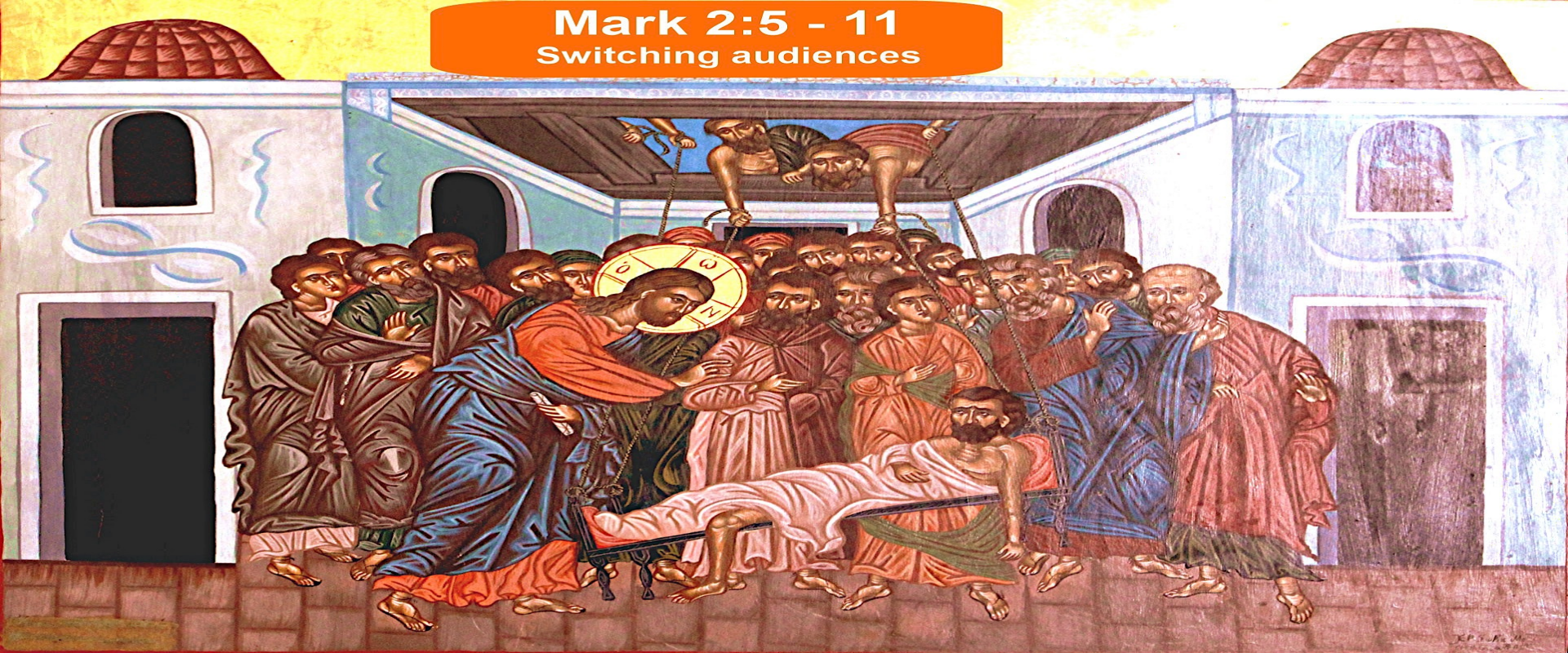


Mark 2:5 – 11
Switching audiences



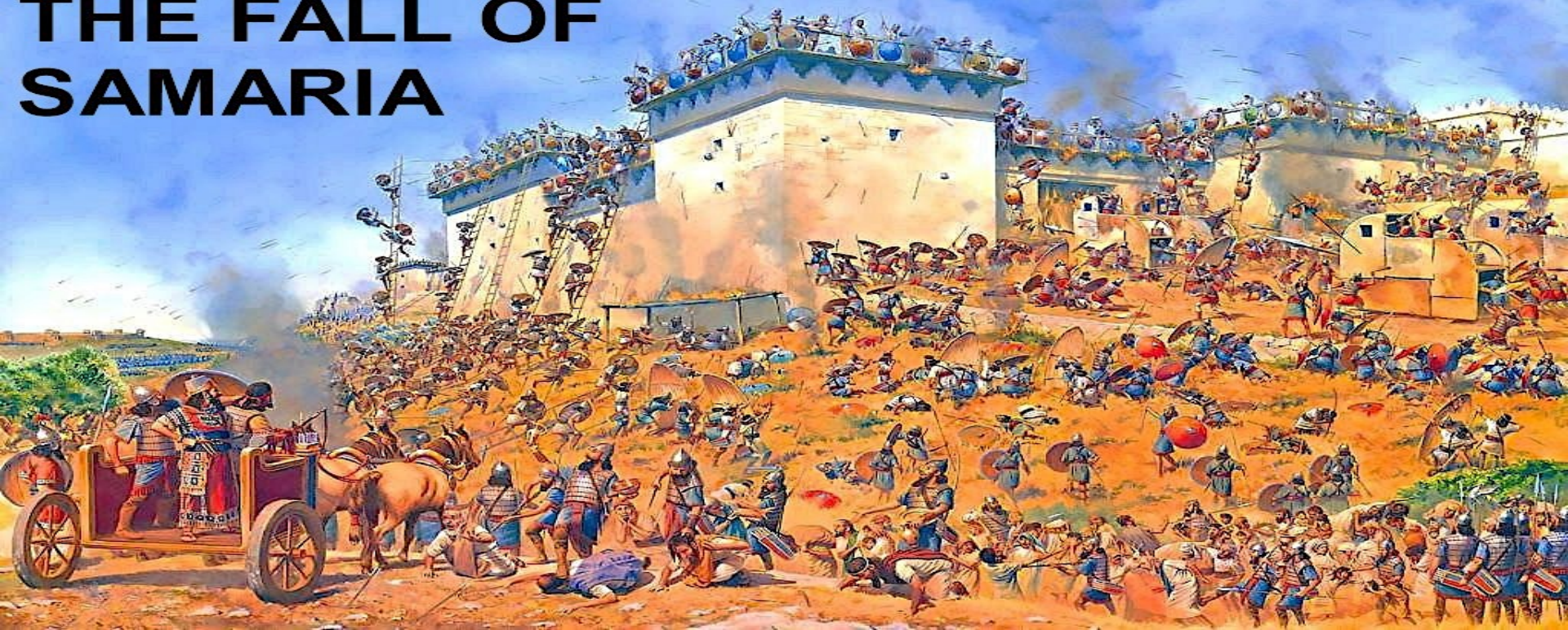
- In Mark 2:5 – 11, Yeshua switches audiences twice
- The same thing is happening in Micah 1:2 – 7
- Vs. 1 is a superscription that is to be partitioned from the remainder of the book
- Micah is likely speaking in a public place, to a group of Judeans, meant to represent “all Israel”

8th Century B.C. A WORLD IN TRANSITION



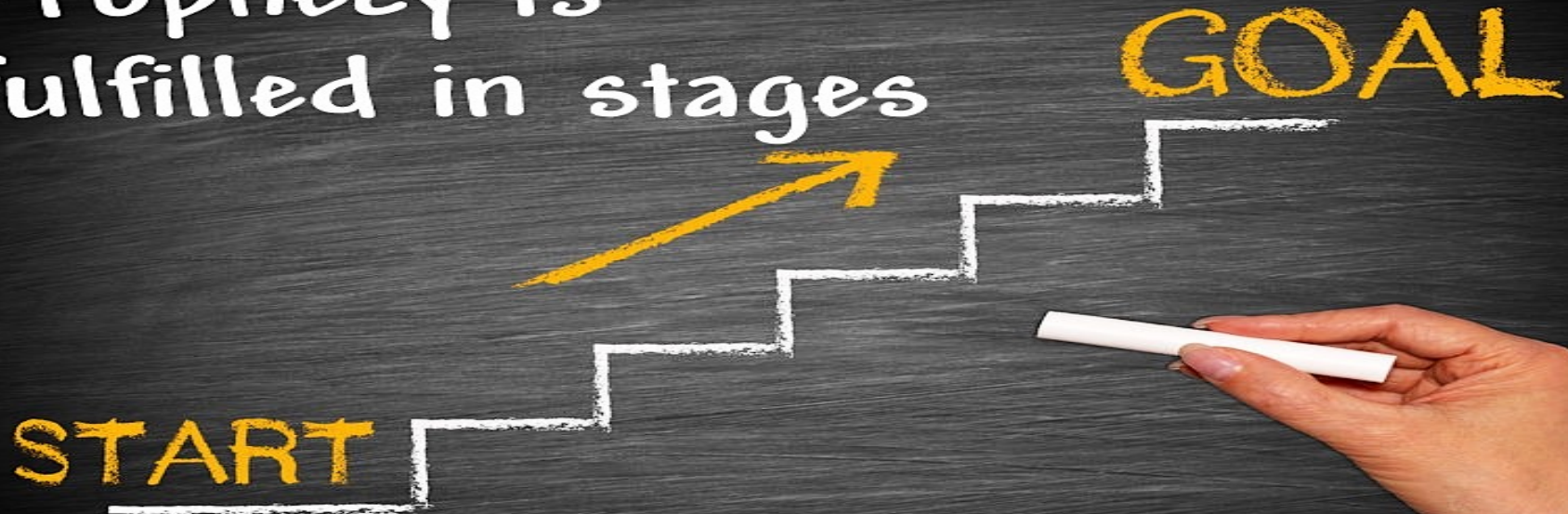
- Micah addresses Israel, then “the world”, then back to Israel
- He tells Israel that God is accusing them!
- Hundreds of false prophets running around Israel
- God sends warnings, not messages of pleasure, through His prophets
- Modern “prophets” are Pastors, Rabbis, Bible teachers, who prefer to please their audience

THE FALL OF SAMARIA



- Micah 1:5 God is holding ALL accountable... both Samaria and Jerusalem
- Micah 1:6 Because of vs. 5, vs. 6 happens
- Sargon of Assyria would attack and haul off captives, but did not destroy Samaria
- It was John Hyrcanus in 107 B.C. that destroyed it

Prophecy is
fulfilled in stages



- Samaria's foundations were washed away with water
- To this day, Samaria has never been rebuilt
- Micah 1:7 Vss. 6 & 7
should NOT have been separated
- ***Pesilim*** = stone idols ***asabbim*** = images
- Israel joined their pagan neighbors in idolatry and in festivals thinking they were "loving their neighbors"

THE PROBLEM OF IDOL WORSHIP

- Deut. 7:3 – 5
- Israel was not being a light to the world; they were joining the world
- It was easy to know the Torah truth; they preferred their doctrines & beliefs
- Micah 1:8 ***“This is why I howl and wail...”***
- God judges on 2 levels: the individual and communal (national)





- Micah, a Judean Prophet, mourns over Samaria
- Micah did NOT strip off his clothes and run around naked; this is an expression that means to mourn
- Micah 1:9 Vss. 8 & 9 should not have been separated
- For Samaria, it was too late to cry out for mercy
- Even though Judeans didn't consider Ephraim/Israelite people to be "Israelites", Micah did

For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone,
declares the Sovereign LORD.

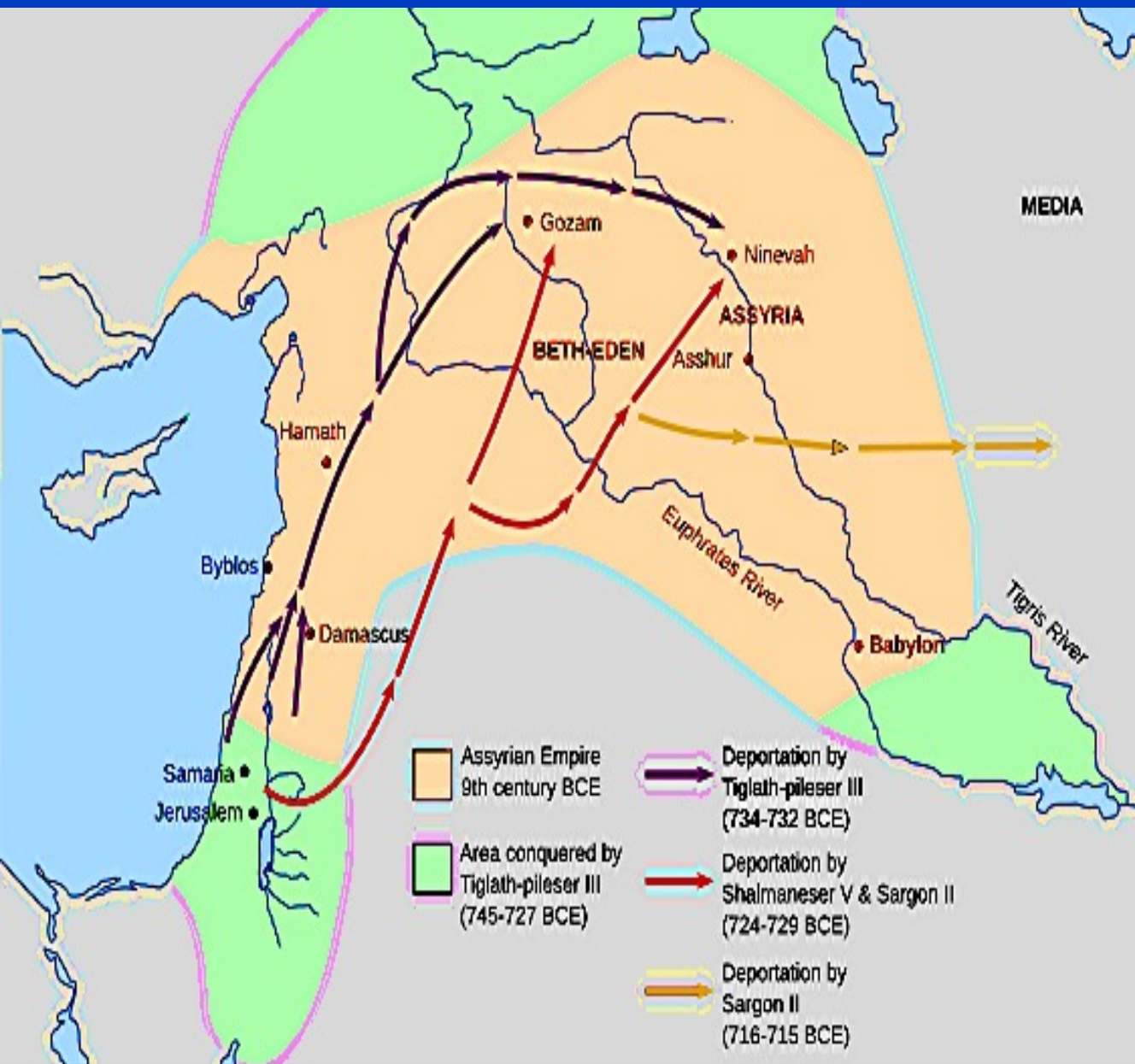
Repent and live!

Ezekiel 18:32



- When God's prophets speak, it is the same as God speaking
- Vss. 10 – 16 are a new unit, spoken in panic
- A terrifying vision
- There are wordplays and puns, alliteration, poetic-like but not true Hebrew poetry
- The Bible text we have is poorly transmitted to us

THE ASSYRIAN INVASION



- Gath
- Beth-le-aphrah
- Shaphir
- Sa-anan
- Beth-ha-esel
- Maroth
- Jerusalem
- Lachish
- Daughter of Zion
- Moresheth-Gath
- Achzib
- Mareshah
- Adullam

The Philistines
at time of David
c. 1010 B.C.



JERUSALEM IS THE GOAL

- Each place had significance and was known in Micah's day, but it became lost
- Gath was likely part of Judah at this time
- Beth-le-aphrah "roll in dust" means to mourn
- Shafir, "nakedness" means the shame of becoming captives
- Jerusalem and Maroth connected in some way



- Lachish a fortress city, so vs. 13 is about the military
- Vs. 14 about gifts given to Moresheth-Gath
- ***Shilluchim*** = gifts, or parting gifts. Same word used for dowry
- Houses of Achzib is referring to certain families, probably royal
- They seem to have become traitors to the kings of Israel
- Church runs from teaching prophecy because it's not happy!



**A TONE OF MOURNING
AND GRIEF THROUGHOUT**