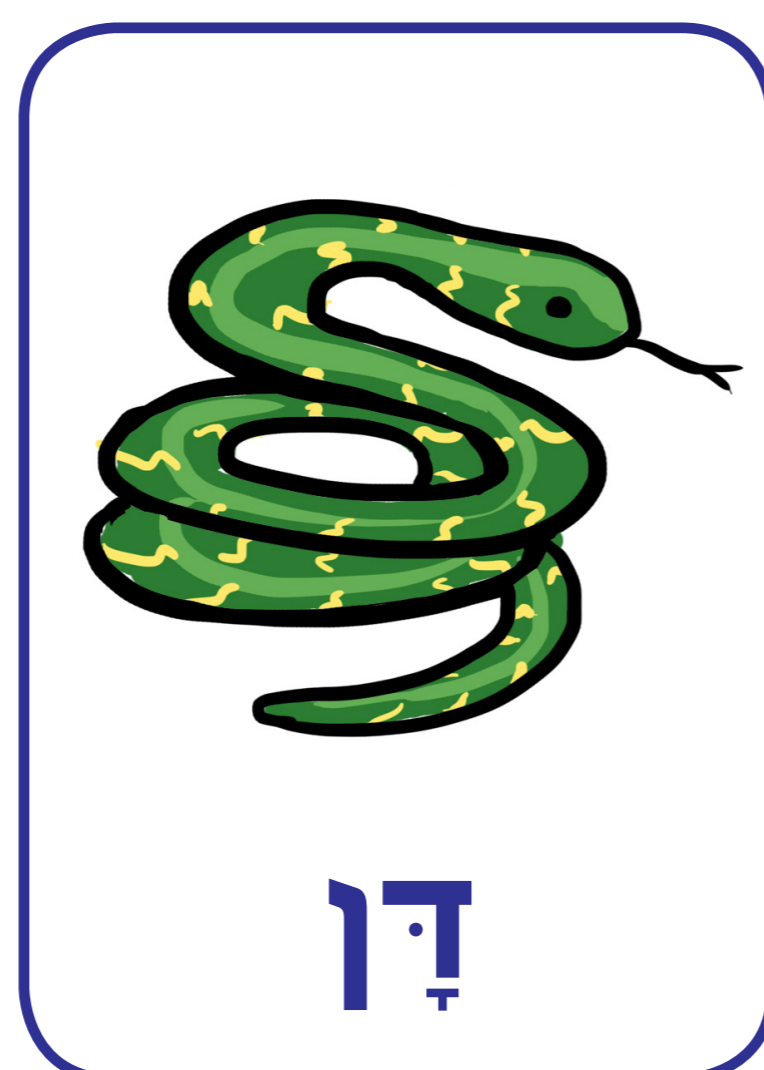
Torah in Numbers

Time	Parshiot	Mitzvot	
2309 years	12	3	בְּרֵאשִׁית
140 years	11	111	שְׁמוֹת
8 days	10	247	וַיִּקְרָא
39 years	10	52	בַּמִּדְבָּר
9 weeks	11	200	דְּבָרִים
2488 years, 10 weeks, 1 day	54	613	Total



The 12 Tribes

Ya'akov had 12 sons who became the 12 tribes. Each had its own flag, prince and territory.



- The tribe of *Yosef* was split into two tribes - *Ephraim* and *Menashe*.
- The tribe of *Levi* had no land because they served in the *Bet Hamikdash*.

Hatikvah

כֹּל עוֹד בְּלֵב בְּנֵימָה
נֶפֶשׁ יְהוּדֵי הוֹמִיָּה
וּלְפָאֲתֵי מִזְרַח, קְדִימָה,
עֵין לְצִיּוֹן צוֹפִיָּה,

As long as the Jewish spirit
yearns within our hearts,

And our eyes gaze ahead
to the East, toward Zion;

עוֹד לֹא אָבְדָה תְּקוּוֹתֵנוּ,
הַתְּקוּוֹה בְּת שְׁנוֹת אֲלָפִים
לְהִיּוֹת עִם חֶפְשִׁי בְּאַרְצֵנוּ,
אֶרֶץ צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלַיִם.

Our hope is not yet lost,
The hope of 2000 years,
To be a free people in our land,
The land of Zion and
Jerusalem.



**The Flag
of Israel**



**The Emblem
of Israel**

Mitzvot in Numbers

There are 613 *mitzvot* in the *Torah*.
We refer to them by the *gematriah*:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{תרי"ג} \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad | \quad \diagdown \\ 3 + 10 + 200 + 400 = 613 \end{array}$$

248 are **Do's**

(מִצְוֹת עֲשֵׂה)

which command us
to do something,
like keeping *Shabbat*

365 are **Don'ts**

(מִצְוֹת לֹא תַעֲשֵׂה)

which command us
not to do something,
like not stealing

Mitzvot are of two kinds:

Between us and God

בֵּין אָדָם לְמָקוֹם

like *kashrut*
and *tefillah*

Between people

בֵּין אָדָם לְחֵבֶרֶו

like *tzedakah*
and *lashon hara*

The 7 *Mitzvot* of Noach

The 7 *mitzvot* of Noach are the commandments that all human beings are expected to keep.

1. Don't worship idols
2. Don't murder
3. Don't steal
4. Don't enter a forbidden marriage
5. Don't curse God
6. Don't treat animals cruelly
7. Set up courts of law



The 10 Commandments

The 10 commandments were given by God to *Moshe* on Mount Sinai.

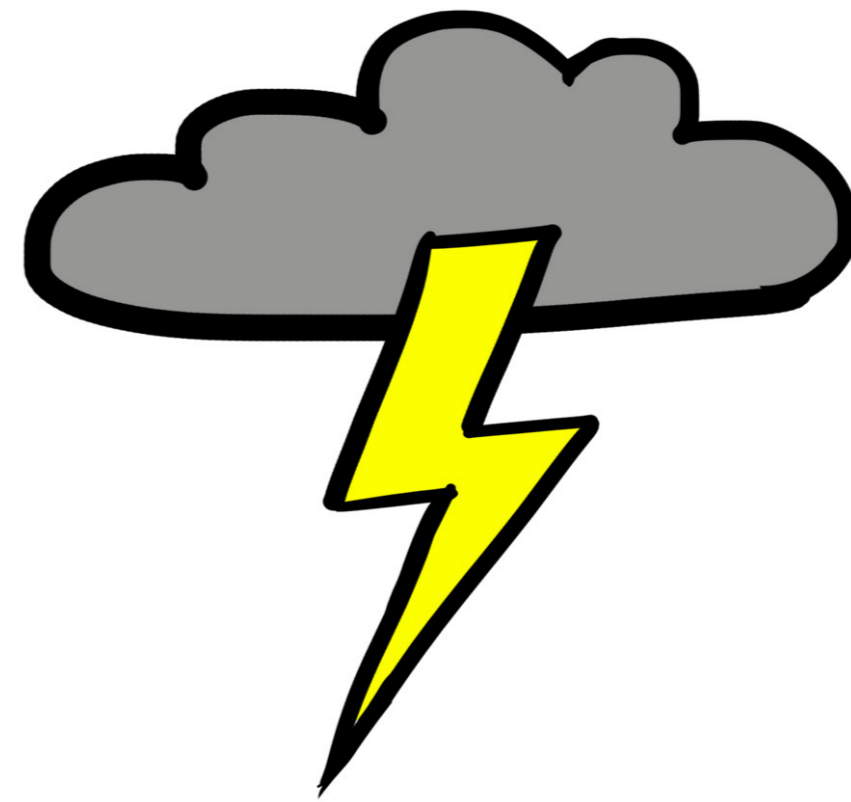
1. I am the Lord your God
2. Don't worship idols
3. Don't take the name of God in vain
4. Remember *Shabbat* and keep it holy
5. Honour your mother and father
6. Don't murder
7. Don't commit adultery
8. Don't steal
9. Don't lie
10. Don't be jealous



Brachot for Natural Events

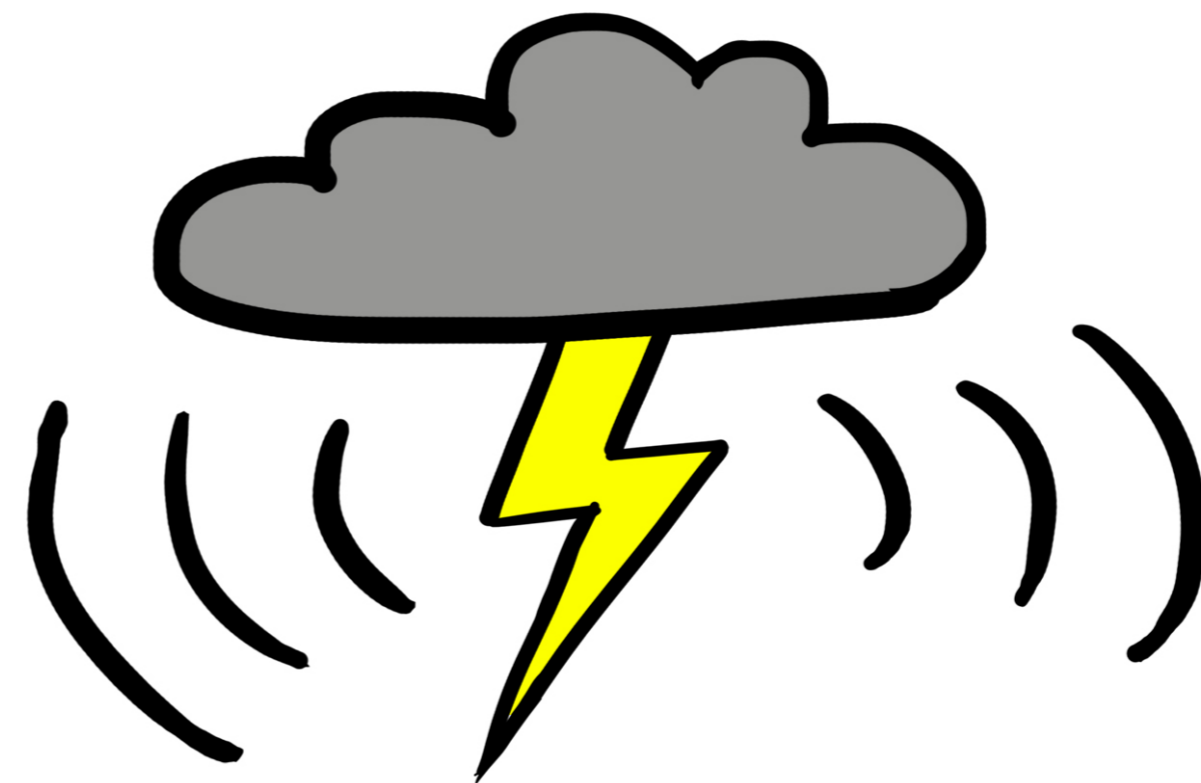
On seeing **lightning**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה',
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
עוֹשֶׂה מַעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית.



On hearing **thunder**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה',
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֹׁכְחוֹ וְגִבּוֹרְתוֹ מִלֵּא עוֹלָם.



On seeing a **rainbow**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה',
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
זוֹכֵר הַבְּרִית וְנֹאמָן בְּבְרִיתוֹ
וְקַיָּים בְּמֵאמְרוֹ.

