

COLOR THRU HISTORY™

The People of Early Civilization



Fulton, KY

Current and upcoming titles:

Learn and Color Nature Series

Medicinal Herbs
Freshwater Fish
Garden Edibles

Learn and Color Stained Glass Series

Landscapes & Seascapes
Fish & Fowl
Flowers

COLOR THRU HISTORY

People Series, Events Series, and Places Series

Early Civilization
The Ancient World
The Middle Ages
The Renaissance and Reformation
The Industrial Revolution
The Modern Age
The Computer Age

Color Thru History™ – The People of Early Civilization
© 2019 Master Design Marketing, LLC

All rights reserved. This book or parts thereof may not be reproduced in any form, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise—without prior written permission of the publisher, except as provided by United States of America copyright law. For permission requests, write to the publisher, at “Permissions Coordinator,” at the address below.

Learn & Color Books
an imprint of Master Design Marketing, LLC
789 State Route 94 E
Fulton, KY 42041
www.LearnAndColor.com

For information about special discounts available for bulk purchases, sales promotions, fund-raising and educational needs, contact Learn & Color Books Company Sales at sales@LearnAndColor.com.

ISBN: 978-1-947482-14-2

Cover and interior design by Faithe F Thomas

Research by Caitlyn F Williams

Some images are © Faithe F Thomas

Most images are licensed under CC BY 4.0 by Faithe F Thomas.

All other Photos and Illustrations © 123RF Icons from the Noun Project

Text in this book is a derivative of information by Wikipedia.com, used under CC BY 4.0.

The text of this book is licensed under CC BY 4.0 by Faithe F Thomas.

Look for the Scottish Flag somewhere in each of our books.



Introduction

The proofs of the earliest moments of man's life on this planet are lost to the passage of time. What we do have, has been passed down orally at first and later in written form. Some take little stock in those histories, assigning the label of "legend" or "tales" to the often pain-staking efforts of those before us who tried their best to leave a record of the lives of those men and women who made a difference to their society. Whether you believe the histories or not, the men and women in this book have had an impact, not only in their time, but still today...in our time.

The 30 lives highlighted in this book were narrowed down from a long list of people. These were chosen above the others because we feel that any educated individual should have at least a passing knowledge of these people and their impact on our society.

Dates for people of the early civilization time period are guesses at this point in time. Even those calculated dates are still best guesses due to errors in calendars and other factors. For the most part, we have chosen to use James Ussher's dates from his tome *The Annals of the World*. If newer research has suggested more accurate dating, we have used that instead. In particular, the timing of Moses is made based on some of the latest thinking. Thus, throughout this book, "circa" appears before all the dates.

We hope you enjoy your stroll through early civilization as you Color Thru History™. Look for the subsequent editions of this series, covering later times periods, at your favorite bookseller or on our website: LearnAndColor.com





Fall of Man, 4004BC



Adam (c. 4004-3074BC) was the first man on Earth. In Genesis 2, God formed Adam out of the dust of the ground, and breathed life into his nostrils. He was placed in the Garden of Eden, to oversee all of the animals and every creeping thing. God also created a wife for Adam, Eve, who was placed in the garden with him. They were instructed not to eat of the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in the center of the garden. In Genesis 3, a serpent persuaded Eve to disobey God's command and eat of the Tree of Knowledge, which gives wisdom. She convinced Adam to do likewise, and they became conscious of their nakedness, covered themselves, and hid from the sight of God. God questioned Adam, who blamed the woman. Eve blamed the serpent. God passed judgment, first upon the serpent, condemned to go on his belly, then the woman, condemned to pain in childbirth and subordination to her husband, and finally Adam, who was condemned to labor on the earth for his food and to return to it on his death. God then expelled the man and woman from the garden, lest they eat of the Tree of Life and become immortal.



Descendants:

- Seth (3874-2962BC), whose son was....
- Enos (3769-2864BC), whose son was....
- Cainan (3679-2769BC), whose son was....
- Mahalalel (3609-2714BC), whose son was....
- Jared (3544-2582BC), whose son was....
- Enoch (3382-3017BC, taken to heaven), whose son was....
- Methuselah (3317-2349BC), whose son was....
- Lamech (3130-2353BC), whose son was....
- Noah (2948-1998BC)



METHUSELAH →

ADAM

4000BC

3500BC

3000BC





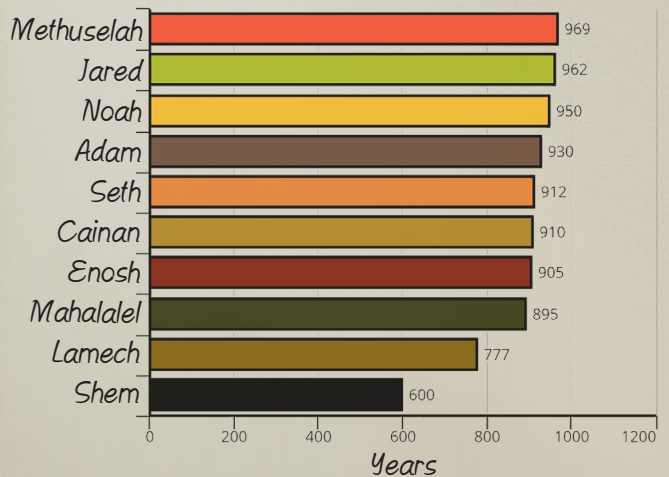
Methuselah (c. 3317–2349BC) was the great-great-great-great-great-grandson of Adam and the grandfather of Noah, who built the Ark to save mankind from the global flood.

Methuselah's name could mean "when he dies it comes." Interestingly, he died the same year of the flood, which is documented in Genesis 7. But his name could also mean "man of the spear." So he may have been a mighty warrior. Unfortunately, there just aren't records that far back.

But Methuselah is best known for how long he lived. While Adam lived to be 930 years old and Noah lived to be over 950 years old, Methuselah lived to be 969 years old. It is from his long life that we get the phrase "as old as Methuselah."

There is a very old, ancient tree that is called Methuselah. It is a 4,850-year-old Great Basin bristlecone pine (*Pinus longaeva*) tree growing high in the White Mountains of Inyo County in eastern California. It has an estimated germination date of 2833BC.

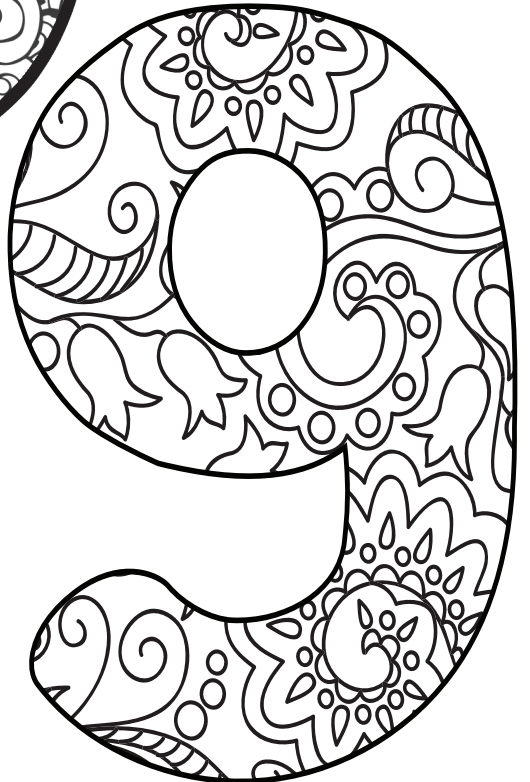
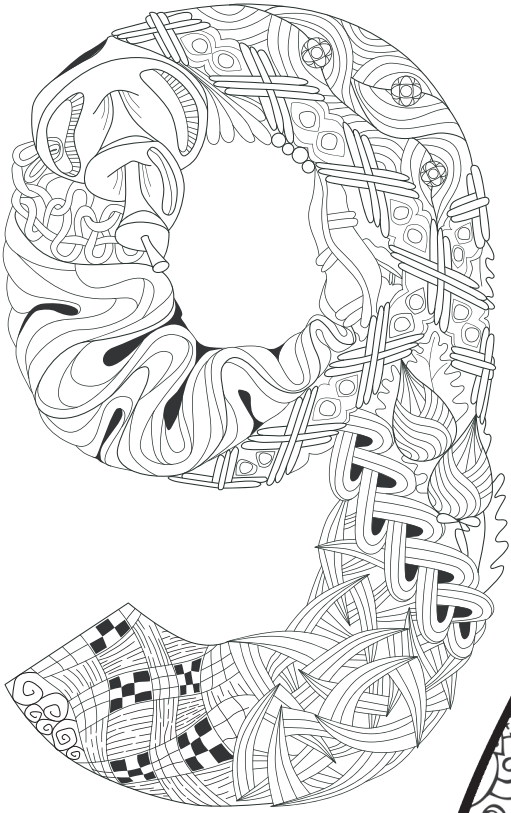
Longest Life



METHUSELAH →

← ADAM

NOAH →



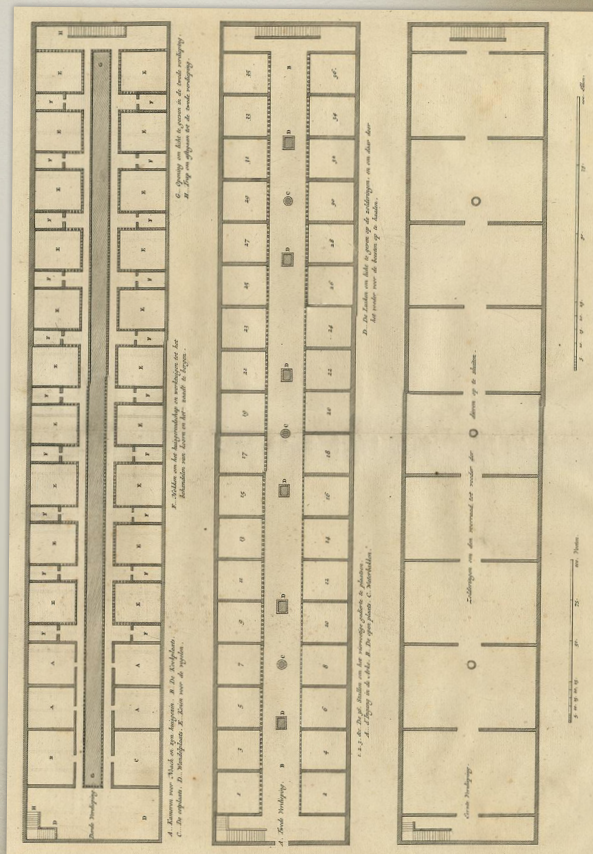


Noah (c. 2948-1998BC) was the tenth generation from Adam and the builder of the ark. When Noah was around five hundred years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Being a very righteous man, Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord, and thus, when God determined to destroy Earth because of the wickedness of man, He made a covenant with Noah, promising to save him and his family (his wife, his sons, and their wives). God instructed Noah to build an ark. This project took 100 years to finish. Once completed, God brought onto it both male and female of each animal species. After the Flood, God promised never to flood the entire earth again. The rainbow is the sign of His promise.

Because of the destruction of humankind on the earth from the Flood, the current human race has descended from Noah's three sons and their wives..

Noah lived another 350 years after the Flood, long enough to have witnessed the aftermath of the Tower of Babel and the birth of Abraham's father Terah. Noah died two years before Abraham was born.

Nearly every cultural has an earth-wide flood story where a man and his family are saved with animals on a boat or ark.

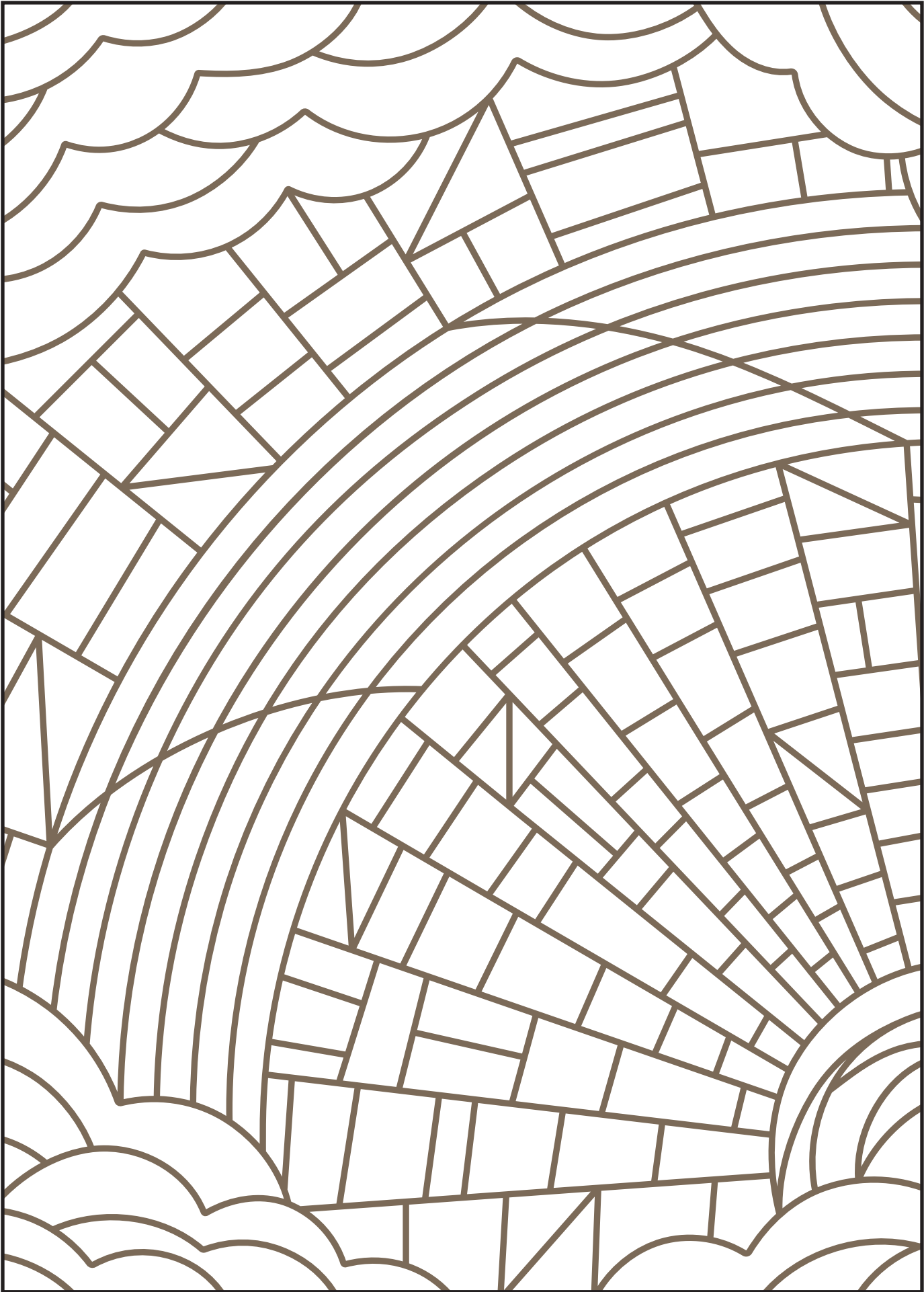


Old manuscript of the plans for the ark

← METHUSELAH

NOAH →







Sargon the Great of Akkad (ruled c. 2334–2279BC) was the first ruler of the Semitic-speaking Akkadian Empire, known for his conquests of the Sumerian city-states. He was the founder of the “Sargonic” or “Old Akkadian” dynasty, which ruled for about a century after his death, until the Gutian conquest of Sumer. His empire is thought to have included most of Mesopotamia, parts of the Levant, besides incursions into Hurrite and Elamite territory, ruling from his capital, Akkad.

Sargon became the subject of legendary narratives describing his rise to power from humble origins and his conquest of Mesopotamia in later Assyrian and Babylonian literature. Apart from these secondary, and partly legendary, accounts, there are a number of inscriptions due to Sargon himself, although the majority of these are known only from much later copies.

Sargon was regarded as a model by Mesopotamian kings for some two millennia after his death. The Assyrian and Babylonian kings who based their empires in Mesopotamia saw themselves as the heirs of Sargon’s empire.



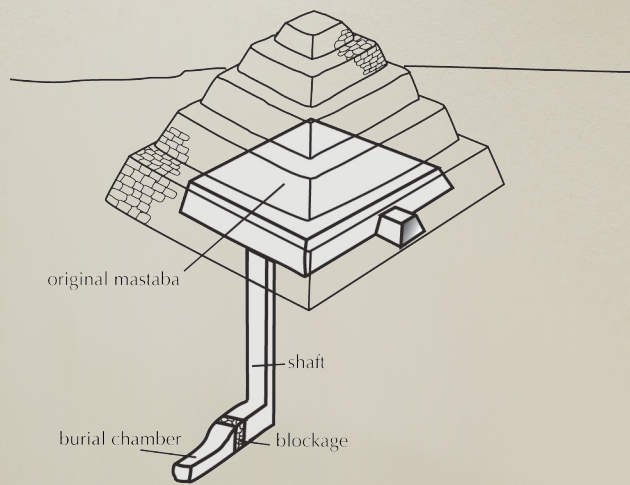
The Kingdom of Sargon the Great





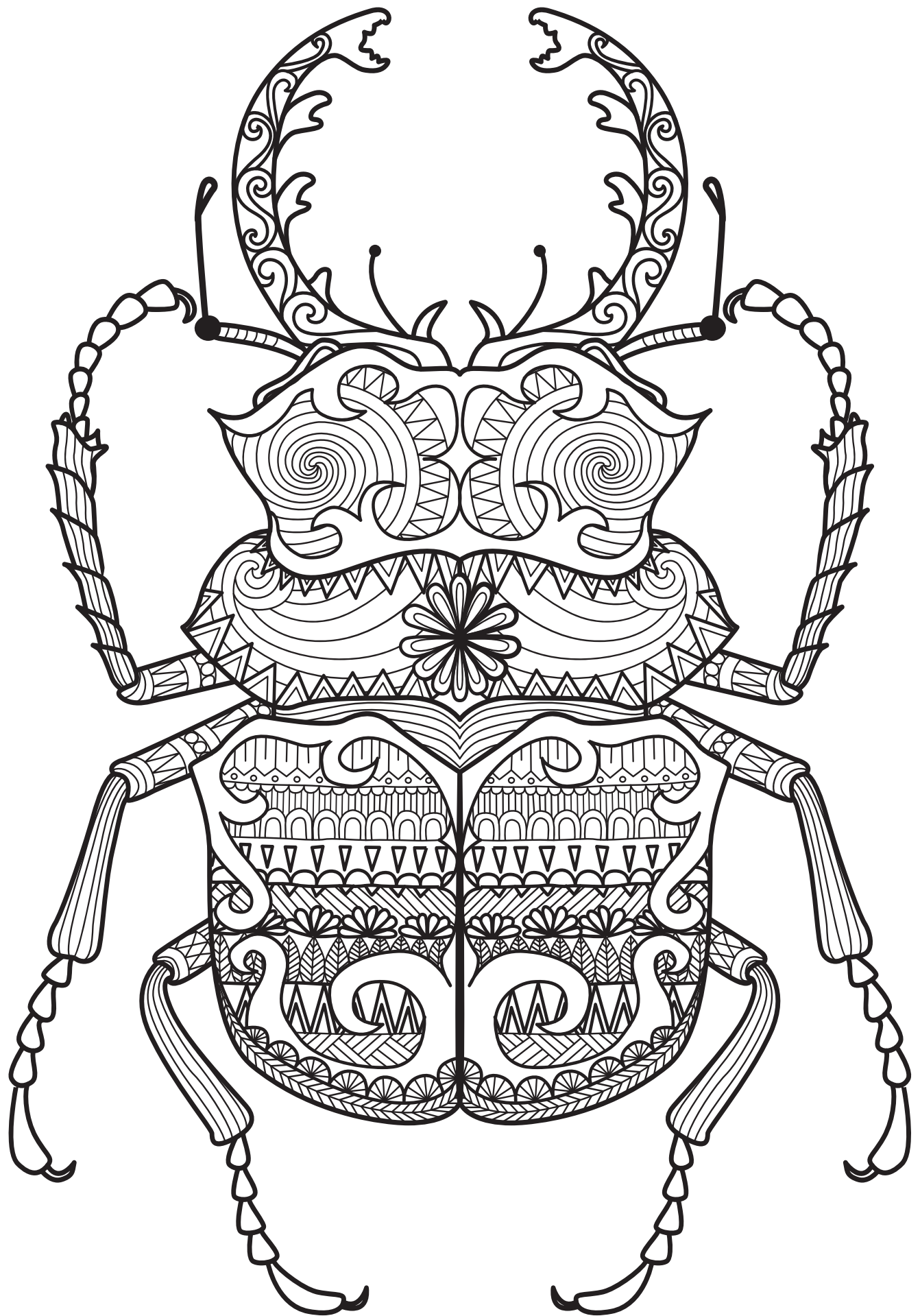


Imhotep (c. 2250BC) was one of the chief officials of the Pharaoh Djoser and high priest of the sun god Ra at Heliopolis. Today, outside the Egyptological community, he is referred to as a polymath, poet, judge, engineer, magician, scribe, astronomer, astrologer, and especially a physician; indeed, some have considered Imhotep alongside Hippocrates and Charaka as the fathers of early medicine. These claims are founded on the legends that flourished in the millennia after his death, not on historical records. No text from his lifetime mentions these capacities and no text mentions his name in the first 1200 years following his death. Egyptologists ascribe to him the design of the Pyramid of Djoser, a step pyramid at Saqqara in Egypt. He may also have been responsible for the first known use of stone columns to support a building. Centuries after his death, the Egyptians and Greeks worshipped him as the god of medicine, and he was identified with the Greek god of medicine, Asclepius. He was the only Egyptian, besides Amenhotep, to be fully deified. He became recognized by the Egyptians as the god of wisdom, medicine, architecture, and science.



stepped pyramid
Stepped Pyramid of Djoser,
Saqqara







The Angel of the Lord stopping Abraham from killing Isaac



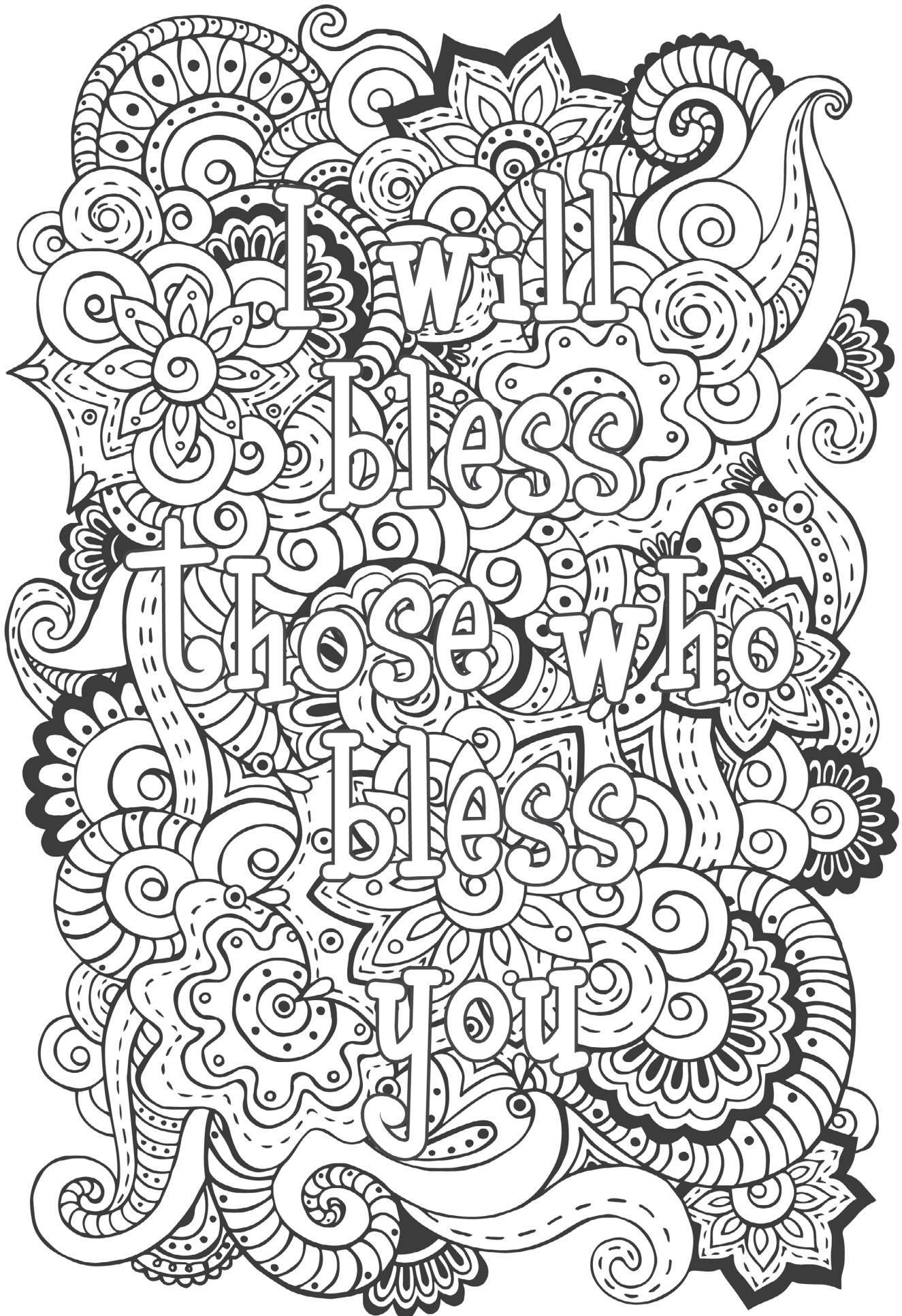
Abraham (c. 1996–1821BC), born as Abram, was the tenth in descent from Noah. He married Sarai, who was barren. Abram was a shepherd and a teacher of one God, rather than of the multiple gods that the people worshipped in that age. In Genesis 12, God asks Abram to leave his home in Ur of the Chaldeans and go to Canaan, and He makes Abram three promises: a relationship with God, uncountable descendants, and land. Further, God said, "I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you."

When Abram and his wife were still childless and getting older in age, the question of whether or not they would bear children and see God's promise began to creep into Sarai's mind. She gave her handmaiden to Abram, so that he could have descendants. She became pregnant and had a son, named Ishmael. The Lord then changed Abram and Sarai's names to Abraham and Sarah, meaning "a father of many nations" and "noblewoman." Eventually, the Lord's promise came to pass, and Sarah conceived a child, whom they named Isaac. Abraham is known as the Father of Israel. All Jews as well as Jesus Christ Himself descended from Abraham.



Abraham was asked by God to sacrifice his son, a common pagan practice of the time. Abraham willingly obeyed. God stopped him just before Abraham killed Isaac. God provided a ram in Isaac's place. Abraham's obedience and faithfulness to God enabled him to be listed among the heroes of Hebrews 11.





Hammurabi (c. 1810–1750BC) was the sixth king of the First Babylonian Dynasty, reigning from 1792BC to 1750BC. He was preceded by his father, Sin-Muballit, who abdicated due to failing health. During his reign, he conquered the city-states of Elam, Larsa, Eshnunna, and Mari. Hammurabi is best known for having issued the Code of Hammurabi, which he claimed to have received from Shamash, the Babylonian god of justice. Unlike earlier Sumerian law codes, the Law of Hammurabi was one of the first law codes to place greater emphasis on the physical punishment of the perpetrator. It prescribed specific penalties for each crime and is among the first codes to establish the presumption of innocence.

The Code of Hammurabi was inscribed on a stele and placed in a public place so that all could see it, although it is thought that few were literate. The stele was later plundered by the Elamites and removed to their capital, Susa; it was rediscovered there in 1901 in Iran and is now in the Louvre Museum in Paris. The code of Hammurabi contains 282 laws, written by scribes on 12 tablets. Unlike earlier laws, it was written in Akkadian, the daily language of Babylon, and could therefore be read by any literate person in the city.



← NOAH



ABRAHAM

HAMMURABI

2500BC

2000BC

1500BC

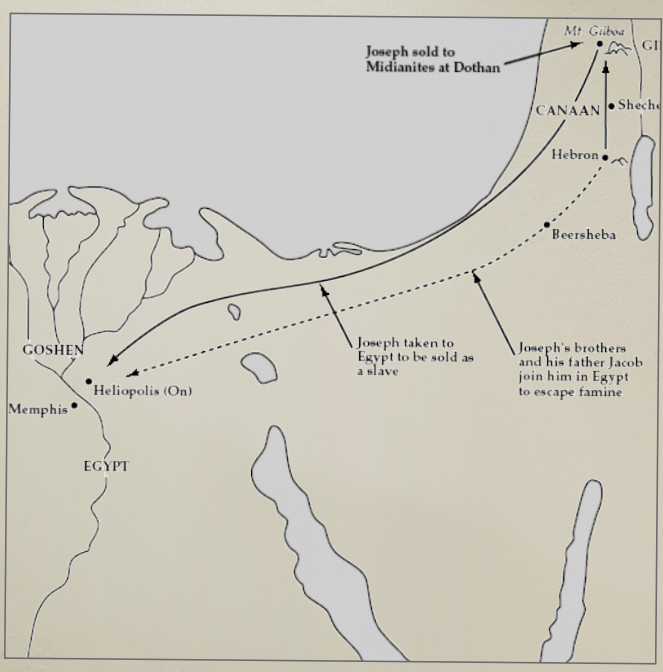


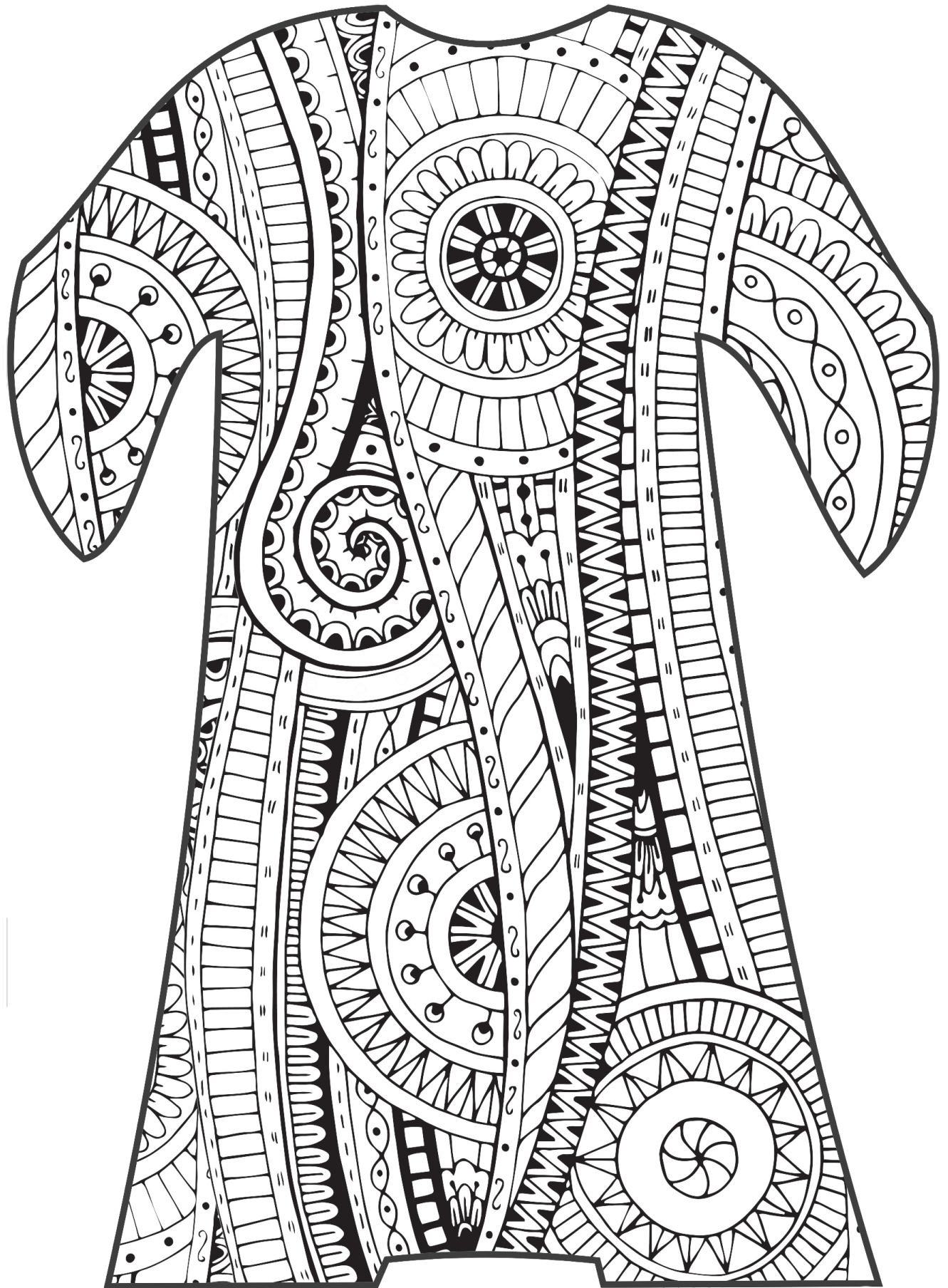


Pharaoh makes Joseph his Vizer

Joseph (c. 1745–1635BC), great-grandson of Abraham and Sarah, lived in the land of Canaan with ten half-brothers, one full brother, and at least one half-sister. Of all the sons, Joseph was preferred by his father, and proudly wore the gift given to him by his father: a “long coat of many colors”. When Joseph was seventeen years old he had two dreams that made his brothers plot his demise. These dreams, implying his supremacy, angered his brothers who captured him and sold him to passing merchants. Sold into slavery in Egypt, he eventually rose to become vizier, the second most powerful man in Egypt next to Pharaoh. He oversaw the storage of grain during 7 plentiful years so that Egypt and the surrounding area would survive 7 years of famine. During that famine, Joseph’s family moved to Egypt.

Joseph lived to the age of 110, living to see his great-grandchildren. Before he died, he made the children of Israel swear that when they left the land of Egypt they would take his bones with them, and on his death his body was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt. When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt 400 years later, they took Joseph’s bones with them.



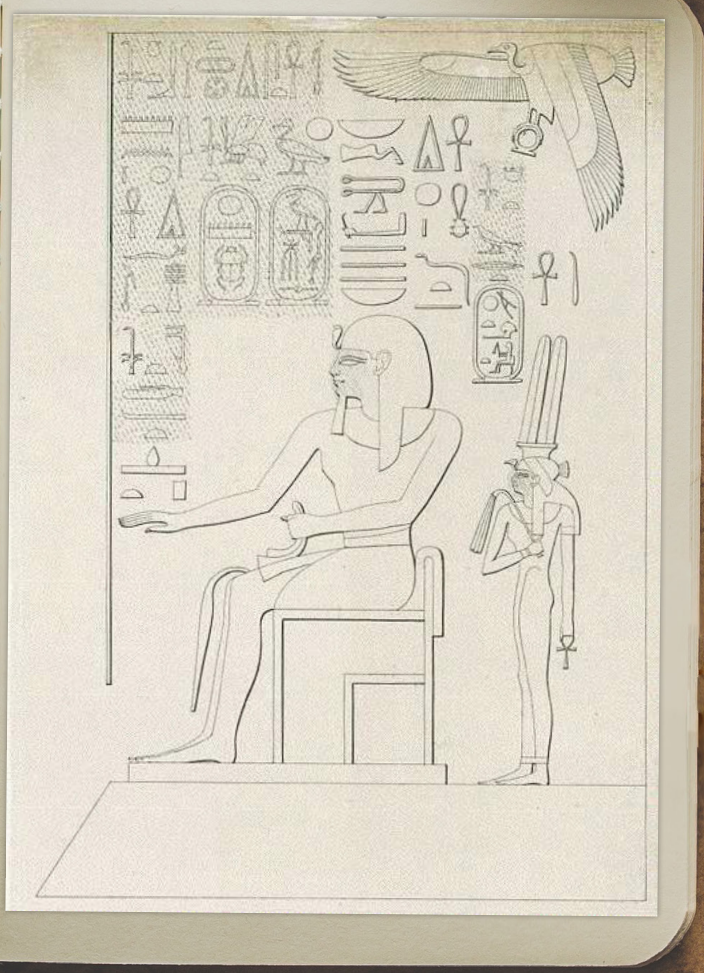




Hatshepsut's Temple
Deir el-Bahri, Egypt

Hatshepsut (c. 1507-1458BC) was the fifth pharaoh of the Eighteenth Dynasty of Egypt, ruling 1479-1458BC. She was the second historically-confirmed female pharaoh. Officially, she ruled jointly with Thutmose III, who had ascended to the throne the previous year as a child of about two years old. Hatshepsut was the chief wife of Thutmose II, Thutmose III's father. Once she was made pharaoh, she dressed herself in the traditional kilt of male rulers, and wore a fake beard to fit in with the male-dominated leaders.

She undertook several ambitious construction projects during her reign, especially the area around Thebes. Her most well known achievement was the enormous temple at Deir el-Bahri, which is considered one of the architectural wonders of her time. She is generally regarded by Egyptologists as one of the most successful pharaohs, reigning longer than any other woman of an indigenous Egyptian dynasty, but much of her success was from military campaigns and re-establishment of trade routes.



← HARSHEPSUT





Thutmose III (c. 1481-1425BC) was the sixth pharaoh of the Eighteenth Dynasty. Officially, Thutmose III ruled Egypt for almost 54 years and his reign is usually dated from 24 April 1479BC to 11 March 1425BC, from the age of two and until his death at age fifty-six; however, during the first 22 years of his reign, he was coregent with his stepmother and aunt, Hatshepsut, who was named the pharaoh. While he was shown first on surviving monuments, both were assigned the usual royal names and insignia and neither is given any obvious seniority over the other. Widely considered a military genius by historians, Thutmose III conducted at least 15 campaigns in 20 years. During the final two years of his reign, he appointed his son and successor, Amenhotep II, as his junior co-regent. His firstborn son and heir to the throne, Amenemhat, predeceased Thutmose III. There is some speculation that this is the Pharaoh of the Book of Exodus in the Bible.



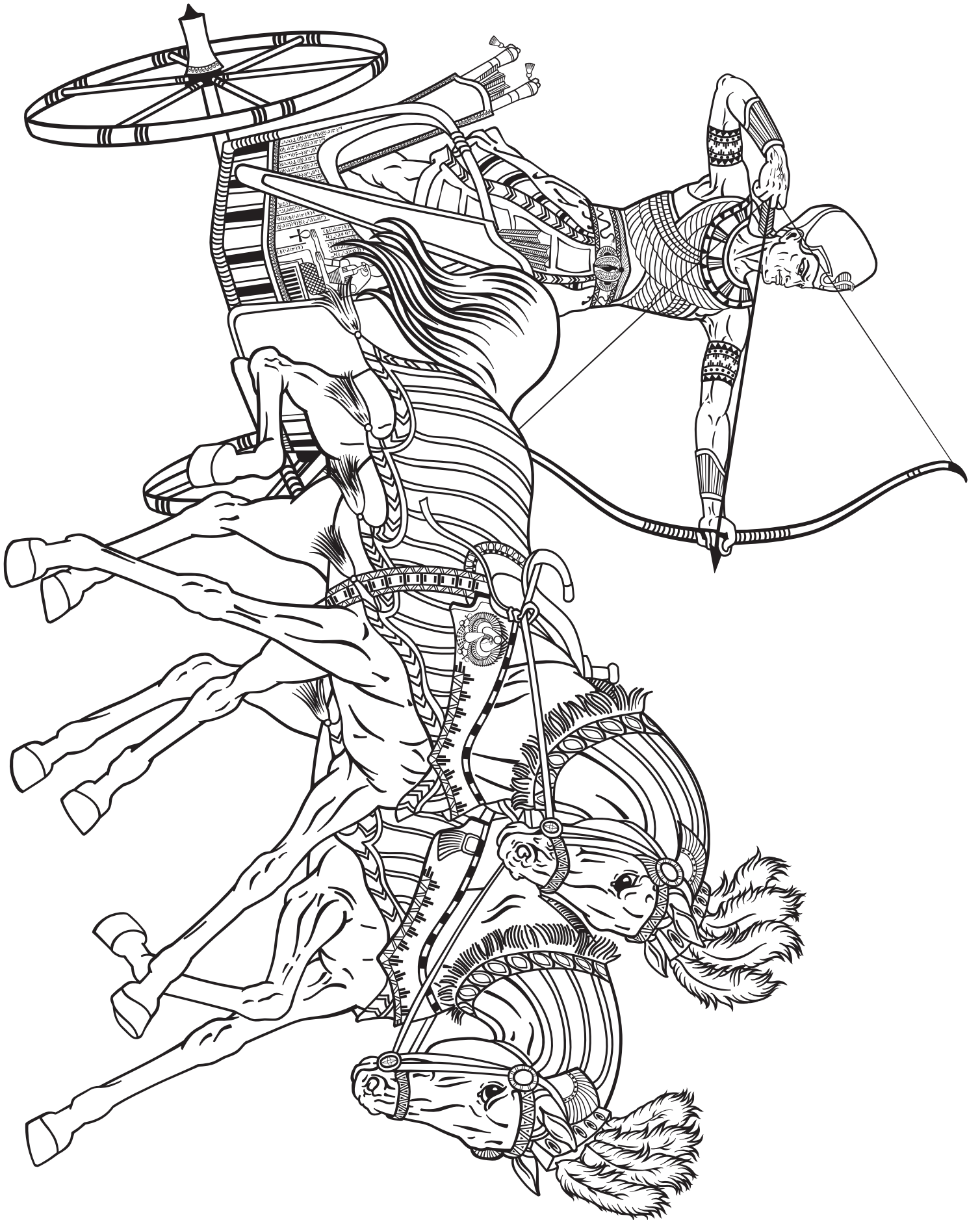
THUTMOSE III

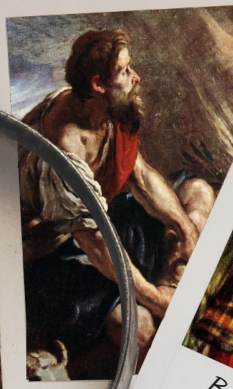
← HATSHEPSUT

1500BC

1400BC

1300BC





Baby Moses rescued from Nile by Pharaoh's daughter



Moses (c. 1526-1405BC) was born in a time when his people, the Israelites, were slaves in Egypt. The Egyptian Pharaoh (possibly Amenhotep I) was worried that they might ally themselves with Egypt's enemies. Moses' Hebrew mother, Jochebed, secretly hid him when the Pharaoh ordered all newborn Hebrew boys to be killed in order to reduce the population of the Israelites. Pharaoh's daughter (possibly Harshepsut), found the child floating in the Nile river and adopted him, calling him Moses. He grew up within the Egyptian royal family. As an adult, he observed an Egyptian slavemaster beating a Hebrew slave. Moses killed the slavemaster and fled across the Red Sea.

Forty years later he encountered The Angel of the Lord, speaking to him from within a burning bush on Mount Horeb. God sent Moses back to Egypt to demand the release of the Israelites from slavery, along with his brother Aaron, who helped Moses to speak. Moses challenged Pharaoh (possibly Thutmose III) with Ten Plagues, and led the Exodus of the Israelites out of Egypt. They eventually camped at Mount Sinai, where Moses received the Ten Commandments. Moses continued to lead them until his death 40 years after the Exodus.



← MOSES

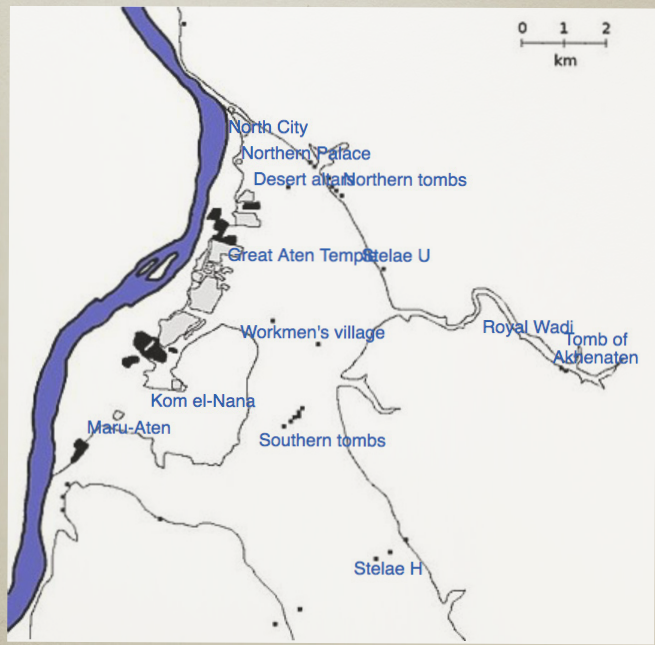
THUTMOSE III

← HARSHEPSUT





Akhenaten or Amenhotep IV (c. 1380–1336BC) was an ancient Egyptian pharaoh of the 18th Dynasty who ruled for 17 years. He is noted for abandoning traditional Egyptian polytheism and introducing worship centered on the Aten, which is sometimes described as monolatristic, henotheistic, or even quasi-monotheistic. An early inscription likens the Aten to the sun as compared to stars, and later official language avoids calling the Aten a god, giving the solar deity a status above mere gods. Akhenaten tried to shift his culture from Egypt's traditional religion, but the shifts were not widely accepted. After his death, his monuments were dismantled and hidden, his statues were destroyed, and his name excluded from the king lists. He was all but lost from history until the discovery during the 19th century of the site of Akhetaten, the city he built and designed for the worship of Aten, at Amarna. Modern interest in Akhenaten and his queen Nefertiti comes partly from his connection with his son Tutankhamun (even though Tutankhamun's mother was not Nefertiti), partly from the unique style and high quality of the pictorial arts he patronized, and partly from ongoing interest in the religion he attempted to establish.



← MOSES

THUTMOSE III

← HARSHEPSUT

NEFERTITI

AKHENATEN





Nefertiti (c. 1370–1330BC) was an Egyptian queen and the Great Royal Wife (chief consort) of Akhenaten. Nefertiti and her husband were known for a religious revolution, in which they worshipped one god only, Aten, or the sun disc. With her husband, she reigned at what was arguably the wealthiest period of Ancient Egyptian history. Many scholars believe Nefertiti had a role elevated from that of Great Royal Wife, and was promoted to co-regent by her husband Pharaoh Akhenaten before his death. She is depicted in many archaeological sites as equal in stature to a King, smiting Egypt's enemies, riding a chariot, and worshipping the Aten in the manner of a Pharaoh. When Nefertiti's name disappears from historical records, it is replaced by that of a co-regent named Neferneferuaten, who became a female Pharaoh. It seems likely that Nefertiti, in a similar fashion to the previous female Pharaoh Hatshepsut, assumed the kingship under the name Pharaoh Neferneferuaten after her husband's death.



NEFERTITI

AKHENATEN





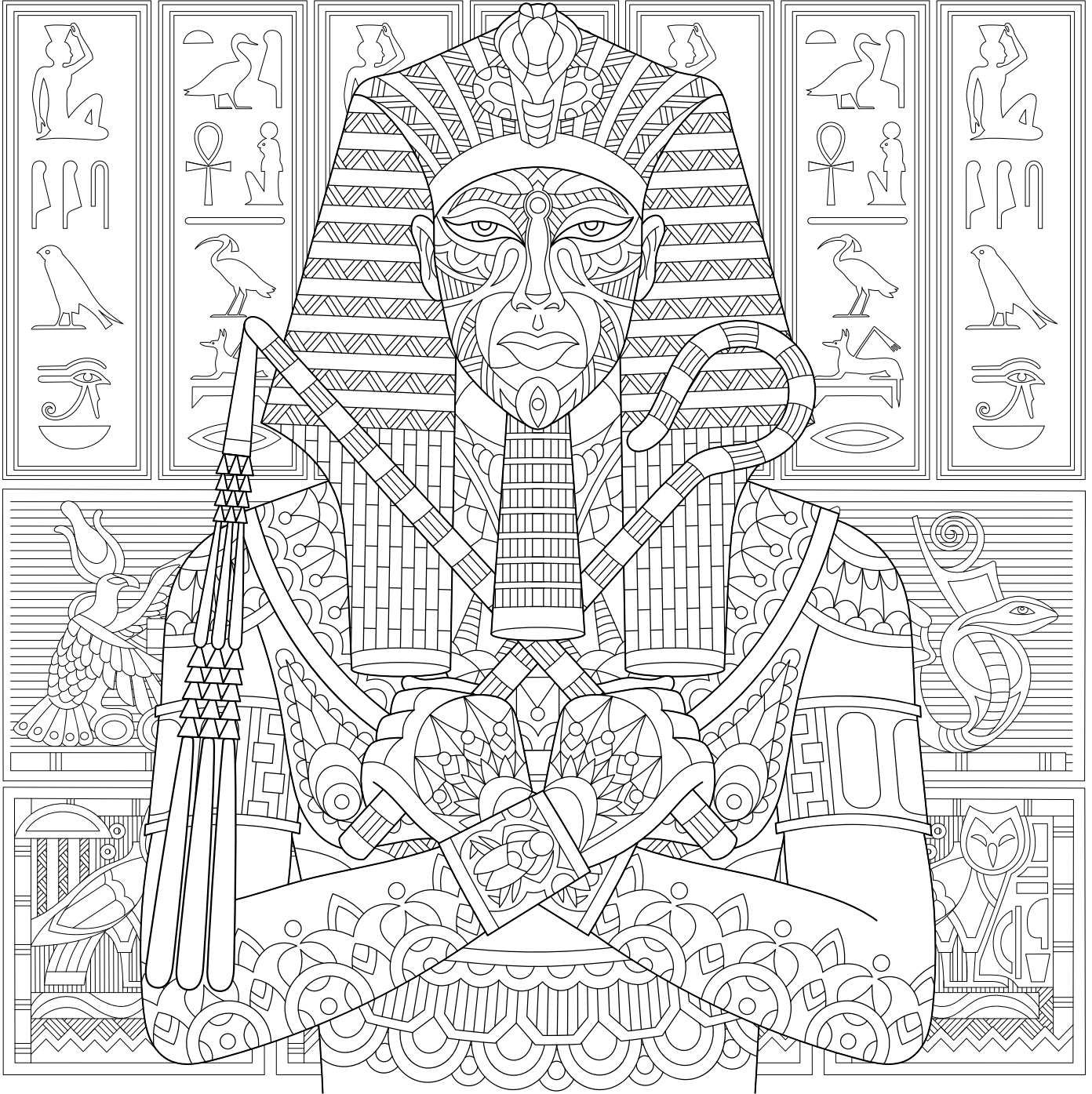
Ramesses II (c. 1303–1213BC), also known as *Ramesses the Great*, was the third pharaoh of the 19th Dynasty of Egypt. He is often regarded as the greatest, most celebrated, and most powerful pharaoh of the New Kingdom. His successors and later Egyptians called him the “Great Ancestor.”

At fourteen, he was appointed prince regent by his father, Seti I. He ruled Egypt from 1279 to 1213BC. The early part of his reign was focused on building cities, temples, and monuments. After reigning for 30 years, Ramesses joined a select group that included only a handful of Egypt’s longest-lived rulers. By tradition, in the 30th year of his reign Ramesses celebrated a jubilee called the Sed festival. Sed festivals traditionally were held again every three years after the 30th year; Ramesses II, who sometimes held them after two years, eventually celebrated an unprecedented 13 or 14. Estimates of his age at death vary; 90 or 91 is considered most likely. On his death, he was buried in a tomb in the Valley of the Kings; his body was later moved to a royal cache where it was discovered in 1881, and is now on display in the Egyptian Museum.



RAMESSES THE GREAT





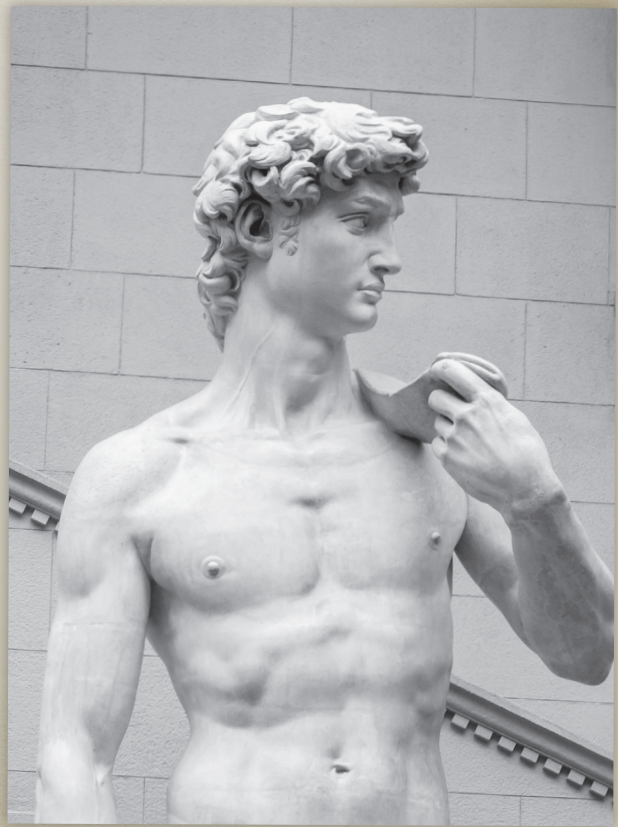


David (c. 1010–970BC) was a young shepherd, chosen by God for his pure heart, who first gained fame as a musician and later by killing Goliath. He became a favorite of King Saul and a close friend of Saul's son, Jonathan. Worried that David would try to take his throne, Saul turned on David.

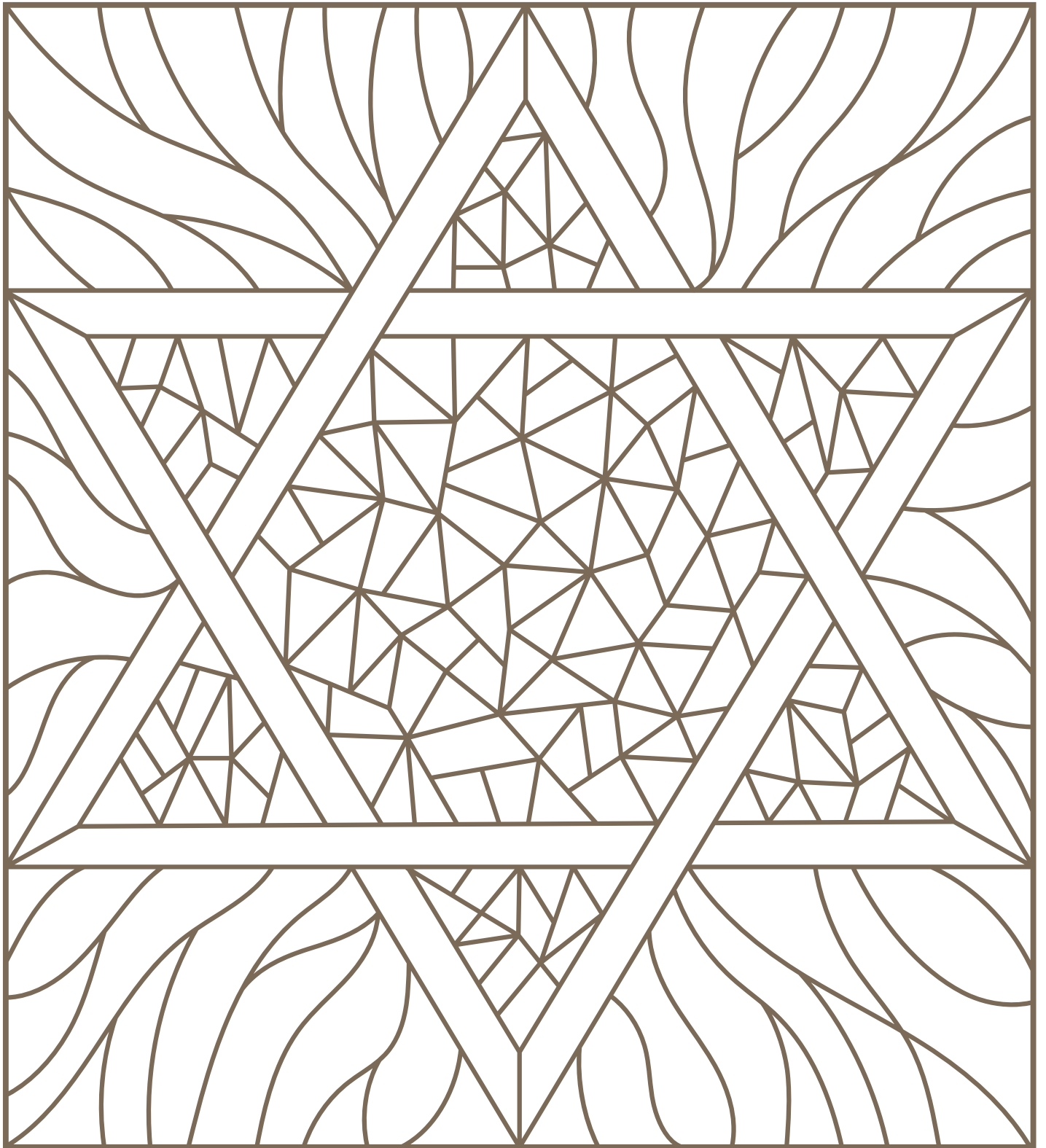
After Saul and Jonathan were killed in battle, David was anointed as King of Israel. David conquered Jerusalem, taking the Ark of the Covenant into the city, and establishing the kingdom founded by Saul.

As king, David fell in love with a married woman named Bathsheba and committed adultery with her, leading him to arrange the death of her husband Uriah the Hittite. Because of this sin, God denied David the opportunity to build the temple, and his son Absalom tried to overthrow him. David fled Jerusalem during Absalom's rebellion, but after Absalom's death he returned to the city to rule Israel. Before his peaceful death, he chose his son Solomon as successor.

He is honored in the prophetic literature as an ideal king and an ancestor of a future Messiah, and many psalms are ascribed to him. In 1 Samuel 13, God called David a man after His own heart.



DAVID





Solomon wisely discerns
the mother of the living child

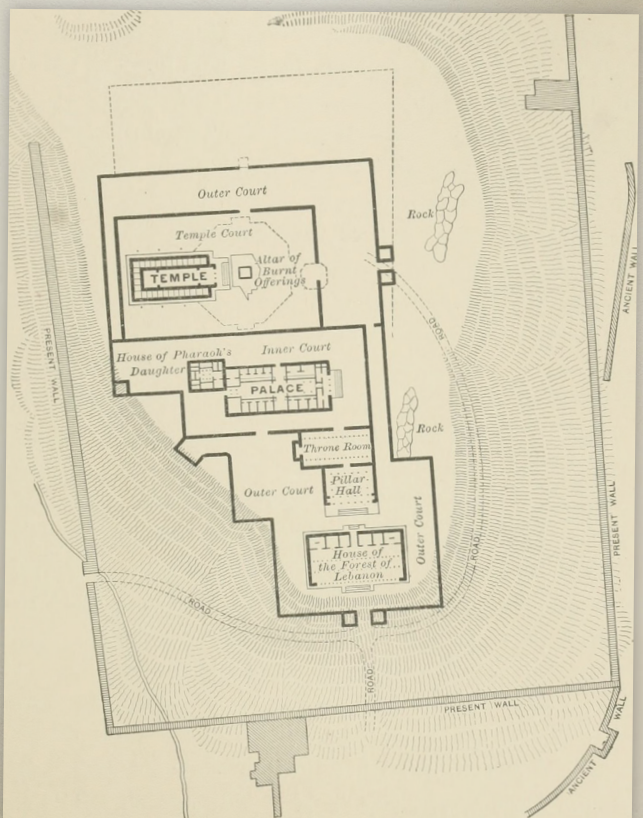


Solomon (c. 990–931BC) was a fabulously wealthy and wise king of Israel. He was the son of King David and Bathsheba. Solomon was not the oldest son of David, but David promised Bathsheba that Solomon would be the next king. He became ruler in approximately 967BC and his kingdom extended from the Euphrates River in the north to Egypt in the south.

Although Solomon was young, he soon became known for his wisdom. One of the most famous incidents of his cleverness as a judge was when two women came to his court with a baby whom both women claimed as their own. Solomon threatened to split the baby in half. Only one woman begged the King to give the live baby to the other woman. Solomon then knew that woman was the mother.

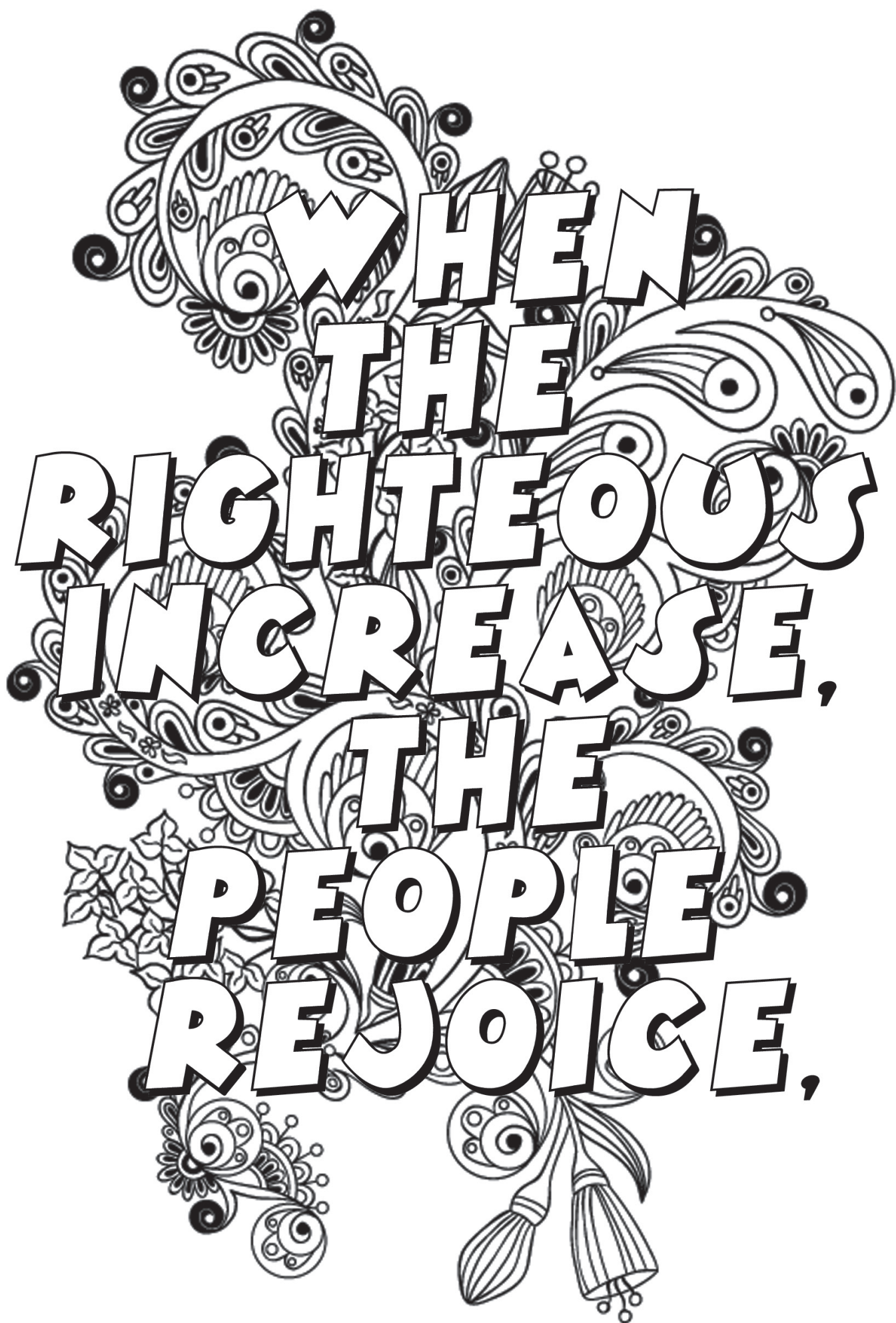
His renowned wisdom caused many to seek his counsel, including the Queen of Sheba. He composed 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs, many included in the Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes.

He was the builder of the temple in Jerusalem, beginning in the fourth year of his reign. He dedicated the temple to Yahweh, the God of Israel. Unfortunately Solomon's sinful lifestyle led to the kingdom being torn in two during the reign of his son Rehoboam.



SOLOMON

DAVID



**WHEN
THE
RIGHTEOUS
INCREASE,
THE
PEOPLE
REJOICE,**

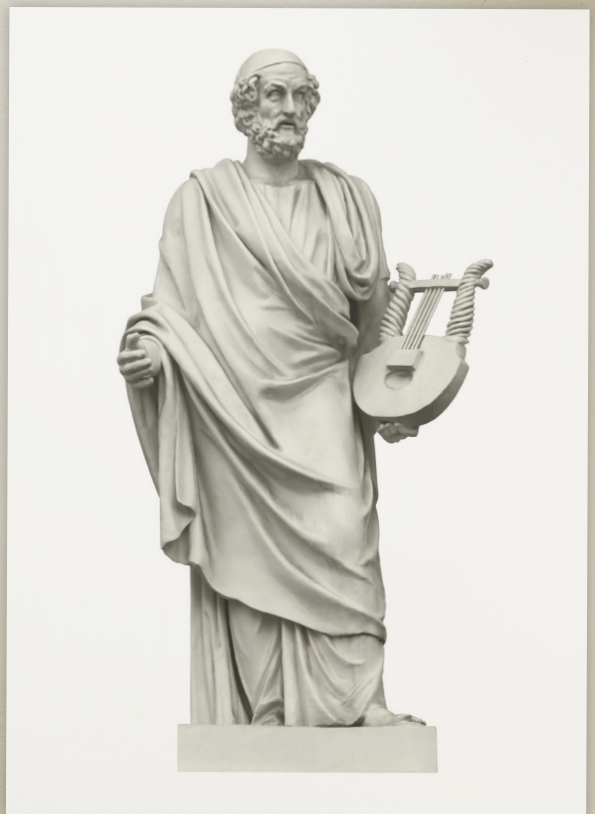


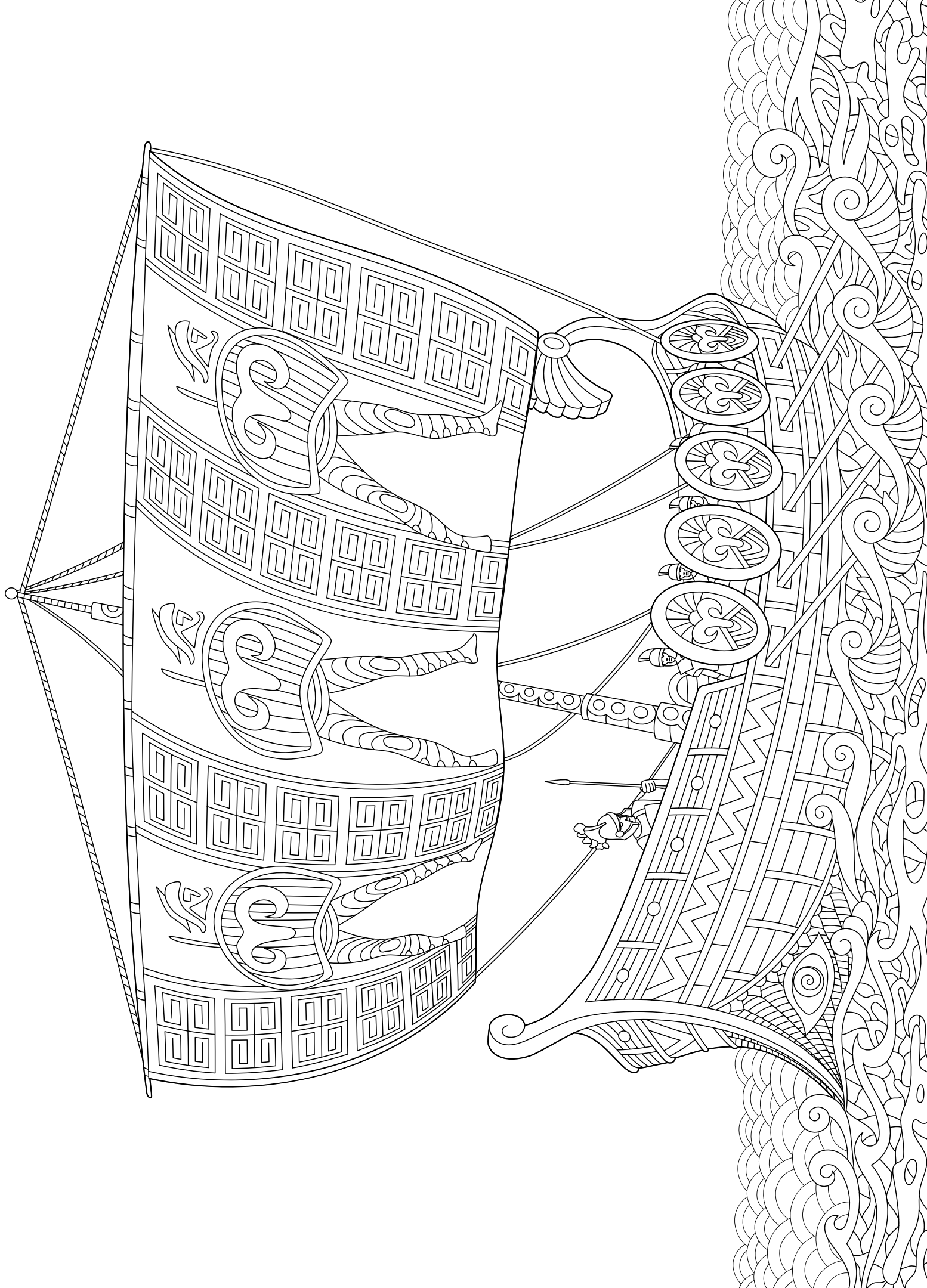
Homer (c. 800BC) was the legendary author of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, two epic poems that are the central works of ancient Greek literature.

The *Iliad* is set during the Trojan War, the ten-year siege of the city of Troy by a coalition of Greek kingdoms (around 1184BC). It focuses on a quarrel between King Agamemnon and the warrior Achilles, lasting a few weeks during the last year of the war.

The *Odyssey* mainly focuses on the Greek hero Odysseus (known as Ulysses in Roman myths), king of Ithaca, and his journey home after the fall of Troy. It takes Odysseus ten years to reach Ithaca. In his absence, it is assumed Odysseus has died, and his wife Penelope and son Telemachus must deal with a group of unruly suitors who compete for Penelope's hand in marriage.

Many accounts of Homer's life circulated in classical antiquity, the most widespread being that he was a blind bard from Ionia, a region of central coastal Anatolia in present-day Turkey. The Homeric epics were the greatest influence on ancient Greek culture and education; to Plato, Homer was simply the one who "has taught Greece."







Hanging Gardens of Babylon

Nebuchadnezzar II (c. 634–562BC) was king of Babylon c. 605BC–562BC, the longest and most powerful reign of any monarch in the Neo-Babylonian empire. He is mentioned in the Bible in 2 Kings, Jeremiah, and the Book of Daniel, where he was introduced as the king who took Daniel and other Hebrew youths into captivity in Babylon, where they were trained in “the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.” In Nebuchadnezzar’s second year, Daniel interprets the king’s dream of God’s prediction of the rise and fall of world powers, starting with Nebuchadnezzar’s kingdom (Daniel 2). In his last years, Nebuchadnezzar seems to have begun behaving irrationally, as mentioned in Daniel 4.

The ruins of Nebuchadnezzar’s Babylon are spread over two thousand acres, forming the largest archaeological site in the Middle East. He enlarged the royal palace (including in it a public museum, possibly the world’s first), built and repaired temples, built a bridge over the Euphrates, and constructed a grand processional boulevard (the Processional Way) and gateway (the Ishtar Gate) lavishly decorated with glazed brick.



NEBUCHADNEZZAR II

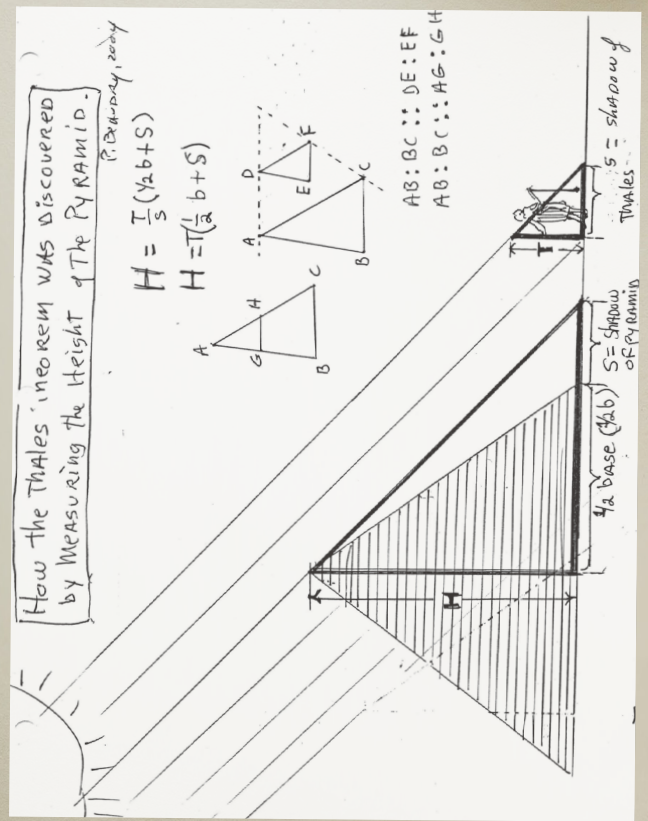




Thales (c. 624–546BC) was a pre-Socratic Greek philosopher, mathematician, and astronomer from Miletus in Asia Minor (present-day Milet in Turkey). He was one of the Seven Sages of Greece. Many, most notably Aristotle, regarded him as the first philosopher in the Greek tradition, and he is otherwise historically recognized as the first individual in Western civilization known to have entertained and engaged in scientific philosophy.

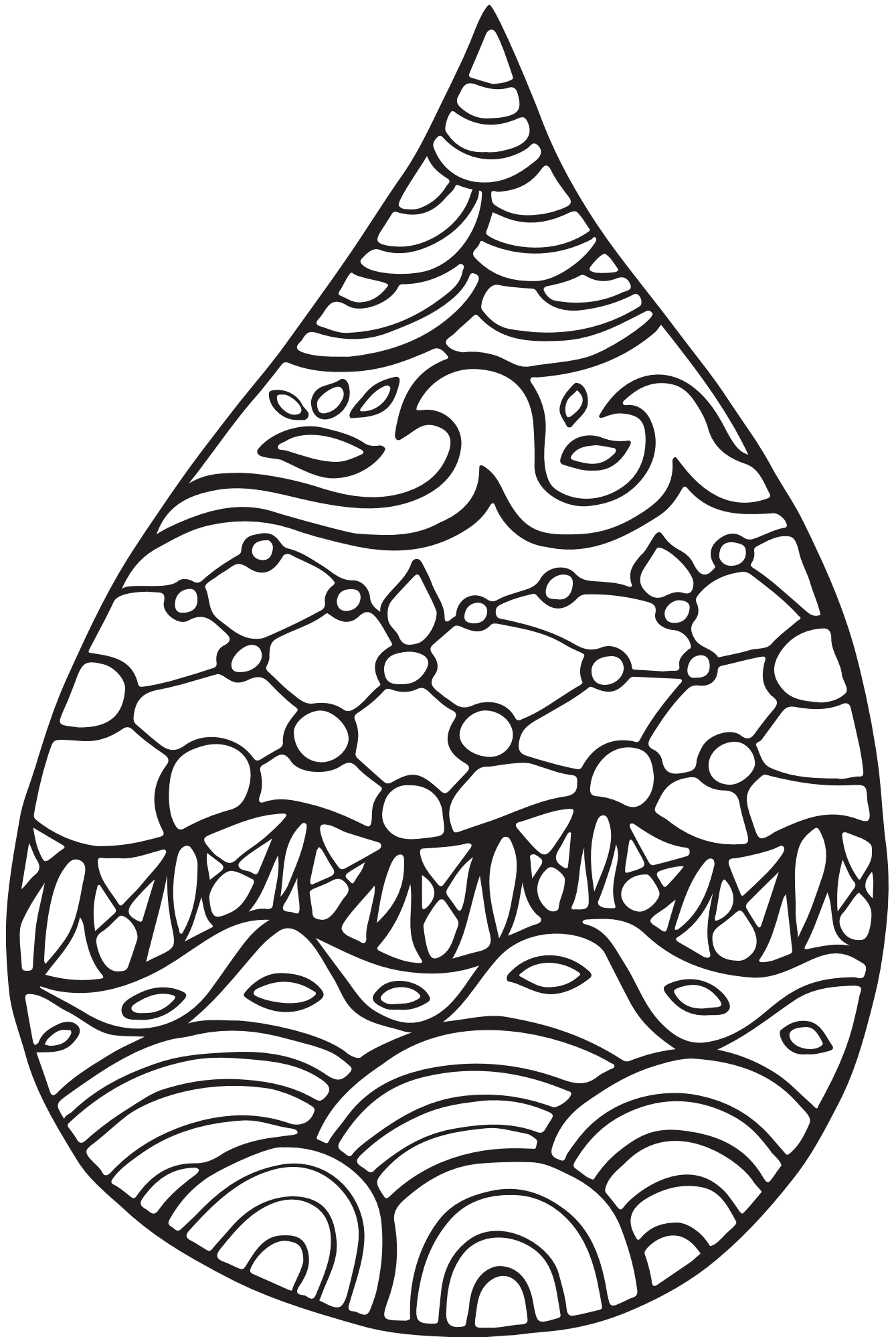
Thales is recognized for explaining natural objects and phenomena by theories and hypotheses, in a precursor to modern science. Aristotle reported Thales' hypothesis that the originating principle of nature and the nature of matter was a single material substance: water. He also was the first to recognize static electricity.

In mathematics, Thales used geometry to calculate the heights of pyramids and the distance of ships from the shore. He is the first known individual to use deductive reasoning applied to geometry, by deriving four corollaries to Thales' theorem. He is the first known individual to whom a mathematical discovery has been attributed.



NEBUCHADNEZZAR II

THALES





Daniel (c. 620–538BC) was a noble Jewish youth of Jerusalem, who was taken into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon and served the king and his successors with loyalty and ability until the time of the Persian conqueror Cyrus, all the while remaining true to the God of Israel.

Nebuchadnezzar II dreamed of a giant statue made of four metals with feet of mingled iron and clay, smashed by a stone from heaven. Only Daniel was able to interpret it: the dream signified four kingdoms, of which Babylon was the first, but God would destroy them and replace them with His own kingdom.

Darius, the next ruler, elevated Daniel to high office, exciting the jealousy of other officials. Knowing of Daniel's devotion to his God, his enemies tricked the king into issuing an edict forbidding worship of any other god or man for a 30-day period. Daniel continued to pray three times a day to God towards Jerusalem. He was accused and King Darius, forced by his own decree, threw Daniel into the lions' den. But God shut up the mouths of the lions, and the next morning Darius rejoiced to find him unharmed. The king cast Daniel's accusers into the lions' pit together with their wives and children to be devoured, while

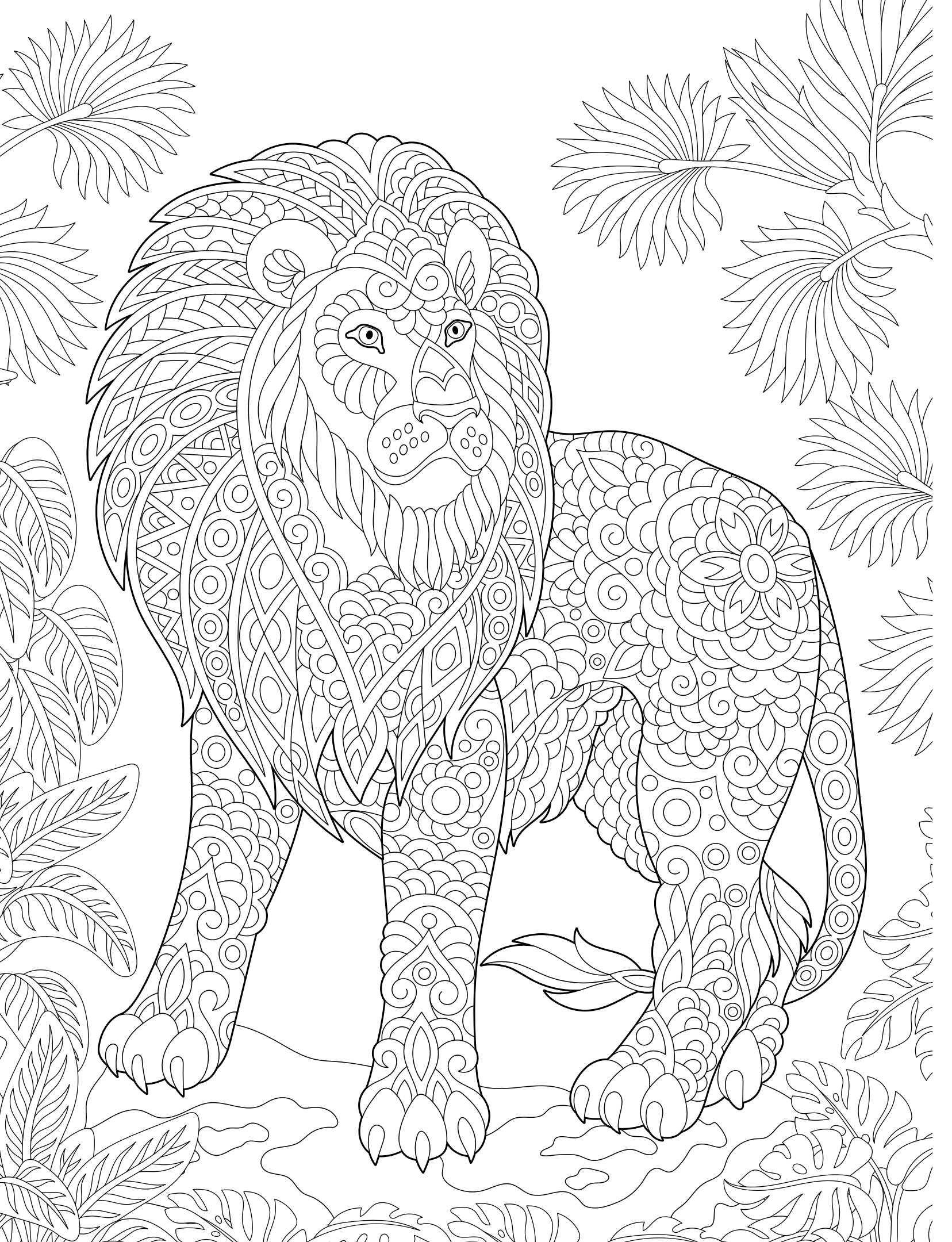
Darius acknowledged Daniel's God as the One whose kingdom shall never be destroyed.

The Book of Daniel records these and other events in Daniel's life, including the story of three of his companions being thrown into the fiery furnace. This book belongs not only to the religious tradition but also to the wider Western intellectual and artistic heritage. It was easily the most popular of the prophetic books for the Anglo-Saxons, who nevertheless treated it not as prophecy but as an historical book.



DANIEL

THALES



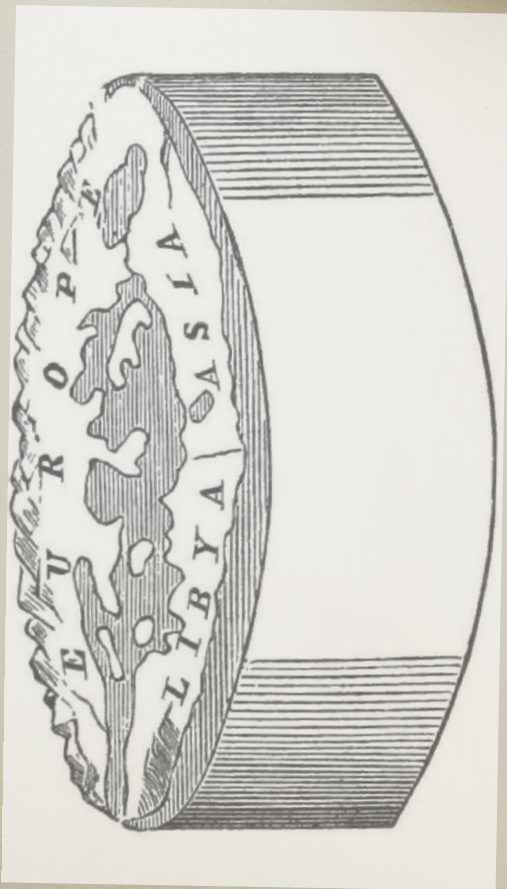


Anaximander of Miletus (c. 610–546BC) was a pre-Socratic Greek philosopher who lived in Miletus, a city of Ionia (in modern-day Turkey). He belonged to the Milesian school and learned the teachings of his master Thales. He succeeded Thales and became the second master of that school where he counted Anaximenes and, arguably, Pythagoras among his pupils.

Little of his life and work is known today.

Fragmentary testimonies found in documents after his death provide a portrait of the man. He was an early proponent of science and tried to observe and explain different aspects of the universe, with a particular interest in its origins, claiming that nature is ruled by laws, just like human societies, and anything that disturbs the balance of nature does not last long. In astronomy, he attempted to describe the mechanics of celestial bodies in relation to Earth.

His knowledge of geometry allowed him to introduce the gnomon in Greece. He created a map of the world that contributed greatly to the advancement of geography. He was very interested in the idea of the infinite, such as pi or the universe as we now understand it.



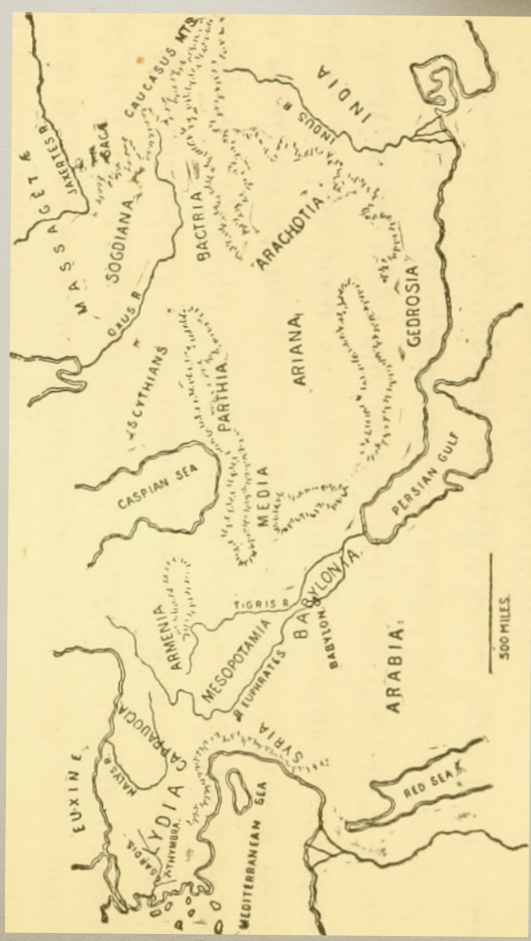
ANAXIMANDER

THALES





Cyrus II (c. 598–530BC) was the Persian king, known as *Cyrus the Great*, who founded the Achaemenid Empire, the first Persian Empire. Under his rule, the empire embraced all the previous civilized states of the ancient Near East, expanded vastly and eventually conquered most of Southwest Asia and much of Central Asia and the Caucasus. From the Mediterranean Sea and Hellespont in the west to the Indus River in the east, *Cyrus the Great* created the largest empire the world had yet seen. The reign of *Cyrus the Great* lasted 30 years. *Cyrus* built his empire by first conquering the Median Empire, then the Lydian Empire, and eventually the Neo-Babylonian Empire. He led an expedition into Central Asia, which resulted in major campaigns that were described as having brought "into subjection every nation without exception." *Cyrus* did not venture into Egypt, and died in battle, fighting the Massagetae along the Syr Darya in December 530BC. *Cyrus the Great* is said in the Bible to have liberated the Jews from the Babylonian captivity to resettle and rebuild Jerusalem, earning him an honored place in Judaism.



CYRUS THE GREAT

THALES



W. M. X. A.



Anaximenes of Miletus (c. 585 – 528BC) was an Ancient Greek Pre-Socratic philosopher active in the latter half of the 6th century BC. The Third Milesian philosopher, he is identified as a younger friend or student of Anaximander. Anaximenes, like others in his school of thought, practiced material monism. This tendency to identify one specific underlying reality made up of a material thing is what Anaximenes is principally known for today.

After having concluded that everything in the world is composed of air, Anaximenes used his theory to devise a scheme that explains the origins and nature of Earth and the surrounding celestial bodies. Air felted (just as wool is compressed to create felt) to create the flat disk of Earth, which he said was table-like and behaved like a leaf floating on air. In keeping with the prevailing view of celestial bodies as balls of fire in the sky, Anaximenes proposed that Earth let out an exhalation of air that rarefied, ignited, and became the stars. Similarly, he considered the moon and sun to be flat and floating on streams of air.

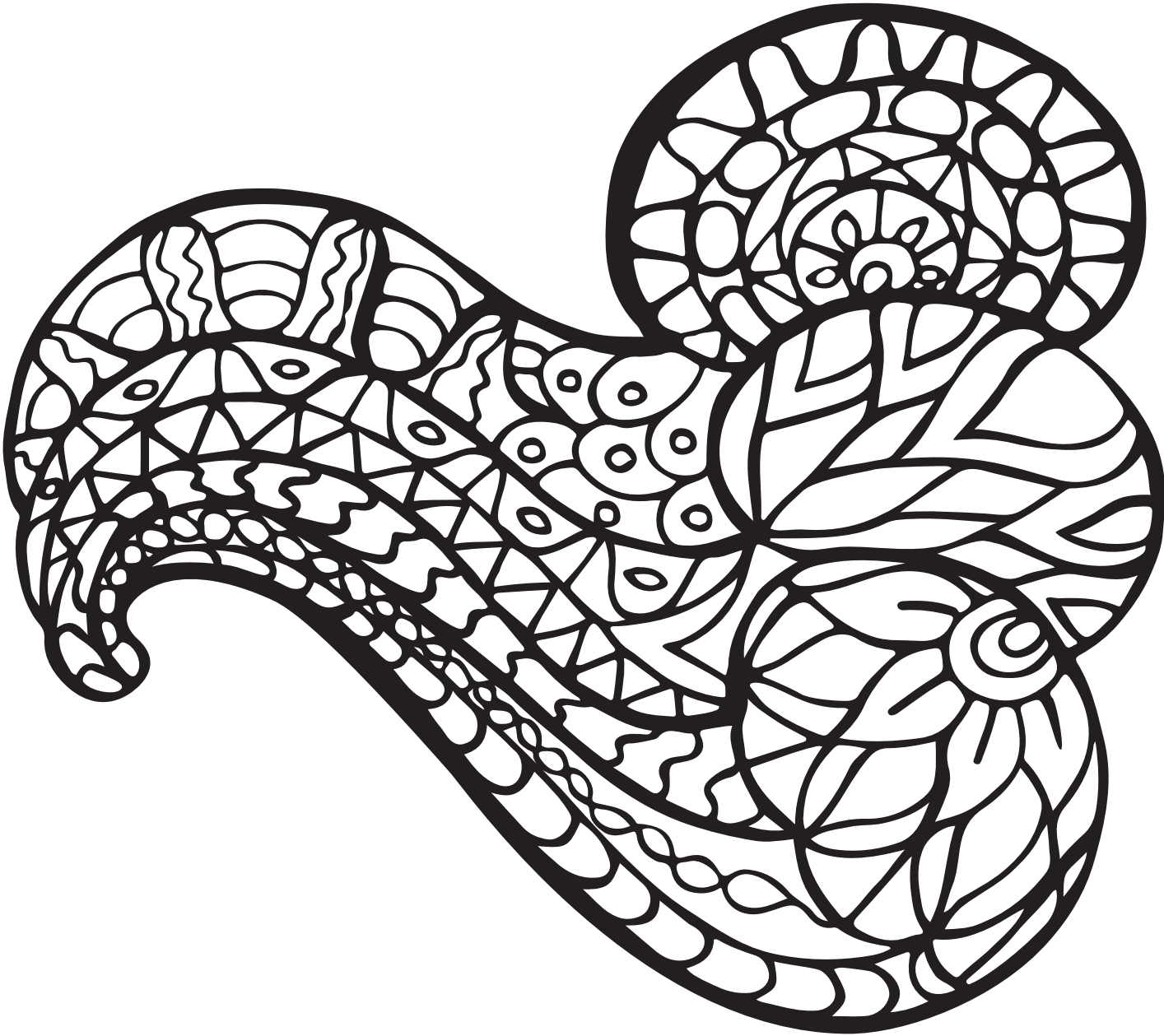
The Anaximenes crater on the Moon is named in his honor.



DANIEL

ANAXIMENES

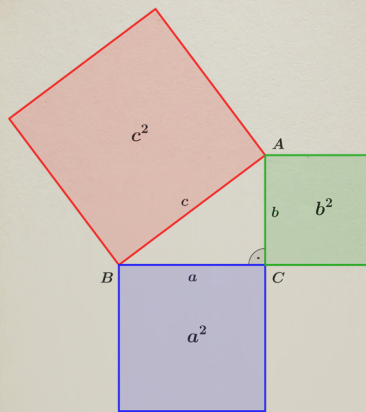






Pythagoras of Samos (c. 570–495BC) was an Ionian Greek philosopher and the founder of the Pythagoreanism movement. Like many other important Greek thinkers, Pythagoras was said to have studied in Egypt. The Phoenicians are reputed to have taught Pythagoras arithmetic and the Chaldeans to have taught him astronomy. So while knowledge of his early life is clouded by legend, around 530BC, he travelled to Croton, where he founded a school in which initiates were sworn to secrecy and lived a communal, ascetic lifestyle. The teaching most securely identified with Pythagoras is metempsychosis, or the “transmigration of souls,” which holds that every soul is immortal and, upon death, enters into a new body. He may have also devised the doctrine of *musica universalis*, which holds that the planets move according to mathematical equations and thus resonate to produce an inaudible symphony of music.

In antiquity, Pythagoras was credited with many mathematical and scientific discoveries, including the Pythagorean theorem, Pythagorean tuning, the five regular solids, the Theory of Proportions, the sphericity of Earth, and the identity of the morning and evening stars as the planet Venus.



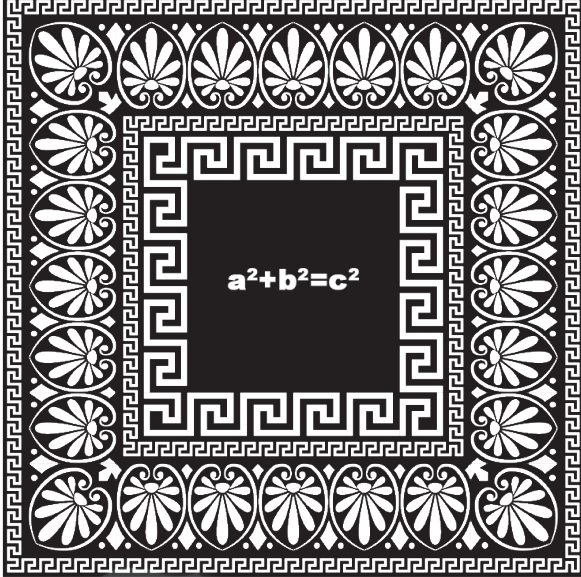
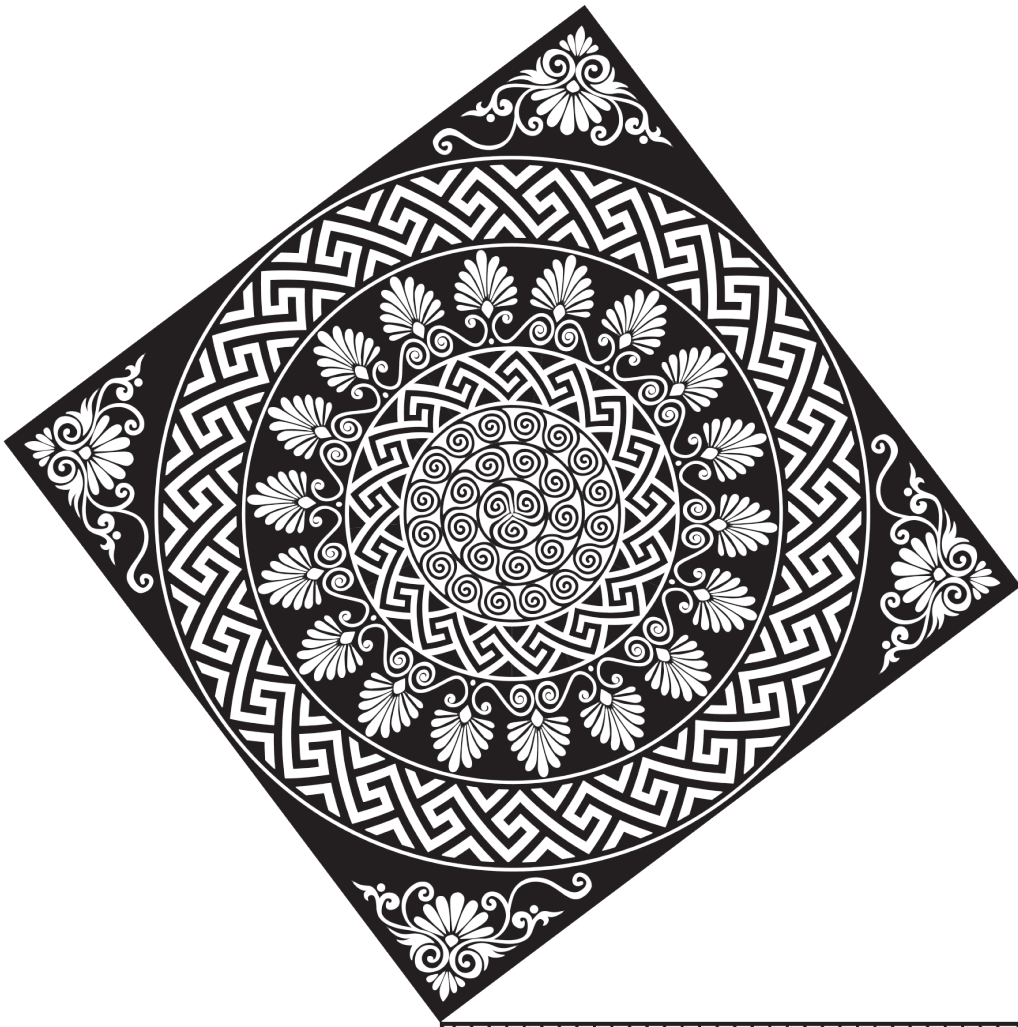
Since at least the first century BC, Pythagoras has commonly been given credit for discovering the Pythagorean theorem, a theorem in geometry that states that “in a right-angled triangle the square of the hypotenuse is equal [to the sum of] the squares of the two other sides”—that is, $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$. The Pythagorean theorem was known and used by the Babylonians and Indians centuries before Pythagoras, but it is possible that he may have been the first one to introduce it to the Greeks.

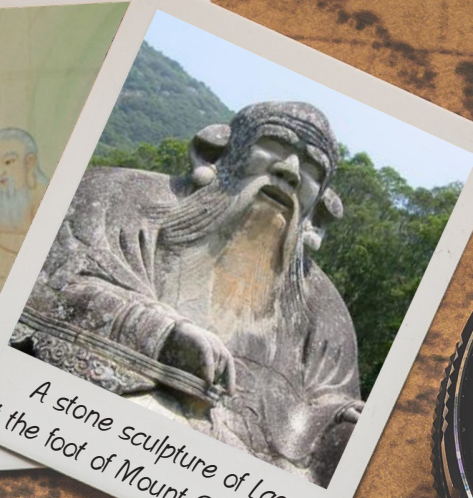
Pythagoras influenced Plato, whose dialogues, especially his *Timaeus*, exhibit Pythagorean teachings. Pythagoras continued to be regarded as a great philosopher throughout the Middle Ages and his philosophy had a major impact on scientists such as Nicolaus Copernicus, Johannes Kepler, and Isaac Newton.

DANIEL

PYTHAGORAS







A stone sculpture of Laozi, at the foot of Mount Qingyuan



Lao Tzu or Laozi (c. 571–471BC) was an ancient Chinese philosopher and writer. He is the reputed author of the *Tao Te Ching*, the founder of philosophical Taoism, and a deity in religious Taoism and traditional Chinese religions. Taoism teaches various disciplines for achieving “perfection” by becoming one with the unplanned rhythms of the universe called “the way”. Today, Taoism is one of five religions recognized by the People’s Republic of China and has over 20 million followers.

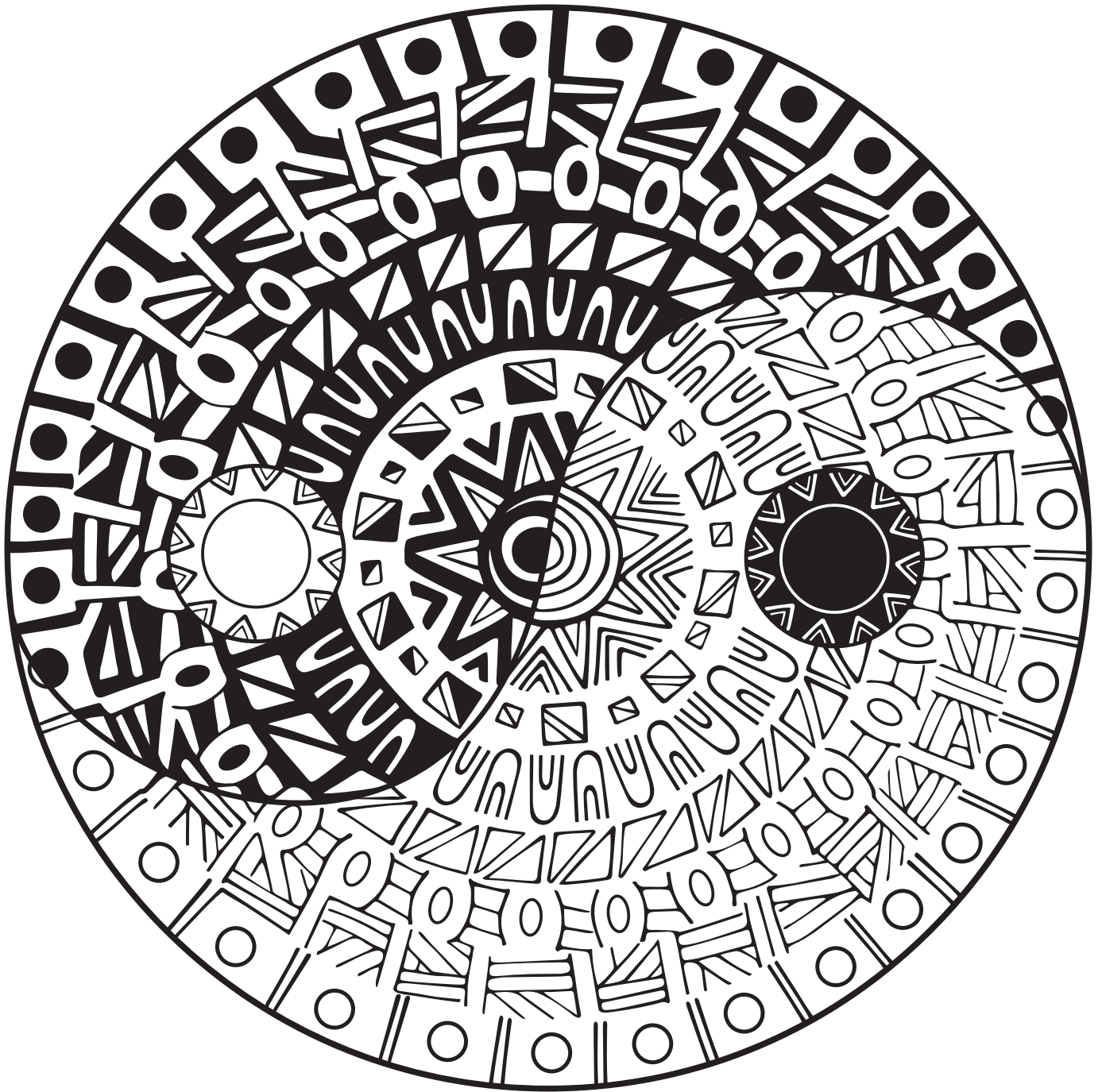
A semi-legendary figure, Laozi was usually portrayed as a 6th-century BC contemporary of Confucius. According to traditional accounts, Laozi was a scholar who worked as the Keeper of the Archives for the royal court of Zhou. This reportedly allowed him broad access to the works of the Yellow Emperor and other classics of the time. The stories assert that Laozi never opened a formal school but nonetheless attracted a large number of students and loyal disciples. There are many variations of a story retelling his encounter with Confucius, most famously in the *Zhuangzi*.



DANIEL

LAO TZU







Ming dynasty artist Qiu Ying
Confucius by the

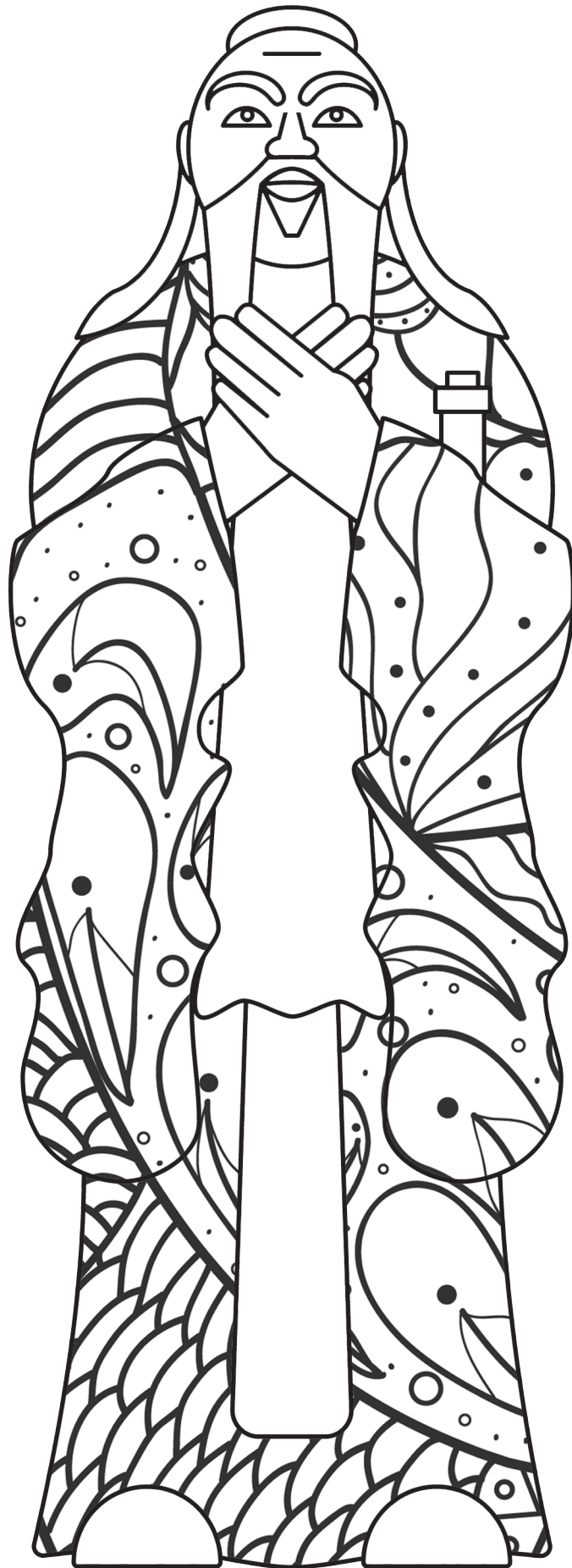
Confucius (c. 551–479BC), Kongzi, or Master Kung was a Chinese teacher, editor, politician, and philosopher of the Spring and Autumn period of Chinese history. The philosophy of Confucius, also known as Confucianism, emphasized personal and governmental morality, correctness of social relationships, justice, and sincerity. His followers competed successfully with many other schools during the Hundred Schools of Thought era only to be suppressed in favor of the Legalists during the Qin Dynasty. After the collapse of the Qin Dynasty, Confucius' thoughts received official sanction and were further developed into a system known in the West as Neo-Confucianism, and later New Confucianism (Modern Neo-Confucianism). Confucius' principles have commonality with Chinese tradition and belief. He championed strong family loyalty, ancestor veneration, and respect of elders by their children and of husbands by their wives, recommending family as a basis for ideal government. He espoused the well-known principle: "Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself," the Golden Rule, a concept which appeared first in the Code of Hammurabi.



DANIEL

CONFUCIUS

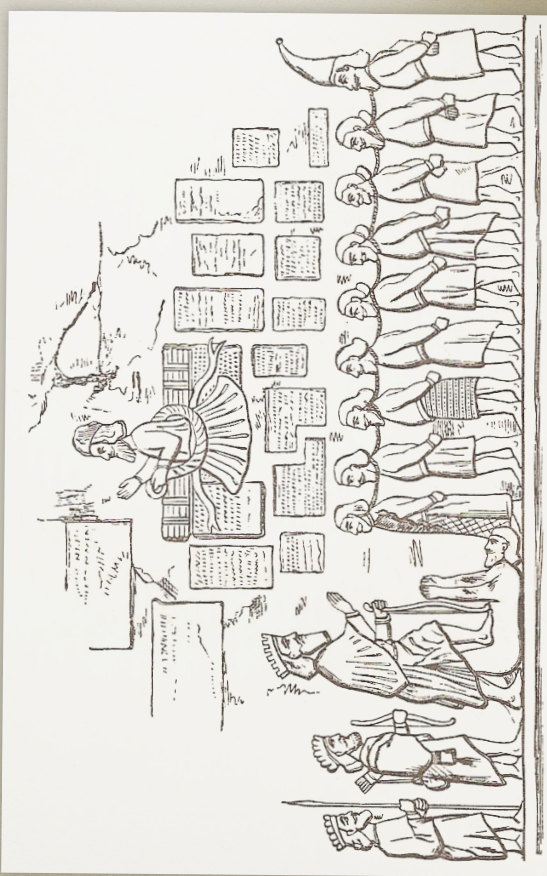






Sir Henry Rawlinson copying the cuneiform inscriptions

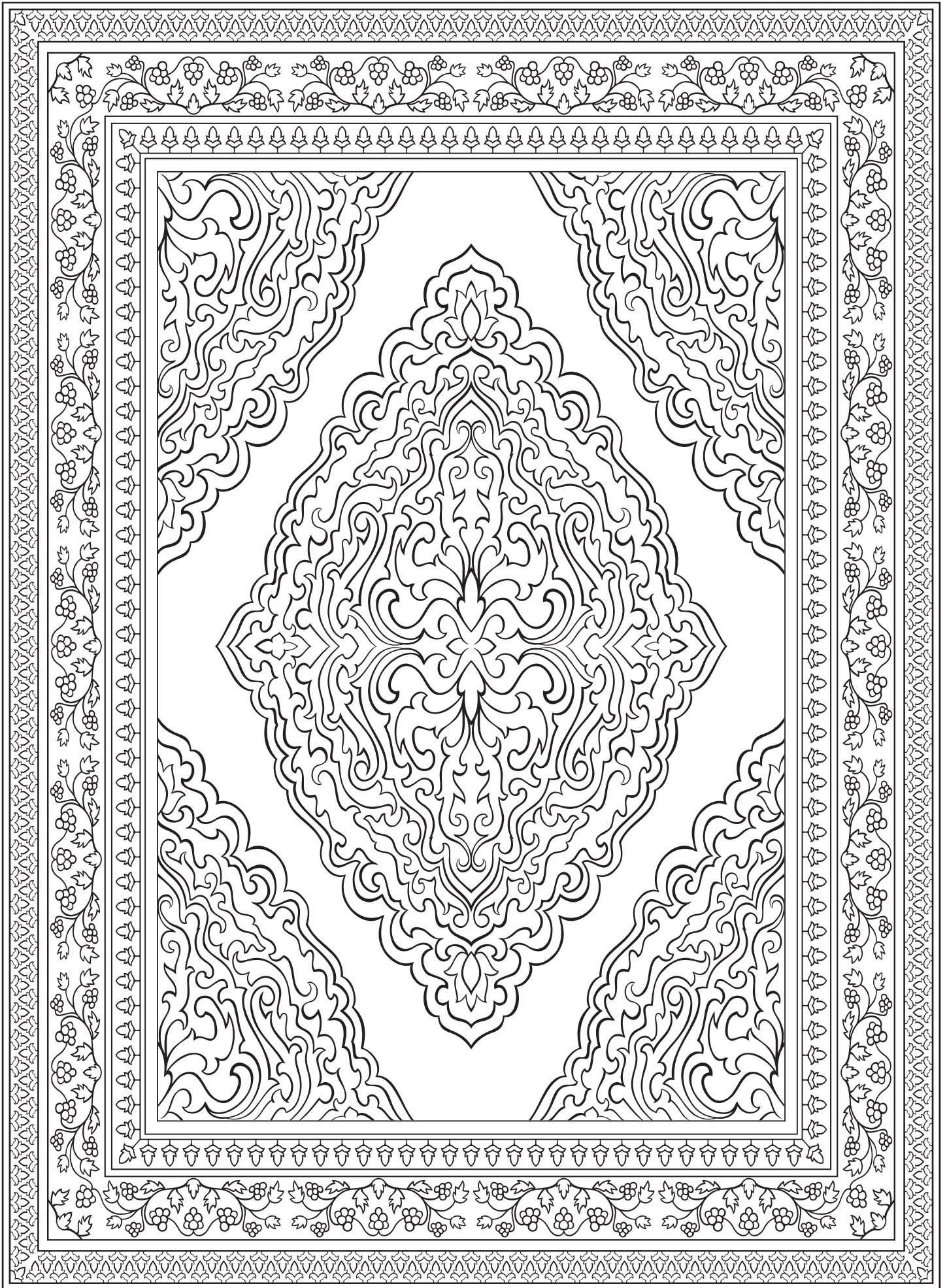
Darius the Great (c. 550–486BC) was the fourth king of the Persian Achaemenid Empire. Also called Darius I, he ruled the empire at its peak, when it included much of West Asia, the Caucasus, parts of the Balkans, most of the Black Sea coastal regions, parts of the North Caucasus, Central Asia, as far as the Indus Valley in the far east and portions of north and northeast Africa including Egypt (Mudrâya), eastern Libya and coastal Sudan. Darius ascended the throne by overthrowing Gaumata, a usurper. The new king met with rebellions throughout his kingdom and quelled them each time. Darius organized the empire by dividing it into provinces and placing satraps to govern it. He organized a new uniform monetary system, along with making Aramaic the official language of the empire. He also put the empire in better standing by building roads and introducing standard weights and measures. Through these changes, the empire was centralized and unified. Darius also worked on construction projects throughout the empire, focusing on Susa, Pasargadae, Persepolis, Babylon, and Egypt. He had the cliff-face Behistun Inscription carved to record his conquests in three languages, the Rosetta Stone of his day.

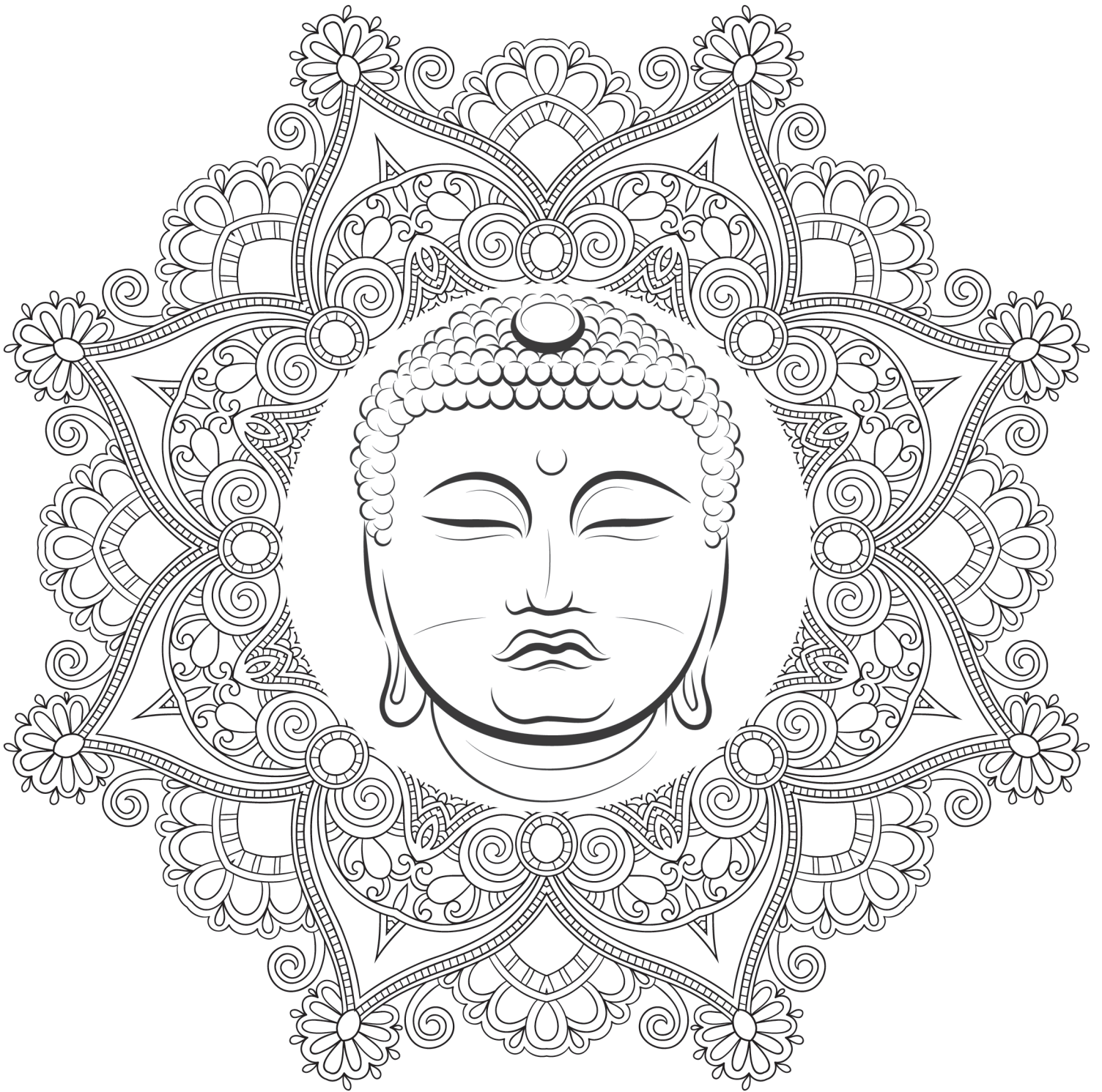


DANIEL

DARIUS THE GREAT





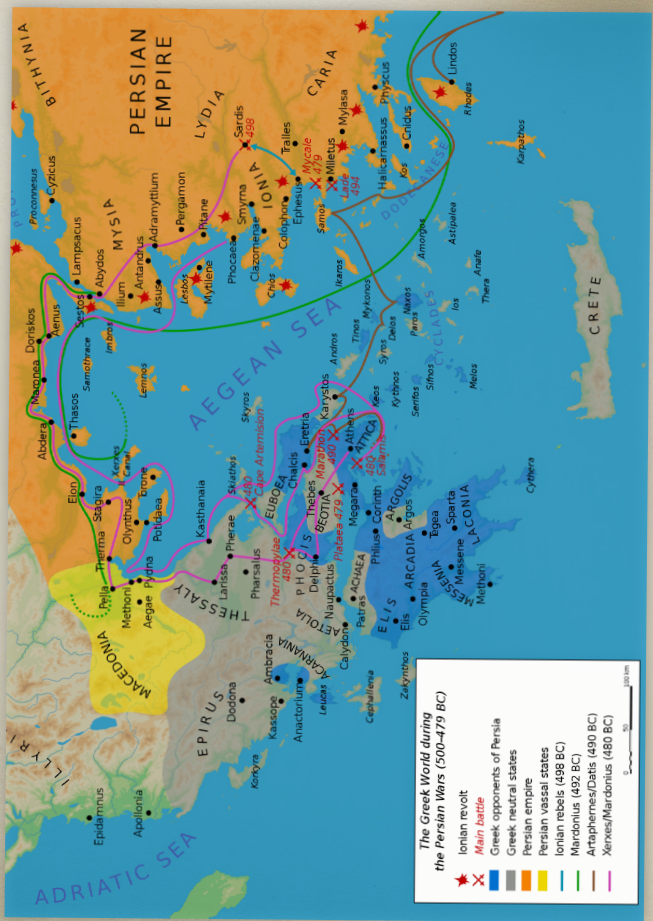




Xerxes the Great (c. 520–465BC) was the fourth king of kings of the Achaemenid dynasty of Persia and later was Pharaoh of Egypt. His mother was Atossa, the daughter of Cyrus the Great. Like his father and predecessor Darius I, he ruled the empire at its territorial apex. He ruled from 486BC until his assassination in 465BC.

Xerxes I is the Persian king most identified as Ahasuerus in the biblical Book of Esther. He is also notable in Western history for his failed invasion of Greece in 480BC. His forces temporarily overran mainland Greece until the losses at Salamis and Plataea a year later reversed these gains and ended the second invasion decisively. Xerxes also crushed revolts in Egypt and Babylon.

Xerxes spent much time in his building projects and designs for greater, grander, monuments to commemorate his reign and distinguish him from his father. His development plans ended with his assassination by his minister Artabanus who also murdered his son Darius. Xerxes' other son, Artaxerxes I, then killed Artabanus, took the throne, and went on to complete Xerxes' grand building plans in his own name and for his own greater glory.







Queen Esther and Mordecai

Esther or Hadassah (c. 492–465BC) is described in the Book of Esther as a Jewish queen of the Persian king Ahasuerus (possibly Xerxes the Great). In the narrative, Ahasuerus sought a new wife after his queen, Vashti, refused to obey him and was exiled. Esther was chosen for her beauty. The king's chief advisor, Haman, was offended by Esther's cousin and guardian, Mordecai, and got permission from the king to have all the Jews in the kingdom killed. When Esther learned of this plan, she and all the Jews fasted for three days. Esther then sought an audience with the king and won permission from the king for the Jews to defend themselves and kill their enemies, and they did so. Thus Esther's actions resulted in the salvation of the Jewish people living in Persia.

Her story is the traditional basis for Purim, which is celebrated on the date given in the story for when Haman's order was to go into effect, which was the same day that the Jews killed their enemies after the plan was reversed.

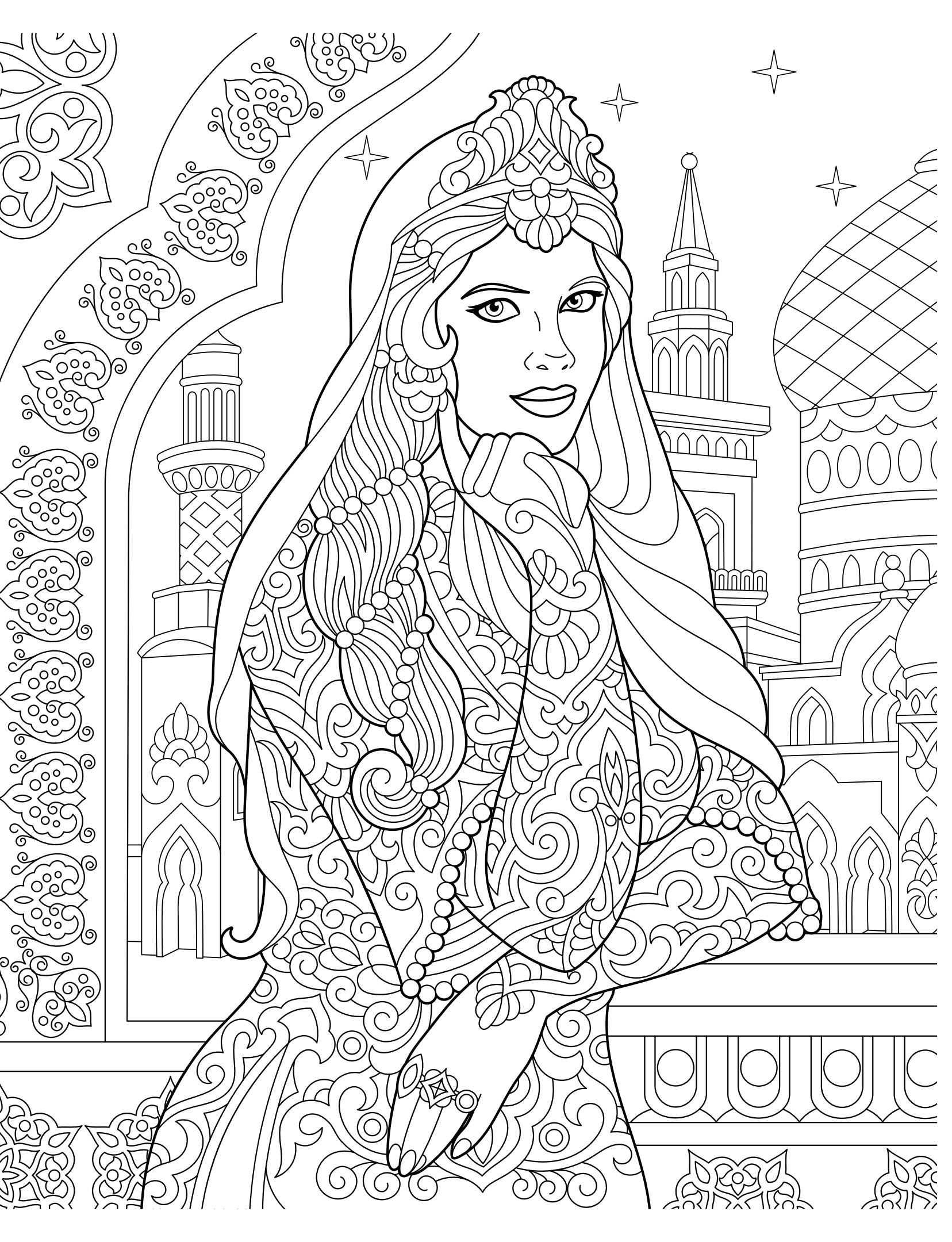
A building venerated as being the Tomb of Esther and Mordecai is located in Hamadan, Iran, although the village of Kfar Bar'am in northern Israel also claims to be the burial place of Queen Esther.



DANIEL

ESTHER







Created by Jukka Varti
www.ikonos.com

4004BC: God created the heavens and the earth and all that is in it, including mankind



2349BC: Worldwide flood as the result of God's judgement on mankind.



2242BC: Tower of Babel



c. 3000BC: Stonehenge construction begins. In its first version, it consisted of a circular ditch and bank, with 56 wooden posts.



1194BC: Trojan War



776BC: First Olympic Games



753BC: Founding of Rome



447BC: Building of the Parthenon at Athens started
432BC: Construction of the Parthenon is completed