

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Genesis 14:1 And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations; 2 *That these* made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.

4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and **in the thirteenth year they rebelled.**

We began in Genesis with the beginnings of the human race.

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

A. The Creation, 1:1—2:25

B. The Curse, 3:1—4:15

C. The Catastrophe, 4:16—9:29

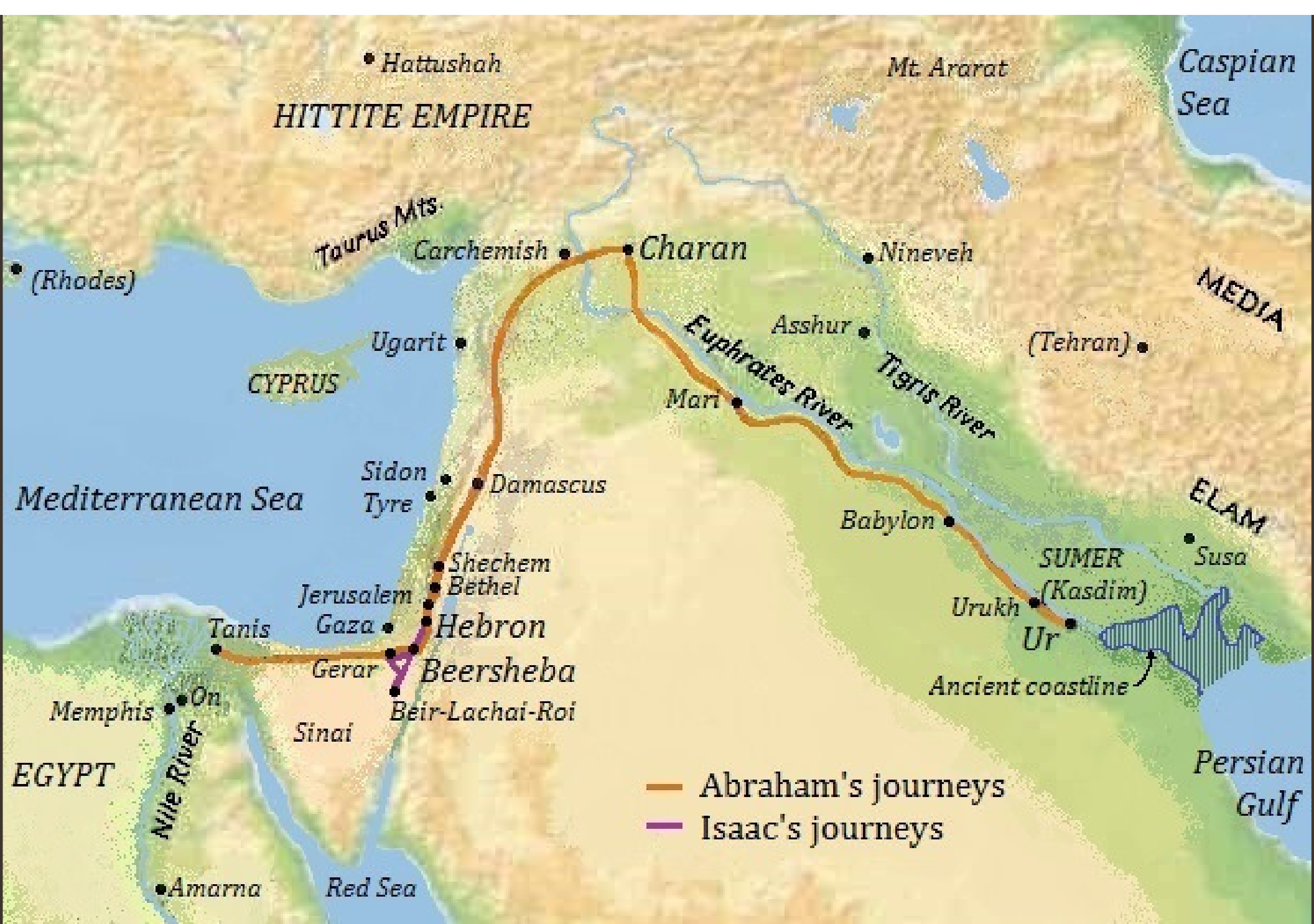
D. The Coalition, 10:1—11:32

II. PATRIARCHAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HEBREW RACE, 12:1—50:26

A. The Progenitor: Abraham, 12:1—25:11

1. The Path of Faith, 12:1-20

❖ Abraham, at 75 years old, left his homeland to go, by faith, to a destination yet unknown as he trusted in the promises of God and followed His leadership.



2. The Price of Faith, 13:1-18

a. The Situation

b. The Separation

c. The Specialization

Tonight we will observe “the Power of Faith,” which is emphasized in “The Power to CONQUER when Attacked.” Abram was simply living his life when trouble came his way.

3. The Power of Faith, 14:1-24

Genesis 14:1



**The four kings that made war
with the five kings of the
valley of Siddim.**

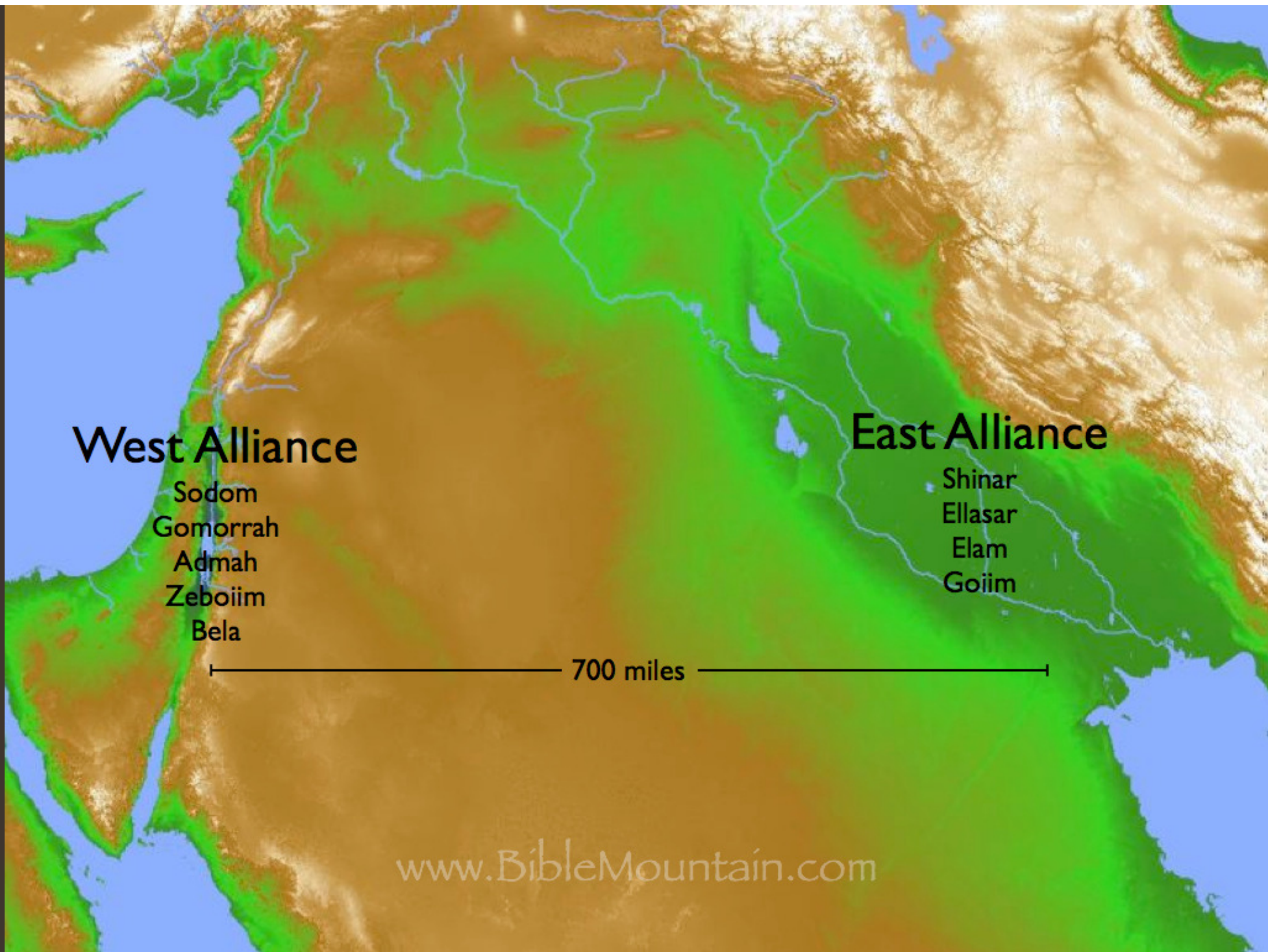


a. The Coalition, Gen. 14:1-4

Genesis 14:1 And **it came to pass** in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations;
2 *That these* made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.

4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.



West Alliance

Sodom
Gomorrah
Admah
Zeboiim
Bela

East Alliance

Shinar
Ellasar
Elam
Goiim

700 miles

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Amraphael was a king of Shinar, situated at the southern part of the kingdom of Babylonia.

Oftentimes, he is associated with the legendary King Hammurabi who reigned in ancient Babylon. He is located on the Amazing Bible Timeline with World History around 1954 B.C.

<https://amazingbibletimeline.com/blog/amraphael-or-amraphel/#:~:text=Amraphael%20or%20Amraphel%20was%20a%20king%20of%20Sennaar,Bible%20Timeline%20with%20World%20History%20around%201954%20B.C.>

b. The Conquering

Gen. 14:5 And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that *were* with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim, 6 And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which *is* by the wilderness.

7 And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which *is* Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazezontamar.

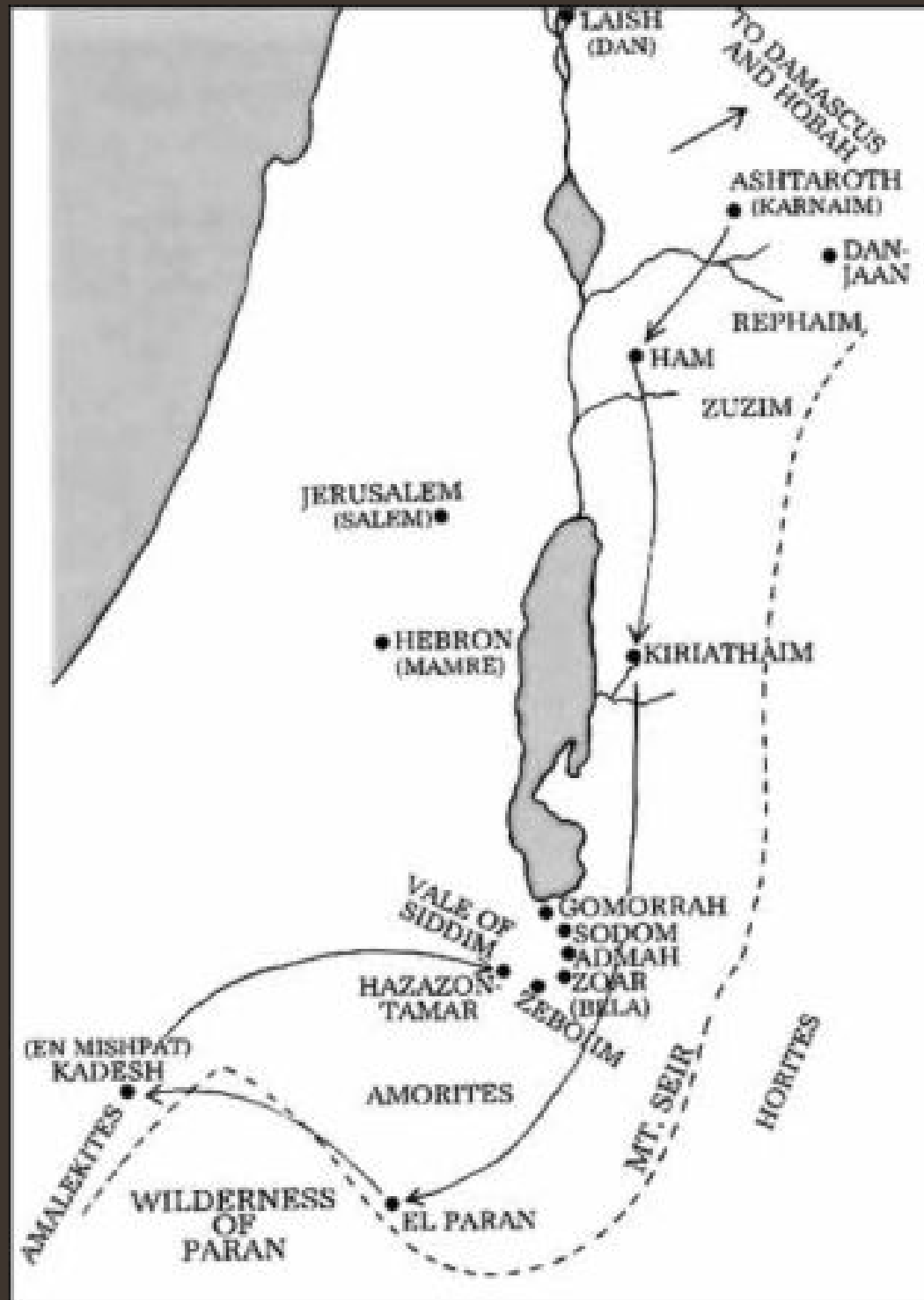
8 And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same *is* Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;

9 With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.

10 And the vale of Siddim *was full of* slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

12 And they took **Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom**, and his goods, and departed.



Genesis 14:5-7



The 4 kings destroyed 7 cities before they had war with the 5 kings in the valley of Siddim. Click for next slide

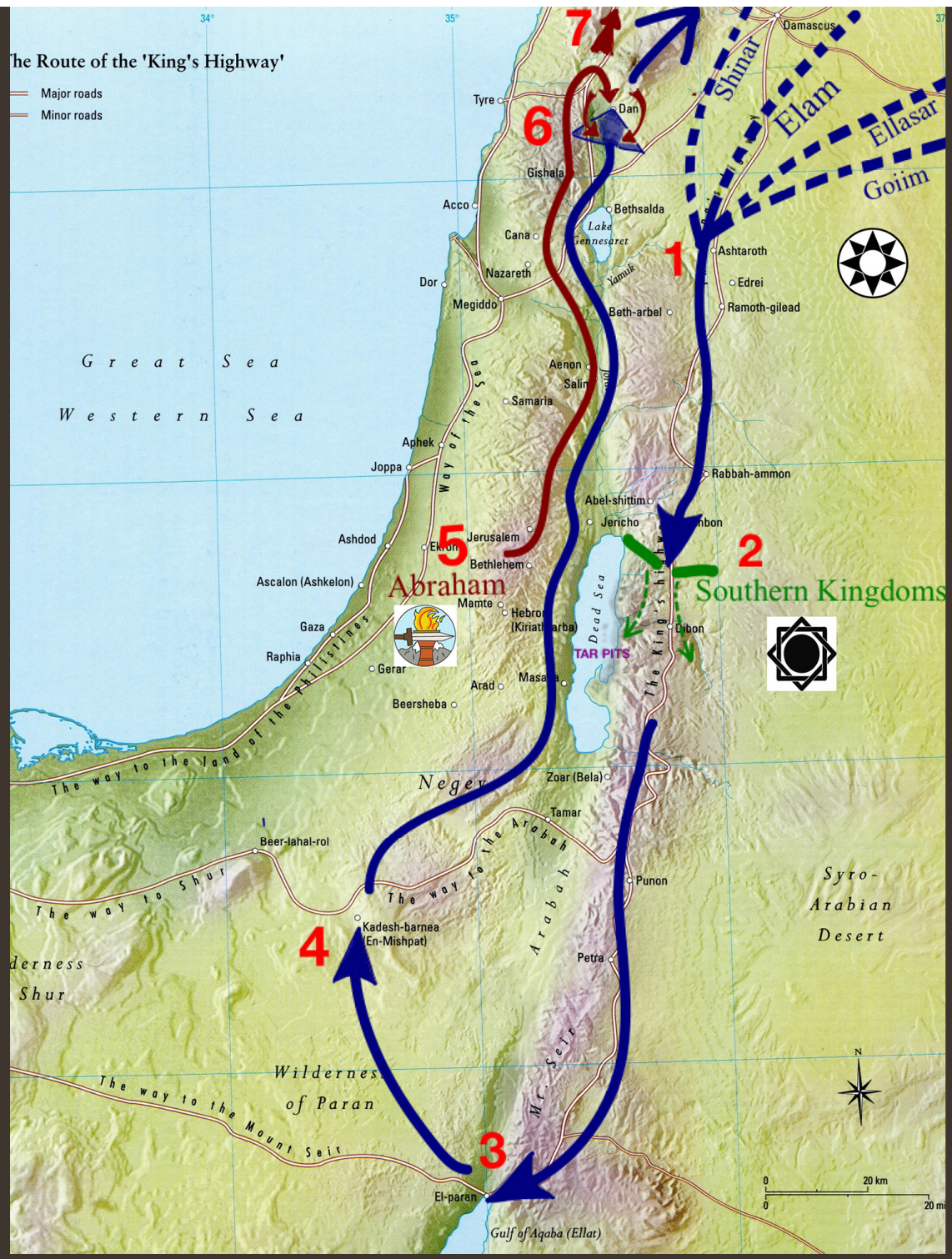
c. The Challenge

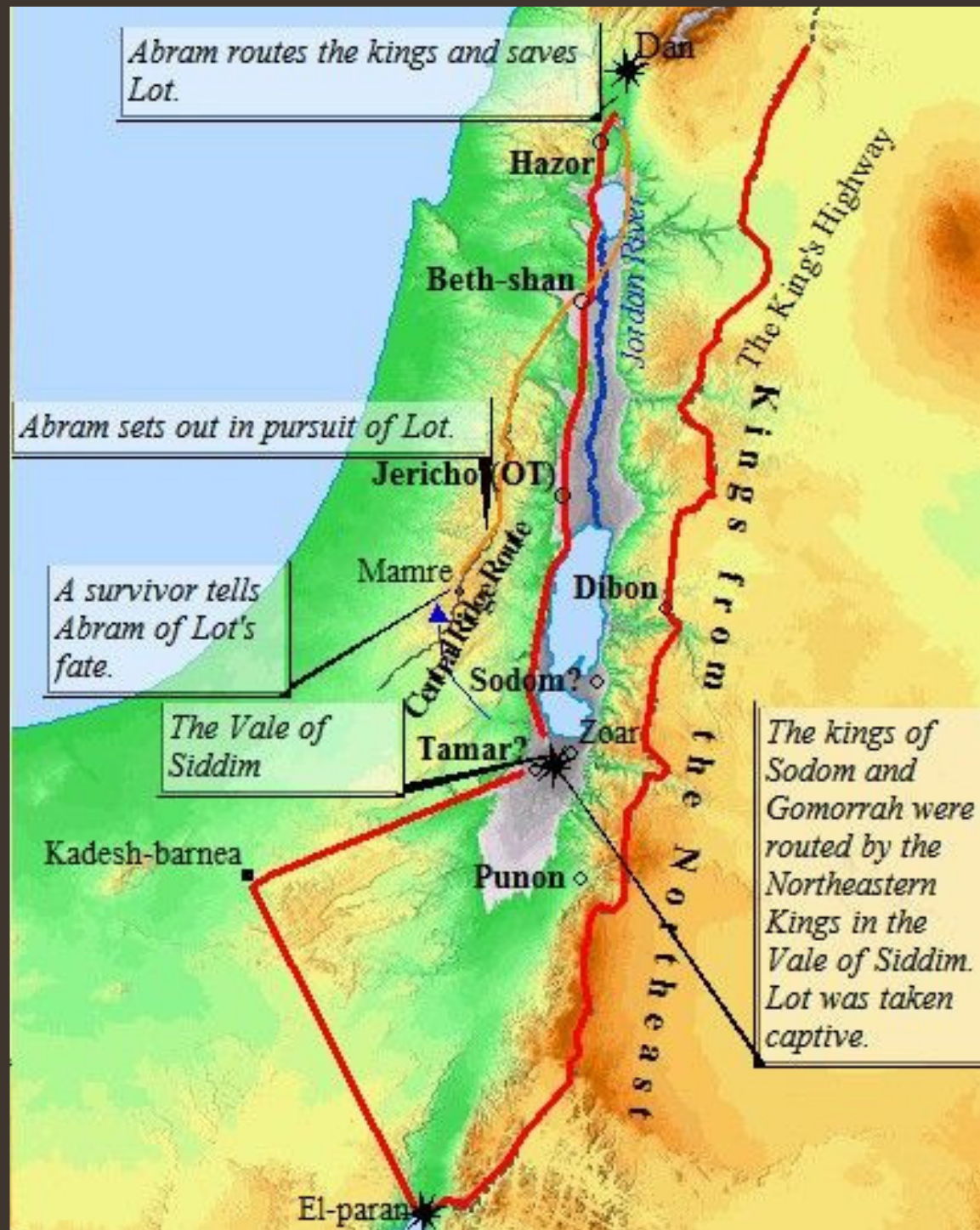
Gen. 14:13 And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these *were* confederate with Abram.

14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained *servants*, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued *them* unto Dan.

15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which *is* on the left hand of Damascus.

16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.





d. The Confrontation

(1) The Reverence – (for Melchizedek)

Gen. 14:17-20

Gen. 14:17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that *were* with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which *is* the king's dale.

18 And **Melchizedek king of Salem** brought forth bread and wine: and he *was* the priest of the most high God.

19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And **he gave him tithes of all.**

(2) The Refusal – (to the king of Sodom)

Gen. 14:21-23

Gen. 14:21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, **I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,**

23 That **I will not *take* from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that *is* thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:**

- ❖ The principle of “separation” is most difficult when separating from family, but a necessity when approached by wicked heathens.

Summary

- ❖ The power of faith gives courage when life is tranquil and when life is turbulent.
- ❖ Attacks will come. The timing is random.
- ❖ Abram had 318 fighter trained and ready to meet the battles.
- ❖ Believers need to be trained and have on the armor of Eph. 6.
- ❖ Attacks may contain more than one adversary. Be prepared for various enemies.

- ❖ Family may draw you into a battle that is not really your battle.
- ❖ For the sake of family, loyalty and love motivates participation of a solution.
- ❖ Abram's love for Lot is a good picture of Christ's love for sinners
 - Lot attached himself with sinners, just like we do.
 - Lot was captive to another like sinners to Satan.
 - Lot was incapable of delivering himself, just like all sinners.

- Lot was dependent upon another for redemption, just like all sinners.
- Abram left his homeland to rescue Lot, just like the Lord left Heaven for us.
- Abram gave of himself just like the Lord Jesus gave Himself for us.
- Abram conquered the enemy, just like the Lord Jesus conquered Satan and death for us.
- Abram delivered Lot and the Lord Jesus Christ delivers sinners today.

❖ After the battle is over, then another may immediately occur in a different perspective.

- ❖ Battles include fellowship with “Melchizedek” – the King of Righteousness/King of Peace.
- ❖ This chapter is easy for a believer to see the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Heb. 6:17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath:

18 That by **two immutable things**, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

19 Which **hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast**, and which entereth into that within the veil;
20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, *even* **Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**

Heb. 7:1 For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation **King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;**

3 Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; **but made like unto the Son of God**; abideth a priest continually.

4 Now consider how great this man *was*, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.

Conclusion

❖ LIFE CONSISTS OF VARYING CHALLENGES

➤ Life is Unpredictable

Prov. 21:8 **The way of man is froward and strange:**
but *as for* the pure, his work *is* right.

Jer. 10:23 **O LORD, I know that the way of man is not
in himself:** *it is* not in man that walketh to direct his
steps.

➤ Life is Uncertain

Jas. 4:14 Whereas **ye know not what *shall be on the morrow***. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Prov. 14:12 **There is a way which seemeth right unto a man**, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

❖ LIFE CONSISTS OF VARYING CHOICES

- ✦ The Choice of Finance – income and employment, business.
- ✦ The Choice of Family – mate.
- ✦ The Choice of Foundation – location of employment and residence.
- ✦ The Choice of Fellowship – with Melchizedek or King of Sodom.
- ✦ The Choice for the Future – important choices affect one's future = consequences.

❖ LIFE CONSISTS OF VARYING CONQUERINGS

★ Varying Challenges Produce Varying Situations →
physical, financial, family

★ Varying Challenges Produce Varying Solutions

Mt. 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.