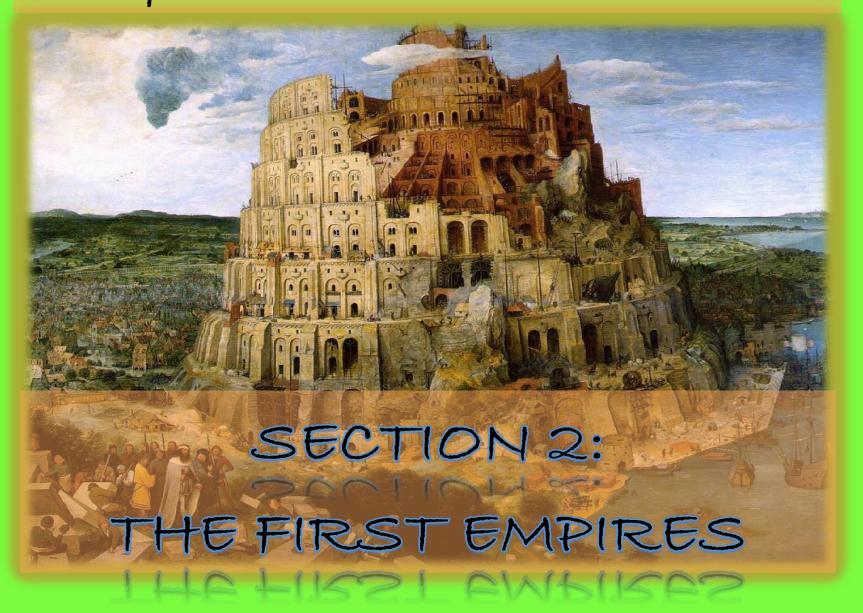
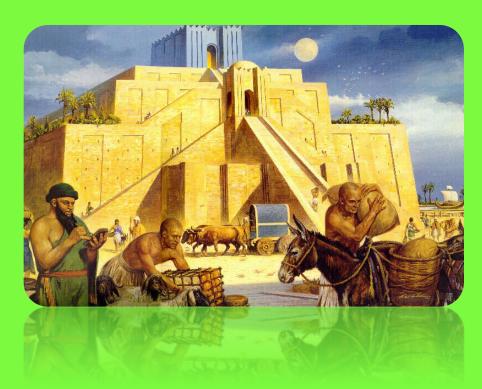
#### Chapter 3: The Fertile Crescent



## Background

- City-states in Sumer often fought each other.
  - Eventually strong rulers conquered the whole region
- Empire: a state containing several countries or territories



### New King in Town...

- Sargon
  - Akkadian man
  - Became King of the Sumerian city-state of Kish
  - Changed the language to Akkadian
  - Placed Akkadian's in government & religious positions
  - He created the world's first empire
  - Sargon ruled for 56 years—city-states rebelled
- 500 years later the Babylonians gained control
  - Hammurabi became the king of Babylon around 1792 B.C.
  - Establish what today is known as the Old Babylonian empire
  - Mesopotamia became united, rich & powerful under his rule
  - Best remembered for establishing a set of laws that governed life



#### Hammurabi's Law

- Also called Code of Law
- Over 4,000 years old
- About 300 laws (Ex: "If he break another man's bone, his bone shall be broken")
- Written in cuneiform
- King Hammurabi wanted to make sure everyone knew the laws
- Encouraged social order throughout his empire







http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDALXORbtR4

## Legacy of Sumer

- After Hammurabi's death in 1750 B.C.
  - Babylonia falls apart
  - City-states rebelled AGAIN!
- Nineveh (northern Meso) destroyed Babylon
  - Later Babylonians rebuilt and made it the capital of a stronger empire
- The civilization of Sumer slowly faded
  - Influence: technology, farming, writing, learning, and law lived on



# New Babylon

- Became the world's largest city:
  - famous for beauty & technology
  - massive walls & moat protected it
  - split in 2 by Euphrates; connected by moveable bridge and underwater tunnel
  - Center of city: HUGE Ziggurat (200 yards wide/100 yards into sky)

