



Christmas
PARTY



YOU'RE INVITED TO A

Christmas

PARTY

Every Sunday in December at 10am!

Foci for 2024-2025

Foci for 2024-2025

Preeminence of Christ

Unity of the Body

Maturity

Perspective

Foci for 2024-2025

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Colossians 1:28-29

²⁸ We proclaim Him, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone **mature in Christ.**

²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me.

Maturity
Perspective

Foci for 2024-2025

Preeminence of Christ

Unity of the Body

Maturity

Perspective

Perspective



Perspective

Handling the tension of a life that includes both
the 'good' and the 'bad'...



Perspective

Handling the tension of a life that includes both
the **'good'** and the **'bad'**...
...being grateful for the good,
and not becoming embittered by the bad.



Perspective

“

...Everyone



Perspective

“My life hasn’t turned out quite as I’d hoped.”

...Everyone



Perspective

Being thankful.



Perspective



We live in a country and a culture that includes a day for the exercise of **”the giving of thanks”.....’Thanksgiving’**.

We live in a country and a culture that includes a day for the exercise of **”the giving of thanks”.....’Thanksgiving’.**

- Grounded in the Pilgrims thanking God at the end of a terribly difficult first year in Plymouth, Massachusetts.....1621 AD.
- A National Proclamation of Thanksgiving had been issued by the Continental Congress in November of 1777.
- The **National Thanksgiving Proclamation** was the first presidential proclamation of Thanksgiving in the United States. At the request of Congress, President George Washington declared Thursday, November 26, 1789 as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer.
- President Abraham Lincoln, prompted by a series of editorials written by Sarah Josepha Hale, proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day, to be celebrated on the 26th, the final Thursday of November 1863.

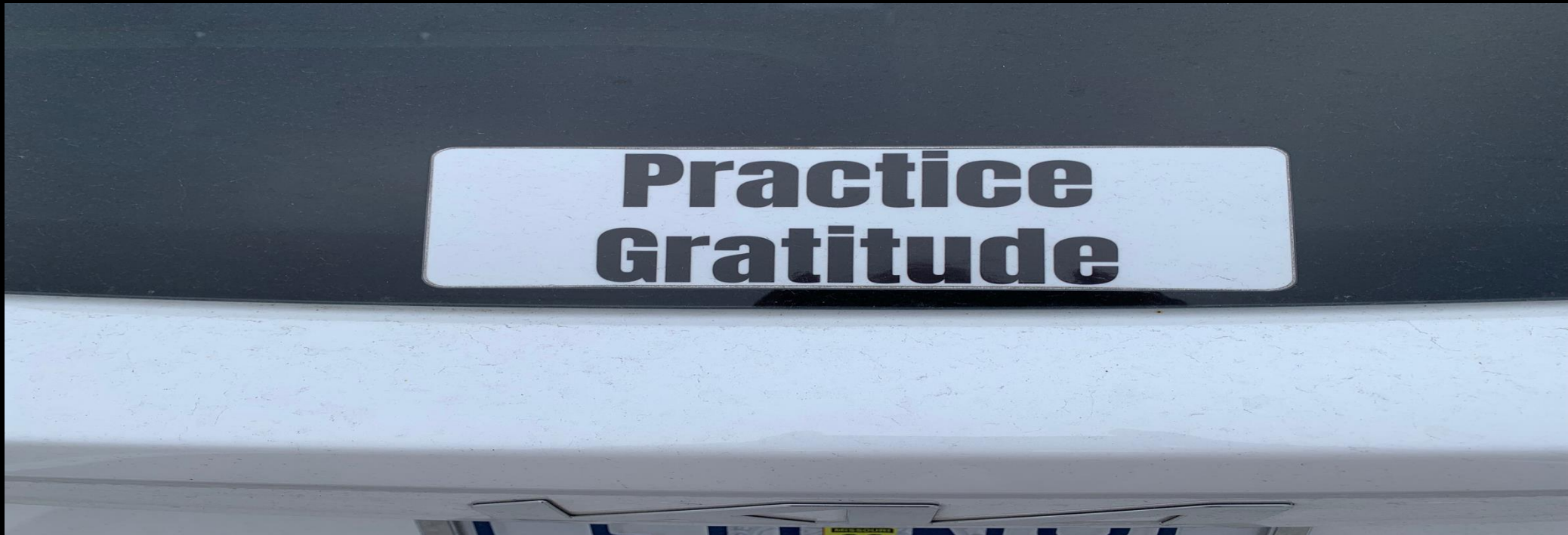
**It is founded on a view of the world that suggests
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- 1) Expressing thankfulness is good for the human soul.

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**It is founded on a view of the world that suggests
two things:**

- 1) Expressing thankfulness is good for the human soul.
- 2) Even deeper and more profound, it is contingent on believing that there is some sort of transcendent Being to whom we offer thanks due to His benevolence. It honors Him and His character because He voluntarily offers us the good things of life, though sometimes they are delivered to us through troubled waters that challenge our understanding of what seems like a veiled benevolence.

Luke 17:11-19



Luke 17:11-19

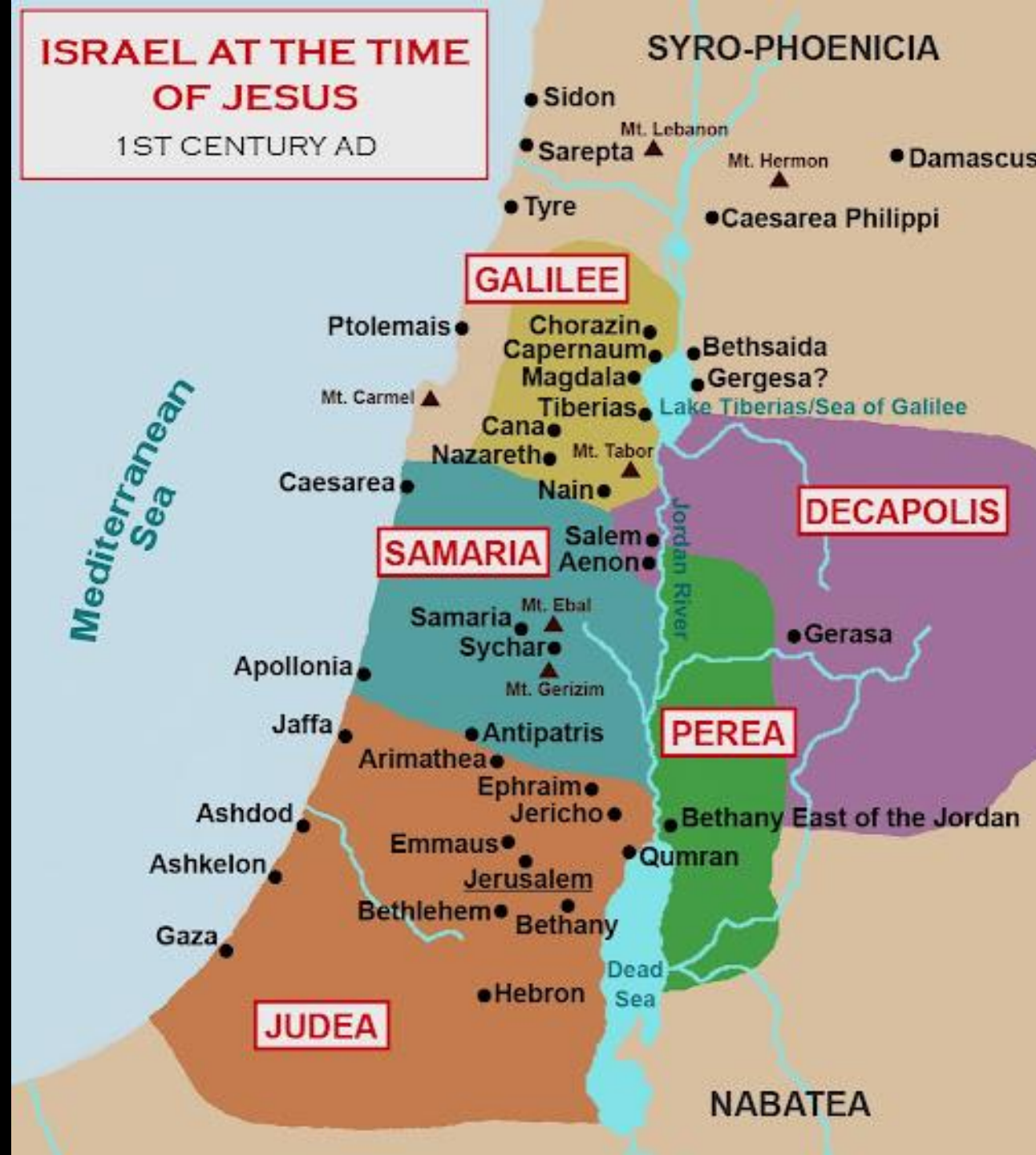
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Now he was a Samaritan.
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**ISRAEL AT THE TIME
OF JESUS**

1ST CENTURY AD



930 BC
Civil War



930 BC

Abraham.....2000 BC

Moses / Joshua /
Conquest.....1500 BC

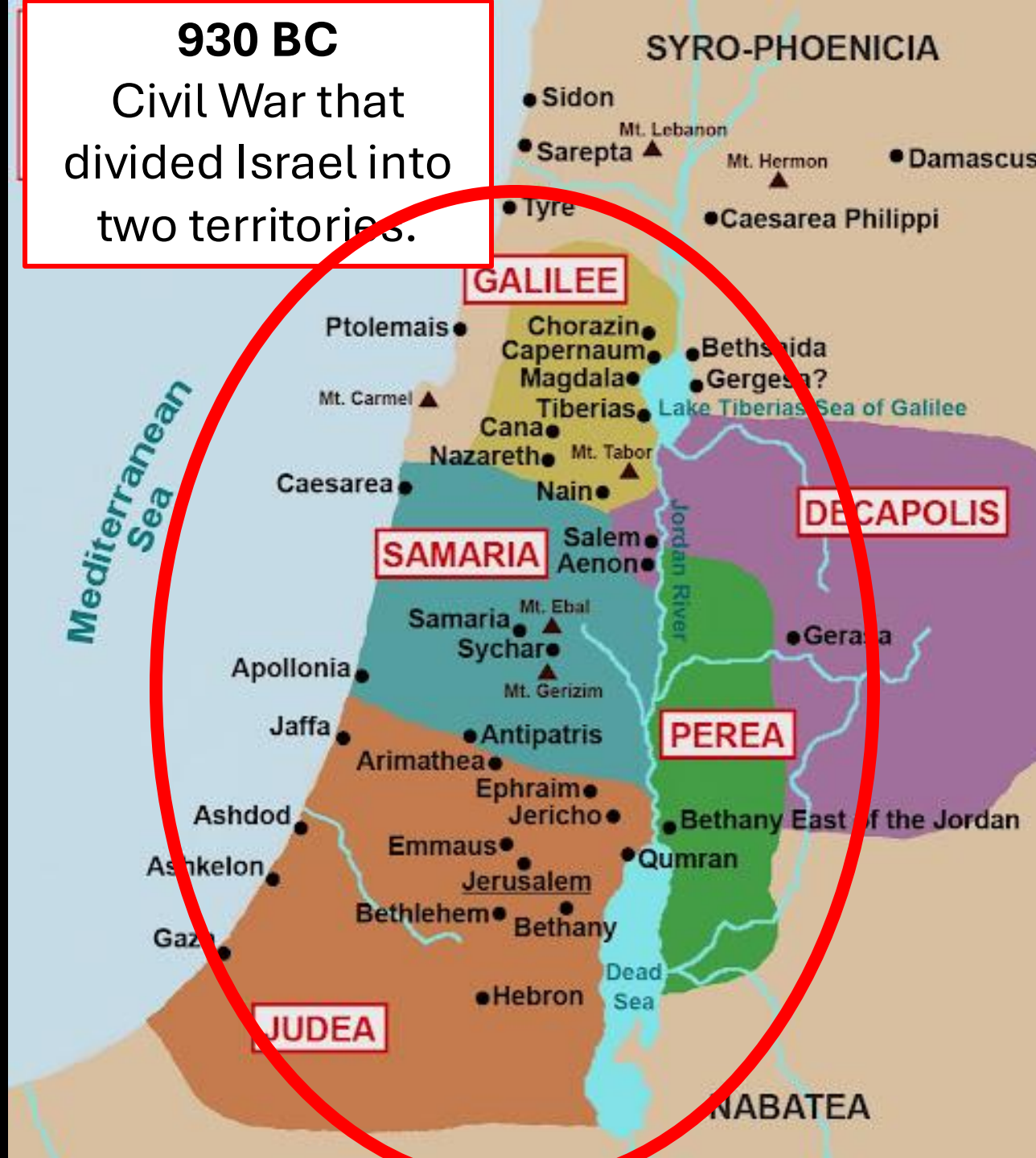


930 BC



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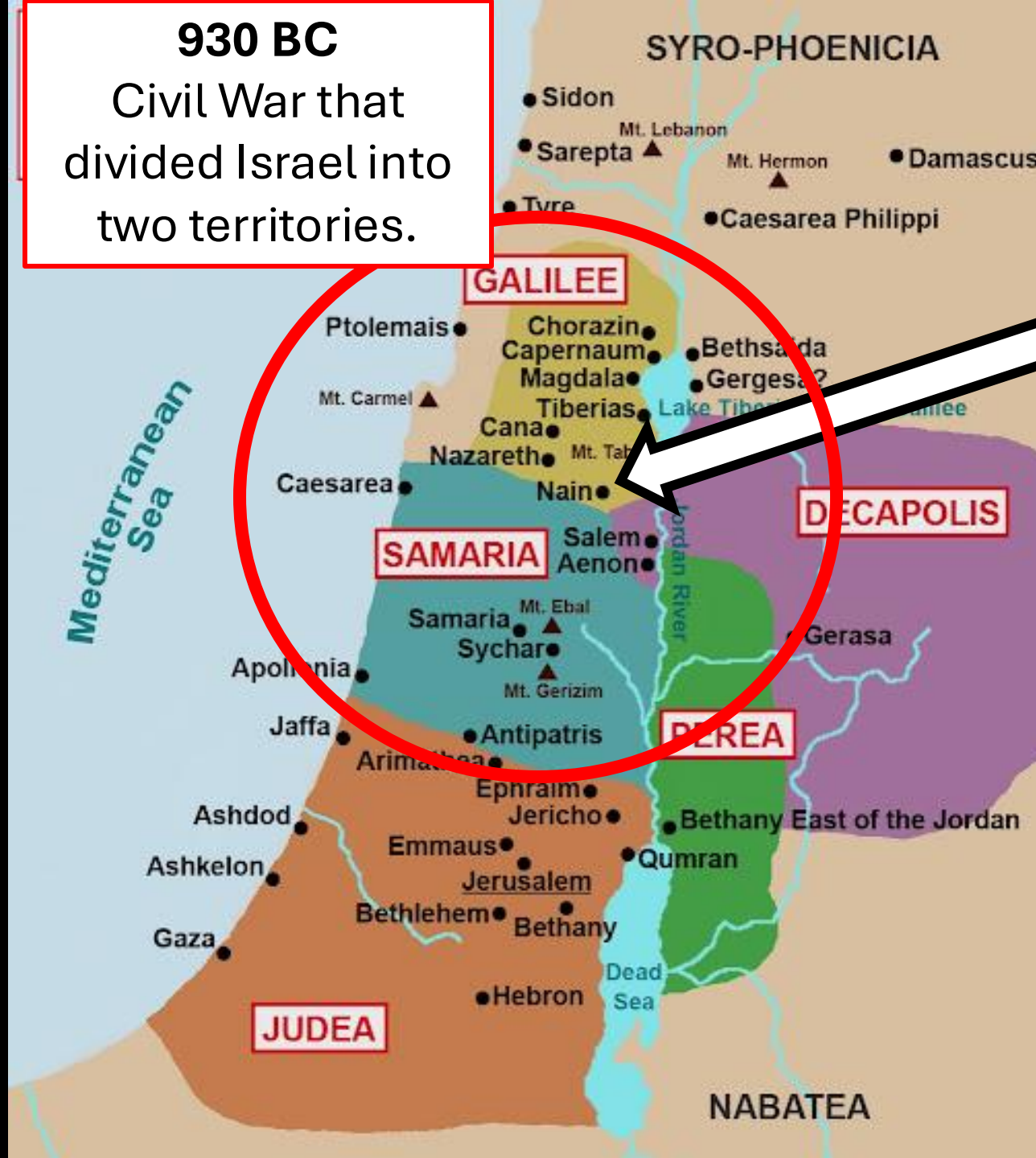
Civil War that divided Israel into two territories.



930 BC

Civil War that divided Israel into two territories.

The 10 northern tribes that are referred to as **Israel**.



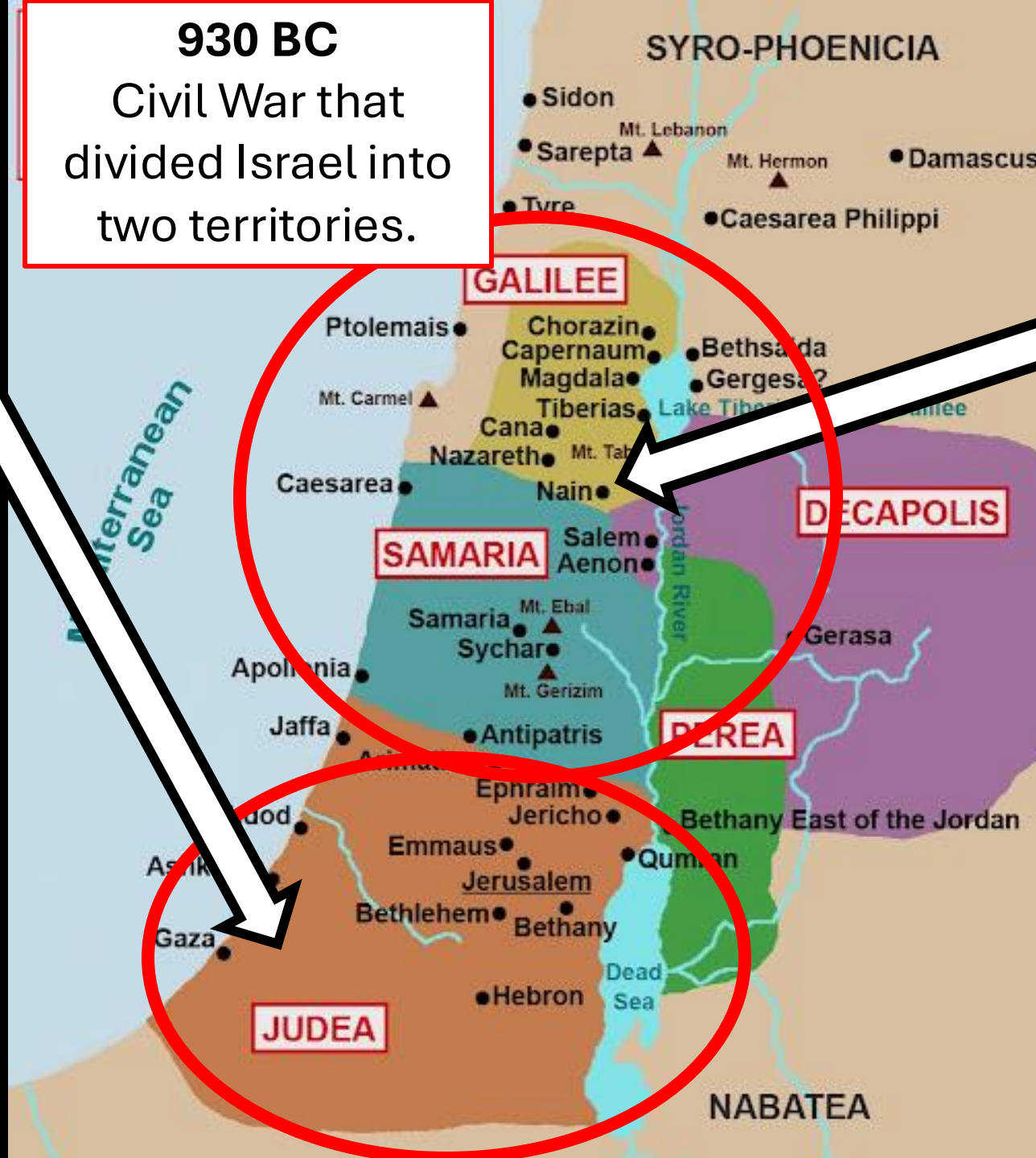
The 2 southern tribes that are referred to as

Judah.

(Benjamin was a small tribe that Judah protected and eventually absorbed).

930 BC
Civil War that divided Israel into two territories.

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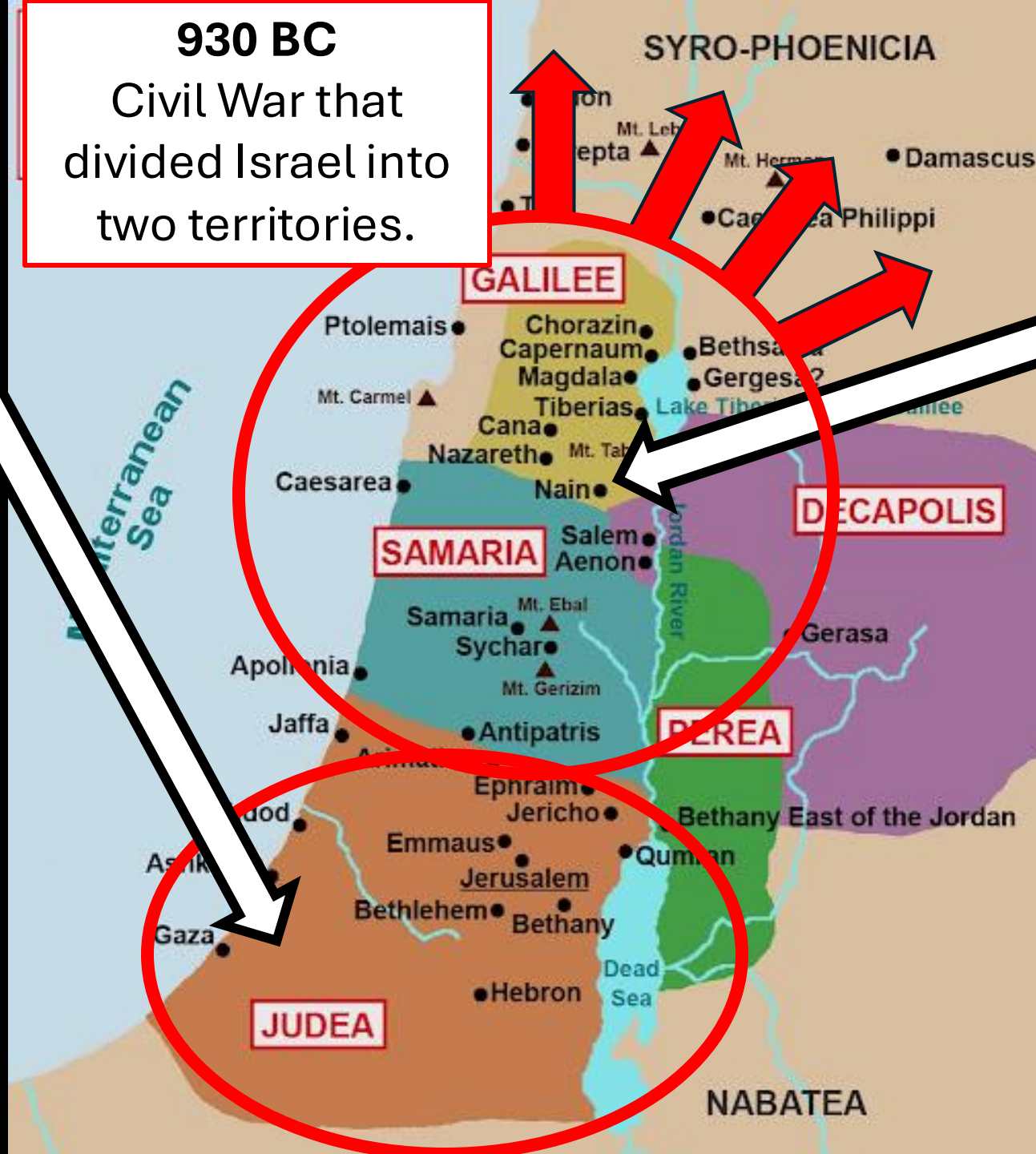


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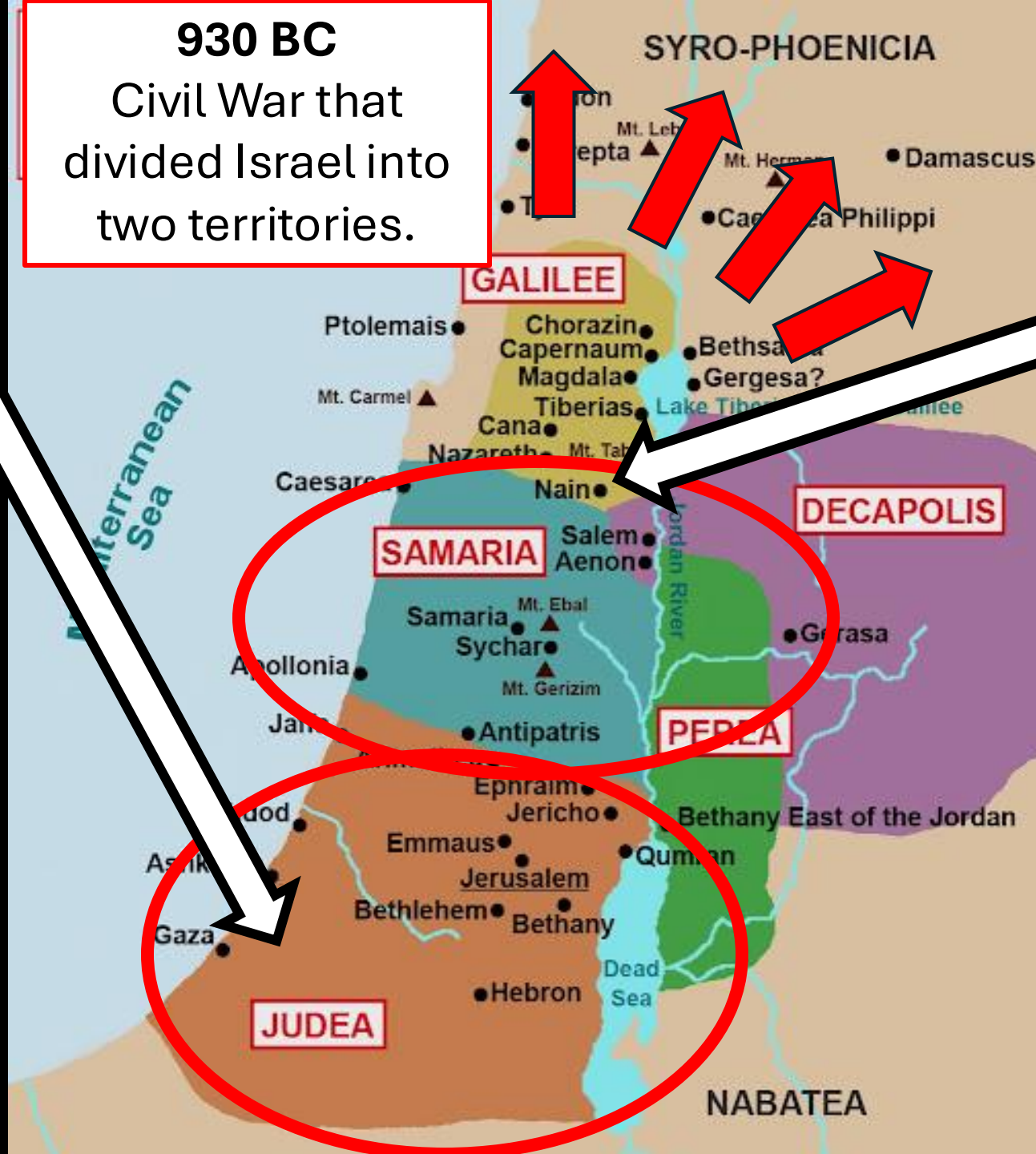
Defeated and scattered by the Assyrians in **722 BC...** thus the 10 lost tribes of Israel.

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(The surviving population of 'Israel' were assimilated and ethnically integrated)

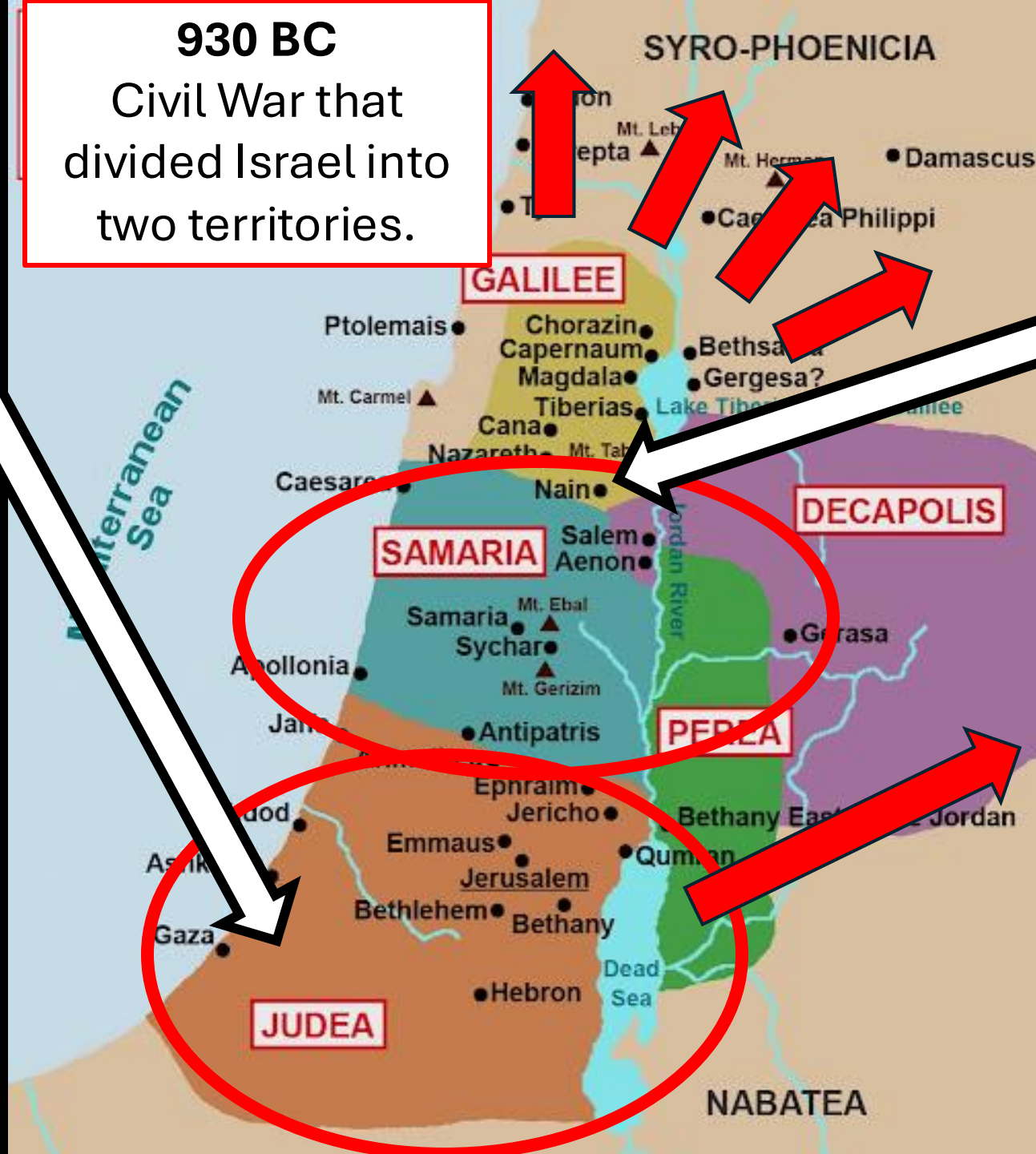
The 2 southern tribes that are referred to as

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(Benjamin was a small tribe that Judah protected and eventually absorbed).

Defeated and exiled for 70 years by the Babylonians in **586 BC**.

930 BC
Civil War that divided Israel into two territories.



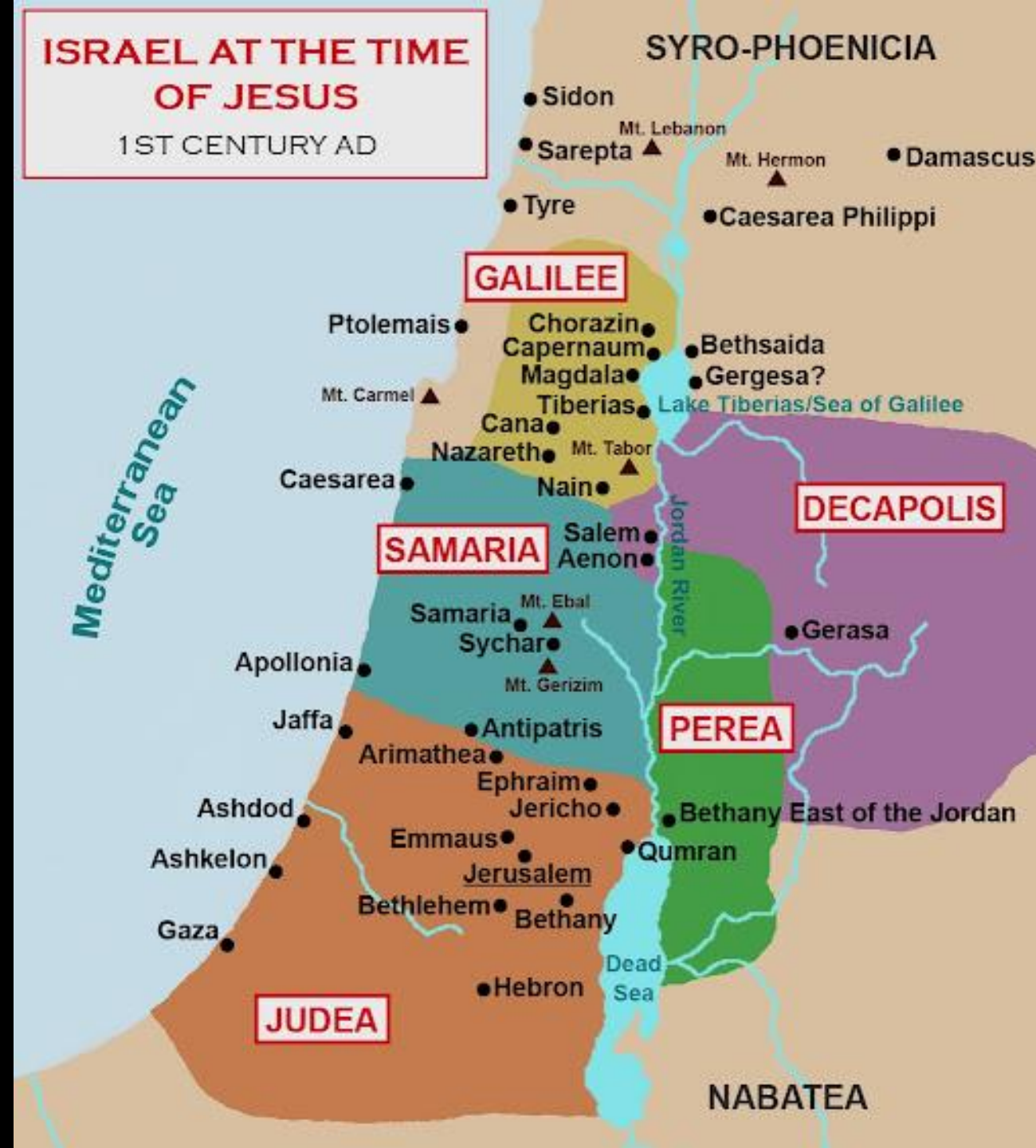
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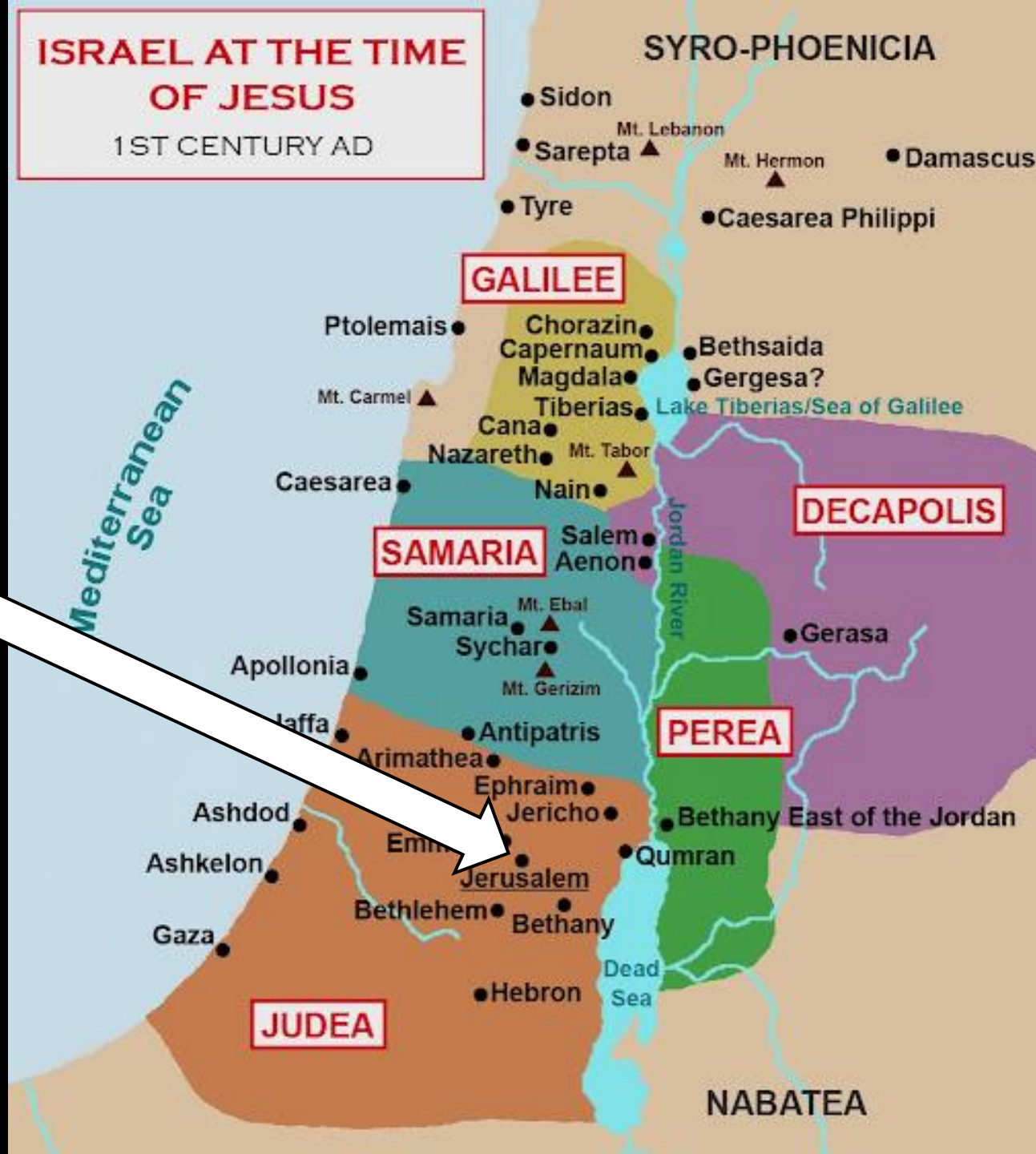
1ST CENTURY AD



**ISRAEL AT THE TIME
OF JESUS**

1ST CENTURY AD

Jerusalem



ISRAEL AT THE TIME OF JESUS
1ST CENTURY AD

SYRO-PHOENICIA

- Sidon
- Sarepta
- Tyre
- ▲ Mt. Lebanon
- ▲ Mt. Hermon
- Damascus
- Caesarea Philippi

Nazareth
Hometown

GALILEE

- Ptolemais
- Chorazin
- Capernaum
- Magdala
- Tiberias
- Nazareth
- Nain
- Bethsaida
- Gergesa?
- ▲ Mt. Tabor
- Lake Tiberias/Sea of Galilee

Jerusalem

SAMARIA

- Caesarea
- Salem
- Aenon
- Samaria
- Sychar
- ▲ Mt. Ebal
- ▲ Mt. Gerizim
- Apollonia

DECAPOLIS

- Gerasa

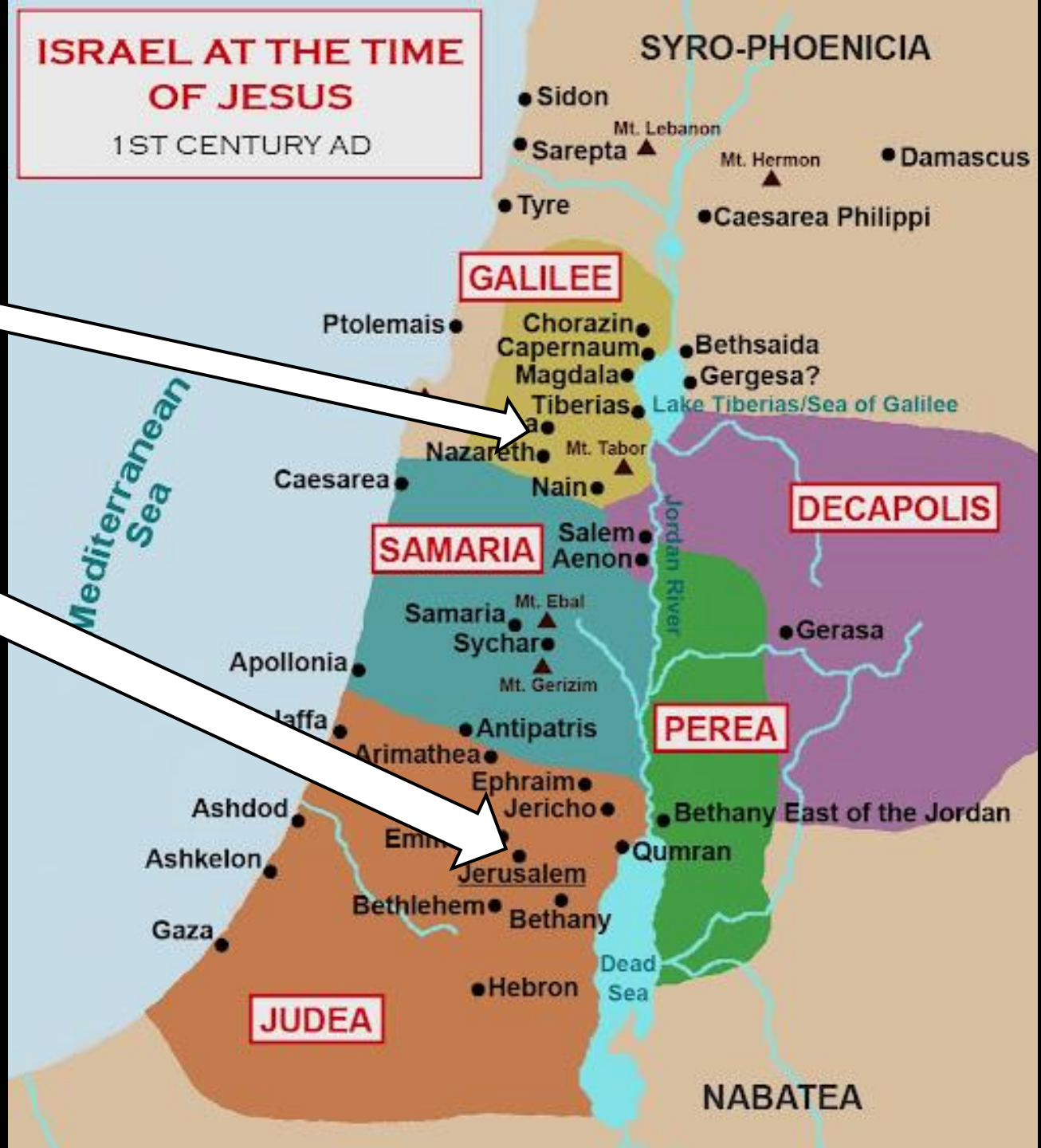
PEREA

- Bethany East of the Jordan
- Qumran

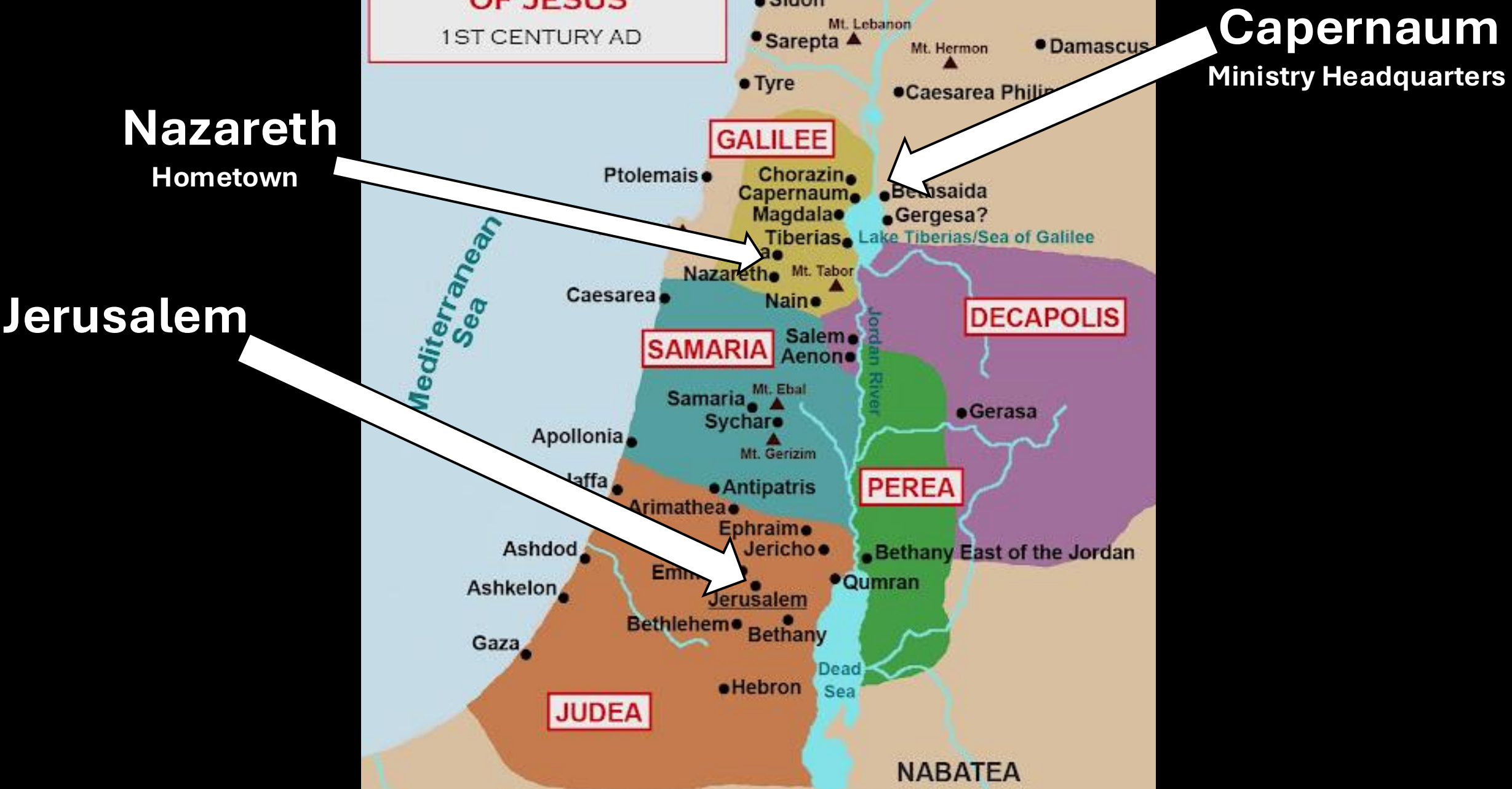
JUDEA

- Jaffa
- Antipatris
- Arimathea
- Ephraim
- Jericho
- Jerusalem
- Bethlehem
- Bethany
- Hebron

NABATEA



ISRAEL AT THE TIME OF JESUS
1ST CENTURY AD



Nazareth
Hometown

Capernaum
Ministry Headquarters

Jerusalem

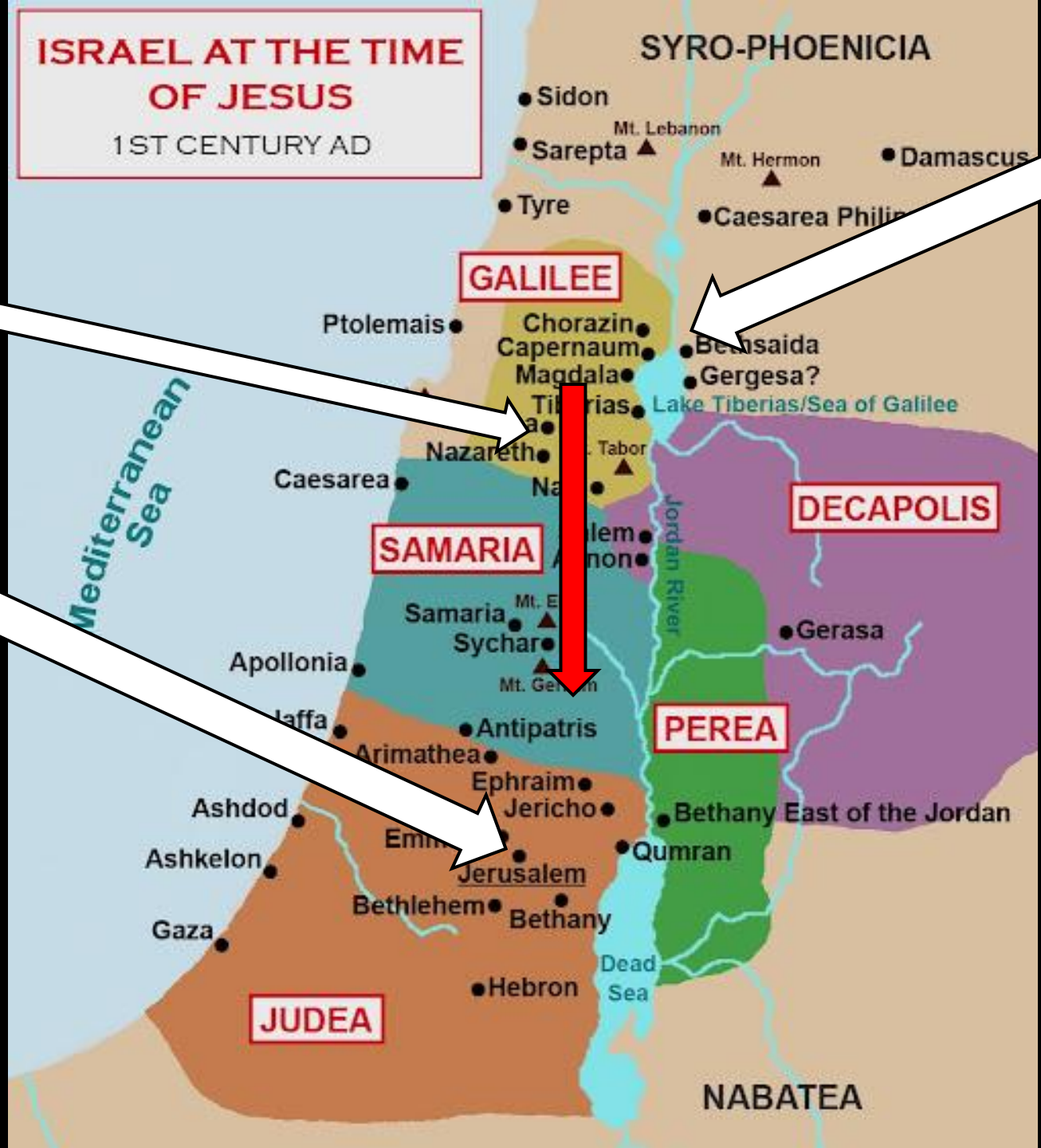
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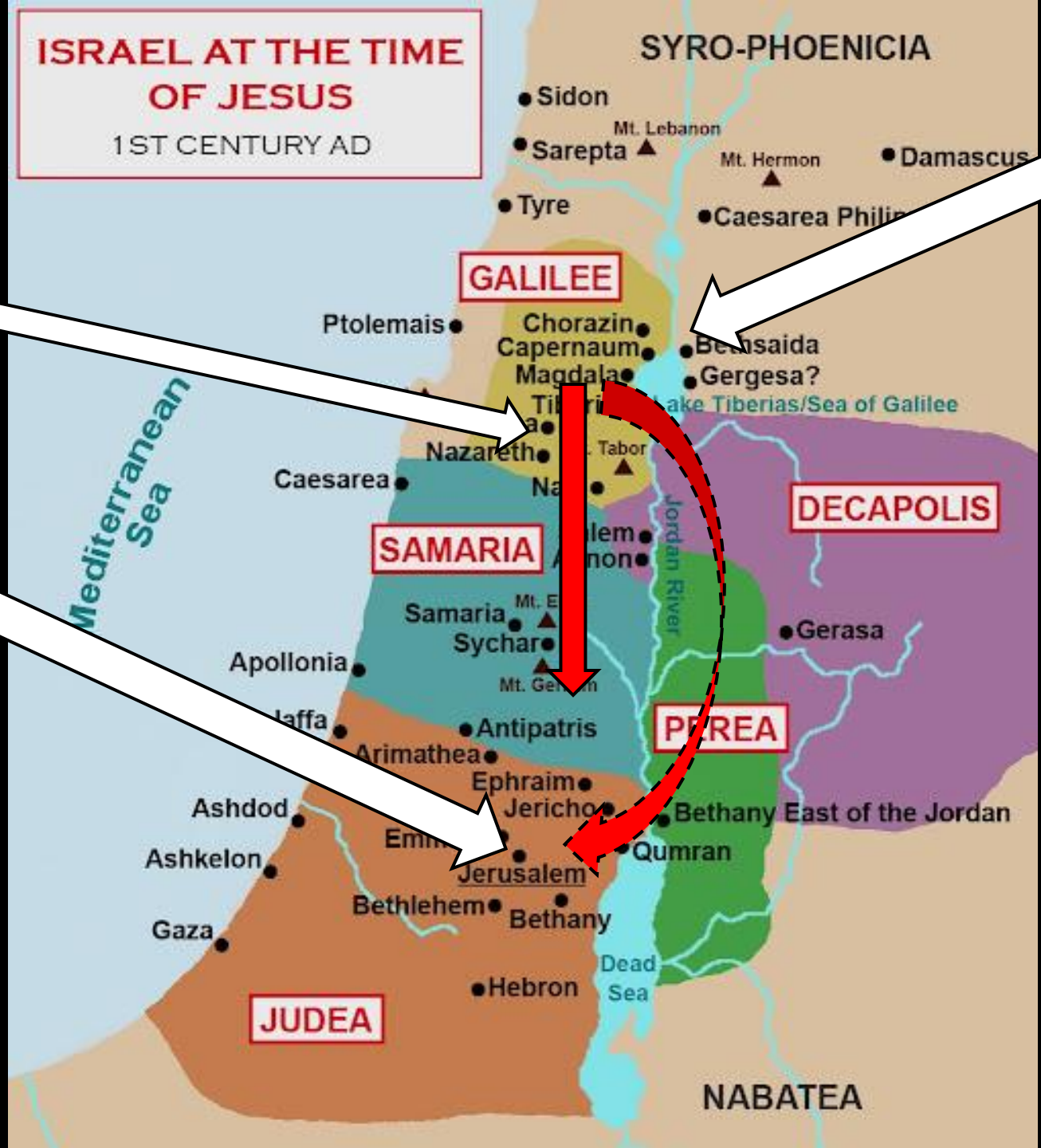
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Mediterranean Sea

Lake Tiberias/Sea of Galilee

Jordan River

Dead Sea

Sidon
Sarepta
Tyre

Mt. Lebanon

Mt. Hermon

Damascus

Caesarea Philippi

Ptolemais

Chorazin

Capernaum

Magdala

Tiberias

Nazareth

Caesarea

Samaria

Apollonia

Jaffa

Arimathea

Ephraim

Jericho

Emmusa

Jerusalem

Bethlehem

Bethany

Hebron

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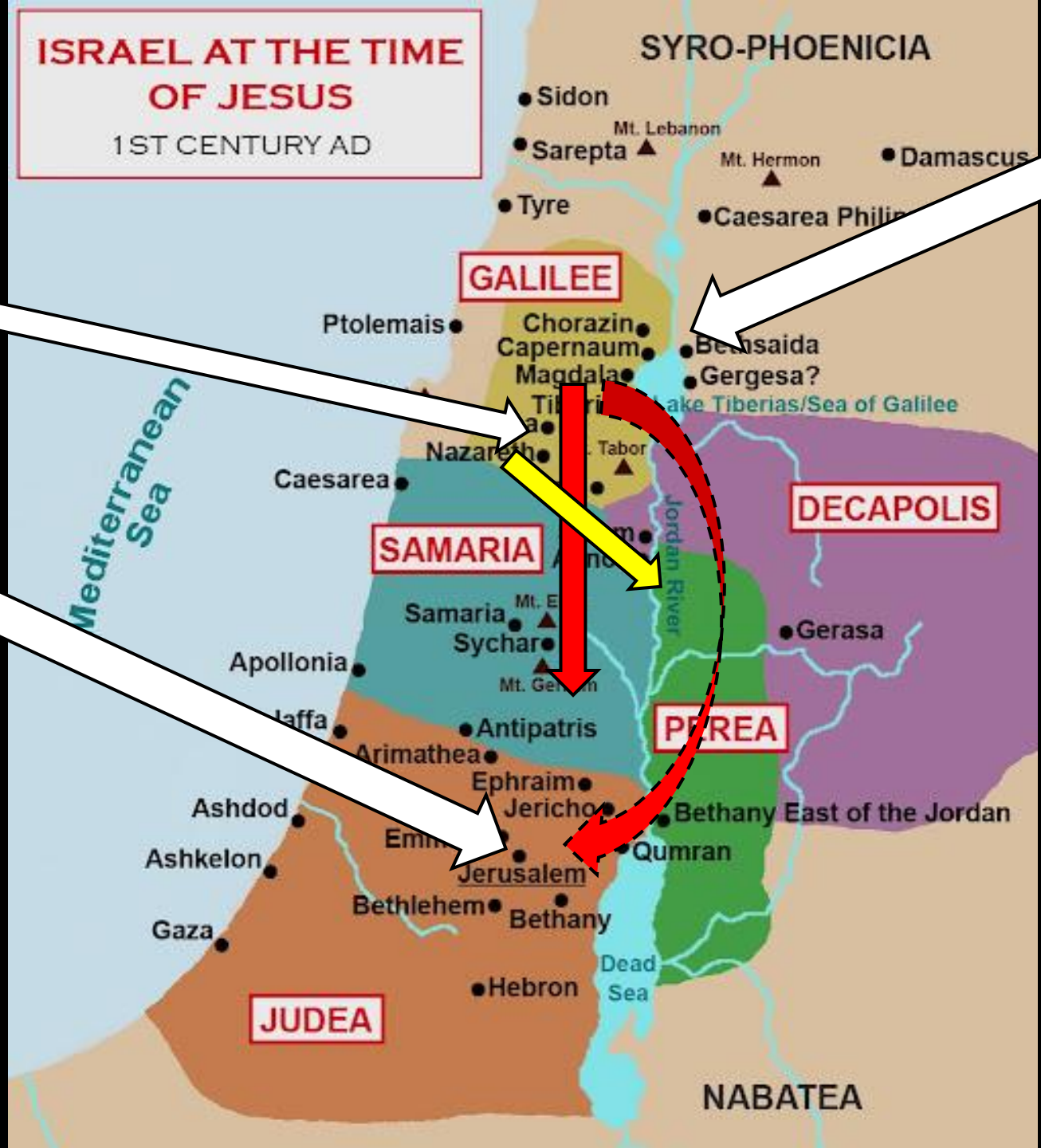
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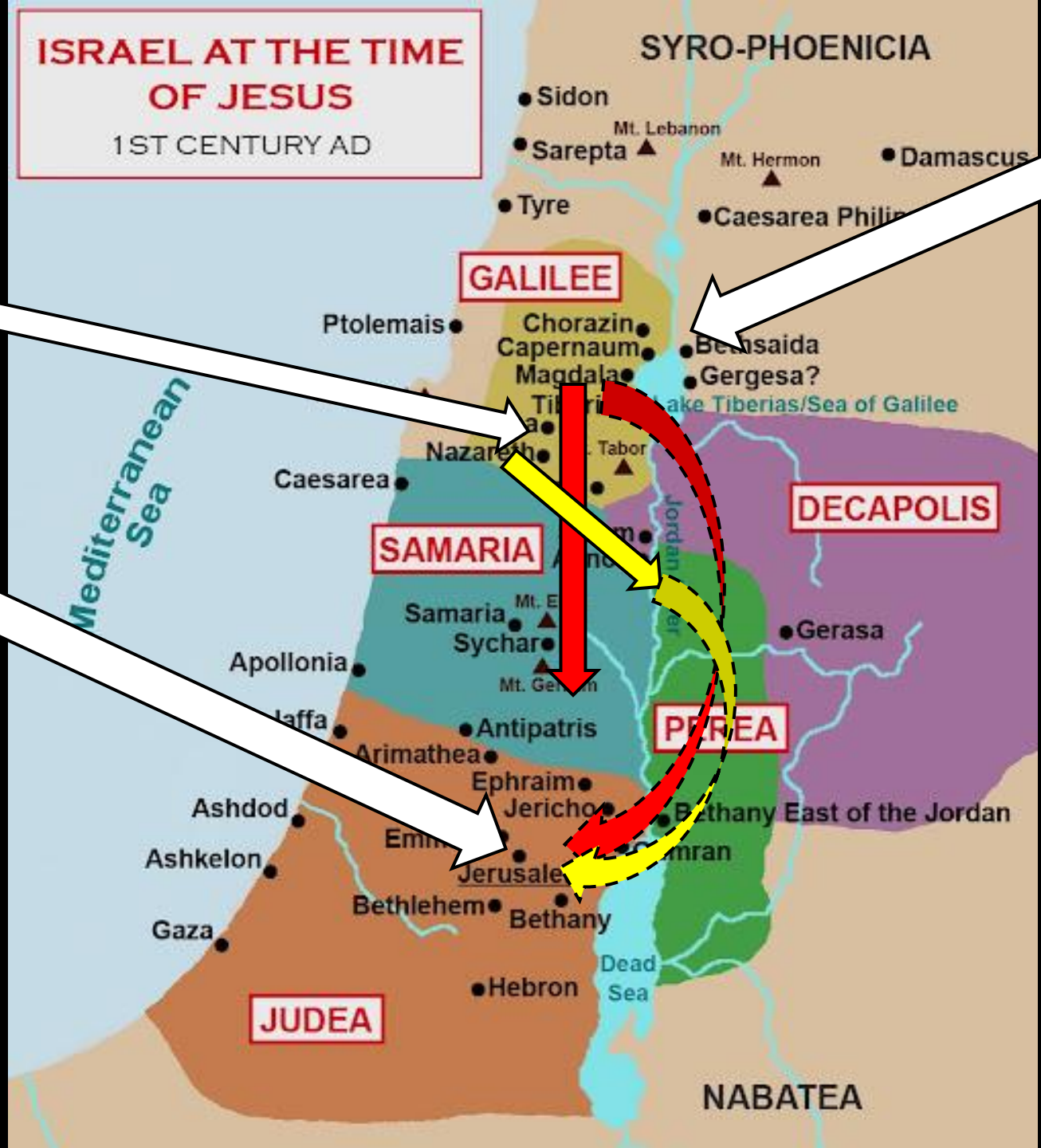
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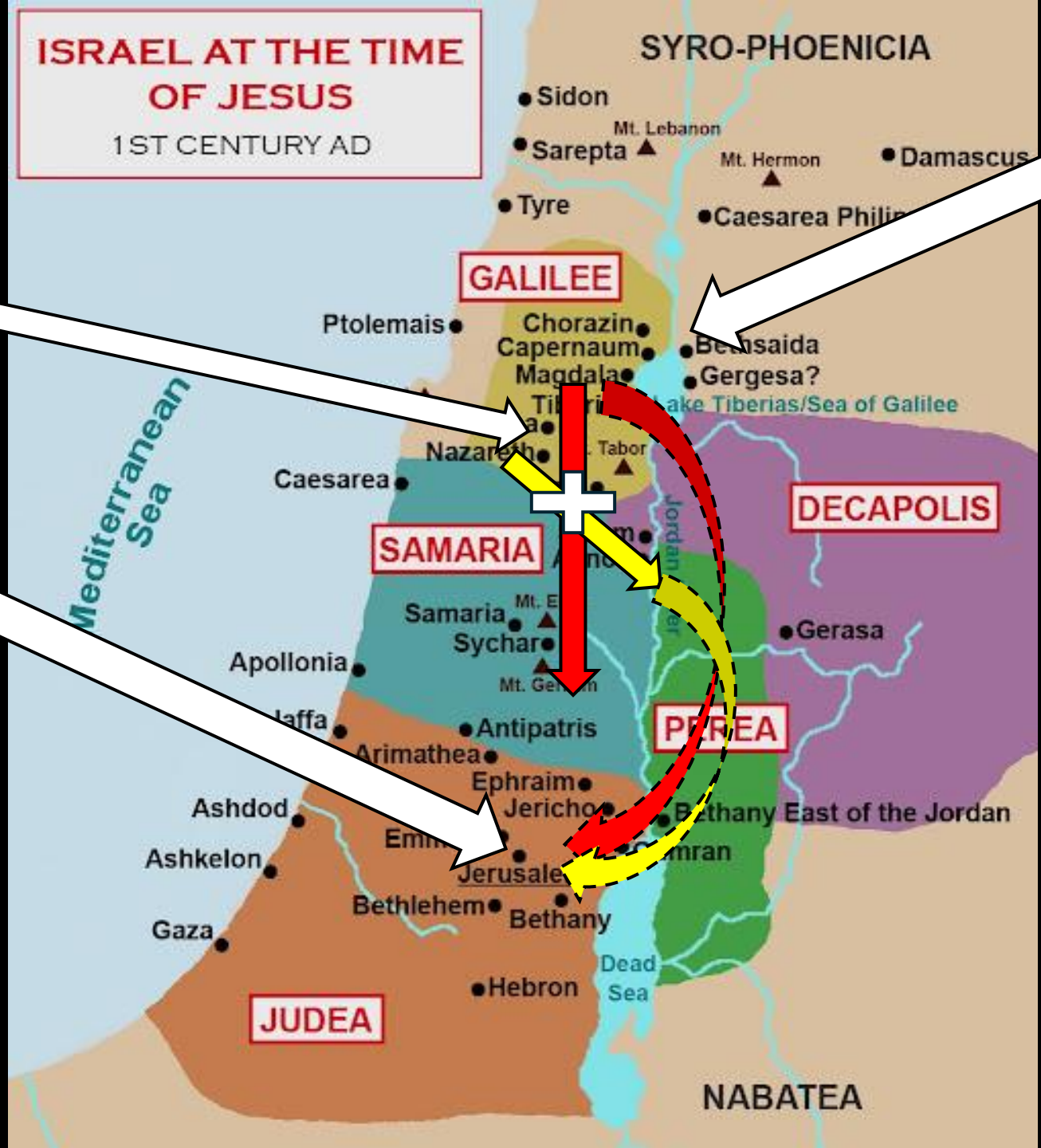
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Luke 17:11-19

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- 12 And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance
- 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."
- 14 When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.
- 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice;
- 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks.
Now he was a Samaritan.
- 17 Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?
- 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"
- 19 And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

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15 Then one of them, who was shouting and praising God with a loud voice, fell on his face and worshiped Jesus.

16 Now he was a Samaritan.

17 Then Jesus answered and said to him, "Your faith has made you well. Go and show yourself to the priests."

18 Was no one found to be clean except the Samaritan.

19 And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Leprosy...

...is a long-term bacterial infection that leads to damage of the nerves, respiratory tract, skin, and eyes.

This nerve damage may result in a lack of ability to feel pain, which can lead to the loss of parts of a person's extremities from repeated injuries or infection through unnoticed wounds.

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Greek: epistates

Definition: Master, teacher, chief, commander.

16 The term "epistates" is used in the New Testament to denote someone who holds authority or command, often translated as

17 They "master" or "overseer." It conveys a sense of leadership and responsibility, typically in a context where the person addressed

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19 And others.

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15 Then one of them came back,

16 and kneeling before Jesus, he said, "Thank you, Lord, for what you have done for me."

17 Then Jesus said to him, "Your faith has made you well. Go and your sin is forgiven."

18 And he said to the other nine, "Where are you going to be cleansed?"

19 And they said, "There are no priests here to cleanse us."

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16 Jesus answered and said to him, "Your faith has made you well. Go and your faith will make you whole."

17 Then He said to the other nine, "Where are you going to be cleansed?"

18 They answered and said, "None of us knows, Lord, for we were scattered in different directions when we heard the voice of the lepers."

19 Jesus said to them, "Your faith is not as strong as the faith of the one who came back and gave glory to God."

20 Then He said to the man who came back, "Your faith has made you well. Go and your faith will make you whole."

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Greek: eleeó

Definition: To have mercy, to show compassion,
to be merciful.

To have compassion, to love deeply.

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It often implies a deep sense of empathy and a desire to alleviate the suffering or need of another.

This term is frequently used in the context of divine mercy, where God or Jesus extends compassion to humanity.

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In the Greco-Roman world, mercy was not always considered a virtue, as strength and power were often more highly valued.

However, in Jewish and Christian thought, mercy is a central attribute of God and a key ethical principle.

The concept of mercy in the Bible is deeply rooted in the covenant relationship between God and His people, where God's mercy is seen as an expression of His steadfast love and His faithfulness.

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Luke 17:11-19

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¹⁴ When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.

¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice;

¹⁶ and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks.

Now he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?"

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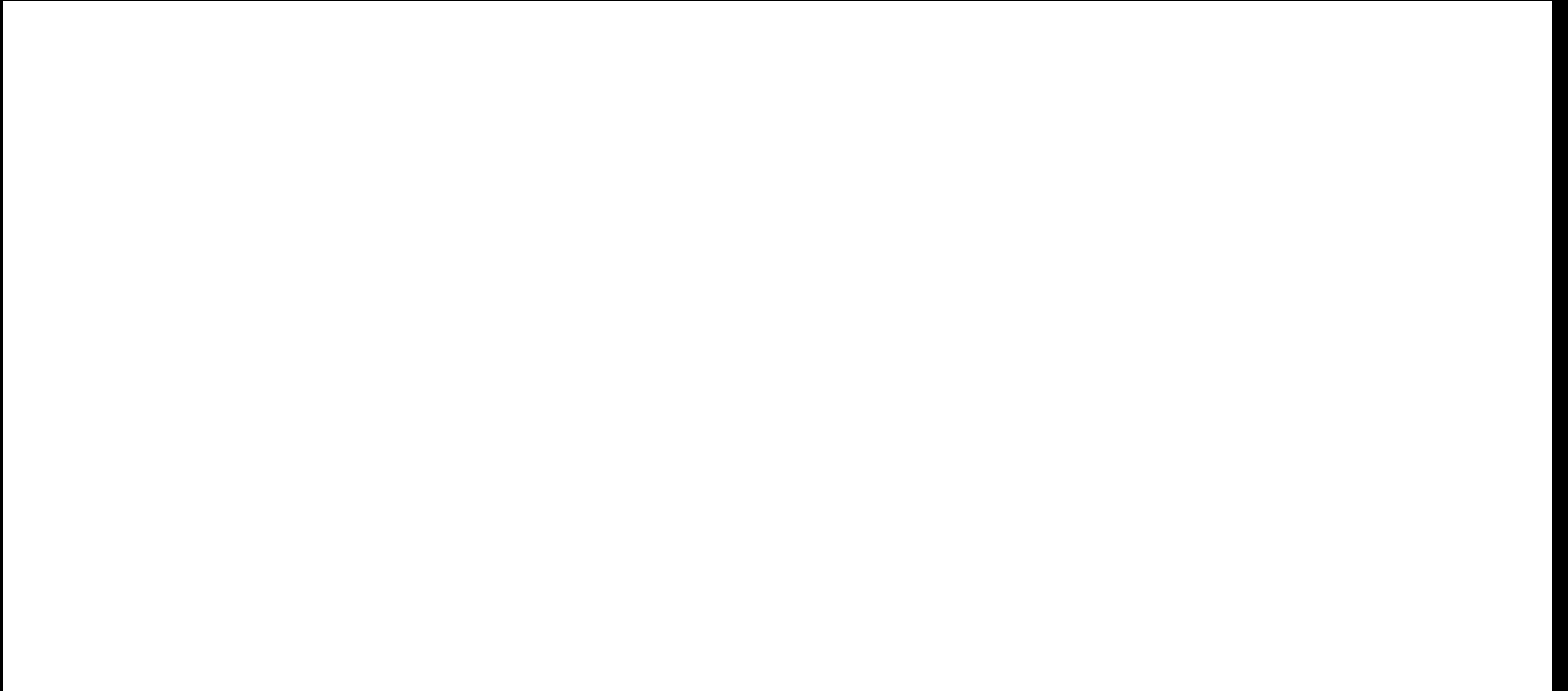
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So....therefore....what now?



So....therefore....what now?

**What would you like
to publicly thank God for?**

So....therefore....what now?

The gospel...

**God, in an act of grace,
sent His son Jesus to earth as a man,
so that through His death and resurrection He could
rescue us,
reign as king
and lead us into the eternal,
full of life that we were created to enjoy.**



Perspective