

B O O K O F

# ZECHARIAH

**First Zechariah**  
Chapters 1 - 8

**Second Zechariah**  
Chapters 9 - 14

- The Babylonian Exile and their return shaped Jewish life, and it is reflected in chapters 1 – 8
- Only a fraction of the Jews who left came back
- No Jewish monarch, rather a Jewish governor and a High Priest who had more power than the governor
- 200 years later Alexander the Great came and changed the order of the known world

# Approaching the End of the Prophetic era



- No more books of Prophecy after Malachi (until Revelation)
- The last of David's dynasty to operate in government was ***Shelomith***
- This created a deterioration of Jewish society and it is where Second Zechariah picks up
- The stability of the Persian Empire came to a close

# BABYLONIAN EXILE NOW IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR

- Dates pinpointed in Haggai and First Zechariah
- No chronology given in Second Zechariah
- Speculation that Second Zechariah was written by more than one person
- Converting from oral transmission to writing required a literary structure
- Unclear exactly when this conversion happened

WRITTEN



ORAL

# Zechariah and....



## BIBLICAL INTERTEXTUALITY

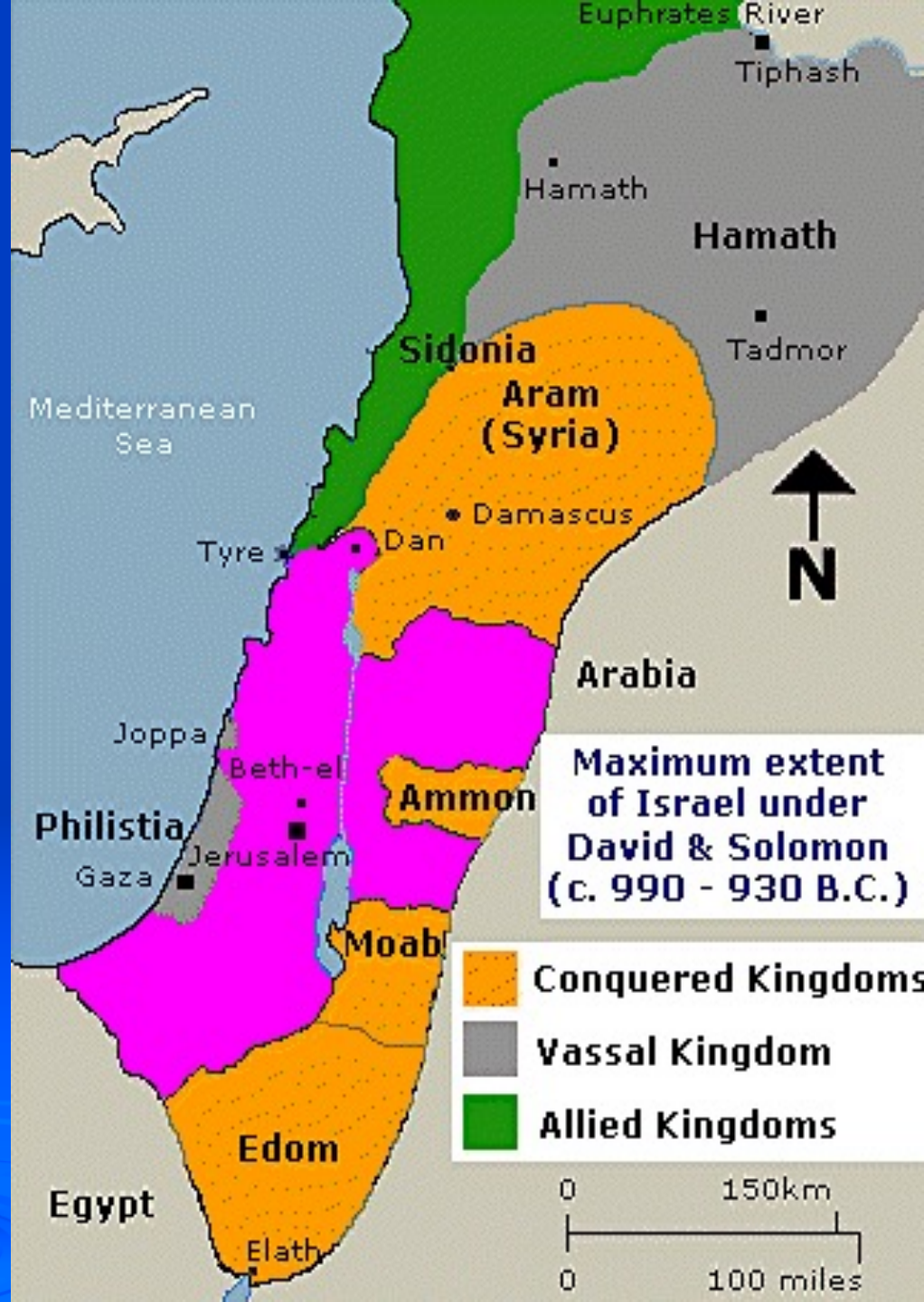
- Intertextuality means an author drawing on the writings of earlier books of the Bible
- Synoptic Gospels, Christ's quotes come more from Second Zechariah than any other OT book
- The subject of Second Zechariah shifts from Judah to the House of Ephraim

# Which meaning to choose?



- Difficult translation of a word is often owed to text corruption, but that's usually not the case
- The Prophet knew what he was saying, and so did his earliest hearers
- **Massa** = to lift up, carry But, in prophecy it more means "THAT which is lifted up" (oracle from God)
- "Word of YHWH" means no other gods involved

- Hadrach is on the Orontes River in Syria
- Hadrach and Damascus both foreign nations
- In the future, these 2 cities/regions will declare loyalty to Yehoveh
- “eye of the people” are the foreign inhabitants of those 2 cities, who come to trust YHWH
- God divided humanity into 2 groups: Israel and everyone else
- In the future both groups will accept YHWH



## Ancient Lebanon



- Hamath, Tzor, Sidon
- Tyre (Tzor), Sidon are Phoenicia
- Now called Lebanon
- **Chakam** = wise, but can mean it like shrewd, pragmatic, skills of an artisan
- Phoenicia fortified itself, and it gave them confidence
- 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Tyre fell to the Greeks



# LEBANON



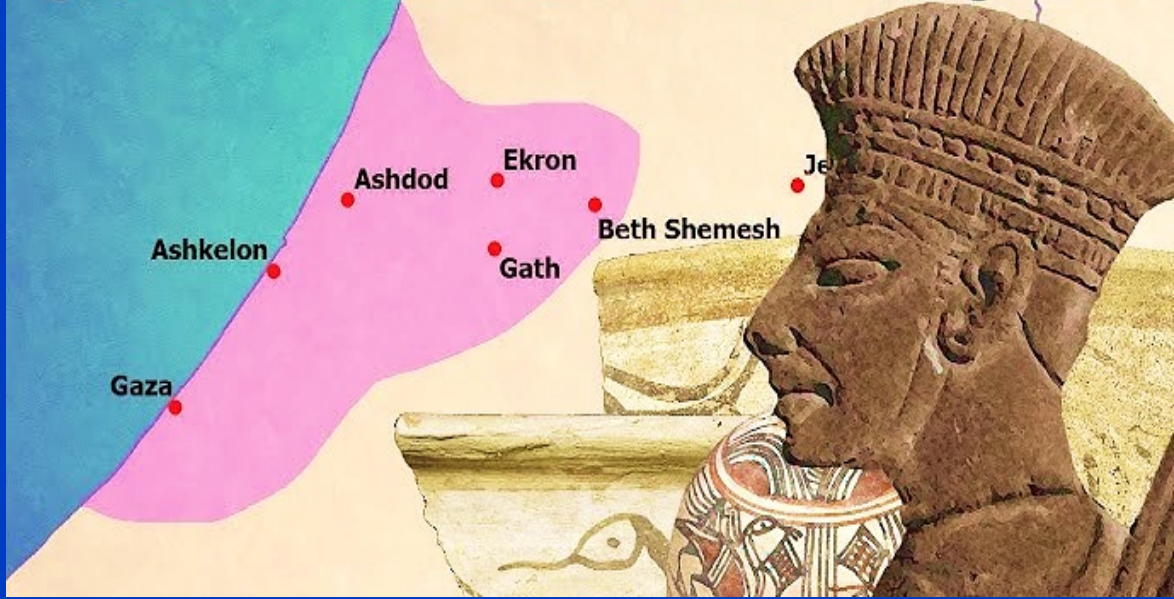
- Due to Lebanon allowing free reign to Hezbollah, they are being damaged
- Ashkelon is in modern Israel
- Philistia consisted of: Gaza, Gath, Ekron, Ashkelon, Ashdod
- Gath at one time became part of Judah
- Ashkelon sees the fate of Lebanon and fears for itself as a result
- Leaders of Gaza, today, see and fear what is happening in Lebanon

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





# THE PHILISTINES



- *Tere* = sees
- *Tira* = fears
- *Chuwl* = twist, curl, dance agonize
- Dan was supposed to secure Ekron, but never took it
- Philistia was depending on its ally Lebanon to come to its aid... they could not
- Modern day, Gaza expected Hezbollah to help... but in the end they could not

