

Judges Series

Lesson #32

October 5, 2021

Dean Bible Ministries

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**Hazor, *AGAIN*?!**

**Judges 4:1–3**



**JUDGES**

**Moral Relativism  
Destroys a Nation**

**2021 Series**

# Outline of “Judges” (Chieftains, Tribal Rulers, Leaders)

**1:1–3:6**

## **Introduction**

**How Israel went from  
spiritual victory  
to being worse than  
the Canaanites**

**Incomplete obedience**

**Compromise**

**Failure**

**Cycles of discipline**

**3:7–16:31**

## **Paganization of the Leadership**

**Othniel (the best)**

**Ehud**

**Shamgar**

**Deborah**

**Gideon**

**Tola, Jair**

**Jephthah**

**Ibzan, Elon, Abdon**

**Samson (the worst)**

**17:1–21:25**

## **Paganization of the Priests**

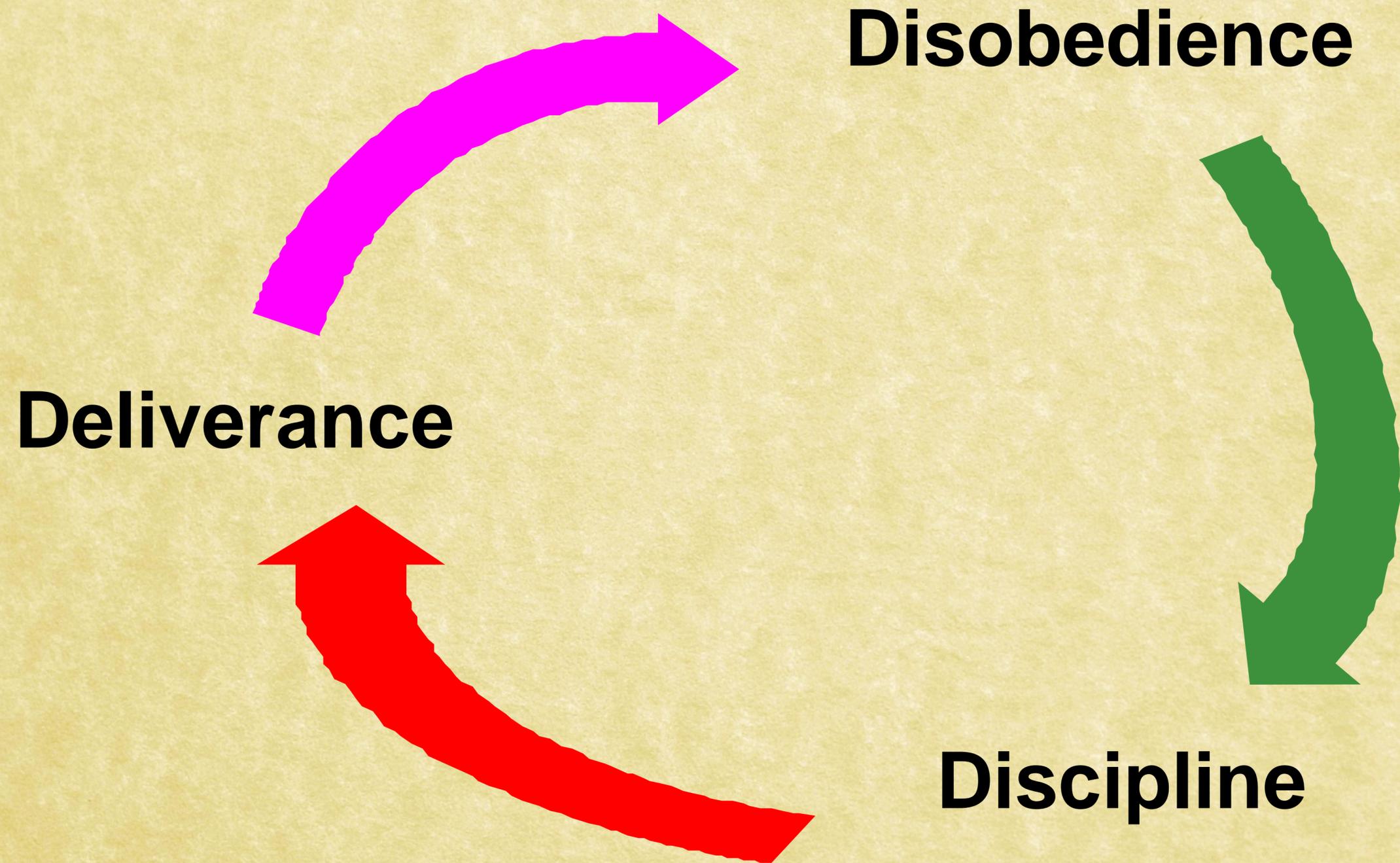
**Chap. 17–18**

**and the**

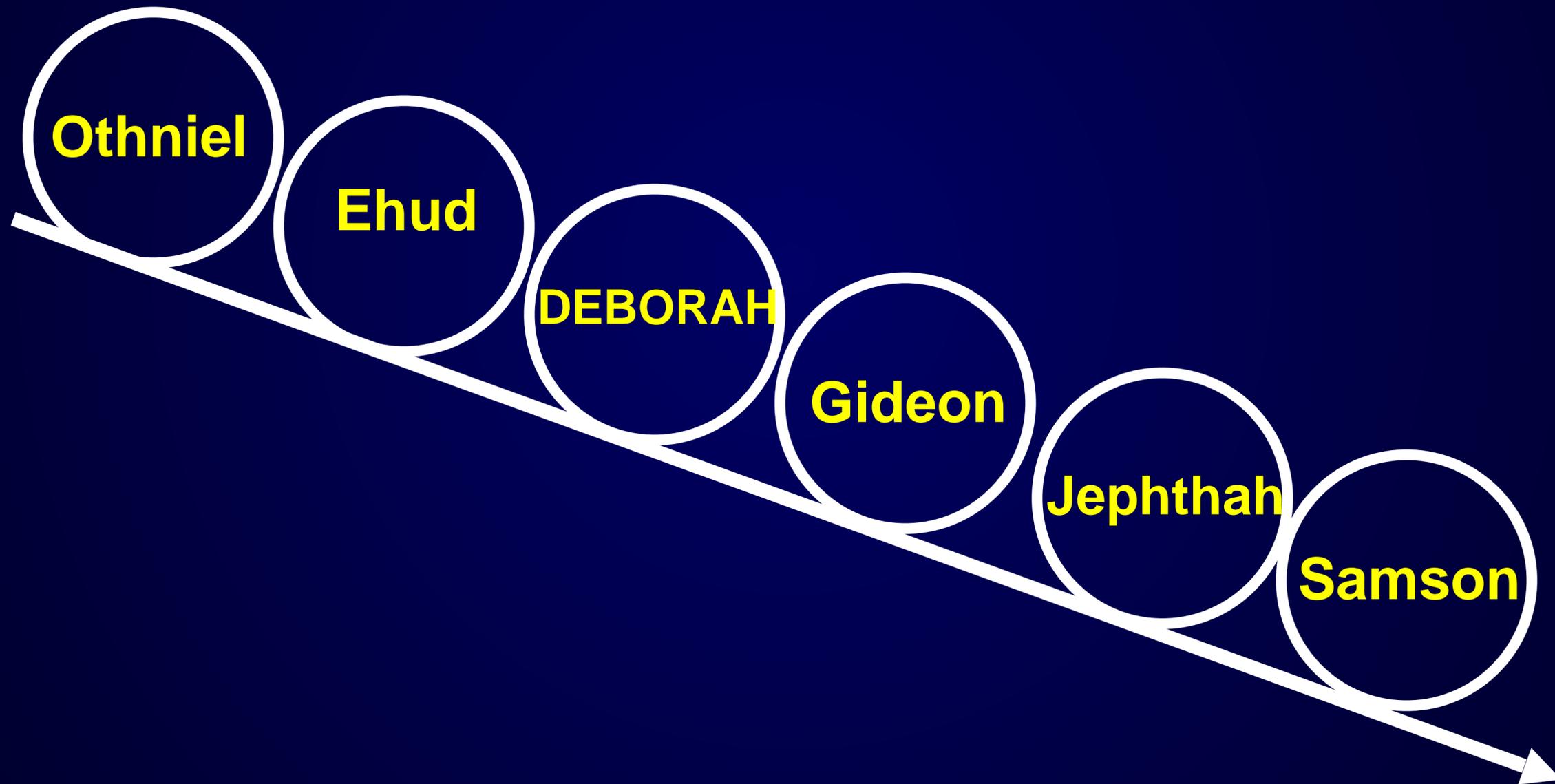
**People**

**Chap. 19–21**

# The Cycles of the Judges



# SLIDING into Paganism in the Time of the JUDGES





MEDITERRANEAN SEA



PHILISTIA

SAMARIA

JUDAEA

AMMON

MOAB

EASTERN DESERT

EDOM

Joppa

Mt. Carmel

Jokneam

Dor

Megiddo

Beth-shan

Samaria

Mt. Gerizim

Shechem

Aphek

Ashdod

Ekron

Jerusalem

Gath

Azekah

Lachish

Adullah

Hebron

Engedi

Raphia

Beersheba

Engedi

Aroer

Kir-hareseth

EDOM

Beth-arbel

Ramoth-gilead

Jabesh-gilead

Mahanaim

Rabbah (Amman)

Mt. Hauran

DEAD SEA

GALILEE

Galilee

Yarmuk River

Jordan River

W. Faria River

Yarkon River

Jabbok River

Arnon River

Zered River

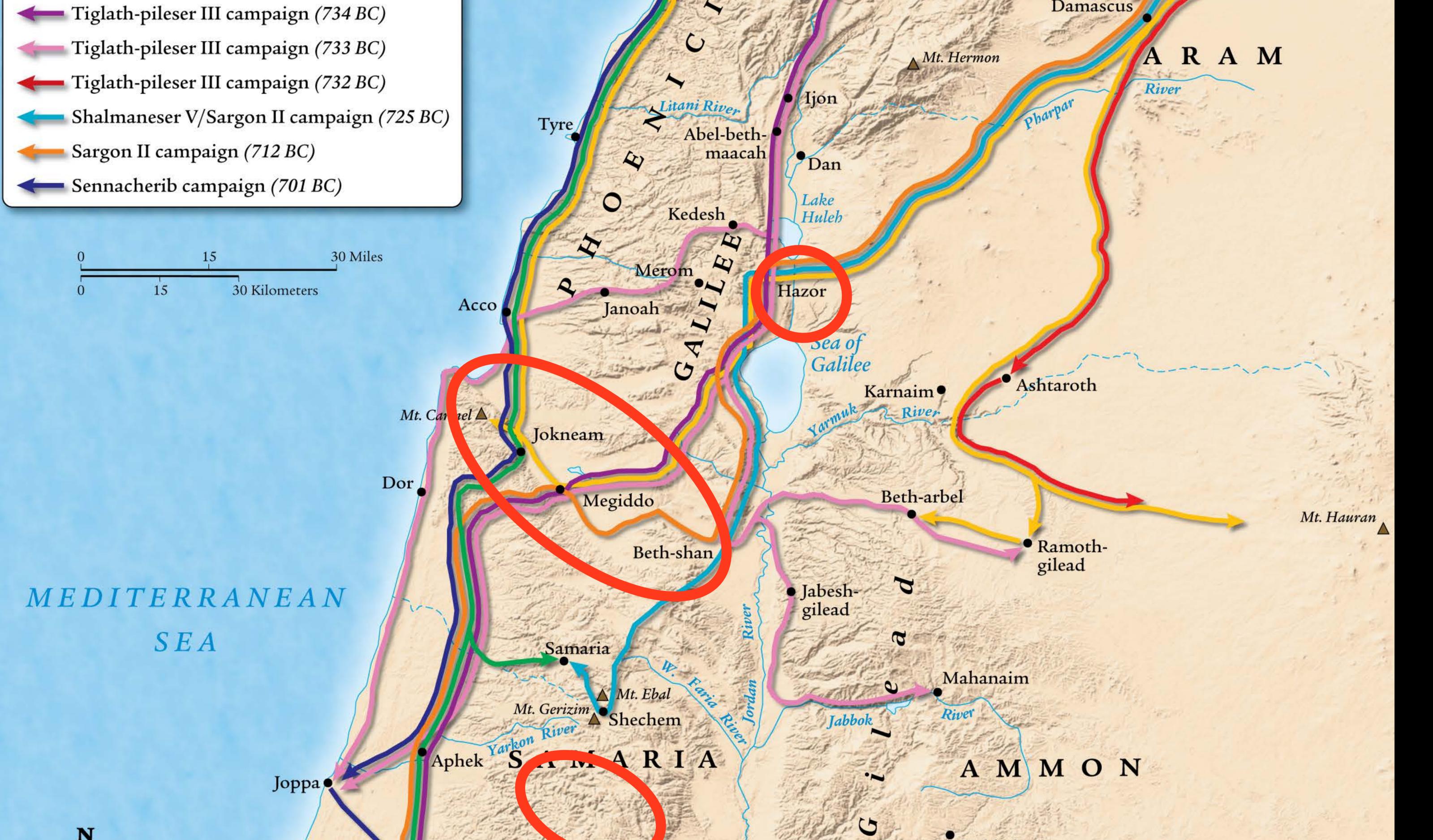
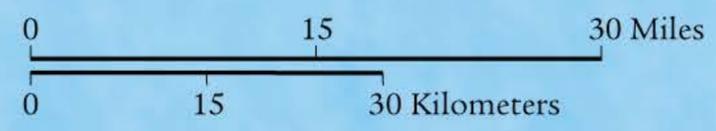
Besor Brook

*After Ehud was Shamgar the son of Anath*



“Shamgar Street” sign in Jerusalem

-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (734 BC)
-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (733 BC)
-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (732 BC)
-  Shalmaneser V/Sargon II campaign (725 BC)
-  Sargon II campaign (712 BC)
-  Sennacherib campaign (701 BC)



**Judg. 3:31, “After him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who killed six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad; and he also delivered Israel.” ~NKJV**

**James 1:27, “Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their misfortune and to keep oneself unstained by the world [*kosmos*].”**

**James 3:15, “This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, soulish, demonic.” ~RD**

**ἐπίγειος *epigeios***

**fem sing nom**

**earthly, terrestrial  
designates**

**something of the  
earth rather than of  
heaven**

**ψυχικός *psuchikos***

**fem sing nom natural, the  
opposite of one who is spiritually  
alive, the method of operation of  
the unbeliever**

**δαιμονιώδης *daimoniōdēs***

**fem sing nom  
demonic**

**James 3:15, “This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, soulish, demonic.” ~RD**

**James 3:16, “For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.”**

**James 4:4, “Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”**

**~NKJV**

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**~NKJV**

**The world (*kosmos*), the system of earthly thinking (religious, philosophies, assumptions) which derive from the fallen creature (angelic or human).**

**1 John 2:15, “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love for the Father is not in him.” ~RD**

**1 John 2:16, “For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.”  
~RD**

# Three Enemies of the Believer:

## The Devil:

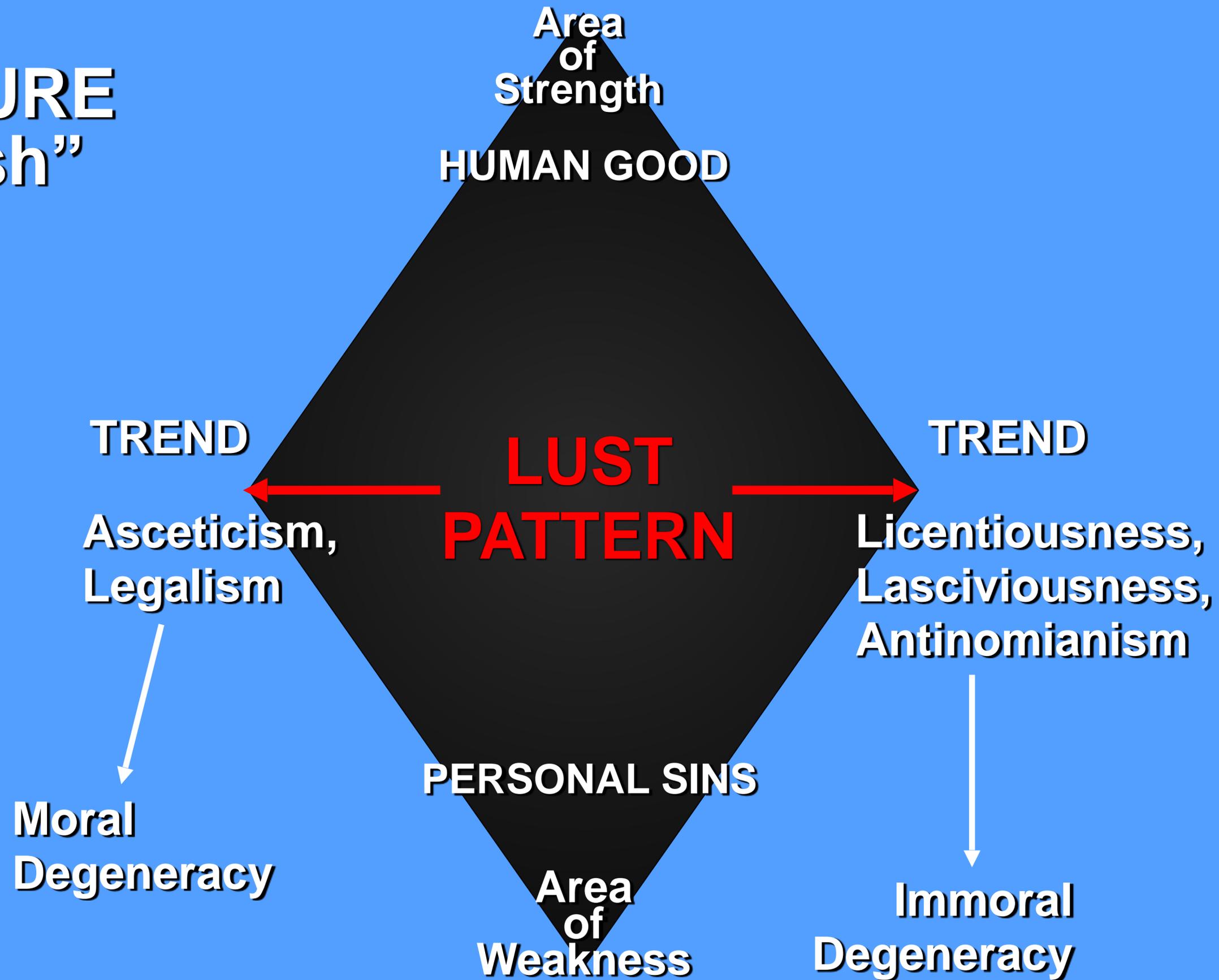
**1 Pet. 5:8, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.**

**1 Pet. 5:9, “Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”**

# Sin Nature

**Gen. 4:7, “If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”**

# THE SIN NATURE “the flesh”



## **Sin Nature**

**Rom. 6:11, “Likewise you also, consider yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Rom. 6:12, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.”**

**James 1:14, “But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.**

**James 1:15, “Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”**

**Rom. 12:1, “I implore you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, set apart, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.” ~NKJV**

**Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this spirit of this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the thinking of your mind, that you may demonstrate that God’s will is good and acceptable and perfect.”**

**Heb. 12:4, “You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.**

**Heb. 12:5, “And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: *‘My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;***

**Heb. 12:6, “ *‘For whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.’ ”***

**Judg. 4:1, “When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD.**

**~NKJV**

**Judg. 4:2, “So the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim.”**

**Judg. 4:1, “When Ehud was dead, the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD.”**

**~NKJV**

**Judg. 4:1, “The sons of Israel again did evil in the eyes of *Yhwh* after Ehud died.” ~RD**

**Second, What do we Know About Hazor?**

**Josh. 11:1, “And it came to pass, when Jabin king of Hazor heard these things, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon, to the king of Shimron, to the king of Achshaph,”**

**Josh. 11:10, “Joshua turned back at that time and took Hazor, and killed its king with the sword; for Hazor was formerly the head of all those kingdoms.**

**Josh. 11:11, “And they killed all the people who were in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them. There was none left breathing. Then he burned Hazor with fire.”**

**Josh. 11:13, “But as for the cities that stood on their mounds, Israel burned none of them, except Hazor only, which Joshua burned.”**

**Josh. 12:7, “And these are the kings of the country which Joshua and the children of Israel conquered on this side of the Jordan, on the west, from Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon as far as Mount Halak and the ascent to Seir, which Joshua gave to the tribes of Israel as a possession according to their divisions,**

**Josh. 12:8, “in the mountain country, in the lowlands, in the Jordan plain, in the slopes, in the wilderness, and in the South—the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:”**

**Josh. 12:19, “the king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;”**

**And listed in the cities captured in the north, in Joshua 19:36**

**Josh. 11:10, “Joshua turned back at that time and took Hazor, and killed its king with the sword; for Hazor was formerly the head of all those kingdoms.**

**Josh. 11:11, “And they killed all the people who were in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them. There was none left breathing. Then he burned Hazor with fire.”**

**Josh. 11:13, “But as for the cities that stood on their mounds, Israel burned none of them, except Hazor only, which Joshua burned.”**

**“Three sites of destruction, Debir, Beitin (Bethel) and Tell Beit Mirsim, which he identified as Debir; Beitin, identified as Bethel; and Lachish. All three were excavated in the 1930s, and in each case a violent destruction layer was found which was dated to the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century BC.”**

**~Dr. Bryant Wood**

# When did the Exodus Occur?

**Late date: 13<sup>th</sup> century BC (1200s BC)**

**Problem:**

**1 Kings 6:1, “And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon’s reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.”**

**Judg. 11:26, “While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and its villages, in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities along the banks of the Arnon, for three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time?”**

**“In addition, Judg. 11:26 argues for a 15<sup>th</sup>-century exodus-conquest. In this passage Jephthah stated in a letter to the king of Ammon, ‘for three hundred years Israel occupied Heshbon, Aroer, the surrounding settlements and all the towns along the Arnon.’ Although it is not possible to calculate precise dates for Jephthah, various scholars have estimated the beginning of his judgeship between 1130 and 1073 BC, so the implication is that the tribe of Reuben had been occupying the disputed area from the Wadi Hesban to the Arnon River since *ca.* 1400 BC.”**

**~Bryant Wood**

# When Was the Exodus?

1500 BC

1400 BC

1300 BC

X

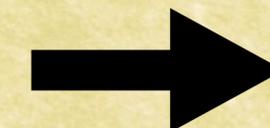
X

1446 BC

Conservative view

Liberal View

Rameses II



966 BC

Solomon's 4<sup>th</sup> year

# When Was the Exodus?

1500 BC

1400 BC

1300 BC

X

X

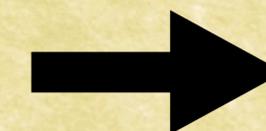
1446 BC

Conservative view

Liberal View

Rameses II

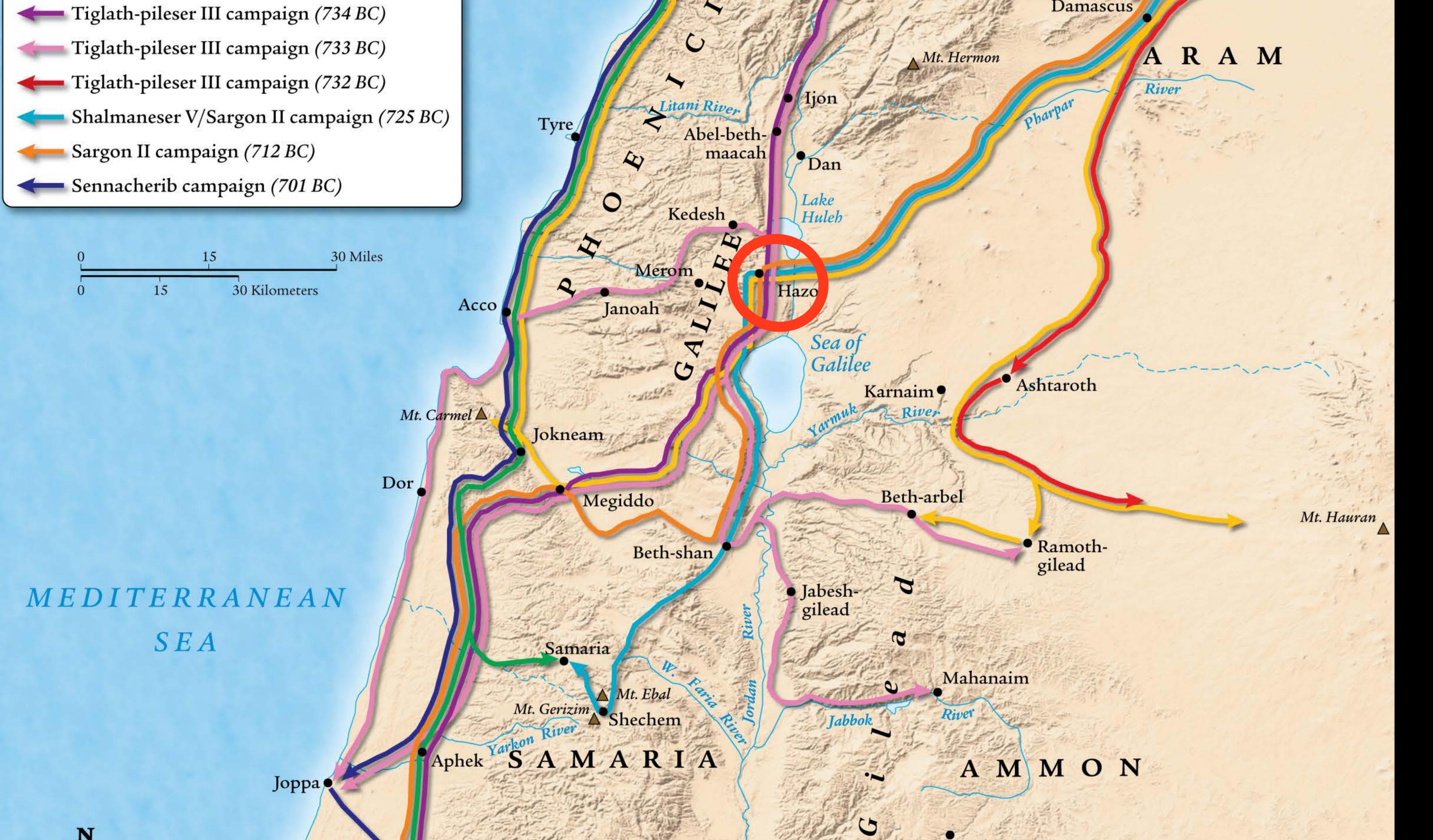
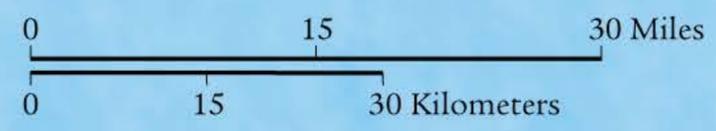
$$966 + 480 = 1446 \text{ BC}$$



966 BC

Solomon's 4<sup>th</sup> year

-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (734 BC)
-  Tiglath-pileser III campaign (733 BC)
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**“Ancient Hazor consisted of a large, rectangular lower city (170 acres) and a bottle-shaped upper city (30 acres), essentially an elongated mound called a tel, which rises about 40 m. above the surrounding plain. Yigael Yadin, the archaeologist who excavated at Hazor from 1955–1958 and 1968–1969, documented the great conflagration that accompanied the total destruction of the final Late-Bronze-Age city, which he believed to have occurred most likely by *ca.* 1233 BC.”**

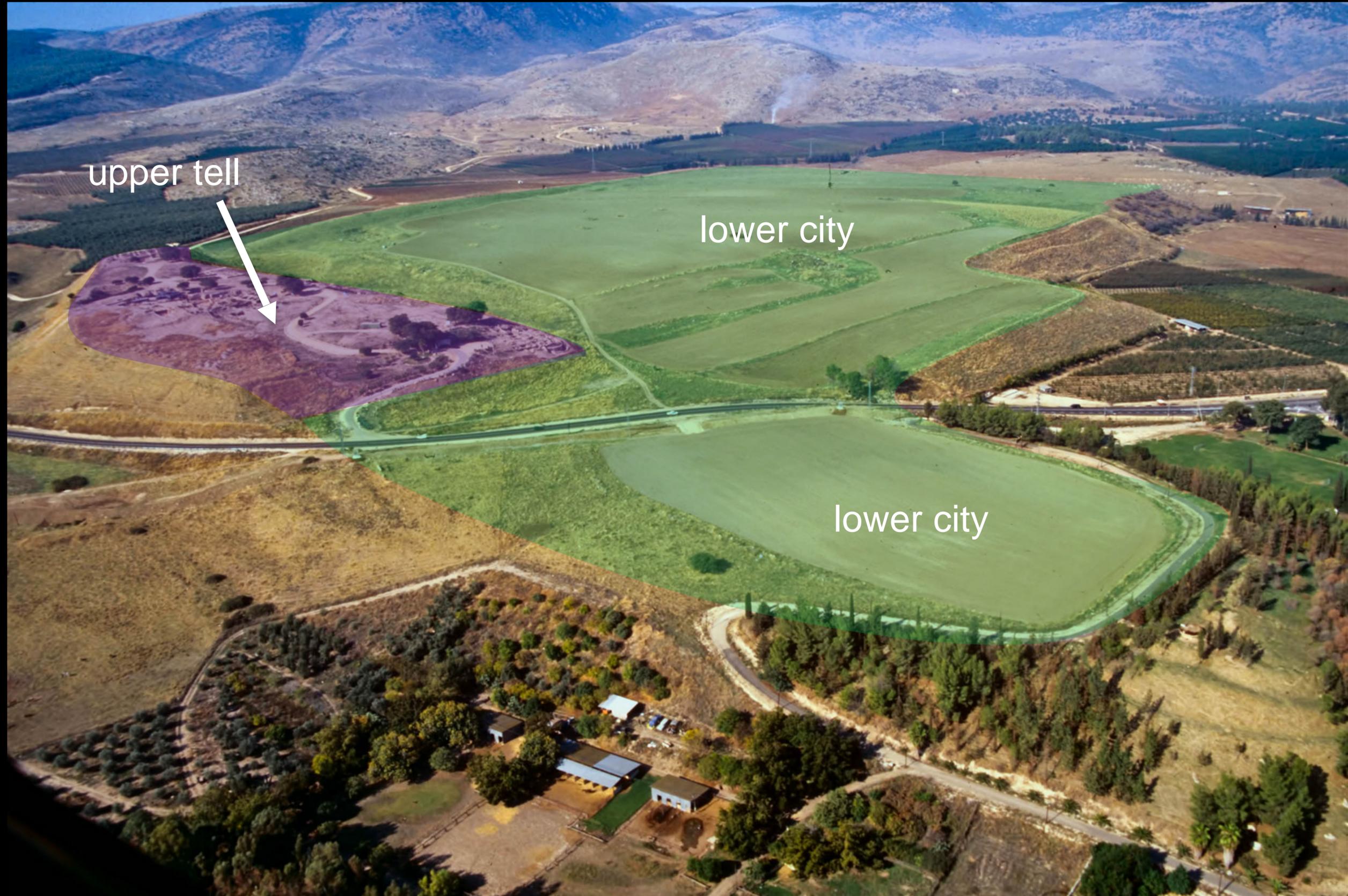
**~Doug Petrovich, *Dating of Hazor's Destruction***

*And Yahweh sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor*



Hazor (aerial view from the southeast)

*And Yahweh sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor*



Hazor (aerial view from the southeast)

*And Yahweh sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor*



Upper city of Hazor (aerial view from the east)

*And Yahweh sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor*



Hazor (aerial view from the southwest)

*And Yahweh sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor*



Canaanite palace at Hazor, 14th–13th centuries BC

**Citing Judg. 4:24, Wood argues that the Israelites destroyed the Hazor of this era (late Bronze Age) under the leadership of Deborah and Barak.**

**Problem: Judges 4 doesn't specifically say the city was destroyed. However ...**

**Judg. 4:24, “And the hand of the children of Israel grew stronger and stronger against Jabin king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.”**

**“Hoffmeier fails to recognize the main issue in the conquest narratives of Joshua and Judges: the defeat of cities (Josh. 11:12; Judg. 11:33), the extermination of peoples (Josh. 11:20), and the acquisition of land (Josh. 1:2, 6; 12:1).<sup>20</sup> The king’s death indubitably is logically connected to the conquest—and to the subsequent destruction—of Hazor.”**

**~Petrovich**

**Josh. 11:10, “Joshua turned back at that time and took Hazor, and killed its king with the sword; for Hazor was formerly the head of all those kingdoms.**

**Josh. 11:11, “And they killed all the people who were in it with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them. There was none left breathing. Then he burned Hazor with fire.”**

**Josh. 12:1, “These are the kings of the land  
whom the children of Israel defeated, and  
whose land they possessed on the other side of  
the Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from  
the River Arnon to Mount Hermon, and all the  
eastern Jordan plain:”**

## **Problem:**

**“Most archaeologists who accept the historicity of the biblical account thus link the massive conflagration of the final Late Bronze Age city of Hazor to the fiery destruction accomplished under Joshua. Moreover, they commonly connect the later story of the seemingly independent defeat of Hazor’s King Jabin, which is recorded in Judges 4, to the destruction described in Joshua 11.”**

**~Petrovich**

## **Problem:**

**“Yadin betrays his commitment to this conclusion when he notes that ‘[t]he narrative in the Book of Joshua is therefore the true historical nucleus, while the mention of Jabin in Judges 4 must have been a later editorial interpolation.’ Thus at present, one Israelite destruction by fire is commonly theorized.”**

**“As biblical chronologist Rodger Young firmly established, 1446 BC is the correct year of the exodus, and as the present writer demonstrated elsewhere, the exodus can be dated even more precisely to 25 April, 1446 BC. Thus the conquest of the Promised Land began in 1406 BC, 40 years after the exodus (Num. 32:13).”**

## **Solution.**

- 1. The difference between the conquest in Joshua 11 and Judges 4 is approximately 150 years.**

**Joshua died *ca.* 1384 BC**

**Add up the numbers—the time for the elders generation to die, the 8 years of the 1<sup>st</sup> oppression + 40 years of rest, the 18 year-oppression + 80 years of rest + 20 years of oppression under Jabin = 166**

**2. Yavin is a dynastic name, not a personal name.**

**Archives in Mari, mention Yabni-Adad as the King of Hazor in the 18<sup>th</sup> century BC.**

*And Yahweh sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor*



Cuneiform letter to Jabin-Addu king of Hazor, discovered at Hazor, 18th–17th centuries BC

**Conclusion: Hazor was destroyed twice, once at the time of Joshua, and again later in the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century BC.**

## **Confirmation in Later Verses**

**1 Sam. 12:9, “And when they forgot the LORD their God, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of Hazor, into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab; and they fought against them.”**

**Psa. 83:9, “Deal with them as with Midian, as with Sisera, as with Jabin at the Brook Kishon,”**

**Judg. 4:2, “So the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, who dwelt in Harosheth Hagoyim.”**

**Sisera is a Canaanite Name**

**Probably a Hittite or Hurrian mercenary like  
Shamgar.**

*The commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-hagoiim*



Megiddo and the Jezreel Valley, possible area of Harosheth-hagoiim (aerial view from the west)