

GPS: God's Positioning System

Reading the Bible through a Geographical Lens



Session 4

The People of God and the Land

Geography of Old Testament Israel

TRIBAL DISTRIBUTION

- ✘ If you could choose a tribe based on their land allotment, which would you choose?
- + What factors influence your choice?



TRIBAL DISTRIBUTION

Cf. Jacob's Blessing: Genesis 49!

- ✘ Reuben: ... unstable as water; no longer excel; defiled father's bed
- ✘ Simeon & Levi: cursed be their anger [Shechem incident]; divided & scattered
- ✘ Judah: brothers shall praise; scepter / ruler's staff [messianic references] not depart from Judah
- ✘ Zebulun: at shore of sea?
- ✘ Issachar: good land; became a slave
- ✘ Dan: judge and snake
- ✘ Gad: raiders and raided
- ✘ Asher: rich food
- ✘ Naphtali: doe with lovely fawns
- ✘ Joseph (>Ephraim & Manasseh) : fruitful bough; taut bow; greatest blessings
- ✘ Benjamin: ravenous wolf



SETTLEMENT (~1200 BCE) PROMISE & REALITY

Extent of the Promised Land according to Numbers 34

Land occupied by Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh

Designated city of refuge



CEBA 4.12

Extent of the Promised Land according to Numbers 34

Land occupied by Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh

Designated city of refuge



CEBA 4-15

THE ERA OF THE JUDGES

The cyclical formula repeatedly recited in Judges:

1. Israel rebels (3:7, 12a; 4:1a; 6:1a; 10:6; 13:1a)
The Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD...
2. Israel is oppressed by outside powers (3:8; 3:12b; 4:2; 6:1b; 10:7; 13:1b)
3. Israel repents (3:9a; 3:15a; 4:3a; 6:7; 10:10)
4. God raises up a judge (3:9b; 3:15b; 4:6b; 6:14; 11:29)
5. Israel is delivered (3:10; 3:15b-29; 4:14-24; 7:19-8:21; 11:29-40)
6. Israel has a period of peace (3:11a; 3:30b; 5:31b; 8:28b; cf. 2:11-23)

JUDGES

1. **Othniel** (Judah; 3:7-11) vs. ??
2. **Ehud** (Benj.; 3:12-30) vs. **Moabites**
3. **Shamgar** (3:31, 5:6)
4. **Deborah** (Ephr.) & **Barak** (Naph.; 4-5) vs. **Canaanites**
5. **Gideon** (Man.; 6-8) vs. **Midianites & Amalekites**
6. ~**Abimelech** (9)
7. Minor Judges: **Tola** and **Jair** (10:1-5)
8. **Jephthah** (Man.; 10:6-12:7) vs. **Ammonites**
9. Minor Judges: **Ibzan**, **Elon** (Zeb.)
Abdon (Ephr.; 12:8-15)
10. **Samson** (Dan; 13-16) vs. **Philistines**

Who are these enemies?

- **Moabites** and **Ammonites** < Lot
- **Canaanites** < Ham < Noah
- **Midianites** < Abraham & 3rd wife Keturah
- **Amalekites** < Esau < Jacob
- **Philistines** < Egypt < Ham < Noah



TIME OF JUDGES

Judges 17

Micah: from hill country of Ephraim

Levite: from Bethlehem of Judah

v6: In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.

RELIGIOUSLY?

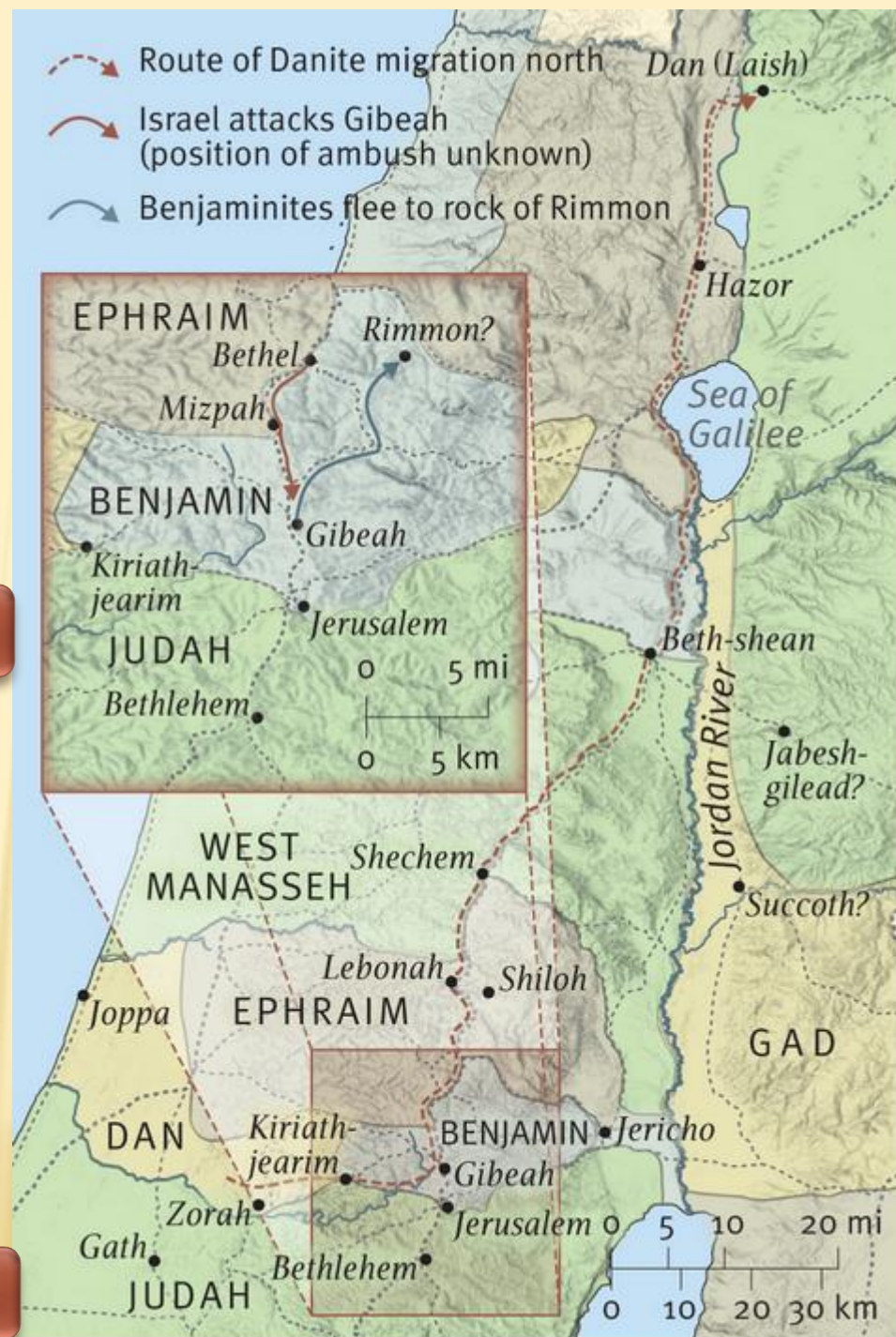
Judges 18

Migration of Danites

Judges 19

In those days, when there was no king in Israel, a certain Levite, residing in the remote parts of the hill country of Ephraim, took to himself a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah...

POLITICALLY?

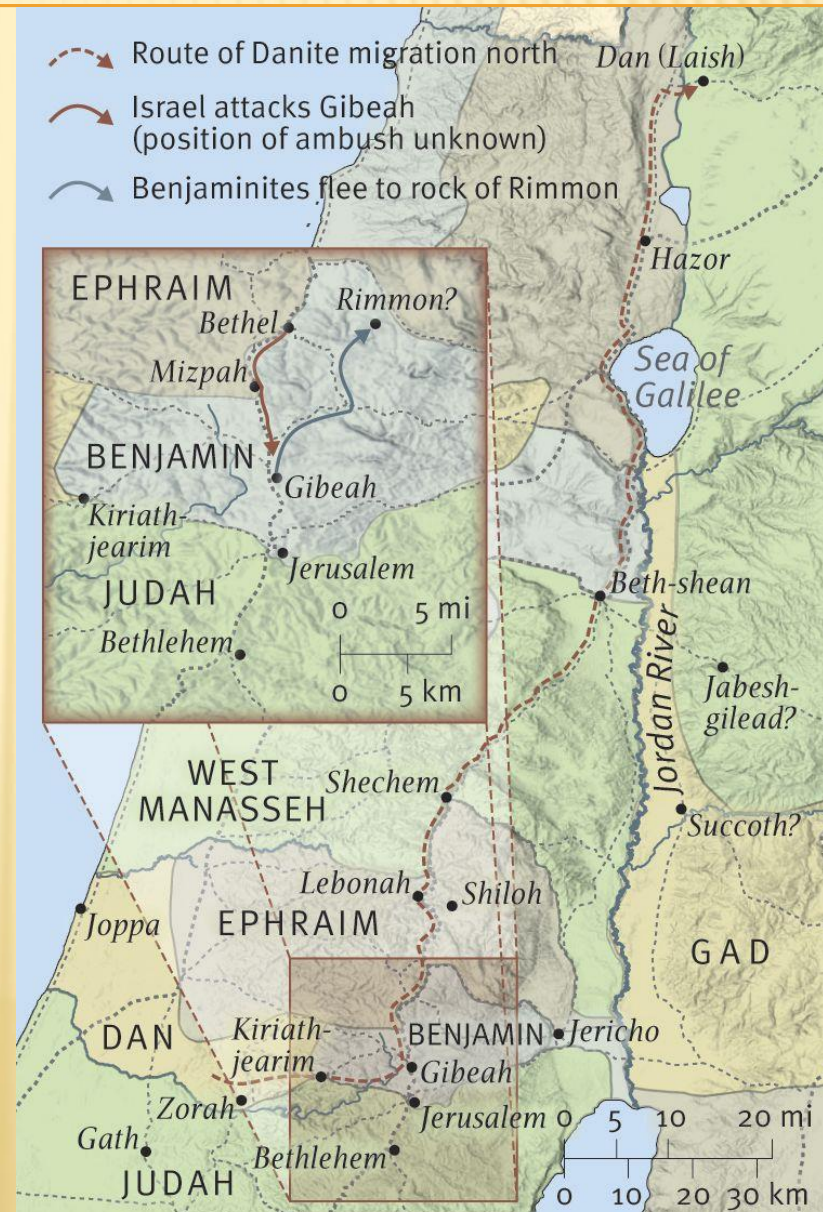


JUDGES 19-21

Levite and His Concubine

- Levite residing in Ephraim; his concubine returns to her home in Bethlehem (Judah)
- Horrific crime by Benjaminites of Gibeah
- Concubine dismembered by Levite >>
- Near destruction of Benjaminites
- Wives 'provided' for 600 Benjaminites to preserve tribe

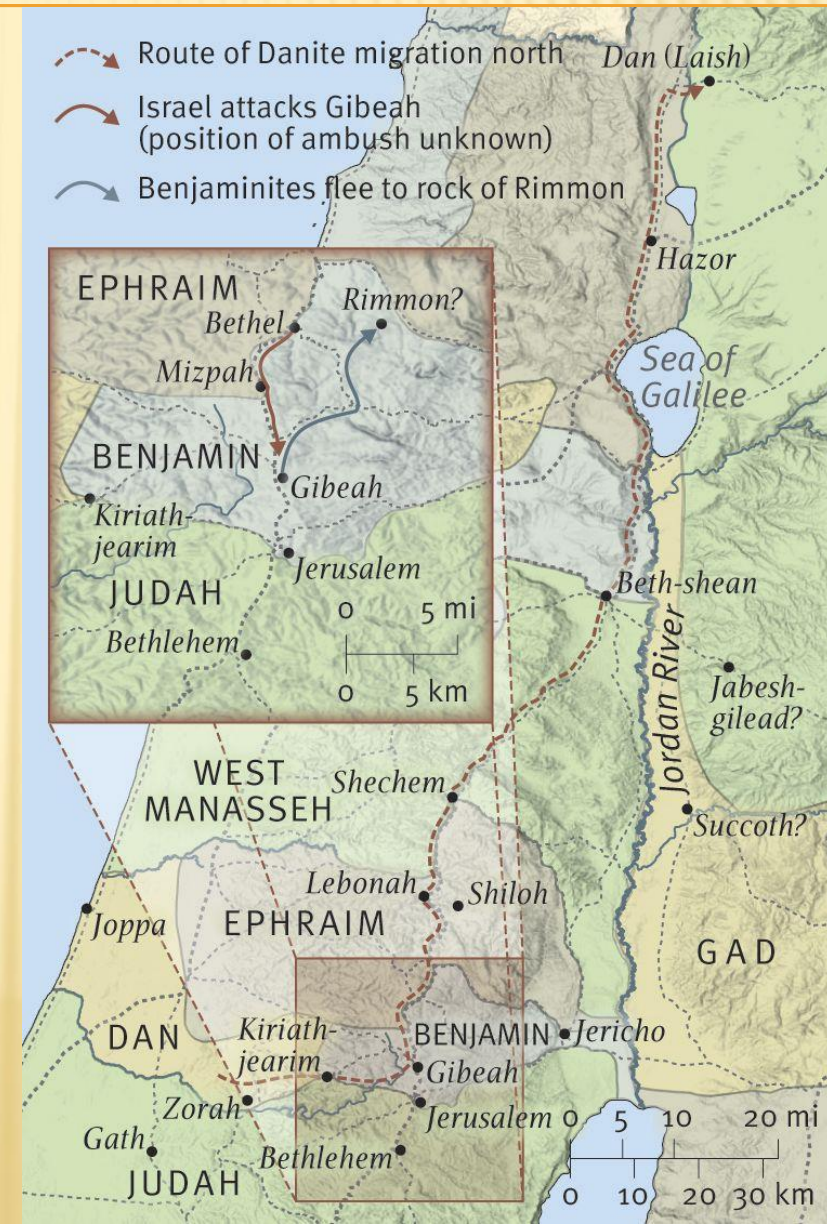
Jephthah's daughter and the Levite's concubine are among what Phyllis Trible calls "Texts of Terror"



JUDGES 19-21

21:25:

In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.



RUTH

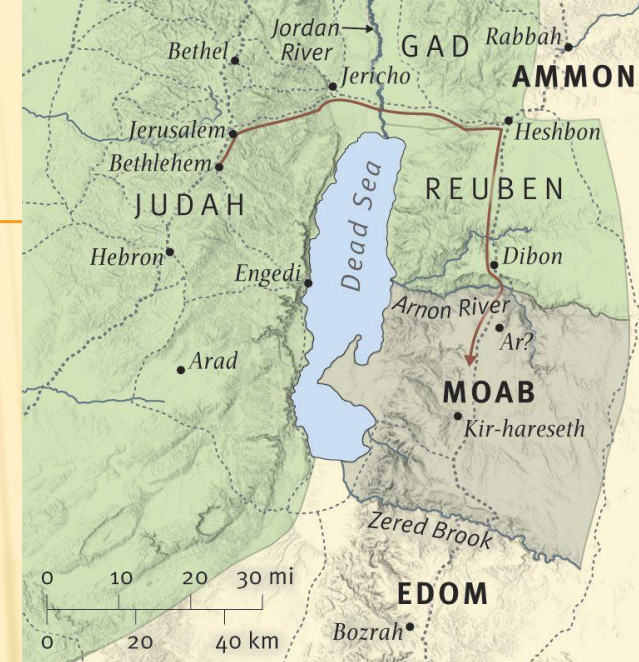
CEBA 4.23

1.1: In the days when the **judges** ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons.

4.14ff: Then the women said to Naomi,
"Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him."
Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying,
"A son has been born to Naomi."

Wait! The baby was Ruth's not Naomi's! What's going on?

They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.



RUTH

EXCURSUS: The Moabite Problem...

1.1: In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons... the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. **These took Moabite wives; [Orpah and Ruth]**

4.17-22: "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David. ... Now these are the descendants of Perez: ... ²¹ Salmon father of Boaz, **Boaz of Obed**, Obed of Jesse, and Jesse of David.

*Matthew 1.5f: ... and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and **Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth**, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David*

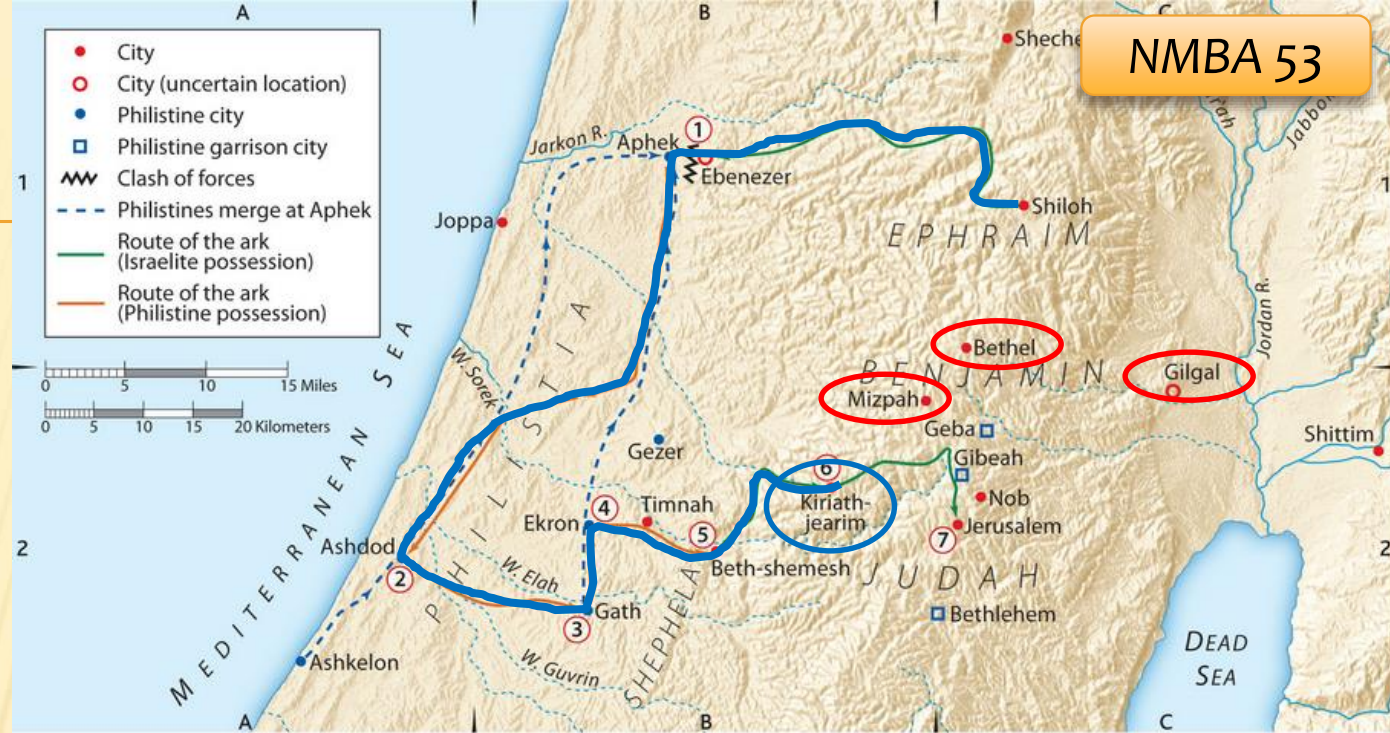
Deuteronomy 23.3f
No Ammonite or Moabite shall be admitted to the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of their descendants shall be admitted to the assembly of the LORD, because they did not meet you with food and water on your journey out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam son of Beor, from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.

How can David, descended from the Moabite Ruth, be king of Israel?

- "Born to Naomi"
- Son of Boaz
- Oral Torah: Moabite men

SAMUEL

- **Follow the Ark!**
- In Shiloh before Eli sent into battle
- Ark ends up in **Kiriath-Jeraim** (Benjaminite)
- Samuel was Ephraimite
- Samuel judging in **Benjaminite** area



1 Samuel

7.15f: Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. He went on a circuit year by year to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah; and he judged Israel in all these places.

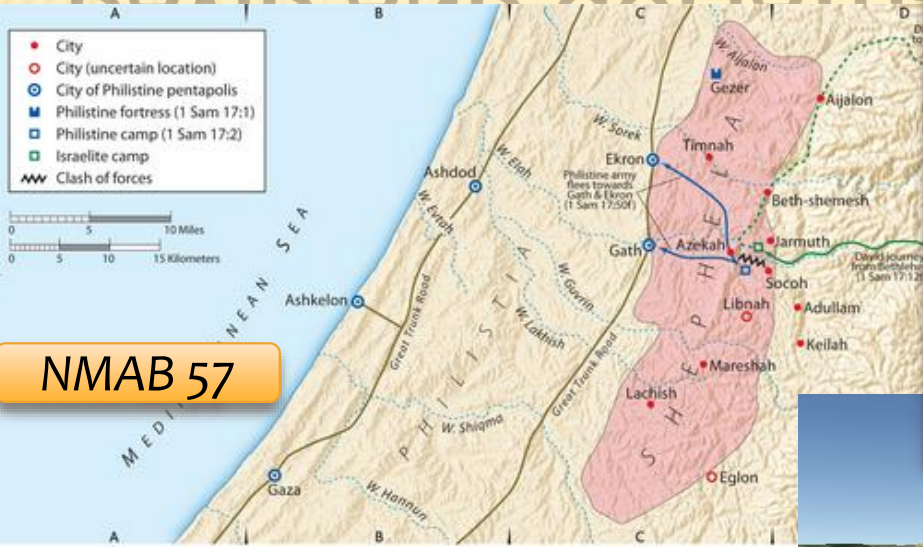
8.1ff: Samuel's sons "perverted justice" >> People say: "Give us a king to govern us."

Samuel prayed to the LORD, and the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them..."

Read 1 Sam
8.10-20

DAVID AND GOLIATH: 1 SAMUEL 17

Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. Saul and the Israelites gathered and encamped in the valley of Elah, and formed ranks against the Philistines. The Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them.



NMAB 57



Valley of Elah



Image © 2013 DigitalGlobe
Image Landsat

Google earth

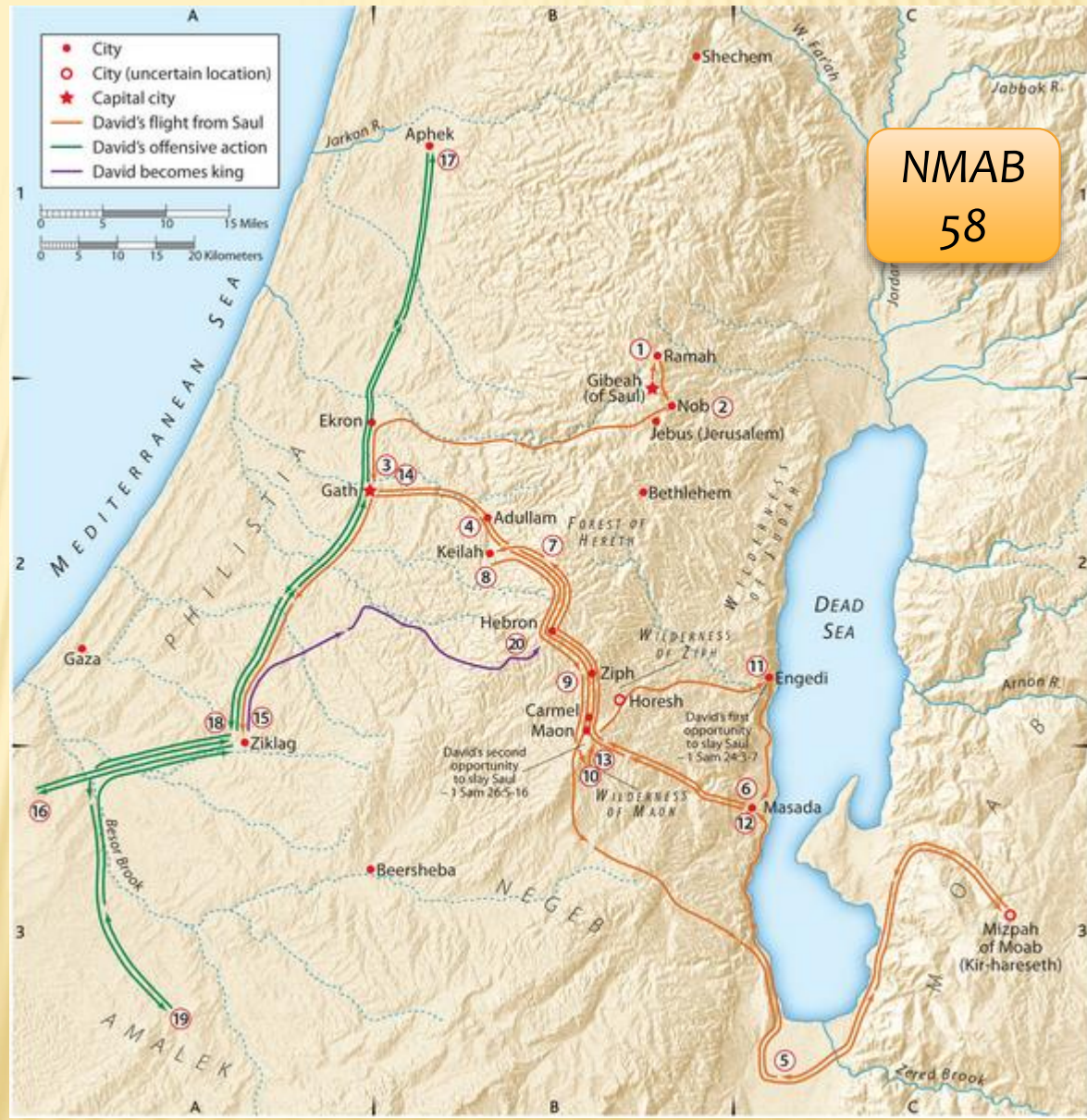
DAVID THE FUGITIVE: 1 SAMUEL 19-30

"Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands." 1 Sam 18.7

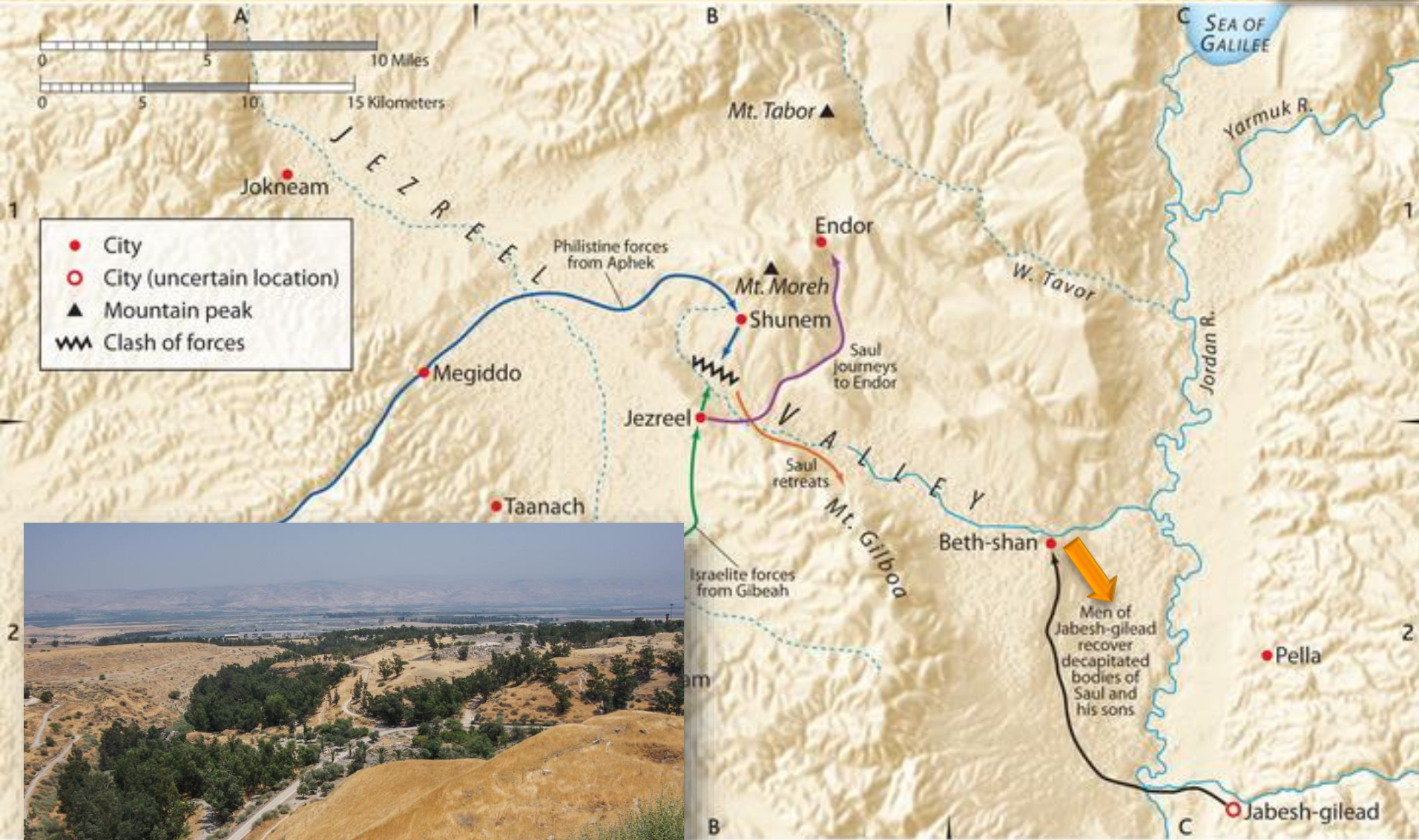


En Gedi (1Sam 23.29)

Why did David go to Philistines?
To Moab?



SAUL AND THE BATTLE OF MT. GILBOA



AFTER SAUL... 2 SAMUEL 2-6

- Ish-bosheth* made king at Mahanaim (in Gilead)
 - General Abner
- David anointed king at Hebron (2Sam 2) – General Joab
- 7+ year battle
- David conquers Jebus > Jerusalem
- Brings Ark to Jerusalem

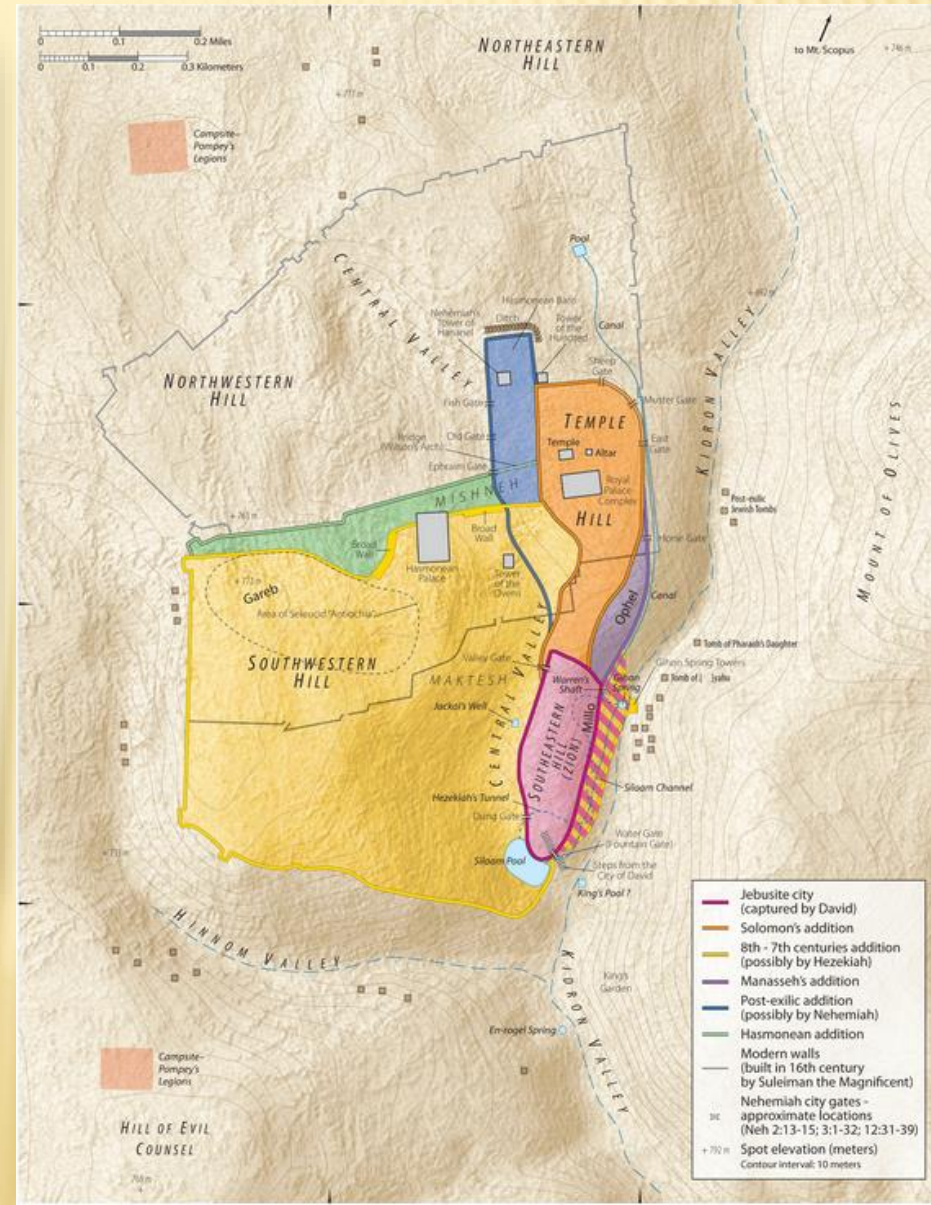
*Hebrew text says Ish-bosheth = “man of shame,” but this probably means originally his name was Ishbaal



JERUSALEM: THE CITY OF DAVID



Tel Dan Inscription (pre-733 BCE)
... BYTDWD > House of David



Jerusalem in the Time of David (1010-970 B.C.E)

The top of Mount Moriah, called **The Rock** (Arabic "Sakhra"), is now visible inside the Islamic Dome of the Rock. King Solomon built the Most Holy Place (or Holy of Holies) of the temple on this rock (cf. 2 Chron. 3:1).

Araunah's threshing floor, located on the top of Mount Moriah, was the place where David built an altar to God. According to Jewish tradition, it is the same place where Abraham built an altar to sacrifice his son Isaac (see Gen. 22:2; 2 Chron. 3:1).

Mount Moriah is the name of the hilltop north of the city of David. It is part of the same Eastern Hill of Jerusalem on which David built his city. This hill is first mentioned in the book of Genesis as the place where Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:2).

David's Palace was built on the ruins of the Jebusite Citadel. The excavated "Stepped Stone Structure" supported this building on the east.

Western Hill

Eastern Hill

Central Valley
(later: Tyropoeon Valley)

Valley Gate

"Stepped Stone Structure"

Kidron Valley

Gates

Pool (receives water from Gihon Spring)

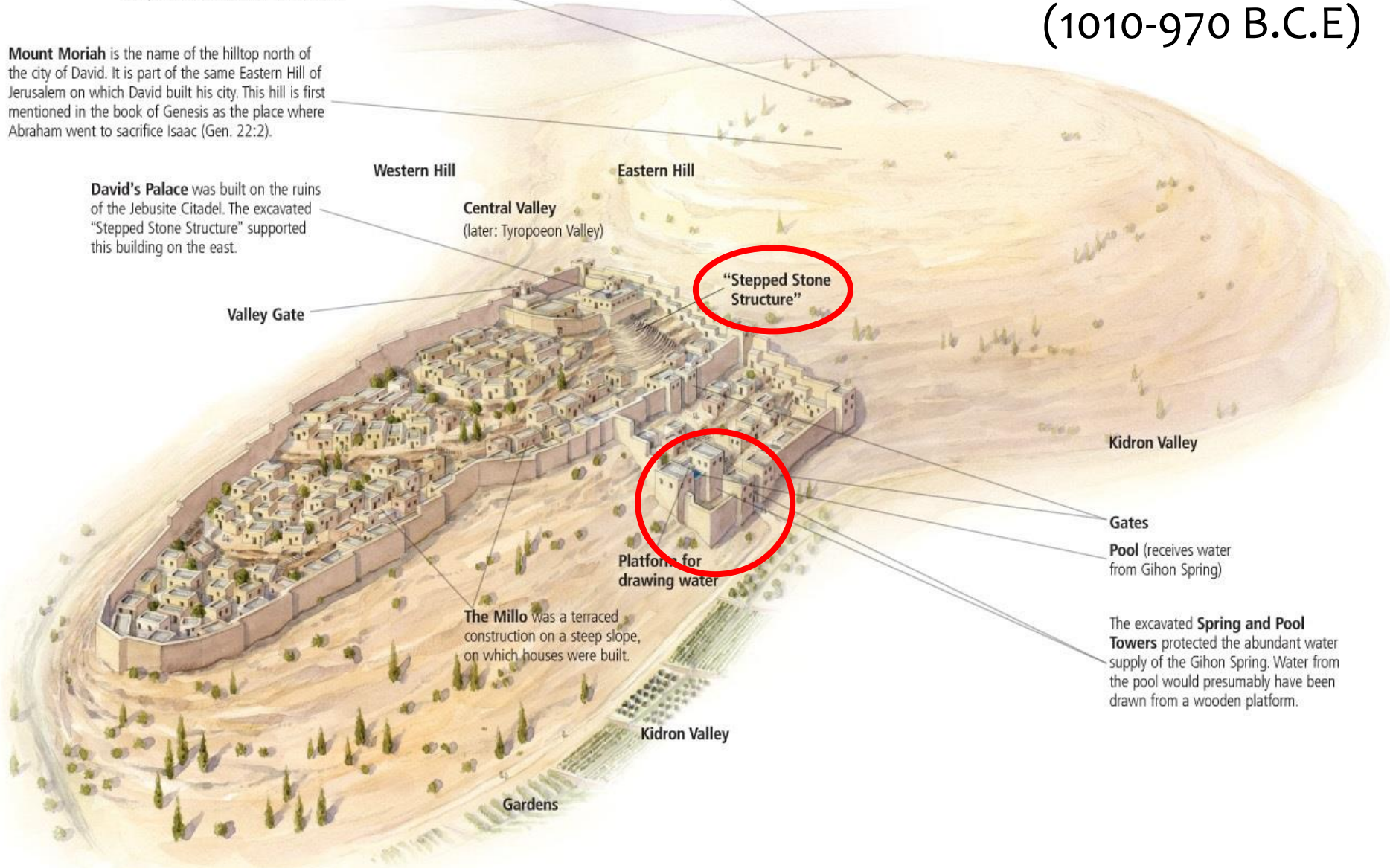
Platform for drawing water

The Millo was a terraced construction on a steep slope, on which houses were built.

The excavated **Spring and Pool Towers** protected the abundant water supply of the Gihon Spring. Water from the pool would presumably have been drawn from a wooden platform.

Kidron Valley

Gardens



SAUL'S KINGDOM DAVID'S DILEMMA

CEBA 5.8

If you were David put in charge of what has been a divided kingdom, what political, economic, and religious goals would you have?



SAUL'S KINGDOM DAVID'S DILEMMA

CEBA 5.8

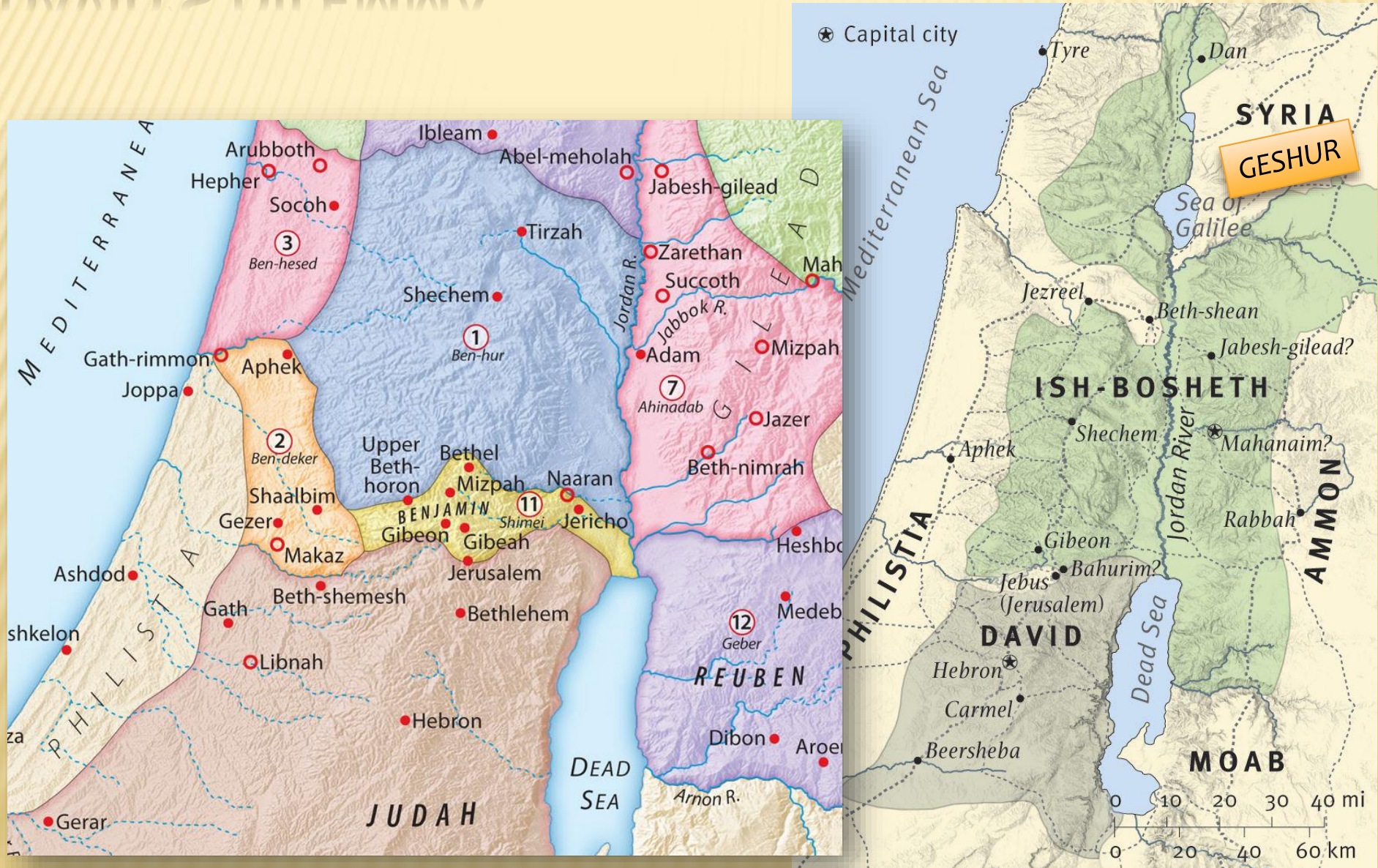
Given Israel's background,
what might David do
politically to unite the
nation?

*Where do you locate your capital?
Which enemies do you fight?
With whom do you ally?*



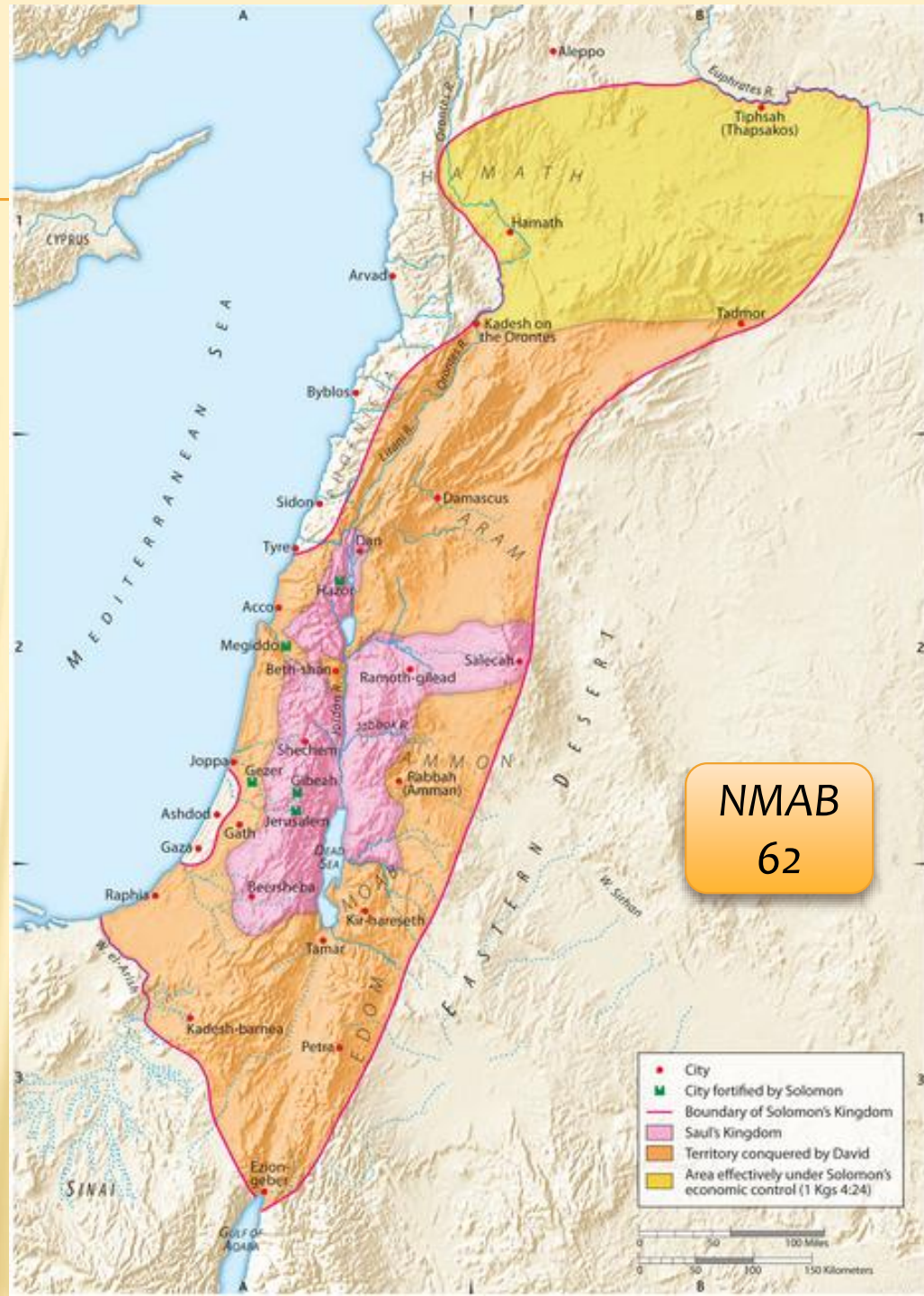
SAUL'S KINGDOM DAVID'S DILEMMA

CEBA 5.8



SAUL'S KINGDOM DAVID'S DILEMMA SOLOMON'S GOAL

What might David and later Solomon do **economically** to strengthen the nation?



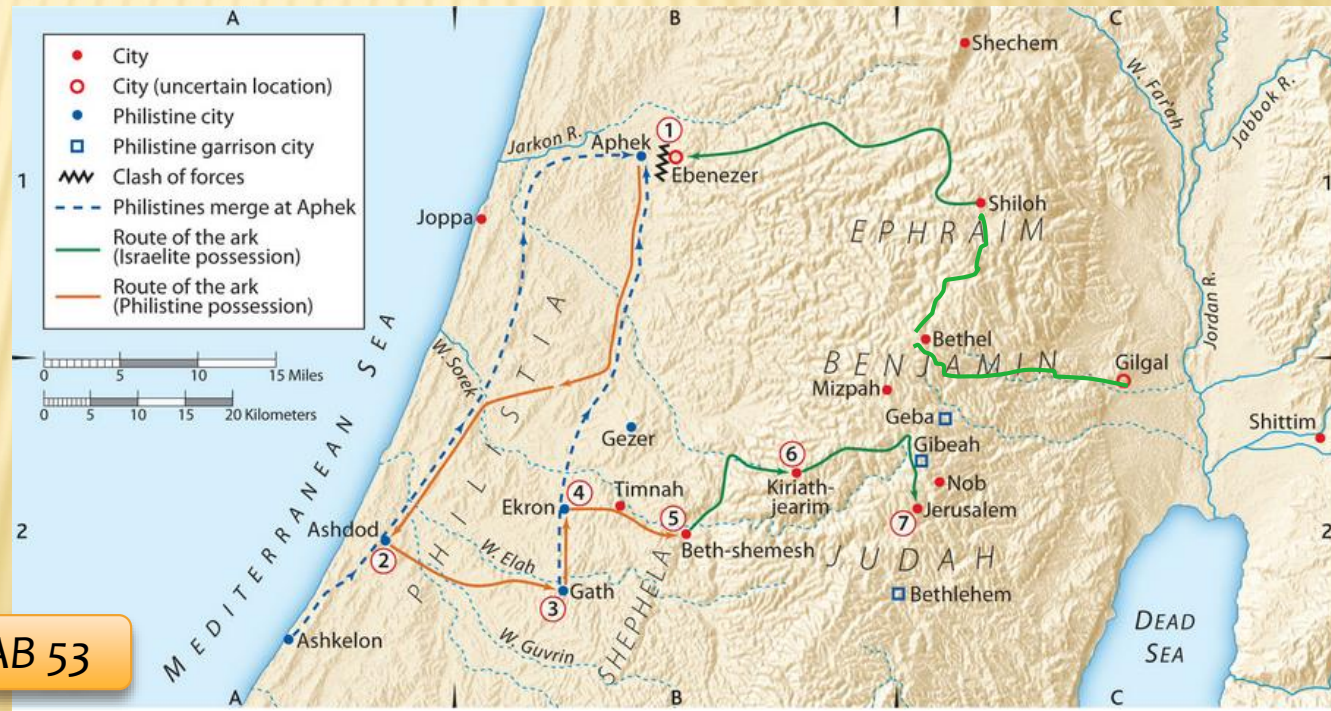
THE ARK OF THE COVENANT OF YHWH

Religiously, what can David do to unite the nation?

NOTE: After bringing the Ark into land, it apparently moved between Gilgal, Bethel, and Shiloh, all in **Ephraimite** land.

After it was returned by Philistines, it languished in Kiriath-jearim (Ben.) until David 'found' it and brings to Jerusalem. (Except for 1 Sam 14.18 when Saul brought it along in battle.)

Saul was a **Benjaminite**. David was a **Judahite**.



SOLOMON'S DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION

Solomon's staff: 1 Kings 4

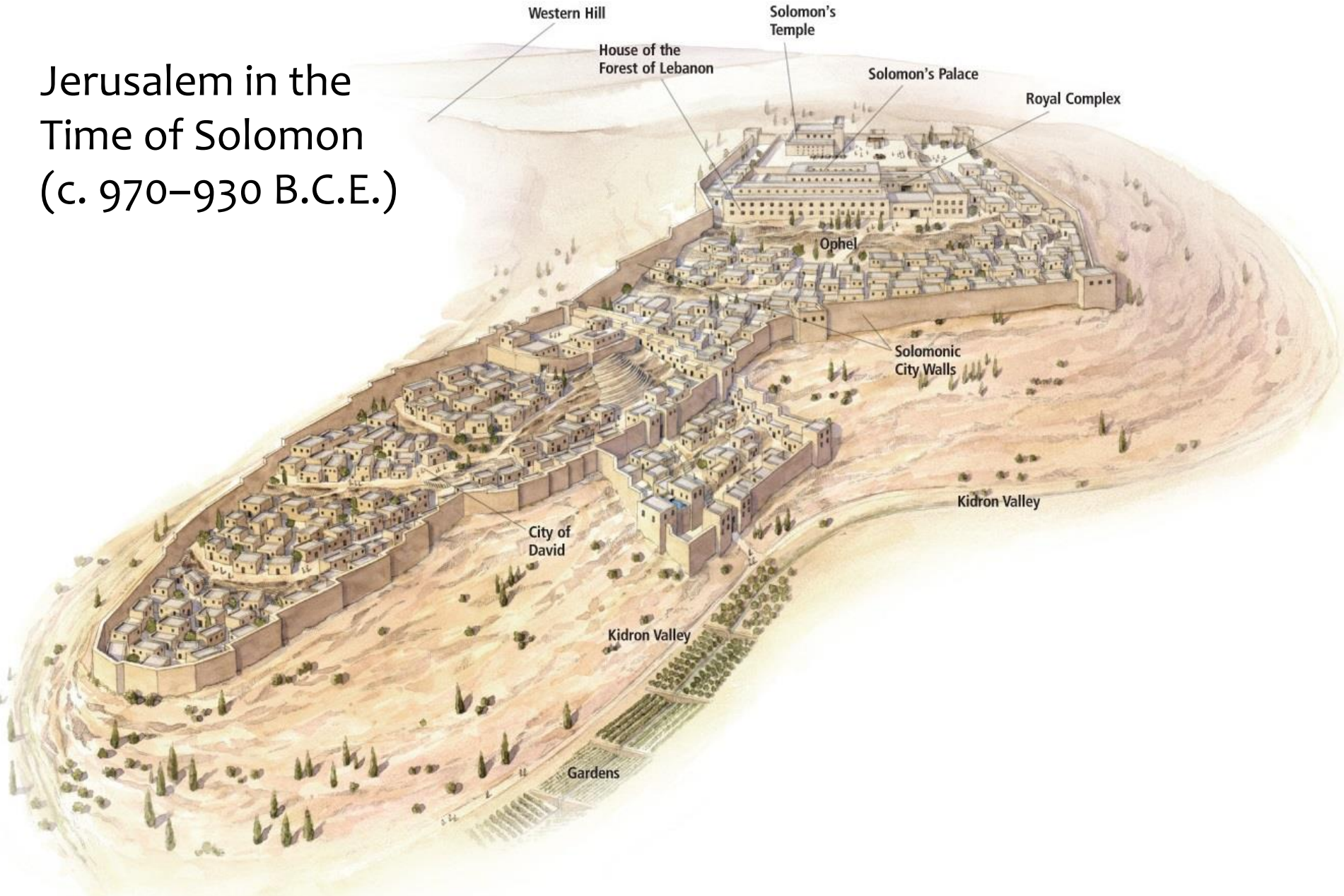
- Chief Priest
- 2 Secretaries and a Recorder
- Comander of the Army
- 2 Priests
- Chief of Staff
- Personal Priest / Advisor
- Overseer of Palace
- Overseer of Forced Labor
- 12 Overseers of Provisions

- 40,000 horses and 12,000 horsemen

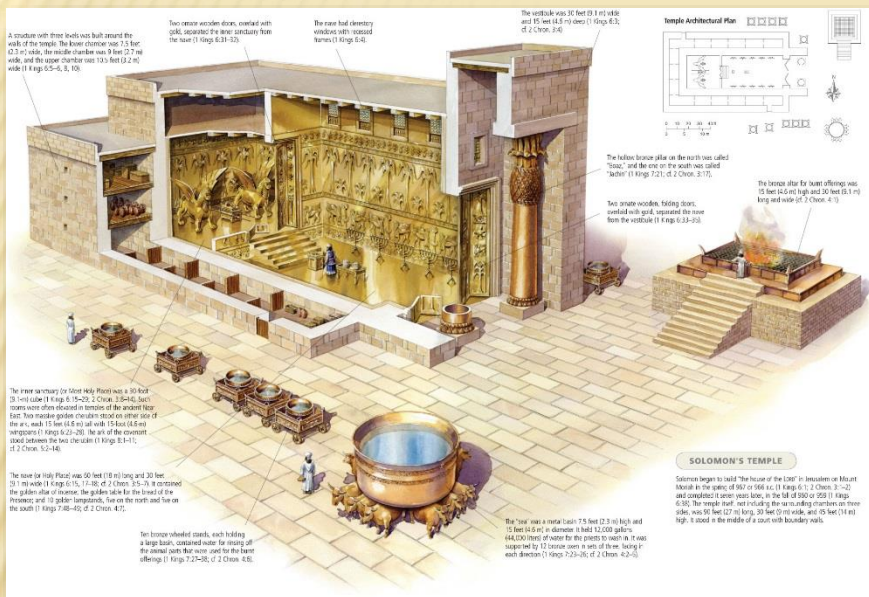
- Conscripted laborers:
30,000 (forced labor) + 70,000 +
80,000 stonecutters +
3300 supervisors



Jerusalem in the Time of Solomon (c. 970–930 B.C.E.)



SOLOMON'S BUILDINGS



^ Hazor

< Megiddo

Arad >

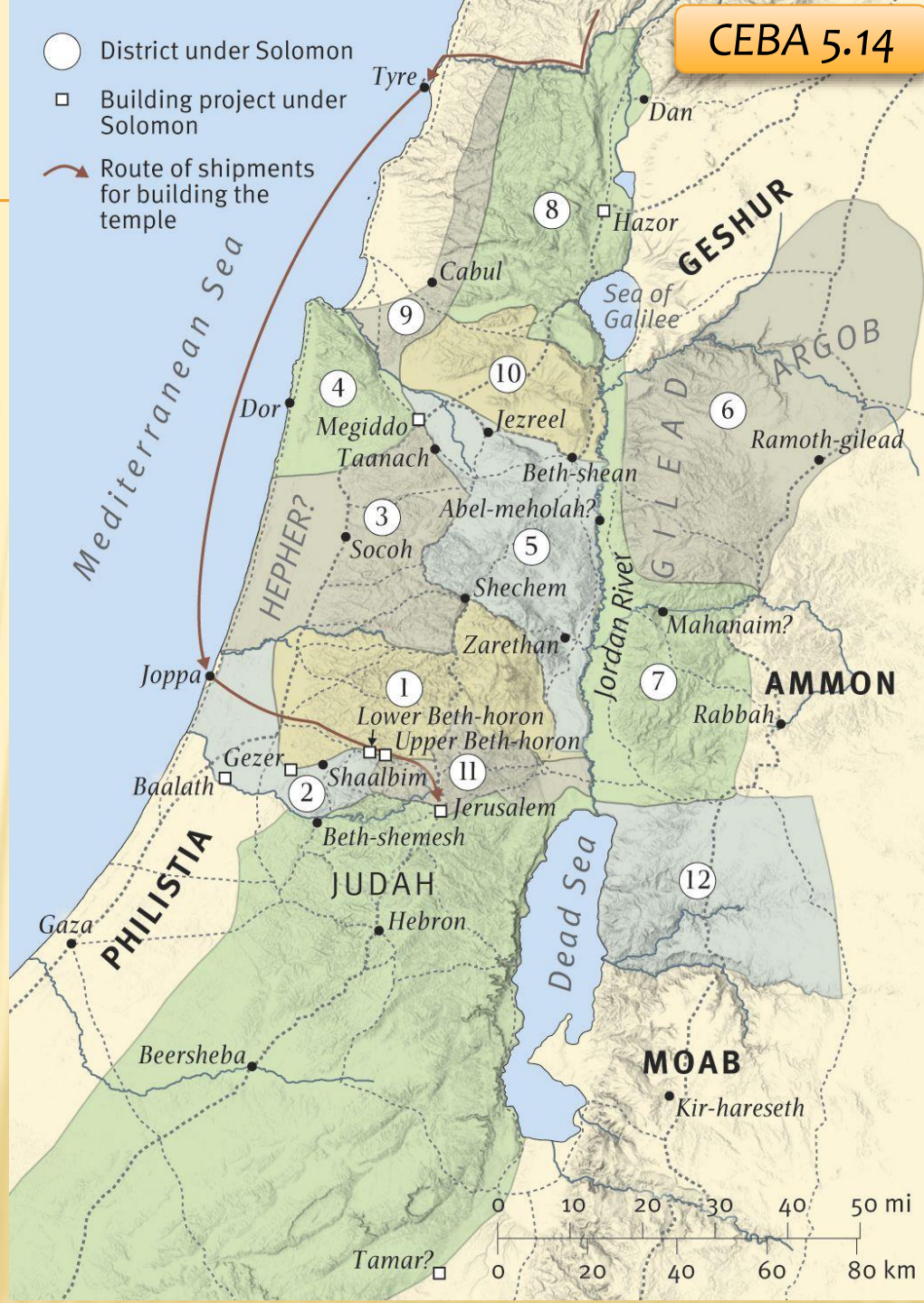
SOLOMON'S KINGDOM

1 Kings 4.25

During Solomon's lifetime Judah and Israel lived in safety, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all of them under their vines and fig trees.

What can possibly go wrong?

Cf. 1 Kings 11-12



SOLOMON'S DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION

Solomon's staff: 1 Kings 4

- Chief Priest
- 2 Secretaries and a Recorder
- Comander of the Army
- 2 Priests
- Chief of Staff
- Personal Priest / Advisor
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- 40,000 horses and 12,000 horsemen

- Conscripted laborers:
30,000 (forced labor) + 70,000 +
80,000 stonecutters +
3300 supervisors



SOLOMON'S KINGDOM

1 Kings 11-12

King Solomon loved many foreign women... When Solomon was old, his wives turned away his heart after other gods... Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites, **on the mountain east of Jerusalem.**

What mountain?

Augusta Victoria



Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, "Since this has been your mind and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and give it to your servant. Yet for the sake of your father David I will not do it in your lifetime; I will tear it out of the hand of your son. I will not, however, tear away the entire kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son, for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen." 1 Kings 11.11-13

TRIBAL DISTRIBUTION OF LANDS

According to Joshua 13-21

Prior to Solomon, where have the main centers of activity been?

- Beer She'ba (Judah)
- Hebron (Levite city in Judah)
- Bethel (Ephraim)
- Shiloh (Ephraim)
- Shechem / Samaria (Ephraim)
- Jerusalem (Judah)

Ephraim: Cf. Isa, Hosea: Ps 78.67f: The Lord rejected the tent of Joseph, he did not choose the tribe of Ephraim; but he chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which he loves.

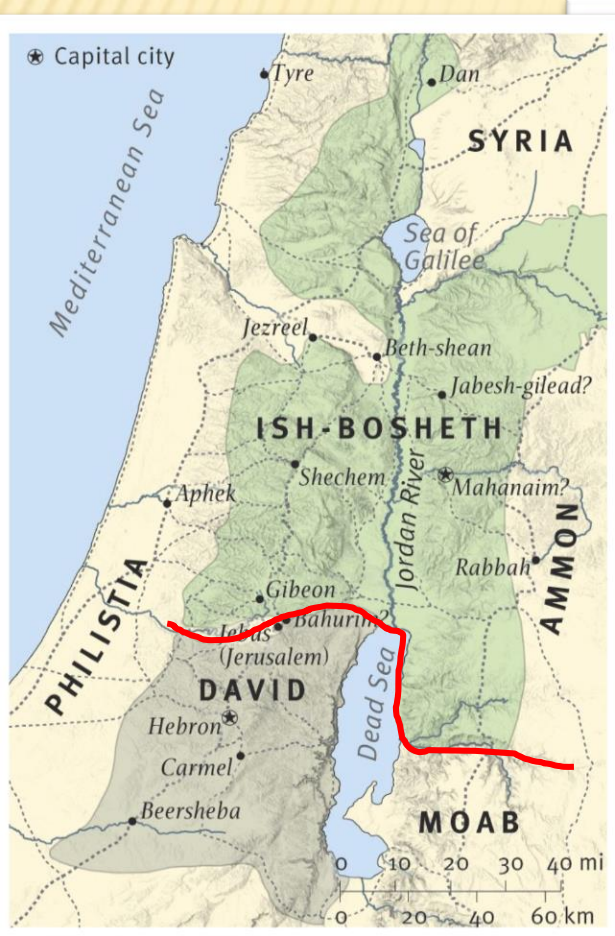


Note that the primary division in Israel's early history is between Ephraim and Judah. > Who is writing the history?

After the death of
Saul:
Ish-bosheth
<> David

Solomon's
Taxed and
Non-Taxed
Districts

After the death of
Solomon:
Israel <> Judah
Why did Benjamin
join with Judah?



CEBA 5.8



CEBA 5.14



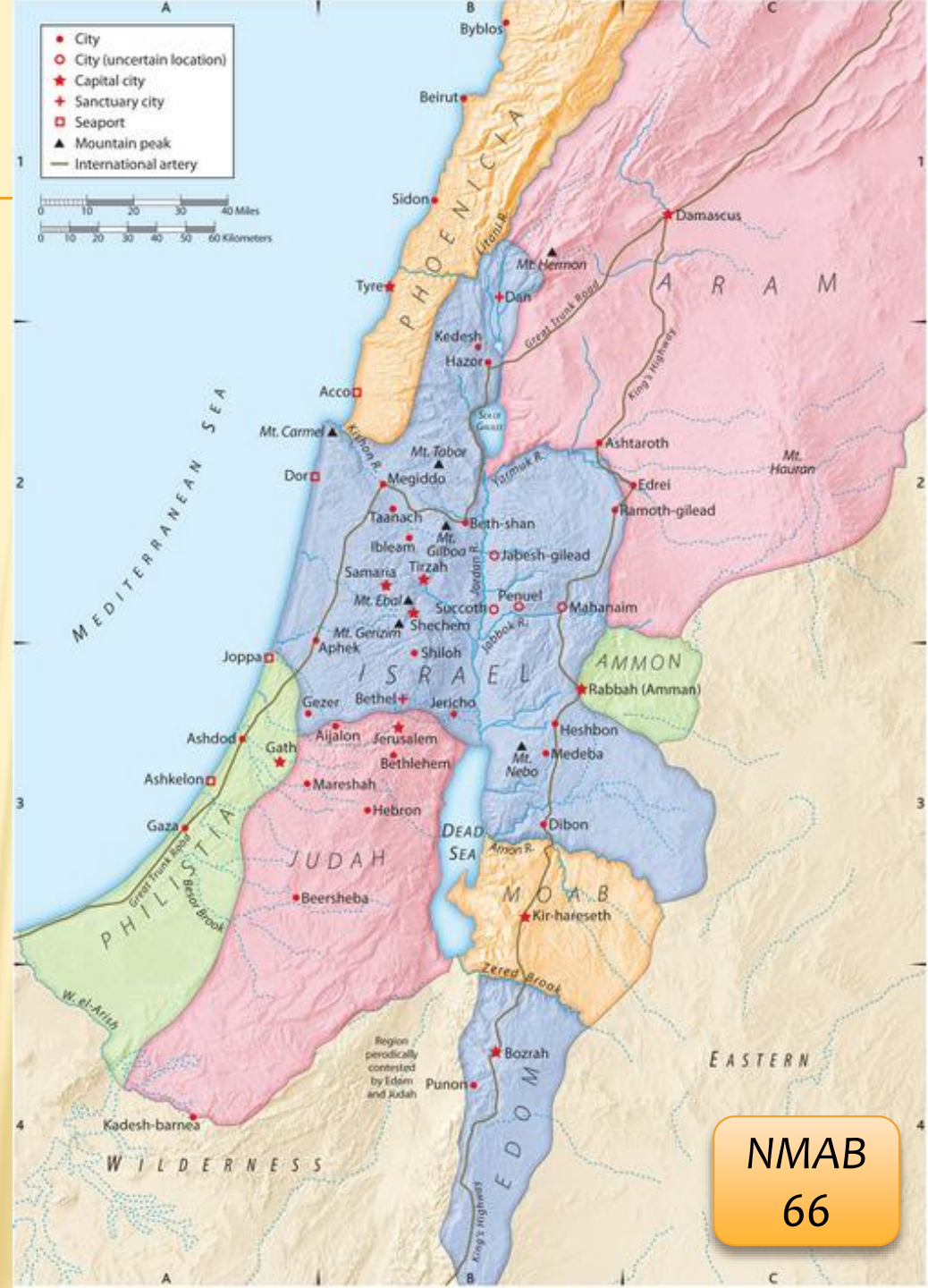
CEBA 6.2

DIVIDED MONARCHY

If you were an ambitious leader in Aram, Ammon, Moab, Edom, or Egypt...

- and the mighty Solomon has just died,
- and the Israelite kingdom is fracturing...

What might you think of doing?



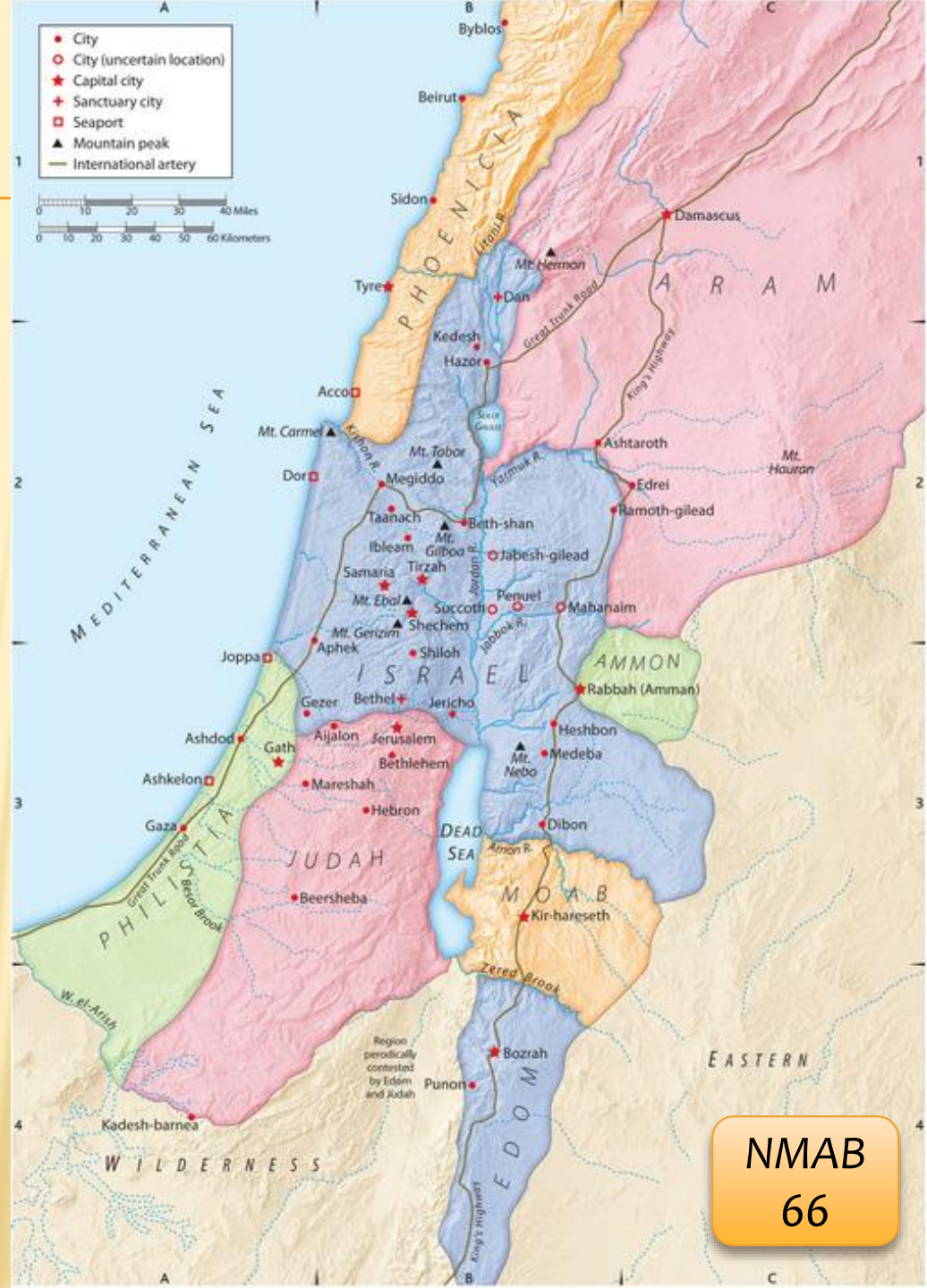
DIVIDED MONARCHY

Now what?! Religiously, economically, politically, geographically...

If you are King Rehoboam in Judah, what are you going to do?

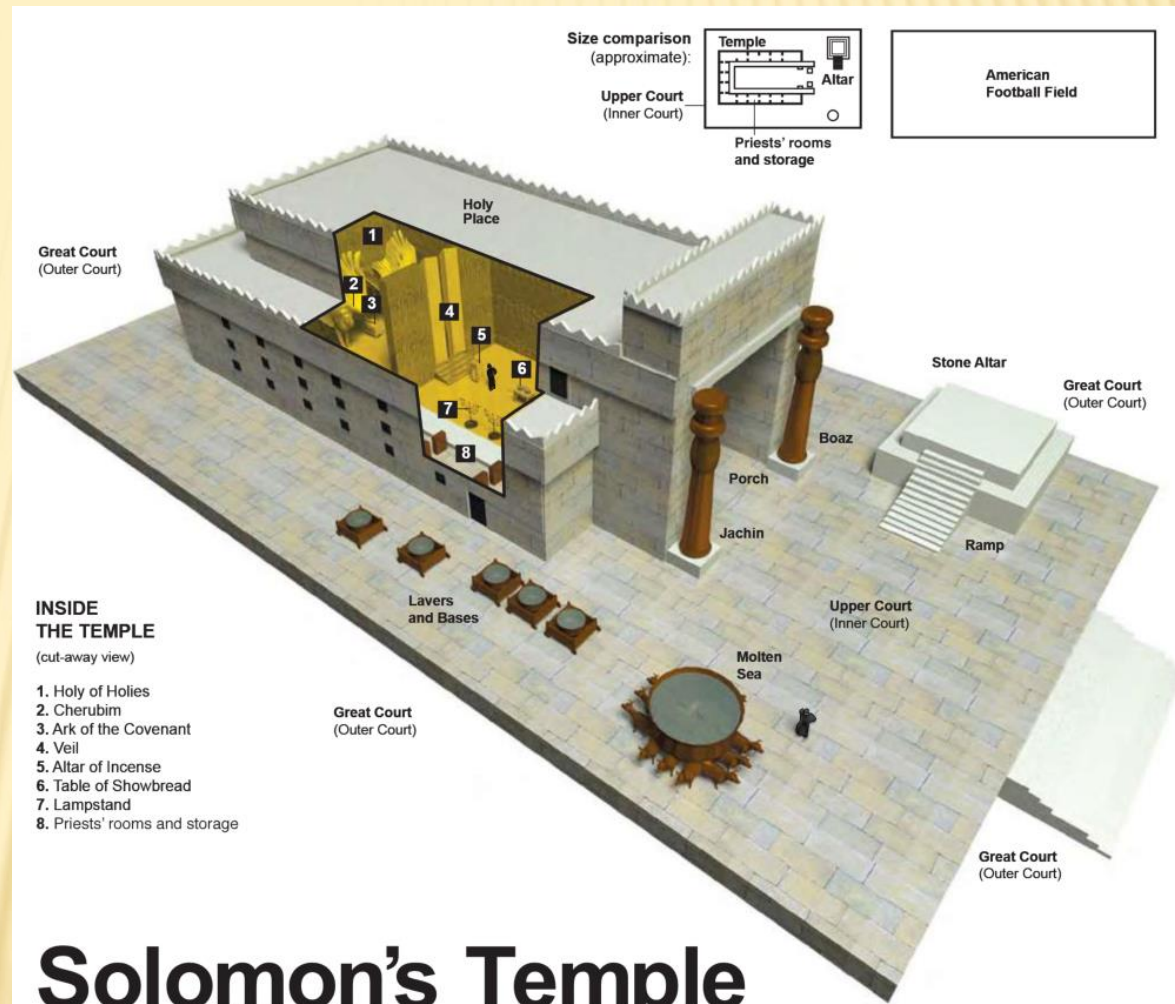
If you are King Jeroboam in Israel, what are you going to do?

Who has the better prospects?



RELIGION IN JUDAH

Temple and Ark of Covenant



INSIDE THE TEMPLE

(cut-away view)

1. Holy of Holies
2. Cherubim
3. Ark of the Covenant
4. Veil
5. Altar of Incense
6. Table of Showbread
7. Lampstand
8. Priests' rooms and storage

Solomon's Temple

The First Temple, erected by King Solomon, was built to replace the Tabernacle and house the Ark of the Covenant. The Temple was completed in 957 BC after seven years of labor, but it was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 BC.

THE ALTAR AT DAN



JUDAH vs ISRAEL

Jeroboam I (Isr) vs. **Abijah** (Jud) ~912

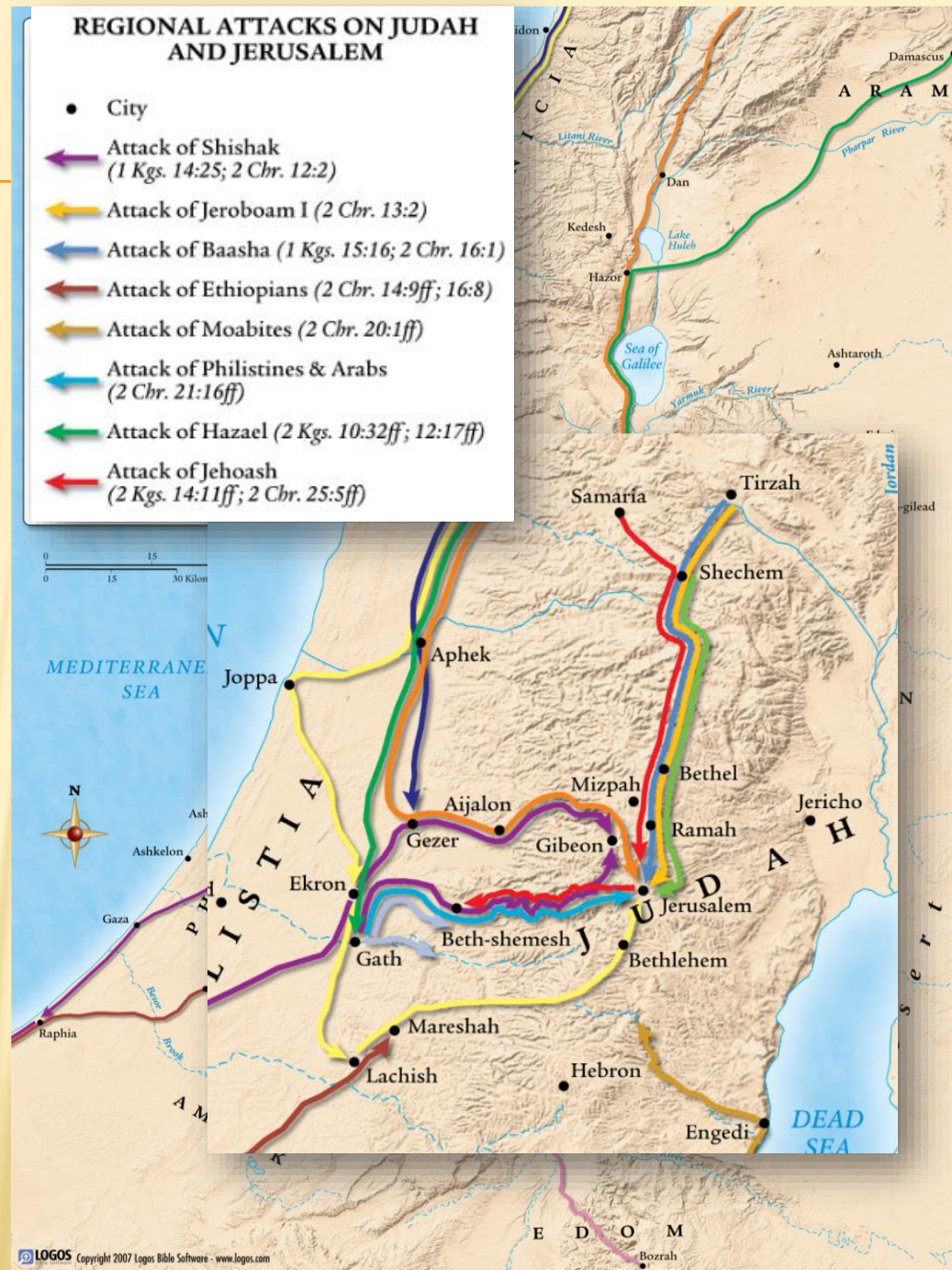
- J's failed ambush > Judah claims parts of southern Ephraim including Bethel
2 Chron 13.13ff.

Baasha (Isr) vs. Asa (Jud) ~875

- B. built Ramah barrier to Jerusalem; Asa bribes Ben-hadad of Aram to exert pressure on Isr
1 Kings 15.16ff.

Joash (Isr) vs. Amaziah (Jud) ~790

- Am. hires Isr soldiers (pays, dismisses); conquers Edom (but brings back their gods); challenges Joash > defeated at Beth-shemesh, Joash plunders Jerusalem
2 Chronicles 25



GOOD AND BAD KINGS

<http://www.Idolphin.org/kings.html>

Kings of Israel and Judah

Saul	1050-1010 BC
David	1010-970
Solomon	970-930

Judah (and Benjamin)				Israel (Ten Northern Tribes)					
King	Reign		Character	Prophets	King	Reign		Character	Prophets
1. Rehoboam	931-913	17 years	Bad	Shemaiah	1. Jeroboam I	931-910	22 years	Bad	Abijah
2. Abijah	913-911	3 years	Bad		2. Nadab	910-909	2 years	Bad	
3. Asa	911-870	41 years	Good		3. Baasha	909-886	24 years	Bad	
					4. Elah	886-885	2 years	Bad	
					5. Zimri	885	7 days	Bad	
					6. Omri	885-874*	12 years	Bad	Elijah Micaiah
4. Jehoshaphat	870-848*	25 years	Good		7. Ahab	874-853	22 years	Bad	
5. Jehoram	848-841*	8 years	Bad		8. Ahaziah	853-852	2 years	Bad	
6. Ahaziah	841	1 years	Bad		9. Joram	852-841	12 years	Bad	Elisha
7. Athaliah	841-835	6 years	Bad		10. Jehu	841-814	28 years	Bad	
8. Joash	835-796	40 years	Good	Joel	11. Jehoahaz	814-798	17 years	Bad	Jonah Amos Hosea
9. Amaziah	796-767	29 years	Good		12. Jehoash	798-782	16 years	Bad	
10. Uzziah (Azariah)	767-740*	52 years	Good	Isaiah Micah	13. Jeroboam II	782-753*	41 years	Bad	
11. Jotham	740-732*	16 years	Good		14. Zechariah	753-752	6 mo	Bad	
12. Ahaz	732-716	16 years	Bad		15. Shallum	752	1 mo	Bad	
13. Hezekiah	716-687	29 years	Good	Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah	16. Menahem	752-742	10 years	Bad	
14. Manasseh	687-642*	55 years	Bad/Repented		17. Pekahiah	742-740	2 years	Bad	
15. Amon	642-640	2 years	Bad		18. Pekah	740-732*	20 years	Bad	
16. Josiah	640-608	31 years	Good		19. Hoshea	732-712	9 years	Bad	
17. Jehoahaz	608	3 mo	Bad		722 BC Fall of Samaria to Assyria				
18. Jehoiakim	608-597	11 years	Bad	Daniel Ezekiel Jeremiah	* Co-regency				
19. Jehoiachin	597	3 mos	Bad						
20. Zedekiah	597-586	11 years	Bad						
Destruction of Jerusalem, 9th Av, 586 BC, Babylonian Captivity									

GOOD AND BAD KINGS: ISRAEL

<http://www.Idolphin.org/kings.html>

Israel (Ten Northern Tribes)					
King	Reign		Character	Prophets	
1. Jeroboam I	931-910	22 years	24	Bad	Abijah
2. Nadab	910-909	2 years			
3. Baasha	909-886	24 years	26	Bad	
4. Elah	886-885	2 years			
5. Zimri	885	7 days		Bad	
6. Omri	885-874*	12 years	48	Bad	Elijah Micaiah
7. Ahab	874-853	22 years			
8. Ahaziah	853-852	2 years			
9. Joram	852-841	12 years			
10. Jehu	841-814	28 years		Bad	
11. Jehoahaz	814-798	17 years	107	Bad	Jonah Amos Hosea
12. Jehoash	798-782	16 years			
13. Jeroboam II	782-753*	41 years			
14. Zechariah	753-752	6 mo			
15. Shallum	752	1 mo		Bad	
16. Menahem	752-742	10 years	12	Bad	
17. Pekahiah	742-740	2 years			
18. Pekah	740-732*	20 years		Bad	
19. Hoshea	732-712	9 years		Bad	
722 BC Fall of Samaria to Assyria					

GOOD AND BAD KINGS: JUDAH

<http://www.Idolphin.org/kings.html>

All these kings* from the line of David and Solomon

*Athaliah
Daughter of Omri =
Sister of Ahab;
Wife of Jehoram;
Mother of Ahaziah

Judah (and Benjamin)				
King	Reign		Character	Prophets
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5. Jehoram	848-841*	8 years	Bad	
6. Ahaziah	841	1 years	Bad	
7. Athaliah	841-835	6 years	Bad	
8. Joash	835-796	40 years	Good	Joel
9. Amaziah	796-767	29 years	Good	
10. Uzziah (Azariah)	767-740*	52 years	Good	
11. Jotham	740-732*	16 years	Good	1 st Isaiah Micah
12. Ahaz	732-716	16 years	Bad	
13. Hezekiah	716-687	29 years	Good	
14. Manasseh	687-642*	55 years	Bad/Repented	
15. Amon	642-640	2 years	Bad	Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah
16. Josiah	640-608	31 years	Good	
17. Jehoahaz	608	3 mo	Bad	
18. Jehoiakim	608-597	11 years	Bad	Daniel
19. Jehoiachin	597	3 mos	Bad	Ezekiel
20. Zedekiah	597-586	11 years	Bad	Jeremiah

Destruction of Jerusalem, 9th Av, 586 BC, Babylonian Captivity

GOOD AND BAD KINGS: JUDAH

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Daughter of Omri = Sister of Ahab;
Wife of Jehoram;
Mother of Ahaziah

King
1. Rehoboam
2. Abijah
3. Asa
4. Jehoshaphat
5. Jehoram
6. Ahaziah
7. Athaliah
8. Joash
9. Amaziah
10. Uzziah (Azariah)
11. Jotham
12. Ahaz
13. Hezekiah
14. Manasseh
15. Amon
16. Josiah
17. Jehoahaz
18. Jehoiakim
19. Jehoiachin
20. Zedekiah

Matthew 1.6-11

David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph [=Asa], and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram [=Jehoram], and Joram the father of

Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos [=Amon], and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of

Jechoniah [=Jehoiachin] and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

Note that in Luke 3, the genealogy does not go through Solomon and only matches again after Exile with Shealtiel/Salathiel > Zerubbabel before diverging again.

ISRAEL'S PROPHETS

- Elijah
- Elisha
- Jonah
- Amos (from Judah ~750)
- Hosea

JUDAH'S PROPHETS

- Joel (Jerus.)
- Isaiah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Jeremiah (~627-550; Baruch)
- Ezekiel (> 597 Exile)
- Daniel (> 586 Exile)



GETTING THE BIG PICTURE

Mycenaean Greece: 1600-1100 BCE

Hittites: (~2500-) 1650-1180 BCE

Lydia: 1200-546 BCE

Trojan War
~1200?

The rapid demise of the Assyrians at the hand of the ascendant Babylonians meant that ...

Egypt: 2800 BCE >

Hyksos: ~1700-1550 BCE

Exodus: ~1200s BCE

Sumerians: 3500-1800 BCE

Akkadians: ~2400-2100 BCE

Amorites: ~2100-1500 BCE

Assyrians: (2500-) ~1300-605 BCE

Fall of Israel/Samaria 722 BCE

Babylonians: (1900-) 1750

[Hammurabi]-1650(-911)-620-539

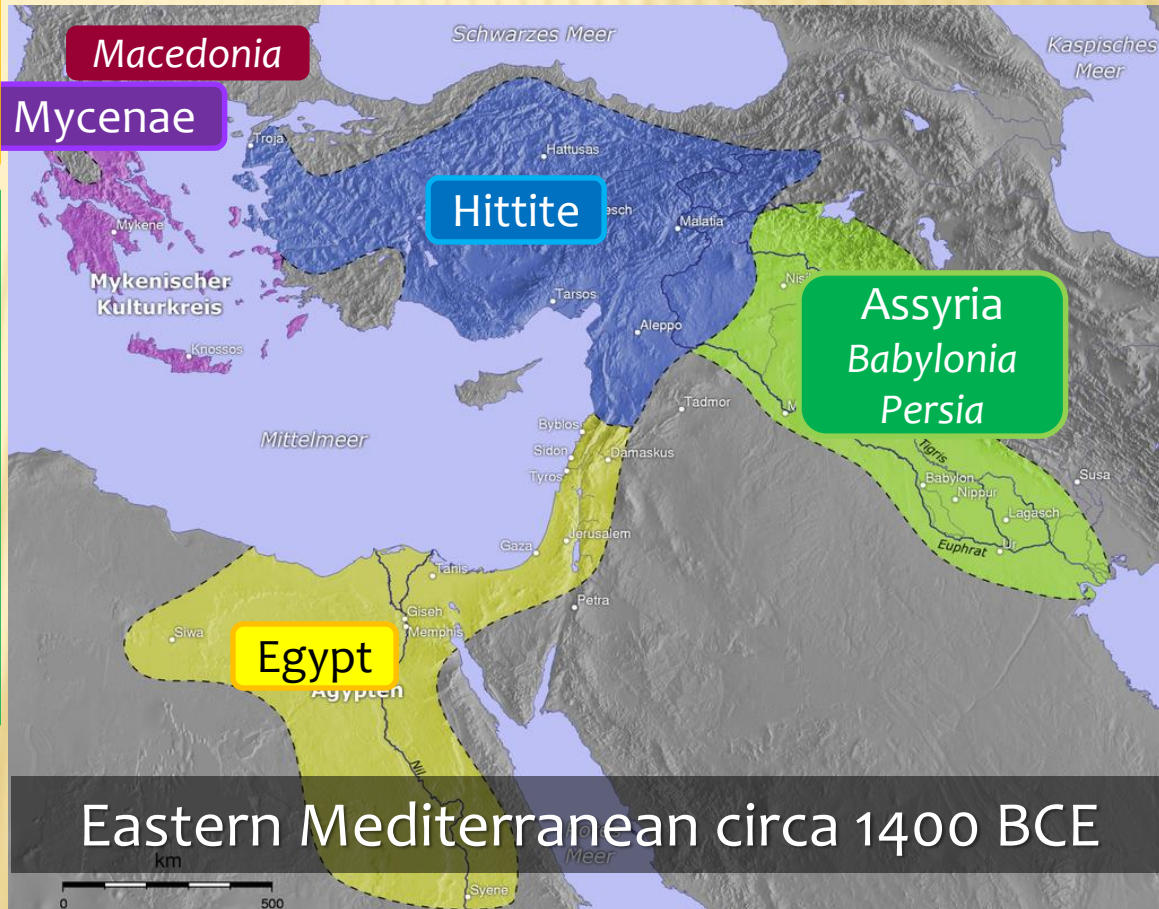
Fall of Judah/Babyl.Exile 587

Persian: 550-330 BCE

Macedonian/Greek/Hellenistic:

332 – 37 BCE

Roman: 37 BCE - 324 CE



Eastern Mediterranean circa 1400 BCE

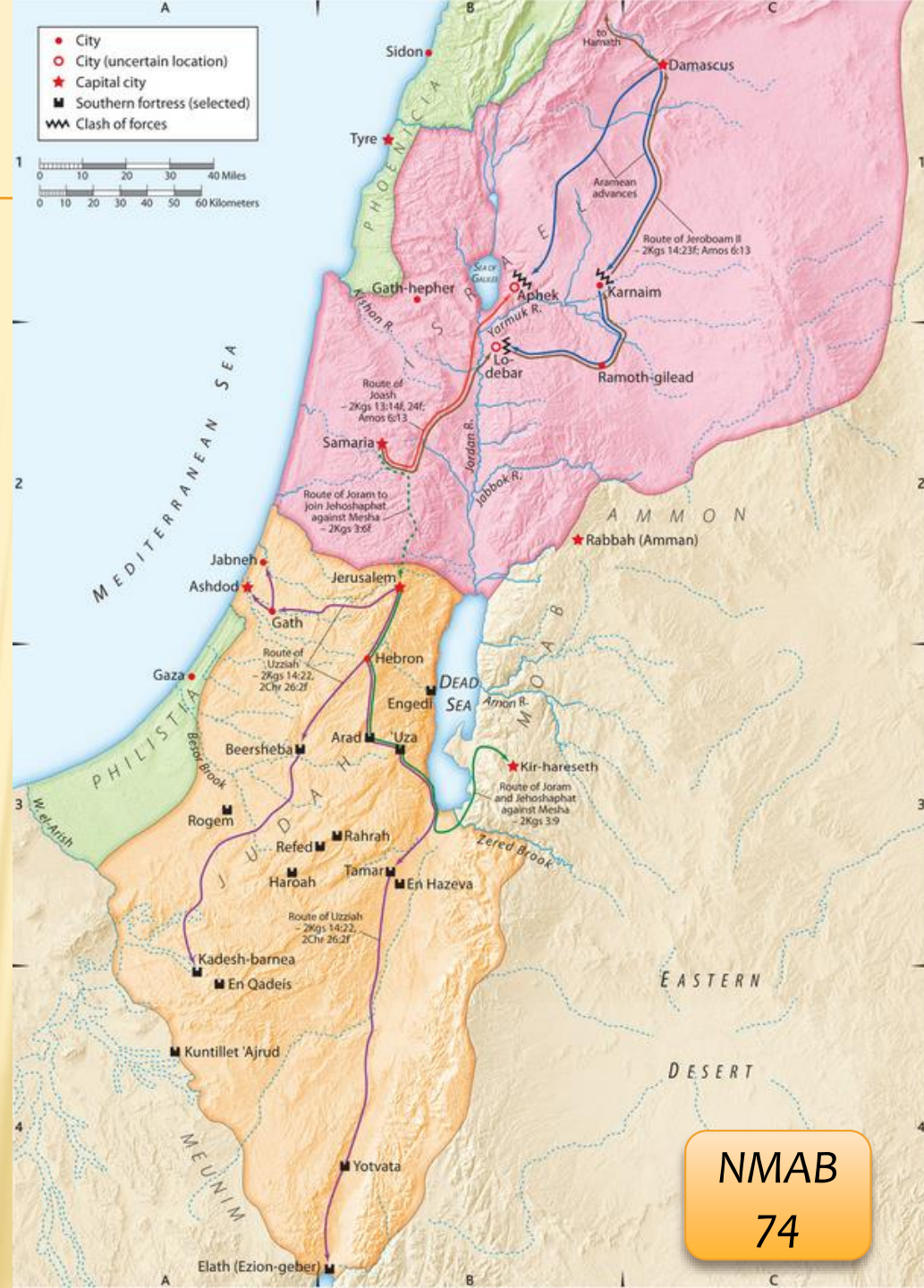
'RENAISSANCE'

ISRAEL: Under Jeroboam II
([793-] 782-753)

JUDAH: Under Uzziah/Azariah
([792-] 767-740)



Scarab seal
8th BCE
Geshur
Camel bone
Israelite (in
Egyptian
style) likely
from royal
household
of northern
kingdom



ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

- 735 BCE: Anti-Assyrian Coalition of Damascus & Israel (Pekah)
- Judah (Ahaz) refuses to join
- Coalition attacks Judah > Ahaz appeals to Assyria
- **Tiglath Pileser III invades 733/2 BCE**
- Hoshea (deal w/ TPIII?) kills Pekah, made king but Israel becomes Assyrian vassal



Gate of Geshur/Bethsaida
Destroyed by
Tiglath Pileser III (732)

ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

CEBA 7.4

Hoshea rebels (deal w/ Egypt?)

Siege of Samaria by

Shalmaneser V / Sargon II

Fall of Samaria and Israel

722 BCE deportation > 'Lost' Tribes...



... and importation of foreign peoples who have own backgrounds but willing to worship the God of their new land > Samaritans

Remains of Israelite palaces of Omri and Ahab and wall destroyed by Sargon II

ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

Sennacherib's
Campaign vs.
Judah in
response to
King
Hezekiah's
rebellion
(1st Isaiah)
701 BCE

2Kgs 18-19
Hezekiah
pays tribute
but Jerus.
saved



HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL

JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF HEZEKIAH (C. 725–686 B.C.)

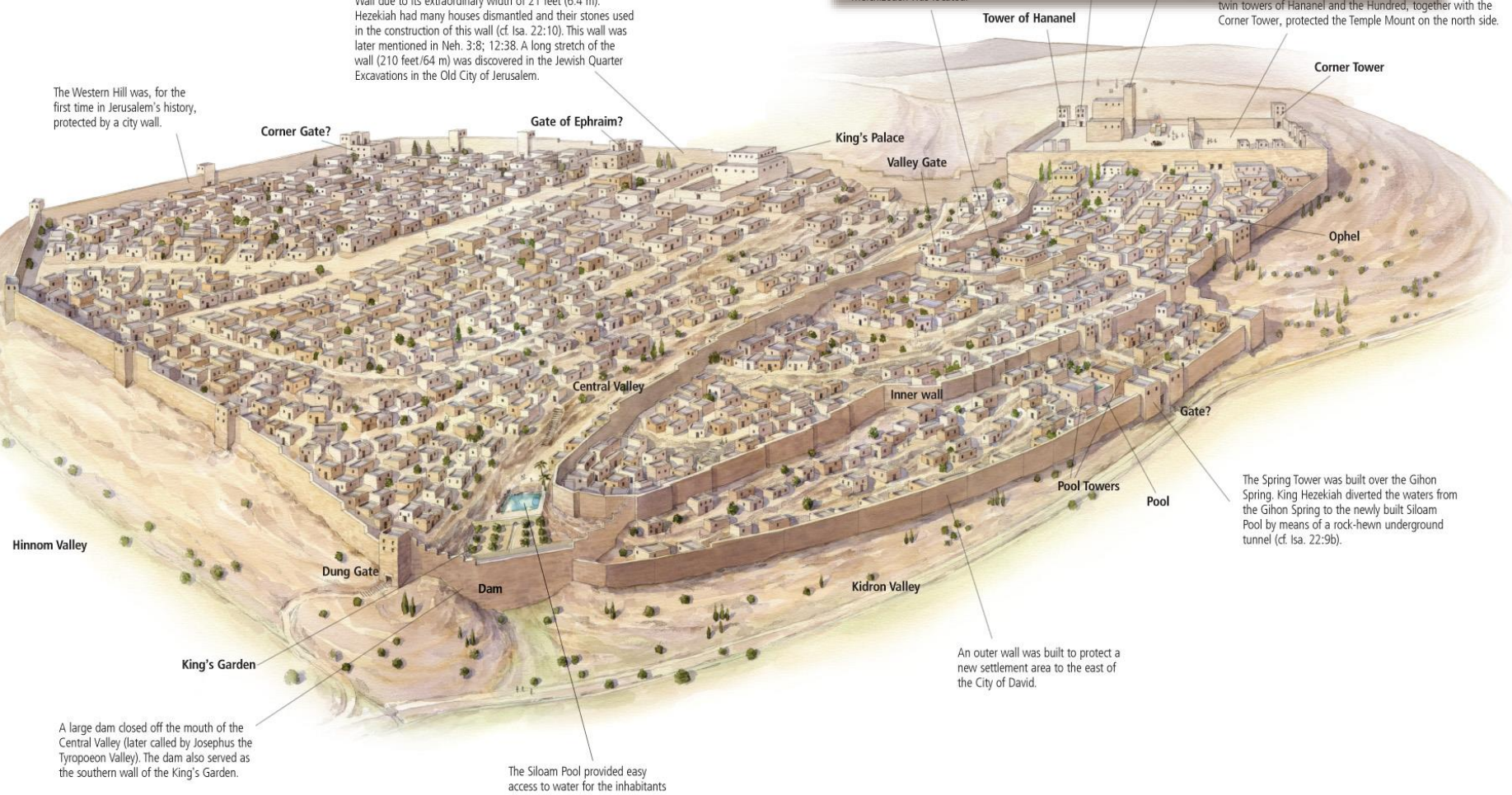
2 Kings 20:20: "And the rest of the events of Hezekiah and all his mighty deeds, and how he made the conduit and the pool, and he brought the water into the city, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah."

to a massive
(262 m) in
worshippers. The

During the reign of King Hezekiah, the city of Jerusalem expanded more than ever before. Many refugees from the Assyrian invasion settled on the Western Hill, as the ancient city built by King Solomon on the Eastern Hill was not able to absorb them. New city walls encircled both hills, and thus Jerusalem became a city that was "bound firmly together" (Ps. 122:3).

The northern part of the new city wall was called the Broad Wall due to its extraordinary width of 21 feet (6.4 m). Hezekiah had many houses dismantled and their stones used in the construction of this wall (cf. Isa. 22:10). This wall was later mentioned in Neh. 3:8; 12:38. A long stretch of the wall (210 feet/64 m) was discovered in the Jewish Quarter Excavations in the Old City of Jerusalem.

The Western Hill was, for the first time in Jerusalem's history, protected by a city wall.



Corner Gate?

Gate of Ephraim?

King's Palace

Valley Gate

Tower of Hananel

twin towers of Hananel and the Hundred, together with the Corner Tower, protected the Temple Mount on the north side.

Corner Tower

Ophel

Central Valley

Inner wall

Gate?

Pool Towers

Pool

The Spring Tower was built over the Gihon Spring. King Hezekiah diverted the waters from the Gihon Spring to the newly built Siloam Pool by means of a rock-hewn underground tunnel (cf. Isa. 22:9b).

Hinnom Valley

Dung Gate

Dam

Kidron Valley

An outer wall was built to protect a new settlement area to the east of the City of David.

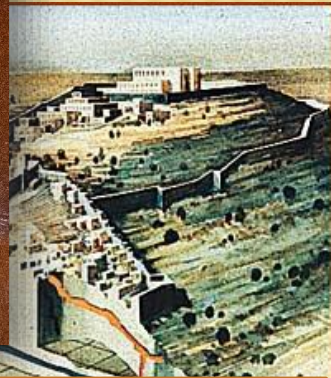
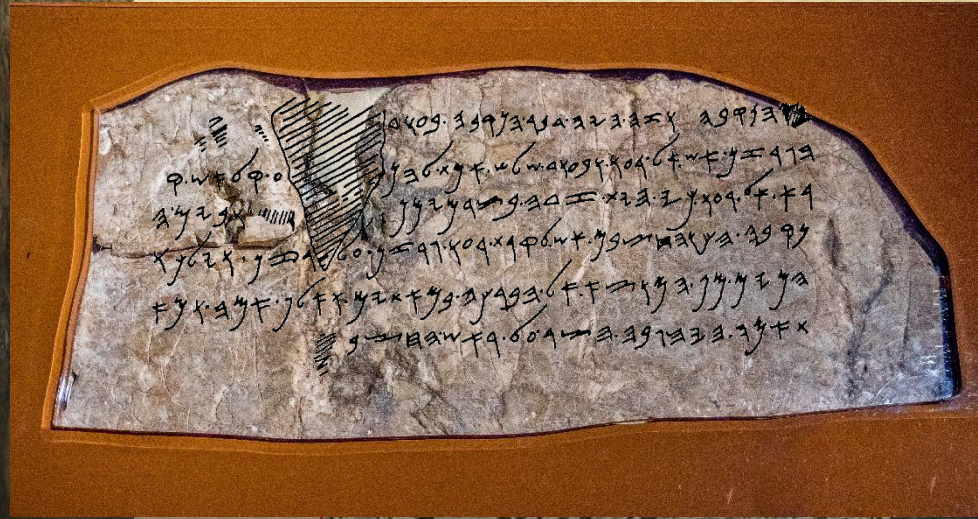
King's Garden

A large dam closed off the mouth of the Central Valley (later called by Josephus the Tyropoeon Valley). The dam also served as the southern wall of the King's Garden.

The Siloam Pool provided easy access to water for the inhabitants of the Western Hill.

HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL

2 Kings 20:20: "And the rest of the events of Hezekiah and all his mighty deeds, and how he made the conduit and the pool, and he brought the water into the city, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah."



... the tunnel ... and this is the story of the tunnel while ... the axes were against each other and while three cubits were left to (cut?) ... the voice of a man ... called to his counterpart, (for) there was ZADA in the rock, on the right ... and on the day of the tunnel (being finished) the stonecutters struck each man towards his counterpart, ax against ax and flowed water from the source to the pool for 1,200 cubits. and (100?) cubits was the height over the head of the stonecutters ..

JUDAH

... As Assyria weakens, King Josiah of Judah (640-609) reclaimed land and expanded his kingdom, but...

... Egypt looked to expand as well, so...

- Pharaoh Neco went to help Assyrians fend off Babylonians
- Josiah tried to stop Neco but was killed at Megiddo
2 Chronicles 35.20-27



605 BCE: Nebuchadnezzar & Babylonians will finish off Assyrians and Egyptians at Carchemish

BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

Jehoahaz (608)
reigns 3 months >
deposed by
Egyptians/Neco
(with brother
Jehoiakim's help?)

605:
Nebuchadnezzar
of Babylonia
defeats
Assyria/Egypt >
Judea becomes
Babylonian Vassal
& 1st deportation

2 Chronicles 36



NMAB 82

BABYLONIAN EMPIRE > EXILE

~600: King Jehoiakim refuses
to pay tribute (Jeremiah) >
Nebuchadnezzar's Campaign:

597 BCE >

3 month siege of Jerusalem

King Jehoiachin >

Jerusalem falls >

Deportation of elites

Zedekiah installed as puppet
king... Revolts

(*contra* Jeremiah) >

Nebuchadnezzar 18 month
siege of Jerusalem: 586 BCE >

Destruction and **EXILE**



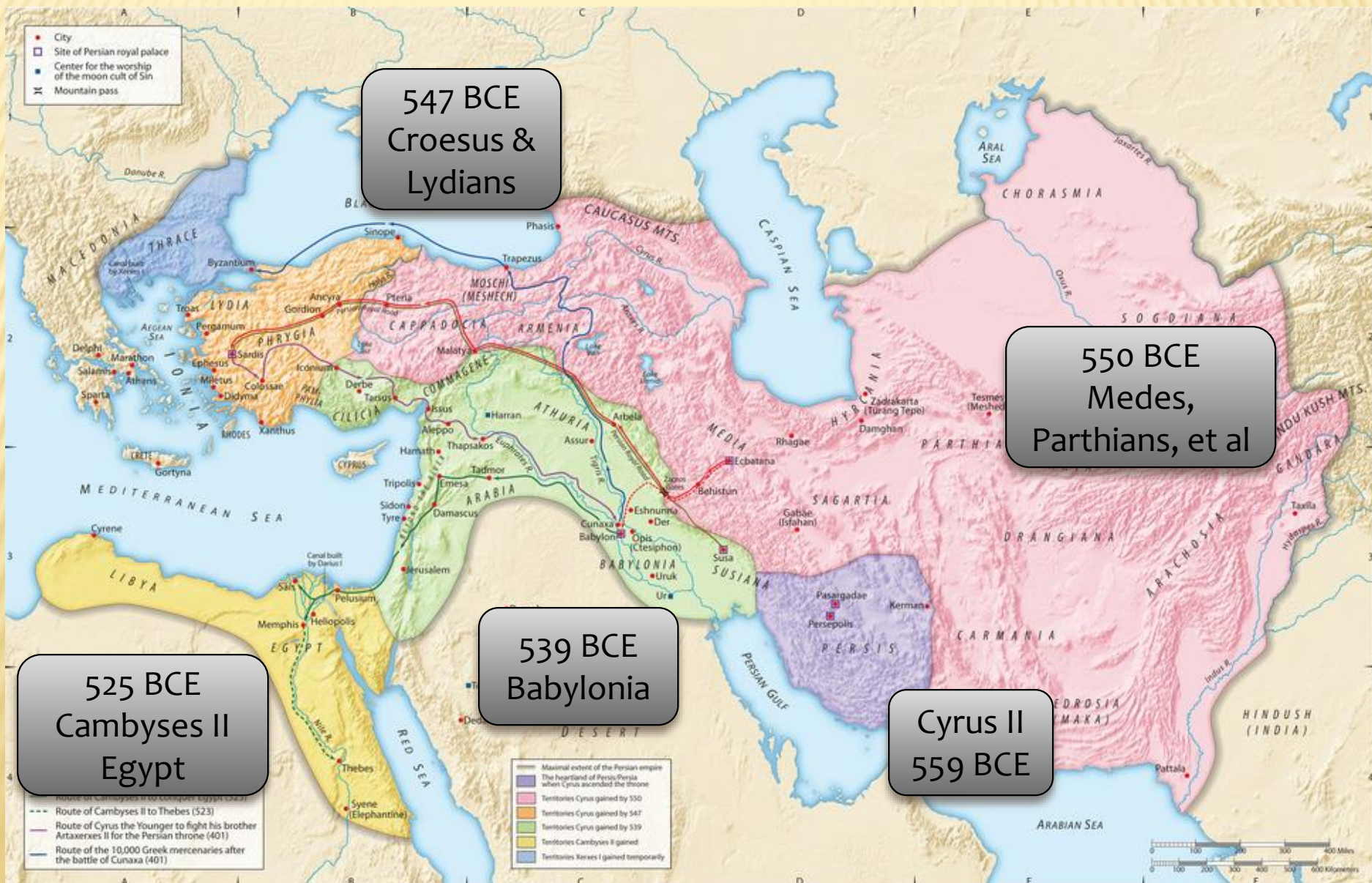
For I have set my face against this city for evil and not for good, says the LORD: it shall be given into the hands of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire. *Jer 21.10*

TRIVIA!

According to the *Book of Mormon*, the Nephites and Lamanites left Jerusalem ~600 and settled in the Americas. Another group traces back to Mulek, Zedekiah's son who fled after the destruction of Jerusalem.

>> but the Babylonians would only rule for 50 more years because...

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE



547 BCE
Croesus &
Lydians

550 BCE
Medes,
Parthians, et al

525 BCE
Cambyses II
Egypt

539 BCE
Babylonia

Cyrus II
559 BCE

- City
- Site of Persian royal palace
- Center for the worship of the moon cult of Sin
- ⚡ Mountain pass

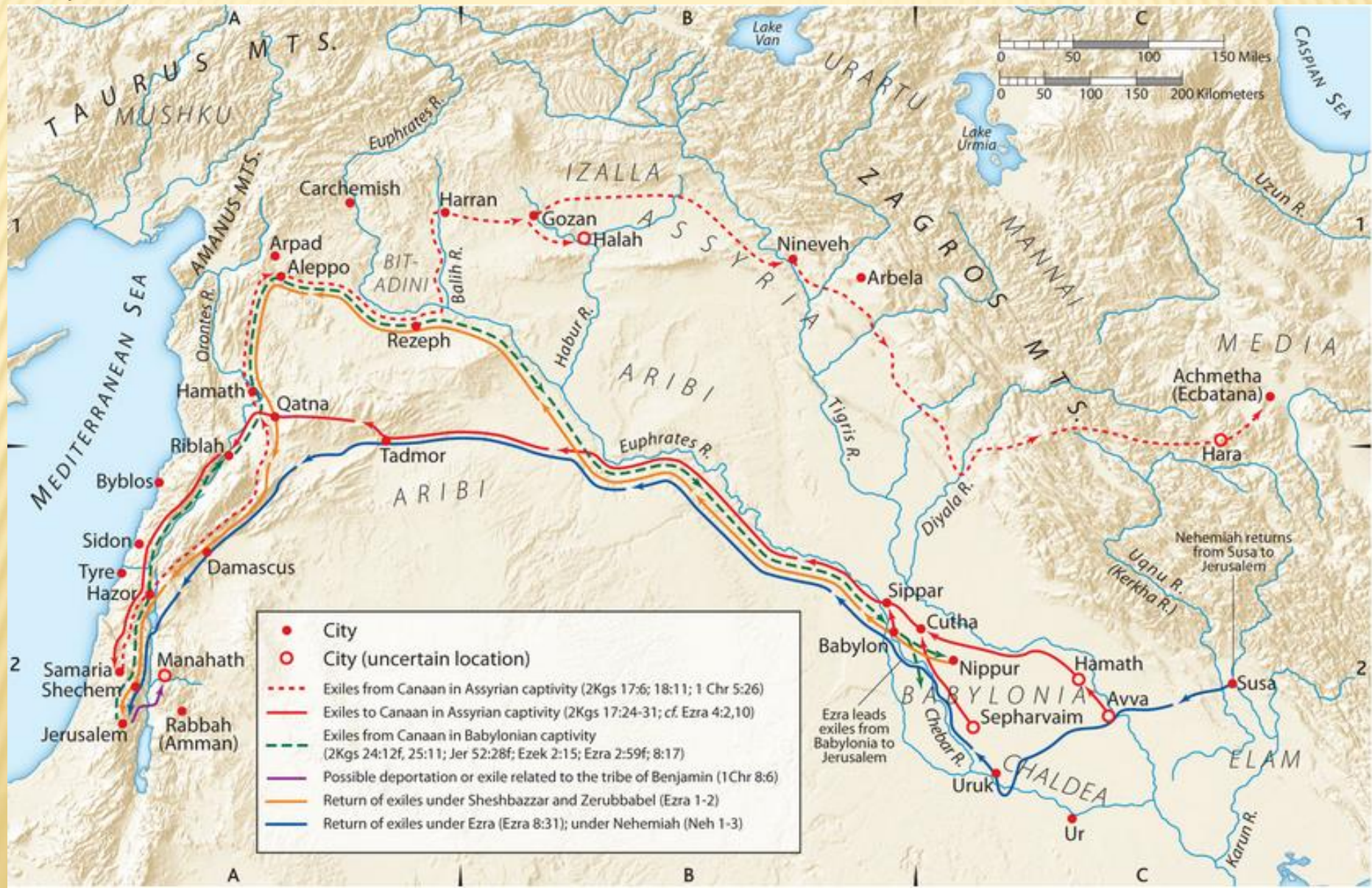
- Maximal extent of the Persian empire
- The heartland of Persia/Persia when Cyrus ascended the throne
- Territories Cyrus gained by 550
- Territories Cyrus gained by 547
- Territories Cyrus gained by 539
- Territories Cambyses II gained
- Territories Xerxes I gained temporarily

- Route of Cambyses II to Thebes (523)
- Route of Cyrus the Younger to fight his brother Artaxerxes II for the Persian throne (401)
- Route of the 10,000 Greek mercenaries after the battle of Cunaxa (401)



JEWISH DEPORTATIONS & RETURNS

Cyrus' Edict in 538 BCE



JUDEA: EXILES RETURN

Ezra 1.1-4

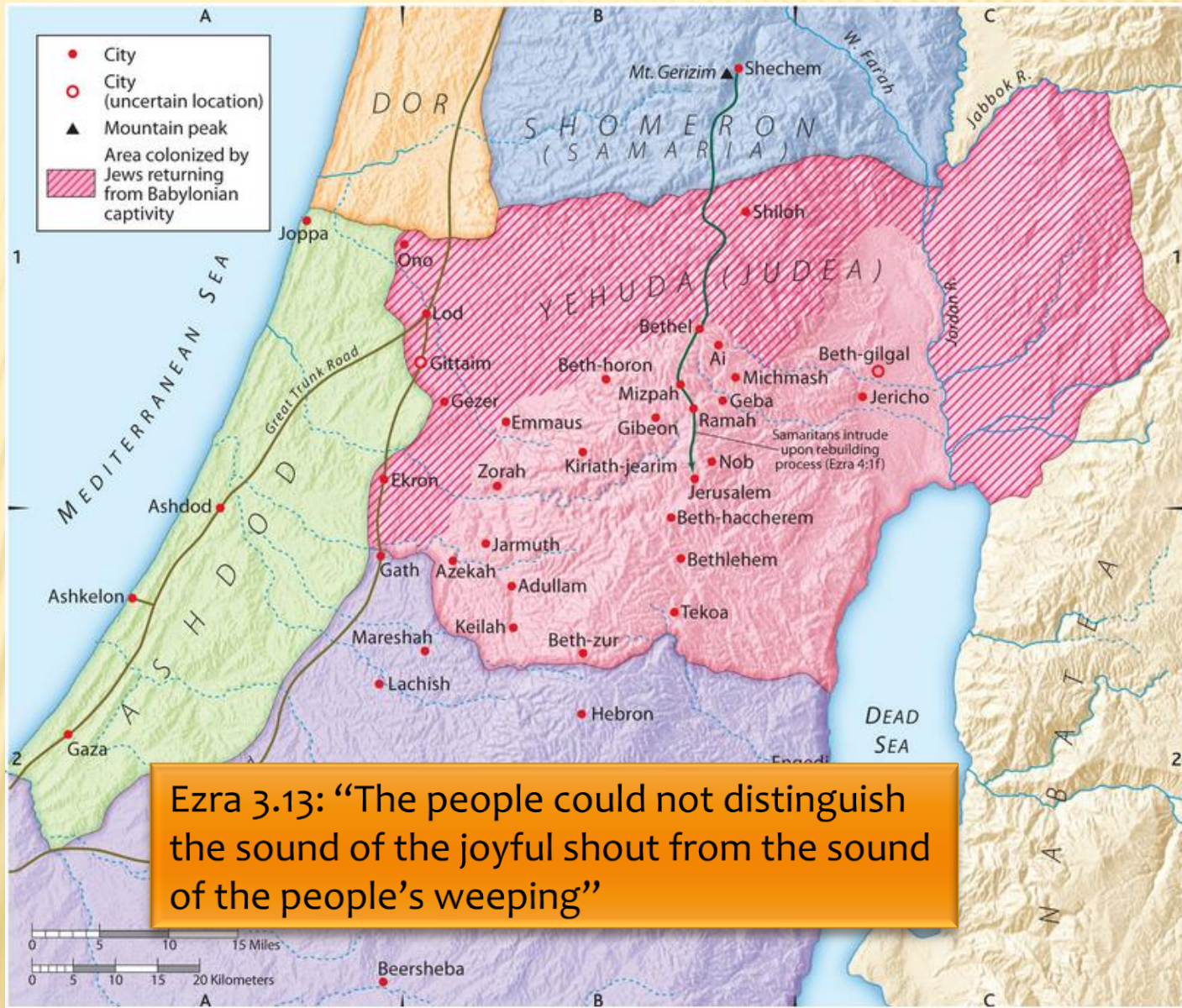
Cyrus' Edict: 538 BCE

Worship resumes in 536 BCE (just an altar)

535: Foundation for Temple

... Problems (Haggai & Zechariah) >

Darius I: Temple dedicated 516 BCE



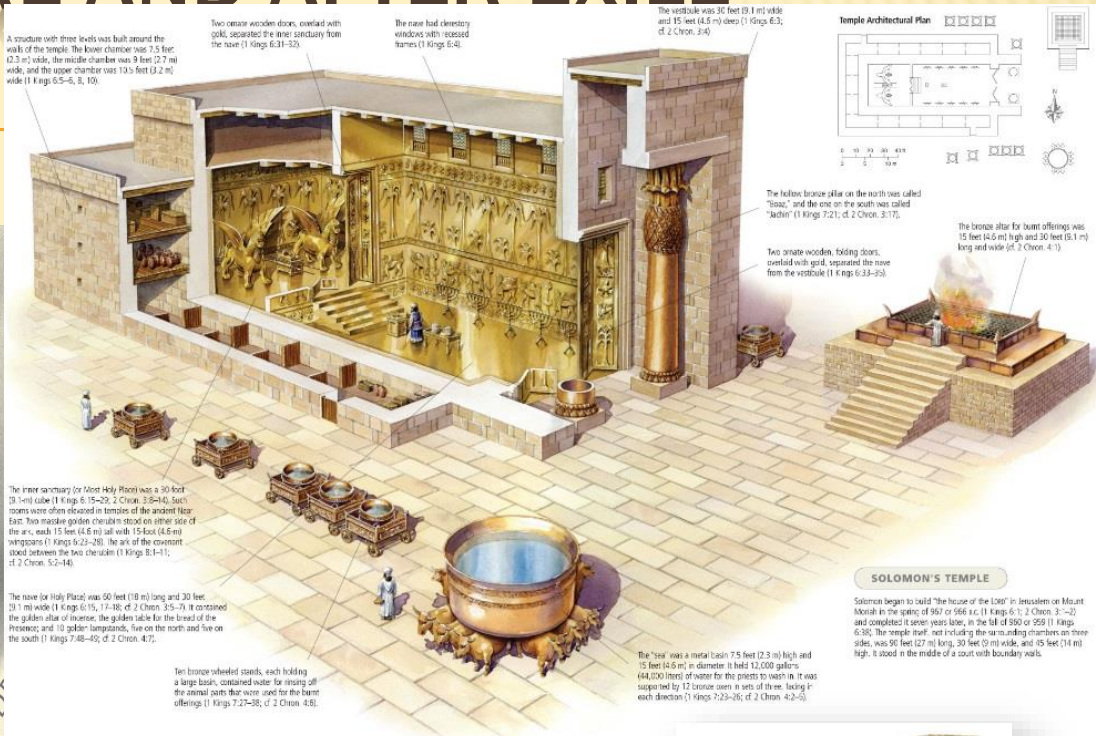
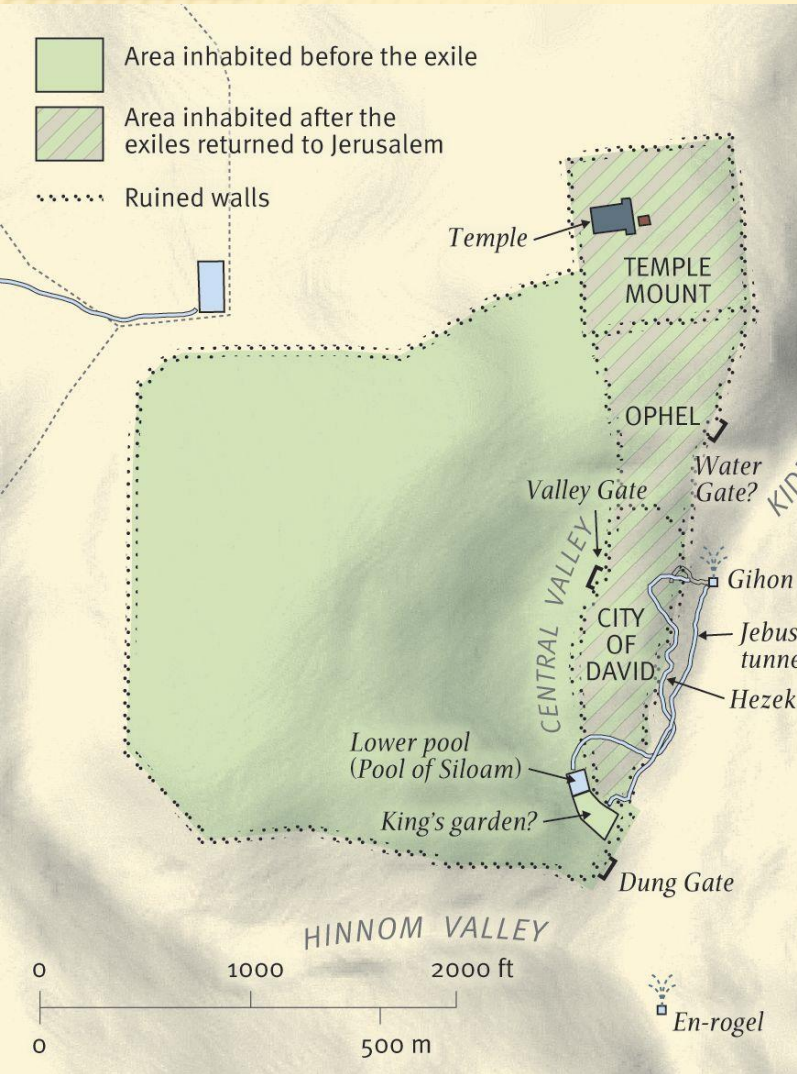
Ezra 3.13: “The people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people’s weeping”

JERUSALEM: BEFORE AND AFTER EXILE

536 - 516 BCE

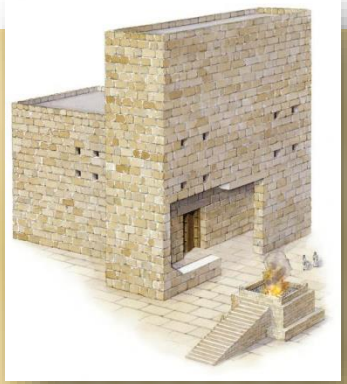
CEBA 9.3

- Area inhabited before the exile
- Area inhabited after the exiles returned to Jerusalem
- Ruined walls



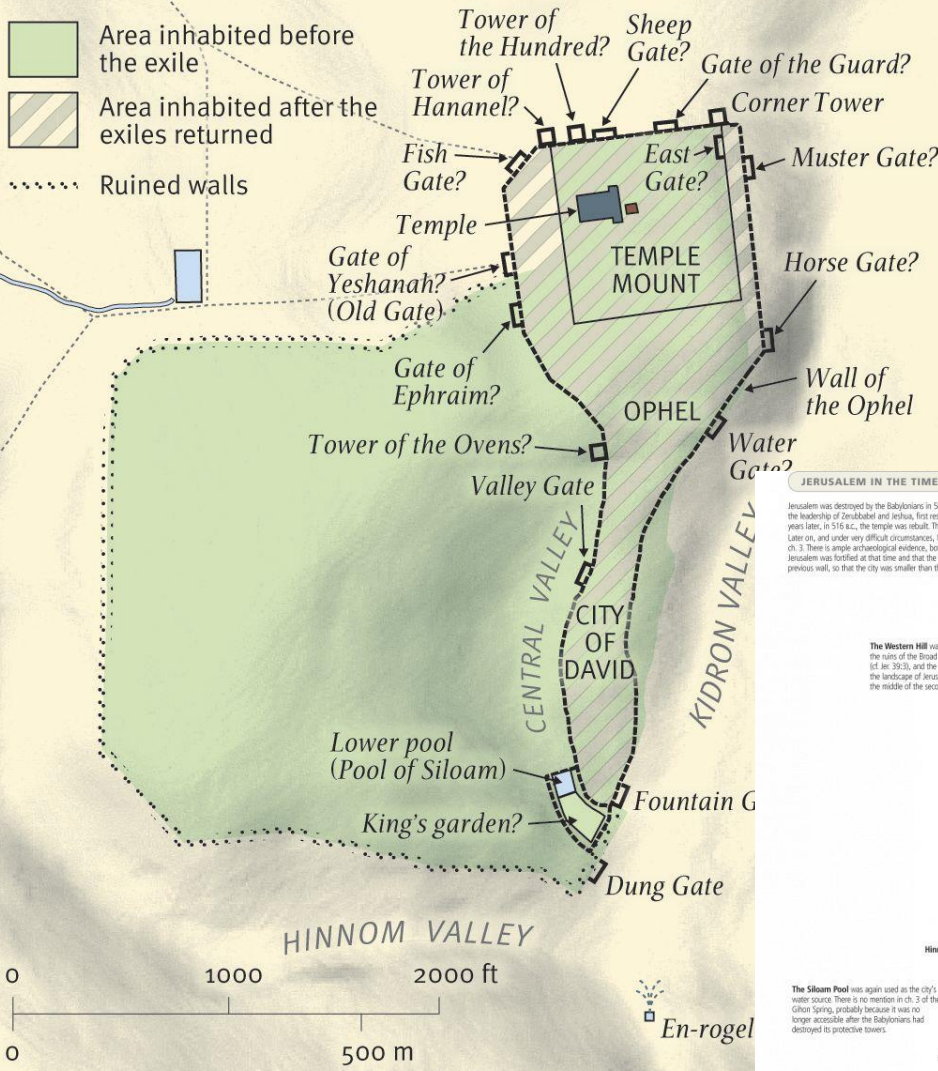
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 960 or 958 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1-2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 953 or 951 (1 Kings 6:38; 2 Chron. 3:15). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27 m) long, 30 feet (9 m) wide, and 45 feet (14 m) high. It stood in the middle of a court with boundary walls.



JERUSALEM OF NEHEMIAH - MID 5TH BCE

- Area inhabited before the exile
- Area inhabited after the exiles returned
- Ruined walls



JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF NEHEMIAH (C. 444-420? B.C.)

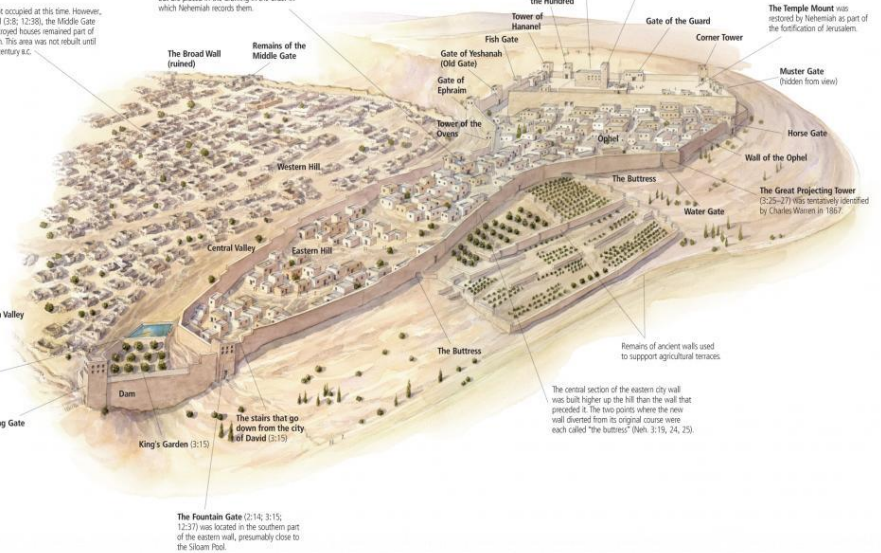
Jerusalem was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 a.c. Upon their return from exile in 536 a.c., the Jews, under the leadership of Zerubbabel and Joshua, first restored the altar and then laid the foundation of the temple. Twenty years later, in 516 a.c., the temple was rebuilt. This time period is referred to as the Second Temple period. Later on, and under very difficult circumstances, Nehemiah restored the city wall. This is described in great detail in ch. 3. There is ample archaeological evidence, both positive and negative, to show that only the Eastern Hill of Jerusalem was fortified at that time and that the eastern wall of the city was built higher up the slope than the previous wall, so that the city was smaller than that of Solomon.

The Tower of Hananel, the Tower of the Hundred, the Sheep Gate, the Gate of the Guard, and the Corner Tower added strength to the northern wall in the Temple Mount, which also served as the northern city wall in this area.

The Temple and the altar were rebuilt soon after the return from exile. The dimensions of the temple, given as 60 cubits (90 feet/27 m) high and wide (Ezra 6:3), probably refer to those of the porch. (For a cutaway illustration of the temple, see p. 813.)

The Western Hill was not occupied at this time. However, the ruins of the Broad Wall (2:35, 12:39), the Middle Gate (lit. lit. 39:3), and the destroyed houses remained part of the landscape of Jerusalem. This area was not rebuilt until the middle of the second century a.c.

The Valley Gate (2:13, 15; 3:13), the remains of which were excavated in 1924, was part of the western city wall. The other gates and the Tower of the Ovens, mentioned in chs. 3 and 12, are unattested to in the archaeological record, but are placed in the drawing in the order in which Nehemiah records them.



CEBA 9.4

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

- Born 356 BCE, son of Philip of Macedon
- Tutored by Aristotle
- Ascended to throne in 336
- 334/3: Moves into Asia Minor and defeats Persian Darius III at Isus
- Syria > Levant > Egypt > Assyria > Babylonia > Persia > (Pakistan & India)



THE EMPIRE OF ALEXANDER
334-323 B.C.

- Conquest course of Alexander
- ⊗ Battle
- ⊙ Siege
- Town founded by Alexander
- Settlement of existing town
- ▲ Mountain pass
- Greek colony
- Persian royal road
- A Alexandria

0 500 km

ALEXANDER THE GREAT AND THE DIADOCHOI

Alexander in Jerusalem (?) 332 BCE > dies in 323 > Diadochoia, but by ~280 BCE:
Ptolemies (Egypt) / Seleucids (Mesopotamia) < (Asia Minor) / Antigonid (Macedonia)



HELLENIZATION OF PALESTINE

First under Ptolemies and more aggressively later (after Battle of Panias, 198 BCE) under Seleucids, cities of Palestine were built up as Greek cities

Hellenistic Cites

Greek language > Septuagint!
City (*polis*) planning: *Cardo* & *Decumanus*, gateways, agora, *bemas*, baths, theaters, odeons, hippodromes, *nymphaeums*, colonnades, *gymnasiums*...
Greek religious practices, temples

Hellenization promoted with some help from the high priesthood in Jerusalem...



HELLENIZATION OF PALESTINE

NMAB 90

ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES IV (175-164)

cf. 1-2 Maccabees

- Jerusalem > Antiochia – 168 BCE
- Ban circumcision
- Ban on Sabbath observance
- Ban on possession of Torah
- Temple > Zeus w/ pig sacrifice

Result:

- Samaritans renounced their Jewish connections
- Some Jews acquiesced to varying degrees (Hellenizing Jews, especially among elite)
- Some Jews chose martyrdom
- Some Jews decided on armed resistance (attacking Seleucid army and Gentiles as well as Hellenizing Jews)



When the Samaritans saw the Jews under these sufferings, they no longer confessed that they were of their kindred, nor that the temple on Mount Gerizim belonged to Almighty God. ... And they now said that they were a colony of Medes and Persians. Josephus Antiq 12.257

MACCABEAN KINGDOM

167 BCE – Start of Maccabean revolt
(1 Maccabees 2)

Matthathias was father of Judas,
nicknamed Maccabeus (mallet-headed)

Mattathias was descendant of priest
Hasmonias > **Hasmonean**

Insurgents known as **Hasidim** (pious
ones) or **Maccabeans**

Temple rededicated in 164 BCE >>
Feast of Hanukkah

>> A strict and merciless
implementation of Jewish practice...

... and the start of internal political and
religious intrigue, foreign alliances...
until Rome comes in 63 BCE



'BIG' QUESTIONS

Hellenism was working well in Palestine! There was a general peace (once the Seleucids were completely in charge) and prosperity. Beautiful cities were being constructed. The benefits of Greek culture abounded. Many Jews (especially elite) 'bought in' to Hellenization. The goal was to create a unified and harmonious population. So what's so wrong with Hellenization?

Was the only problem the harsh implementation of Hellenism?

Did the Maccabees 'save' Judaism or distort it?

So much of what we've studied demonstrates that decisions were based on geographical, political, economic, and militaristic concerns.

Where does religion factor in?

Is religion only an excuse for desired actions?

Is it only a retrospective way of interpreting what actually happened?

What is the relationship of religion, politics, and culture today?

What needs to be preserved? What needs to be undone or relaxed?