

900 BC

800 BC

700 BC

600 BC

500 BC

ASSYRIA

BABYLON

PERSIA

200 years

100 years

NORTHERN KINGDOM
(ISRAEL)

Jehu **Elijah**
Elisha

Jonah
Hosea
Amos

Habakkuk
Jeremiah

Nahum
Zephaniah

Daniel

Ezekiel

Zerubbabel

EZRA

Nehemiah

Haggai

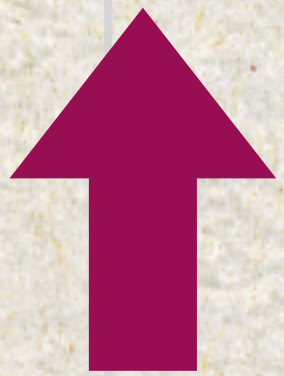
Malachi

Jeroboam

Reheboam

BABYLON

Lehi



David Solomon

Ahijah

Joel

Micah
Isaiah

SOUTHERN KINGDOM
(JUDAH)



400 BC

300 BC

200 BC

100 BC

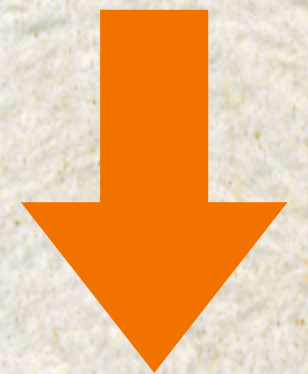
AD 1

Ezra

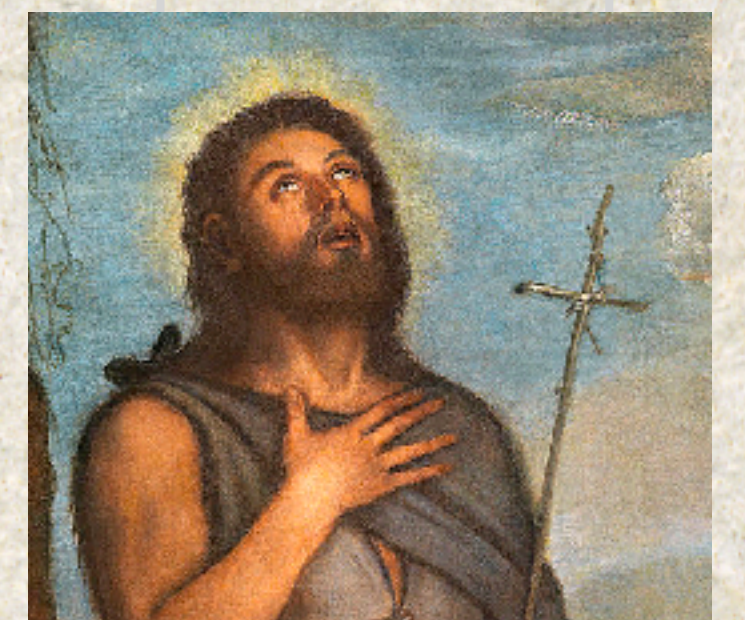
Nehemiah

The INTERTESTAMENTAL Period

The NEW Testament



John the Baptist



Malachi

The OLD Testament



God wanted Israel to be a holy nation, to become Zion, in which the Lord declared He would make His abode forever (see Psalm 132:13–14). But for years, many in Israel denied, dishonored, persecuted, fought, and rebelled against the prophets.

Prophets such as Isaiah and Jeremiah warned Jerusalem's citizens that if they continued breaking their covenants with the Lord, the city and their temple would be destroyed. This prophecy proved true when Babylon initially invaded Judah around 600 b.c., destroying its villages, towns, cities, and religious life.





BABYLON

JERUSALEM

**BABYLONIAN CONQUEST
597-587 B.C.**



Aramaic

PERSIANS



JERUSALEM

**PERSIAN KING, CYRUS,
ALLOWS JEWS TO RETURN
539 B.C.**

PERSIANS



● JERUSALEM

BOOKS WRITTEN DURING THIS PERIOD
**DANIEL, ESTHER, EZRA,
NEHEMIAH, HAGGAI,
ZECHARIAH, AND MALACHI**



Samaritan Temple, Mt Gerizim

● JERUSALEM

Jewish Temple, Jerusalem

400 BC

300 BC

200 BC

100 BC

AD 1

People attempted to understand and live the law without a prophet's authoritative teachings and interpretations.

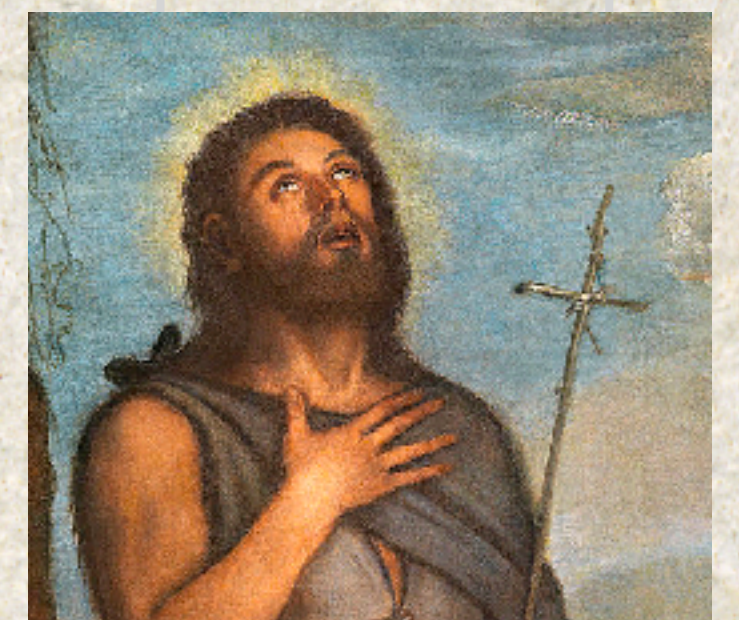
Ezra

Nehemiah



John the Baptist

Malachi



SCRIBES



Scribes originally were educated men who made their livelihood as record keepers and as copyists of the scriptures. These they studied diligently, both to understand their meaning and to detect scribal errors. The scribes supplied copies of the scriptures to the growing number of synagogues and also became teachers of the law. While Israel had prophets, the scribes remained copyists and teachers. But when the prophetic voice ceased in Israel, these experts in the law of Moses began to fill the vacuum. They modeled themselves on Ezra, who had helped his people feel an urgency to learn and to obey the law (see Ezra 7:25; Nehemiah 8:1–8).





GREEK

JERUSALEM

ALEXANDRIA

**CONQUEST OF THE GREEK
EMPIRE
332 B.C.**

- **TAX COLLECTOR**
- **DAY LABORER**
- **SANHEDRIN**

GREEK

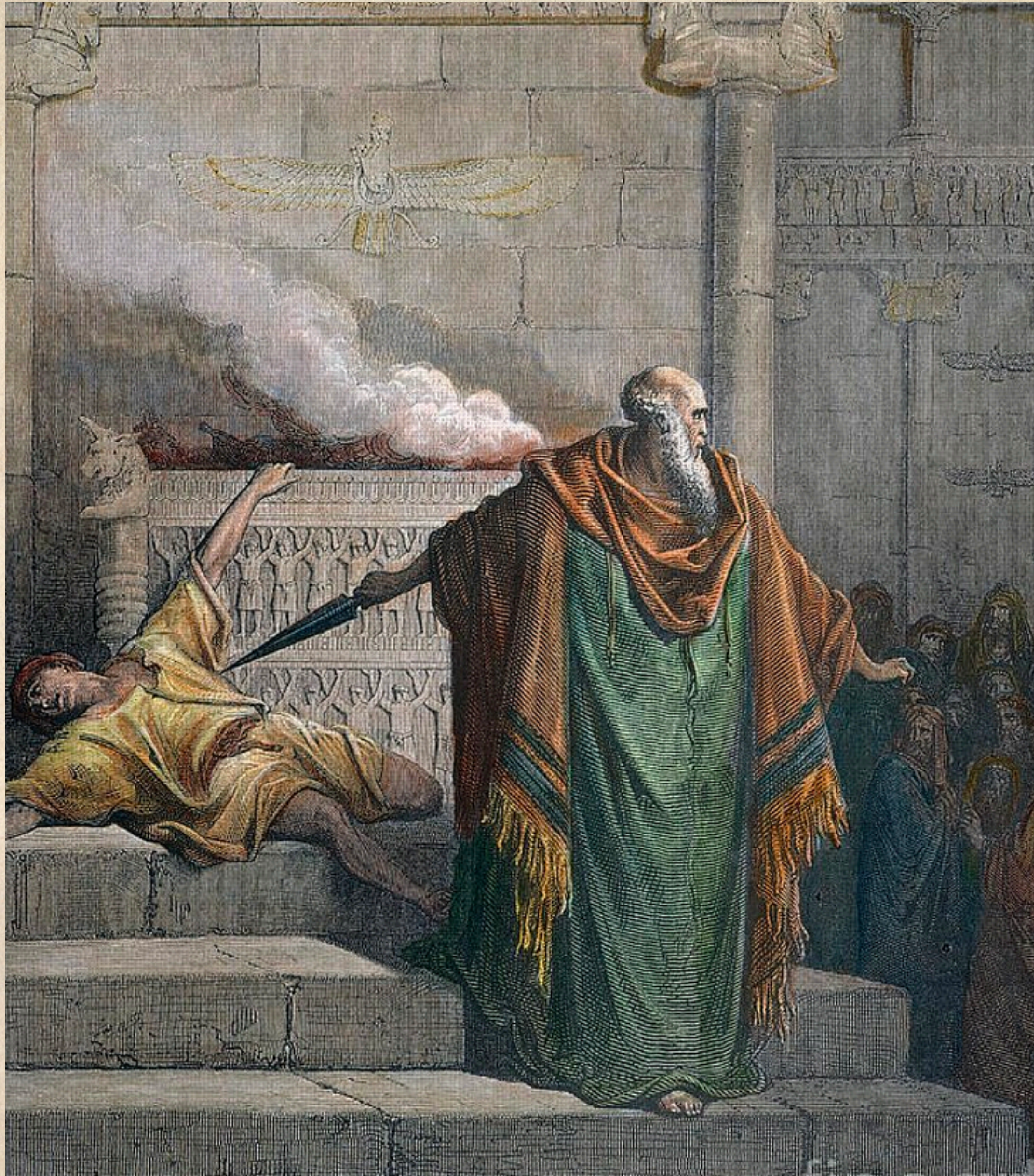


● **ALEXANDRIA**

● **JERUSALEM**

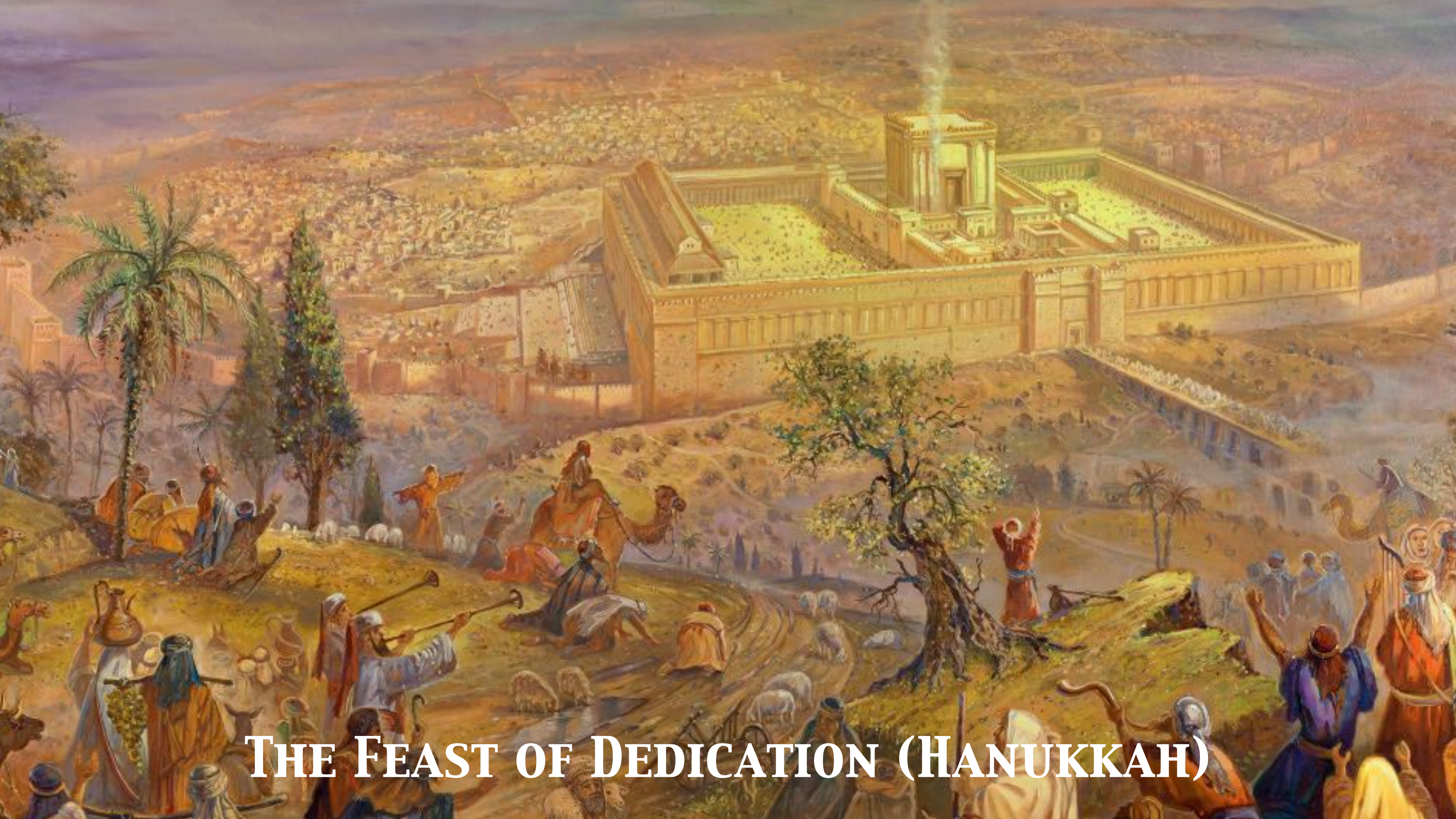
Maccabees

After Alexander, his kingdom was divided among his generals. In time, Palestine came under the influence of the Greek-speaking Seleucid emperors. In 167 b.c., the Seleucid rulers, believing that a complete Hellenization of the region would bring stability to the kingdom, outlawed the Jewish faith, forbidding circumcision, Jewish scriptures and desecrating the temple by sacrificing swine eventually placing an altar to pagan gods over the temple altar. Many Jews resisted.



Maccabees

A priest named Mattathias, of the family of Hasmon, and his five sons led a Jewish revolt in 167 B.C., called the Maccabean revolt (see Bible Dictionary, "Maccabees").



THE FEAST OF DEDICATION (HANUKKAH)

Maccabees

Maccabean leaders succeeded in establishing an independent Jewish state for the first time in over 440 years. Simon Maccabeus, a son of Mattathias, became both high priest and governor of Judea, thus establishing the Hasmonean dynasty. At the same time, another religious group formed known as the Hasideans, "the pious." They showed their devotion to God by trying to live every aspect of the law of Moses as they understood it.



¶ The first Booke of the Maccabees.

CHAP. I.

14 Antiochus gaue leaue to set vp the fashions of the Gentiles in Hierusalem, 22 And spoiled it, and the Temple in it, 57 And set vp therein the abomination of desolation, 63 And slew those that did circumcise their children.



And it happened, after that Alexander sonne of Philip, the Macedonian, who came out of the land of Chettim, had smitten Darius King of the Persians

and Medes, that he reigned in his stead, the first ouer Greece,

2 And made many wars, and wan many strong holds, and slew the kings of the earth,

dome of the Greekes.

11 In those dayes went there out of Israel wicked men, who perswaded many, saying, Let vs goe, and make a couenant with the heathen, that are round about vs: for since wee departed from them, † we haue had much sorrow.

12 So this deuice pleased them well.

13 Then certaine of the people were so forward herein, that they went to the king, who gaue them licence to doe after the ordinances of the heathen.

14 Whereupon || they built a place of exercise at Jerusalem, according to the customes of the heathen,

15 And made themselues, vncircumcised, and forsooke the holy Couenant, and ioyned themselues to the heathen, and were sold to doe mischief.

16 Now when the Kingdome was

† Gre. many
euils haue
found vs.

|| Or, set up
an open
schoole at Ie-
rusalem.

|| Or, Chet-
tim.



Pharisees

The Pharisees were an independent religious group that came into being soon after the Maccabean War. They became very influential in Jewish society by introducing a narrow focus on food laws and on ritual purity, aspects that were rooted primarily in their oral traditions, not scripture. In their homes, they tried to behave as if they were living in the temple.

Sadducees

The Sadducees, on the other hand, whose origins remain unknown, rejected any appeal to oral tradition and held strictly to the five books of Moses, turning their backs on the writings of other prophets. This group consisted mostly of the elite in Jerusalem society. By the time Jesus was born, they had expanded their power by asserting control over the Jerusalem temple.



Very quickly, the descendants of the Hasmoneans forgot that it was the Lord who had delivered them. Like Saul and David and Solomon, the members of the new dynasty were corrupted by the power and glory of the courts of power. The sons and grandsons of the Maccabees degenerated into a mode of politics as usual, and just over a hundred years later, in 63 B.C., Israel was conquered by the Roman general Pompey.



ANTIPATER

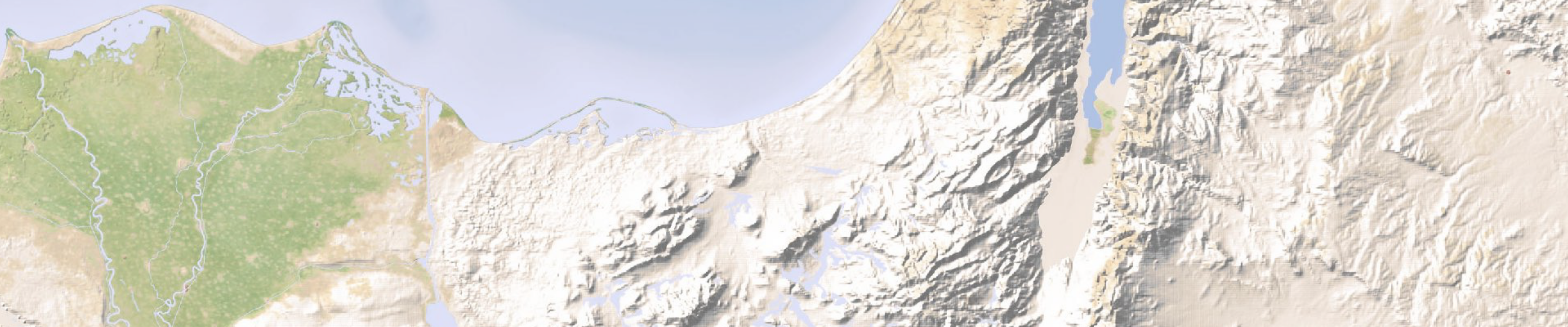
When Pompey took Judea for Rome, he appointed one of the Hasmoneans to be king. Antipater, an adviser to the Jewish puppet-king, quickly ingratiated himself with Rome and took over power. Antipater was an Idumean, a people the Jews hated. He consolidated his power by helping Rome in their struggle against the Parthians, an enemy from the east that constantly threatened Rome's interests. For this aid, Antipater was granted the right to have his son appointed king of Judea.



- Brutal
- Able Administrator
- Loyal to Rome
- Hellenized Judea
- Building Programs
- Expanded Temple

HEROD THE GREAT

JUDEA



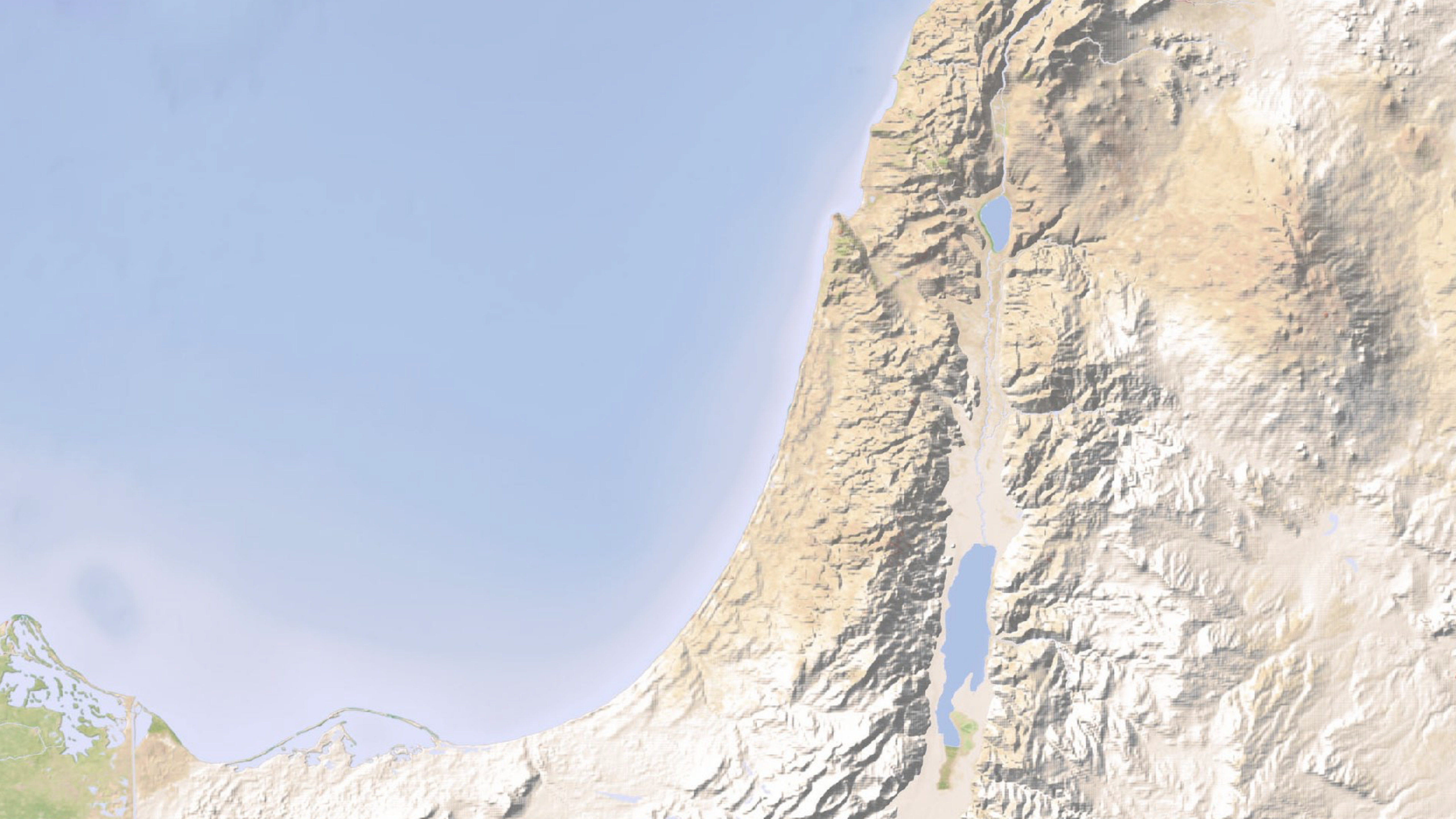


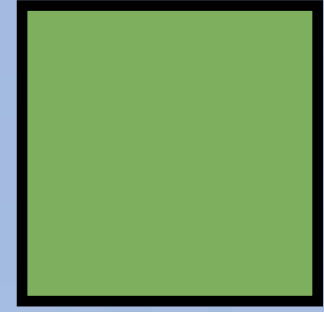


HEROD THE GREAT

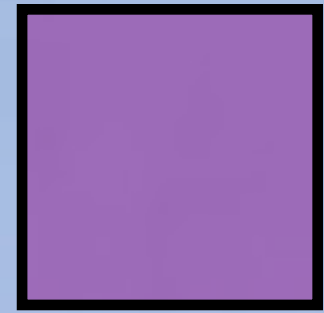


JUDEA

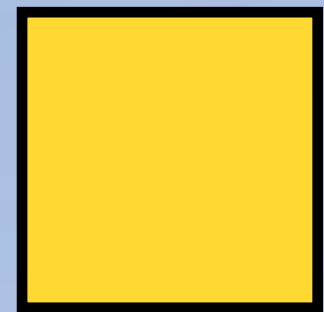




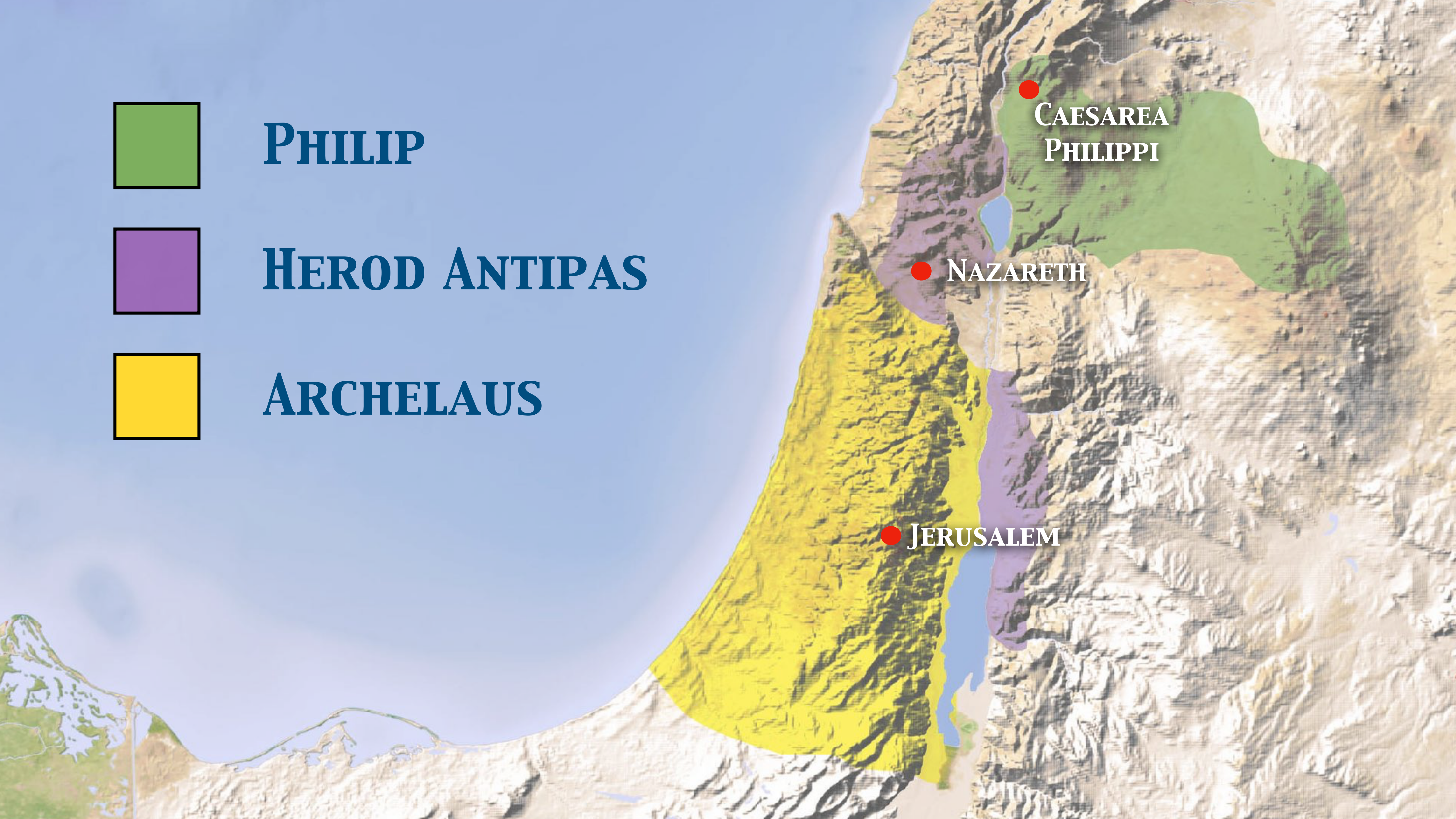
PHILIP



HEROD ANTIPAS



ARCHELAUS



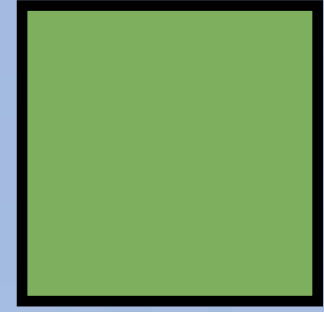
**CAESAREA
PHILIPPI**



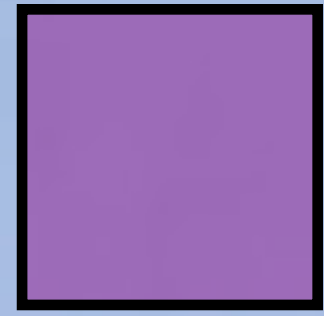
NAZARETH



JERUSALEM



PHILIP



HEROD ANTIPAS



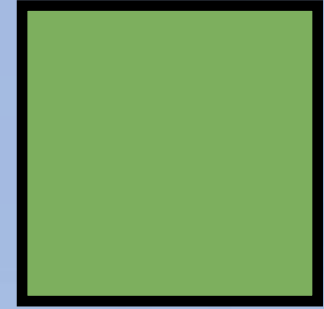
**CAESAREA
PHILIPPI**



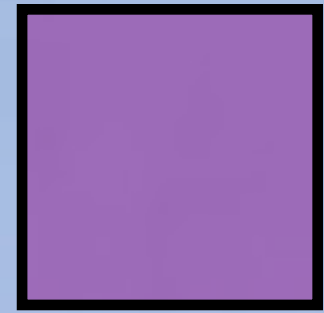
NAZARETH



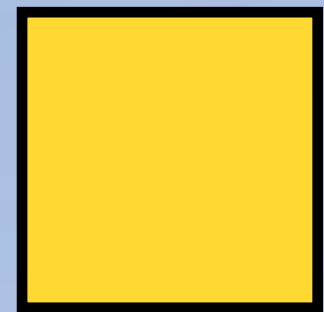
JERUSALEM



PHILIP



HEROD ANTIPAS



PONTIUS PILATE

AD 26-36



● CAESAREA
PHILIPPI

● NAZARETH

● JERUSALEM



Luke 1:13, 17

“Thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son. ...

“And he shall go ... in the spirit and power of Elias ... to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”