

# PART ONE

## THE TORAH

*In which God gets the human race on the road and then threatens to stop the car, the Jews receive 613 easy-to-follow rules, and a haircut topples a nation.*



THE TORAH REPRESENTS THE FIRST FIVE BOOKS OF THE Bible. It tells the history of the human race from Creation through the founding of the Jewish nation and their settlement in the land of Israel.

God created the human race to be his pets. As a first-time pet owner, God wisely chose to start small, creating just two people: Adam and Eve. But, much like baby alligators, they proved to be rotten pets and were thus flushed into the sewer, where they propagated, until the sewers were overflowing with wild humans, hissing and spitting, fornicating and worshiping idols. So God flushed again. This time with a mighty flood.

When the survivors of the flood dried themselves off and re-populated the Earth, God decided that, rather than exterminating them, he would take another crack at domesticating human beings. Again, he decided to start small, with one family, the family of Abraham, whom he found to be smart and highly trainable. God gave Abraham and his descendants a set of laws with which to housebreak them. Then God found them a good home, a Promised Land where they could set a good example for the rest of the human race of how God envisioned this whole pet-thing playing out going forward.

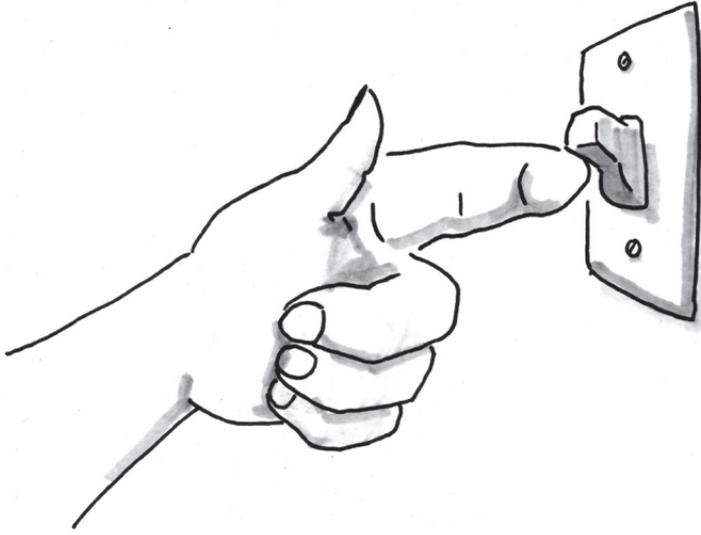
In truth, though, God “discovered” the Promised Land in much the same way that my mother discovered the Olive Garden. Everybody already knew about it, and it was already full of people when she got there, but whatever, unlimited breadsticks!

When the Jews arrived at the Promised Land, they were a little irked to find the place overrun with pagans. The Promised Land was populated by many different tribes, each with their own unique culture and way of life. There were the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Gergashites... for our purposes, let's call them “Indians.”

Whenever the Jews won a battle against the Indians, God ordered them to celebrate by killing all the men, women and children. He also ordered them to kill their cattle and their sheep and throw all their belongings into a bonfire, as if the Indians never existed. So it was sort of like, "You know, maybe we really *did* discover the Olive Garden."

When they were done clearing out all the pagans and their furniture, they named their new country "Israel," but this is not the end of the story. Being God's chosen people is always a roller-coaster ride...and this ride was just beginning.





# GENESIS



**I**N THE BEGINNING, God was lonely. So, he made the same mistake as a lot of men who live alone: he decided to go out and meet people. Only there weren't any people, so he had to make his own. God created Adam and Eve to be his friends.

God built a beautiful garden in Iraq for Adam and Eve to live in. Adam and Eve spent their days running around naked and playing Frisbee. They ate a lot of fruit. It was a lot like living at a Grateful Dead concert. God's one rule was that they couldn't eat the fruit from this magical tree he'd planted in the center of the garden.

I don't know why he put it there. It just tied the whole garden together.

Understandably, Adam and Eve were consumed with curiosity about this magical tree. It was just one of thousands of trees in the garden, but now they found it impossible to resist eating its fruit...and having a talking snake constantly goading them didn't help any. So Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the forbidden tree and were immediately endowed with the knowledge of good and evil, which mostly made them uptight about nudity.

When God found out about the missing fruit, he went apeshit.



*“You need to stop playing the ‘blame game.’”*

He yelled at them, evicted Adam and Eve from the garden, and as extra punishment, he ordered them to become parents. This move really backfired, however, because Adam and Eve simply filled the world with children who murdered each other, worshiped idols and had sex with giants, all of which really dicked up God’s plan for the earth.

God was so angry that he killed off the entire human race with a giant flood. Well, not the whole human race. He gave one guy named Noah a heads-up. Before the flood, Noah built an enormous boat and filled it with every species of animal he could find, which made Noah

not only the world’s first sailor, but its first animal hoarder as well. As soon as he finished packing the boat, the flood began. After forty days and nights of rain and a meat-heavy diet, the water subsided and Noah found land. When God saw the millions of dead bodies littering the ground, he wondered if maybe he’d overreacted.

So God wanted to make it right. But what could he do? What could possibly make up for killing nearly every living thing on the planet? Finally, it occurred to him. Everyone loves rainbows, right? He created this really sweet rainbow as a promise to never flood the Earth again.

But the moment Noah got back on dry land, he got drunk, and the human race just went right back to disappointing God.

God eventually found someone else he liked, though. God took a shine to a 75 year-old man named Abraham. God told Abraham that, even though he and his 90 year-old wife Sara were childless, he wanted to build a great nation out of them, and that Abraham's descendants would be his chosen people. To seal the deal, Abraham agreed to cut a tiny bit off the penis of every man who would ever be born into his family. Contracts worked differently back then.

Abraham went out into the wilderness to start his new nation. His nephew Lot tagged along, but he developed a taste for city living and left Abraham, moving his family to the twin cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

God really hated Sodom and Gomorrah. The people there wanted to have sex with absolutely everything. They even tried to have sex with two angels God sent to warn Lot to leave town. Angel rape is not how you get on God's good side. So God incinerated the cities and all their inhabitants with fire and brimstone, except for Lot and his family, whom he let escape. But during their getaway,

Lot's wife made the mistake of turning to look back upon her burning hometown, for which God turned her into a pillar of salt, her punishment for the crime of nostalgia.

Lot's daughters felt it was a shame that, because their mother was salt, Lot would never have a son to carry on his family name. So they got their father drunk and had sex with him until he impregnated them both, which sort of made Lot his own father-in-law.

Abraham, meanwhile, was now in his nineties, and his wife Sarah was no spring chicken, either. To date, their geriatric sex had produced nothing but loads of dislocated hips and swollen ankles. Still, God insisted that he would build a great nation out of them. But Sarah told Abraham to sleep with her maid, so he could at least have some backup kids in case God's promise didn't pan out. Abraham did as he was told and slept with Hagar, who soon gave birth to a son named Ishmael. Abraham celebrated with free circumcisions for everybody.

Abraham's nontraditional family plugged along perfectly well until, against all odds, Sarah got pregnant. Abraham had finally produced a legitimate heir, whom they named Isaac. No longer needing a Plan B,