

Berean Class

Acts 17:11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.



Judah's Exile to Babylon

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God uses this experience to prepare
the world for Christ.



BCE History 101

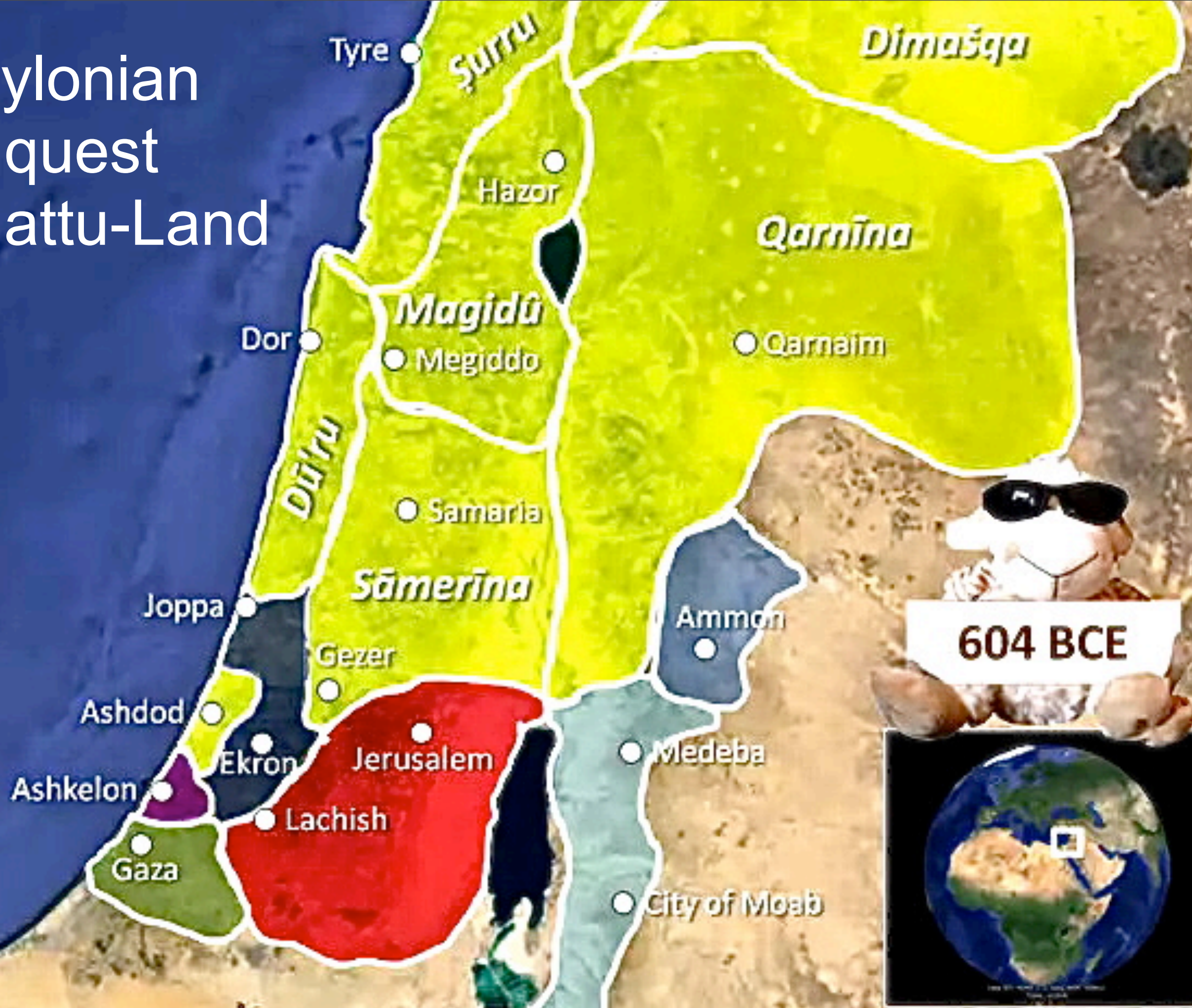
BCE History 101

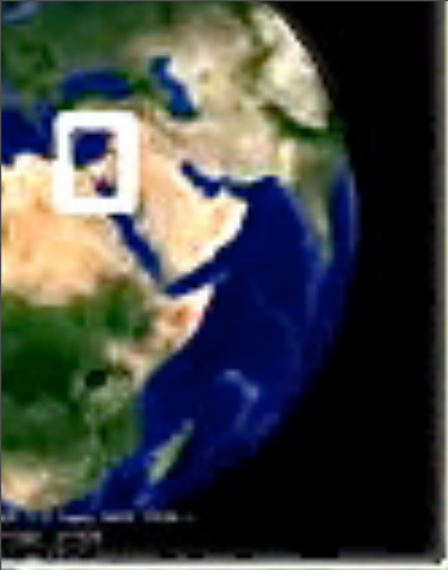
- 722---Samaria is conquered by Assyria.
- 610---Babylonia conquers Assyria at Haran.
- 605---Babylonia defeats Egypt at Carchemish.
- 597---Babylonia conquers Jerusalem.
- 586---Babylonia destroys Jerusalem.
- 539---Persia conquers Babylonia.
- 516--Second Temple is dedicated.
- 444--Nehemiah rebuilds the city walls.



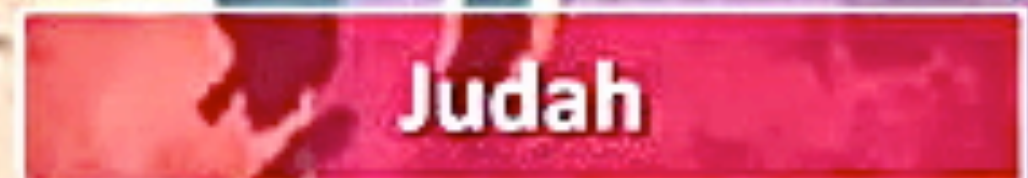


Babylonian Conquest of Hattu-Land





Judah following
Babylon Conquest





Gezer●

●Bethel

●Mizpah

Gibeon●

●Jericho

●Ashdod

●Jerusalem

Azekah●

●Ramat Rahel

Zanoah●

●Bethlehem

●Ashkelon

●Qeilah

En-Gedi●

Judah under Persia

Adapting to Exile:

Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” (Jer. 29)



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Community gathered on market days.
Worship, study, prayer.
Archeological data.



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“For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord, and to teaching its decrees and law in Israel.”



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Torah of Moses.

Mishnah & Midrash.

Babylonian Torah.



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Cuneiform script.

Paleo-Hebrew to Aramaic.



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Sabbath, circumcision, & fasting.



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- Rituals--hope for restoration.
- Dualism--good vs. evil; heaven vs. hell.



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- Blessing to Babylon--God fearers?
- United the Jewish people--they survived Greeks, Romans, diaspora, inquisition, & Holocaust.

Q & A



