

# The House of Israel

March – April 2024 Zone Conferences

# Doctrine and Covenants 138:55-56

*“I observed that **they** were also among the noble and great ones who were chosen in the beginning to be rulers in the Church of God. Even before they were born, **they, with many others**, received their first lessons in the world of spirits and were prepared to come forth in the due time of the Lord to labor in his vineyard for the salvation of the souls of men*

Who are “**they**”?



*“The Prophet Joseph Smith, and my father, Hyrum Smith, Brigham Young, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, and **other choice spirits** who were reserved to come forth in the fulness of times to take part in laying the foundations of the great latter-day work...”. (see vs 53)*

# Revelation 12:7-11

*“And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels ... And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And **they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.**”*



**We overcame Satan by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony!**  
**We willingly put our lives on the line for the Father's Plan!**

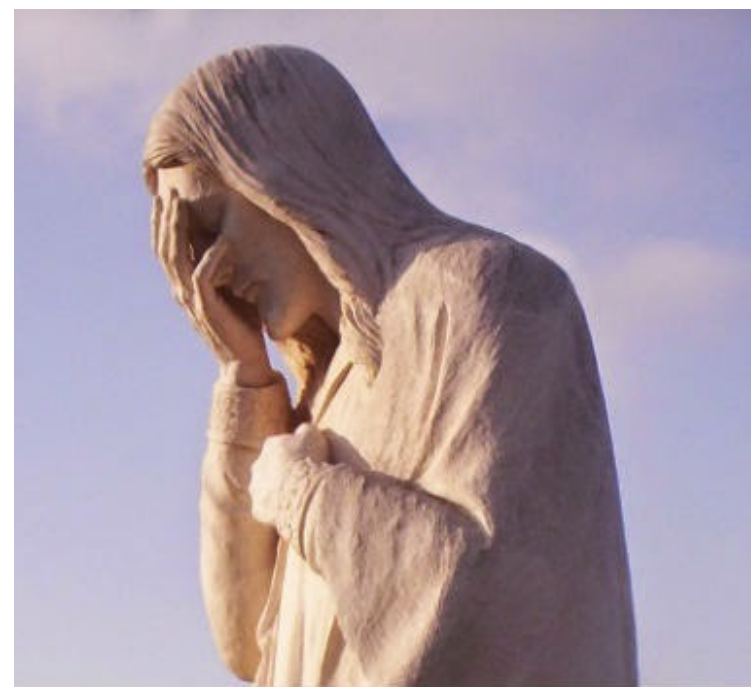
# Moses 1:32-33

*“And by the word of my power, have I created them, which is mine Only Begotten Son, who is full of grace and truth. And worlds without number have I created; and I also created them **for mine own purpose**; and by the Son I created them, which is mine Only Begotten.”*



# Moses 7:29-30, 36

*“And Enoch said unto the Lord: How is it that thou canst weep, seeing thou art holy, and from all eternity to all eternity? And were it possible that man could number the particles of the earth, yea, millions of earths like this, it would not be a beginning to the number of thy creations; and thy curtains are stretched out still; and yet thou art there, and thy bosom is there; and also thou art just; thou art merciful and kind forever ...Wherefore, I can stretch forth mine hands and hold all the creations which I have made; and mine eye can pierce them also, and among all the workmanship of mine **hands there has not been so great wickedness as among thy brethren.**”*







- *“The Plan of Salvation is the Great Pavilion of Perspective”*  
(Elder Maxwell)
- Our earth is the most wicked of all God’s creations
- Satan was cast down to THIS earth
- Subsequently, Jesus Christ came to this earth to atone for the sins of mankind



# Abrahamic Covenant

First recorded in Genesis 12:1-3



*Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*

**See Genesis 17 for a more comprehensive Old Testament description**

# Abrahamic Covenant

Best described in Abraham 2:



*“And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee above measure, and make thy name great among all nations, and thou shalt be a blessing unto thy seed after thee, that in their hands **they shall bear this ministry and Priesthood unto all nations**; And I will bless them through thy name; for as many as receive this Gospel shall be called after thy name, and shall be accounted thy seed, and shall rise up and bless thee, as their father; And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse them that curse thee; and in thee (that is, in thy Priesthood) and in thy seed (that is, thy Priesthood), for I give unto thee a promise that this right shall continue in thee, and in thy seed after thee (that is to say, the literal seed, or the seed of the body) **shall all the families of the earth be blessed, even with the blessings of the Gospel, which are the blessings of salvation, even of life eternal.**”*



# Abrahamic Covenant

- Access to the Priesthood forever
- Posterity forever
- All the families of the earth blessed
- Lands

• *“We become full recipients of the Abrahamic Covenant when we are sealed in the temple”* – Elder Klebingat

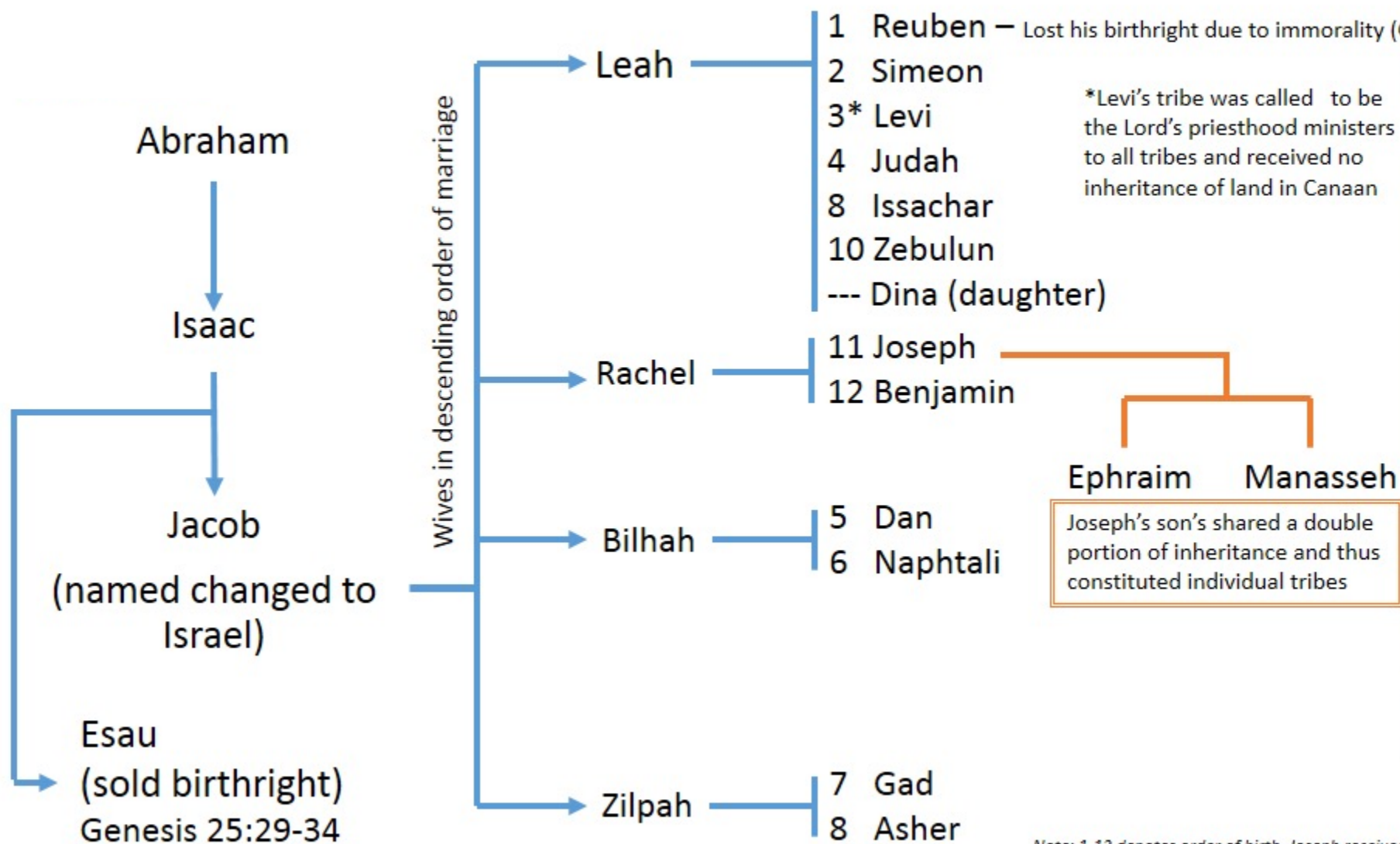


# Abraham and Moses

- Abrahamic Covenant was God's promises to us
- The Mosaic Covenant (The Law of Moses) was our promise to God



# The Twelve Tribes of Israel



3. The Division of the 12 Tribes



Note: 1-12 denotes order of birth. Joseph received the birthright because he was the first born of Jacob's second wife and Reuben - the first born of Leah, Jacob's wife - lost his birthright. The birthright succession went in order of first born from each wife, in order of marriage



# The Scattering of Israel

- Prophets warned that spiritual rebellion would lead to Israel's removal from the promised land.
- Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah and more, all pled for a return to the neglected covenants to assure the Lord's promised protection
- After the people rejected the prophetic warnings, both Israel and Judah were scattered

# The Twelve Tribes

- Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) and Benjamin.
- The Kingdom of Israel was split between two kings following King Solomon. Rehoboam reigned for three years, and the kingdom was divided with Rehoboam in the South and Jeroboam in the North
- In the South were the tribes of Judah and Benjamin and priests from the tribe of Levi. (1 Kings 11:36, 38-39)
- In the North were the remaining ten tribes: Reuben, Simeon, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Ephraim and Manasseh and priests from the tribe of Levi (1 Kings 11:29-31, 33)

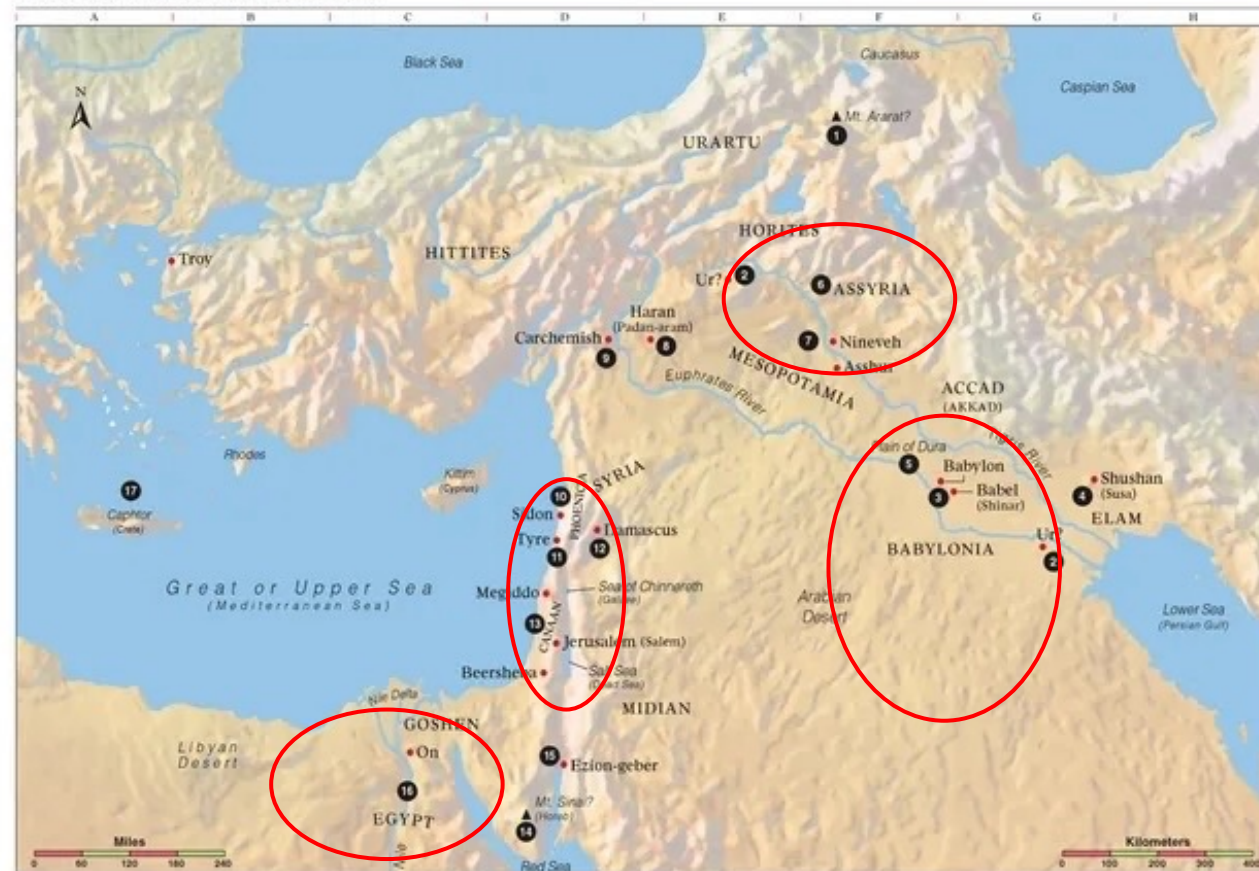


# The Scattering of Israel

1. Assyrian armies captured the the northern kingdom (called "Israel" or "Ephraim" and referred to as the Ten tribes) – 721 BC and took the people into captivity as slaves.
2. In 632 BC Babylon conquered Assyria and the main portion of the Ten Tribes went to the "North". Some were scattered during the war.
3. Babylon conquered the kingdom of Judah in 587 BC and took the Jews captive and destroyed Solomon's temple. King Cyrus of Persia then conquered Babylon in 539 BC and allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem. He financed the rebuilding of the temple by Zerubbabel.
4. When Herod besieged Jerusalem in 36 BC, the temple was in disrepair and covered walkways around the temple were burned. 18 years later, Herod enlarged and restored the temple.
5. The Jewish state was destroyed in 70 AD by Rome because the Jews had not kept the covenants. Herod's temple was completely destroyed.
6. Four groups of scattered Israel: 1) Jews in Jerusalem, 2) Nephites in America, 3) Lost Ten Tribes, 4) Scattered members around the world.

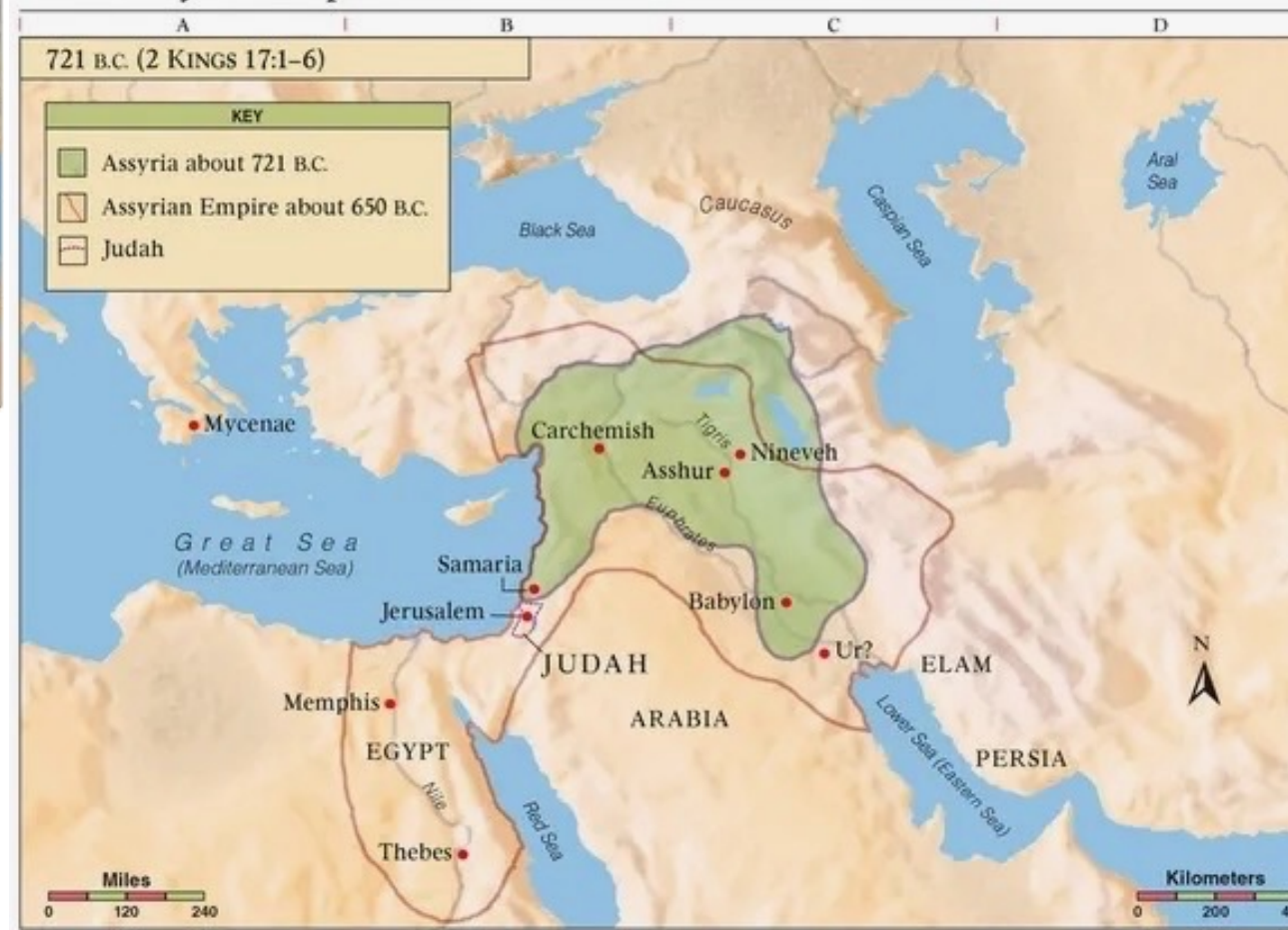


# 9. The World of the Old Testament

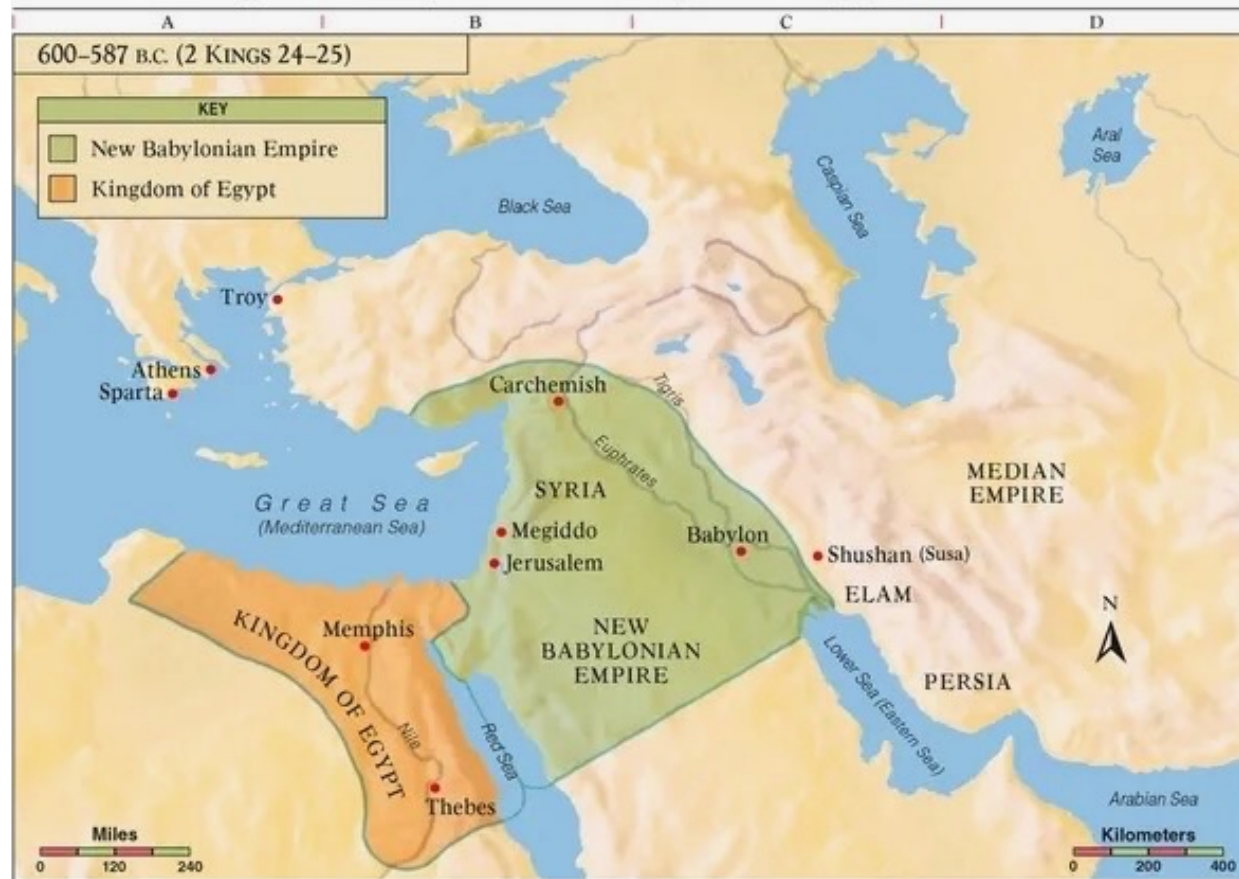


Assyria, Babylonia, Egypt, Judah  
were the main actors from  
720 B.C. to 540 B.C.

## 5. The Assyrian Empire

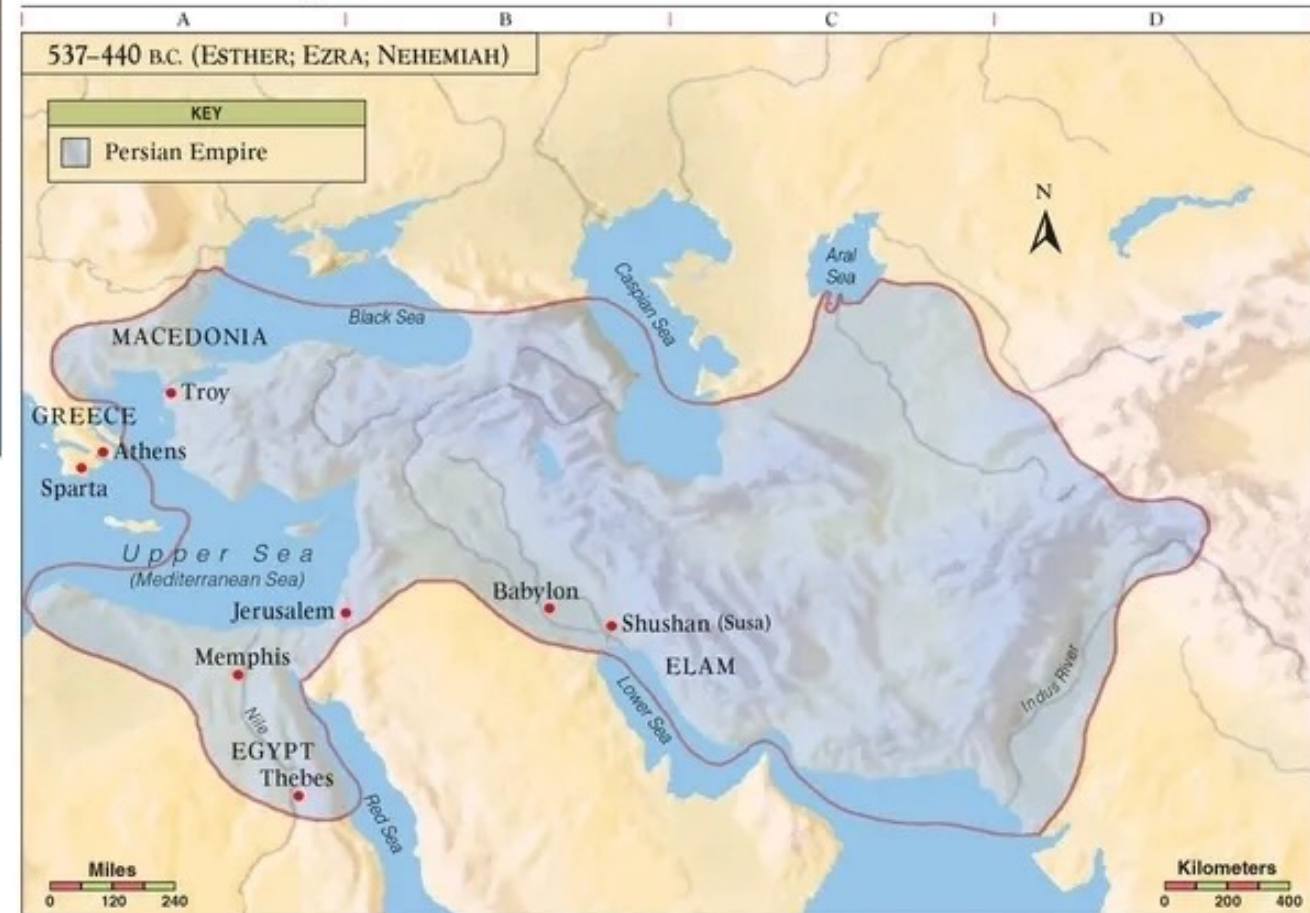


## 6. The New Babylonian Empire and the Kingdom of Egypt



Babylonia conquered Assyria and then Persia conquered Babylonia and Egypt

## 7. The Persian Empire





# The Gathering of Israel

- Three major events will occur
  - Jews return to Israel (Jerusalem as the capital)
  - Gathering of scattered Israel by the Church of Jesus Christ
  - Return of the Ten Tribes
- Articles of Faith 10: *We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion (the New Jerusalem) will be built upon the American continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and, that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory.*
- *“And they who are in the north countries shall come in remembrance before the Lord; and their prophets shall hear his voice, and shall no longer stay themselves; and they shall smite the rocks, and the ice shall flow down at their presence. And an highway shall be cast up in the midst of the great deep.” D&C 133:26-27*



# The Gathering of Israel – Lost 10 Tribes Return

**The return of the Ten Tribes will rival the  
Exodus out of Egypt**

*"Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that they shall no more say, The Lord liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The Lord liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land."*

Jeremiah 23:7



# The Jews Return to Israel

- On May 14, 1948, following the atrocities of WWII and the slaughter of 6 million Jews, David Ben-Gurion signed an Israeli declaration of independence establishing again the kingdom of Israel after a 2000-year exile.
- Since 1948, the ingathering from the nations into Israel has been remarkable, as shown by Jewish population statistics: 1882: 0.025m; 1918: 0.06m; 1948: 0.72m; 1965: 2.3m; 1985: 3.5m; 2005: 5.3m; 2014: 6.1m; In 100 years the Jewish population of Israel increased by an amazing 7400%. ([www.factsaboutisrael.uk](http://www.factsaboutisrael.uk))
- As of December 2023, there are 7.2 million Jews living in Israel



# The Gathering of Scattered Israel by the Church

- The gathering of Israel, began in 1829 when the Lord restored the priesthood through Joseph Smith. On April 3, 1836, Moses appeared and gave the keys of gathering to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the Kirtland Temple. Today missionaries gather latter-day Israel back to the covenant, teaching them in the nations to which their ancestors were long ago dispersed.
- Both the spiritual and the characteristics of gathering were emphasized by the Lord in the parable of thliterate wheat and tares: "I must gather together my people, according to the parable of the wheat and the tares, that the wheat may be secured in the garners to possess eternal life and be crowned with celestial glory" (D&C 101:65; also 86:7-10).
- Joseph Smith declared that in all ages the divine purpose of gathering is to build temples so that the Lord's children can receive the highest ordinances and thereby gain eternal life (*TPJS*, pp. 307-308, 314).

# The Gathering of Israel

- He will lift up an ensign and they shall come, Isa. 5:26
- With great mercies will I gather thee, Isa. 54:7
- Israel and Judah are to be gathered to their lands, Jer. 30:3.
- The Lord shall gather the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, Ezek. 28:25
- In the dispensation of the fulness of times he will gather in one all things in Christ, Eph. 1:10.
- After Israel is scattered, they will be gathered, 1 Ne. 15:12–17.
- The Lord will gather in all people of the house of Israel, 1 Ne. 19:16 (3 Ne. 16:5).
- They shall be brought out of darkness and know that the Lord is their Savior, 1 Ne. 22:12.
- God gathers and numbers his children, 1 Ne. 22:25.
- The nations of the Gentiles shall carry Israel forth to the lands of their inheritance, 2 Ne. 10:8 (3 Ne. 16:4).
- My people and my word shall be gathered as one, 2 Ne. 29:13–14.
- The elders are called to gather the elect, D&C 29:7 (D&C 39:11).
- I will gather mine elect, D&C 33:6.
- Gather so that I may give you my law and that you may be endowed, D&C 38:31–33.
- I will recover my people, who are of the house of Israel, D&C 39:11.
- The Saints shall come forth, D&C 45:46.
- Moses delivered the keys of the gathering, D&C 110:11.
- Righteousness and truth will sweep the earth and gather out the Lord's elect, Moses 7:62.
- The gathering is compared to the gathering of eagles to a carcass, JS—M 1:27.



*“Missionaries who understand the story of the Plan of Salvation and the Abrahamic Covenant – they are men and woman of integrity, and they understand their role in this great plan.”*



# Summary

- The Gathering of Israel is “**The most important thing taking place on earth today.**” – President Russell M. Nelson.
- Key to the Plan of Salvation was the scattering of Israel so that the blood of Israel would spread among the nations so that all the world could be “blessed” and the Abrahamic Covenant could be fulfilled.
- Israel is now being gathered in preparation for the Savior’s return.
- Jews continue to return to Israel from around the world.
- We are fortunate to be considered among those choice spirits to come to earth at this time and help lay the foundation for the Savior’s return.
- We fought valiantly in the premortal existence for this Plan - it is now time to execute it with our hearts, might, mind, and strength.