

Are the Smart Apes of Ancient Greece the Source of Western Thought?

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WORK IN PROGRESS – INITIAL NOTES AND OUTLINE

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Introduction

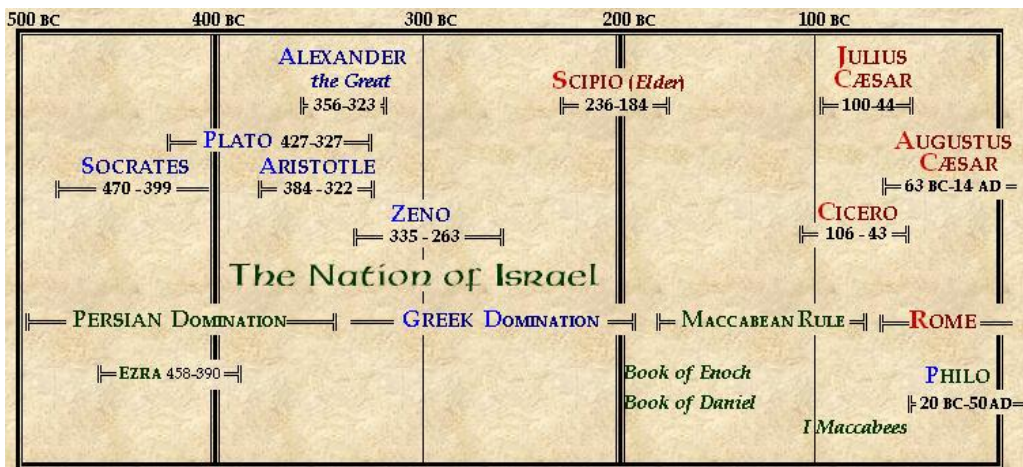
This is a critique of the [progressive](#) mindset which relies on all things secular in contrast to that of scripture. The so called [enlightened](#) progressives rejects the authority of scripture and explain their reasoning by the theory of evolution.¹

My title mocks this mindset by making the necessary conclusion that the progressives must make i.e. their authority does not come from the Creator of the Universe who is the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; but rather from those ancient apes living in Greece who, through the mystery of the cosmos², were the ones “blessed” with great socializing skills and ultimately these skills were inherited by the likes of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.

Western Philosophy Timeline

This timeline shows that [Socrates](#), who is claimed by many to be the founder of western philosophy, lived between 470 and 399 BC. He, of course, influences Plato, Aristotle and others.

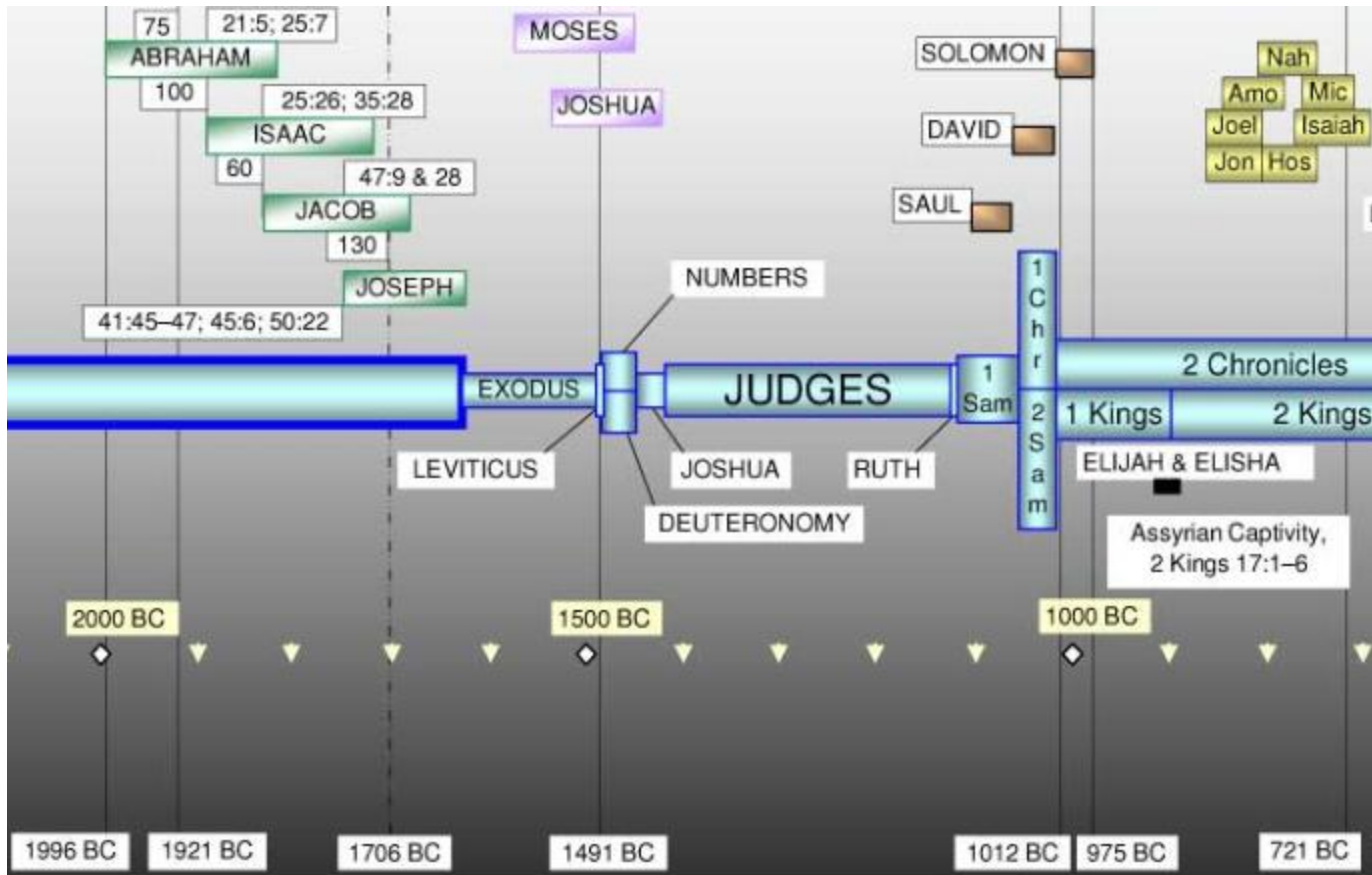
My question is who influenced him? Who was around prior to Socrates that may have greatly influenced him?



¹ Document History: The source of this document was moved out of Exegesis-Timeline.doc

² Cosmos is a Greek word which means ‘order or world’, see Strong’s G2889.

House of Israel Timeline



This timeline was printed in *Creation* magazine to faithfully represent the details provided by Archbishop James Ussher in *The Annals of the World*. This meant retaining items which reflect Ussher's views on eschatology, in particular about Daniel's 70 sevens. AiG neither endorses nor opposes any such views, outside of affirming our statement of faith (see www.answersingenesis.org/home/area/about/faith.asp), which states: (C) 9. Jesus Christ rose bodily from the dead, ascended to Heaven, is currently seated at the right hand of God the Father, and shall return in like manner to this Earth as Judge of the living and the dead.

Key Timeline Events

- YHVH's covenant with Abraham [1920 BC]
- Mt. Sinai covenant with the Nation of Israel [1446 BC]
- Joshua leads Israel into the promised land which starts the period of the Judges [1406 BC]
- 1st Samuel Chapter 8, Israel makes a foolish mistake to have king like the Canaanites [1043 BC]
 - The period of the Kings begins
- The Kingdom is split. King Rehoboam imposed an even greater tax than his father (King Solomon) and a tax revolt ensued which split the kingdom into North and South i.e. House of Israel and House of Judah respectively. [931 BC]
- the House of Israel falls into idolatry, judged by YHVH, and is taken out of the land of Israel and into Assyria. [723 BC]
- The House of Israel is dispersed, they are "lost" into the nations. Where do they go and who do they influence.

To My Point

Is it reasonable to conclude that the nation of Israel from the time they received the covenant from YHVH at Mt. Sinai and entered the promised land, begin to experience life with no earthly king over them? That they also begin to experience what is necessary for self government³?

Did Israel experience the loss of autonomy and self government when they foolishly requested that an earthly king rule over them?

Did the House of Israel experience the abuses of a quasi foreign king who they felt did not respect them and imposed on them egregious laws and taxes?

Did the House of Israel also experience a long history of their own kings who where corrupt and evil?

Did all of the historical events occur 1,000 years before Socrates?

Were these values passed down from generation to generation over these 1,000 years?

The answer to all of the above is YES.

Can I say emphatically that the source of Socrates philosophy was directly gleaned from ancient Israel's experiences and knowledge of governance, both good and bad? NO.

However, I do say that this conclusion is reasonable, even very reasonable. I also say that the founding fathers of America relied heavily on the scriptures (how can you claim rights from the Creator if you don't believe there is a Creator not to mention that there is no covenant from the Creator?).

The alternative view of the "enlightened progressive" is dependent on chance resulting in an ambiguous claim of authority. It's origin was by a natural evolutionary social Darwinian process that somehow spontaneously appeared in the history of mankind.

A final thought

Does the concept of Natural Rights and Natural Law parallel this "enlightened progressive" form of thinking? It seems far more compelling to me to subscribe to the belief and understanding that Western law came from scripture (Torah) and embellishing that law form with something else is unnecessary and foolish.

³ To self govern means that there is no need for an earthly government outside the Kingdom of Israel, because it's ruled by the rules, the terms and conditions, of the Mt. Sinai government. This is their authority to self govern.

