



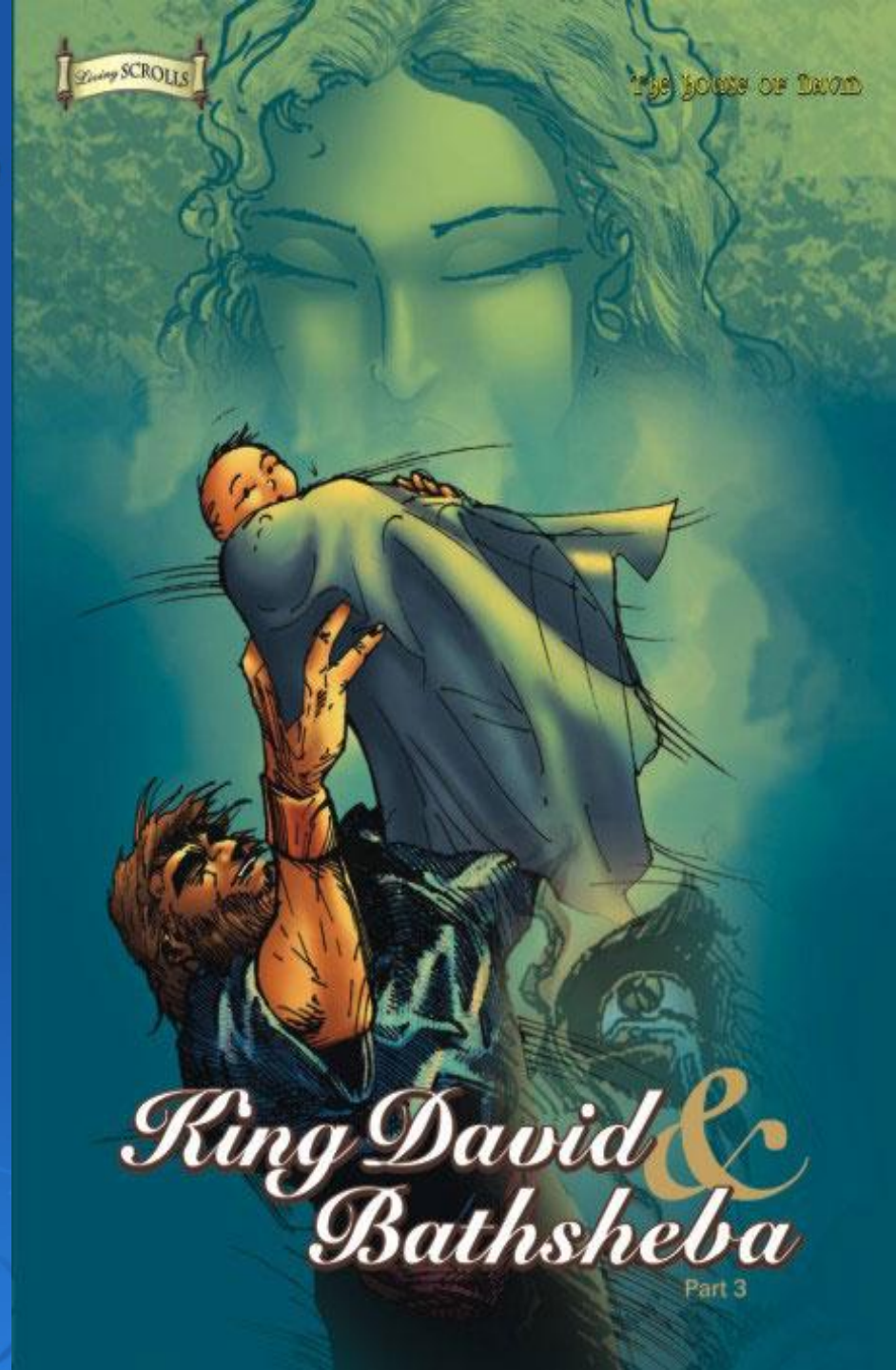
# ALLEGORY

What you say your story really means,  
after someone else tells you what they think it really means.

- Allegory should be used sparingly, and only as illustration, not as a theological principle
- The Church and Synagogue tend to use allegory as their PRIMARY means of forming doctrine, teaching and sermonizing
- Allegory allows for a Biblical passage to be restated to mean anything that upholds a particular viewpoint

# A CHILDREN'S STORY OF LOVE?

- For the Christian it is mostly about unconditional forgiveness by God
- For the Jew it is mostly about David's near perfection
- Scholars from both sides have contorted the words with allegory and mistranslation to validate their doctrines
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 11 is full of breathtaking God-principles





# 2<sup>ND</sup> SAMUEL 11:

*“...when kings go out to war...”*



- Spring was the time sieges began
- 2Sam 10:13-14
- Ammonites had retreated inside the walls of Rabbah
- A siege is a long-term blockade
- A waiting game for when the city runs out of food



# DAVID SENDS YO'AV TO FIGHT

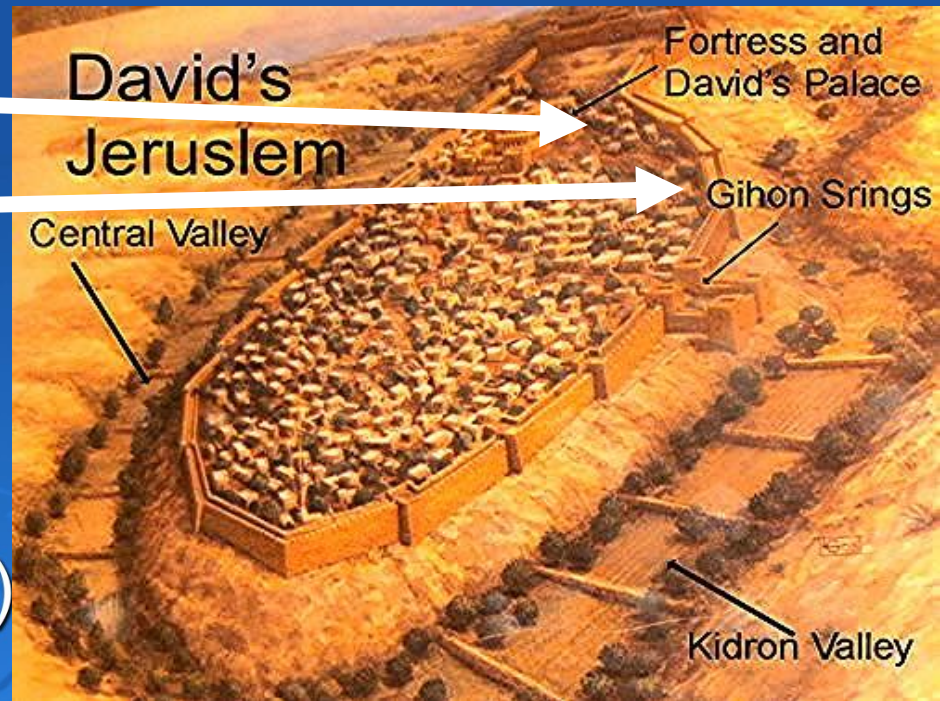


- When kings go out = *melech yatsah*
- David sent out Yo'av = *David shalach Yo'av*
- Messenger = *malach*
- King = *melech*
- A derogative tone is set: David is NOT doing what Israelite kings are to do
- To sit = *yashav*
- To go out = *yatsah*
- David refusing to obey God's commands for a king to go with his troops



# DAVID SPIES BATHSHEBA

- David has been napping and then walks around on his palace rooftop
- His lust erupts as he sees Bathsheba bathing
- Palace up high, Bathsheba's residence on slope to the Kidron ravine
- *Uriyah* the Hittite is Bathsheba's husband
- *Uriyah* = light of Yah (God)





# BATH-SHEVA and RITUAL PURITY

- David sends a messenger to get Bath-Sheva just as he sent a messenger (Joab) to fight the King's war
- **Sheva** = 7, or oath
- After having sex with her, David hears that Bathsheba is pregnant
- **Tumah** = ritually unclean
- **Niddah** = ritually unclean during monthly cycle
- On the 8<sup>th</sup> day AFTER the flow ends, a sacrifice of 2 birds AND a ritual bath (Mikvah)







- David calls for Bathsheba AFTER the 8<sup>th</sup> day when she is now ritually clean
- Bath-Sheva at a peak time of fertility
- Since Bath-Sheva has just had a flow and thus a Mikvah, obviously she hadn't been pregnant until her fling with David
- David sent messenger to get Bathsheba so secrecy became a problem because the messengers knew what was happening
- Bathsheba was NOT coerced





# DAVID'S CONCERN IS TO COVER IT UP

- What happens when *Uriyah* hears of this?
- David lost sight that despite his best efforts to hide what he did, God saw it all
- Sometimes for us, “God seeing all” feels like theory
- Our concern is to avoid the earthly consequences of our behavior
- We try to hide our actions and hope we can go on with our lives as usual, and we’ll worry about God later!





# URIYAH ARRIVES AT THE PALACE



- *Uriyah* arrives and David suggest he go home and wash his feet
- But instead of going home he stays at the Palace with the servants
- *Uriyah* probably a bit suspicious that he was brought here and only asked about soldiers
- He explains to David that he couldn't bring himself to have the comforts of home and wife when his comrades were still in the field, fighting



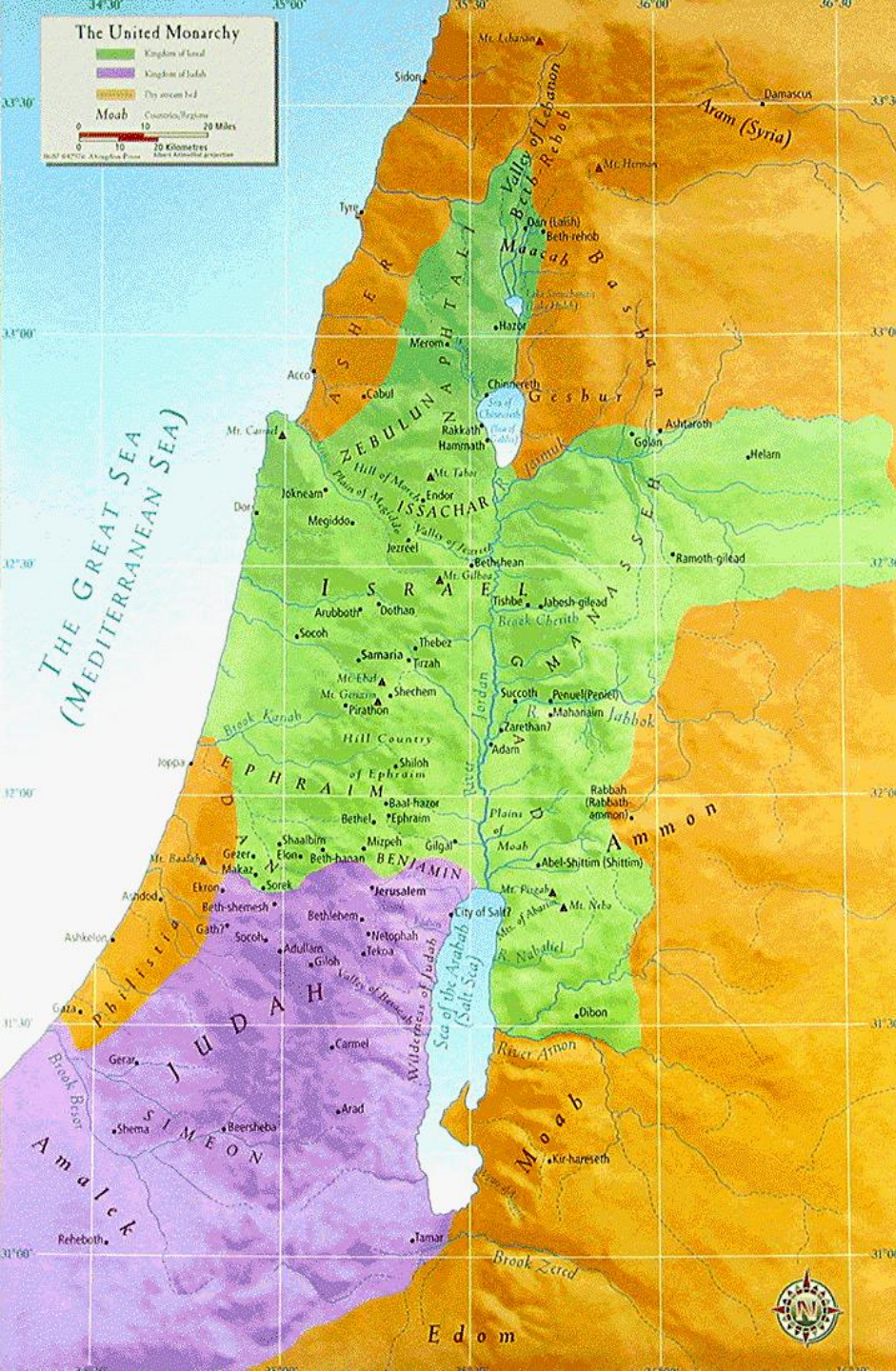
# ARK IN A SUKKAH?

- Word is NOT *ohel*, it is *Sukkah*
- *Ohel* = tent
- Soldiers do NOT camp in a *Sukkah*!
- The Ark is at a place called *Sukkoth*





# JUDAH AND ISRAEL



- Relationship between the north and the south was always fragile
- The 12 tribes grouped themselves in coalitions
- David keeps *Uriyah* at the Palace and gets him drunk
- *Uriyah* STILL doesn't go home
- David getting anxious and furious so decides to take a drastic step to solve the problem