

Daniel Handout #1

Primary Documents

Bible: 2 Kings 23:25-25:21; 2 Chronicles 35:1-36:21; Jeremiah 25:1; 46-47, 52;
Daniel 1:1-2

D. J. Wiseman, *Chronicles of Chaldean Kings, 626-556 B.C.* (1956); A. K. Grayson, *Assyrian and Babylonian Chronicles* (2000, new translation with commentary); J. B. Pritchard, *Ancient Near Eastern Texts* (ANET, excerpts)

Superscription (Daniel 1:1-2)

Jehoiakim, King of Judah
Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon [← **Sandwich**]
Jehoiakim, King of Judah

Frame (Daniel 1:1 and 21)

_____ B.C. [**Bracket**]
_____ B.C.

Collapse of Assyrian Empire

Ashurbanipal II (668-627 B.C.; alternative, 668-631 B.C.)
Ashur-etel-ilani (627-623 B.C.; alternative, 631-627 B.C.)
Sin-shar-iskun (627-612 B.C.; alternative, 623-612 B.C.)
Assur-uballit II (612-?610/09 B.C.)

Rise of the Babylonian Empire

Nabopolassar (626-605 B.C.)
Nebuchadnezzar II/Nebuchadrezzar (605-562 B.C.)
Amel-Marduk (=Evil-merodach, 2 Kings 25:27-30) (562-560 B.C.)
Neriglissar (560-558 B.C.)
Labashi-marduk (557 B.C.)
Nabonidus (556-539 B.C.)
Co-Regent: Belshazzar (?553-539 B.C.)

Contest with Egypt

Rise of Saite (26th) Dynasty (664-525 B.C.); Decline of Nubian (25th) Dynasty (716-663 B.C.); Reunion of Upper and Lower Egypt (656 B.C.)

Psammetichus I (Psamtik I) (664-610 B.C.)
Necho II (610-595 B.C.)

Psammetichus II (Psamtik II) (595-589 B.C.)
Hophra/Apries (589-570 B.C.)

Sandwich of Judah

Josiah (640-609 B.C.)
Jehohaz (3 months, 609 B.C.; 2 Kings 23:31)
Jehoiakim (609-597 B.C.)
Jehoiachin (3 months, 596 B.C.; 2 Kings 24:8)
Zedekiah (597-586 B.C.)

Nabopolassar's Revolt Against Assyria

“son of a nobody”—Nabopolassar cylinder (cf. bible.history.com)
Alliance with Elam (624/23 B.C.)
Alliance with King Cyaxares (625-585 B.C.) of the Medes (616 B.C.)
Psamtik I of Egypt joins Sin-shar-iskun of Assyria against Nabopolassar
(616 B.C.). Repulsed. Map #1
Ashur destroyed by Medes (614 B.C.). Nabopolassar arrives too late. Alliance
with Medes: Nebuchadnezzar wed to Cyaxares's daughter, Amytris
Nineveh destroyed by Babylonians and Medes (612 B.C.) (cf. Nahum)
Sin-shar-iskun likely perishes in flames. Assur-uballit II retreats to
Haran/Harran. Map #1

Egypt's Response to the Fall of Assyria

Psamtik I dies en route to Harran (610 B.C.)
Necho II marches towards Harran (609 B.C.) and encounters Josiah at the
pass of Megiddo. Josiah killed (2 Kings 23:29) Map #2
Necho defeated by Nabopolassar at Harran.
Jehoahaz enthroned by people of Judah, but dethroned by Necho on his return to
Egypt (2 Kings 23:33-34). Necho enthrones Jehoiakim as vassal/puppet.

Nebuchadnezzar's Response to Egypt and Judah

Necho II marches up out of Egypt to Carchemish (605 B.C.). Map #3
Nebuchadnezzar defeats him and pursues him back towards Egypt through
“Hatti-land” (i.e., Syria-Palestine). Besieges Jerusalem and deports Daniel,
Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego et al.

Dan. 1:1—“In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah,
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem”

Jer. 46:2—“the army of Pharaoh Necho... at Carchemish, which Nebuchadnezzar
King of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of Jehoiakim”

?Contradiction

?Resolution

Nebuchadnezzar receives news of the death of his father Nabopolassar, while campaigning in Hatti-land. Returns to Babylon to be crowned, then returns once more to Hatti-land to campaign further and receive tribute. Jehoiakim his vassal/puppet. Map #4

Nebuchadnezzar's Second Siege of Jerusalem (597 B.C.). Exile of Jehoiachin and Ezekiel (cf. Ezek. 1:2) et al. Zedekiah his vassal/puppet. Map #5

Nebuchadnezzar's Third and Final Siege of Jerusalem (587/86 B.C.). Razes the Temple and burns the city. Deports more of Judah and Jerusalem. Map #6

Miscellaneous Observations

Reverse Symmetries

Dan. 1:1—Judah → Babylon (Nebuchadnezzar)	Exile
Dan. 1:21—Babylon → Judah (Cyrus)	Return

Dan. 1—Death of Judah via Nebuchadnezzar/Preservation of Remnant Israel of God in Exile → Provisional Sub-Eschatological Restoration (1:21)

Dan. 12—Resurrection from the Dead for Redeemed Remnant Israel of God [and the wicked] → Consummate Eschatological Restoration

Judgment Motif

Dan. 1—Judgment against Judah: Vessels of Temple/Nebuchadnezzar → Babylon

Dan. 5—Judgment against Babylon: Vessels of Temple/Cyrus → Judah

Narrative Framing Unit

Captivity and Reverse Captivity (605/539 B.C.)

Judgment and Reverse Judgment (605/539 B.C.)

Biblical-theological Interface

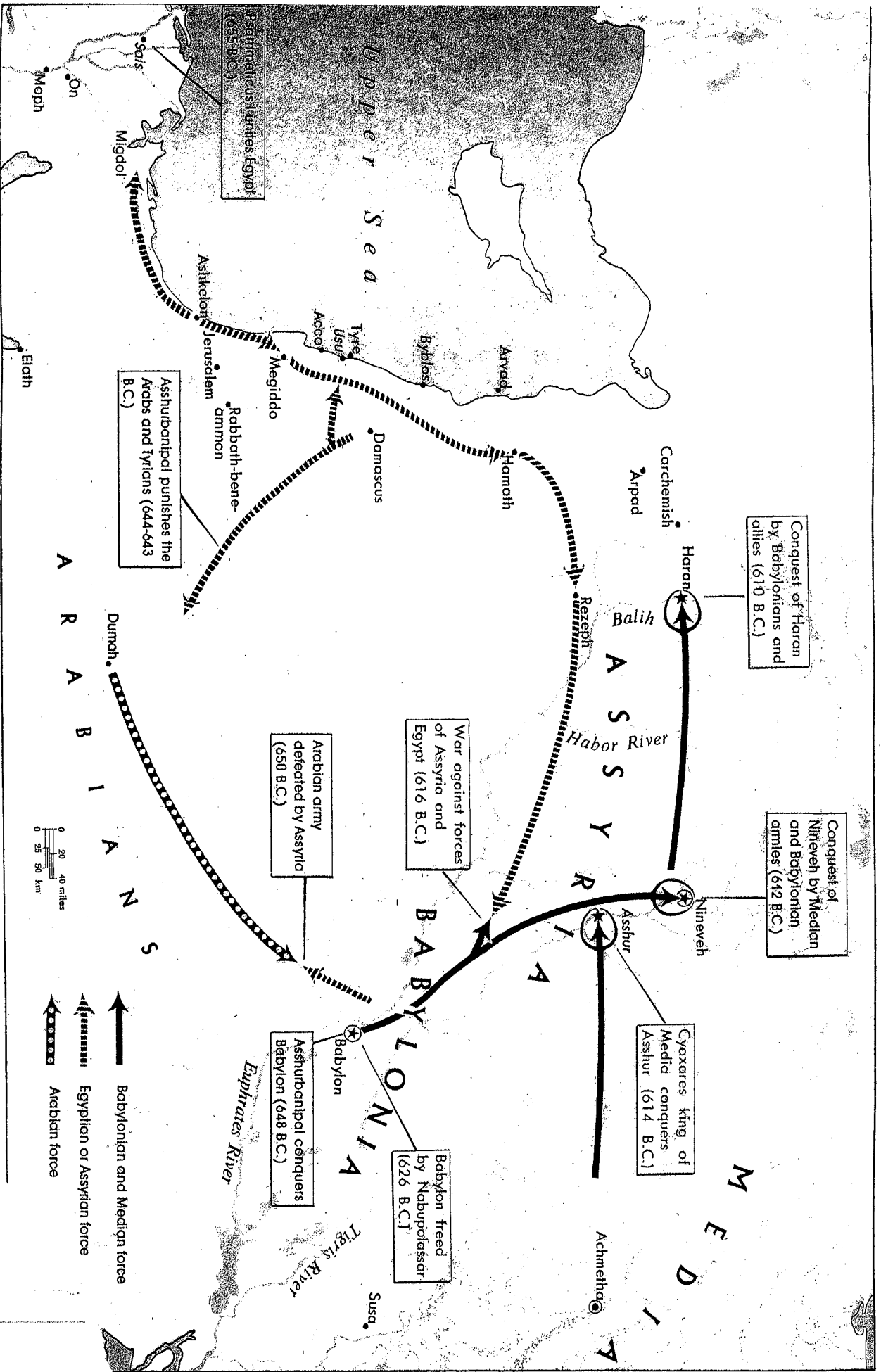
Interface between Jew and Gentile

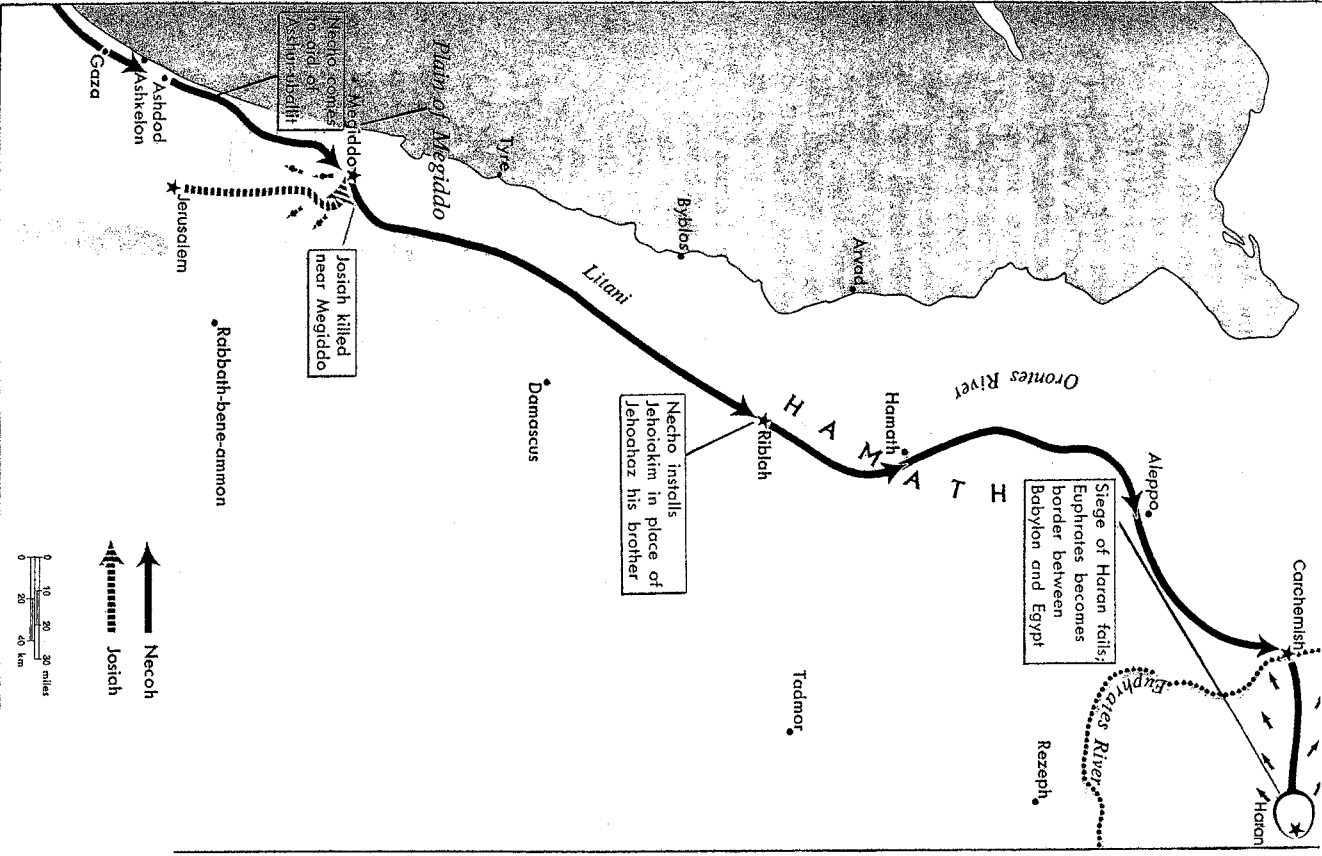
Judah suffers for sin at Gentile's hand (God's hand via Gentiles)

Gentiles suffer for sin at hand of Son of Judah (Son of God, Dan. 2 and 7)

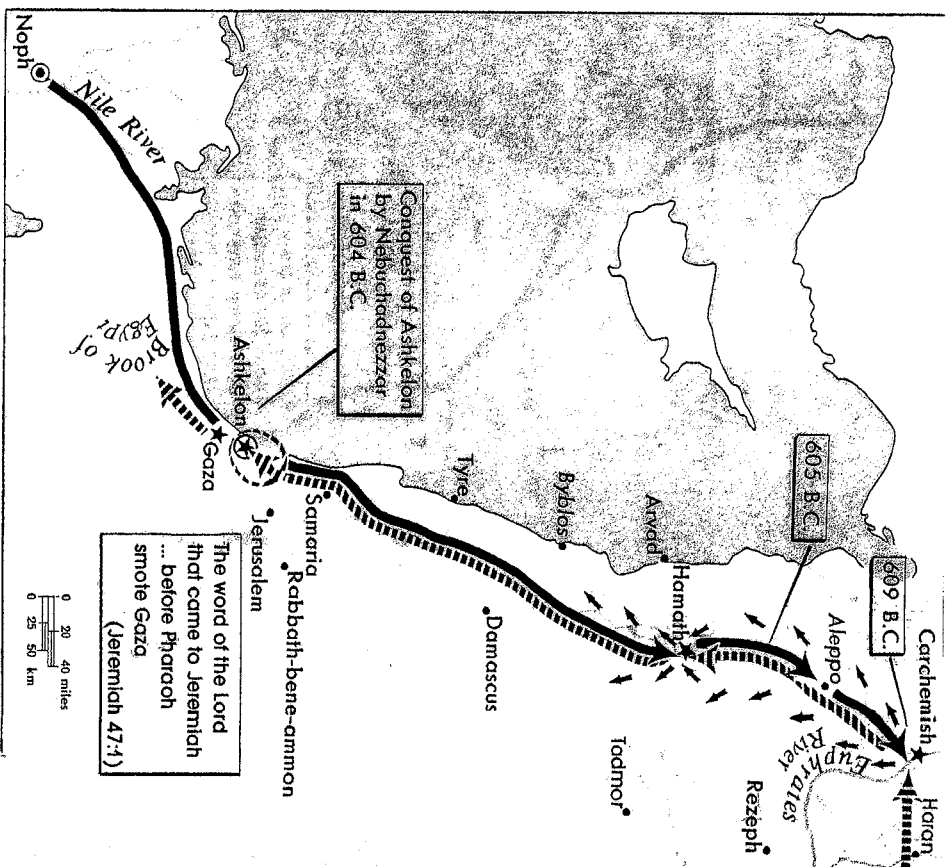
Interface between Provisional (National [OT], Universal [NT], Cosmic [Eternal]) and Eschatological (Sub-Eschatological [OT], Semi-Eschatological [NT], Consummate Eschatological [Eternal])

1

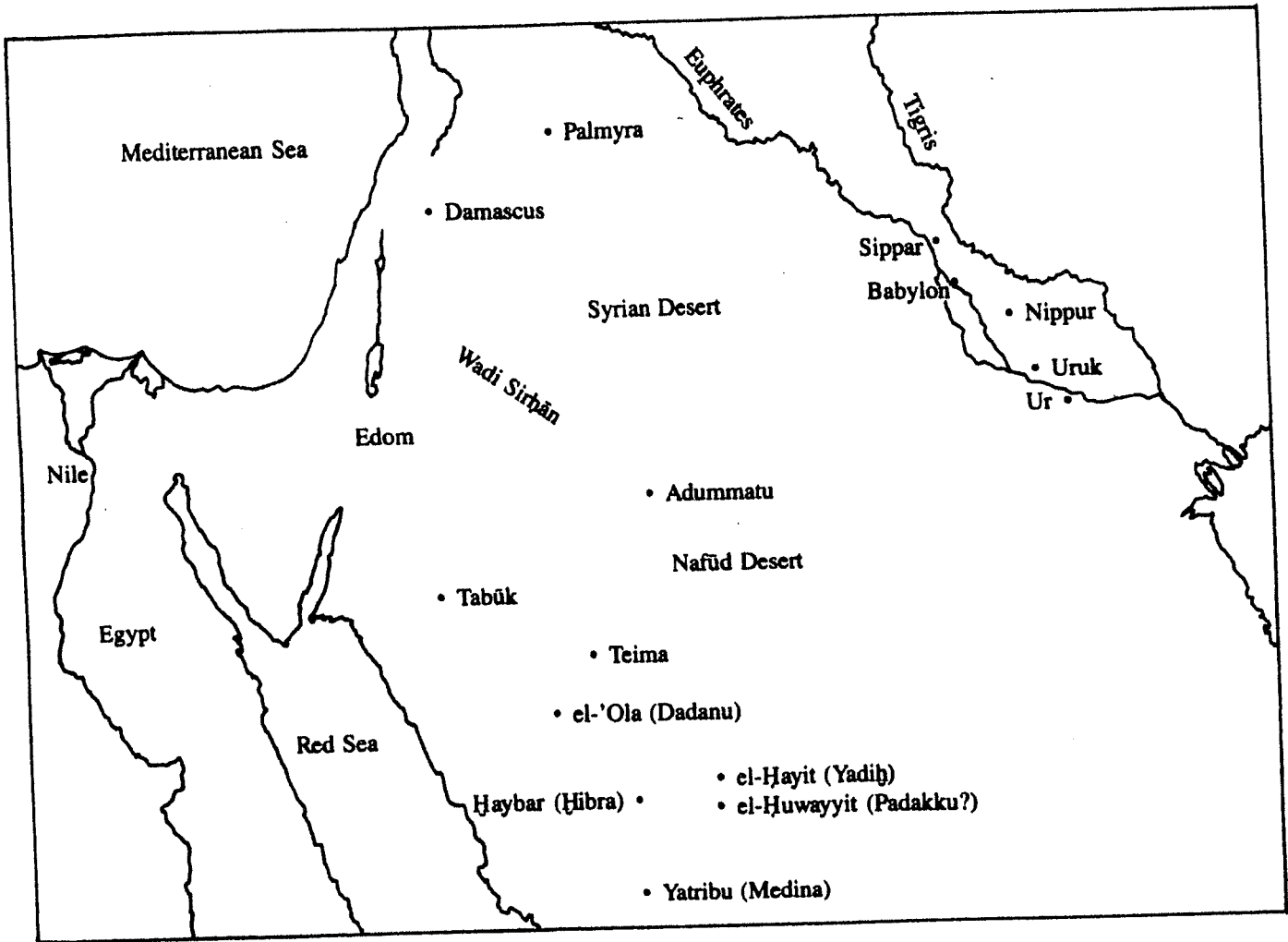




#2

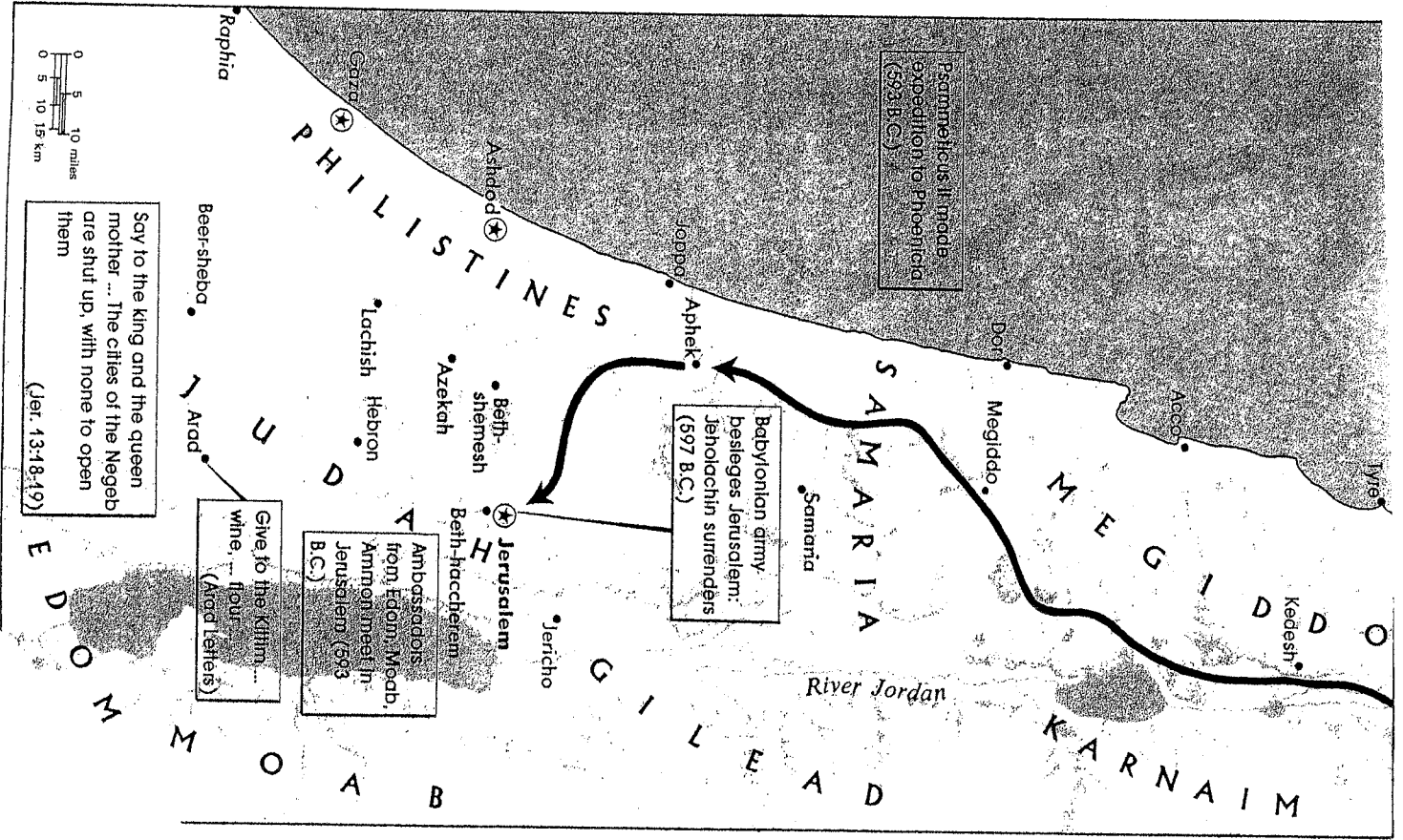


#3



4

#5



#6

