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Bi 108

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Assignment 4

Explain the following terms. Explain in detail which nations or people groups were developed during the various ages, i.e. bronze age. Explain what *Creatio ex nihilo* and the Levant have in common. Respond in at least one well-developed paragraph. One liners are not acceptable.

### 1. Neolithic Age

The Neolithic Age was considered 8000-4500 B.C. This period was focused on because it was the first real evidence of occupied villages in the Fertile Crescent. It brought rise to the hunter-gathers along the Tigris-Euphrates rivers, this was the first-time man produced agriculture. There is not much known about this era besides it having a community of dwellers, forms of agriculture and herding.

### 2. Chalcolithic Age

The Chalcolithic Age was dated around 4500-3000 B.C. This era developed various cultures around the Fertile Crescent. Many city-states were being built widespread and people were using copper extensively. There was a nation of non-Semitic, non-European people there that rose-up called the Sumerians. They created the first real observable culture along the Persian Gulf and Tigris-Euphrates river mouths. They became highly advanced and had great skill in pottery, art, and literature. By 4000 BC, other nations started to rise along the Nile River and in the Jordan Valley. Egypt rose up in this time as well and became a centralized power. It remained a stable civilization for some time and was able to travel outside of the Mesopotamian region. The Akkadians rose up and gave notice to Sargon the Great, His dynasty reached as far as Anatolia and the Mediterranean Sea. The Gutians moved in and took his reign then was replaced by the Urs.

### 3. The Bronze Age

The Bronze Age is broken down into two periods: The Early Bronze Age which was from 3000-2000 B.C. The Early Bronze Age brought advancing cultures in the Jordan Valley though at some point the historical information ceased due to the high amounts of northern and eastern seminomads and experienced a dark age. The Middle Bronze Age was from 2000-1800 B.C. The brought back a cultural rise. Civilizations became more complicated and everywhere besides Egypt experienced great movements of nomads everywhere.

### 4. The Levant

The term Levant is French for “to rise” or “rising”. The Levant is considered a large area in the Eastern Mediterranean. It sits between Anatolia, Egypt, and Mesopotamia. It is considered the crossroads of the Eastern Mediterranean, North Africa, and Western Asia. Southern Levant has

an extensive history and is considered the first-place humans lived outside Africa. It is investigated continuously by archeologists for its rich history dating back to the Neolithic Era. It is identified as the Syria-Palestine and Canaan region.

##### 5. *Creatio ex nihilo*

The *Creatio ex nihilo* is Latin for “creation from nothing” or “creation out of nothing”. It is a term referring to Genesis 1-2. This was the belief that all came, came from nothing by divine decree. This was contrary to the philosophical and theological debate that everything that exists must, in some way, have existed always. This rise of scientism brought forth various myths and debates centered around creation and God’s ruling powers.

The Levant and *Creatio ex nihilo* have in common the topic of creation. The Levant is considered a geographical region of many different civilizations that rose from nothing and either became powerful nations or nomadic people that lived everywhere. God was moving in many ways at that time and it seem the two terms are connected based on God’s creative powers.