

Old Testament Historical Books (OT5)

*Wednesdays, 1-3 PM, *January 22-March 5, 2014*

*Required Text: Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey, Bill T. Arnold & Brian E. Beyer-
\$400 pesos

Ross Arnold, Winter 2014
Lakeside institute of Theology

Policies and Requirements

1. Classes are free, but all students seeking a certificate or degree must purchase books (paper, not electronic), which will be made available by the Institute.
2. Students in certificate or degree tracks may miss no more than one class per course, without making arrangements with the teacher to make up missed work (at the discretion of the teacher).
3. Students in certificate or degree tracks will be required to take a pass/fail final exam in each course, based on study guidelines provided by the teacher.
4. Students in certificate or degree tracks must make a passing grade (based on "pass/fail") in each course in order to receive credit towards a certificate or degree.
5. Candidates for degrees (Master of Theology and Master of Theology & Ministry) must be approved by the Institute Director before final admission into a degree program.

Old Testament Historical Books (OT5)

1. Introduction; Book of Joshua: Conquest and Partition of the Land
2. Judges & Ruth: Moral Crisis
3. 1st & 2nd Samuel: The United Kingdom; David the Great King
4. 1st Kings: Solomon and the Divided Kingdom
5. 2nd Kings: Division and Destruction
6. 1st & 2nd Chronicles: Sacred History Retold
7. Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther: Rebuilding; Final Exam

Why Study the Old Testament?

1. It is the “Scriptures” referred to by Jesus and the Apostles.
2. The Old Testament is part of God’s Inspired revelation to us.
3. The Old Testament is foundational to our understanding.
4. The Old Testament is practical.
5. The Old Testament points to Jesus Christ.

Structure & Form of the Old Testament

Traditional Jewish Structure:

- 24 Books in Three Sections:
- **The Law (5)** – “Torah” in Hebrew
- **Prophets (8)** – “Nevi'im” in Hebrew
- **Writings (11)** – “Ketuvim” in Hebrew
- Together these sections form the acronym TANAKH, or Hebrew Bible. (also known as “*miqra*” or “that which is read”)

Structure & Form of the Old Testament

- **The Law (5)** – “Torah” in Hebrew; Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.
- **Prophets (8)** – “Nevi'im” in Hebrew Joshua, Judges, Samuel (1&2), Kings (1&2) (sometimes called the *Former Prophets*); and Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, the Twelve (sometimes called the *Latter Prophets*).
- **Writings (11)** – “Ketuvim” in Hebrew **Books of Truth** (Psalms, Proverbs, Job); “**Five Scrolls**” (Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther), and “**other writings**” (Daniel, Ezra-Nehemiah, Chronicles (1&2)).

Structure & Form of the Old Testament

Traditional Protestant Structure:

- 39 Books in Four Sections:
- **The Law (5)** – “Torah” in Hebrew; “Pentateuch” or “Five Books” in Greek
- **History (12)** – Joshua thru Esther.
- **Wisdom (5)** – Job thru Song of Songs.
- **Prophecy (17)** – Isaiah thru Malachi, (sometimes broken up into *Major Prophets*: Isaiah thru Daniel, and *Minor Prophets*: Hosea thru Malachi)

THE STRUCTURE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT



Law/History (5+12)

Wisdom (5)

Prophets (5+12)

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY

JOB
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EZEKIEL
DANIEL

JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
1 SAMUEL
2 SAMUEL
1 KINGS
2 KINGS
1 CHRONICLES
2 CHRONICLES
EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER

Number of books
in the
Old Testament:

39

Number of books
in the
New Testament:

27

Number of books
in the Bible:

66

HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI

The Problem of “History” in the Old Testament

- Christian systems usually call these books “*Historical*,” while the Jewish *Tanakh* refers to *Joshua thru Kings* as the “*Former Prophets*.” Why the difference?
- History: a continuous, systematic narrative of past events, usually written as a chronological account.
- Herodotus: c. 485-425 BC, Greek historian, called *the Father of History*.
- Prophecy: Speaking or writing by divine inspiration.
- The Former Prophets do record historical events, but their purpose is not to write “history” as we understand it, but to record God’s action in fulfilling His covenant promises. Because these books record God’s actions, perceived from that perspective, the Jews considered them “prophetic.” They are perhaps best understood as “historic events from a prophetic perspective.”

Five Major Themes in the OT Historical Books

1. God's Sovereignty – evident in the miracles he performs in protecting and providing for his people, and in the way he demonstrates authority over all the peoples of the earth and over the entire created order.
2. God's Presence – in his aid & empowerment of chosen leaders, as well as his provision for the nation of Israel.
3. God's Promises – God had promised Abraham (renewed to Isaac and Jacob, then to Moses) that he would make them a great nation, give them a land, and bless all people through them. The history books are a record of God keeping those promises.
4. God's Kingdom – God is at work to establish his kingdom through the earthly kingdom of the Israelites.
5. God's Covenant – God had entered into a covenant relationship with the Israelites, and here we find his fulfillment of that commitment.

The Book of Joshua

Author: Joshua (traditional)

Date: circa 1405 BC - 1390 BC

Theme: Conquest of the Promised Land;
assigning and settling of the Tribes of
Israel throughout the Land.

Purpose: To show God is faithful to keep His
covenant promises.

Outline: Campaign to Capture Canaan (1-12)
Distribution of the Land (13-21)
Final Section (22-24)

- Debt of the Tribes to God
- Return of Reuben, Gad & Manasseh
- Joshua's Farewell Speech

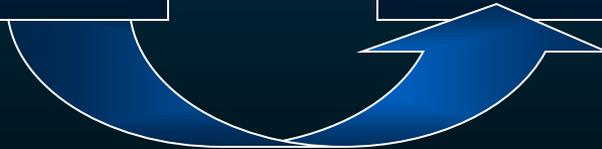
Joshua

Initial Appeal:
Preparations to
take the Land
(1-5)

Closing Appeal:
Living in the
Land (22-24)

Conquest of the
Land (6-12)

Distribution of
the Land
(13-21)



After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. ³ I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴ Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. ⁵ No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them."

Joshua 1:1-6

"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸ Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:7-9



Israel
During
Joshua's
Time
The 7
Nations
of Canaan

I. Prologue – Transfer of leadership to Joshua; Exhortations to Conquer (ch. 1)

A. God's commission to Joshua (1:1–9)

B. Joshua's instructions to the people (1:10–18)

II. Entry into the land (2:1–5:12)

A. Reconnaissance of Jericho (ch.2)

B. Crossing the Jordan (chs.3-4)

C. Consecration at Gilgal (5:1–12)

III. Conquest of Canaan (5:13–12:24)

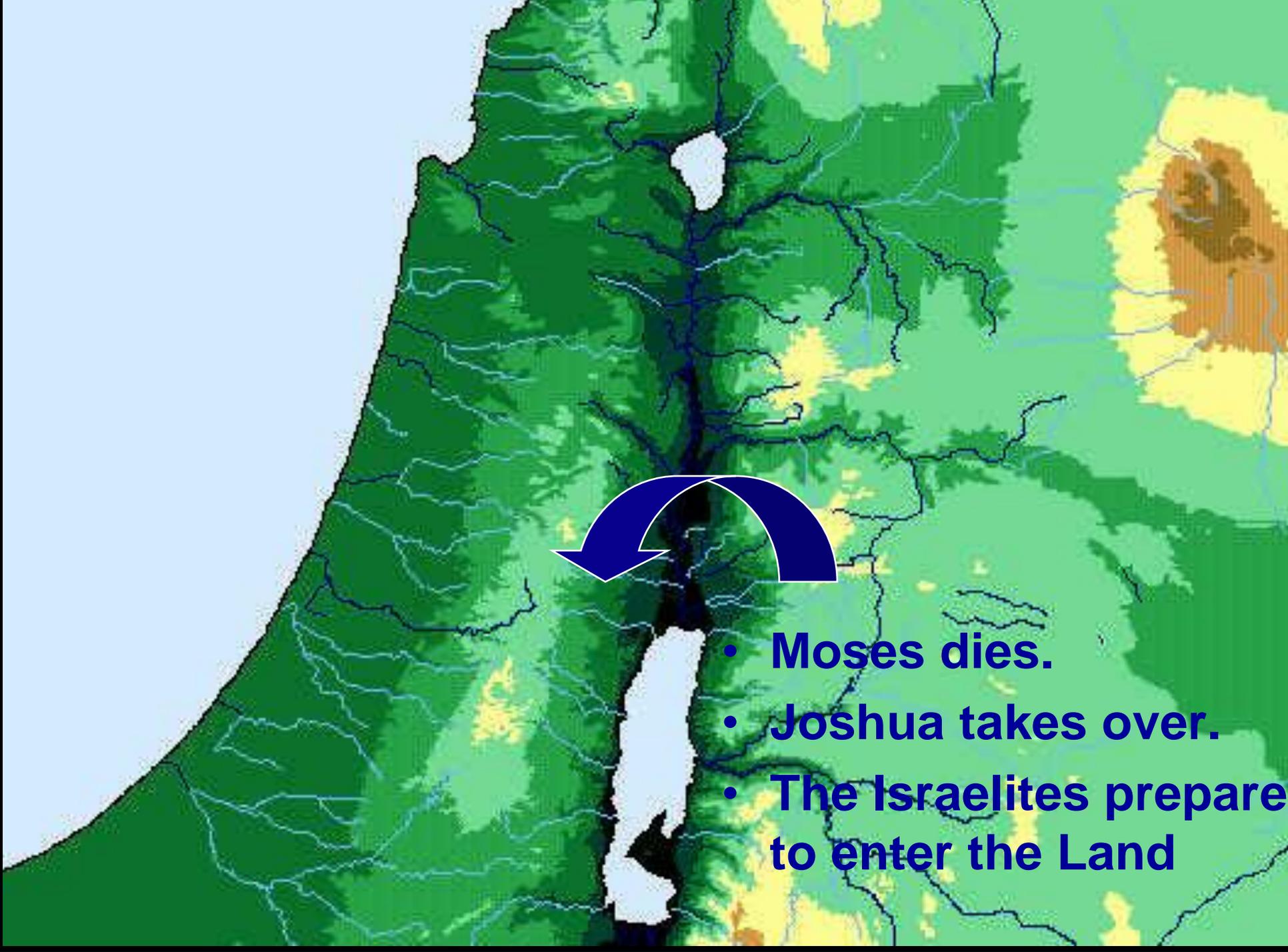
A. Initial Battles (5:13-8:35)

1. Destruction of Jericho (5:13-6:27)

2. Failure at Ai because of Achan's sin (ch.7)

3. Victory at Ai (8:1-29)

4. Covenant renewed at Shechem (8:30-35)



- **Moses dies.**
- **Joshua takes over.**
- **The Israelites prepare to enter the Land**

B. Campaigns in southern Canaan (chs.9-10)

1. Treaty with the Gibeonites (ch.9)

2. The long day of Joshua (10:1-15)

3. Southern cities conquered (10:16–43)

C. Campaigns in the North (ch.11)

D. The defeated kings of Canaan (ch.12)

IV. Distribution of land among tribes (chs.13–21)

A. The areas yet to be conquered (13:1–7)

B. Lands assigned by Moses to the tribes of the
Transjordan (13:8-33)

C. Division of the Lands of Canaan (chs.14-19)

1. Introduction (14:1–5)

2. The town given to Caleb (14:6–15)

3. Lands given to Judah and Joseph at Gilgal
(chs.15-17)

Map 3 THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

- ▲ Philistine cities
- Cities of refuge
- (1,742) Elevation, in feet
- ? Exact location questionable

0 10 20
Scale of Miles



4. In a northern thrust, Joshua moved from Gilgal all the way to Hazor (Josh. 11).

2. Joshua made peace with Gibeon, then moved through the Valley of Ajalon and defeated the five Amorite kings (Josh. 9-10).

1. Upon crossing the Jordan, Joshua camped awhile at Gilgal, then moved to take Jericho and Ai. Afterward, he returned to Gilgal (Josh. 1-8).

3. From Makkedah, Joshua launched a southern campaign against Lachish, Hebron, Debir, and Gaza. Victorious, he returned to Gilgal (Josh. 10).

4. Allotments for Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali and Dan (18:1-19:48)

5. The town given to Joshua (19:49-51)

C. Cities assigned to the Levites (chs.20-21)

1. The 6 cities of refuge (ch.20)

2. The 48 cities of the priests and other Levites (ch.21)

III. Conclusion: Tribal Unity and Loyalty to the Lord (chs.22-24)

A. The Altar of Witness by the Jordan (ch.22)

B. Joshua's farewell address (ch.23)

C. Renewal of the Covenant at Shechem (24:1–28)

D. Deaths of Joshua and Eleazar; burial of Joseph's bones (24:29–33)

Division of the Promised Land to the children of Israel



The Book of Judges

Author: *Anon.*, perhaps Samuel.

Date: c. 1380 BC-1045 BC

Theme: God's provision through "judges."

Purpose: To clearly demonstrate Israel's need for God, and the consequences of disobedience.

Outline: Failure to Complete the Conquest (1)

The Judgment of God (2:1-3:4)

The Deliverance of Israel (3:5-16:31)

Othniel, Ehud and Shamgar (southern)

Deborah & Barak (northern)

Gideon, Abimelech, Tola, Jair (central)

Jephthah (eastern)

Ibzan, Elon, Abdon (2nd northern)

Samson (western)

Depravity of Israel (17:1-21:25)

After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. ¹¹ Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. ¹² They forsook the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the Lord's anger ¹³ because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. ¹⁴ In his anger against Israel the Lord gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. ¹⁵ Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the Lord was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.

Judges 2:10-15

Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders. ¹⁷ Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. Unlike their ancestors, they quickly turned from following the way of their ancestors, the way of obedience to the Lord's commands. ¹⁸ Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the Lord relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them. ¹⁹ But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways. Judges 2:16-19

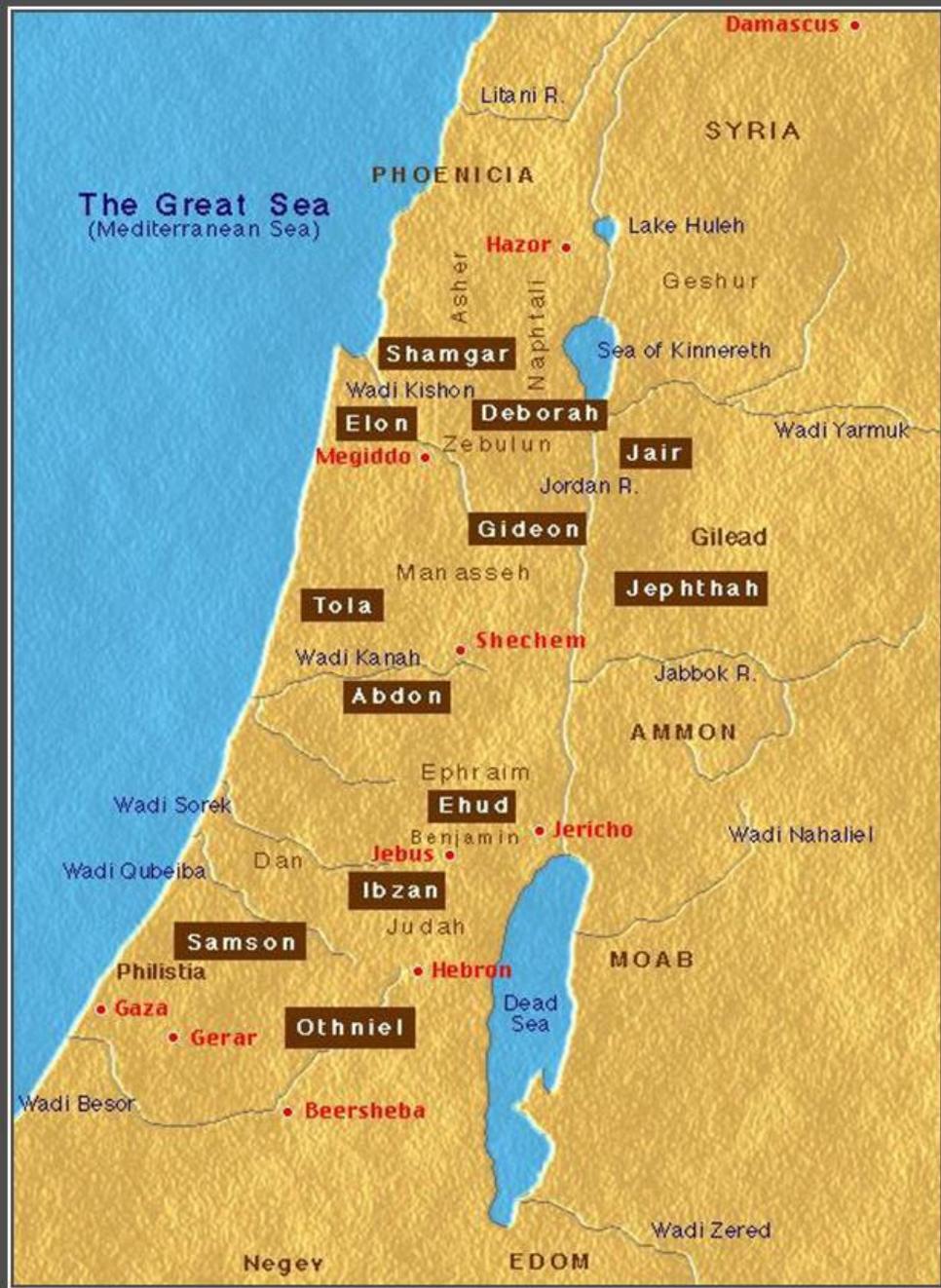


Fig 3. The 12 Judges and Locations

The Book of 1 Samuel

Author: Samuel (*trad.*)

Date: c. 930 BC and later

Theme: Transition from theocracy under the judges to monarchy under kings.

Purpose: God uses His prophet, Samuel, to give the people the king they want, Saul; but Saul's failure leads to David as king.

Outline: Samuel, the Last Judge (1-8)
Saul, the First King (9-15)
David, the Second King (16-31)

But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the Lord.

⁷ And the Lord told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. ⁸ As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. ⁹ Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights."

1 Samuel 8:6-9

But Samuel replied: "Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. ²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king."

²⁴ Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned. I violated the Lord's command and your instructions. I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them. ²⁵ Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord."

²⁶ But Samuel said to him, "I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you as king over Israel!"

1 Samuel 15:22-26

The Book of 2 Samuel

Author: Samuel (*trad.*)

Date: c. 930 BC and later

Theme: The reign of King David and the growth of Israel under his leadership.

Purpose: The story of David – the most popular king and one of the most important figures in Jewish history – is told with complete honesty, including successes, failures, faithfulness, sin and repentance.

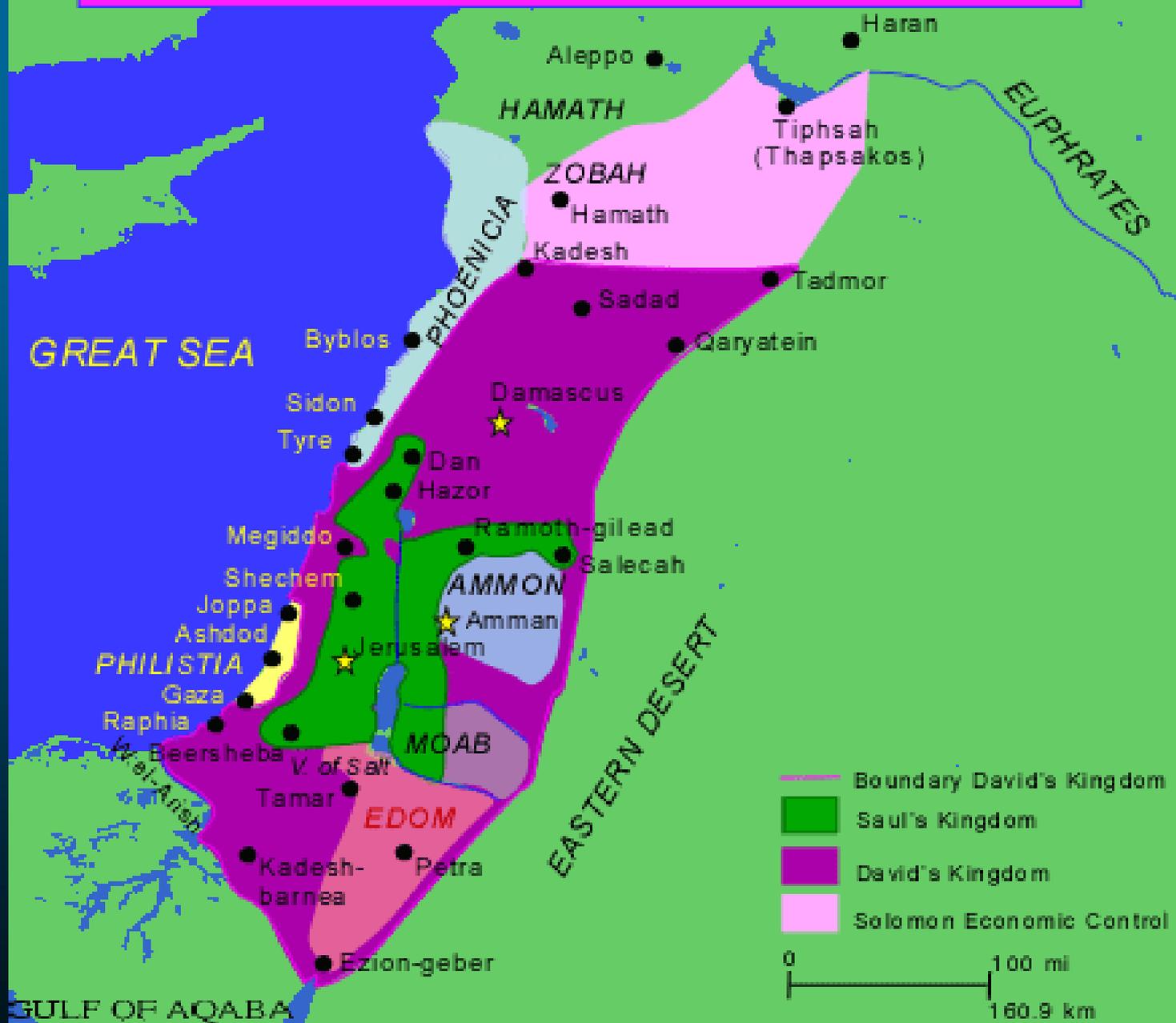
Outline: The Triumphs of David (1-10)
The Transgressions of David (11)
The Troubles of David (12-24)

"Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel.

"The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by human beings, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."

2 Samuel 7:8, 11-16

KINGDOMS OF DAVID, SOLOMON, SAUL



- Boundary David's Kingdom
- Saul's Kingdom
- David's Kingdom
- Solomon Economic Control



The Book of 1 Kings

Author: Unknown, but traditionally Jeremiah.

Date: c. 550 BC

Theme: The reign of David's son, King Solomon, the peak of Israel's power & influence, the building of the Temple and palace, and Solomon's decline, leading to a divided kingdom.

Purpose: To show how obedience to God led to greatness for Israel; while disobedience led to disruption of the kingdom.

Outline: United Kingdom under Solomon (1-11)
Divided Kingdom (12-22)

The Lord said to him (Solomon):

"I have heard the prayer and plea you have made before me; I have consecrated this temple, which you have built, by putting my Name there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

⁴ "As for you, if you walk before me faithfully with integrity of heart and uprightness, as David your father did, and do all I command and observe my decrees and laws, ⁵ I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father when I said, 'You shall never fail to have a successor on the throne of Israel.'

⁶ "But if you or your descendants turn away from me and do not observe the commands and decrees I have given you and go off to serve other gods and worship them, ⁷ then I will cut off Israel from the land I have given them and will reject this temple I have consecrated for my Name.

1 Kings 9:3-7

The Book of 2 Kings

Author: Unknown, but traditionally Jeremiah.

Date: c. 550 BC

Theme: The story of the two divided kingdoms, of the prophets Elijah and Elisha, and the fall of the Northern Kingdom to Assyria and the Southern Kingdom to Babylon.

Purpose: To teach that unfaithfulness to God will lead to righteous discipline.

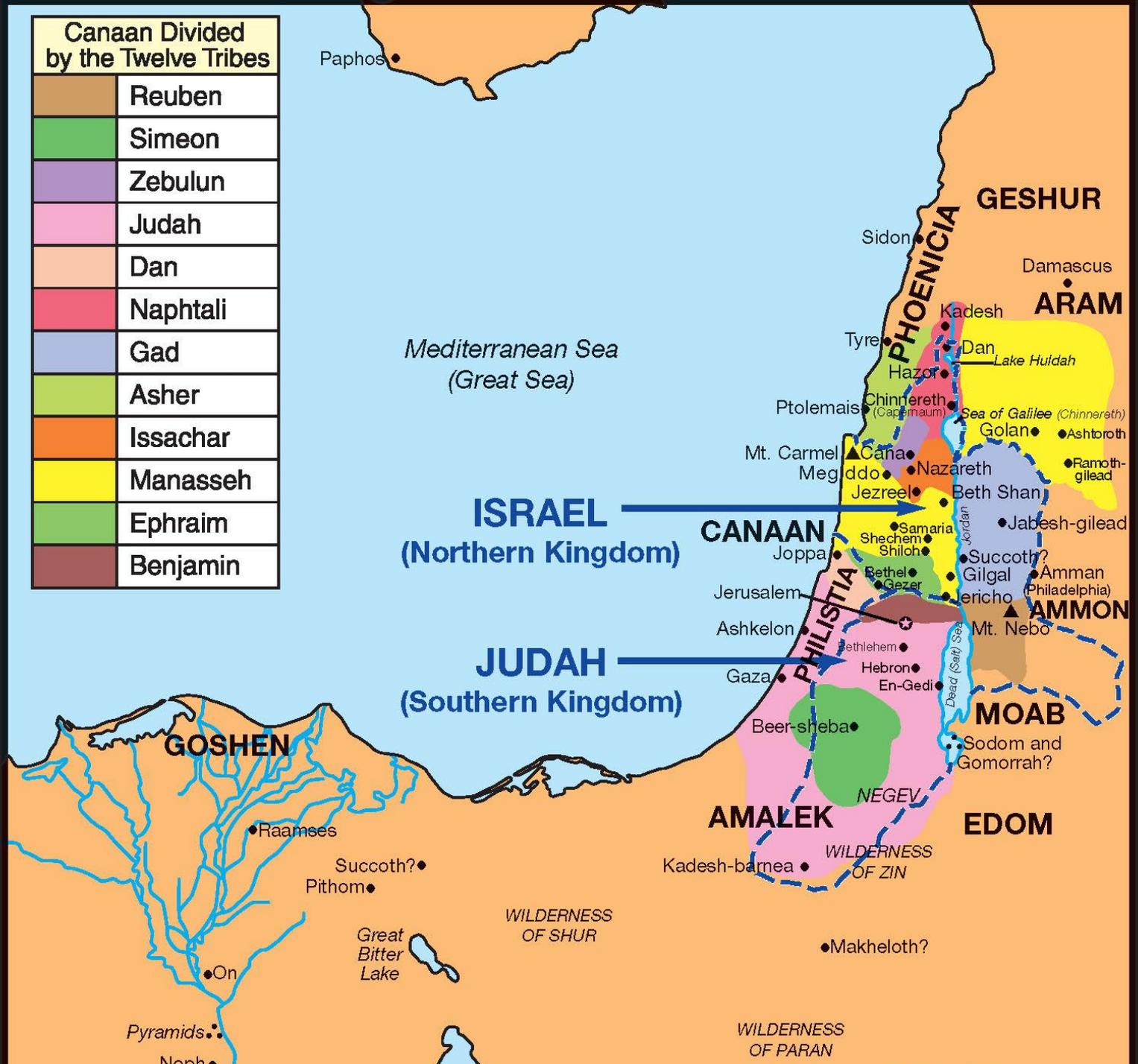
Outline: Divided Kingdom (1-16)
Fall of Israel in the North-722 BC (17)
Surviving Kingdom of Judah (18-24:16)
Fall of Judah-586 BC (24:17-25:30)



The Kingdom of David and the later separate kingdoms

Canaan Divided by the Twelve Tribes

	Reuben
	Simeon
	Zebulun
	Judah
	Dan
	Naphtali
	Gad
	Asher
	Issachar
	Manasseh
	Ephraim
	Benjamin



The king of Assyria invaded the entire land, marched against Samaria and laid siege to it for three years. ⁶ In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria. He settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the Habor River and in the towns of the Medes.

⁷ All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up out of Egypt from under the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. They worshiped other gods ⁸ and followed the practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before them, as well as the practices that the kings of Israel had introduced. ⁹ The Israelites secretly did things against the Lord their God that were not right. From watchtower to fortified city they built themselves high places in all their towns. ¹⁰ They set up sacred stones and Asherah poles on every high hill and under every spreading tree. ¹¹ At every high place they burned incense, as the nations whom the Lord had driven out before them had done. They did wicked things that provoked the Lord to anger. ¹² They worshiped idols, though the Lord had said, "You shall not do this." ¹³ The Lord warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and seers: "Turn from your evil ways. Observe my commands and decrees, in accordance with the entire Law that I commanded your fathers to obey and that I delivered to you through my servants the prophets." 2 Kings 17:5-13

On the seventh day of the fifth month, in the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan commander of the imperial guard, an official of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. ⁹ He set fire to the temple of the Lord, the royal palace and all the houses of Jerusalem. Every important building he burned down. ¹⁰

The whole Babylonian army, under the commander of the imperial guard, broke down the walls around Jerusalem. ¹¹ Nebuzaradan the commander of the guard carried into exile the people who remained in the city, along with the rest of the populace and those who had gone over to the king of Babylon. ¹² But the commander left behind some of the poorest people of the land to work the vineyards and fields.

So Judah went into captivity, away from her land.

2 Kings 25:8-21

