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Approximately 15 years past the Second Millennium

# TEACHER'S MANUAL: INTRODUCTION

Our maps of the Bible were designed to be used in two ways: For children who can learn by cutting and pasting cutouts onto maps independently, and for teachers who really want to give their students a sense of "placement" for all the stories of the Bible. If you are in that latter group, this supplement is for you!

Your students will come away knowing some important facts:

- 1. that the world's most important history things that occurred in the Bible happened on the same plot of ground, around 500 miles square, between what is modern-day Iraq and modern-day Israel.
- 2. where important Bible places are thought to be located. They include lots of pinpoints, from the Garden of Eden to the seven churches mentioned in the Book of Revelation.
- 3. that all this history took place between the same four large bodies of water. And when they see a map with the Mediterranean, or Great Sea, on the west they will know they are very close to everything!
- 4. how modern-day Israel, Turkey, Syria, Egypt, and Iraq relate to ancient times and how super-related we still are to ancient occurrences.
- 5. where and when their favorite Bible heroes performed their great deeds, and how far apart they were from one another.

### WHAT IS INCLUDED IN OUR MAP PACKAGE

EIGHT maps are included, each representing a different Bible era as follows:

**Map 1:** From Birth of Adam to the Birth of Abraham (*prior to 2200 BC*)

**Map 2:** Before the Birth of Abraham Past the Death of Joseph (2300 BC to 1600 BC)

**Map 3:** From the Birth of Moses through the End of the Exodus (1446 BC to 1406 BC)

**Map 4:** The Era of the Judges & the United Kingdom of Israel (*1350 BC to 931 BC*)

**Map 5:** The Time of Exiles, Invasions, and the Great Prophets (722 BC through 516 BC)

Map 6: The Life of Jesus (4-7 BC to 30-33 AD)

Map 7: Time of the Great Commission (33 AD to 90 AD)

Map 8: Today



There are **three pages** included for each map:

- 1. the Map with Numbers, which is for students to use as a "base," pasting the cutouts in the numbered spots;
- 2. the Cutouts Page;
- 3. a Teacher's Version of the map with the cutouts in place (an answer sheet). This can also be used as a straight forward map coloring page if time is limited or children are too young to cut and paste.

### WAYS TO USE THE PACKAGE

The Maps can be used in two ways:

**If you are using the maps as an independent activity kit,** students will enjoy simply cutting the cutouts and pasting them over the proper numbers on the Map with Numbers page. They will have fun and also learn some things if you encourage them to

- 1. read the "frame" on each map, which is the bordered square that gives information on the time being covered.
- 2. read the people, places and events they are cutting out. Each comes with an ID tag that gives a little information.

Children who can't read must do the cutouts with an adult or older student, or they will not reap any learning benefits.

**If you are using the maps to seriously teach students,** use the teaching materials enclosed, which are very easy to follow. There is a two-to-three minute introduction to the cutouts that you can simply read — *with animation!* Following are a few lines that go with each cutout. All you have to do is speak what's written as students cut and paste each one on the map.

You can teach one map a week for eight weeks, mixing it in with other materials if you wish. Your students should have at least a basic knowledge of classic Bible stories, as they are referred to on the map and in your teaching materials. Here are our suggestions for optimal learning and minimal fidgeting!

- Have students cut and paste the cutouts onto the map at the top of class.
- Your teaching materials will apply once all the cutouts are on. Each map comes with a "Notes" and a "Cutouts" section, designating what you should say. When all the cutouts are glued down, have them locate each as you repeat the "Cutouts" section of each lesson.



- As you repeat the little paragraph about that cutout, have the students *lightly* color in that ident using a colored pencil, highlighter or crayon. We say *lightly* because they will have been glued, and you don't want tears. The coloring will provide students an activity to prevent fidgeting.
- Then, play games or watch visuals that will reinforce what you've learned. Some suggestions are below.

# Follow up with discussion questions that help students to re-identify the places. Ask things like

- If you could go back to any of these places in a time machine, which would you pick? Why?
- 2. Which place is scariest? Why?
- 3. Which place is the prettiest? Why?
- 4. Which place would you most like to see excavated today? What do you think it would look like?

**Visuals and games help lots!** Your visuals will help. Here are suggestions for this and other reinforcements:

- 1. Kids love watching video Bible stories or seeing ruins and excavation sites. We have suggestions (links) for further reading/viewing in the teaching materials for Map 8. You can also show them in weeks preceding, spreading them out. Add some of your own as well.
- 2. Play relay games, asking students to point to a certain cutout. The first student to ID the cutout gets a point. Amp up the game by taping the map on one wall and having players run up to it. Offer prizes for incentive!
- 3. Incorporate some of our other teaching tools. We have a beautiful **8-Page Bible Timeline** that is great in helping students understand Bible eras.

It will be freeing and fun for you and your students to be able to hear Bible places — Antioch, Babylon, Egypt, Gaza—and to finally be able to see them in your heads! Your Bible will make more sense, and your students' ears will begin to perk up each time they hear a name on the news. Here's your chance to help students learn like never before!



# MAP I BEFORE 2200 BC

Time Period Covered:

#### From the birth of Adam to the birth of Abraham

Bible Books Covered:

#### Genesis 1 through Genesis 11

# NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

This period doesn't have many dates! It happened before time was recorded in any of our traditional ways.

But there are many clues.

This map uses dates accepted by <u>creation.com</u>. Those scientists follow James Ussher. Ussher was a Protestant Archbishop of Ireland in the 1600s and a great scholar. He established a Genesis timeline that most creationists and evangelicals still trust today.

Birth of Adam occurred around 4,000 BC. That started mankind.

### <u>CUTOUTS</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters.

**Garden of Eden:** The Garden of Eden is in modern-day Iraq. That's where Adam and Eve were born. It is identified in the Bible as existing between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (shown on the map), plus two other rivers that ran east and west, but no longer exist.

We don't know exactly where Adam and Eve went after they were put out of the Garden. However, we can assume they were close by, because there were no wheels or wagons or ways to travel. Somewhere in that vicinity, Cain killed Abel. Then, Eve had Seth and other children. Ancient Mesopotamia (the gray area on the map) was established by the children and grandchildren of Cain and Seth and however many subsequent children Adam and Eve had.

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**Job & the Land of Uz:** It's an interesting fact that the Book of Job is in the middle of our Bible, but scholars think it was one of the first to be written — maybe the first! Job lived in the land of Uz. We don't really know where it was.

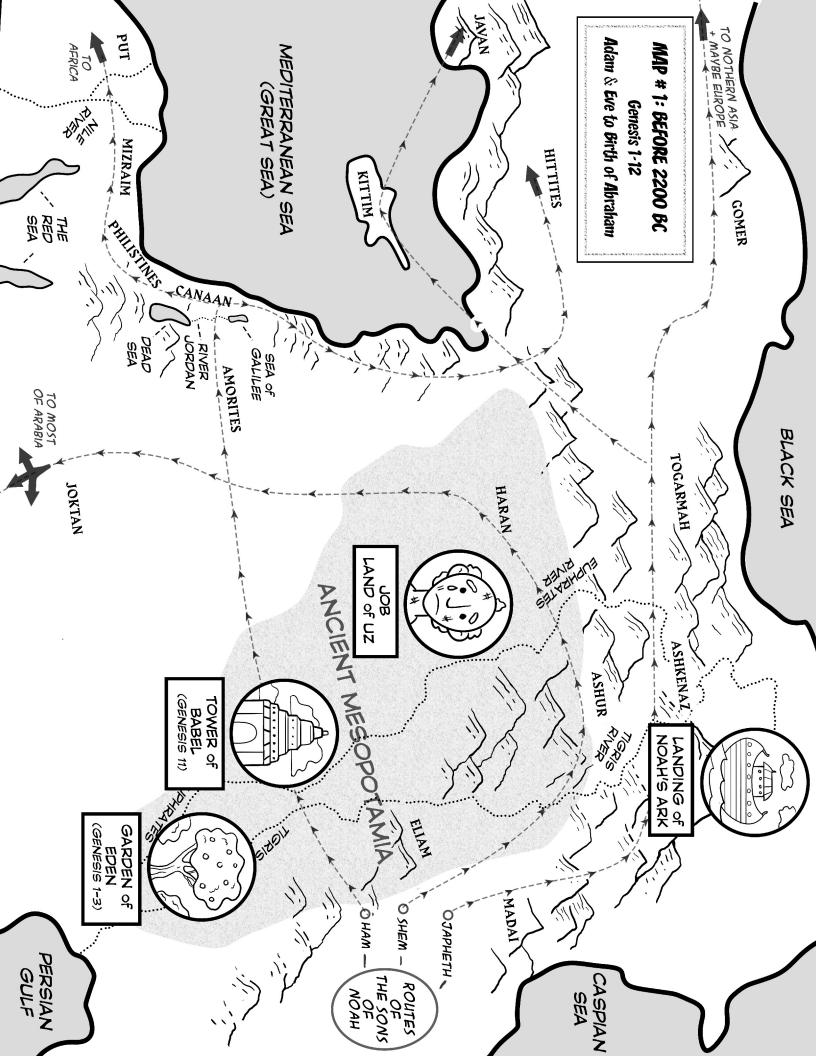
Landing of Noah's Ark: There are seven generations between Adam's son Seth and Noah. Yet around 1,500 years passed! People lived longer back then —between 500 and 1,000 years. The atmosphere was different before the Flood and didn't age us as fast. The Flood occurred around 2500 BC. The exact is not known, though different scholars have dates as early as 3,000 BC and as late as 2300 BC. Noah was 600 years old. He, his wife, sons, and sons' wives were on the Ark for a little over a year, because of the time it took for the waters to recede. Genesis names Mount Ararat (on map) as the place the Ark rested. Some archeologists are investigating sightings up there today.

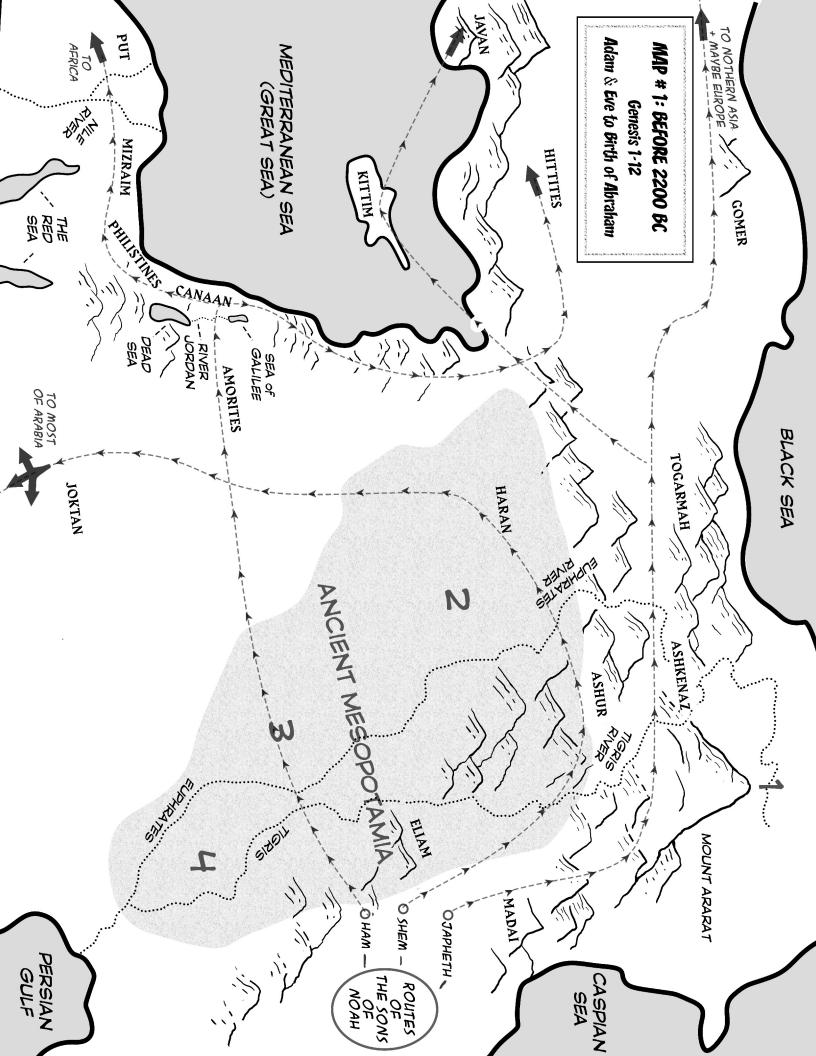
**<u>Student Assignment</u>**: All of Cain's children died in the flood. The line all the way down to Jesus, the Messiah, is carried by the descendants of *Seth*. Noah was his descendant. Noah's sons went north, south, and west, populating the earth.

See if you can follow the trails of Noah's three sons. Draw Shem's journey in blue, Japheth's journey in green, and Ham's journey in red.

**Tower of Babel:** Just three generations after the flood, people were already up to no good. A descendant of Ham named Nimrod built the Tower of Babel. It was a really arrogant attempt for Nimrod and his people to be like God, to be "as high as God." God confused their languages, possibly by allowing for a plague that affected the language center of the brain. This is the last recorded event in Genesis before the birth of Abraham.







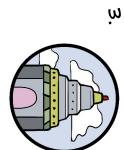
















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# **MAP 2** 2300 BC TO 1600 BC

Time period covered:

#### From the birth of Abraham through the death of his great-grandson Joseph

Bible chapters from this period:

#### Genesis 13-50 (end of Genesis)

# NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

Abraham lived in Ur, which was well established and probably 100 years old by the time he was born. His birth in Ur is recorded around 2166 BC.

Abraham had Isaac; Isaac had Jacob; Jacob had Joseph. Hence, Joseph was Abraham's great-grandson. He got kidnapped to Egypt — turned over to kidnappers by his 10 older, jealous brothers. He became a great leader there.

Abraham is called the Father of Israel because of God's promise to him when he was 99 years old. It's found in Genesis 17. God told him and Sarah they would have a son. Sarah was 90. He had a hard time believing that, but it all came true...*after a whole lot of relocating throughout his later life!* This map will show that and other interesting facts.

# <u>CUTOUTS</u>

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As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters.

**Babylon:** Babylon was one of the first great empires after the Flood. That came into being around 2300 BC. Babylon was a brutal nation, always threatening the Jews. If you've heard of King Nebuchadnezzar, he was king of Babylon. The ruins are there today, 59 miles south of Bagdad, in Iraq.

**Egypt:** After the Babylonian Empire was founded, the next huge empire to be formed was Egypt. Egypt recorded its first kings around 2200 BC, though the pyramids may be older. Populations lived in the area of the Nile prior.

**Ur of Chaldea:** Abraham was born in Ur around 2166 BC. He grew up there and married Sarah. Abraham's father was named Terah.

**Haran:** Terah moved a lot of relatives up north to the city of Haran. After his father's death, Abraham heard the voice of God telling him to go from there. From Genesis 12:1-- "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you." That land was Canaan, which would eventually become Israel — more or less the same Israel we know today.

**Hebron:** This is where Abraham and Sarah settled — in Hebron. It is here they gave birth to Isaac, when Sarah was 90 years old. Hebron is close to where Jerusalem is today.

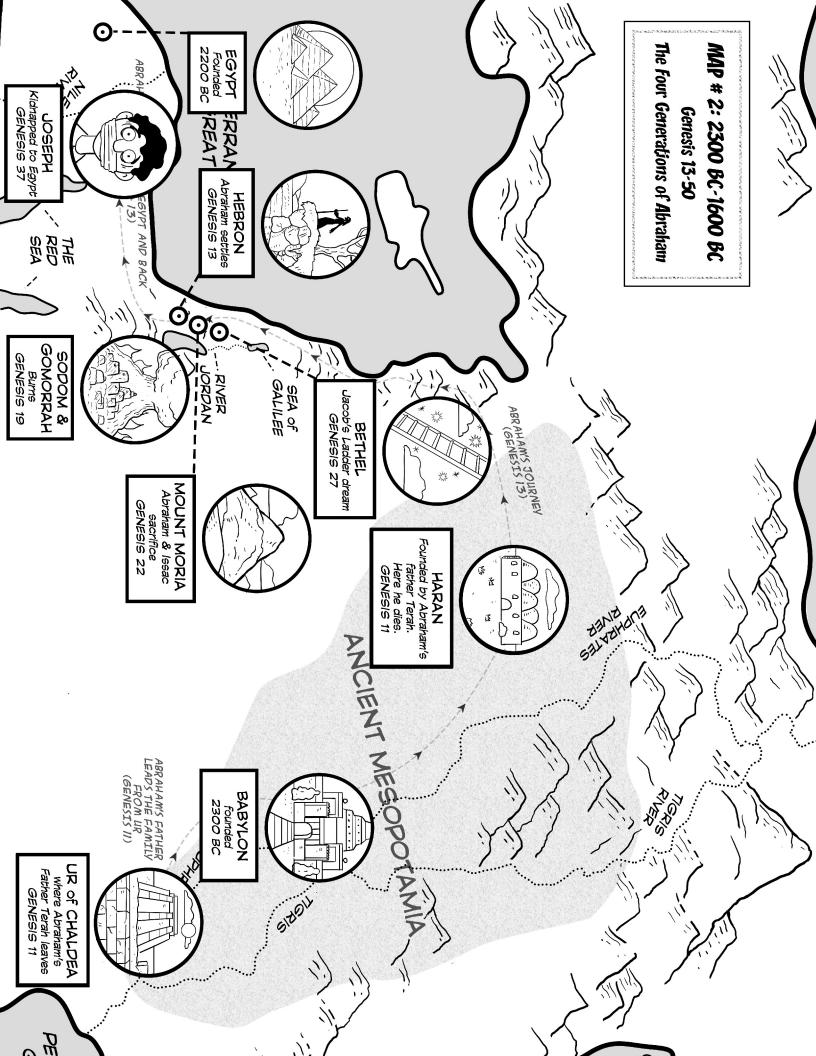
**Sodom & Gomorrah:** One of the relatives that Abraham's father had taken to Haran was Abraham's nephew Lot. The two men got along great, and Lot came with Abraham down to Canaan. But Lot settled on the east side of the Dead Sea instead of Hebron, because both of them wanted a lot of property for their animals. Lot escaped the fire that rained down on Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19!

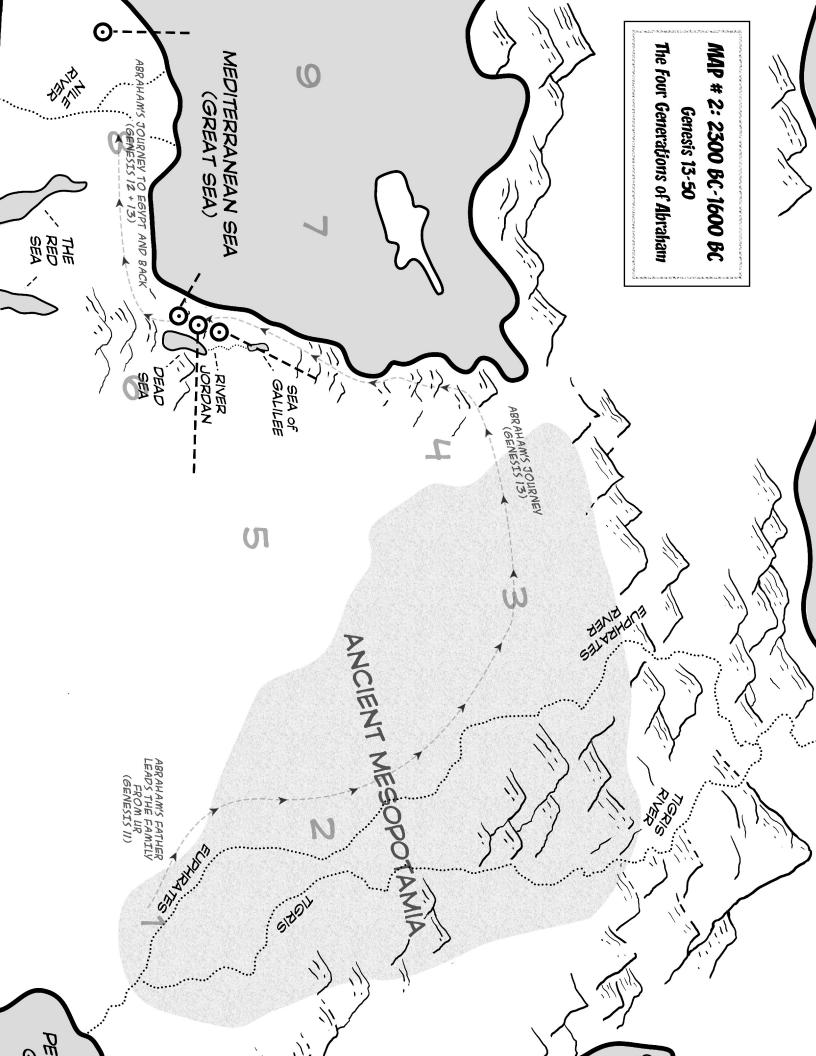
**Mount Moriah:** Mount Moriah (or Moria) is just above Hebron. It is where Abraham thought he was supposed to sacrifice Isaac, his son. However God provided a ram as a first sign to show that he hated human sacrifices, which were big among the pagans.

**Bethel:** Isaac grew up and married Rebekah. They had Jacob and Esau. Jacob was visiting up in Bethel when he had the dream we know as "Jacob's Ladder." Starting in Genesis 27, he ran from home after stealing his brother's blessing. In Genesis 28, after just leaving Bethel, he sees angels coming and going from heaven on what appeared to be a ladder. In it, God promised him the same thing as Abraham — to make him a great nation. Later, God changed Jacob's name to Israel. It's his descendants who make up Israel, the nation.

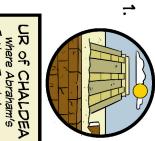
Joseph kidnapped to Egypt: Jacob/Israel had 12 sons. The youngest was Benjamin, and the second-youngest was Joseph. The 10 older brothers were jealous because Joseph seemed to be Jacob's favorite. Hence, they sold Joseph to slave traders on their way to Egypt. Genesis ends with Joseph having earned a place of great power, in spite of having started out as a slave. His brothers, and eventually all of their families, followed due to a famine in Canaan. After Joseph died, the people of Egypt eventually forgot about him. They enslaved all the descendants of Joseph's father, Jacob/Israel. That's how Moses got called in Exodus 3 to get them out of slavery.



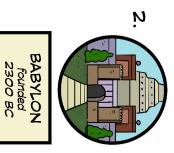










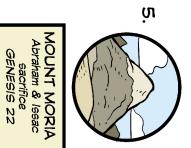


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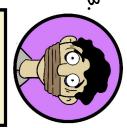


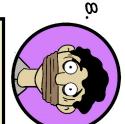


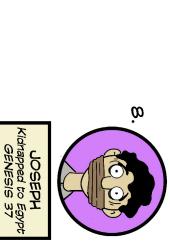


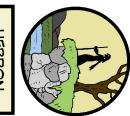
















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**BETHEL** Jacob's Ladder dream GENESIS 27













GOMORRAH

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# **MAP 3** 1525 BC - 1406 BC

Time period covered:

#### From the birth of Moses through the end of the Exodus

Bible chapters from this period:

#### Exodus 1 to Judges 6

### NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

Many children know that Moses led the Exodus and got the Ten Commandments. But they don't know how the Israelites got all the way down in Egypt in the first place! Actually Exodus picks up right where Genesis leaves off.

**As a review of Map 2:** Father Abraham took his family to Canaan, which God promised to his descendants. It would eventually become Israel around 800 years later.

Abraham had Isaac, who had Jacob, who had Joseph. Joseph was born in Canaan (eventually Israel) but was sold into slavery by his jealous big brothers. He was a slave in Egypt but was such a good worker that many people trusted him, and he eventually became a great leader.

His brothers went down there to buy food during a famine. Joseph recognized them and forgave them. That brought the 12 brothers and their father Jacob/Israel back together again - in Egypt! The brothers and father moved to avoid the famine.

It was their descendants who were enslaved. After Joseph died, it was around 360 years before the Exodus happened. The Hebrews were enslaved most of that time.

### <u>Cutouts & Line</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout or line, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters. Follow instructions as indicated for lines.

**First student assignment:** The line with the arrows on the map shows the route. *Color it green.* 

Moses as a Baby: Moses was born a Hebrew slave. Back then, the Egyptians were afraid that the Hebrews would greatly outnumber them. That was because the Hebrews were very healthy and had lots of babies. Word came from Pharaoh that all male Hebrew babies born should be killed! Moses' mom and sister placed him in the Nile in a basket so he wouldn't be killed. He was found by Pharaoh's daughter, who raised him.

<u>Midian:</u> As a young man, Moses got mad. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave, so he murdered the Egyptian! He had to escape into the desert. While living out there with his wife Zipporah and their son Gershom, he saw the burning bush. That was where God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let the people go.

**10 Plagues:** So, Moses came out of the desert and went to Pharaoh. He told Pharaoh 10 times to let the people go. Ten times, Pharaoh's heart hardened and he said no! So God had to send 10 different plagues.

Here they are:

Plague 1 - water turned into blood; fish died.

Plague 2 - frogs.

Plagues 3 and 4 - biting insects and wild animals.

Plagues 5 and 6 - livestock disease and boils.

Plague 7 - fiery hail.

Plague 8 - locusts.

Plague 9 - darkness.

Plague 10 - Firstborn of children and animals. The Passover is when the Hebrews put blood on the tops of their doorframes and the angel of death who passed over didn't take any of those firstborn children of the Hebrews.

**Red Sea:** After the 10<sup>th</sup> Plague, Pharaoh gave the Hebrews the go-ahead. But then he changed his mind again! He sent an army after them. They were trapped against the Red Sea. That's when God blew the water back and the Red Sea parted. The Hebrews ran through and then the water drowned the Egyptian army. The Exodus had begun.

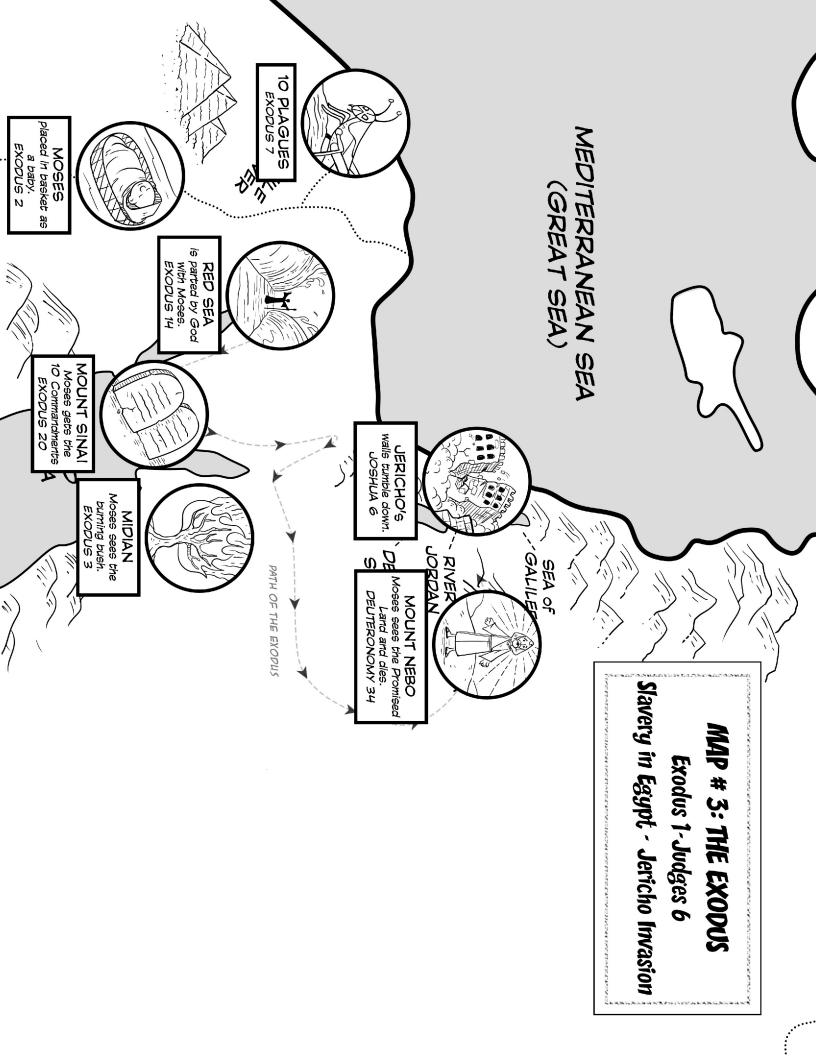
**Mount Sinai:** This is where Mount Sinai is. That is where God spoke the Ten Commandments to the people. Moses then went to the mountain for 40 days and nights, and God gave him

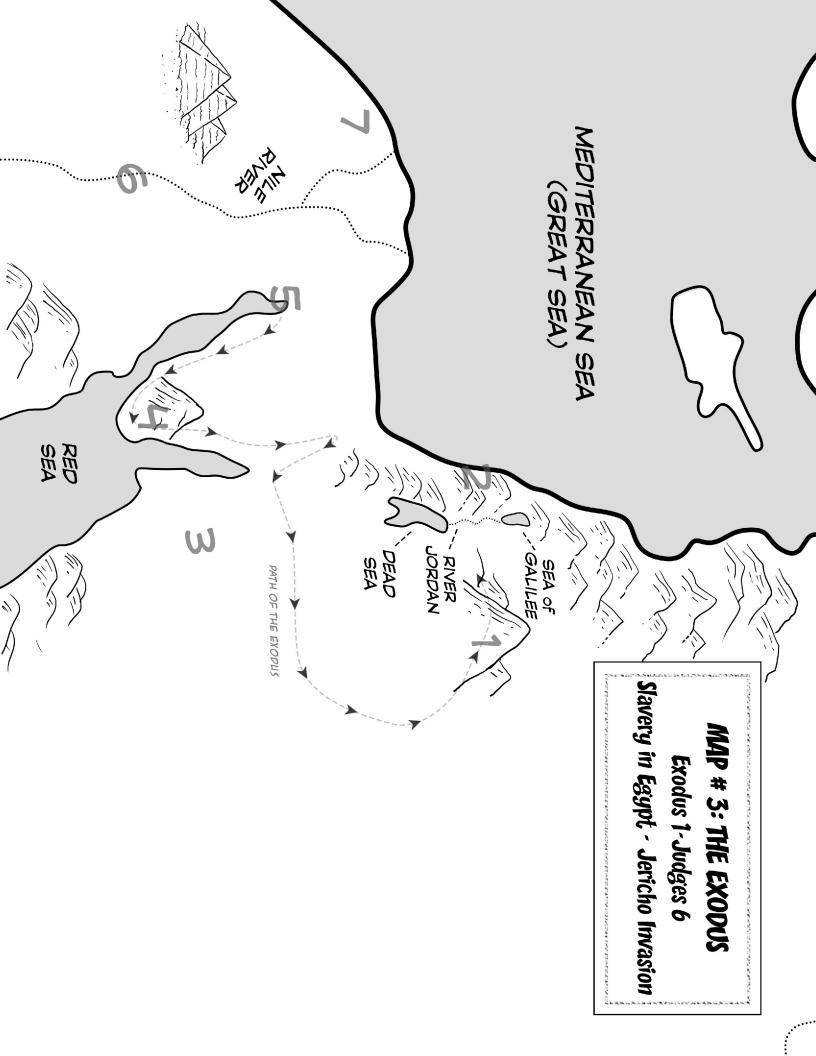
rules and put them on tablets. When Moses came down, the people had made a golden idol to worship, thinking Moses was dead. God got really upset and Moses did, too. That and other acts of too-little faith caused the Hebrews to stay in the desert for 40 years.

**Mount Nebo:** After 40 years, this is where the Hebrews were. Moses told the people he would not go into the Promised Land but that God would take him up. He died on Mount Nebo. Joshua was put in charge.

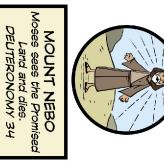
**Jericho:** Joshua was told by God to go to Jericho and the Hebrews could have the land. The firsts property to be owned by Israel was right across the Jordan River! Joshua led the army and priests who blew the trumpets, and their vibrations made the walls of Jericho fall down.







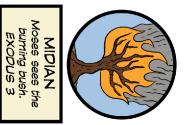




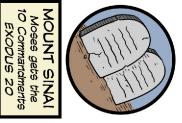
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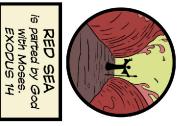


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# **MAP 4** 1350 - 931 BC

Time period covered:

#### Era of the Judges through the United Kingdom

Bible chapters from this period:

#### Joshua 6 through 1 Kings 6

# NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

After Joshua led the invasion of Jericho, a time started when Israel was acquiring land, often through invasions. During this time, Israel had judges and not kings. God was their king. That period lasted 300 years.

Samuel was the last judge. The people told him they wanted a king so they could be like all the other nations. Samuel was hurt. When he told God, God said, in 1 Samuel 8:7, "It's not you they rejected; they are rejecting me."

God gave them their way, though it was with the attitude of, "Don't say I didn't warn you."

Hence, this map covers the Era of the Judges and the first three kings: Saul, David, and Solomon, David's son. The three kings reigned in a period called The United Kingdom.

After these three kings, Israel split into two kingdoms. They were already arguing about money and worshipping other gods!

# <u>CUTOUTS</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters.

**Mount Tabor:** Deborah was the fourth Judge and also a prophet. Here at Mount Tabor, she led Israel's army in an important battle.

**<u>Gaza</u>**: Gaza is where the famous story of Samson and Delilah took place. Samson was the 13<sup>th</sup> judge of Israel. He died a horrible death because Delilah tricked him, but he took out all the rulers of the Philistines with him.

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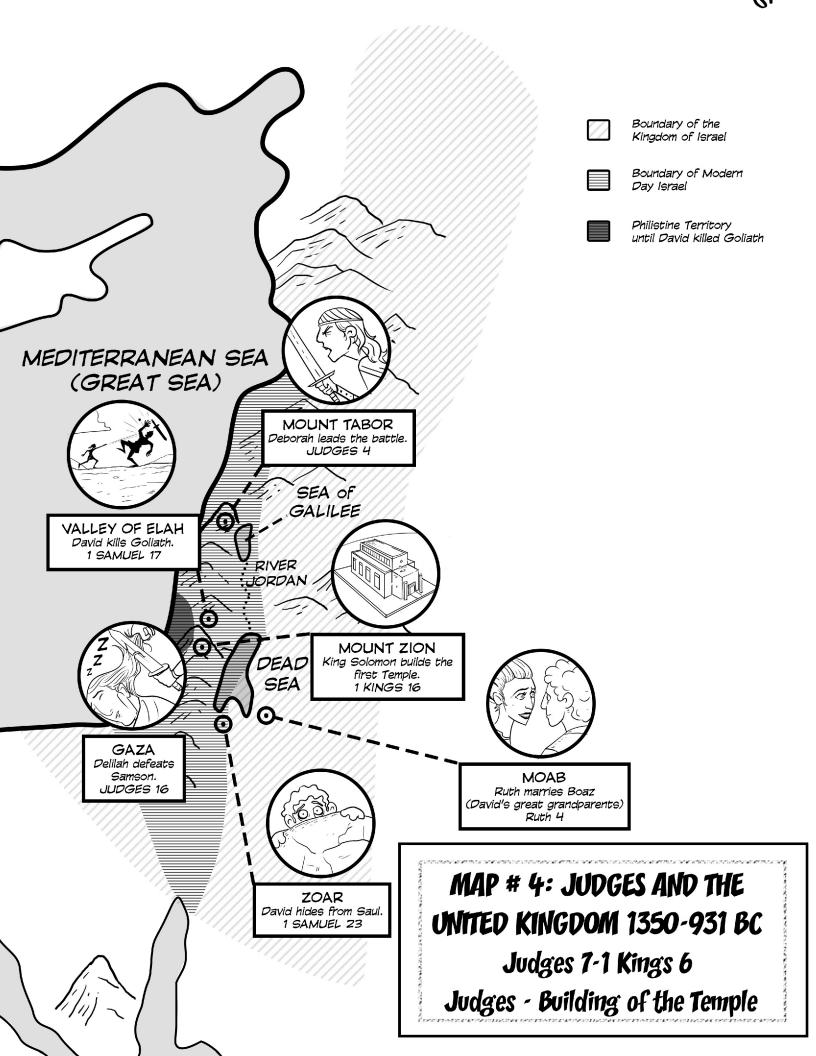
**Moab:** In the Book of Ruth, which took place during the Era of the Judges, Ruth was born in Moab. She married there. After she and her mother-in-law Naomi both became widows, she left her own people to be loyal to her mother-in-law. Ruth went to Bethlehem with Naomi. It was a strange land to her. It was due to her loving behavior that God blessed her with a great new husband, and they became the great-grandparents of King David!

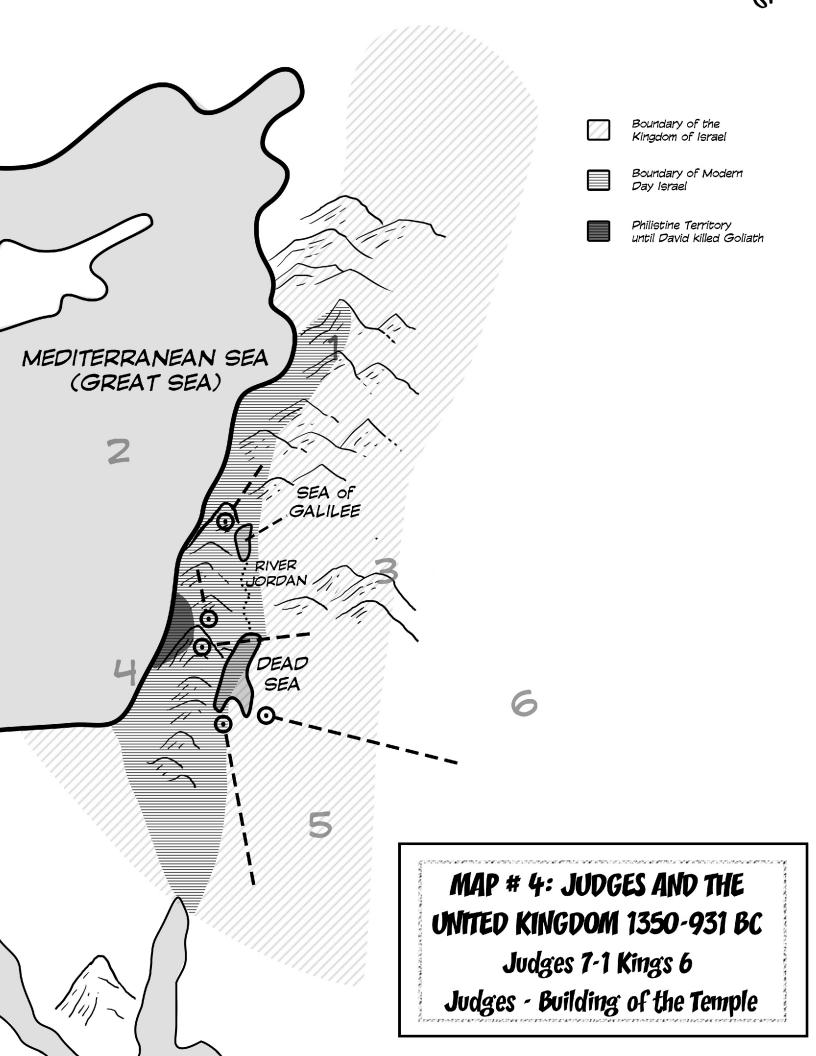
<u>The Valley of Elah</u>: The Valley of Elah is where David killed Goliath. He was young — probably a teenager. He was a shepherd. He had killed both a lion and a bear that had tried to attack his flock, and he'd killed them with rocks and a slingshot. He figured he could do the same with this huge Philistine who was taunting the army. That why he approached King Saul.

**Zoar:** After David killed Goliath, the people loved him. King Saul got jealous and tried to kill him a bunch of times. David had to hide out in the wilderness of En Gedi, and research shows he probably hid in the caves at Zoar. Both are by the Dead Sea. God called David "a man after his own heart" and wanted him to replace King Saul.

**Mount Zion:** When King David died, his son Solomon became king. He built the first temple. Mount Zion is in Jerusalem. Solomon was the last king of the United Kingdom.

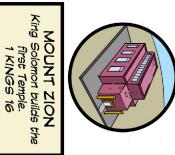






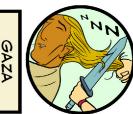




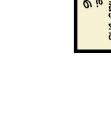


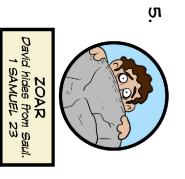
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# **MAP 5** 781 BC TO 500 BC

Time period covered:

#### Time of Invasions, Exiles, and the Great Prophets

Bible chapters from this period:

#### Major & Minor Prophets, plus 2 Kings 17 –25

# NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

The Kingdom of Israel split in 931 BC, and it was 250 years before the invasions and exiles began against the people. It split into the Kingdoms of Judah and Israel. Israel was up north and is the dark gray area on the map. Judah became the southern kingdom and is the striped area on the map. It was actually the more important kingdom because it contained Jerusalem, the capital.

So the era of the split kingdom kings begins at the death of Solomon in 931 BC. He was the last king in the United Kingdom. His son Rehoboam was really greedy. (See, trouble was starting already!) Solomon had been heavily taxing the people. The people realized they were barely keeping enough to survive, and yet the palaces and public gardens were getting totally luxurious. The people wanted a tax break. Rehoboam not only refused but he threatened people with harsher punishments if they didn't pay.

The tax issue caused the split! It's just like America. We split from England and fought the Revolutionary War over issues surrounding taxes. Some things never change!

The majority of the kings, both of Judah and Israel, did some really bad things. They worshipped other gods. Some sacrificed human lives to other gods. Some sacrificed their own children to other gods. Some burned children alive, having been told these false gods liked that. The true God of Israel was totally sickened. He allowed huge armies of the pagans to come in and invade Israel and Judah and take the people away in "exiles." No other wake-up call had worked. The exiles stopped the worshipping of other gods, and nothing has matched that in history since, as far as how gross, unthinkable and spiritually bankrupt people could be.

teach SUNDAY SCHOOL

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### <u>Cutouts ¢ Lines</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters. Follow instructions where indicated about the lines.

### COLORING THE LINES

**The top line marks the first exile.** Assyria invaded the Northern Kingdom, Israel, in 722 BC. They took many people of the Kingdom of Israel to Assyria and sent others east to the Medes. Color that line *red*.

Of the 12 tribes of Israel, 10 of them were mainly living in the northern kingdom when Assyria invaded. Assyria sent the people so far and to so many places that, to this day, those 10 tribes are referred to as the Lost Tribes of Israel. They never got formerly back together.

Today, some people are trying to find out if they are from a certain tribe through DNA testing. It is interesting but there are no explosive results.

**The bottom line marks the second exile.** Babylon invaded the southern kingdom, Judah, where Jerusalem was, in 586 BC. They got into Jerusalem and took down Solomon's temple stone by stone. Anything valuable, they took back with them to Babylon. They took most of the people back to Babylon.

It is marked on the map by the bottom line. Color that line purple.

#### Most of the following happened in or around Babylon after the exile:

Jonah & Nineveh (both cutouts): These tell the story of Jonah and the whale. Cutout #1 shows where Jonah got swallowed in the Great Sea. Cutout #3 shows where he was spit out. No, the giant fish did not cross land! It probably trekked the inland waterways! Jonah's story actually took place *before* the exile, in 781 BC. God told him to preach to the Assyrians in Nineveh who were brutal and really scary. They listened!

**Egypt:** The prophet Jeremiah had been taken to Assyria and later to Egypt. He had called the invasion of Jerusalem but no one would listen. He is called "the weeping prophet" because his prophesies were sad and hardly anyone listened. He wrote both Jeremiah and The Lamentations of Jeremiah.



**Babylon:** In Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar had Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego put in the fiery furnace while they were in exile. Instead of burning, they met up with a heavenly being that some believe was Jesus. That is from Daniel 3. Daniel wrote his book in Babylon, where he was also in exile. They made a believer out of this powerful, dangerous Nebuchadnezzar.

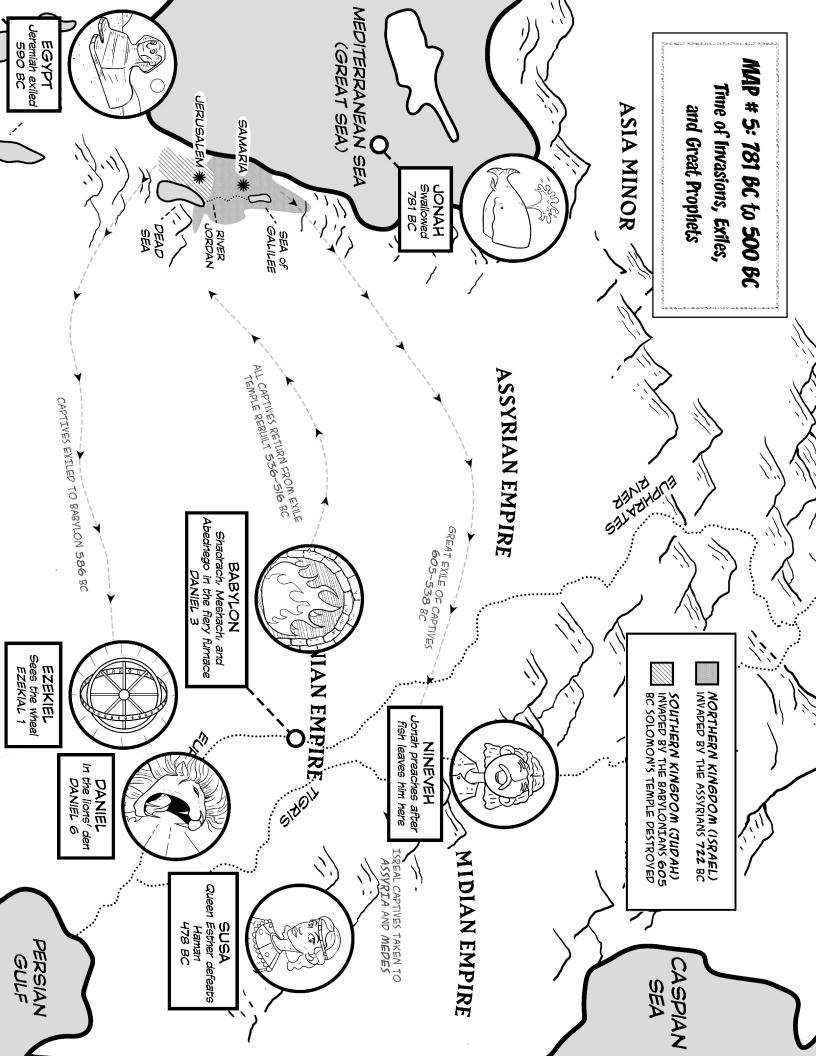
**Daniel:** This is close to where Daniel was thrown in the lion's den. The story is in Daniel 6. The lions refused to eat him, and he made a friend of King Darius the Mede.

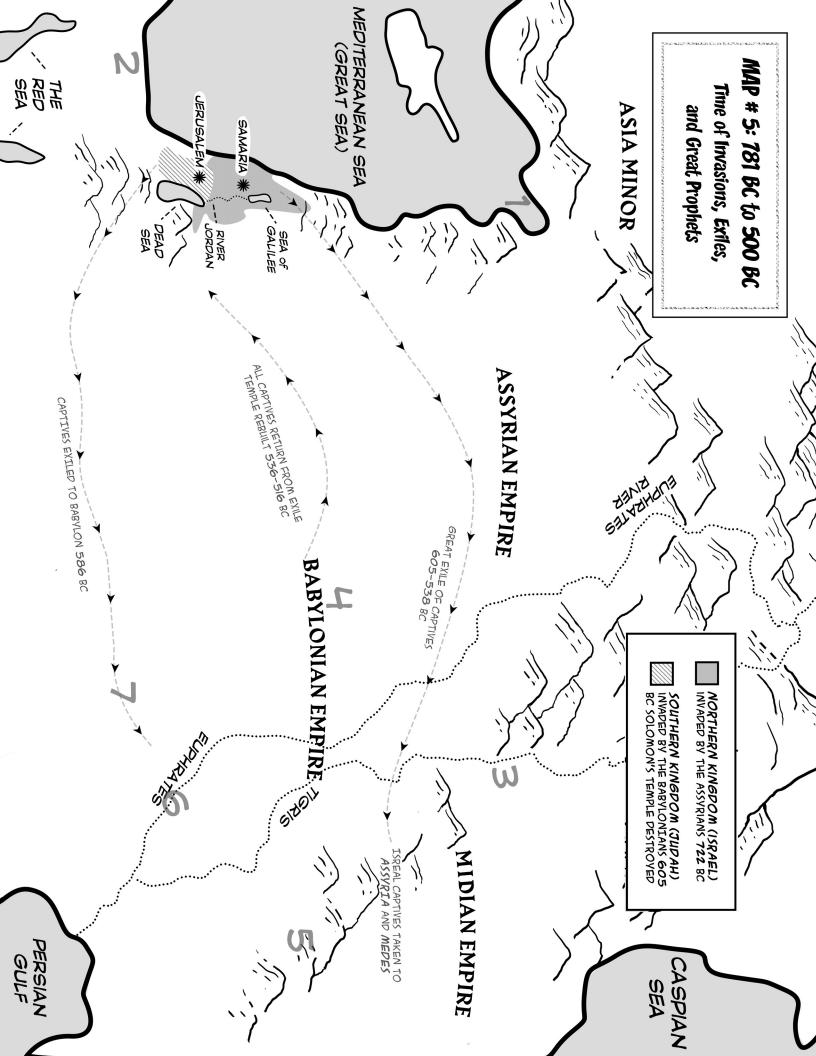
**<u>Susa</u>**: The Book of Esther takes place here. The great exile had ended, but she had married a foreign king and saved the Jews that remained from genocide.

**Ezekiel:** Ezekiel was exiled around the same time as King Jehoiachin (Yuh-HOY-yuh-shin) of Judah. Ezekiel is known for prophesying everything from a final siege on Jerusalem to what we now consider "End Times Prophesies." But some of his imagery is remembered because it is so astonishing. Such is Ezekiel's wheel in Ezekiel 1!

The middle line marks the return from the exile. A lot of the prophets spoke with hope of the day that the exile would end. It did end in 536 BC. Those who wanted to return home from Babylon to Judah were able to go. God had used the exile to change people's hearts from believing that wood and stone gods could help them. The sacrificing of children never occurred again. Once the people of Judah were home, they never wanted to do such things again.

Color the middle line that marks the return of the exile green.





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BABYLON Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace DANIEL 3





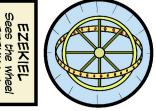
















# **МАР Ь** 4-7 ВС то 30-33 AD

Time period covered:

#### The Life of Jesus

Bible chapters from this period:

Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John

### NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

This map is a blowup of the previous maps. It only shows the area where Jesus was born, lived, and died. The sign on the map, Judea, is part of modern-day Israel. It covers all the territory up to it and below it. Above it is the province of Galilee, where Jesus was born, and also Samaria, where he met the woman at the well. The lines separating these provinces, or whether Samaria and Galilee were sub-provinces, is still unclear. Judea contained Jerusalem and is where Jesus was born, crucified, resurrected, and where he ascended.

What happened after the Map 5 events of the invasions of Assyria and Babylon and the exiles of all the tribes of Israel? The 10 Tribes of Israel, making up the fallen northern kingdom, didn't come home formally. Some fled to the Kingdom of Judah, and many got absorbed into the populations of the pagans where they were sent. The tribes of Benjamin and Judah had made up the southern kingdom. Those exiled were able to come home from Babylon after 70 years.

People from the Kingdom of Judah came back around 536 BC. They rebuilt Solomon's temple by 516 BC. That is the temple that Jesus came to during his life, 500 years later!

Between these years and Jesus' life was what we call "the years of silence." The prophets did not speak. Nothing historically took place that made our Bible, although the Catholic Bible has some books chronicling events during the years of silence.

At the time of Jesus' ministry, Judea and the surrounded provinces were mostly working-class people. It was a dusty, sweaty time. The Jews were being taxed heavily, and life was fraught with anxiety.

# <u>CUTOUTS</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters.

**Nazareth:** This is where Mary saw the angel Gabriel, who told her she would conceive the Messiah. It was probably her and Joseph's hometown. After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph escaped to Egypt (way down below this map). Herod had threatened to kill Jesus. After Herod died, an angel told Joseph to bring Mary and Jesus back "to Israel." They returned to their former province, Galilee, and raised him in Nazareth.

**Bethlehem**: This is where Jesus was born. Mary and Joseph came down from up north, Nazareth, to participate in a census.

**<u>River Jordan</u>**: Jesus was baptized somewhere in the River Jordan, where John the Baptist had his ministry. It is believed he baptized near a little town about halfway between the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee.

**Desert:** Jesus went into the desert and was tempted three times by Satan. There is a lot of desert, and all we know is that the gospels say, "the spirit led him" to wherever he went. Some believe he was just north of the Dead Sea.

**<u>Cana:</u>** Jesus' first miracle was to change water to wine at a wedding. It happened up in Cana, near his hometown.

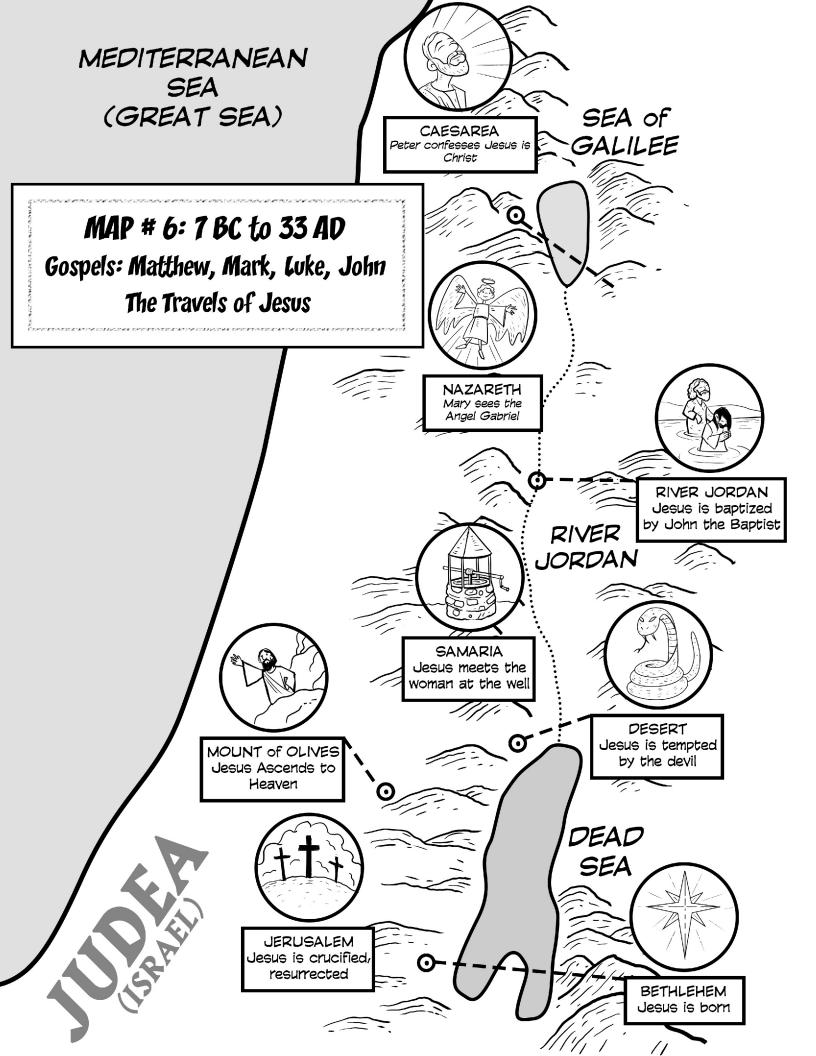
**Samaria:** Jesus met the Samarian woman at this well, according to John 4. It was called "Jacob's well" and was on a plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph back in Genesis - 2,000 years earlier. It has been repaired many times, but according to many, it is still there! Hence, it is 4,000 years old and allegedly lies inside the crypt of a modern Greek Orthodox church.

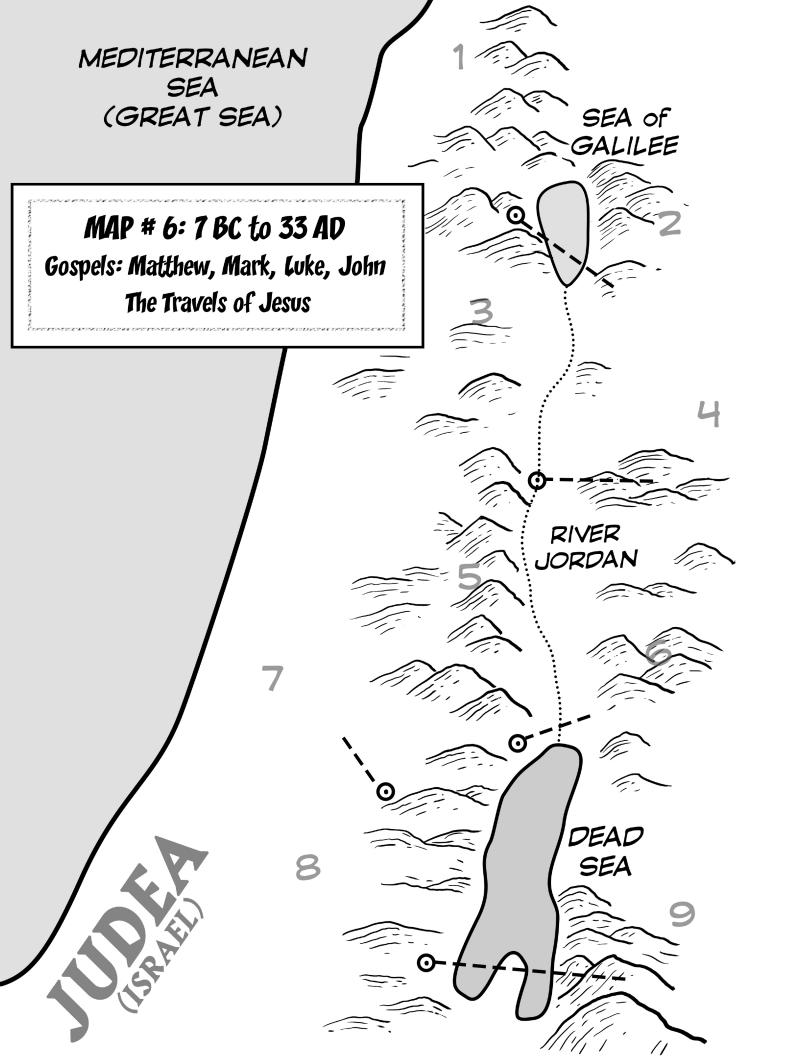
**Caesarea:** Caesarea was less than 50 years old at the time of Jesus' ministry. It was built as a port by King Herod. It may have been the farthest north that Jesus traveled. It was here Jesus told Peter, "Upon this rock, (upon you), I will build my church."

**Jerusalem:** Jesus made at least several trips to Jerusalem, including one as a child. But from Palm Sunday to the end of his life, through the Resurrection, were spent here. While the post-resurrected Jesus was seen as far north as Galilee, he was seen more often around Jerusalem.

**Mount of Olives:** The Ascension took place on Mount Olivet, also known as the Mount of Olives. It is about a day's walking distance from Jerusalem. The disciples returned to Jerusalem after they saw this fantastic event and waited for Pentecost.



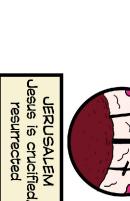








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Jesus Ascends to Heaven



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MOUNT of OLIVES



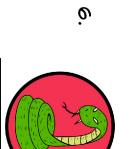


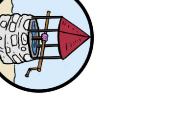




DESERT Jesus is tempted by the devil



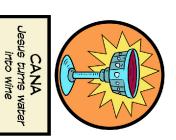




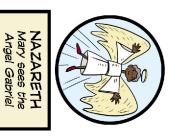
Peter confesses Jesus is Christ CAESAREA



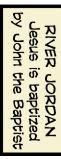
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Jesus meets the woman at the well SAMARIA

## MAP 7 Around 30 to 90 AD

Time Period Covered:

#### Time of the Apostles & Great Commission

Bible chapters from this period:

Acts through Revelation

### NOTES

Read the Notes before passing out markers, crayons or highlighters.

Some books of the New Testament were written in the towns on the map, though often the places of origin and even authenticity are not clear. This map shows part of the great expanse that Jesus' disciples covered after they became Apostles.

You can see Jerusalem, where Jesus was killed and resurrected. It is also where Peter started the period of the Great Commission by giving his first sermon at Pentecost.

### <u>CUTOUTS</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters.

**The Road:** Shortly after Pentecost, Apostle Paul was on the road to Damascus. Only he wasn't Apostle Paul yet — he was a very well-studied Jewish man who, at first, helped persecute the newly-found believers in Jesus as Messiah. On the road, he went blind and Jesus spoke to him. He regained his sight three days later. In ministry, he took the longest missionary journeys of any of the Apostles. He also wrote 13 books of the New Testament.

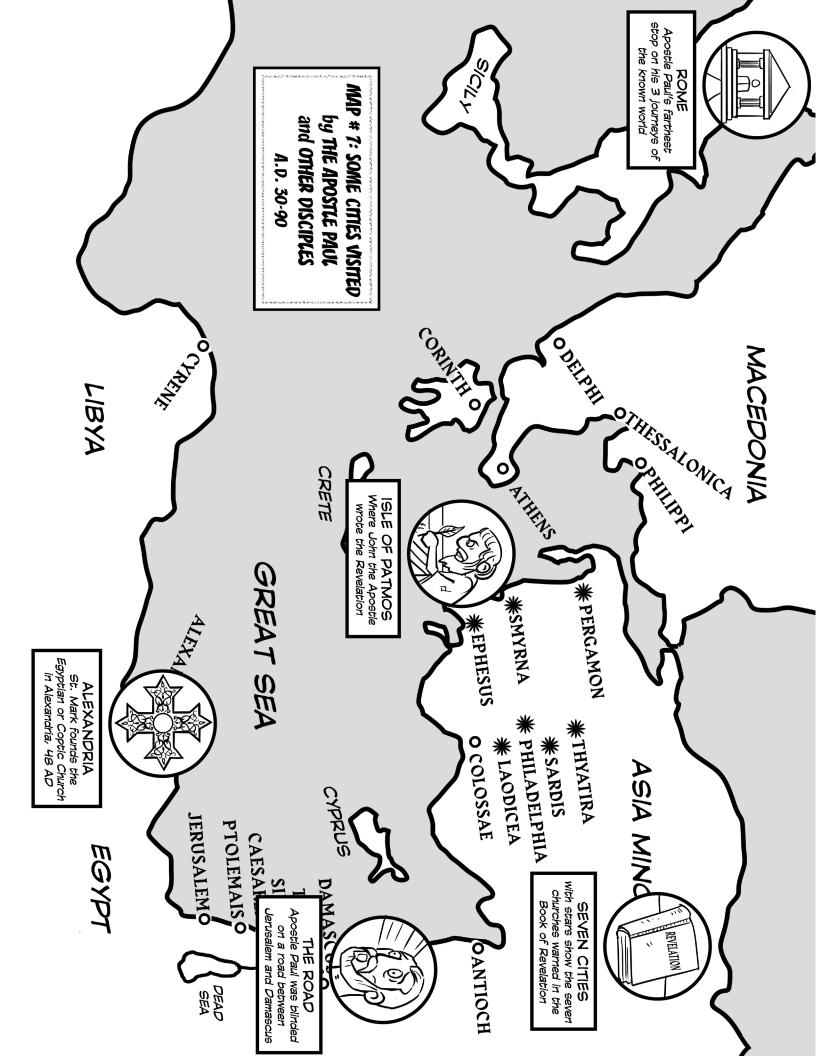
**Rome:** The farthest that Paul traveled was to Rome. He made three missionary journeys all around the area shown in the map except for Egypt. In Rome, he was under house arrest for two years. It is believed he wrote four New Testament books during that time: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

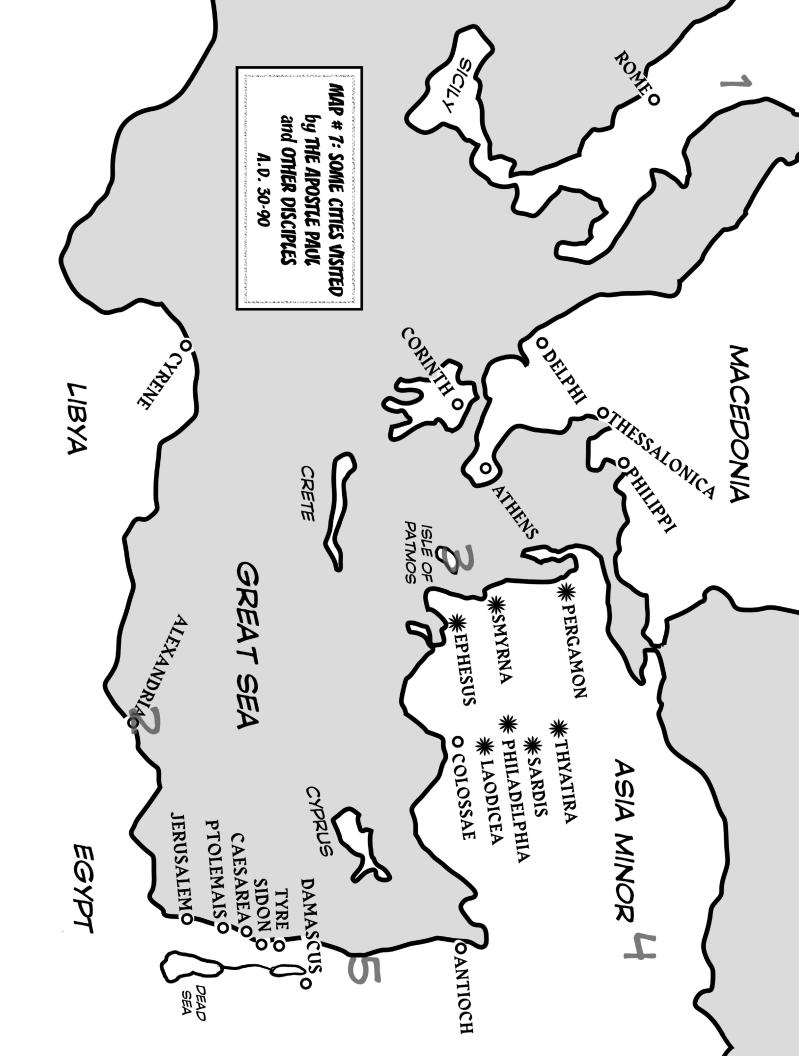
Alexandria: Apostle Mark established the Coptic Church in Alexandria during the reign of Nero, around 45 AD. It is said by some to be the first "formal" church, though certainly gatherings of 40 **\* teach** SUNDAY SCHOOL Christians existed in Jerusalem before St. Mark voyaged down there. When he arrived, he had a copy of his Gospel, and the Coptic Christians were among the first to see it.

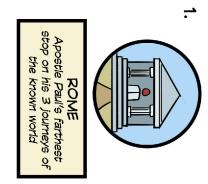
**Isle of Patmos:** The Isle of Patmos is where the Apostle John wrote the Revelation toward the end of his life, around 95 AD. It is part of a 12-island group that still exists as part of Greece.

**Seven Cities:** The stars show the cities written about in chapters 2 and 3 of Revelation. These seven churches were issued warnings and encouragements from Jesus. We don't know why Jesus chose to feature the churches of Asia Minor in the Revelation. Many others were in existence by that time. Some say they represent the condition of churches throughout the ages, and today's church is most like the Church of Laodicea.

















with stars show the seven churches warned in the Book of Revelation SEVEN CITIES



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Jerusalem and Damascus THE ROAD Apostle Paul was blinded on a road between

# MAP 8

## TODAY

Time Period Covered:

### Approximately 15 years past the Second Millennium

Lots of archeological finds in the area where the Old and New Testaments took place are proving the reliability of our Bible. Here are some that have been investigated in modern times.

### <u>CUTOUTS</u>

As you read the paragraphs below about each cutout, have students find and color in the ident that goes with it. They should color lightly, using crayon, colored pencil, or highlighters.

<u>The Ark:</u> Ark sightings around Mount Ararat continue to be investigated. The icy temperatures and constantly changing land face make Mount Ararat a real challenge to explore. Yet since 1949, many groups have gone in search of the Ark. Several sightings remain as strong possibilities. Hear the story of one explorer who has great visuals at <u>AnsweringGenesis.org</u>.

**Nineveh:** This great city in Assyria, where Jonah preached repentance, was known for its brutality. By the time Jesus was preaching, there were no remains of it to be seen. Excavations began in 1820, and while many artifacts and buildings have been unearthed, the sites are now threatened by ISIS bombings. An article with great photos is in <u>Popular Archaeology</u>.

**Susa:** Excavations of Susa began in 1836 and continue today. The town is dated back as early as 2000 BC. Susa is where Queen Esther reigned and prevented the genocide of Jews living there, around 478 BC. The Prophets Daniel and Nehemiah were also said to have lived there for part of the Babylonia captivity. See an article in <u>Bible Archaeology.</u>

**Tower of Babel:** Tower of Babel ruins are thought by many Jews to be in Iraq, and in fact, they are naming the exact spot. An article in the *Arutz Sheva* of Israel says this: *A mound of mudbrick buildings is all that remains of the ancient city in Babylon where the Tower was being built*. The news service reported on archaeologists looking to preserve these ruins. However, others believe the tower was actually built farther north, in Turkey, near Nineveh. Nimrod is thought to have built that city also. An article showing a nice image of the original plus the ruins in Iraq are shown in a *Zion Times* article.



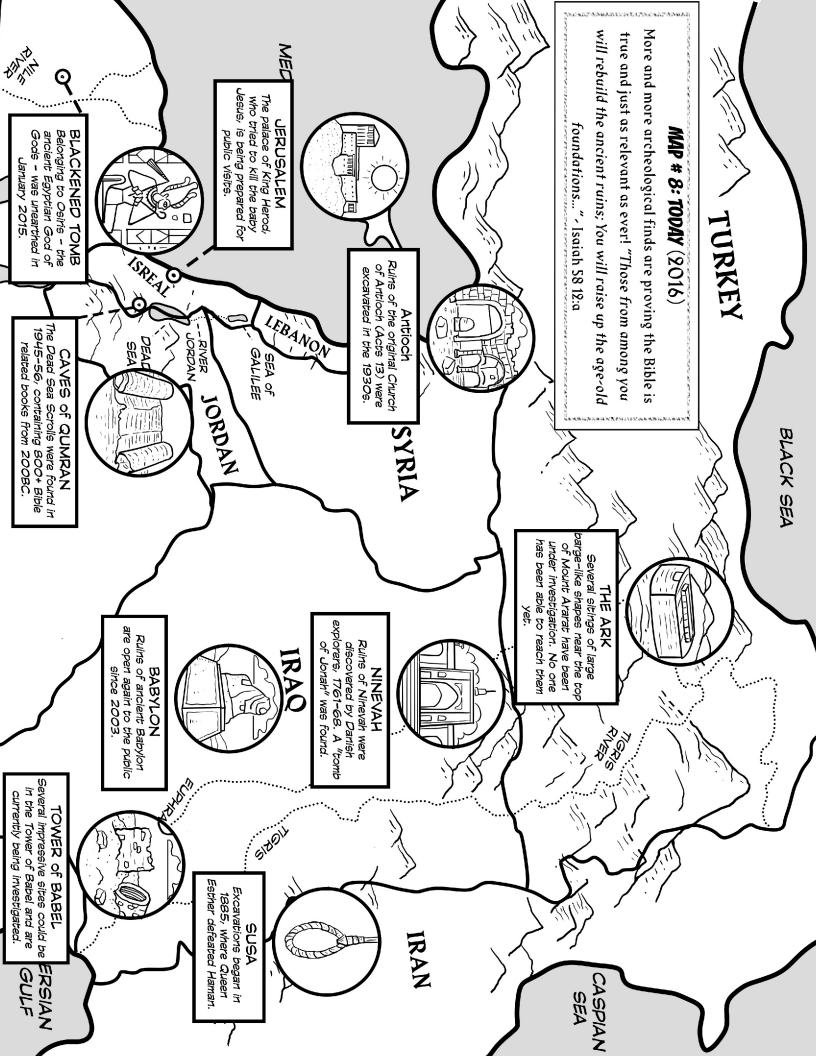
**Babylon:** Ruins of Babylon are 60 miles south of Bagdad in Iraq. Excavations began in 1899, led by Robert Koldewey. They have continued, though the constant fighting has brought about threats to the ruins. Great pictures are available at <u>The Lion of Babylon</u> website.

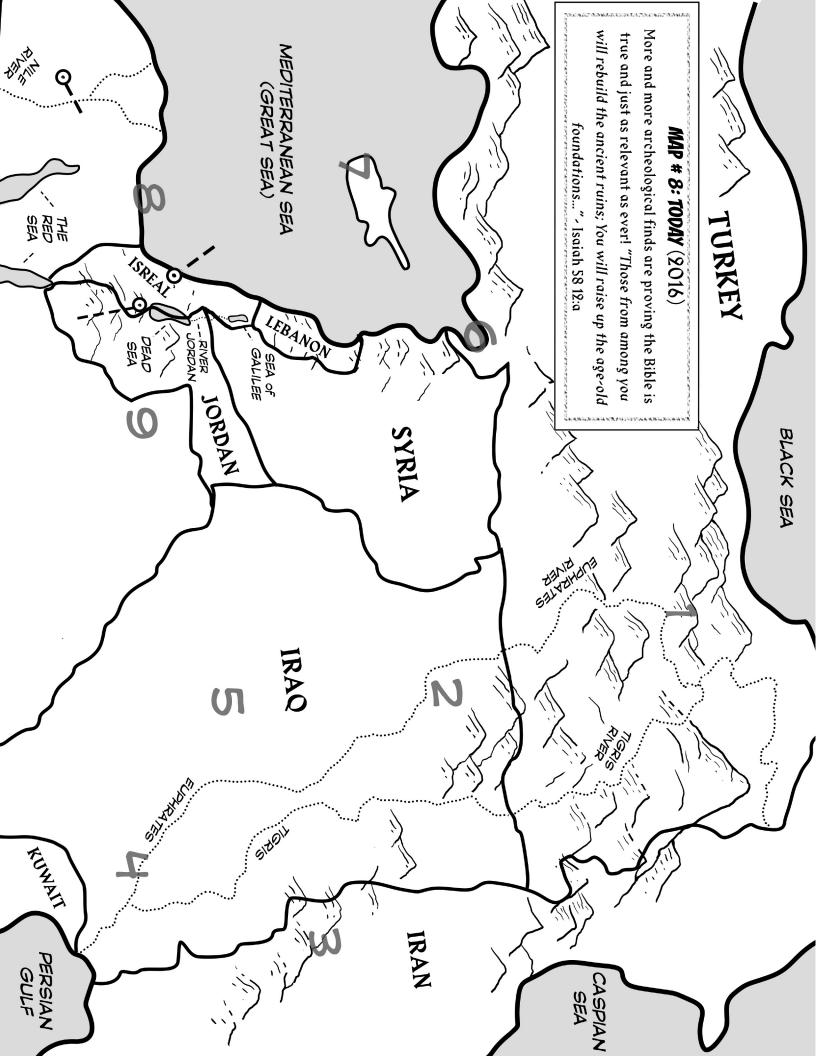
**Antioch:** The original Church of Antioch is actually a cave church. It is thought that the site is where Apostle Peter first preached the gospel in Antioch. It is located in what is now Antakya, Turkey. A renovation began in 2013. See photos of it at <u>BibleArchaeology.org</u>.

**Jerusalem:** The Palace of King Herod is being prepared for public visits. There are several King Herods between Matthew and Acts. This palace appears to be the property of Herod the Great, the first Herod in the Bible, and the one who tried to take the life of the Baby Jesus. The point of this excavation is to make the site available to tourists. So, if you visit Israel, you can see it (but go with a Christian tour guide!). Some great photos are available in <u>The Times of Israel</u>.

**Blackened Tomb:** Here's one that's not in the Bible but may have Biblical significance. An ancient model of the Tomb of Osiris was unearthed in 2015. It is still unclear where the real Osiris, the Egyptian "god of the dead," is buried, but the chambers were fascinating. The chambers gave every indication people believed Osiris would come back to life. Some scholars have tied Osiris to Nimrod, evil builder of the Tower of Babel, believing they are one and the same person. This page of <u>Ancient Origins</u> features the spooky tale and photos of the excavations.







The Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1945-56, containing 800+ Bible related books from 200BC. CAVES of QUMRAN

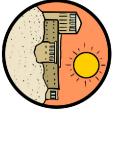


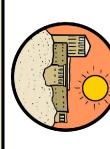
Belonging to Osiris - the ancient Egyptian God of Gods - was unearthed in BLACKENED TOMB January 2015.



Jesus, is being prepared for

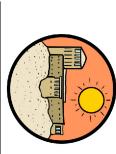
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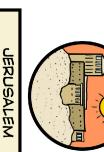


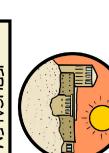


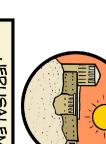
The palace of King Herod, who tried to kill the baby JERUSALEM

public visits.

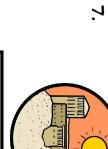














Ruins of the original Church of Antioch (Acts 13) were excavated in the 1930s. Antioch











Several sightings of large barge-like shapes near the top of Mount Ararat have been has been able to reach them under investigation. No one THE ARK Yet:

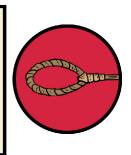


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Ruins of Ninevah were discovered by Danish explorers, 1761-68. A "tomb of Jonah" was found. NINEVEH

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Esther defeated Haman. Excavations began in 1885, where Queen SUSA



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Several impressive sites could be the Tower of Babel and are currently being investigated. TOWER of BABEL

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