

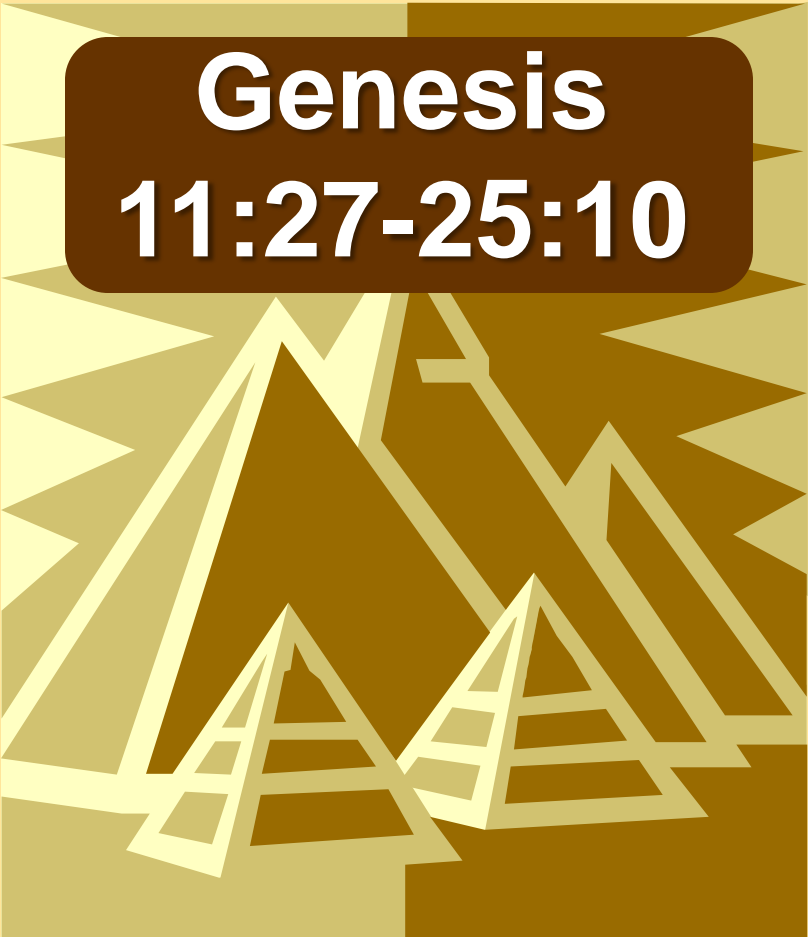


# OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

*Sunday Adult Class*  
*9:45 AM*

# 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 radiating lines. A dark brown rounded rectangle is overlaid on the top of the pyramids, containing white text.

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

# Abraham – Called to Serve

---

- 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)

# Abraham – Called to Serve

---

- 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

---

- 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

---

- 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





# 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”

---

- 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:

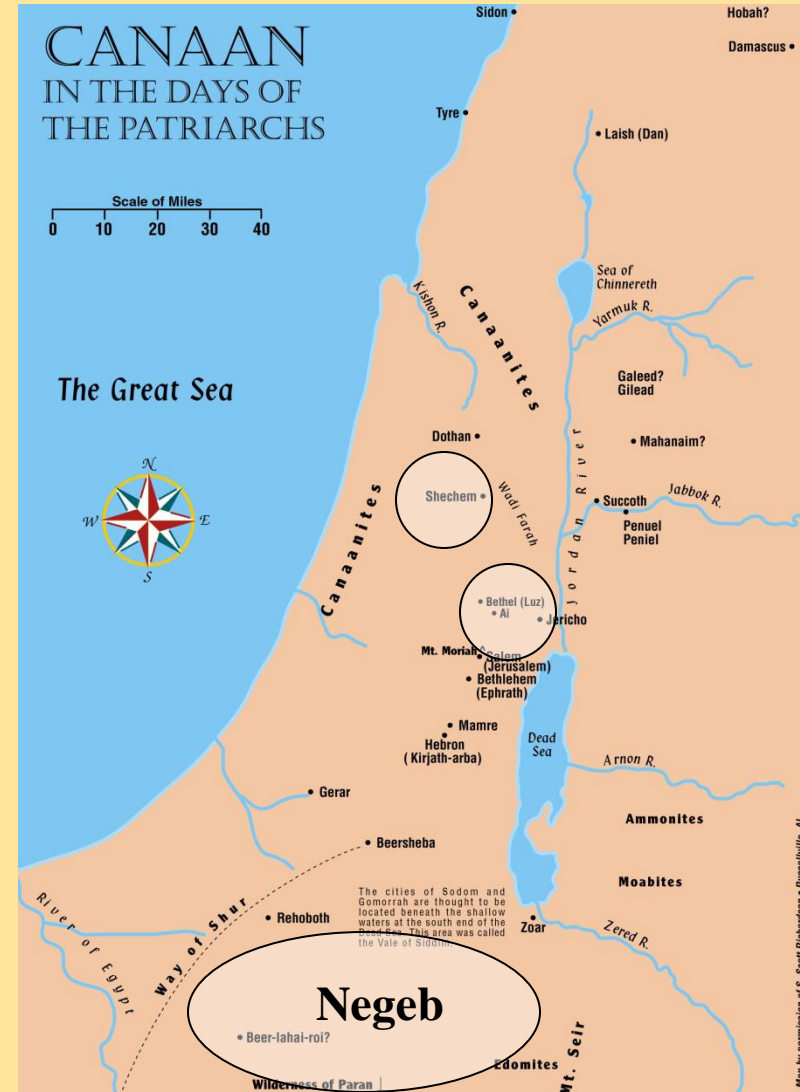
**“the nation, the land, and the One who would bless all nations”**

---

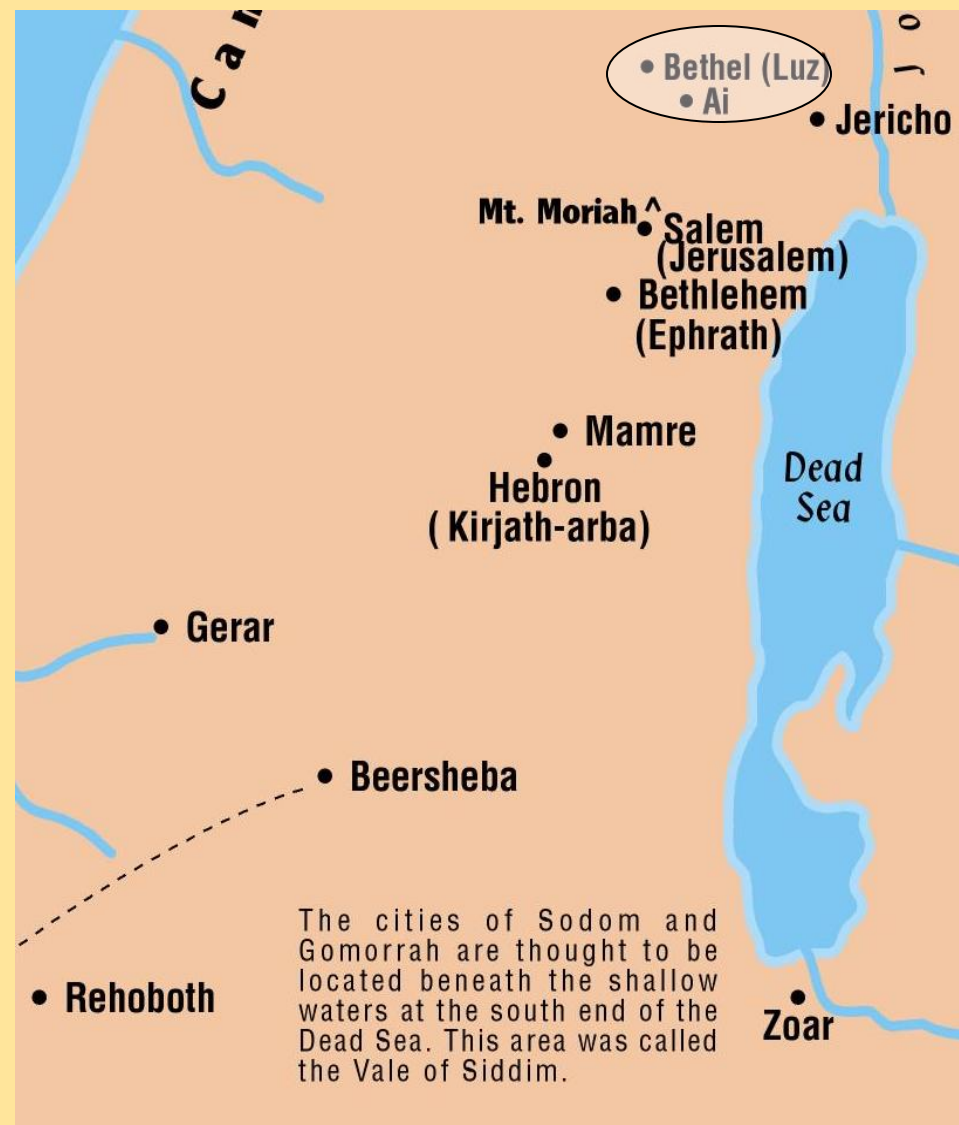
- Abraham’s wealth consisted largely of cattle and sheep
  - Would move up and down the land

# 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

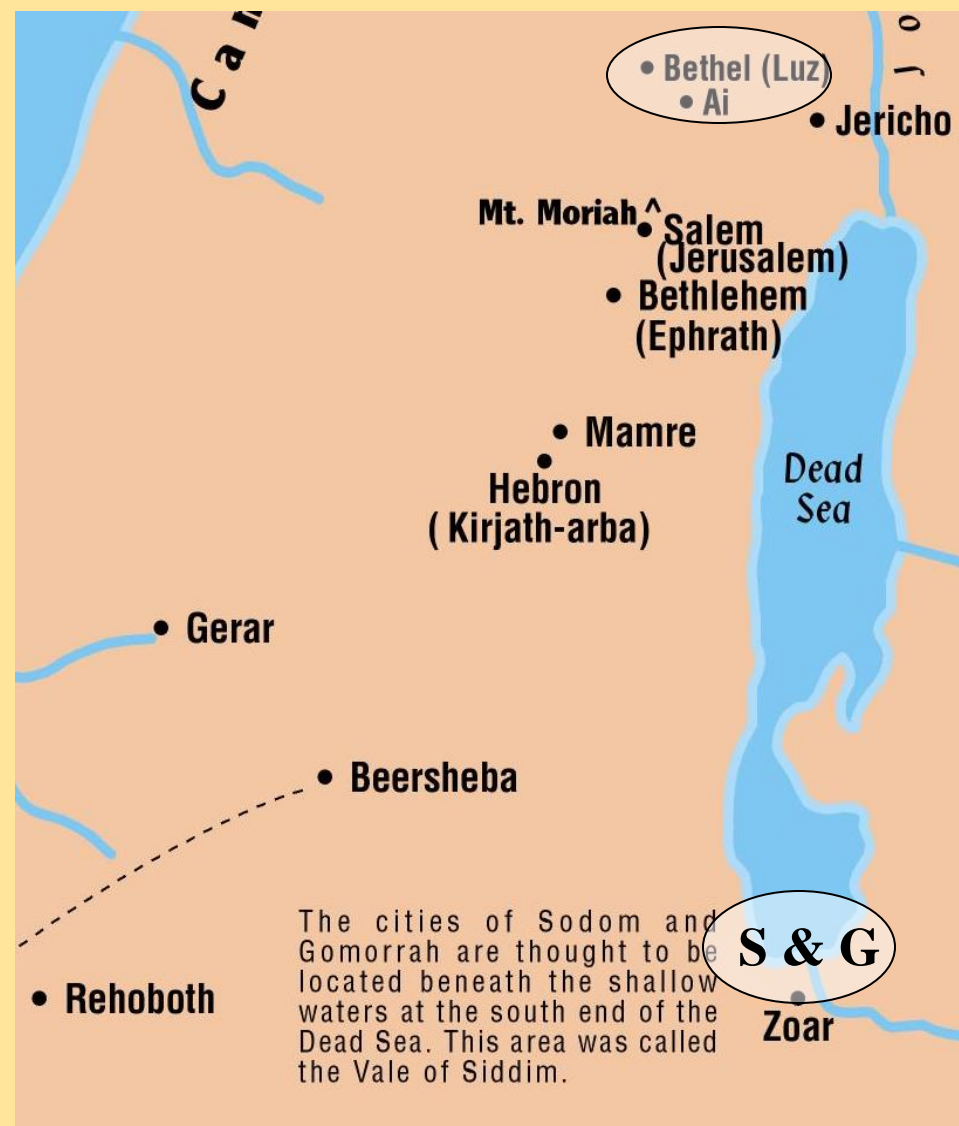


# Abraham and Lot



- Lot traveled with Abraham ever since they left Haran
  - Both were wealthy
  - Servants began to quarrel

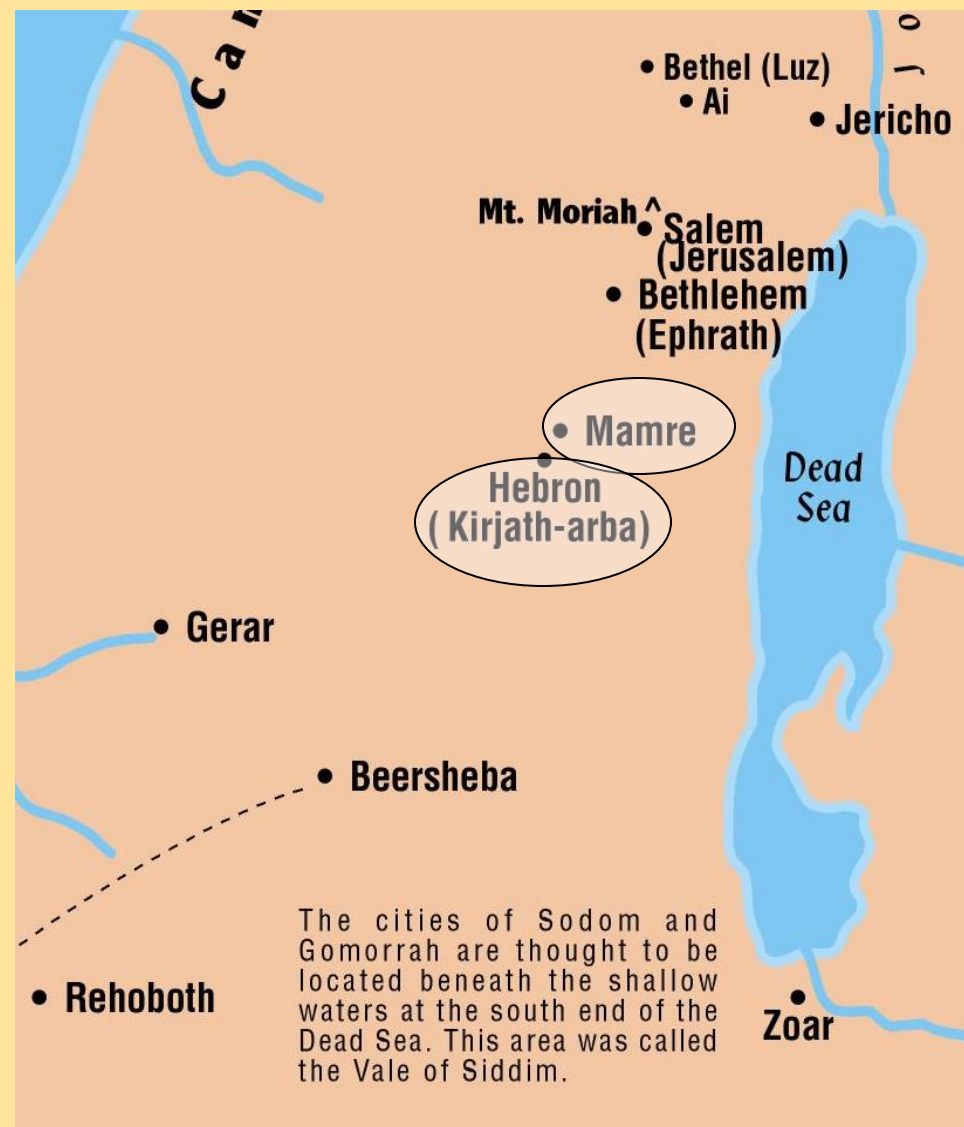
# Abraham and Lot



– Abraham told Lot to choose the direction that he wanted to go

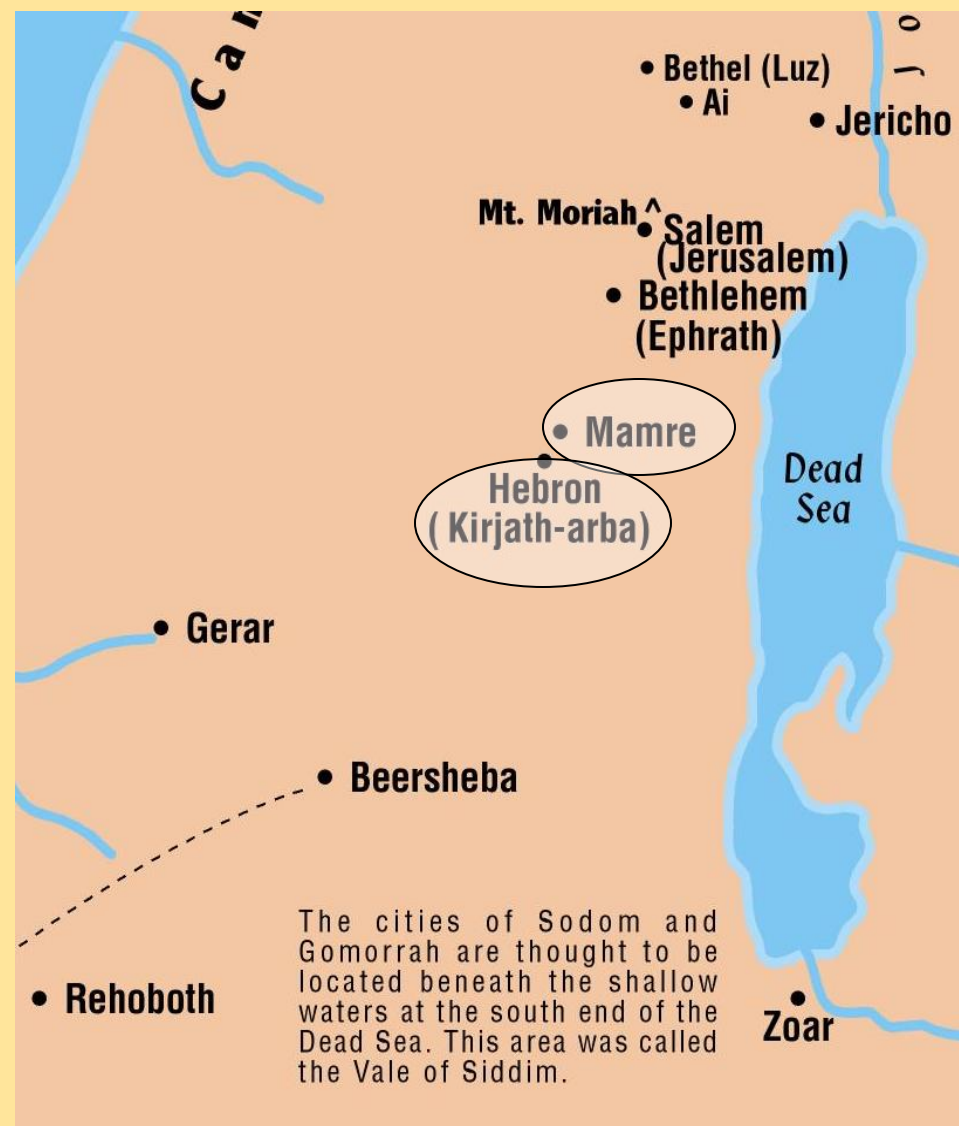
- Chose the well watered valley of the Jordan
- The evil cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were located in the plain that Lot chose and soon he was found living there

# Abraham and Lot



- Abraham moved south to a place called the Oaks of Mamre
  - Abraham is dwelling in tents on a plain named for one of the men living there

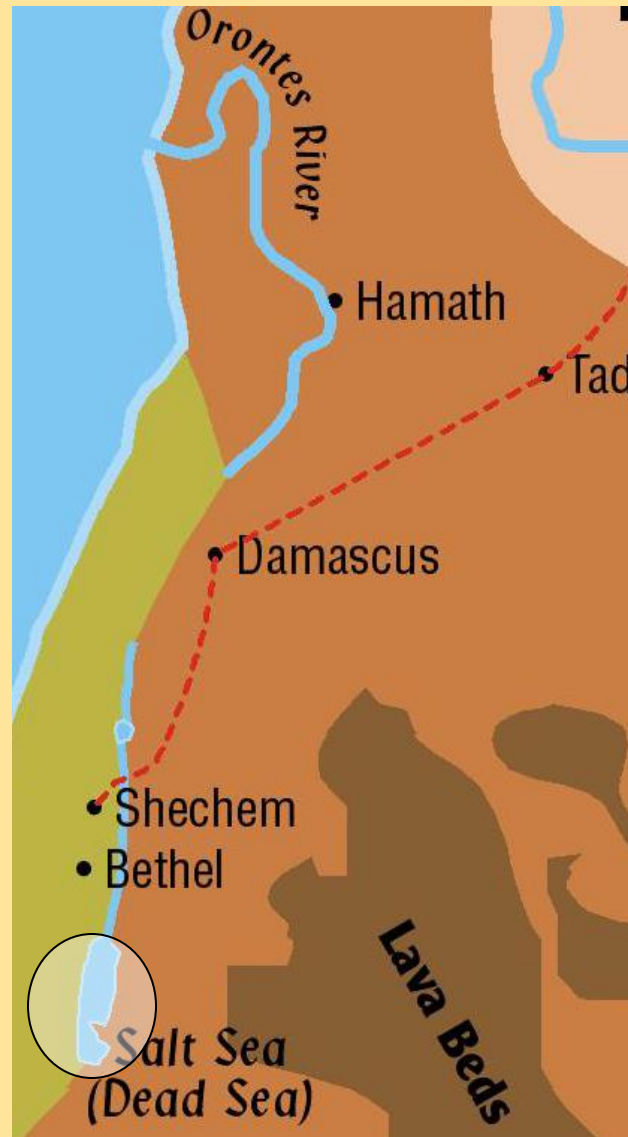
# Abraham and Lot



– On most maps it is known as Hebron

- A town that grew up on that spot over time
- Mamre and Hebron are one and the same place

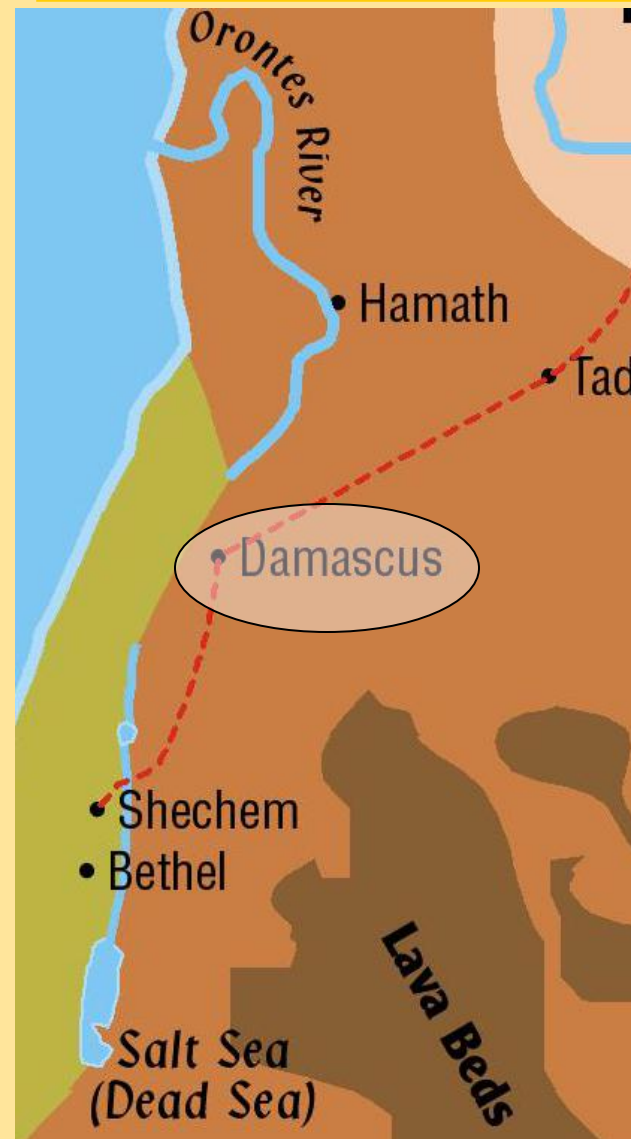
# Abraham and Lot



- Egypt held nominal control over Canaan at this point in history – but played little role
- Four kings oppressed the cities near the Dead Sea (14:1)



# Abraham and Lot



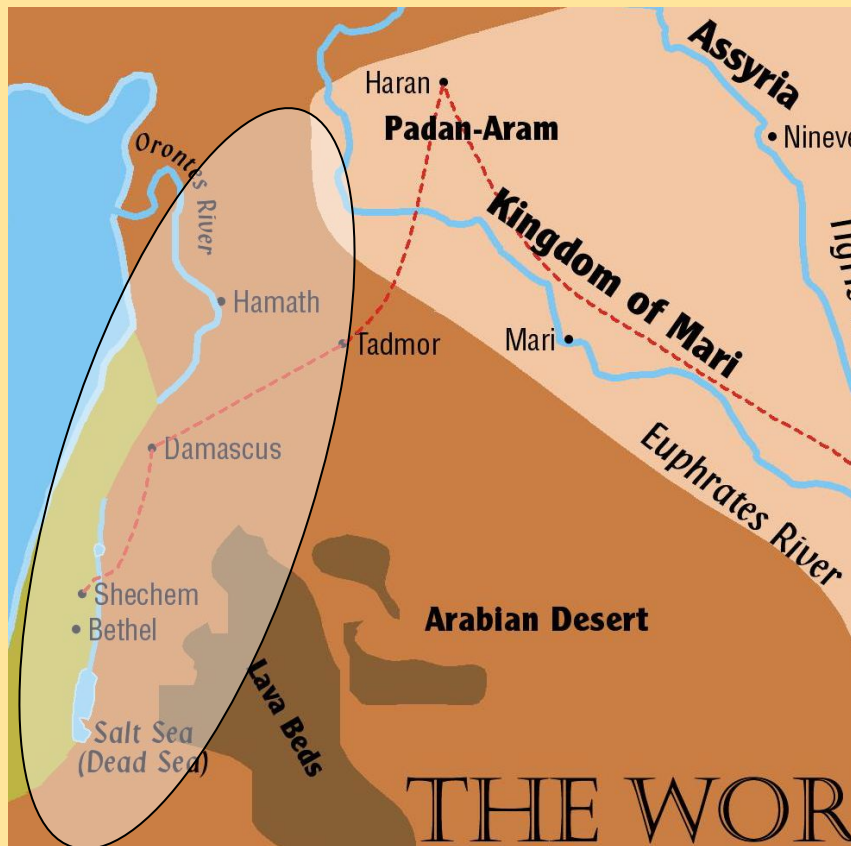
- Battle in the Valley of Siddim at the southern edge of the Dead Sea
- Took people of Sodom and Gomorrah captive
  - Abraham and his confederates pursued the army to Dan and chased them to Hobah north of Damascus

# Abraham



- Melchizedek, king of Salem met Abraham on his return from battle
  - Later called “U-ru-salem” meaning “a city of Salem” or “a city of peace”
  - Later known as Jerusalem

# Abraham



- God made His promises to Abraham in the form of a covenant (Genesis 15)
  - His descendants – all the land from River of Egypt to the Euphrates River

# Abraham, Ishmael and Lot

---

- Ishmael was born to Abraham through his concubine Hagar – Abraham was told God would bless Ishmael
  - However, he was not the son through whom the promises would be fulfilled
  - Abram's name was changed to Abraham (Genesis 17:5)

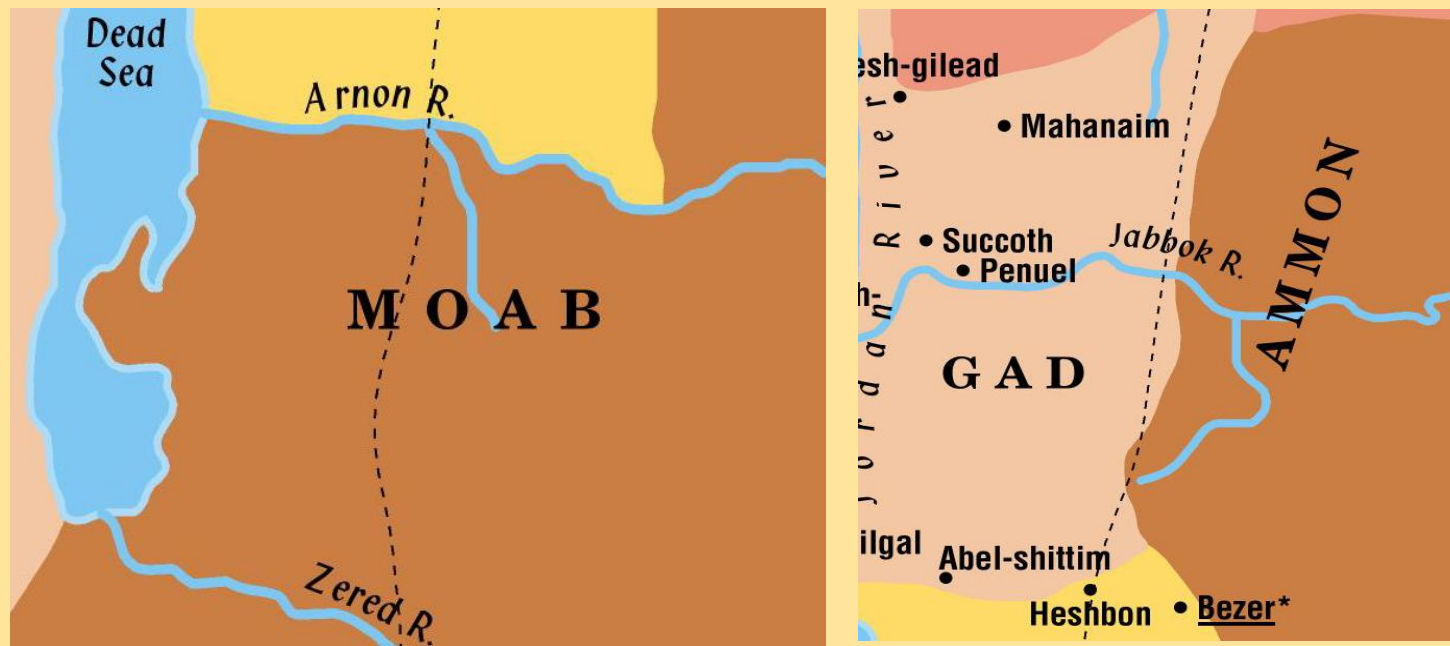
# Abraham, Ishmael and Lot

---

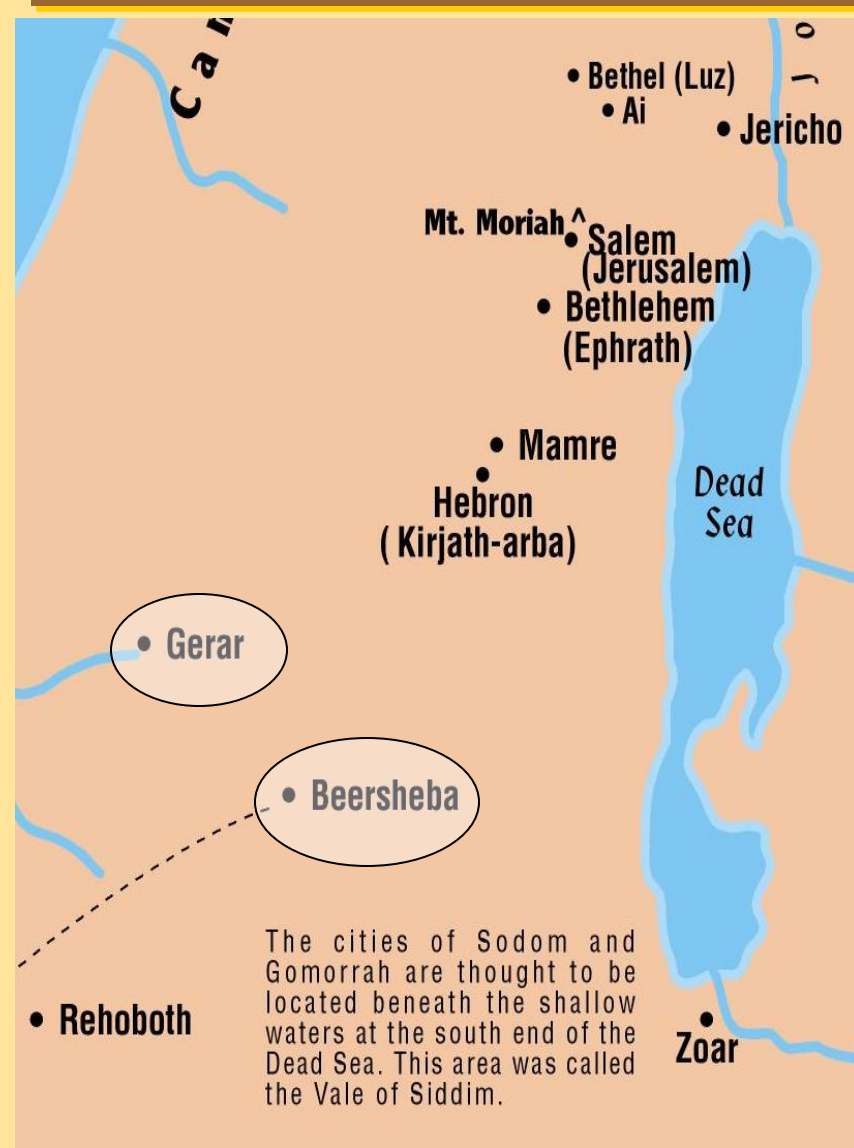
- Angels visited Abraham by the Oaks of Mamre and he treated them well – they told him that he and Sarah would have a child
- The angels traveled to Sodom and Gomorrah on a mission to destroy it because of wickedness
  - Lot, who was living there fled to the nearby city of Zoar with his two daughters

# Lot

- Lot's two daughters committed incest with their father and each had a son by him (Moab and Ammon)
  - One became the father of the **Moabites** and the other became the father of the **Ammonites**



# Abraham



- Abraham moves south to the city of Gerar
  - Isaac was born
- Abraham later moves to a place called Beersheba
  - Years later Beersheba would be known as the place that marked the southern boundary of Palestine

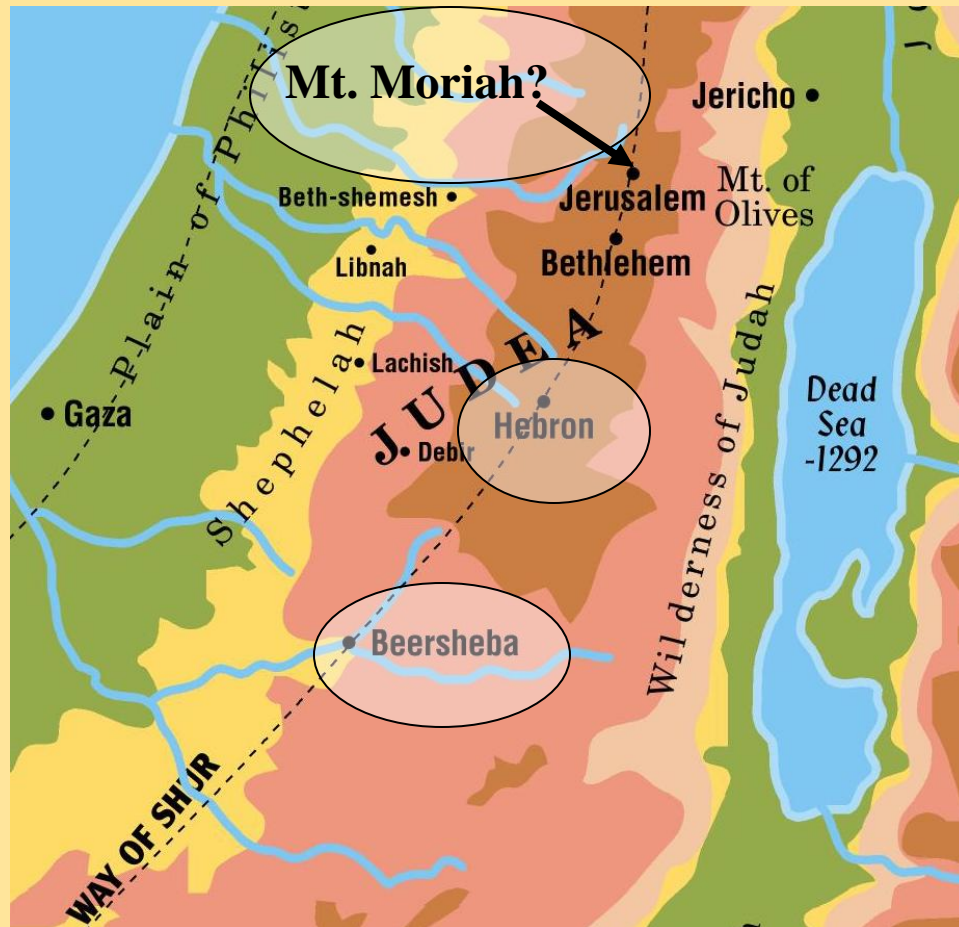
# Abraham and Isaac



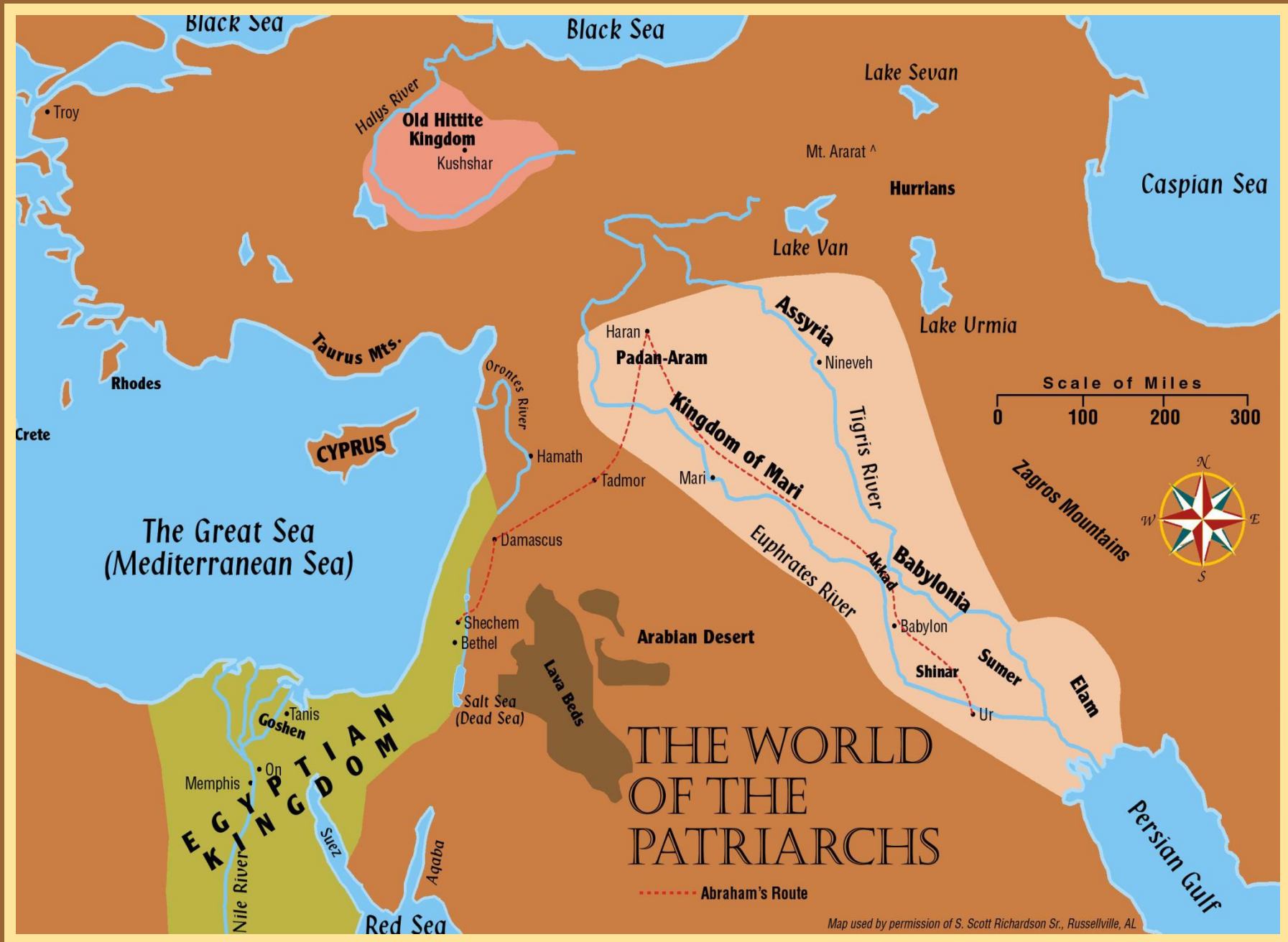
- God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac
  - Went to the region of Moriah (22:2)
    - Exact location of Moriah is unknown but is thought to be the mount where the temple was built many years later (2 Chron 3:1)



# Abraham and Isaac



- Angel of the Lord stopped Abraham before he killed him
- Returned to Beersheba and then to Hebron



**EGYPTIAN KINGDOM**

**THE WORLD OF THE PATRIARCHS**

Abraham's Route

Map used by permission of S. Scott Richardson Sr., Russellville, AL

# Conclusion

---

- The Cave of Machpelah
  - Abraham, Isaac, Rebekah, Leah, and Jacob would all be buried in this same cave with Sarah
- Abraham arranged for Isaac to take a wife from the region of Mesopotamia – not the daughters of the Canaanites
  - Rebekah came and found Isaac living in the Negeb (24:62)

# Conclusion

---

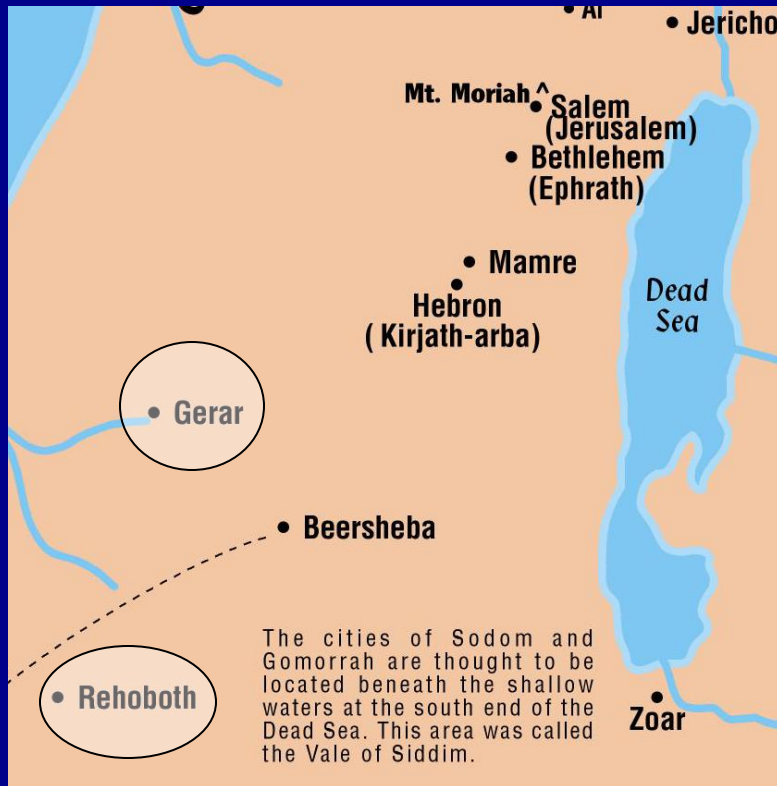
- At some point in history, Abraham had six other sons by a concubine named Keturah
  - Their descendants joined forces with the Ishmaelites
  - The names Midianites and Ishmaelites are used interchangeably on different occasions (37:25, 28, 36)

# Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph

Lesson 11  
Genesis 25:11-50:26



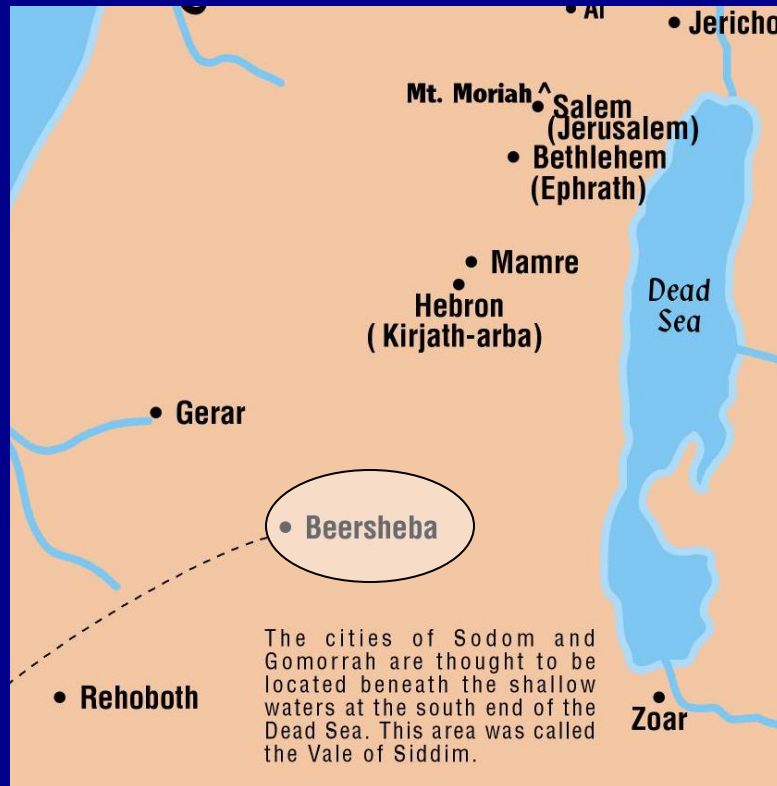
# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph



- Isaac moved west to Gerar because of a famine
  - Told not to go to Egypt
  - He continued to prosper
- Later moved to Rehoboth because the men of Gerar grew jealous of him

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- At Beersheba, Abimelech comes and makes a treaty with Isaac
  - He also made a treaty with Abraham some years earlier



# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- Isaac had twin sons named Jacob and Esau
  - Esau became a hunter
  - Jacob cared for the flocks
  - Esau married women of the land who were a grief to Isaac and Rebekah

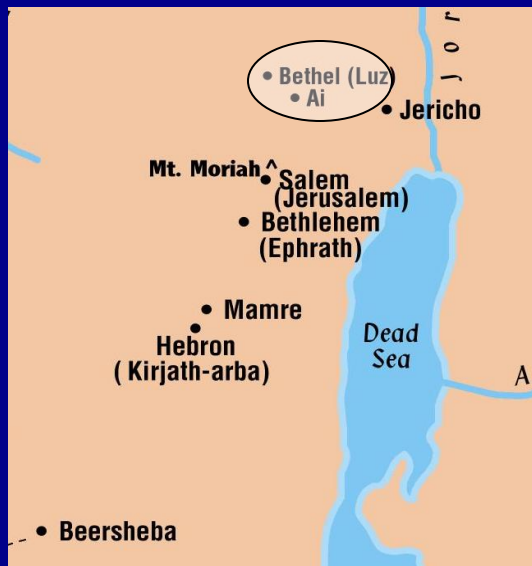
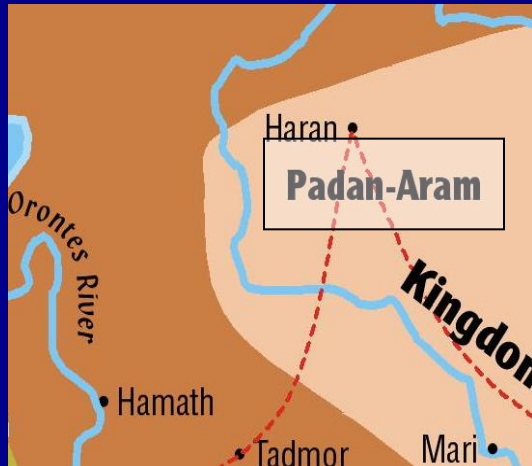


# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

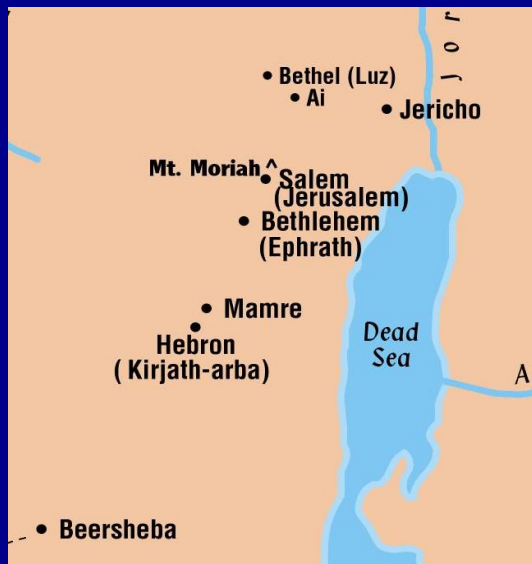
- Esau was described as a “profane man” (Hebrews 12:13-16)
- Esau did not put emphasis on important matters (his birthright)
- Jacob deceived his brother and his blind father and received the blessing of prosperity usually passed from the father to the eldest son
- Esau threatened to kill his brother Jacob

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph



- Rebekah helped Jacob escape to Padan-Aram (28:2), her brother Laban's home
- Jacob spent the first night in a village named Luz (renamed Bethel by Jacob)
  - God repeated the promises that He first made to Abraham and then Isaac

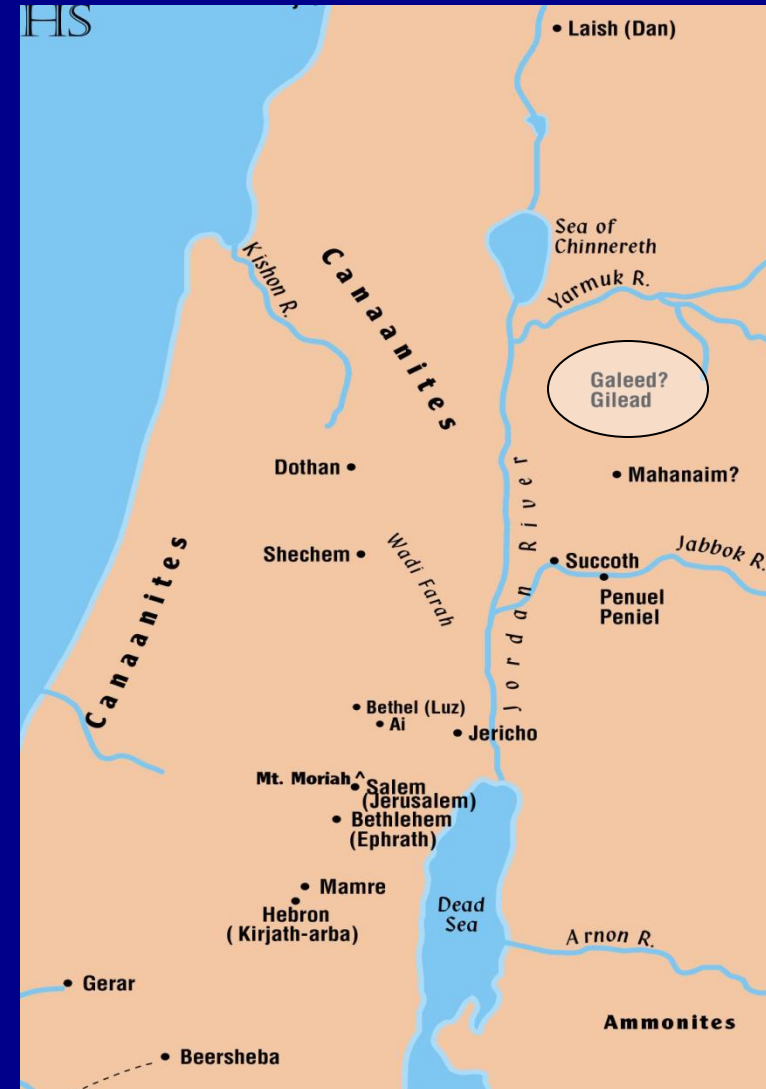
# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph



- Jacob worked 20 years for his uncle Laban
  - He left with four wives, eleven sons, one daughter, a host of servants, flocks, herds, and other possessions

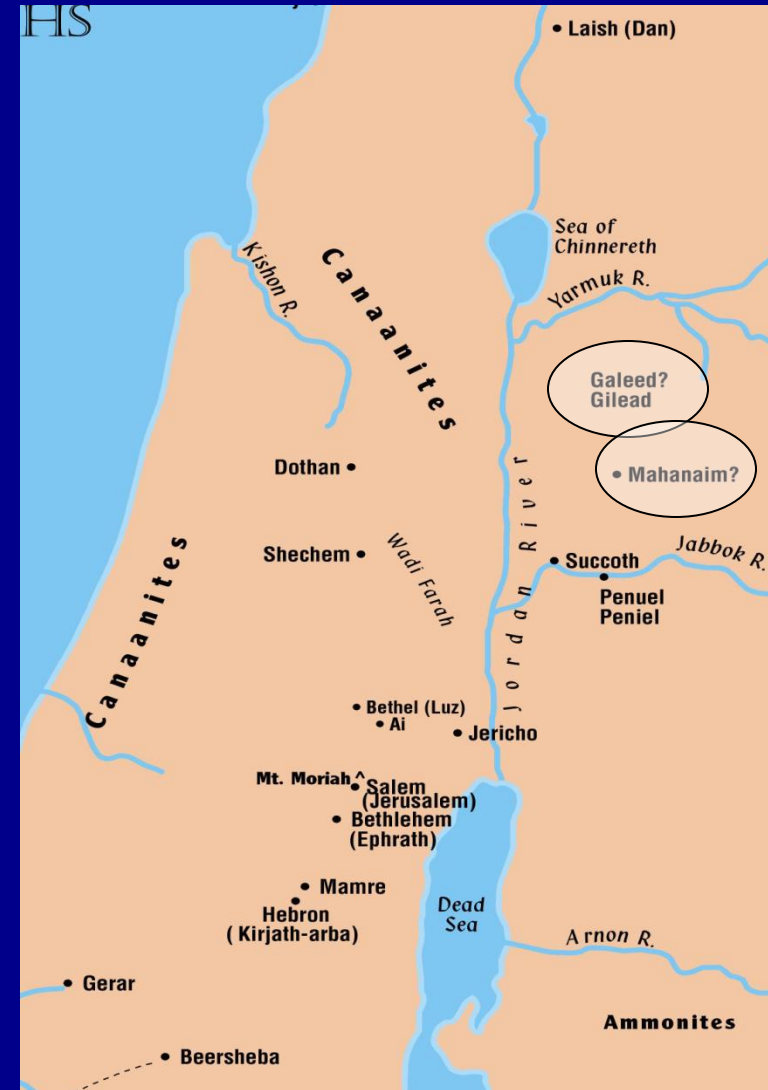
# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- Jacob left secretly and Laban caught up with him on the plateau east of the Jordan river
  - Laban was instructed by God not to harm Jacob



# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- After an exchange of words, they made a covenant of peace
- Jacob named the region Galeed
  - Will now be referred to as Gilead
- Jacob continues his journey toward Jordan and the angels of God met him at Mahanaim



# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- Jacob was concerned that Esau would still want to kill him
  - Esau moved north from Edom (home of the Edomites)
  - Angel of God wrestles with Jacob the night before the brothers meet
  - Jacob's name is changed to Israel



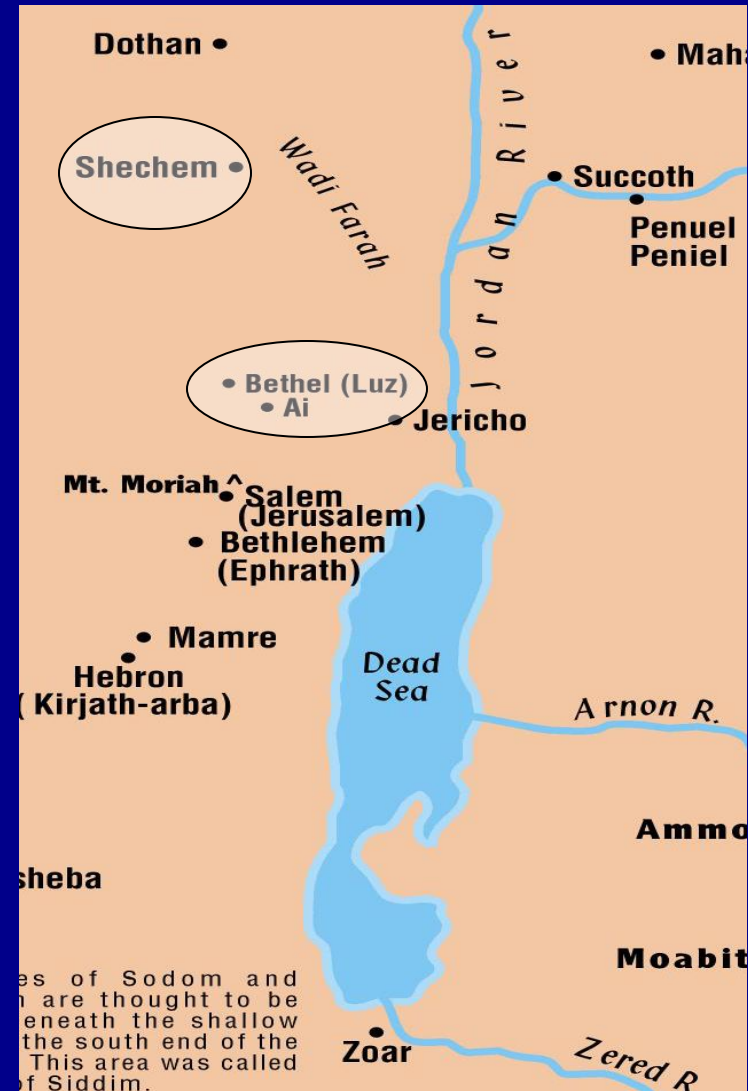
# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- Esau meets Jacob with 400 men but the brothers parted in peace
  - Esau to Seir
  - Jacob toward the Jordan
- Jacob settles for awhile in a city called Succoth (33:17)
- Later he crosses the Jordan and buys land at Shechem



# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

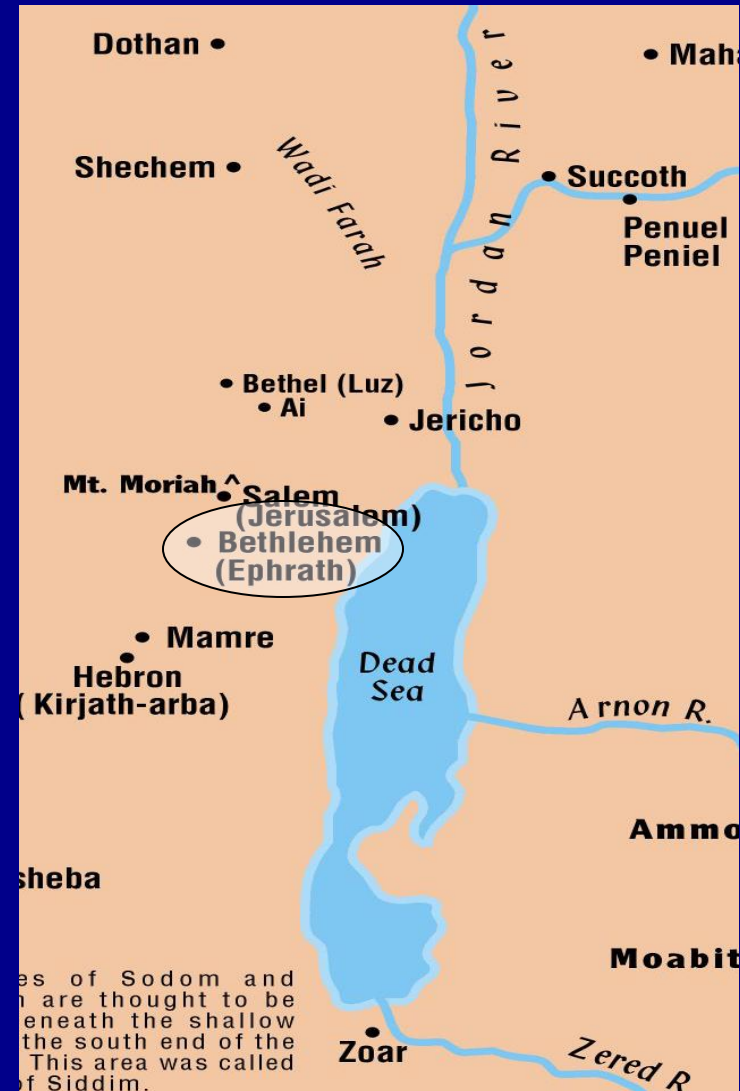
- At Shechem, Jacob's daughter, Dinah was mistreated by a man named Shechem
  - Two sons took revenge and destroyed the men of the village
- Jacob then moves his family to Bethel





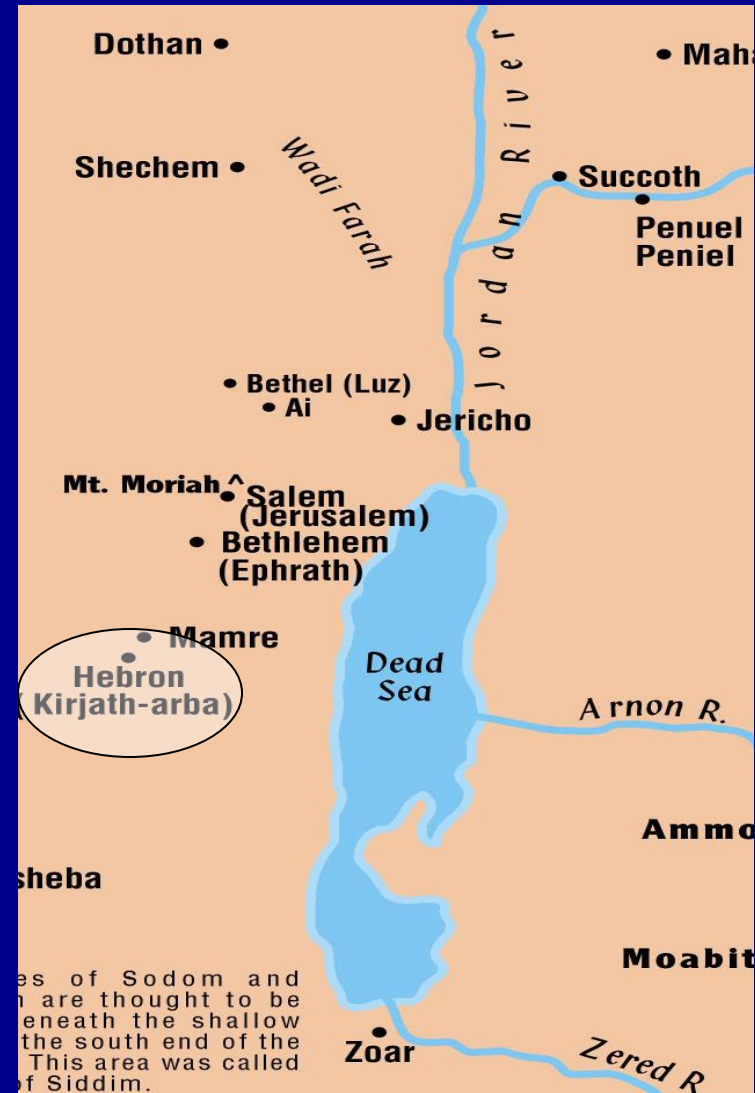
# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- After leaving Bethel, heading south, his wife Rachel died giving birth to Benjamin
  - She was buried in a place that would later become Bethlehem (Ephrath)



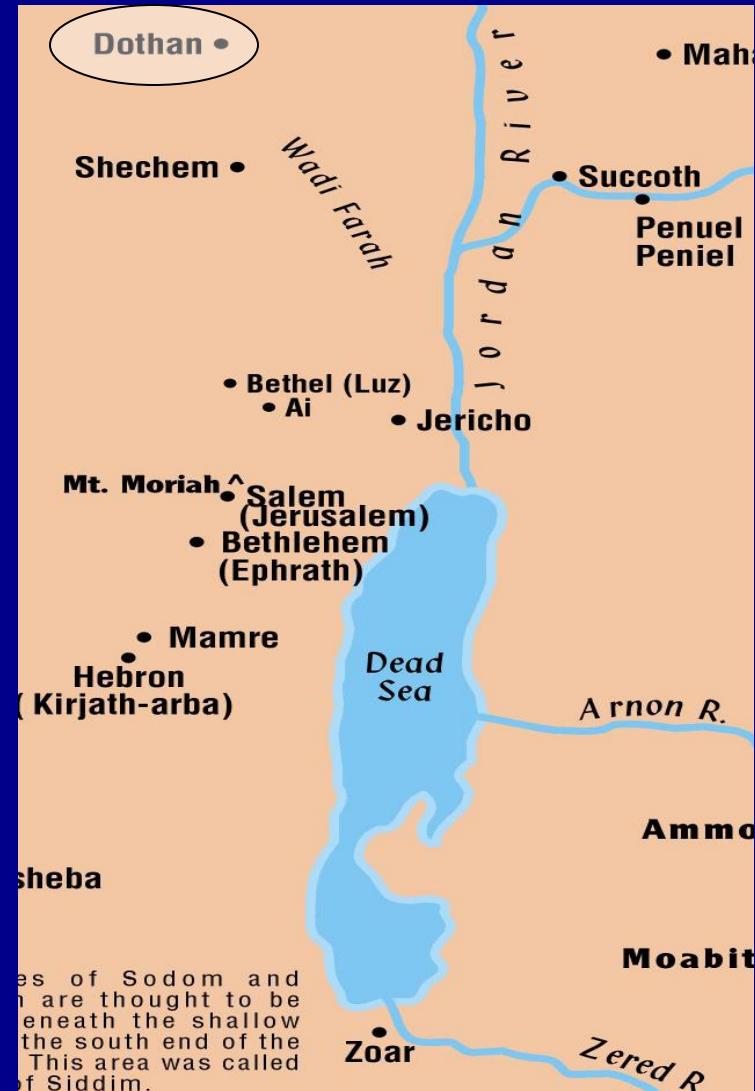
# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- Jacob joins his father Isaac at Hebron
- Jacob's favorite child was the next to the youngest (Joseph)
  - Oldest son of Rachel
  - Very righteous man



# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- Jacob sent his sons northward to graze their flock
  - On one occasion, Joseph was sent to check on them thinking he'd find them at Shechem but he found them at Dothan



# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- The brothers were so jealous that they talked about killing Joseph
  - Reuben persuaded them not to kill Joseph
  - They threw him into a pit and then at the suggestion of Judah, they took him out and sold him to the band of Ishmaelite-Midianite merchants on their way to Egypt

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- The brothers then deceived Jacob, making him think that his son had been killed by an animal
- The merchants then sold Joseph as a slave to a man named Potiphar

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- Joseph was a faithful man and was able to interpret dreams
  - He gained favor with Potiphar and was put in charge of Egypt, second only to the Pharaoh
- A famine brought his brothers to Egypt unknowing that it was Joseph that they stood before

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- 22 years had passed since they last saw each other
- Joseph eventually told them who he was and asked them to bring his father and all their families into Egypt
- Jacob led his family on a 200 mile trip to Egypt
  - At Beersheba he stopped and offered sacrifices to God

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

- A fertile section of land on the Nile Delta called Goshen was given to Joseph's family





# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- Jacob lived and prospered 17 years before his death
- Joseph received permission to carry his father's body back to the land of Canaan

# Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

---

- Joseph lived 66 years after the famine ended
  - When Joseph died, the Israelites could not ask permission to take him home to Canaan to bury him because they were now being oppressed under a different ruler
  - Joseph's body had to wait to be carried when Moses delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt