



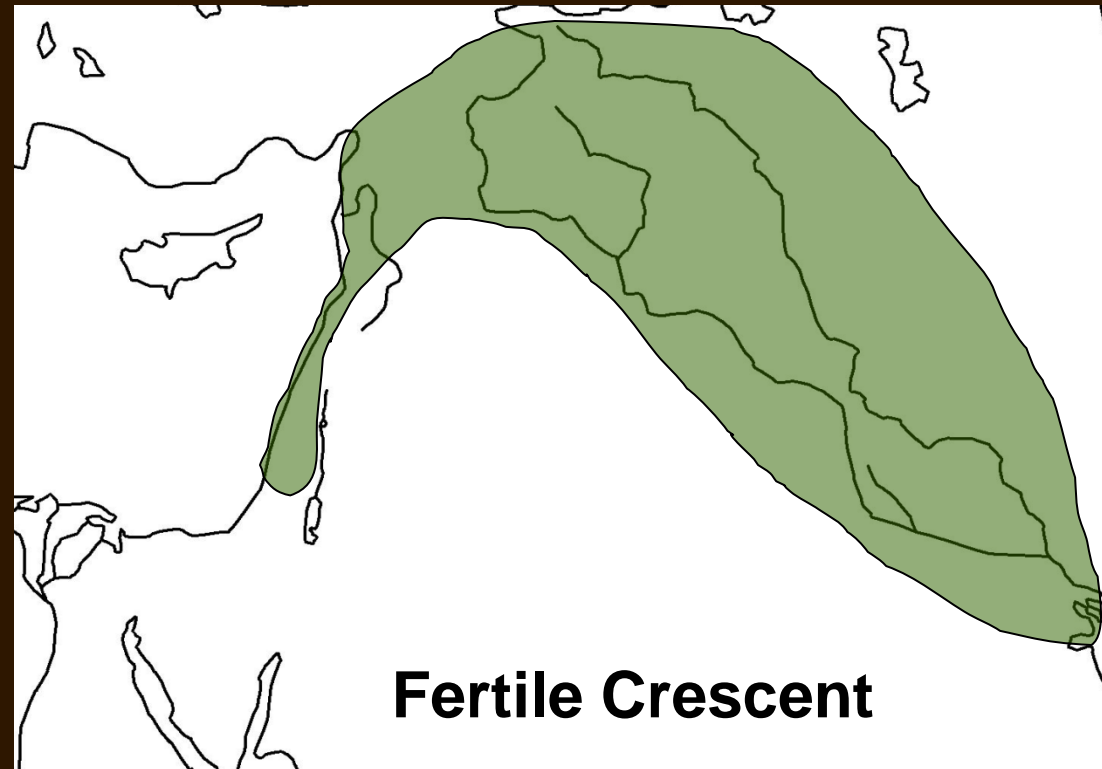
# OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

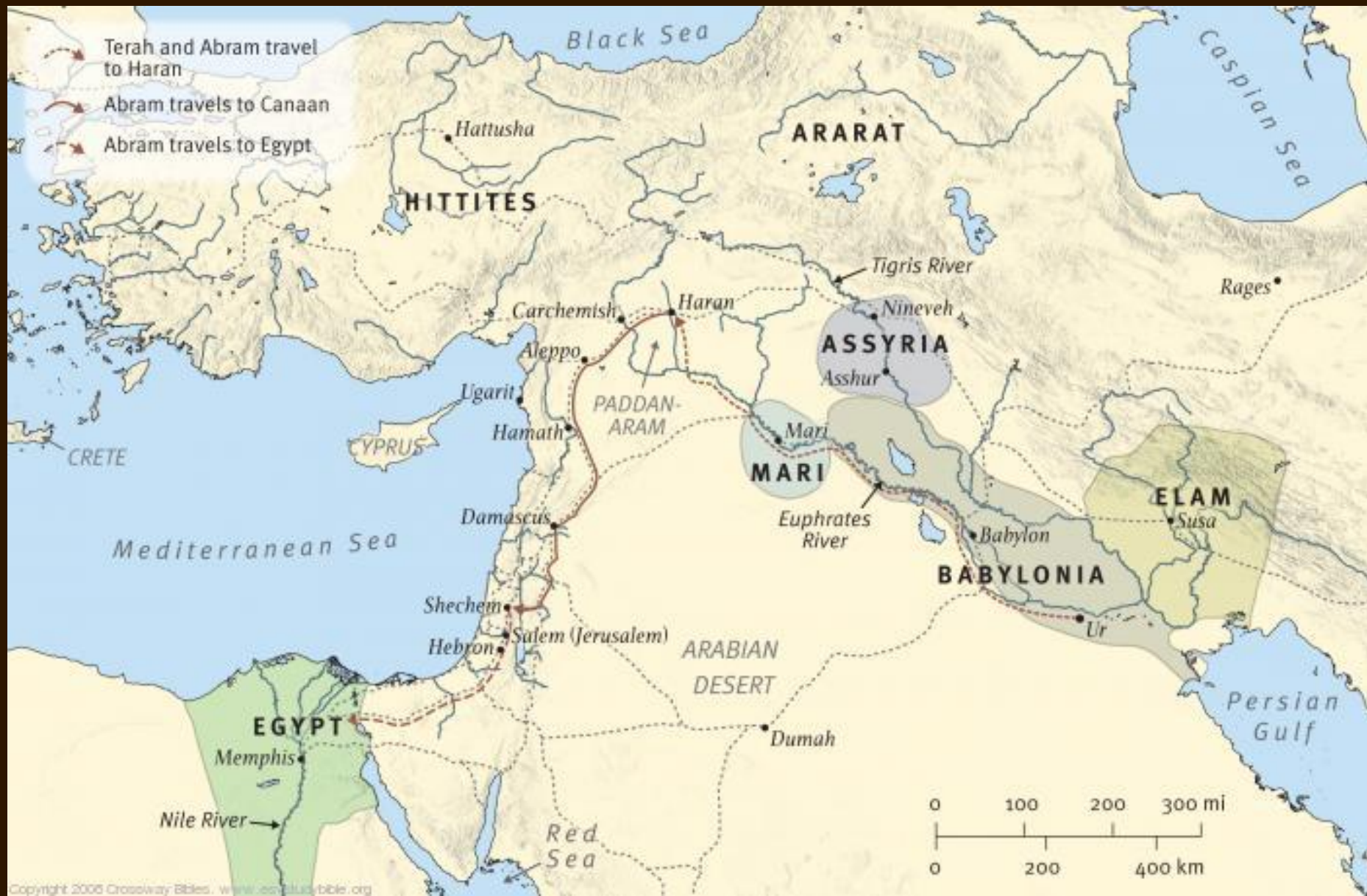
*Sunday Adult Class*  
*9:45 AM*





- Entire Old Testament history takes place in this half-circle of land
  - Plus the land of Egypt
- Equals about 1/3 of the land area of the continental United States

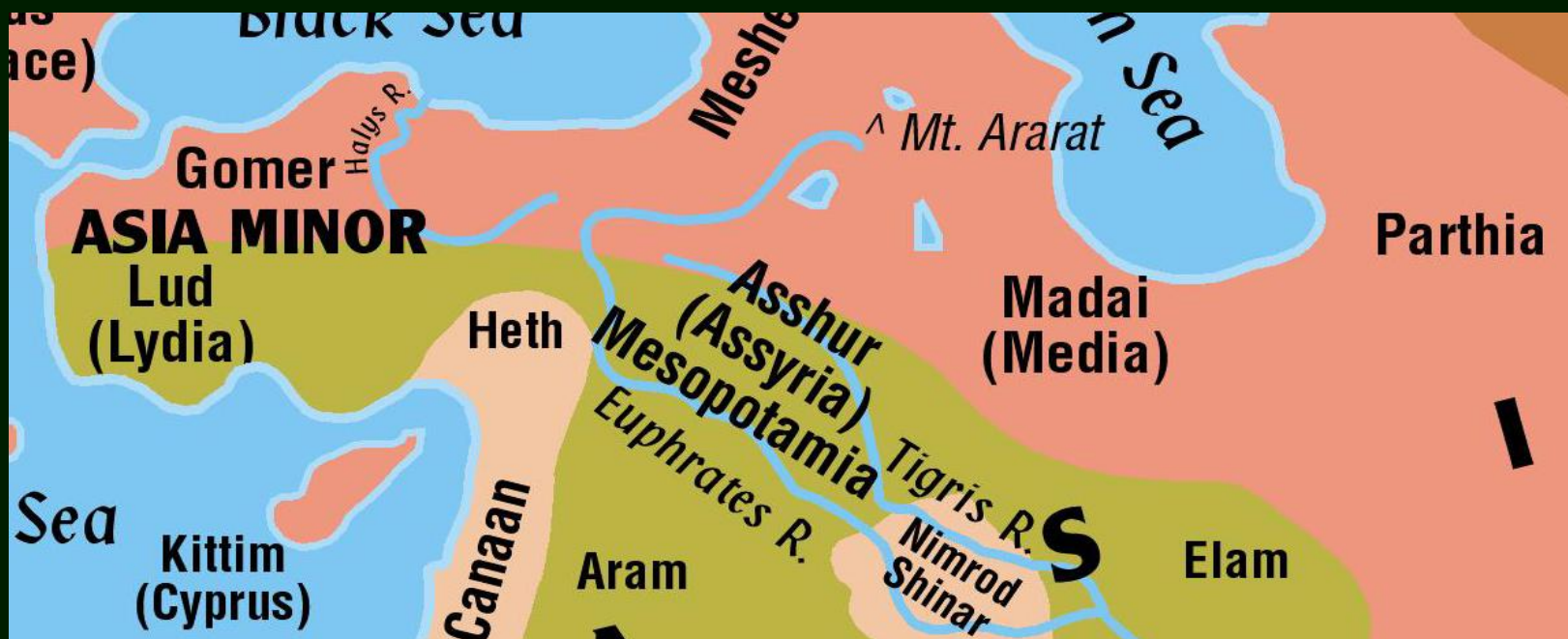




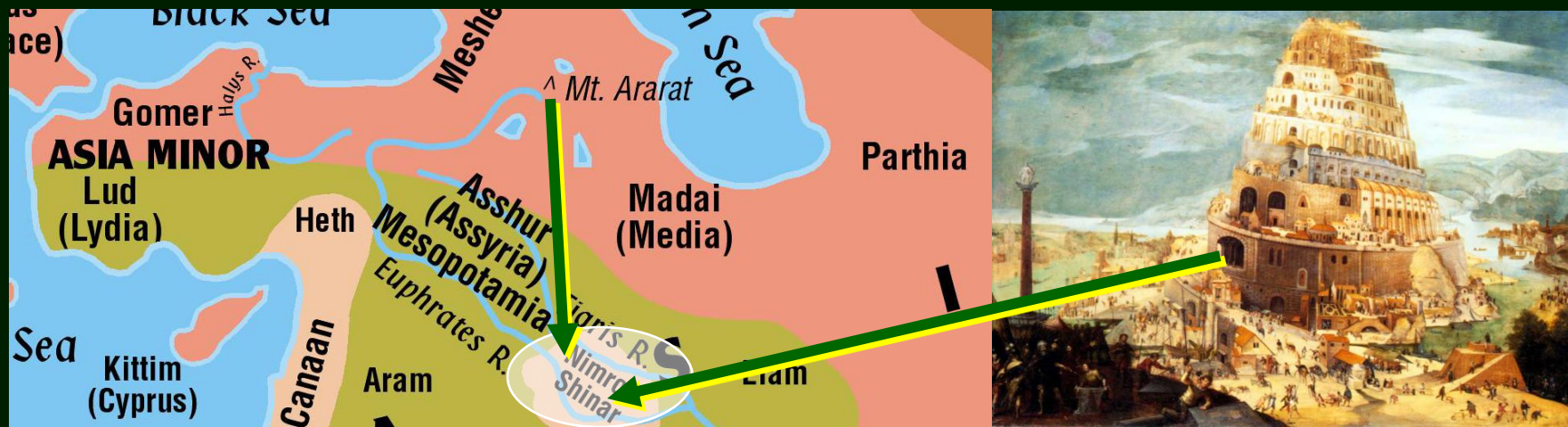


# Noah

- Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Genesis 6:8)
- God offered him and his family a way of escape



# Plain of Shinar



- Mountains of Ararat are high and rugged – the people moved down the slopes to the rich valley between the rivers
- At Shinar they decided to build a city including a tower

# Descendants of Noah

## Noah

### Shem

Assyria  
Elam  
Chaldeans  
Lydia  
Aramaeans  
Arabian Tribes  
Israelites  
Edomites  
Moabites  
Ammonites

## Noah

### Ham

Ethiopians  
Egyptians  
Lybyans  
Canaanites  
Sidon  
Heth (Hittites)  
Jebusites  
Amorites  
Giragasites  
Hivites  
Southern Arabians  
Early Babylonians  
Philistines

## Noah

### Japheth

Javan  
Greece  
Italy  
Spain  
Cyprus  
Medes  
Persians  
Parthians

# Early History of Nations

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- As time passed, the population was no longer divided according to which son of Noah was the ancestor
  - Distinct nations arose which fought against their neighbors and took their territories



# Early History of Nations

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- The terms **Hamitic** (descendants of Ham) and **Semitic** (descendants of Shem) take on new connotations
  - Japheth's descendants moved in directions away from their brethren establishing their own culture and language
  - Most of Ham's descendants moved into Africa and developed their own culture and language

# Early History of Nations

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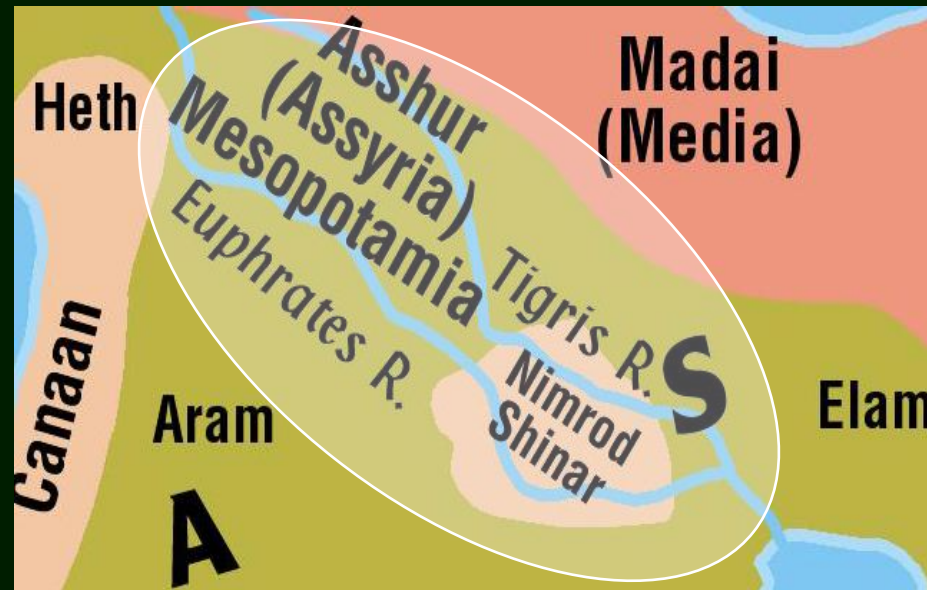
- Notice now – a mixing of peoples between the Zagros Mountains and the Mediterranean Sea
  - As one tribe subdued another and as they lived close together, they absorbed many of the same cultural and language patterns



# A Diverse Group of People

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- Languages were related – now called Semitic in contrast to the Hamitic people of Africa
  - Semitic refers to the common patterns in their languages and life rather than blood lines



# A Diverse Group of People

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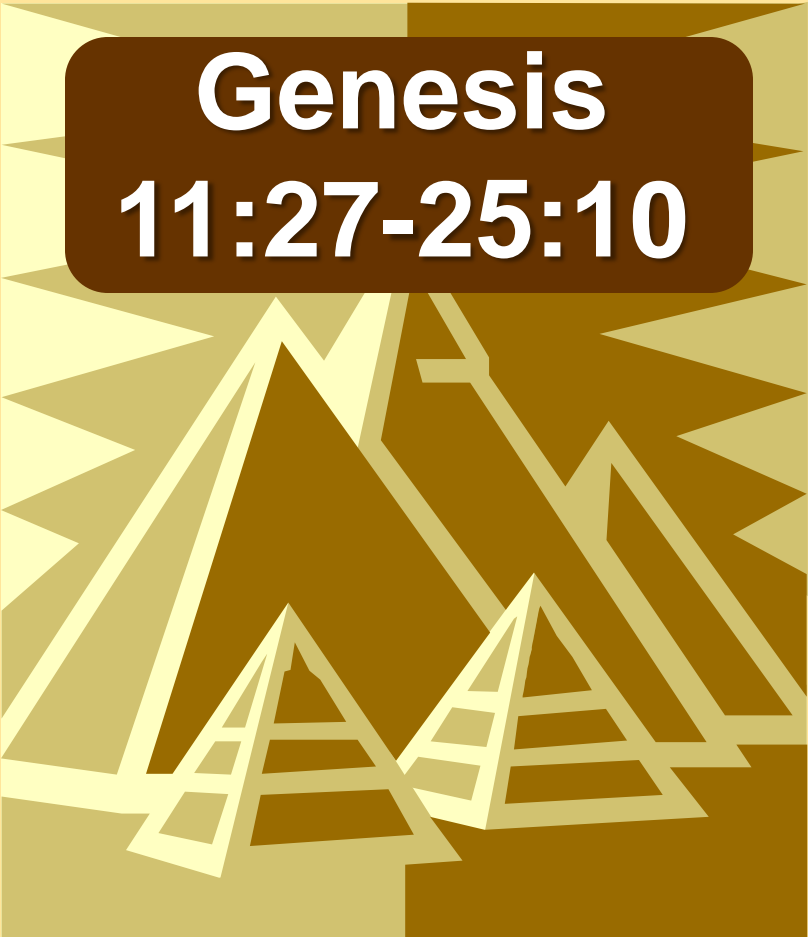
## **The Providence of God:**

We must have faith in the providence of God to believe that He fulfilled His promises. The particular descendants of Ham that God intended to be cursed were cursed!



# Promises To Abraham

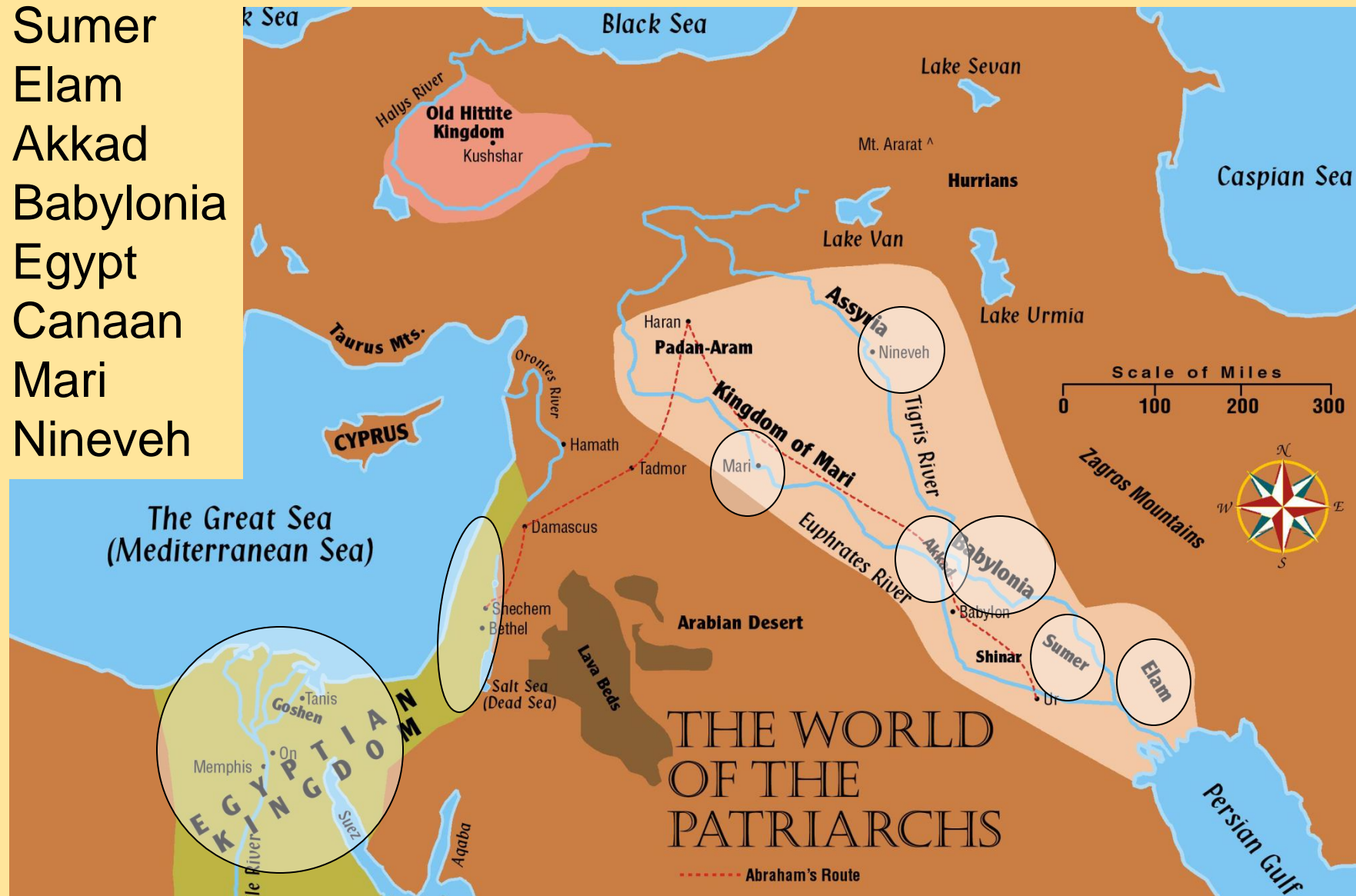
- Many people were in existence by 2,000 B.C.
- Nations had already risen and fallen
- Pyramids had already been built
  - Egypt was being ruled by its twelfth dynasty

An illustration of several pyramids in shades of brown and gold, set against a background of jagged, sunburst-like shapes. A dark brown rounded rectangle is overlaid on the top part of the pyramids, containing white text.

**Genesis**  
**11:27-25:10**

# Note the following places:

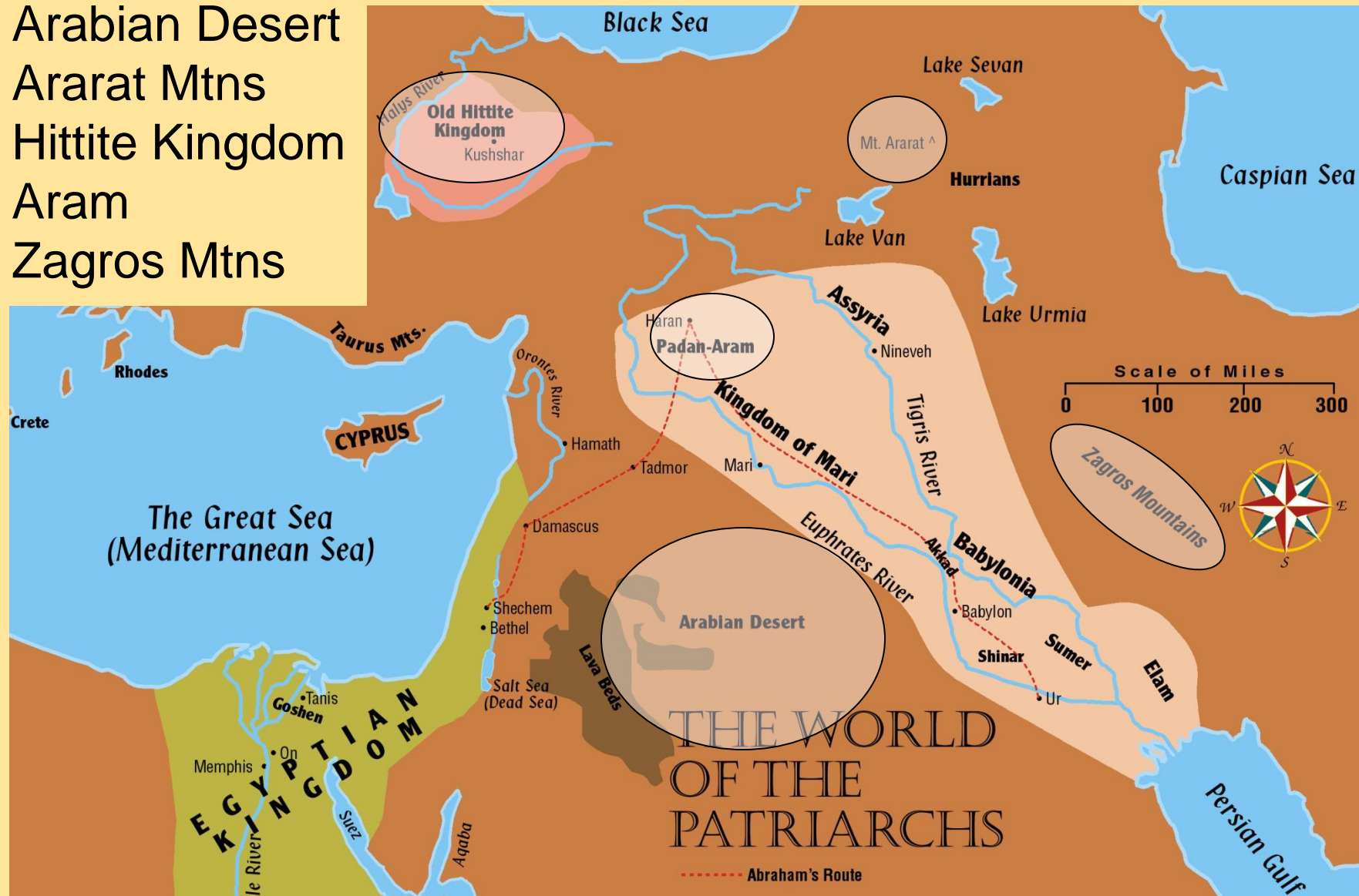
- Sumer
- Elam
- Akkad
- Babylonia
- Egypt
- Canaan
- Mari
- Nineveh





# Note the following places:

Arabian Desert  
Ararat Mtns  
Hittite Kingdom  
Aram  
Zagros Mtns



# Abraham – Called to Serve

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- Since Creation God blessed the righteous and showed disfavor to the wicked
- God chose one man to fulfill His purpose
  - He called Abram, later called Abraham and told him to leave his family and to go to a new land
    - Abraham (Genesis 17:5)
    - Go to a new land (Genesis 12:1)



## Genesis 17:5

5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.





## Genesis 12:1

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a





# Abraham – Called to Serve

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- Ur of the Chaldeans

– A city state of Sumer in the

## Hebrews 11:8-10

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

permanently

# Abraham – Called to Serve

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- Ur of the Chaldeans
  - A city state of Sumer in the Mesopotamia Valley
  - He left his home in obedience to God (Hebrews 11:8-10)
  - Traveled approximately 600 miles until he reached Haran
  - Abraham's brother, Nahor, settled there permanently



# Abraham – Called to Serve

- 1900-2000 years before Christ, God told Abraham to leave Ur
- To go to a land God would show him.



# Abraham – To Canaan

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- Exact route that Abraham took from Haran to Canaan is uncertain
  - Probably traveled the trade routes of the day
  - At Damascus he had at least three choices

# Abraham – To Canaan

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- Probably took the King's Highway on the eastern side of the Jordan River.
- Most logical because his first camping place in the land was at Shechem located in the center of the land
- Most likely he moved south from Damascus until he reached the Jabbok River and then turning west and crossing the Jordan on to Shechem

# Three Promises:

✓ Nation

✓ Land

✓ One who would bless all nations

**Genesis 22:1-18**  
**Hebrews 11:17-19**





# The entire remaining portion of the Bible is the story of the fulfillment of these three promises:

“the nation, the land, and the One who would bless all nations”

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- Land was inhabited by a group of tribes called the Canaanites or the Amorites (Genesis 10:6,15-19)
  - They worshiped the gods of fertility called **Baal** with his female counterpart **Ashtaroth**

# The entire remaining portion of the Bible is the story of the fulfillment of these three promises:

“the nation, the land, and the One who would bless all nations”

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- Abraham’s wealth consisted largely of cattle and sheep
  - Would move up and down the land

# Abraham

- From Shechem, he moved between Bethel and Ai (12:8)
- He then moved farther south camping on the edge of the Negeb (12:9)
- A famine came in the land and Abraham went to Egypt (12:10), then later returned to Bethel

