

JOSHUA 12: THE INCOMPLETE VICTORY



- Time to settle the land
- Next several chapters center on geography and boundaries
- Bible is full of generalizations
- Nuances and details are added afterward
- We must not stop at the generalizations!!
- Middle East today is a consequence of Joshua's incomplete victory

CHRISTIANS AREN'T PERFECT; BUT WE ARE CALLED TO PERFECT HOLINESS

- 1 Cor. 10: 1 – 13
- Paul says that “what happened” with Israel’s patriarchs is prefigurative of what our lives will be
- We live between the many available blessings of God, and the failures in our lives that cause these blessings to be blocked

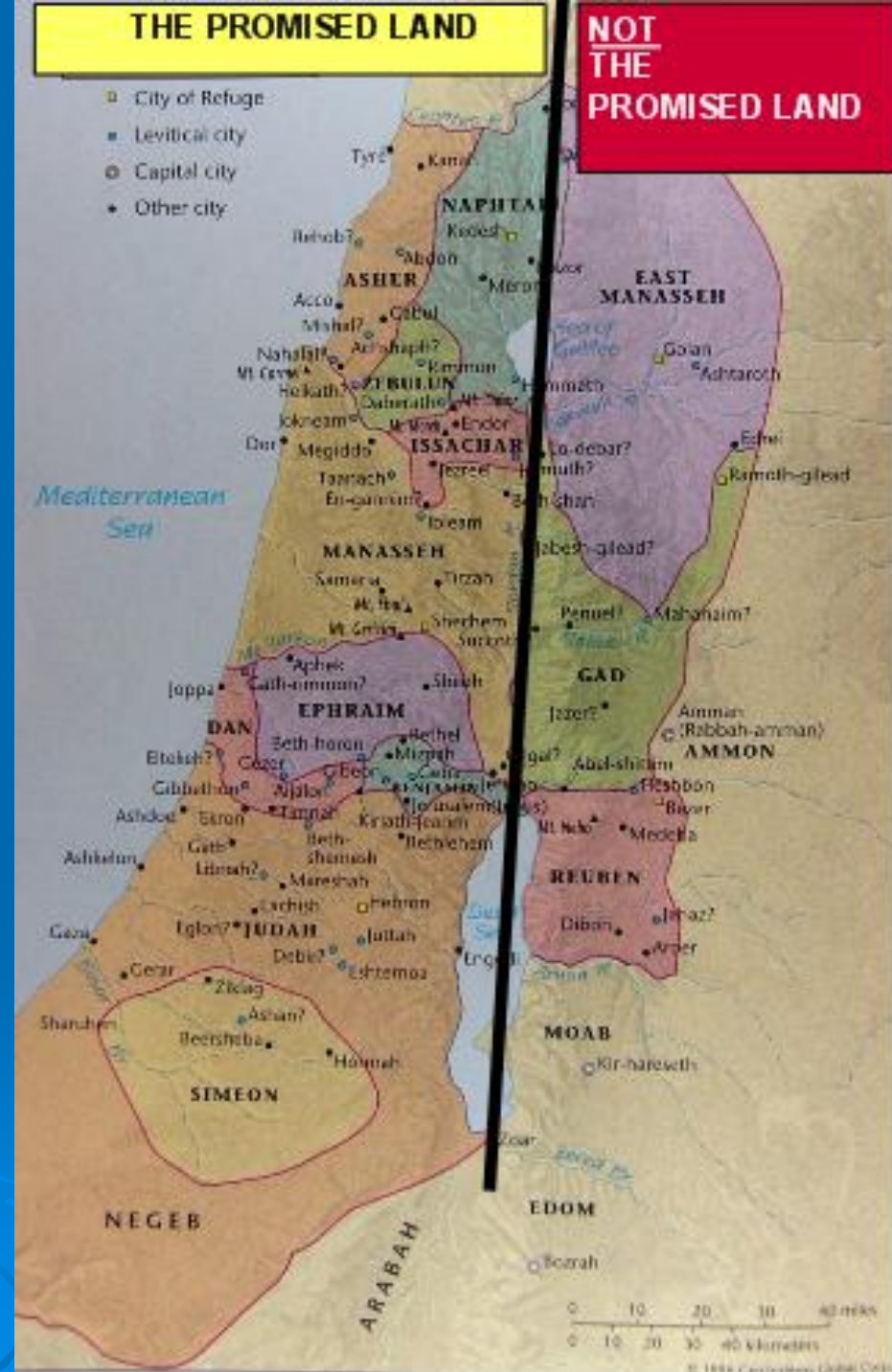


FAILURE

WHEN YOUR BEST JUST ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH.

CHAPTER 12 IS DIVIDED BY THE JORDAN RIVER

- Vs. 1 – 6 East side
- Vs. 7 – 24 West side
- East side known as the Trans-Jordan
- Reuben, Gad, and ½ of Manasseh requested this land from Moses
- The effect was to give every tribe a bigger land allotment



THE LAND OF CANAAN BEFORE THE ISRAELITE CONQUEST

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SCALE OF MILES
0 5 10 15 20 25 30

BOUNDARIES
UNCERTAIN BOUNDARIES
CITIES AND TOWNS
ROADS



LAND OF THE EAST TAKEN BY MOSES

- From Mt. Hermon in the north
- To the Arnon River in the south
- From the Jordan River on the west
- Undefined to the east
- Og was a “Rephaim”
- Goliath also was a “Rephaim”

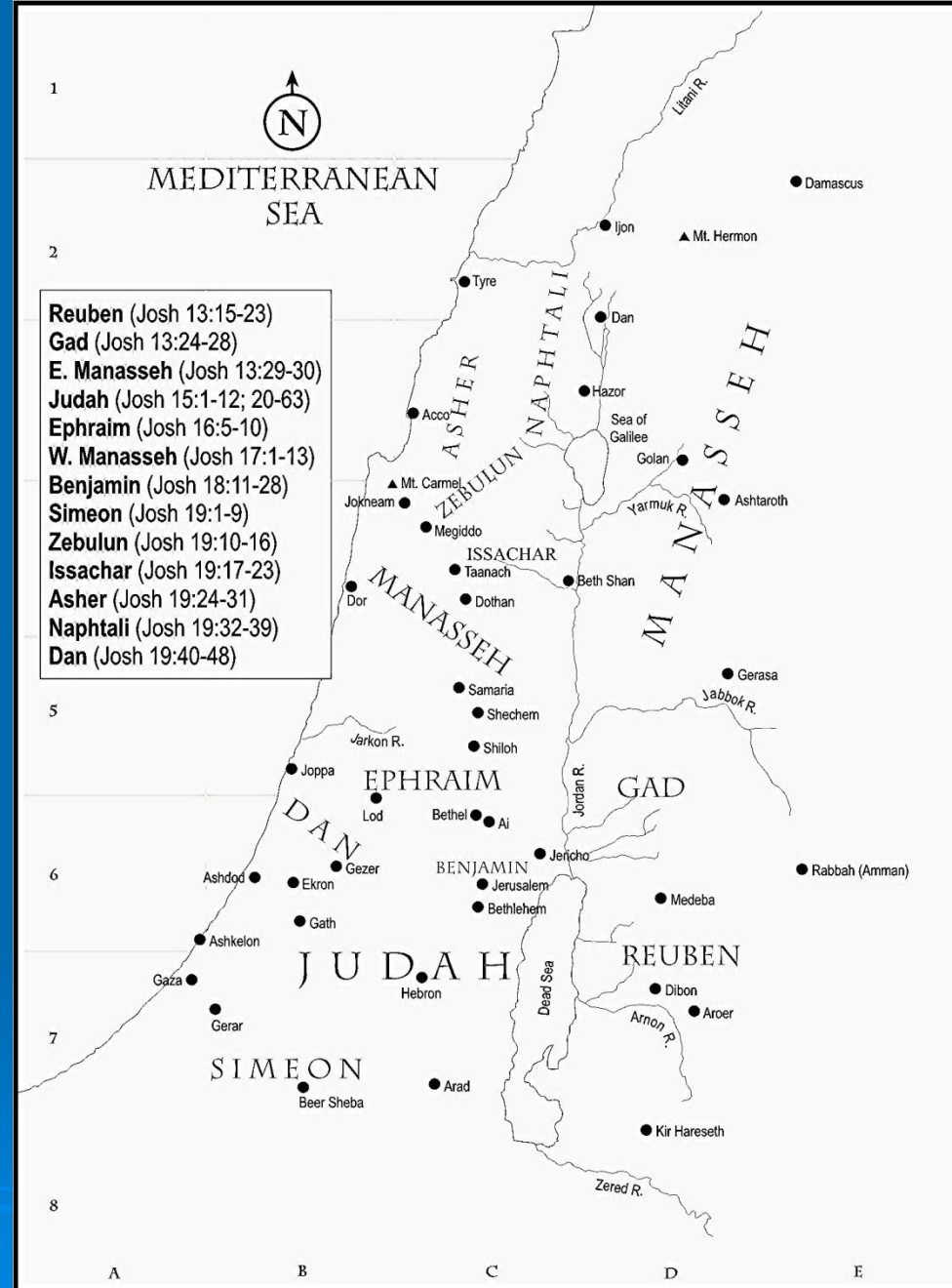
LAND OF THE WEST TAKEN BY JOSHUA

- Moses ASSIGNED the land of the east
- Joshua distributed the land of west according to lots
- North boundary was Lebanon
- South boundary was Edom (Seir)
- East boundary hills above the Jordan River
- West boundary is the coastal plain



CITIES CONQUERED

- List is in the order the cities were taken
- Most of these cities are in the modern day West Bank
- Joshua won a large section of Canaan, but much land still remained to be taken
- During this phase in the world's history, only BATTLE will attain the peace

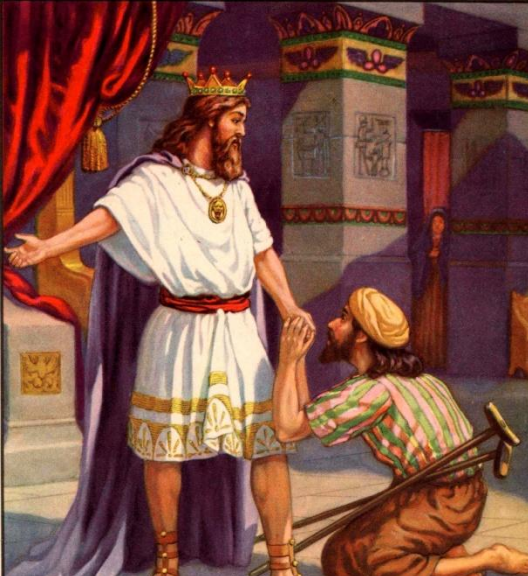


LAND DISTRIBUTION



- Joshua was NOT to keep the land for himself, he was to divide it up among his people
- This was a revolutionary notion
- Kings conquered land and KEPT it for themselves!

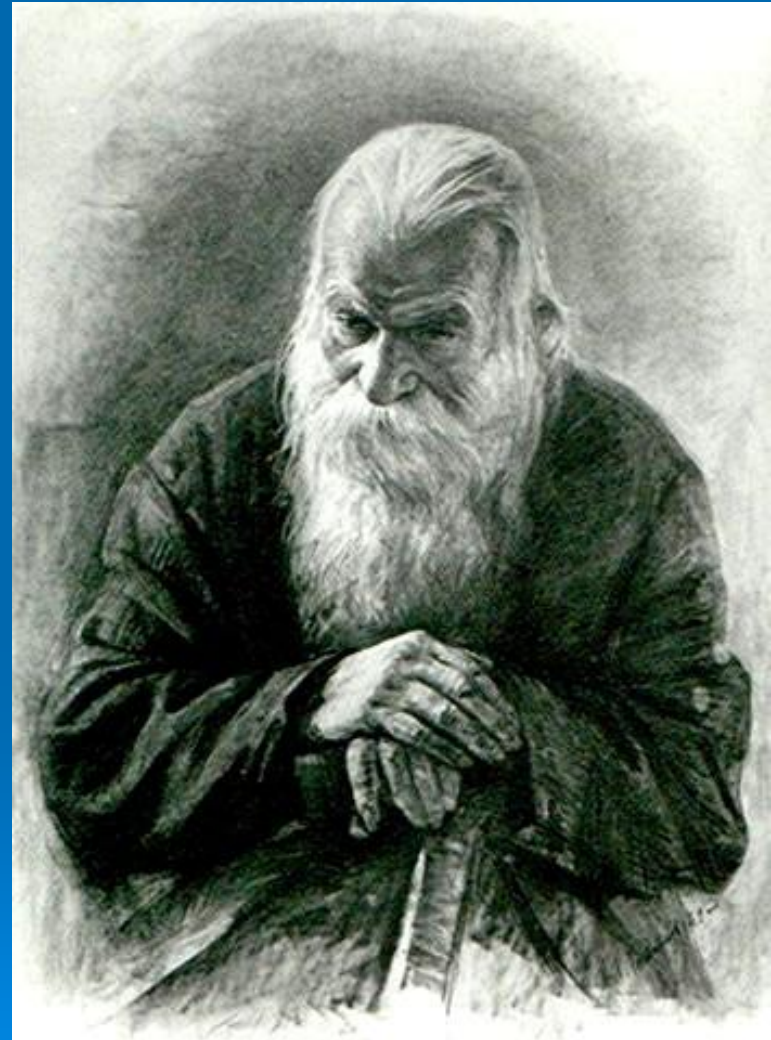
THE PROBLEM WITH KINGS



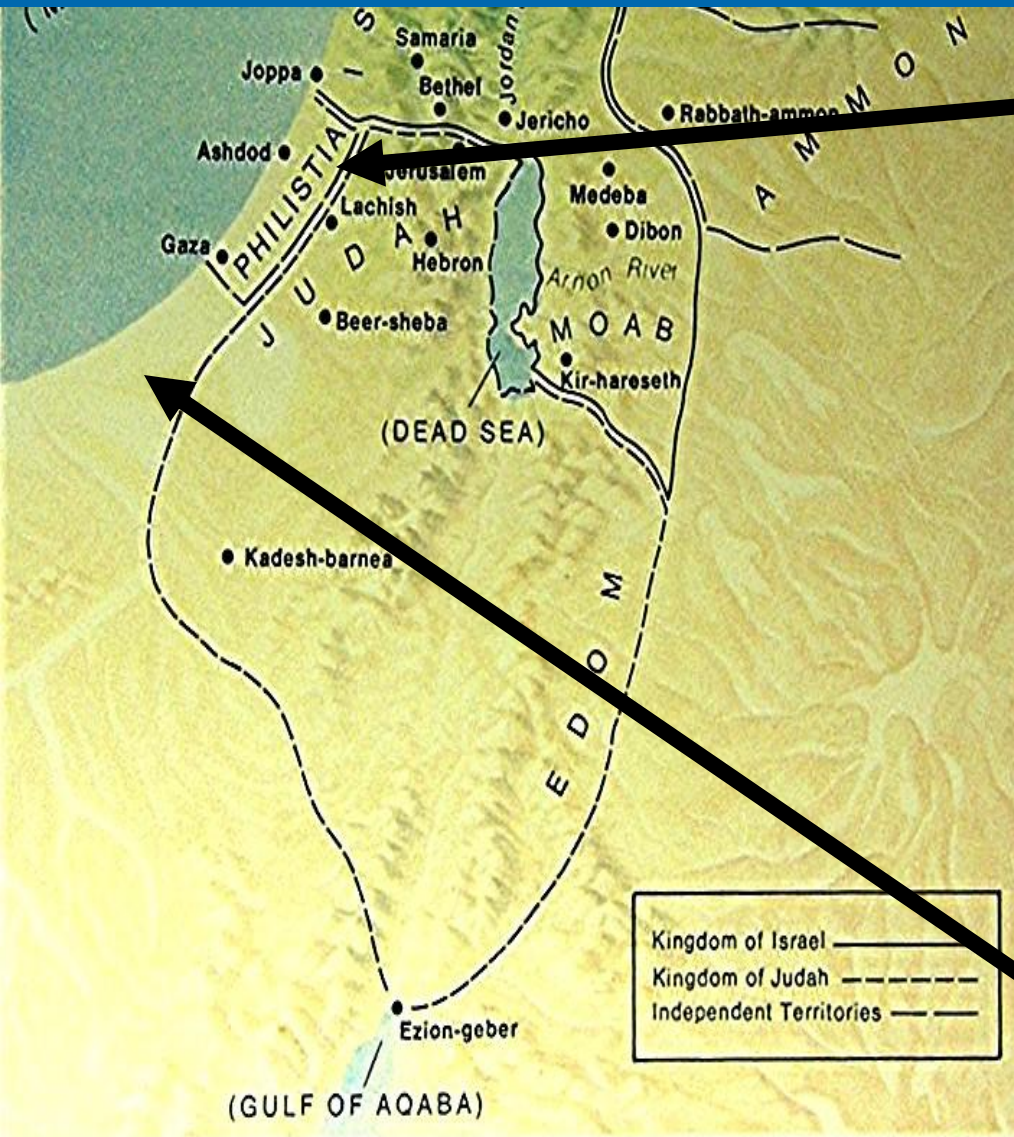
- God's plan for Israel was that NO HUMAN RULER would rule over His people
- The Land was to be divided up among the 12 tribes
- **Nasi** = tribal prince, NOT king
- Was NOT royalty
- A human king caused the people to divide their loyalty between God and the King
- Every Israelite King would eventually demand more FROM the people than He gave TO the people

JOSHUA 13: JOSHUA NOW AN OLD MAN

- Joshua in his 80's or early 90's
- Whereas Moses had remained strong, battle had taken a toll on Joshua
- God demanded that Joshua divide the land NOW!
- Joshua was to supervise the distribution
- Because all the land hadn't been taken, Joshua didn't think it was time, yet, to divide it



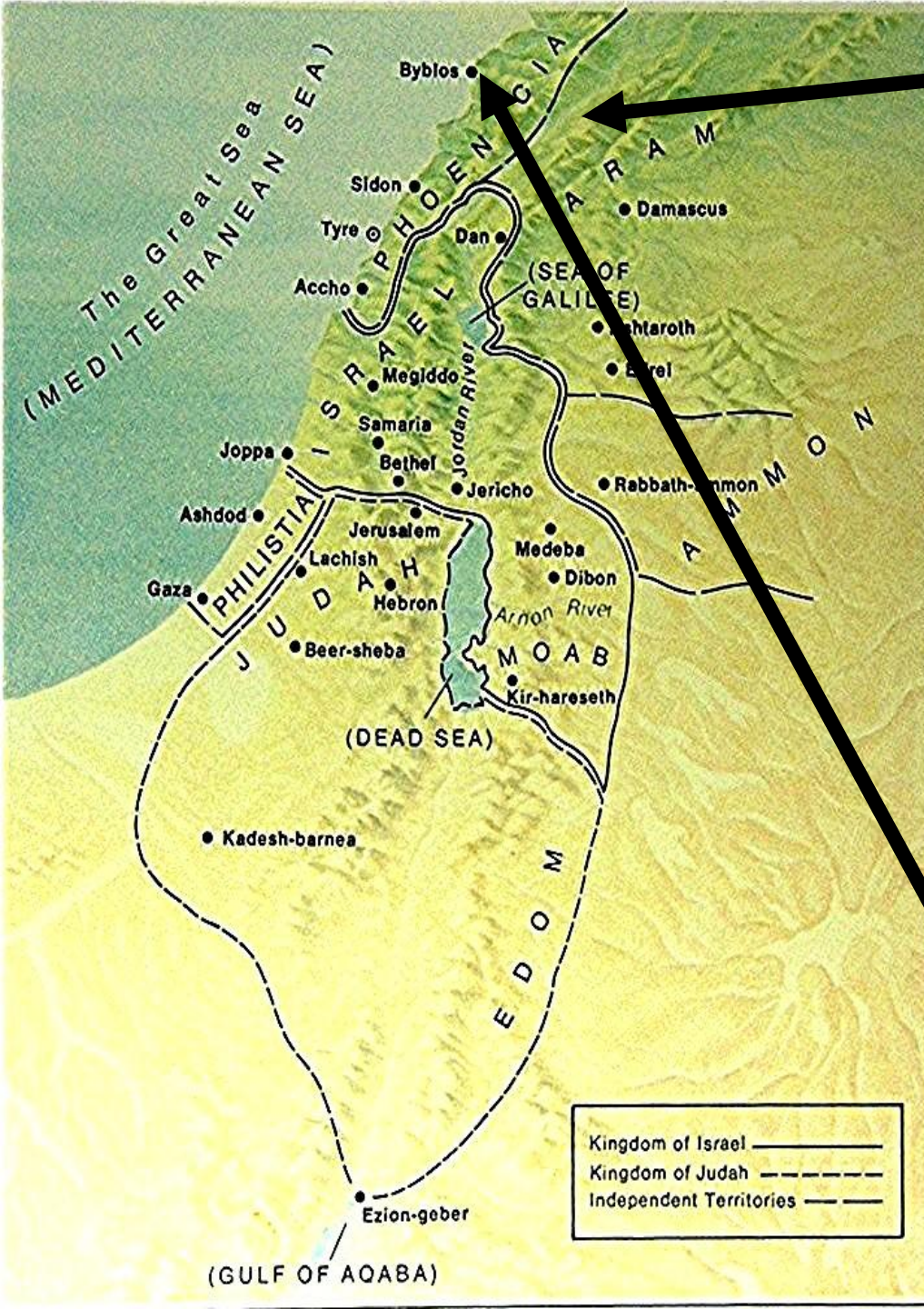
LANDS NOT CONQUERED



- Philistia, *P'lishtim*
- Wadi of Egypt (south)
- Ekron (north)
- Gaza city was the SOUTHERNMOST part of ancient Philistia
- Gaza city is the NORTHERNMOST city of the Gaza Strip
- Geshurites an ally to the south of Philistia

PHOENECIA

- For some reason Joshua didn't attack the seacoast regions
- Sidon was the capital city of Phoenicia
- Sidonians were a parallel name for Phoenicians
- 3rd unconquered region north of Byblos



LAND ON THE WEST ONLY FOR THE 9 ½ TRIBES

- Joshua may soon be gone, but the Lord will remain with Israel and continue the plan!
- Other 2 ½ tribes already have their land inheritance
- Another group of Geshurites lived in the north by Manasseh
- **Qereb** = in the midst of
- These northern Geshurites intertwined with Israel and eventually led Israel into idolatry, intermarriage, and rebellion

