

Gog
a person, then a place, then a person . . .



Lesson Overview

- Gog's locations
- Ezekiel 38
- Ezekiel 39
- The Maccabees
 - Battles
- Isaiah 9
- Way of the Sea
- Valley of Passengers
- Megiddo

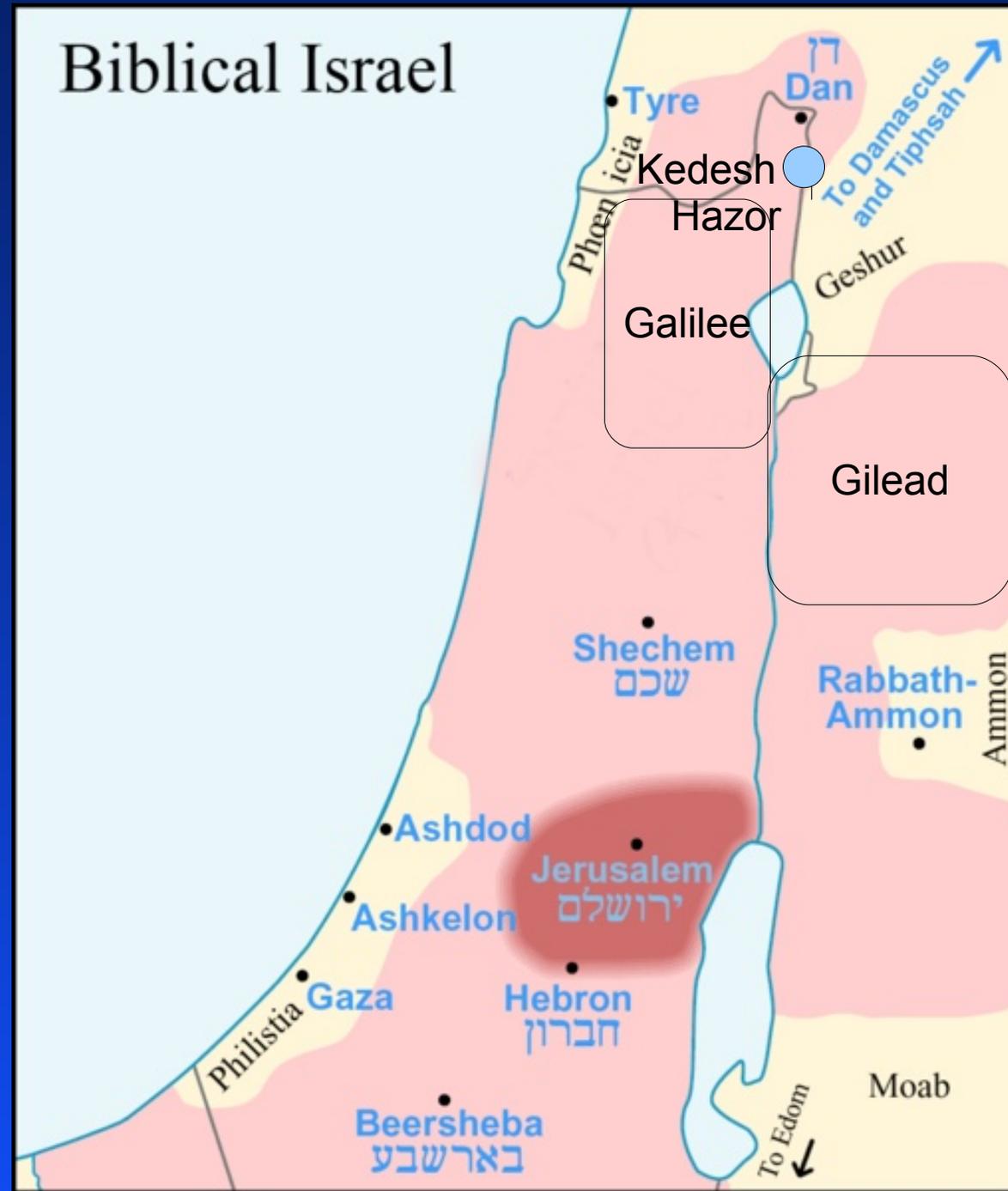
Gog was a Hebrew in Israel

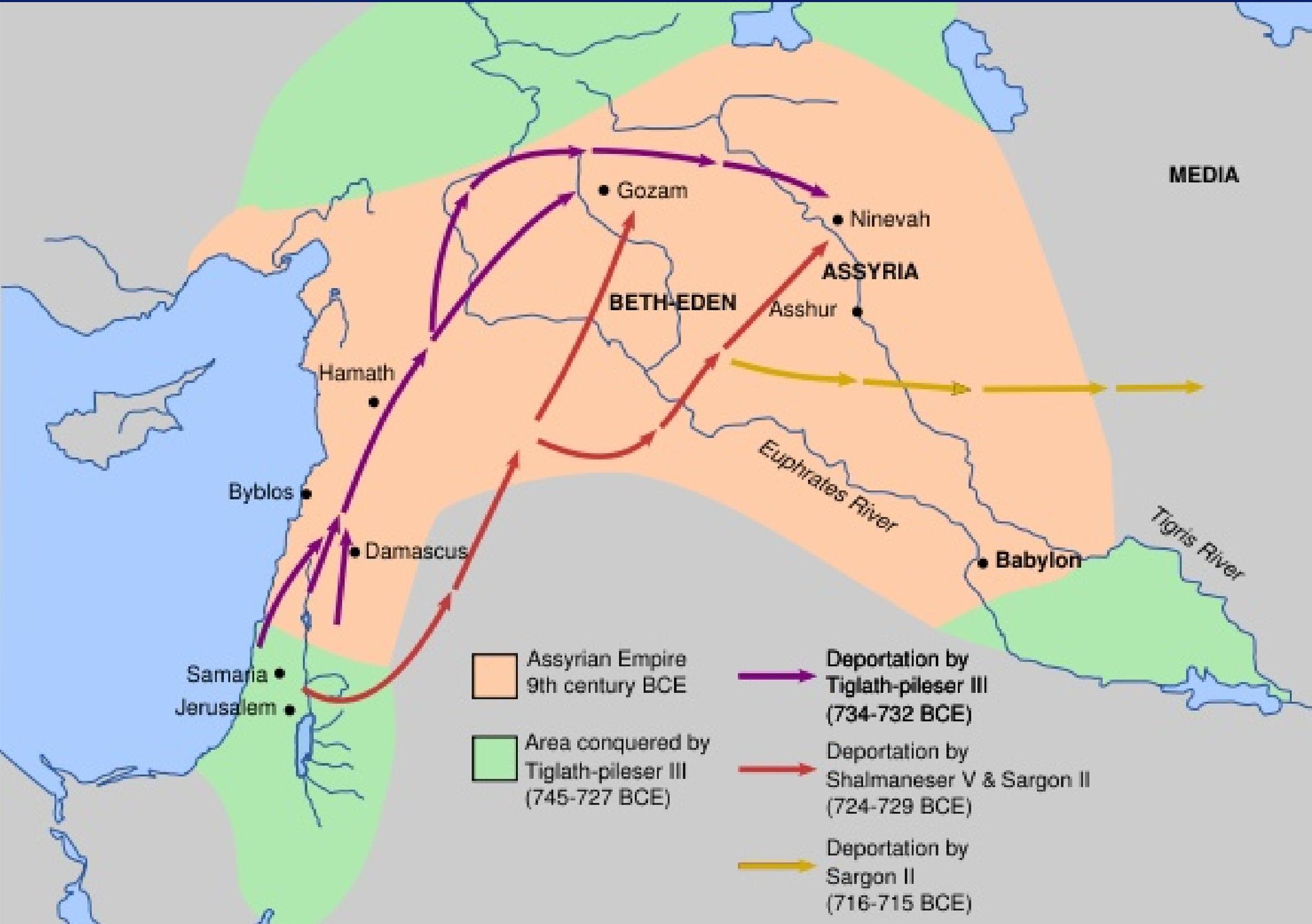
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Lands of Gog

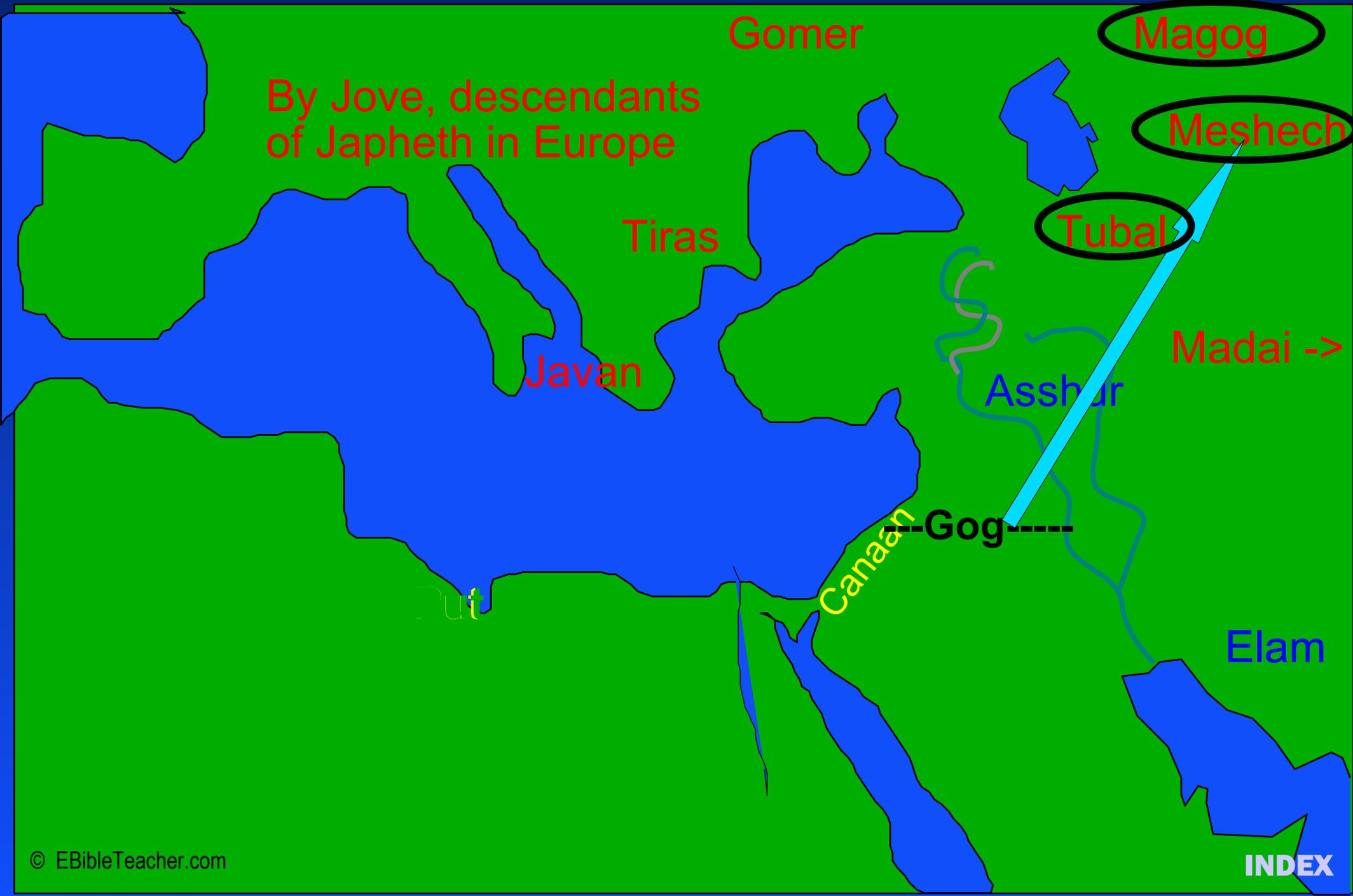
2 Kings 15:29 "In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abelbethmaachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria."

732 BC





Gog was deported to Japheth's sons



Gog and his multitudes

Ezekiel 38:1-7 “¹And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
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³And say, Thus said the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: ⁴And I will turn you back, and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you forth, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: ⁵**Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya** with them; all of them with shield and helmet: ⁶**Gomer**, and all his bands; the house of **Togarmah** of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with you. ⁷Be you prepared, and prepare for yourself, you, and all your company that are assembled to you, and be you a guard to them.”

Ezekiel prophesied from about 595-575 BC.

Babylonian Deportations of Jews

Jeremiah 52:27-30 “²⁷And the king of Babylon smote them, and put them to death in Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah was carried away captive out of his own land. ²⁸This is the people whom Nebuchadrezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year three thousand Jews and three and twenty: ²⁹In the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred thirty and two persons: ³⁰In the three and twentieth year of Nebuchadrezzar Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews seven hundred forty and five persons: all the persons were four thousand and six hundred.”

- Nebuchadnezzar 605 BC
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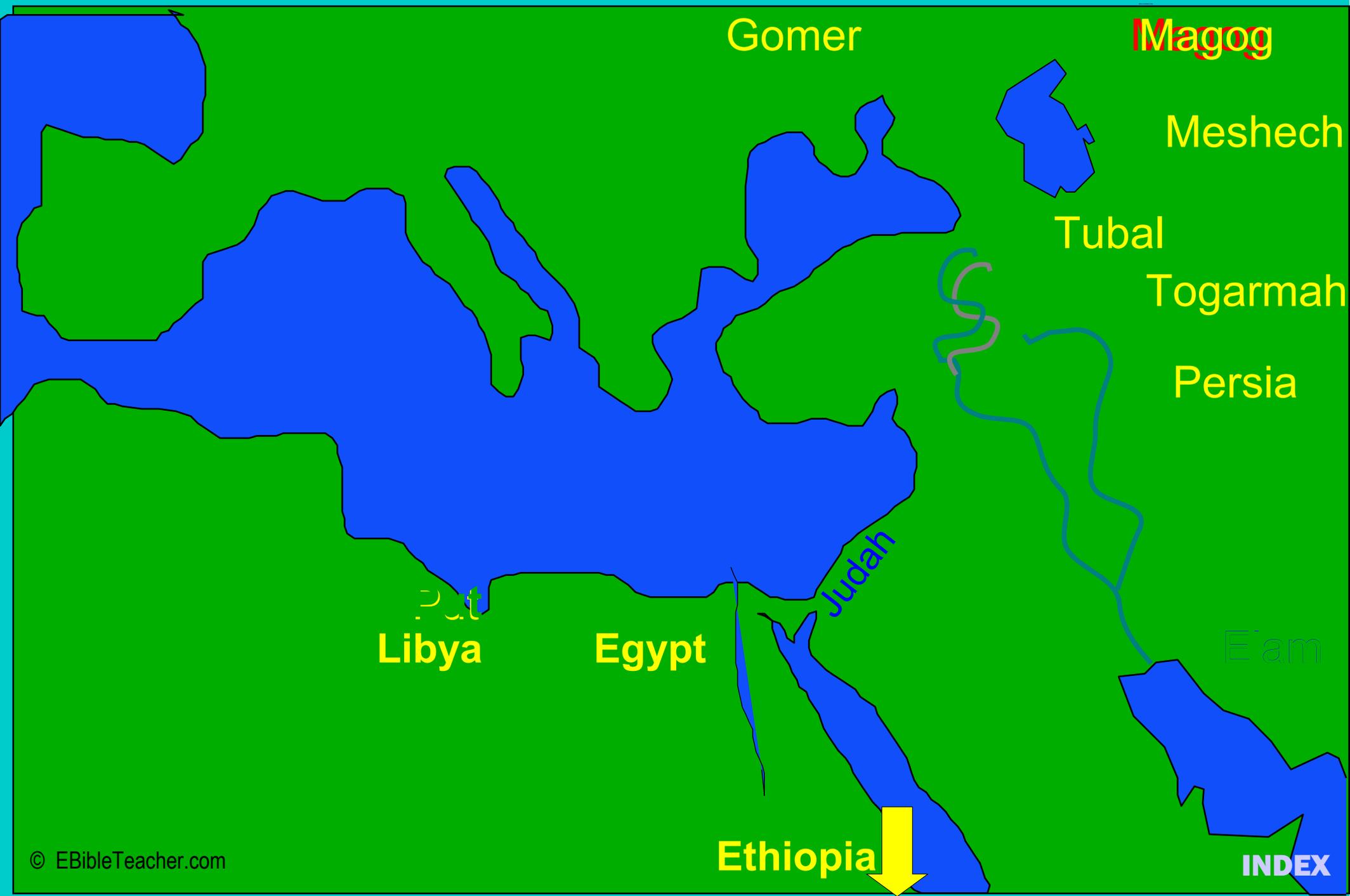
After the Return of the Exiles

Ezekiel 38:8-9 “⁸After many days you shall be visited: in the latter years you shall come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. ⁹You shall ascend and come like a storm, you shall be like a cloud to cover the land, you, and all your bands, and many people with you.”

Antiochus IV spoils Jerusalem

Ezekiel 38:10-12 “¹⁰Thus said the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into your mind, and you shall think an evil thought: ¹¹And you shall say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, ¹²To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn your hand on the desolate places that are now inhabited, and on the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the middle of the land.”

Gog's mercenary forces which attack Judah



Merchants awaiting the spoil

Ezekiel 38:13-16 “¹³Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say to **you**, Are **you** come to take a spoil? have **you** gathered your company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? ¹⁴Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to **Gog**, Thus said the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwells safely, shall **you** not know it? ¹⁵And **you** shall come from your place **out of the north parts**, **you**, and many people with **you**, all of them riding on horses, a great company, and a mighty army: ¹⁶And **you** shall come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring you against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in **you**, O **Gog**, before their eyes.”

Slavers at Battle of Emmaus

“And the **merchants** of the country, hearing the fame of them, took silver and gold very much, with servants, and **came into the camp to buy the children of Israel for slaves**: a power also of Syria and of the land of the Philistines joined themselves unto them.” (1 Maccabees 3:41)

“So Nicanor undertook to make so much money of the captive Jews, as should defray the tribute of two thousand talents, which the king was to pay to the Romans. Wherefore immediately he sent to the cities upon the sea coast, **proclaiming a sale of the captive Jews, and promising that they should have fourscore and ten bodies for one talent**, not expecting the vengeance that was to follow upon him from the Almighty God.” (2 Maccabees 8:10-11)

“As for that most ungracious Nicanor, **who had brought a thousand merchants to buy the Jews** . . . he came like a fugitive servant . . . for that his host was destroyed. Thus he, that took upon him **to make good to the Romans their tribute by means of captives in Jerusalem**, told abroad, that the Jews had God to fight for them, and therefore they could not be hurt, because they followed the laws that he gave them.”
(2 Maccabees 8:34-36)

Declaration against Judaism

“Moreover king Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom, that all should be one people, And every one should leave his laws: so all the heathen agreed according to the commandment of the king. Yea, many also of the Israelites consented to his religion, and sacrificed unto idols, and profaned the sabbath. . . . And whosoever would not do according to the commandment of the king, he said, he should die. In the selfsame manner wrote he to his whole kingdom, and appointed overseers over all the people, commanding the cities of Juda to sacrifice, city by city.”
(1 Maccabees 1:41-43; 50-51)

Declaration against Judaism

“Not long after this the king sent an old man of Athens to compel the Jews to depart from the laws of their fathers, and not to live after the laws of God: And to pollute also the temple in Jerusalem, and to call it the temple of Jupiter Olympius; and that in Garizim, of Jupiter the Defender of strangers, as they did desire that dwelt in the place. The coming in of this mischief was sore and grievous to the people: For the temple was filled with riot and revelling by the Gentiles, who dallied with harlots, and had to do with women within the circuit of the holy places, and besides that brought in things that were not lawful. The altar also was filled with profane things, which the law forbiddeth. Neither was it lawful for a man to keep sabbath days or ancient fasts, or to profess himself at all to be a Jew.” (2 Macabbees 6:1-6)

Gog, the Assyrian

Ezekiel 38:17-20 “¹⁷Thus said the Lord GOD; Are you **he** of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring **you** against them? ¹⁸And it shall come to pass at the same time when **Gog** shall come against the land of Israel, said the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. ¹⁹For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; ²⁰So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all the men that are on the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.”

Antiochus IV Epiphanes

170: He killed 40,000 and sold 40,000 as slaves. He took all the gold and silver from the Temple. He sacrificed a pig on the altar, boiled the meat and forced priests to eat it; those who refused had their tongues cut out.

169: Antiochus IV builds a navy (against the terms of the Peace of Apamea his father signed) and conquers Cyprus and large parts of Egypt and presents himself as protector of Ptolemy VI against his relatives Ptolemy VIII and Cleopatra II

168: Roman pressure forced Antiochus to stop attack of Egypt. He sent Apollonius with army of 22,000 to collect tribute from Jerusalem. They kill and capture many, plunder the city and burn it.

167: Antiochus forbade sacrifices, circumcision and other Jewish laws; they were to worship idols and eat pork, or be killed. An idol of Zeus was placed on the altar. Scrolls were burned; their owners, killed.

165: Antiochus captured Artaxias, capital of Armenia.

164: Antiochus' attack on Susa failed. He got reports of Israel and bragged he would make Jerusalem a graveyard of Jews and became ill. He repented, and sought to restore to the Jews all he had taken, and to let them worship God freely. He died of a painful, stinky bowel disease.

Gog, of the north, with bow and arrow



ANTIOXOY



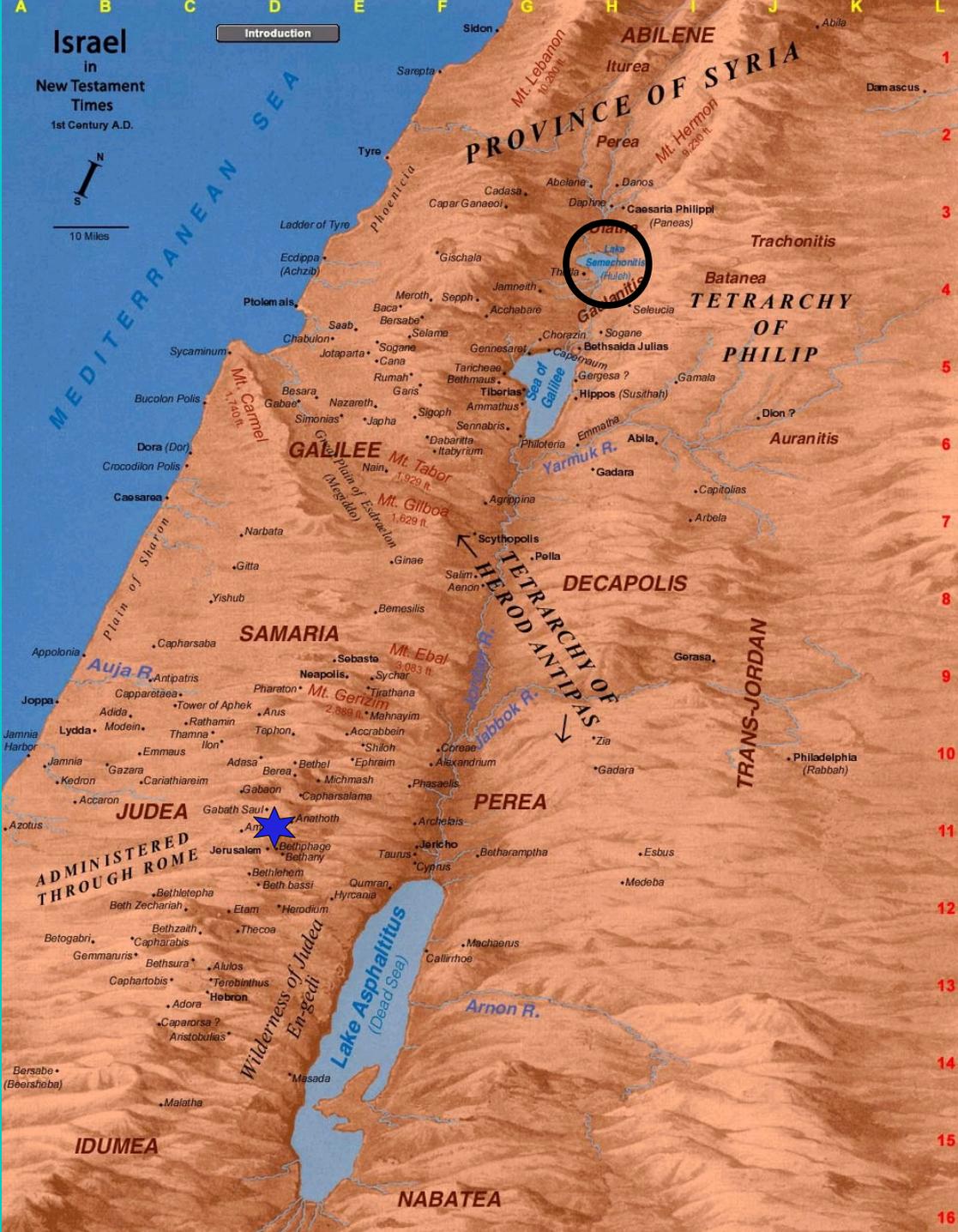
Ezekiel 39:1-5 “¹Therefore, you son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus said the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: ²And I will turn you back, and leave but the sixth part of you, and will cause you to come up from the north parts, and will bring you on the mountains of Israel: ³And I will smite your bow out of your left hand, and will cause your arrows to fall out of your right hand. ⁴You shall fall on the mountains of Israel, you, and all your bands, and the people that is with you: I will give you to the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. ⁵You shall fall on the open field: for I have spoken it, said the Lord GOD.”

7 years of fuel from Gog's weapons

Ezekiel 39:6-10 “⁶And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD. ⁷So will I make my holy name known in the middle of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. ⁸Behold, it is come, and it is done, said the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken. ⁹**And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the hand staves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years:** ¹⁰So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, said the Lord GOD.”

7 months to bury the armies of Gog

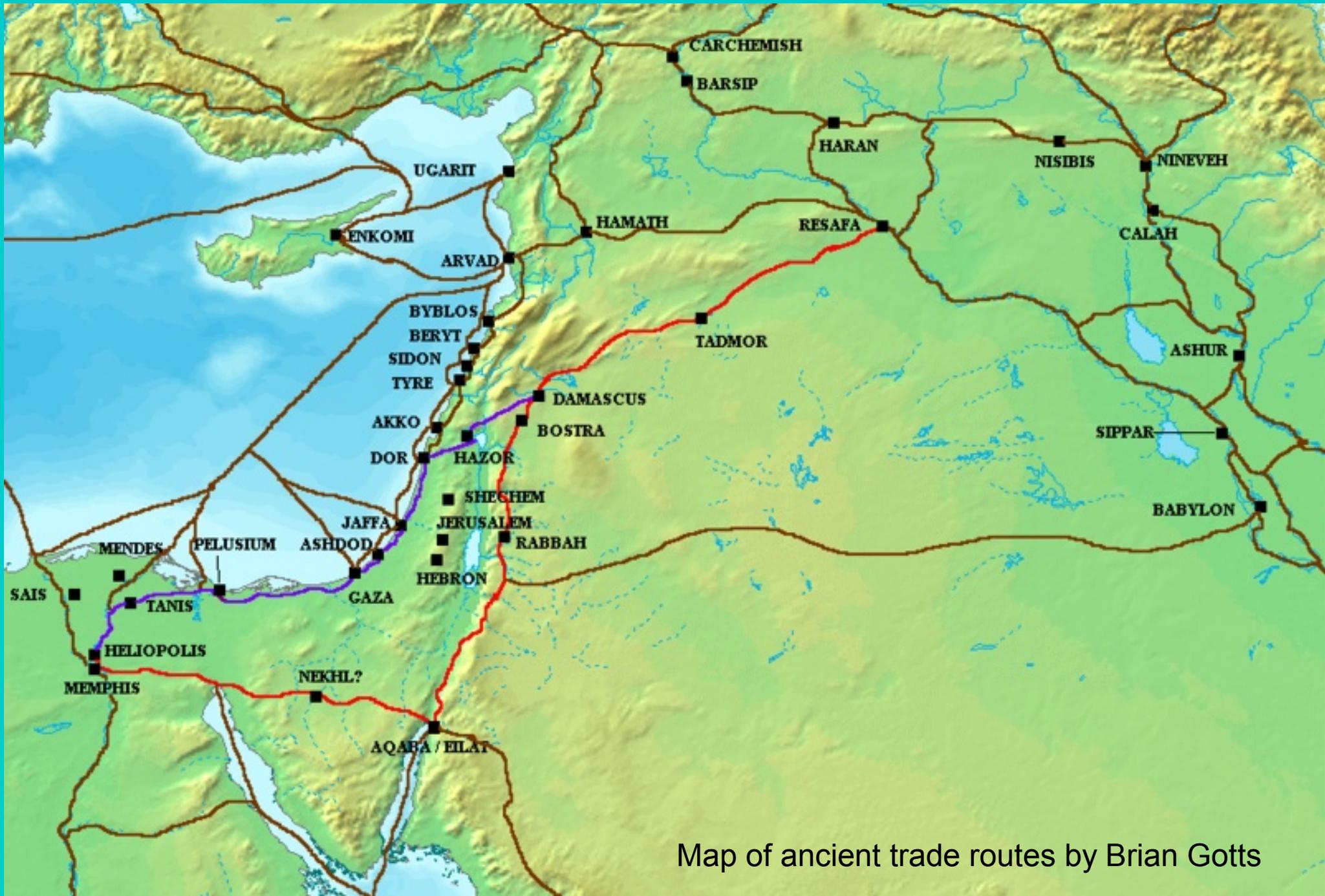
Ezekiel 39:11-17 “¹¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the **valley of the passengers** on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog. ¹²**And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.** ¹³Yes, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, said the Lord GOD. ¹⁴And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain on the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search. ¹⁵And the passengers that pass through the land, when any sees a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the **valley of Hamongog**. ¹⁶And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land. ¹⁷And, you son of man, thus said the Lord GOD; Speak to every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh, and drink blood.”



Little Lake Hula

Joshua 11:5,10 “And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel. And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.”

King's Highway and Way of the Sea



Map of ancient trade routes by Brian Gotts

Where is the “valley of the passengers”?

Ezekiel 39:11,15-16 “¹¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the **valley of the passengers** on the east [ancient] *of the* sea: and it shall stop the noses of the **passengers**: and there shall they bury **Gog** and all his **multitude**: and they shall call it The valley of **Hamongog**. ¹⁵And the **passengers** that **pass through** the land, when any sees a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the **valley of Hamongog**. ¹⁶And also the name of the city shall be **Hamonah**. Thus shall they cleanse the land.”

Ezekiel 33:28b “. . . the mountains of Israel shall be desolate, that none shall **pass through**.”

Biblical Israel

The King's Highway

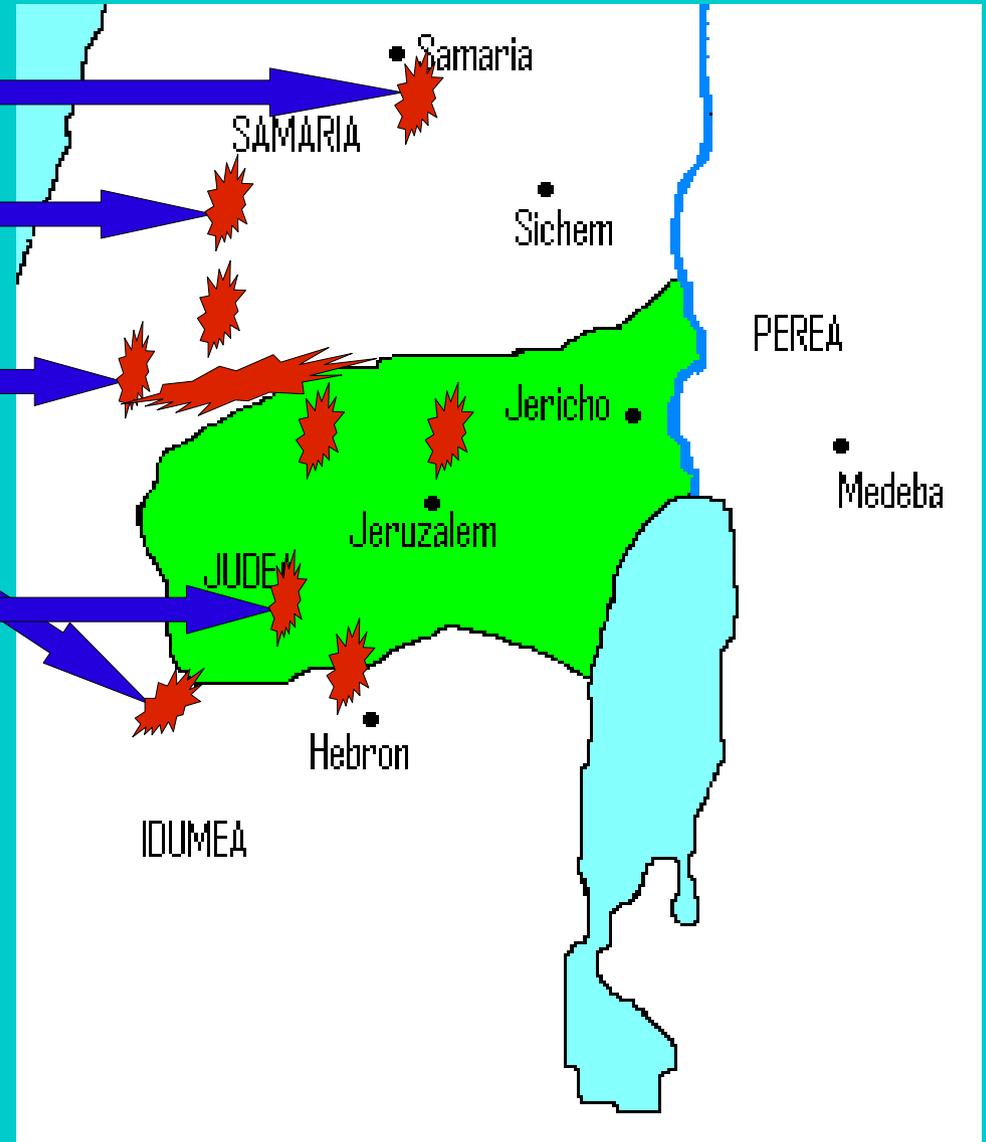
The Passenger's Way

The Way of the Sea



Judah under Judas Maccabeus

- 167 Battle of Wadi Haramia
- 166 Battle of Beth Horon
- 166 Battle of Emmaus
- 164 Battle of Beth Zur
- 164 Battle of Beth Zechariah
- 164 Battle Arabattine
- 161 Battle of Adesa
- 161 Battle of Capharsalama
- 161 from Adasa to Gazera
- 161 Battle of Elasa



The Maccabees

167: Mattathias and his sons (the Maccabees) fought the Syrians and destroyed their altars. Cleansing of the temple in Jerusalem began.

166: Judas Maccabeus led a successful revolt with 6,000 men; routing and killing over 20,000 of the enemy and apostates.

165: Judas routes an army of 65,000, killing 5,000. Judas captured Jerusalem, and had the priests cleanse and rededicate the Temple (the 25th of Kislev) and they celebrated for 8 days (Hanukkah).

164: Countries around Israel killed the Jews in their lands. Antiochus' got reports of Israel and bragged he would make Jerusalem a graveyard of Jews and became ill. He repented, and sought to restore to the Jews all he had taken, and to let them worship God freely. He died, but one of his generals continued to fight the Jews. The armies of Judas killed 70,000 of them.

163: The Jews killed 26,000 who attacked Jerusalem.

162-161 The Jews kill 100,000 in other battles throughout Judah.

7 years of war with ¼ million dead troops of Gog

3,000 slain by Simon in Galilee

“Now unto Simon were given three thousand men to go into Galilee, and unto Judas eight thousand men for the country of Galaad. Then went **Simon into Galilee**, where he fought many battles with the heathen, so that the heathen were discomfited by him. And he pursued them unto the gate of **Ptolemais**; and there **were slain of the heathen about three thousand men, whose spoils he took**. And those that were in Galilee, and in Arbattis, with their wives and their children, and all that they had, took he away with him and brought them into Judea with great joy.”

(1 Macabbees 5:20-23)

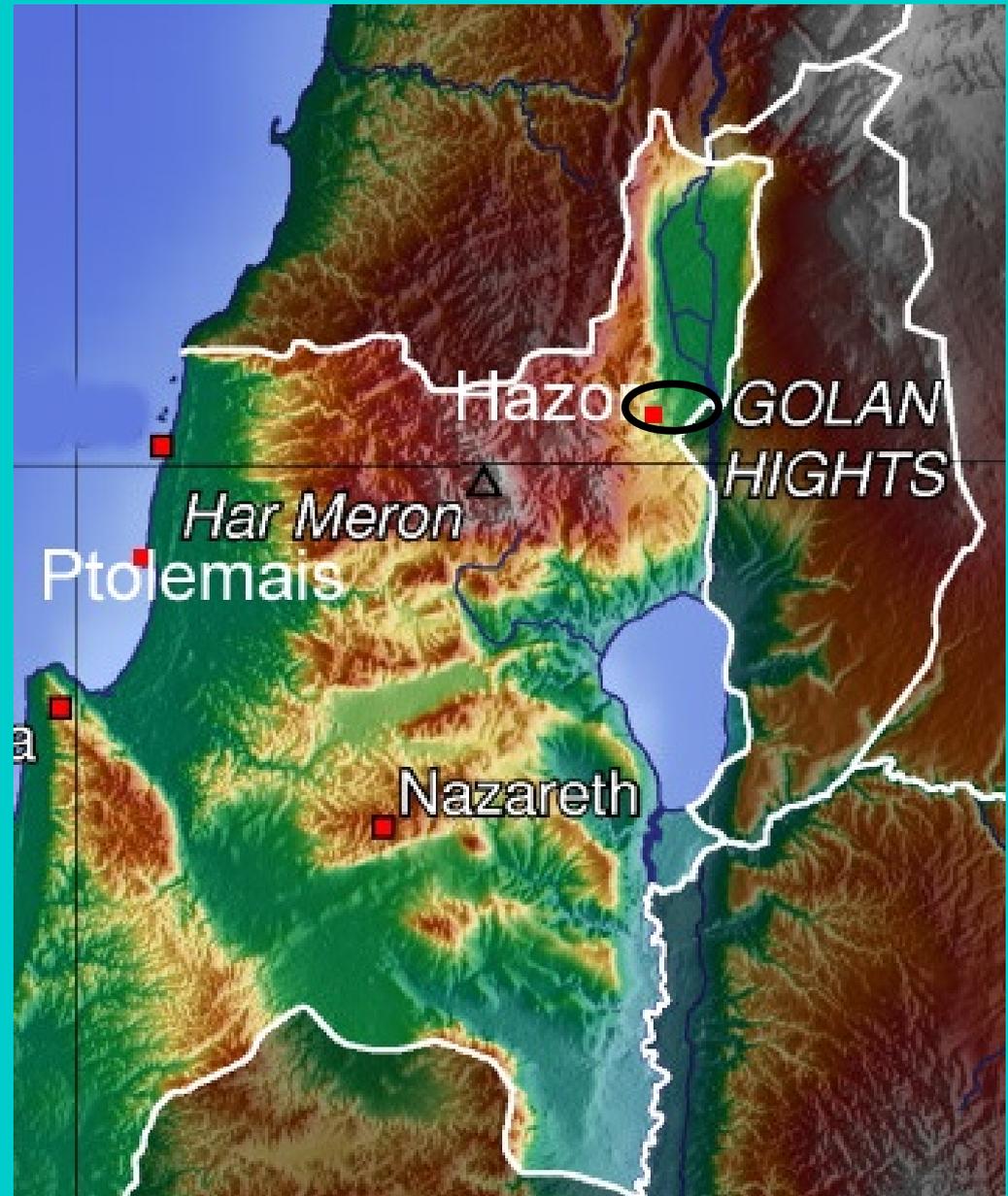
3,000 slain by Jonathan in Galilee

“As for Jonathan and his host, they pitched at the water of Gennesar [Sea of Galilee], from whence betimes in the morning they gat them to the **plain of Nasor [Hazor]**. And, behold, the host of strangers met them in the plain, who, having laid men in ambush for him in the mountains, came themselves over against him. So when they that lay in ambush rose out of their places and joined battle, all that were of Jonathan's side fled; Insomuch as there was not one of them left, except Mattathias the son of Absalom, and Judas the son of Calphi, the captains of the host. Then Jonathan rent his clothes, and cast earth upon his head, and prayed. Afterwards turning again to battle, he put them to flight, and so they ran away. Now when his own men that were fled saw this, they turned again unto him, and with him pursued them to Cades [**Kedesh**], even unto their own tents, and there they camped. So there were slain of the heathen that day about three thousand men: but Jonathan returned to Jerusalem.” (1 Macabbees 11:68-74)

Valley of Passengers = Valley of Hazor

Ezekiel 39:11 “And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea [former sea]: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog.”

(1 Mac. 11:68) “As for Jonathan and his host . . . to the **plain of Nasor [Hazor]**”.



Biblical Israel

The King's Highway

The Passenger's Way

The Way of the Sea



Valley of the passengers

Way of the Sea & Fuel of Fire

Isaiah 9:1-6 “¹Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by **the way of the sea**, beyond Jordan, in **Galilee** of the nations. ²The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, on them has the light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before you according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. ⁴For you have broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. ⁵For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given: and the government shall be on his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Deliverers from the Assyrian

Micah 5:5b-10 “⁵when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men. ⁶And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he comes into our land, and when he treads within our borders. ⁷And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the middle of many people as a dew from the LORD, as the showers on the grass, that tarries not for man, nor waits for the sons of men. ⁸And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the middle of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treads down, and tears in pieces, and none can deliver. ⁹Your hand shall be lifted up on your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.”

7 shepherds & 8 principal men

Maccabees (hammers)

- Mattathias 168-167
 - Jonnan
 - Simon 144-135
 - Judas 167- 161
 - Eleazar
 - Jonathan 161-144
- Hyrcanus, Simon's son
135-104

- Aristobulus 104-103
- Alexander Janraeus
- Alexandra 76-67
- Hyrcanus II 67-66
- Aristobulus II 66-63
- Hyrcanus II 63-40
- Antigorus 40-37
- Herod the Great 37-1

Roman
General
Pompey
entered
Holy of Holies
in 63 BC



Rise of the Roman Empire



Generals Julius Caesar and (sole consul) Pompey

Gog
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1

A study by Eve Clarity ©2008

This mosaic was found in Pompeii in the House of the Faun and is now in a museum in Naples.

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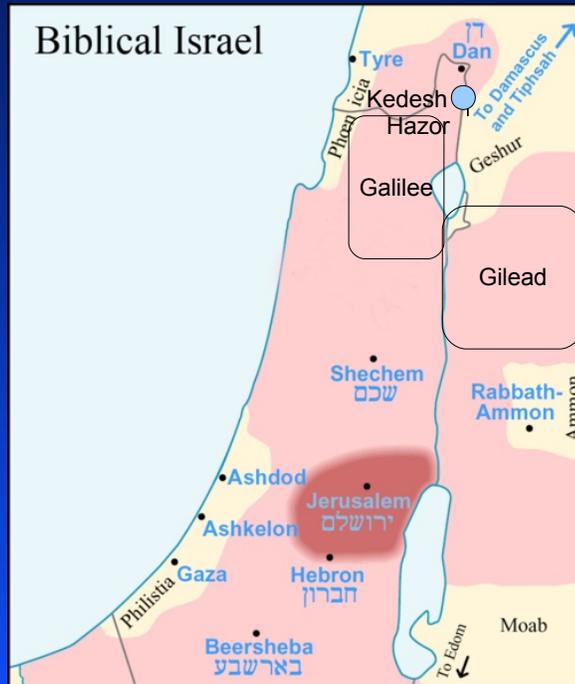
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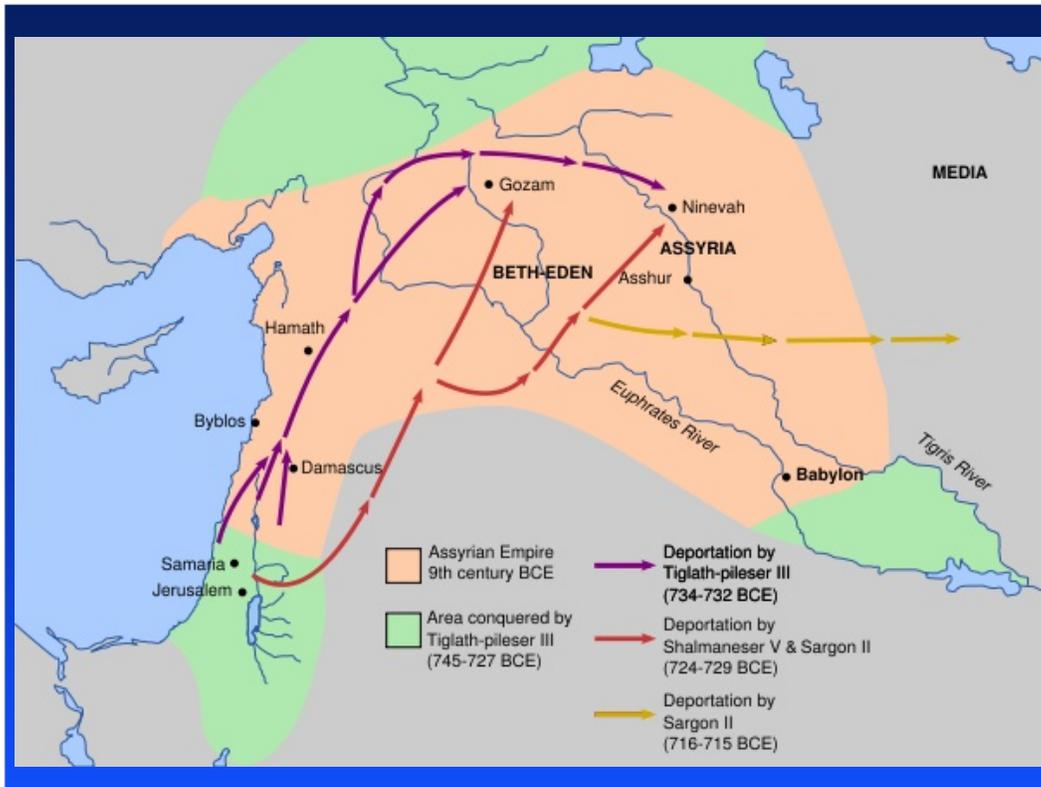
Lands of Gog

2 Kings 15:29 "In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abelbethmaachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria."

732 BC



All of these cities were around ancient Lake Huleh.* Ijon and Abel-beth-maacah (the present Abil el Kamh) were on the north-west of Lake Huleh. [*The Land and the Book* by William McClure Thomson - 1883] Janoach is in Galilee in the tribe-territory of Naphtali, and has not yet been discovered; Kedesh is on the mountains to the west of Lake Huleh with Hazor below it.



In 702 BC, Shalmaneser came and carried more Jews off as well.

2 Kings 17:6 “⁶In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the **Medes**.” (Madaï)



Gog's people were so prosperous, their cattle ranged all the way to the Euphrates River.

Assur was the city from which the Assyrian Empire derived its name. The Assyrian Empire included lands beyond the Caspian Sea.

In 732 BC Assyrian king Tiglathpileser took 13,520 from Gog to live amidst the descendants of Tubal, Meschech, and Magog. Then he rebuilt the old Egyptian fort at Megiddo to protect the lands of Gog he just conquered. Twenty years later Assyrian king Sennacherib boasted of deporting 200,150 people from Israel to Assyria. Then 100 years later the Babylonians likely deported that many from Jerusalem.

Gog and his multitudes

Ezekiel 38:1-7 “¹And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
²Son of man, set your face against **Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal**, and prophesy against him,
³And say, Thus said the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: ⁴And I will turn you back, and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you forth, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: ⁵**Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya** with them; all of them with shield and helmet: ⁶**Gomer**, and all his bands; the house of **Togarmah** of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with you. ⁷Be you prepared, and prepare for yourself, you, and all your company that are assembled to you, and be you a guard to them.”

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Babylonian Deportations of Jews

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Exiles return, Zerubbabel 536
Exiles return, Ezra 467 BC
Exiles return, Nehemiah 454 BC

8

The **book of Daniel** records a deportation of Judaeen nobility that occurred around 605 BCE, in the reign of **Jehoiakim** (Daniel 1:1-6; cf. 2 Chronicles 36:6-7).

586 BC Nebuzaradan sacked the city and took the temple items. (2 Kings 25:1-21).

581 BC

After the Return of the Exiles

Ezekiel 38:8-9 “⁸After many days you shall be visited: in the latter years you shall come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. ⁹You shall ascend and come like a storm, you shall be like a cloud to cover the land, you, and all your bands, and many people with you.”

9

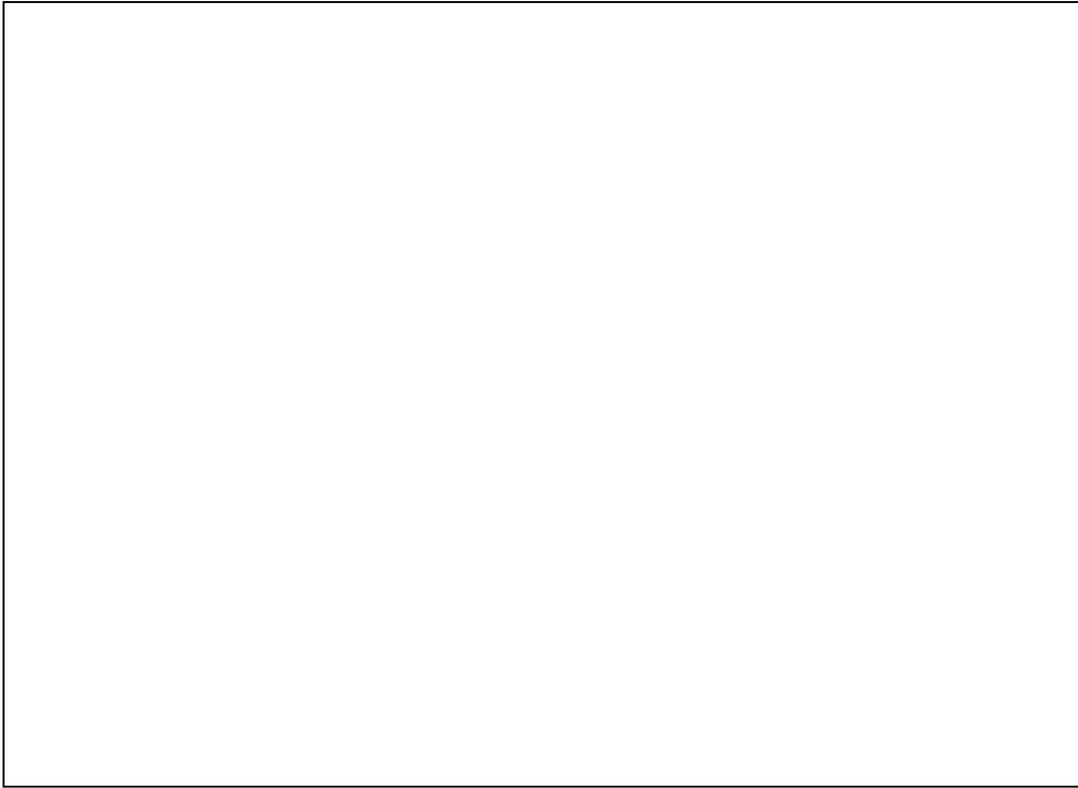
Antiochus, however, had misunderstood the true character of Judaism, if he thought to exterminate it by force. His tyranny aroused both the religious and the political consciousness of the Jews, which resulted in the revolution led by the Maccabees. After the passive resistance of the Ḥasidim (pious ones), who, much to the surprise of the Hellenes, suffered martyrdom by hundreds, the Hasmonean Mattathias organized open resistance in 167-166, which, through the heroic achievements of his son and successor Judas the Maccabee in defeating two large and well-equipped armies of Antiochus, grew to formidable proportions. Antiochus realized that a serious attempt must be made to put down the rising, but was himself too busily occupied against the Parthians to take personal charge. Lysias, whom he had left as regent in Syria, received instructions to send a large army against the Jews and exterminate them utterly. But the generals Ptolemæus, Nicanor, and Gorgias, whom Lysias despatched with large armies against Judah, were defeated one after the other (166-165), and compelled to take refuge upon Philistine soil. Lysias himself (165) was forced to flee to Antioch, having been completely routed by the victorious Jews. But although he began to gather new forces, nothing was accomplished in the lifetime of Antiochus, who died shortly thereafter in Tabæ in Persia, 164.

Antiochus IV spoils Jerusalem

Ezekiel 38:10-12 “**10** Thus said the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into your mind, and you shall think an evil thought: **11** And you shall say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, **12** To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn your hand on the desolate places that are now inhabited, and **on the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the middle of the land.**”

10

Antiochus Epiphanes IV reigned from 175-164 BC.



Antiochus IV obtained mercenaries from all over to attack Judah, and greatly depleted his treasuries in doing so. His generals planned to sell Jewish slaves to restore his coffers.

Merchants awaiting the spoil

Ezekiel 38:13-16 “¹³Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say to **you**, Are you come to take a spoil? have you gathered your company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? ¹⁴Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to **Gog**, Thus said the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwells safely, shall **you** not know it? ¹⁵And **you** shall come from your place out of the north parts, you, and many people with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company, and a mighty army: ¹⁶And **you** shall come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring you against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in **you**, O **Gog**, before their eyes.”

12

1 Macabbees 3:38-41 “[38] Lysias chose Ptolemy the son of Dorymenes, and Nicanor and Gorgias, mighty men among the friends of the king, [39] and sent with them forty thousand infantry and seven thousand cavalry to go into the land of Judah and destroy it, as the king had commanded. [40] so they departed with their entire force, and when they arrived they encamped near Emmaus in the plain. [41] When the traders of the region heard what was said to them, they took silver and gold in immense amounts, and fetters, and went to the camp to get the sons of Israel for slaves. And forces from Syria and the land of the Philistines joined with them.”

Slavers at Battle of Emmaus

“And the **merchants** of the country, hearing the fame of them, took silver and gold very much, with servants, and **came into the camp to buy the children of Israel for slaves**: a power also of Syria and of the land of the Philistines joined themselves unto them.” (1 Maccabees 3:41)

“So Nicanor undertook to make so much money of the captive Jews, as should defray the tribute of two thousand talents, which the king was to pay to the Romans. Wherefore immediately he sent to the cities upon the sea coast, **proclaiming a sale of the captive Jews, and promising that they should have fourscore and ten bodies for one talent**, not expecting the vengeance that was to follow upon him from the Almighty God.” (2 Maccabees 8:10-11)

“As for that most ungracious Nicanor, **who had brought a thousand merchants to buy the Jews** . . . he came like a fugitive servant . . . for that his host was destroyed. Thus he, that took upon him **to make good to the Romans their tribute by means of captives in Jerusalem**, told abroad, that the Jews had God to fight for them, and therefore they could not be hurt, because they followed the laws that he gave them.”

(2 Maccabees 8:34-36)

Declaration against Judaism

“Moreover king Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom, that all should be one people, And every one should leave his laws: so all the heathen agreed according to the commandment of the king.

Yea, many also of the Israelites consented to his religion, and sacrificed unto idols, and profaned the sabbath. . . . And whosoever would not do according to the commandment of the king, he said, he should die. In the selfsame manner wrote he to his whole kingdom, and appointed overseers over all the people, commanding the cities of Juda to sacrifice, city by city.”

(1 Maccabees 1:41-43; 50-51)

Declaration against Judaism

“Not long after this the king sent an old man of Athens to compel the Jews to depart from the laws of their fathers, and not to live after the laws of God: And to pollute also the temple in Jerusalem, and to call it the temple of Jupiter Olympius; and that in Garizim, of Jupiter the Defender of strangers, as they did desire that dwelt in the place. The coming in of this mischief was sore and grievous to the people: For the temple was filled with riot and revelling by the Gentiles, who dallied with harlots, and had to do with women within the circuit of the holy places, and besides that brought in things that were not lawful. The altar also was filled with profane things, which the law forbiddeth. Neither was it lawful for a man to keep sabbath days or ancient fasts, or to profess himself at all to be a Jew.” (2 Macabbees 6:1-6)

Gog, the Assyrian

Ezekiel 38:17-20 “¹⁷Thus said the Lord GOD; Are you **he** of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring **you** against them? ¹⁸And it shall come to pass at the same time when **Gog** shall come against the land of Israel, said the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. ¹⁹For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; ²⁰So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all the men that are on the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.”

16

This is a prophecy against Gog. Ezekiel was contemporary with Daniel and Jeremiah. 100 years earlier, Isaiah called this intruder the Assyrian. Prophets Hosea and Micah were Isaiah's contemporaries.

Hosea 11:1+5-6 “¹When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt. ⁵He shall not return into the land of Egypt, and the **Assyrian** shall be his king, because they refused to return. ⁶And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of their own counsels.”

Antiochus IV Epiphanes

170: He killed 40,000 and sold 40,000 as slaves. He took all the gold and silver from the Temple. He sacrificed a pig on the altar, boiled the meat and forced priests to eat it; those who refused had their tongues cut out.

169: Antiochus IV builds a navy (against the terms of the Peace of Apamea his father signed) and conquers Cyprus and large parts of Egypt and presents himself as protector of Ptolemy VI against his relatives Ptolemy VIII and Cleopatra II

168: Roman pressure forced Antiochus to stop attack of Egypt. He sent Apollonius with army of 22,000 to collect tribute from Jerusalem. They kill and capture many, plunder the city and burn it.

167: Antiochus forbade sacrifices, circumcision and other Jewish laws; they were to worship idols and eat pork, or be killed. An idol of Zeus was placed on the altar. Scrolls were burned; their owners, killed.

165: Antiochus captured Artaxias, capital of Armenia.

164: Antiochus' attack on Susa failed. He got reports of Israel and bragged he would make Jerusalem a graveyard of Jews and became ill. He repented, and sought to restore to the Jews all he had taken, and to let them worship God freely. He died of a painful, stinky bowel disease. ¹⁷

173 Refoundation of Babylon in Greek community. Visit to Jerusalem.
170 Antiochus tried to Hellenize the Jews by building a gymnasium in Jerusalem and stripping the priests and having them wrestle. He took all the gold and silver from the Temple. He sacrificed a pig on the altar, boiled the meat and forced priests to eat it; those who refused had their tongues cut out. His tyranny aroused both the religious and the political consciousness of the Jews, which resulted in the revolution led by the Maccabees. Mattathias organized open resistance in 167-166, and with his son and successor Judas the Maccabee (hammer) defeated two large and well-equipped armies of Antiochus. Antiochus was busy fighting against the Parthians. He gave Lysias instructions to send a large army against the Jews and exterminate them utterly. But the generals Ptolemæus, Nicanor, and Gorgias, whom Lysias despatched with large armies against Judah, were defeated one after the other (166-165), and compelled to take refuge upon Philistine soil. Lysias himself (165) was forced to flee to Antioch, having been completely routed by the victorious Jews. Antiochus died shortly thereafter in Persia, 164.

Gog, of the north, with bow and arrow



ANTIOXOV



Ezekiel 39:1-5 “**1**Therefore, you son of man, prophesy against **Gog**, and say, Thus said the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against you, **O Gog**, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: **2**And I will turn you back, and leave but the sixth part of you, and will cause you to come up from the north parts, and will bring you on the mountains of Israel: **3**And I will smite your bow out of your left hand, and will cause your arrows to fall out of your right hand. **4**You shall fall on the mountains of Israel, you, and all your bands, and the people that is with you: I will give you to the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. **5**You shall fall on the open field: for I have spoken it, said the Lord GOD.” ¹⁸

It is typical of a right-handed person to hold the bow with his left hand and draw the arrow with his right hand when shooting. It is interesting that Antiochus IV is pictured reclining with a bow in his left hand and an arrow in his right.

The Maccabees used guerrilla warfare, often dividing their small numbers so as to surround a narrow passage in the hills and pick off the enemies, but they also won in open field battles.

7 years of fuel from Gog's weapons

Ezekiel 39:6-10 “⁶And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD. ⁷So will I make my holy name known in the middle of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. ⁸Behold, it is come, and it is done, said the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken. ⁹**And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the hand staves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years:** ¹⁰So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, said the Lord GOD.”

19

And shall set on fire-the weapons] The Israelites shall make bonfires and fuel of the weapons, tents, defeated Syrians shall leave behind them, as expressive of the joy which they shall feel for the destruction of their enemies; and to keep up, in their *culinary consumption*, the memory of this great event. *They shall burn them with fire seven years]* These may be *figurative* expressions, after the manner of the Asiatics, whose language abounds with such descriptions. They occur every where in the prophets. As to the number *seven*, it is only a certain for an indeterminate number. But as the slaughter was great, and the *bows, arrows, quivers, shields, bucklers, handstaves, and spears* were in vast multitudes, it must have taken a long time to gather them up in the different parts of the *fields* of battle, and the *roads* in which the Syrians had *retreated*, throwing away their *arms* as they proceeded; so there might have been a long time employed in collecting and burning them. And as all seem to have been doomed to the fire, there might have been some found at different intervals and burned, during the *seven years* here mentioned. *Mariana*, in his History of Spain, lib. xi., c. 24, says, that after the Spaniards had given that signal overthrow to the Saracens, A.D. 1212, they found such a vast quantity of lances, javelins, and such like, that they served them for *four years* for fuel. And probably these instruments obtained by the Israelites were used in general for *culinary firewood*, and might *literally* have served them for *seven years*; so that during that time *they should take no wood out of the fields, nor out of the forests* for the purpose of *fuel*, -- Clarke

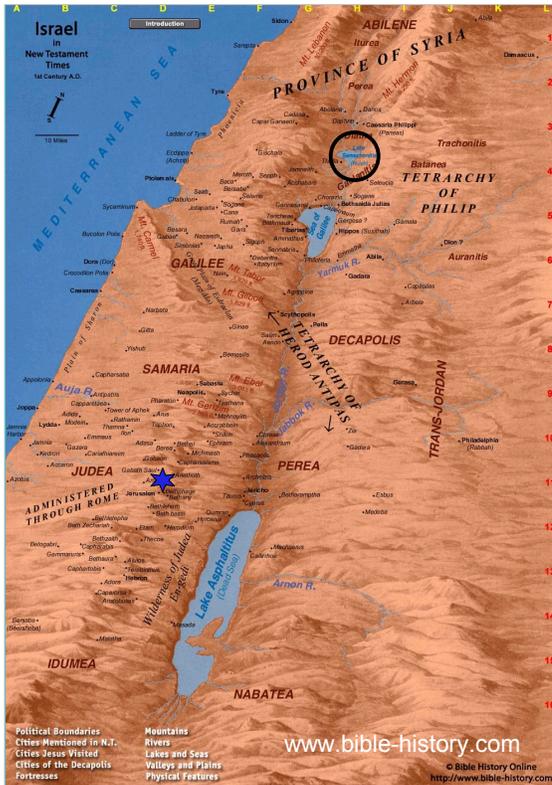
7 months to bury the armies of Gog

Ezekiel 39:11-17 “¹¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the **valley of the passengers** on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog. ¹²**And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.** ¹³Yes, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, said the Lord GOD. ¹⁴And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain on the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search. ¹⁵And the passengers that pass through the land, when any sees a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the **valley of Hamongog**. ¹⁶And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land. ¹⁷And, you son of man, thus said the Lord GOD; Speak to every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh, and drink blood.” ²⁰

“Many of the Syrian

soldiers had secreted themselves in different places during the pursuit after the battle, where they died of their wounds, of hunger, and of fatigue; so that they were not all found and buried till *seven months* after the defeat of the Syrian army. This slow process of burying is distinctly related in the three following verses, and extended even to a *bone*, #Eze 39:15|; which, when it was found by a passenger, the place was marked, that the buriers might see and *inter* it. *Seven months* was little time enough for all this work; and in that country putrescency does not easily take place: the scorching winds serving to desiccate the flesh, and preserve it from decomposition.” --Clarke

“When the passengers pass through the land.” Though there is one main burial place for Gog, the passageway it's near goes through the whole land of Israel.



Little Lake Hula

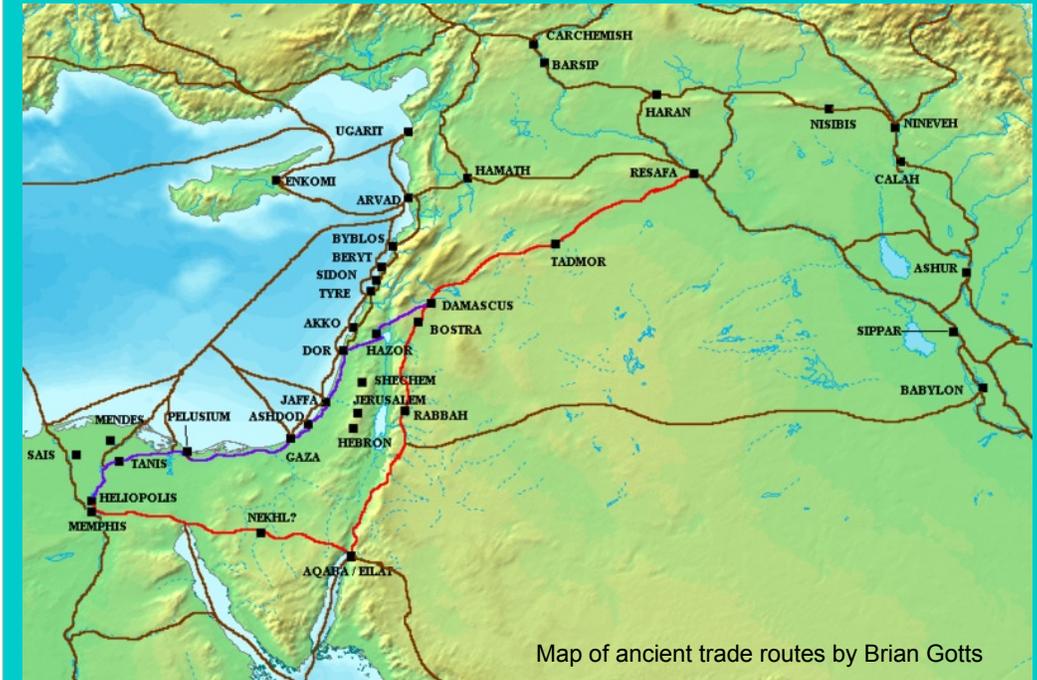
Joshua 11:5,10 “And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel. And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.”

21

Little Lake Hula lies north of the Sea of Galilee. At one time it was known as Samochonitis, and as Merom. And Jonathan Macabees in the same place, kills 3,000 of the army of Demetrius, "in the plain of Asor," as the same Josephus writes. But, in the Book of the Maccabees, it is, "The plain of Nasor," 1 Maccabees 11:67. [John Lightfoot]

If you were a Syrian king, how would you attack Jerusalem? Jerusalem is located in foothills about 30 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea, and Syria is to the north but has a navy. You also have lots of chariots, so you'd like to fight the Jews on an open plain, but how do you get them out of the foothills? You don't want to send your forces through narrow gorges in the foothills where the Jews could pick them off a few at a time. The Jews also know the terrain and could set up ambushes from caves or other hiding places.

King's Highway and Way of the Sea



The brown lines are other ancient trade routes.
The King's Highway is noted in Numbers 20:16-22 when the Hebrews sought to go through the land of Edom, from Kadesh-barnea, to the King's highway, but were rebuffed.

Way of the Sea was called the Way of the Philistines since it went through their cities of Gaza, Ashkelon, and Ashdod. In Roman times it was known in Latin as *Via Maris*.

When the Syrians attacked, it was usually from Damascus through the Golan Heights, around the Sea of Galilee, to Megiddo and to the coast and down the Way of the Sea.

You'll notice no trade routes went through the foothills of Jerusalem.

Where is the “valley of the passengers”?

Ezekiel 39:11,15-16 “¹¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the **valley of the passengers** on the east [ancient] *of the sea*: and it shall stop the noses of the **passengers**: and there shall they bury **Gog** and all his **multitude**: and they shall call it The valley of **Hamongog**. ¹⁵And the **passengers** that **pass through** the land, when any sees a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the **valley of Hamongog**. ¹⁶And also the name of the city shall be **Hamonah**. Thus shall they cleanse the land.”

Ezekiel 33:28b “. . . the mountains of Israel shall be desolate, that none shall **pass through**.”

23

Valley is *gevah*, meaning a gorge with lofty sides, a narrow. It could describe a “wadi”, a river basin, as well.

Passengers is *abar*, meaning to *cross over*; used of any *transition* [specifically to *cover* (in copulation)]: - alienate, bring (over, through), carry over, (over-) come (on, over), escape, fail, gender, get over, (make) go (over, through), overrun, make partition, (over) pass, pass over, passage, proclaim, perish, provoke to anger, raiser of taxes, etc.

When Ezekiel refers to the Mediterranean Sea, he calls it the “great sea” (Ezek. 47 four times, and 48:28). So did the writers of Numbers and Joshua.

When Ezekiel uses the word for the direction of east, he uses “*qadim*” Here he uses “*qidmah*”, meaning front or former.

The “of the” is added by the editor, it's not in the original.

An “ancient sea” now very small is Lake Huleh.

“The noses” is also added, but could be conveyed by the word “muzzle” for stop.

Multitude is *hamon* (masc.) and *Hamonah* (fem.).

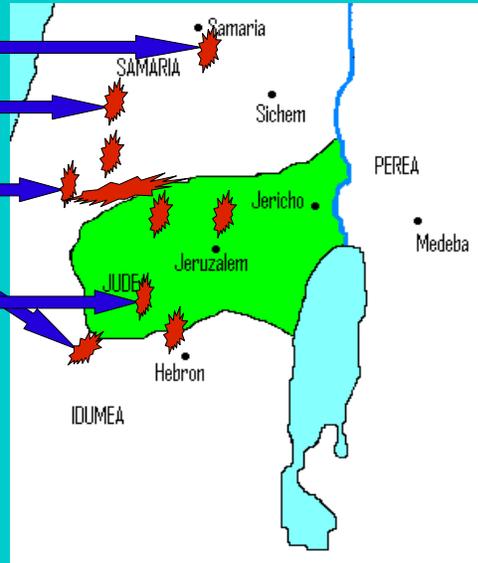


The King's Highway and the Way of the Sea were used by caravans. The route through Jerusalem was not easy for wheeled transport. It comes from the north by the former sea of Hula, now a mere lake. It jogs over to Megiddo because mountains Tabor and Gilboa are in the way of a direct route. I am calling this middle route the Passenger's Way, primarily for foot traffic. It might also be called the pilgrim's route for those going to sacrifice at the Temple in Jerusalem.

When Assyrian TiglathPileser attacked Israel in 734 BC, he used the way of the sea to secure the coast, and because the middle route was unsuitable for chariots. Then the next year he used the other two routes simultaneously and gained a decisive victory. Judah is the darkened spot around Jerusalem.

Judah under Judas Maccabeus

- 167 Battle of Wadi Haramia
- 166 Battle of Beth Horon
- 166 Battle of Emmaus
- 164 Battle of Beth Zur
- 164 Battle of Beth Zechariah
- 164 Battle Arabattine
- 161 Battle of Adesa
- 161 Battle of Capharsalama
- 161 from Adasa to Gazera
- 161 Battle of Elasa



Judas divides his 600 men into 4 groups and wipes out 2,000 men of Apollonia in **Wadi Haramia**, and Judas takes Apollonia's sword.* At Beth Horon,* Judas kills 800 men, and the rest flee into Philistia After Beth-Horon, Battle of Emmaus*, Judas and his men kill 3,000 out of the 27,000 men whom Lysias sent under the command of Gorgias and Nicanor, as they fled “**unto Gazera, and unto the plains of Idumea, and Azotus, and Jamnia,**” (1 Macc 4:15) Their weapons included javelins, spears, swords, shields, battering rams, and ballistas. Two years later at Beth Zur,* Judas kills 5,000 out of Lysias' 65,000 men, and Lysias' men dropped their shields and weapons and ran. At Beth Zechariah,* Lysias returns with 50,000 better trained mercenaries and 32 elephants which cause Judas to retreat. Battle of Arabattine 25,000 killed.* Adesa* At Capharsalama, 5,000.* When Judas went to Gilead*, he killed 8,000 of the army of Timotheus, and killed all the men in Bosora, Casphon, Maked, Bosor, and Ephron, and all the Arabians in Raphon. While he was busy there, his brother Simon was defeating the enemy in the Galilee* all the way to Arbatta and the coast city of Ptolemais (Acco) Judas and Simon brought the women and children back to Judah. And then took Hebron and Maspha (Misphah), From Adesa to Gazera, 35,000 killed.* Judas dies at Elasa* Some of these battles were on the travel route of the passengers.

The Maccabees

167: Mattathias and his sons (the Maccabees) fought the Syrians and destroyed their altars. Cleansing of the temple in Jerusalem began.

166: Judas Maccabeus led a successful revolt with 6,000 men; routing and killing over 20,000 of the enemy and apostates.

165: Judas routes an army of 65,000, killing 5,000. Judas captured Jerusalem, and had the priests cleanse and rededicate the Temple (the 25th of Kislev) and they celebrated for 8 days (Hanukkah).

164: Countries around Israel killed the Jews in their lands. Antiochus' got reports of Israel and bragged he would make Jerusalem a graveyard of Jews and became ill. He repented, and sought to restore to the Jews all he had taken, and to let them worship God freely. He died, but one of his generals continued to fight the Jews. The armies of Judas killed 70,000 of them.

163: The Jews killed 26,000 who attacked Jerusalem.

162-161 The Jews kill 100,000 in other battles throughout Judah.

7 years of war with ¼ million dead troops of Gog

26

Mattathias organized open resistance in 167-166, and with his son and successor Judas the Maccabee (hammer) defeated two large and well-equipped armies of Antiochus. Antiochus was busy fighting against the Parthians. He gave Lysias instructions to send a large army against the Jews and exterminate them utterly. But the generals Ptolemæus, Nicanor, and Gorgias, whom Lysias despatched with large armies against Judah, were defeated one after the other (166-165), and compelled to take refuge upon Philistine soil. Lysias himself (165) was forced to flee to Antioch, having been completely routed by the victorious Jews. Antiochus died shortly thereafter in Persia, 164.

All those dead bodies had to be buried somewhere closeby in Judah, but Ezekiel specifically talks about those buried in a valley near the former sea.

3,000 slain by Simon in Galilee

“Now unto Simon were given three thousand men to go into Galilee, and unto Judas eight thousand men for the country of Galaad. Then went **Simon into Galilee**, where he fought many battles with the heathen, so that the heathen were discomfited by him. And he pursued them unto the gate of **Ptolemais**; and there **were slain of the heathen about three thousand men, whose spoils he took**. And those that were in Galilee, and in Arbattis, with their wives and their children, and all that they had, took he away with him and brought them into Judea with great joy.”

(1 Macabbees 5:20-23)

27

“Simon went into Galilee, and fought the enemy, and put them to flight, and pursued them to the very gates of Ptolemais, and slew about three thousand of them, and took the spoils of those that were slain, and those Jews whom they had made captives, with their baggage, and then returned home.” (Antiquities 12.8.2)

Ezekiel 39:10 “So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: **and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them**, said the Lord GOD.”

Many times the Maccabees take the spoils of their enemies.

3,000 slain by Jonathan in Galilee

“As for Jonathan and his host, they pitched at the water of Gennesar [Sea of Galilee], from whence betimes in the morning they gat them to the **plain of Nasor [Hazor]**. And, behold, the host of strangers met them in the plain, who, having laid men in ambush for him in the mountains, came themselves over against him. So when they that lay in ambush rose out of their places and joined battle, all that were of Jonathan's side fled; Inasmuch as there was not one of them left, except Mattathias the son of Absalom, and Judas the son of Calphi, the captains of the host. Then Jonathan rent his clothes, and cast earth upon his head, and prayed. Afterwards turning again to battle, he put them to flight, and so they ran away. Now when his own men that were fled saw this, they turned again unto him, and with him pursued them to Cades [**Kedesh**], even unto their own tents, and there they camped. So there were slain of the heathen that day about three thousand men: but Jonathan returned to Jerusalem.” (1 Macabbees 11:68-74)

28

Jonathan pursued the troops of Demetrius into Syria. Demetrius sent word of his attacks in Kedesh in Galilee to draw Jonathan out of Syria. According to Josephus, Demetrius had numerous troops and set up an ambush.

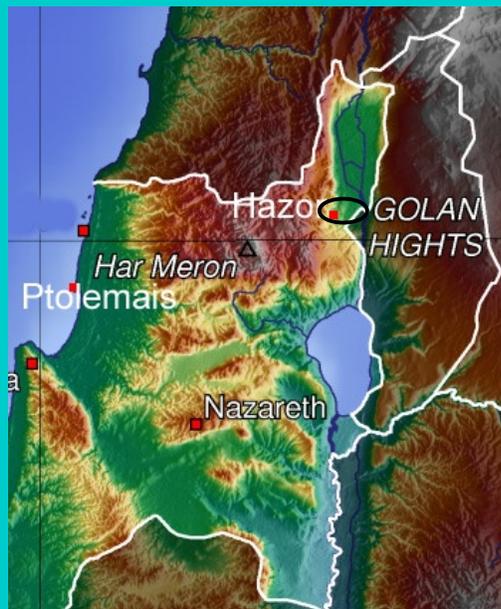
“But when he heard that the generals of Demetrius's forces were come to the city Cadesh with a numerous army, (the place lies between the land of the Tyrians and Galilee,) for they supposed they should hereby draw him out of Syria, in order to preserve Galilee, and that he would not overlook the Galileans, who were his own people, when war was made upon them, he went to meet them,” {Antiquities 5.6}

“Jonathan having thus gotten a glorious victory, and slain two thousand of the enemy, returned to Jerusalem.” {Antiquities 13.5.8}

Valley of Passengers = Valley of Hazor

Ezekiel 39:11 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea [former sea]: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog."

(1 Mac. 11:68) "As for Jonathan and his host . . . to the **plain of Nasor [Hazor]**".



Simon fought and killed the Syrians in Galilee all the way to Ptolemais, which is modern Acco/Acre. Jonathan pitched his tents at the Sea of Galilee, but then went north toward Lake Hula. Between the bodies of water is a narrow valley and the city of Hazor, and an ambush awaited Jonathan and his troops (who deserted him). But Jonathan prayed and attacked, and his army returned to him and fought and killed the 3,000 Syrians.

Since this battle ground is near a narrow part of the main travel route to Jerusalem, it was unavoidable by passengers, who would have to hold their noses from the putrefication of the corpses.



The valley of the passengers on the east of the sea]

That is, of *Gennesareth*, according to the *Targum*. The valley near this lake or sea is called *the Valley of the Passengers*, because it was a great road by which the merchants and traders from Syria and other eastern countries went into Egypt; see [#Ge 37:17, 25](#)].

(Genesis 37:25-28 Ishmaelites coming from Gilead on their way to sell in Egypt, pass through Shechem, and take Joseph.)

There shall they bury Gog and all his multitude] Some read, "There shall they bury Gog, that is, all his multitude." Not Gog, or Antiochus himself, for he was not in this battle; but his *generals, captains, and soldiers*, by whom he was represented. As to *Hamon-gog*, we know no valley of this name but here. But we may understand the words thus: the place where this great slaughter was, and where the multitudes of the slain were buried, might be

better called *Hamon-gog*, the *valley of the multitude of God*, than the *valley of passengers*; for so great was the carnage there, that the way of the passengers shall be stopped by it -- Clarke

Way of the Sea & Fuel of Fire

Isaiah 9:1-6 “Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by **the way of the sea**, beyond Jordan, in **Galilee** of the nations. ²The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, on them has the light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before you according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. ⁴For you have broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian. ⁵For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given: and the government shall be on his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

31

The tribe of Naphtali lived along the west side of the Sea of Galilee, and the tribe of Zebulun lived next to them. The **way of the sea** went through their territories from Capernaum to Dor. A champion arises like Gideon in the days when Midian oppressed them. I believe this was Jonathan Maccabees. When he was ambushed by an army north of the Sea of Galilee, and his men deserted him, he “rent his clothes, and cast earth upon his head, and prayed” and then faced the fight and was victorious. It would only be about 150 years from Jonathan Maccabees until Messiah was born. The Maccabees delivered the Jews from oppression, but it would be Jesus who would increase their joy as mighty God and Prince of Peace.

Deliverers from the Assyrian

Micah 5:5b-10 “⁵when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men. ⁶And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he comes into our land, and when he treads within our borders. ⁷And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the middle of many people as a dew from the LORD, as the showers on the grass, that tarries not for man, nor waits for the sons of men. ⁸And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the middle of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treads down, and tears in pieces, and none can deliver. ⁹Your hand shall be lifted up on your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.”

32

Jonathan Maccabees enjoyed two periods of two years of peace from 160-158 and from 150-148.

7 shepherds & 8 principal men

- Maccabees (hammers)
 - Mattathias 168-167
 - Jonnan
 - Simon 144-135
 - Judas 167- 161
 - Eleazar
 - Jonathan 161-144
 - Hyrcanus, Simon's son 135-104
- Aristobulus 104-103
- Alexander Janraeus
- Alexandra 76-67
- Hyrcanus II 67-66
- Aristobulus II 66-63
- Hyrcanus II 63-40
- Antigorus 40-37
- Herod the Great 37-1

33

Eleazar died in the Battle of Beth Zechariah valiantly attacking and killing an elephant from underneath, but then crushed to death.

Aristobulus, Alexander ruled from 103 to 76 and then his wife Salome Alexandra reigned after him until Hyrcanus II took the throne. Then he and Aristobulus appeal to Rome, and Rome restores Hyrcanus to the throne in 63. So it's actually 7 men, one of whom rules twice.

Herod, was not a Jew, He was Idumean (from Edom). Herod defeated Antigorus and then married his teenage niece, Mariamne, which helped to secure him a claim to the throne and gain some Jewish favor because she was Hasmonean. However, Herod already had a wife, Doris, and a young son, Antipater III, and chose to banish them both. Herod ordered the slaughter of the innocents in Bethlehem when Christ was born in 3 BC.



Roman
General
Pompey
entered
Holy of Holies
in 63 BC

34

Pompey in the Temple of Jerusalem by Jean Fouquet,
(1470-1475)

In 64 BC Pompey Rome gave jurisdiction of the Mediterranean and its coastlands 50 miles inland. He defeated the pirates swiftly. Then he deposed king Antiochus XIII of Syria.

In 63 BC, he continued south to establish Roman rule in Phoenicia and Judea.

General Pompey came to Jerusalem to settle the civil war between Hyrcanus II and Aristobulus II. With the assistance of Hyrcanus and a delegation of Pharisees, they besieged Jerusalem for three months, and took it from Aristobulus. Pompey entered the Holy of Holies to verify the Jews had no physical statue or image of their God in their temple, a truly radical thought to a Roman who worshipped many idols. (King Herod executed Hyrcanus in 31 BC.)

Rise of the Roman Empire



Generals Julius Caesar and (sole consul) Pompey

35

In December 50 BC, the Senate, led by Pompey, ordered Caesar to return to Rome and disband his army. Caesar wrote to the senate saying that he would give up his army if Pompey would give up his. Pompey accused Caesar of treason. For two years Pompey pursued Julius Caesar, until he misjudged an attack and fled to Egypt where he was murdered. In 48 BC the Roman Republic ended and Julius Caesar became the dictator of the Roman Empire.

In 46 BC Caesar becomes High Priest of Rome for life, and replaces the Roman calendar with the Julian calendar, which remained the standard until the Gregorian Calendar in 1582.

The prophecies of Daniel and Ezekiel and Micah were being fulfilled, and people began to look in earnest for their Messiah as Rome began to rule in Judah.