Walking with the Captives

Week 5

Esther saves her people

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Mordecai is honoured 4

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Esther's 2nd feast and Haman hanged 6

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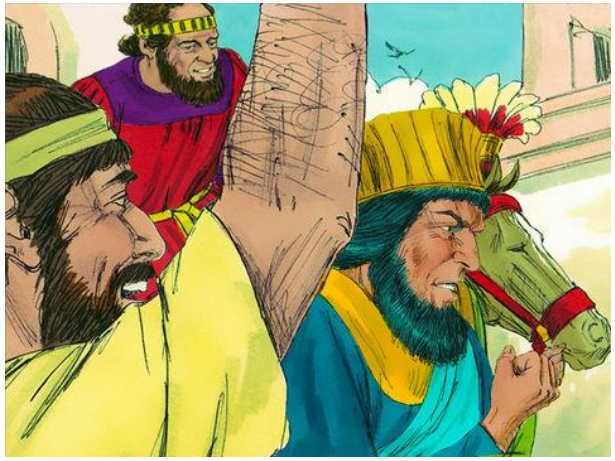
Saturday 13

Purim set up 13

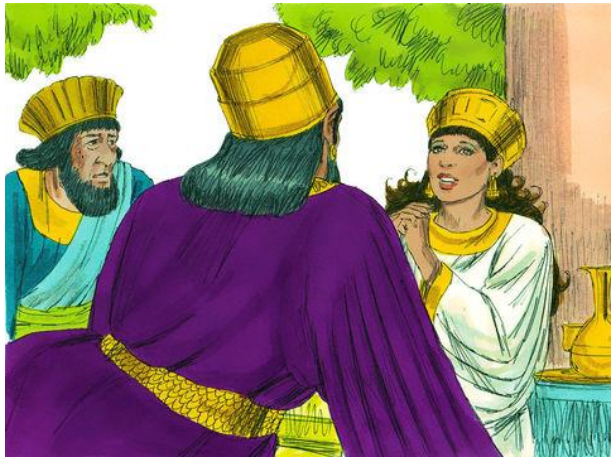
Old English words 16

To read the Bible online go to:

http://www.biblegateway.com/versions/King-James-Version-KJV-Bible/



Haman had to lead Mordecai through streets to honour him



Esther names Haman as the enemy of the Jews

To read KJV in 21st Century English go to:

http://www.biblegateway.com/versions/21st-Century-King-James-Version-KJ21-Bible/

Sunday

Esther's feast with the king and Haman

Bible Reading: Esther 5v6-14

1. What did the king ask Esther? (v6)
2. What was he willing to do? (v6)
3. When did Esther say she would tell him? (v8)
4. Who did she want at the banquet? (v8)
5. How did Haman feel? (v9)
6. How did he feel about Mordecai? (v9)
7. What was Haman's wife called? (v10)
8. What did he do when he got home? (v10)
9. What did he boast about? (v11)
10. What was he so pleased about? (v12)
11. What did he really hate to see? (v13)
12. What did Zeresh tell him to do? (v14)
13. How did Haman feel about that? (v14)

Answers

1) What is your petition? What is your request? 2) Give her up to half of his kingdom; 3) The next day at a banquet; 4) The king and Haman; 5) Joyful and glad; 6) Full of indignation; 7) Zeresh; 8) Called for his friends and wife; 9) His riches, his many children, how the king had promoted him; 10) Esther had invited him to banquet with her and king; 11) Mordecai sitting in the king's gate; 12) Make a gallows and ask the king to hang Mordecai on it; 13) Pleased

"Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips." (Proverbs 27v2)

MEANINGS:

Petition = ask or plead for;

Indignation = great anger;

Glory of his riches = great riches;

Advanced him = gave him more important job;

Availeth me nothing = does me no good;

Gallows = wooden frame for hanging criminals on;

50 cubit = about 75 feet

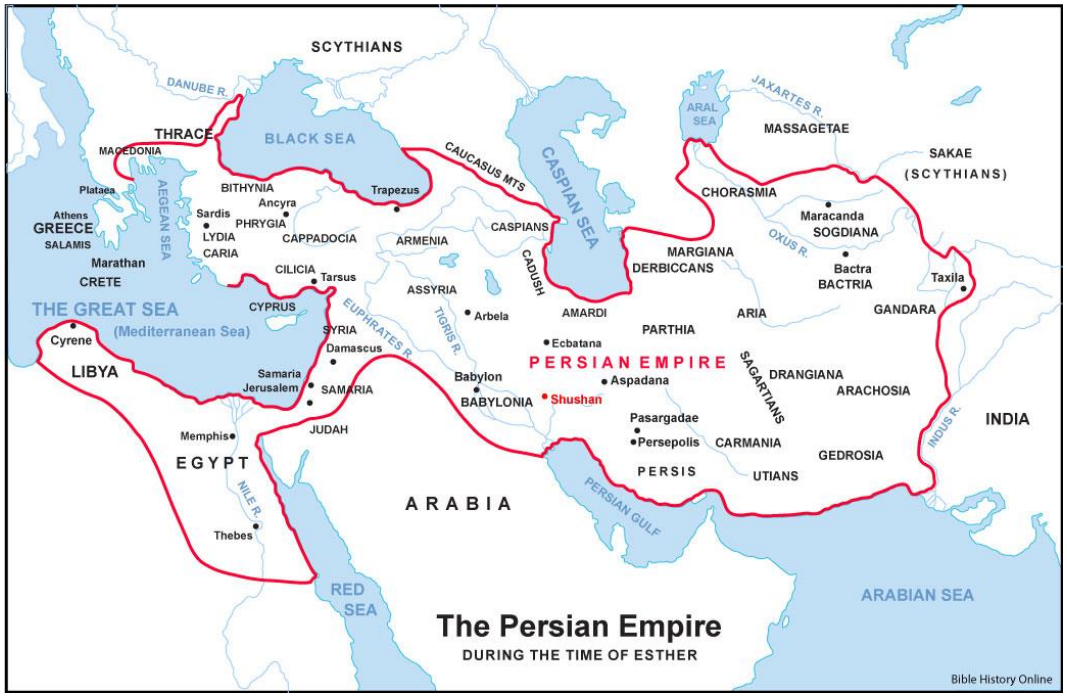


Stop and Think!

Haman plotted against Mordecai and boasted to his wife BUT the Lord was going to bring him down. You can't fight against God and win!



Esther faced her fears in God's strength. Don't let your problems cause you to run from God. Rather face your fears in the strength of the Lord.



Monday

Mordecai is honoured

Bible Reading: Esther 6v1-14

1. Who couldn't sleep? (v1)
2. So, what was read to him? (v1)

This was NOT the books of Chronicles in the Bible. These were books of records for the kings of Persia.

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3. What did they read about? (v2)

Read about this plot in Esther 2v21-23.

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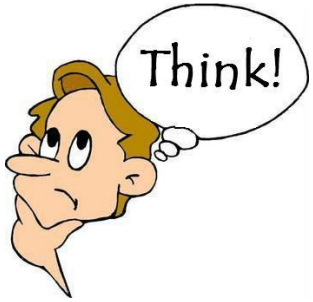
4. What reward had Mordecai been given? (v3)
5. Why had Haman come to see the king? (v4)
6. Where was Haman? (v5)
7. What did the king ask Haman? (v6)
8. Who did Haman think the king wanted to honour? (v6)
9. So, what did he tell the king to do? (v8-9)
10. What did Haman have to do? (v10-11)
11. What did Mordecai do after this? (v12)
12. How did Haman go home? (v12)
13. What did Zeresh say would happen? (v13)
14. What happened as they were talking? (v14)



"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8v28+31)

Answers

1) The king; 2) Book of records of chronicles; 3) How Mordecai had told about the plot by 2 of the king's doorkeepers (Bigthana and Teresh) to kill the king; 4) None; 5) To get Mordecai hanged on the gallows; 6) In the court; 7) What shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honour; 8) Haman; 9) Put royal robes that king used to wear on him, and kings crown on his head, ride him on king's horse through streets and one of the kings most noble princes shout Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honour; 10) Do all this to Mordecai; 11) Went back to the king's gate; 12) Hurried home, mourning with his head covered; 13) If Mordecai was of the Jews, then Haman would not prevail against him but would fall before him; 14) King's servants came and hurried Haman off to the banquet with Esther



Haman couldn't see past himself. He thought he was the one the king wanted to honour. He pictured himself on the horse....going through the streets....being praised.

BUT there was a twist in the story. Mordecai would get what Haman wished for....and Haman would get what he wished on Mordecai.

Be careful what you wish for. What if you got what you wished on others? What do you do when they get what you wanted?



God manages the affairs of men, even without their knowledge. God knows what He is doing and in the courts of heaven there are no coincidences or surprises.



God had promised Abraham:

"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."
(Genesis 12v2-3)

Israel is God's special nation. God sent His Son, Messiah (Christ) into this world through them. So, remember to bless them.... NOT curse them!

Tuesday

Esther's 2nd feast and Haman hanged

Bible Reading: Esther 7v1-10

1. Who went to Esther's banquet? (v1)
2. What did Esther ask for? (v3)
3. Why? (v4)
4. When would she have kept quiet? (v4)
5. What did the king want to know? (v5)
6. What did Esther call Haman? (v6)
7. How did Haman feel? (v6)
8. How did the king feel? (v7)

The king must have thought….How dare anyone kill my beautiful queen Esther? Or kill her people? Who would even have this wicked plan in his heart?

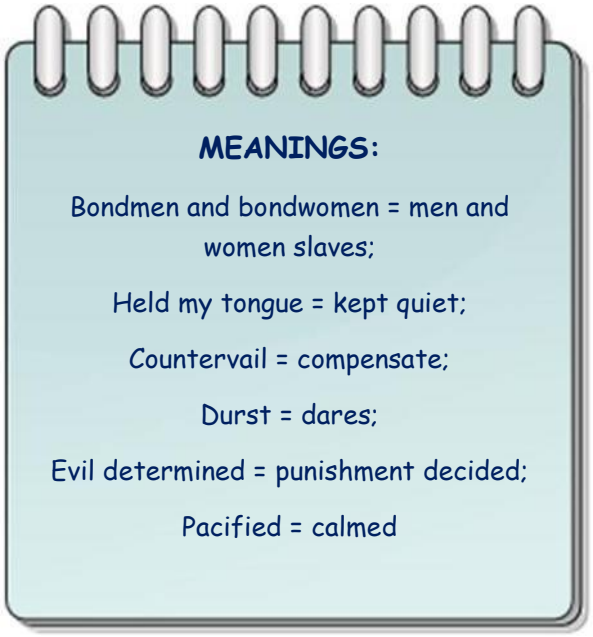
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9. Where did he go? (v7)
10. Why did Haman beg Esther to save his life? (v7)
11. Where was Haman when the king returned? (v8)
12. What did they cover? (v8)

This meant he was sentenced to death

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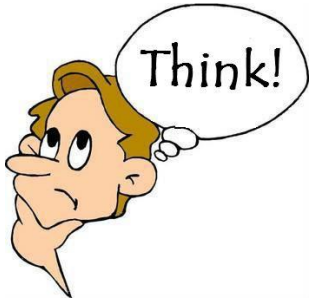
13. What happened to Haman? (v9-10)
14. What was pacified? (v10)



"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb." (Psalm 37v1-2)

Answers

1) The King and Haman; 2) Her life and her people; 3) Because they were going to be killed; 4) If they had been sold to be slaves; 5) Who is he and where is he that would dare to do such a thing? 6) Adversary, enemy, wicked; 7) Afraid; 8) Angry; 9) Palace garden; 10) He saw evil was determined against him by the king (he was going to be punished); 11) Fallen on the bed Esther was on; 12) Haman's face; 13) he was hanged on the gallows he had made for Mordecai; 14) The king's wrath



Be careful if you find yourself trying to dig a pit for someone to fall into. God just might allow you to be the one who falls into it!

"He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made. His mischief shall return upon his own head." (Psalm 7v15-16)

"Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him." (Proverbs 26v27)



Stop and Think!

Esther could have been really rich. The king was willing to give her up to half his kingdom (v2). Remember it stretched from India to Ethiopia. Think of all the riches in that! BUT she was there to plead for her people….not get rich.

Don't let riches get in the way of your prayers. Keep pleading with God to save souls.

Wednesday

The wicked decree overturned

Bible Reading: Esther 8v1-14

1. What did the king give to Esther? (v1)
2. Who did Esther put over it? (v2)
3. What did the king give Mordecai? (v2)
4. Why did Esther fall at the king's feet? (v3+5)

Esther may have been safe in the palace BUT the Jews in all the kingdom were not! Haman's evil plan had to be overturned to save their lives.

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5. What did the king hold out to Esther? (v4)

This meant she would not be put to death (4v11).

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6. What could Esther NOT endure? (v6)
7. Why were the letters sealed with the king's ring? (v8)
8. Where were the letters sent? (v9) *Find these places on a map*
9. How were the letters sent out? (v10)

No post vans then! Men rode as fast as they could on horses, etc. to deliver the letters.

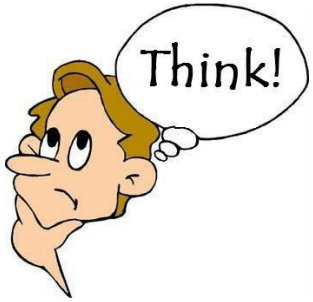
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10. What were the Jews to do? (v11)
11. When? (v12)
12. Where was the decree given from? (v14) *Find it on a map*



Answers

1) Haman's house; 2) Mordecai; 3) His ring; 4) To undo Haman's evil plan so that the Jews would not be killed; 5) His golden sceptre; 6) The evil that would come to her people or the destruction of her kindred; 7) No man could reverse what the king had sealed with his ring; 8) To the 127 provinces from India to Ethiopia; 9) Riders on horses, mules, camels and dromedaries; 10) Stand for their lives, destroy, kill all who would assault them and plunder their goods; 11) On 13th day of 12th month; 12) Shushan palace



Haman reminds me of the devil. He wanted to destroy the Jews. The devil wants to destroy us.

Esther could not bear to see her people destroyed. So, she pleaded with the king to spare their lives.

Do you care enough for your family and friends that you will pray for them? God can save and protect them too!

"For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?" (Esther 8v6)



Did you know?

Esther 8v9 is the longest verse in the Bible.



Thursday

Jews' enemies killed

Bible Reading: Esther 8v15-17; 9v1-11

1. How was Mordecai dressed? (8v15)
2. How did the people in Shushan feel? (v16) *Find it on a map*
3. What did the Jews have? (v16-17)
4. Why did many people become Jews? (v17)
5. Who were the Jews to destroy? (9v2)
6. Why could nobody withstand the Jews? (v2)
7. Who helped the Jews? (v3)
8. Why? (v3)
9. What became of Mordecai? (v4)
10. How many were slain in Shushan palace? (v6)
11. Who else did they kill? (v10)
12. What did they NOT take? (v10)
13. What was brought to the king? (v11)

"They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen themselves." (Psalm 57v6)

Answers

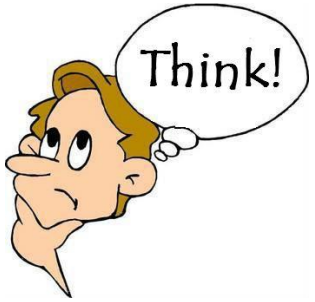
1) Blue and white royal apparel, crown of gold, purple fine linen garment; 2) Rejoiced and were glad; 3) Light, gladness, joy, honour, a feast and a good day; 4) The fear of the Jews; 5) Those that sought to hurt them; 6) For fear of them; 7) Rulers of provinces, lieutenants, deputies and officers of the king; 8) For fear of Mordecai; 9) His fame went out to all the provinces and he became greater and greater; 10) 500 men; 11) The 10 sons of Haman; 12) The spoil; 13) The number of those killed in Shushan palace

MEANINGS:

Execution = carried out the law;

Contrary = opposite;

Waxed greater = became more powerful



God had given them the victory over their enemies. Therefore there was great rejoicing. Christ gives us victory over sin and Satan. We should be rejoicing every day!

"For the Lord will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance." (Psalm 94v14)

Friday

Jews destroy their enemies in Shushan

Bible Reading: Esther 9v12-22

1. Who could ask the king for more? (v12)
2. What did she ask for? (v13)
3. What did the king command? (v14)
4. How many were slain in Shushan on the 14th day? (v15)
5. How many were slain in the provinces? (v16)
6. What did they NOT take? (v15-16)
7. What did they do on the 14th and 15th days? (v17-18)
8. What did they send to one another? (v19)
9. What did Mordecai write that they had to do yearly? (v21)
10. What sort of days were they to be? (v22)

"But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee." (Psalm 5v11)

Answers

1) Esther; 2) To do the same in Shushan the next day; 3) That they could do the same in Shushan the next day and hang Haman's sons; 4) 300 men; 5) 75000; 6) The prey (plunder); 7) Rested and had days of feasting and gladness; 8) Presents; 9) Keep the 14th and 15th days of the month Adar as special holiday; 10) Days of feasting and joy, sending presents to one another and giving to the poor

MEANINGS:

Granted = given;

Prey = goods from plunder;

Slew foes = killed enemies;

Portions = presents;

Stablish = establish



Why hang Haman's sons?

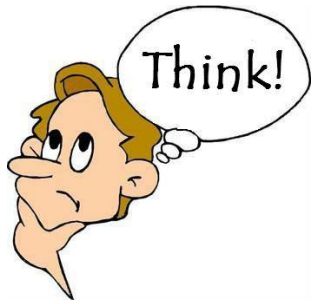
They were already dead (9v6-10). But they were put on the gallows for everyone to see.



Did you know?

Jewish months in the Bible were different than ours today.

Jewish month	New moon of
1. Abib / Nisan	March-April
2. Zif / Iyyar	April-May
3. Sivan	May-June
4. Tammuz	June-July
5. Ab / Av	July-August
6. Elul	August-September
7. Ethanim / Tishri	September-October
8. Bul / Marheshvan / Heshvan	October-November
9. Chisleu / Chislev / Kislev	November-December
10. Tebeth / Tevet	December-January
11. Shebat / Shevat	January-February
12. Adar	February-March



God's people survived the crisis. God brought them through it. He brought them from sorrow to joy. It's easy to lose sight of what God can do when we are in a trial. But remember the LORD will defend His people. So, rejoice in Him.

Saturday

Purim set up

Bible Reading: Esther 9v23-32; 10v1-3

1. What does Pur mean? (9v24)
2. What were these special days called? (v26)
3. What did the Jews plan to do? (v27)
4. Where? (v28)
5. Who wrote to confirm this? (v29)
6. What sort of words did Mordecai write to Jews? (v30)
7. Where was the decree of Esther written? (v32)
8. Who did Ahasuerus tax? (10v1)
9. What was written in the book of Chronicles? (v2)

This was the chronicles of Media and Persia. It is NOT the books of Chronicles in the Bible

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10. How important was Mordecai? (v3)
11. What did he seek? (v3)
12. What did he speak? (v3)

Answers

1) The lot; 2) Purim; 3) They would keep these 2 days every year without fail as a special holiday to remember what happened; 4) In every province and city; 5) Esther and Mordecai; 6) Words of peace and truth; 7) In the book; 8) The land and islands; 9) All the acts of his power and might, and his greatness; 10) He was next to the king; 11) The wealth of his people; 12) Peace

MEANINGS:

Consume = crush, destroy;

Ordained = established, set up as a rule;

Confirm = state to be truth;

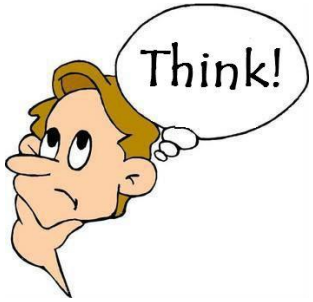
Enjoined = instructed;

Tribute = tax;

Declaration = statement;

Chronicles = book of records





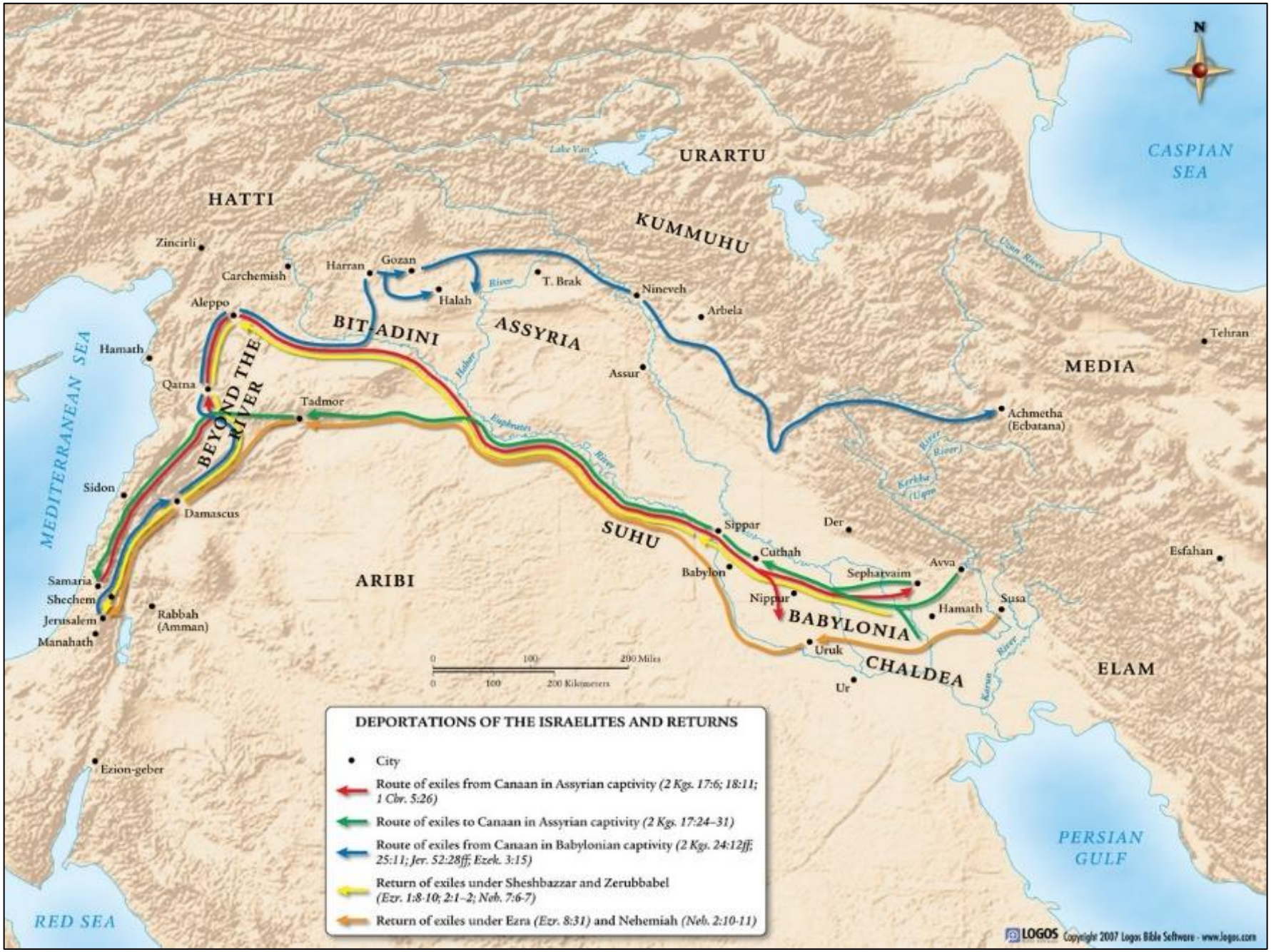
Never forget God rules over all. He works out His plans and no one can stop him. He uses his children as He chooses to fulfil those plans. God always wins no matter who stands against Him!

"For the Lord will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the Lord to make you his people." (1 Samuel 12v22)



Did you know?

The Feast of Purim is still celebrated by the Jews. The book of Esther is read at it.


N
CASPIAN SEA
URARTU
HATTI
KUMMUHU
Lake Van
Zincirli
Carchemish
Harran
Gozan
Halah
T. Brak
Nineveh
Arbela
Aleppo
BIT-ADINI
ASSYRIA
Assur
Tehran
MEDIA
Hamath
Qatna
BEYOND THE RIVER
Tadmor
Euphrates
Achmetha (Ecbatana)
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
Sidon
Damascus
SUHU
Sippar
Der
Cuthah
Babylon
Avva
Esfahan
Sephatvaim
Samaria
Shechem
Jerusalem
Manahath
Rabbah (Amman)
ARIBI
Nippur
Hamath
Susa
BABYLONIA
Uruk
CHALDEA
ELAM
Ur
0 100 200 Miles
0 100 200 Kilometers
DEPORTATIONS OF THE ISRAELITES AND RETURNS
City
Route of exiles from Canaan in Assyrian captivity (2 Kgs. 17:6; 18:11; 1 Chr. 5:26)
Route of exiles to Canaan in Assyrian captivity (2 Kgs. 17:24–31)
Route of exiles from Canaan in Babylonian captivity (2 Kgs. 24:12ff; 25:11; Jer. 52:28ff; Ezek. 3:15)
Return of exiles under Sheshbazzar and Zerubbabel (Ezr. 1:8-10; 2:1–2; Neh. 7:6-7)
Return of exiles under Ezra (Ezr. 8:31) and Nehemiah (Neh. 2:10-11)
Ezion-geber
RED SEA
PERSIAN GULF
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Old English words

Afar	Far away
Ass	Donkey
Aught	Anything at all
Befallen	Happened to
Dealt	Done
Dost, Doest	Do
Draw nigh	Come near
Fetch	Go and get
Gat	Get, got
Hence	From this place
Hereby	By this
Heretofore	Before now
Hindmost	Last
Hither	Here
Hitherto	Up until now
Howbeit	However, nevertheless
Inasmuch	Since
Midst	Middle
Mixt	Mixed
Nigh	Near
Notwithstanding	Nevertheless, in spite of this
Peradventure	Perhaps
Plow	Plough
Straightway	Immediately
Selfsame	That same
Shew	Show
Thereon	On that
Therewith	With that
Thither	To there
Thou	You *(singular)*
Thou art	You are
Thrust out	Cast out
Uttermost	Farthest
Whence	From where
Wherefore	Why
Wherewith	With which
Whilst	While
Whither	To where
Whomsoever	Whoever
Wilt	Will
Wit, wot, wist	Know
Withholden	Held back
Wont to do	In the habit of doing
Wrought	Done, made

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