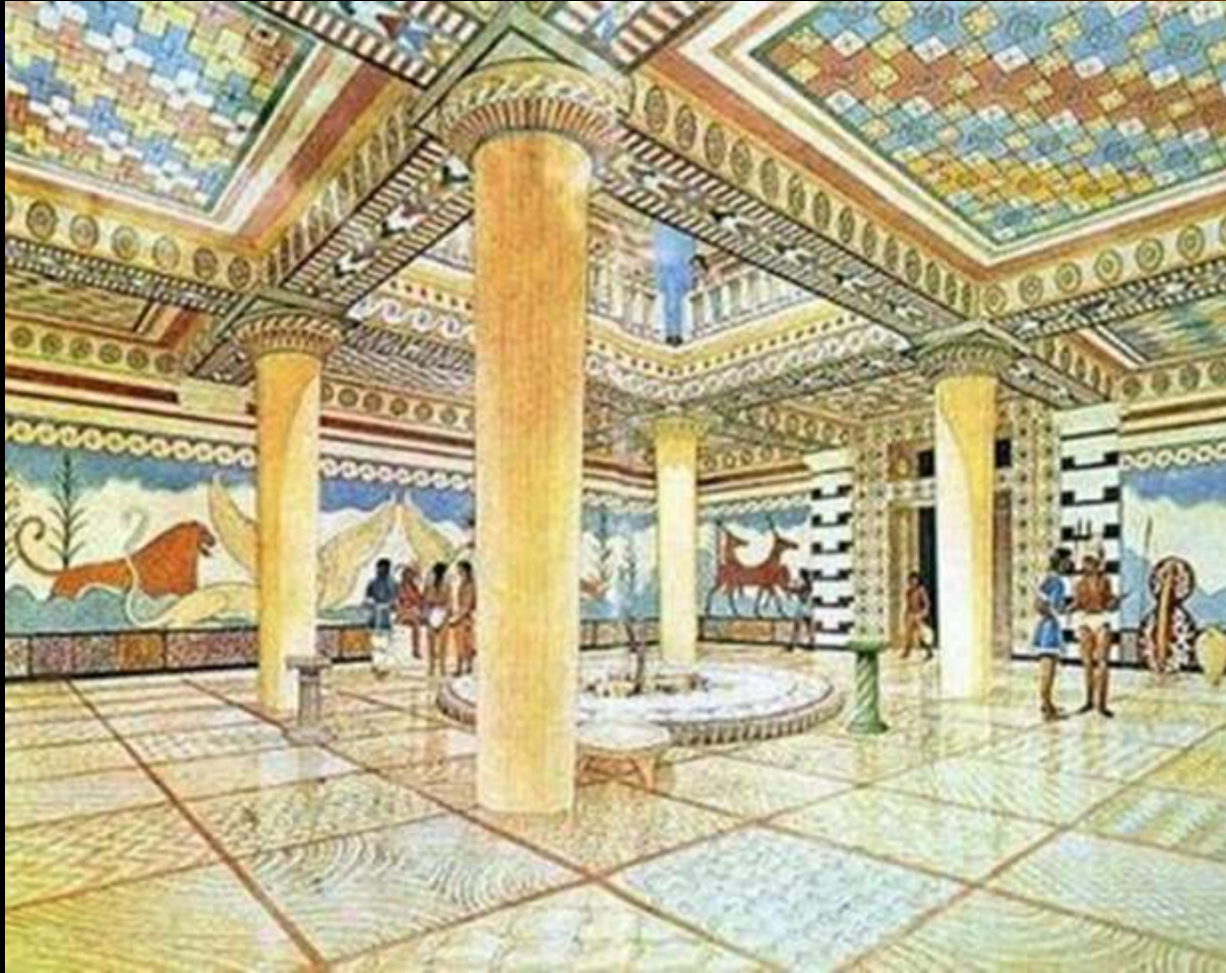


THE MINOANS, PHILISTINES & GOD'S PEOPLE (PART 2)

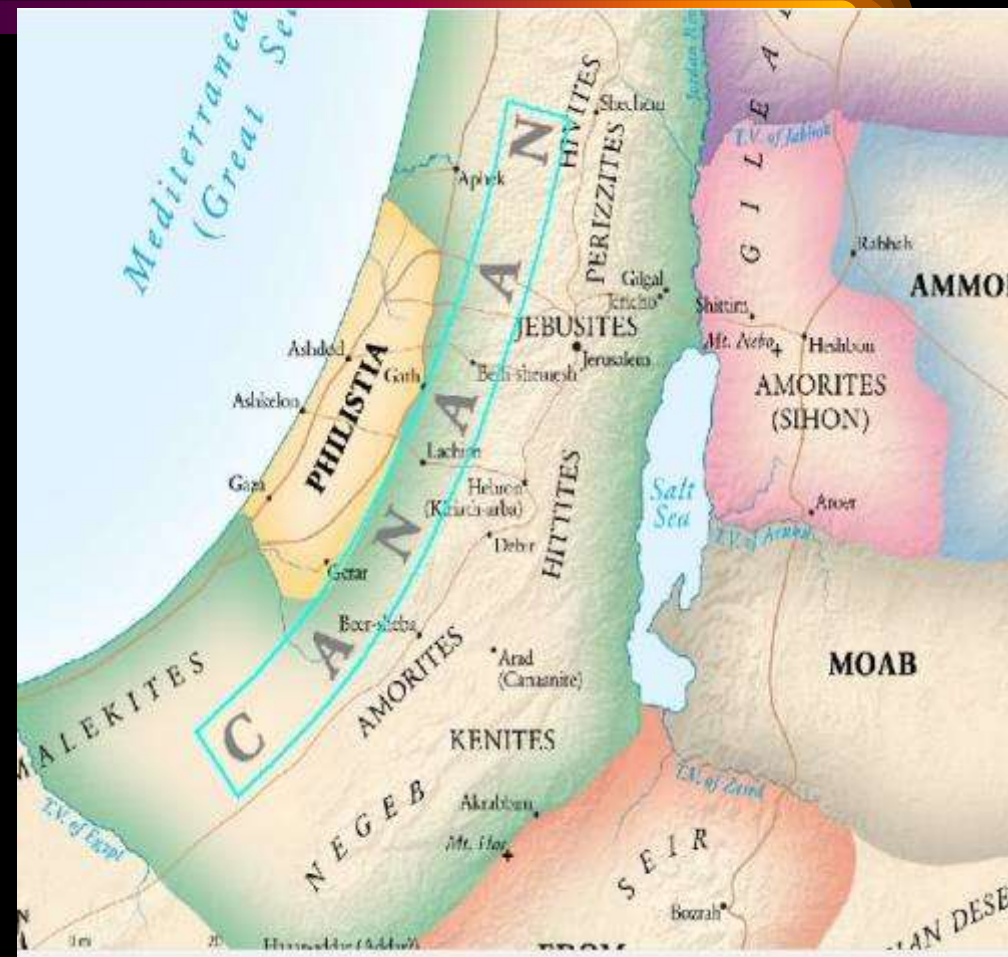
By Mario Seigle, Dec. 7, 2024



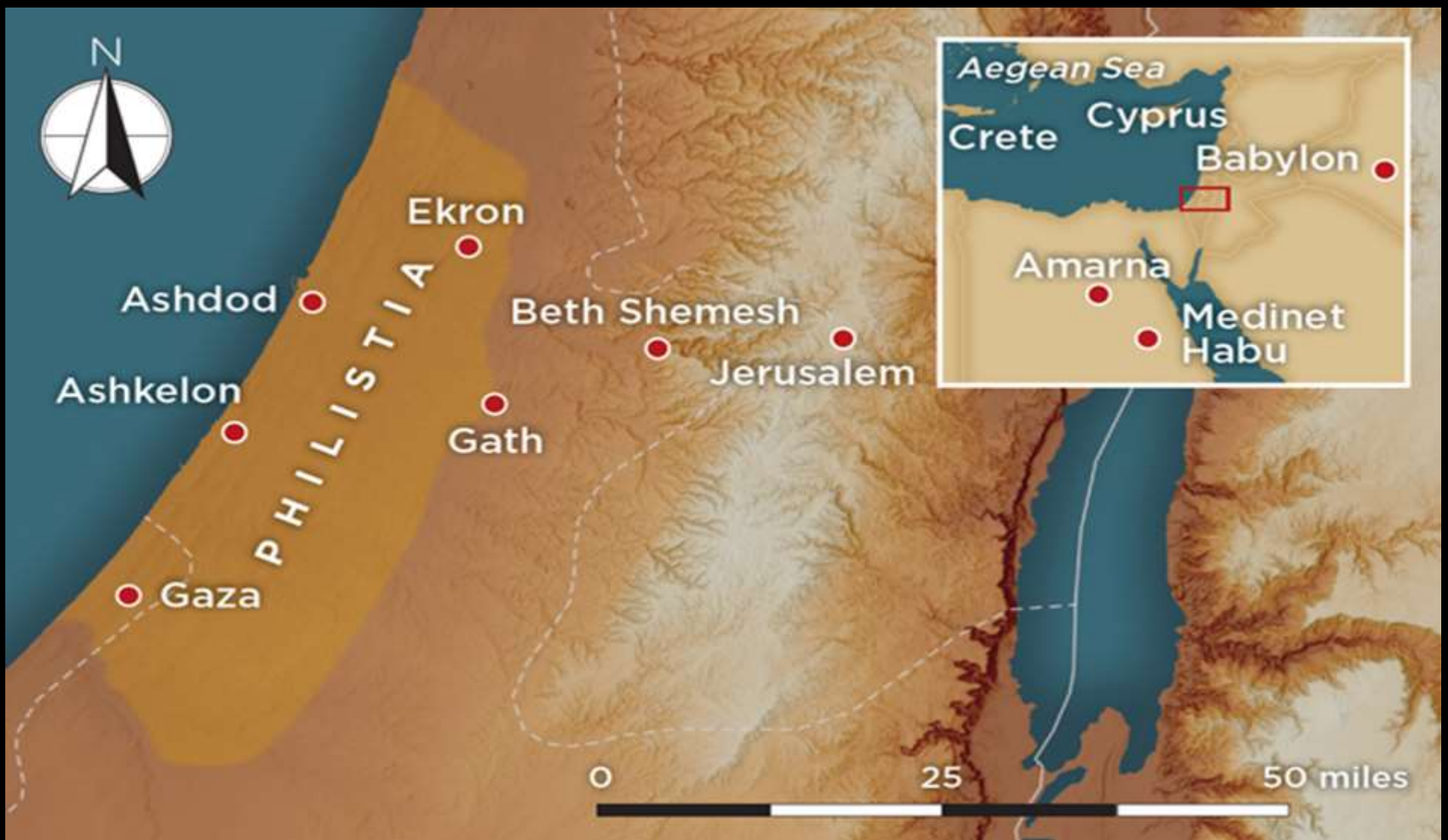
***RECREATION
OF THE
PALACE IN
KNOSSOS,
CRETE***

IN THIS PART 2, WE WILL SEE THE HISTORY OF THE PHILISTINES IN THE PROMISED LAND & HOW THEY BECAME THE MOST DANGEROUS ENEMY OF ISRAEL IN THE TIME OF THE JUDGES ALL THE WAY TO THE TIME OF KING DAVID, AND THE VERY IMPORTANT LESSONS WE CAN LEARN IN OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE.

The Philistines from Crete had been settling down in Canaan even before the time of Abraham



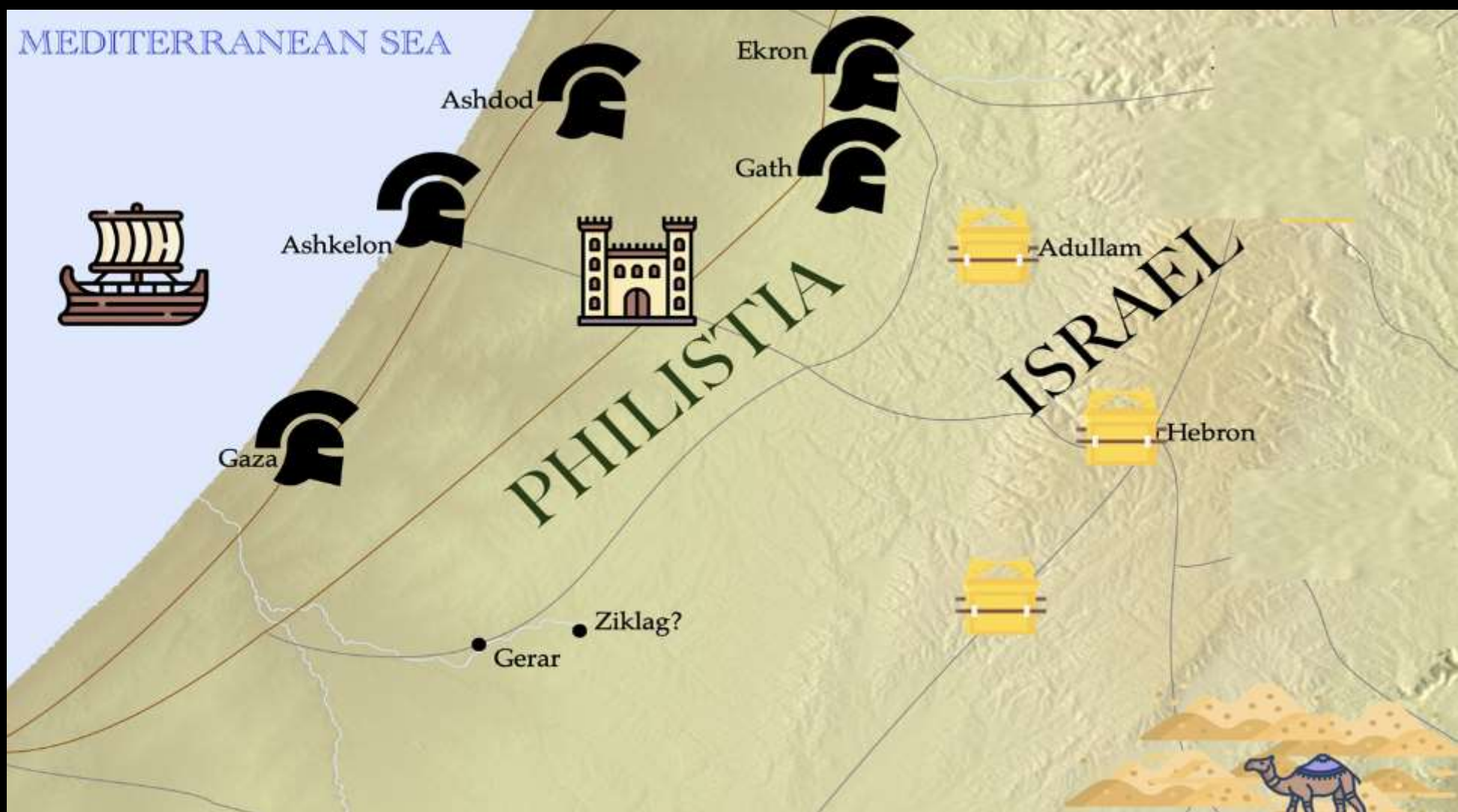
Gen. 21:32-34, “So Abimelech rose...and returned to the land of the Philistines...And Abraham stayed in the land of the Philistines many days.” The BKC adds, “The Philistines settled in Palestine en masse around 1200 BC. However, some *sea traders* settled on the coast of Canaan early as Abraham, who lived around 2166-1991 B.C.”



NOTICE THE FIVE MAIN CITIES OF THE PHILISTINES (CALLED A PENTAPOLIS) AND THE UPPER MAP WITH CRETE (IT WASN'T THAT FAR). THE PHILISTINES HAD SUPERIOR TECHNOLOGY AND WERE A HEDONISTIC PEOPLE, A TRAIT INHERITED FROM THE MINOANS. THEY WERE A GREAT TEMPTATION FOR GOD'S PEOPLE – LIKE PARTICIPATING IN THE SINFUL LAS VEGAS LIFESTYLE OF TODAY.



During the Conquest, Joshua couldn't eradicate the Philistines, among whom dwelt the giants (Anakim). Joshua 11:22 says, "None of the Anakim were left in the land of the children of Israel; they remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod." (See the coastline.)



Judges 3:1-4, 6, says, "Now these are the nations which the Lord left, that He might *test* Israel by them...namely, five lords of the Philistines... And they were left, that He might *test* Israel by them, to know whether they would obey the commandments of the Lord, which He had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses... And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons; and they served their gods." (Like in Eden.)

Philistines Invade Israel in 1177 BC

Philistine Pentapolis

Shamgar: Judges 3:31

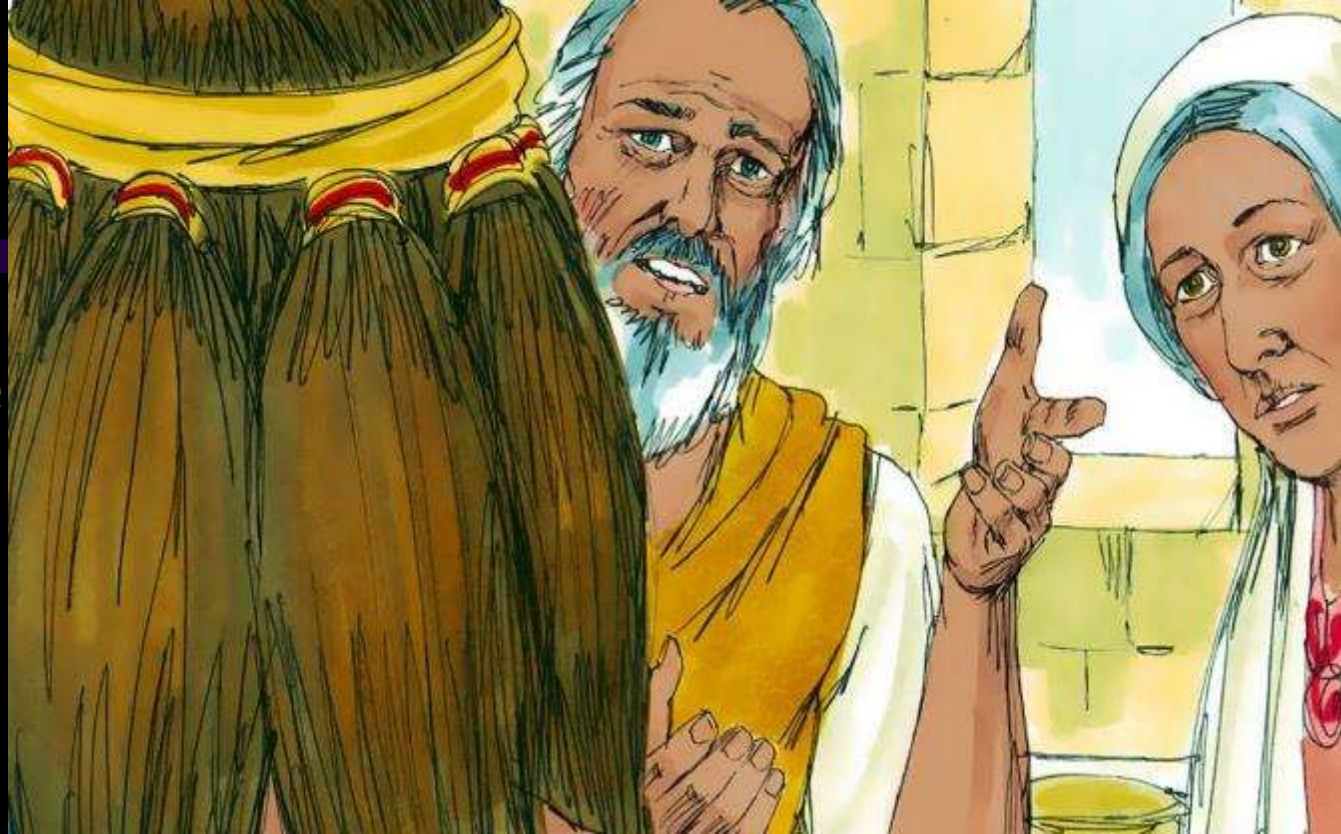
Iron Age Begins

"No land could stand before their arms: from Hatti, Qode, Carchemish, Arzawa, Alashiya on, being cut off at one time" (Medinet Habu, Ramses III, 1177 BC)
The hero's of Homer's Iliad and the Odyssey are the bad boys of the bible (Philistines). Hadrian renamed Judea "Palestine" which literally means "Philistine"



THEN, DURING THE TIME OF THE JUDGES, MORE PHILISTINES CAME FROM CRETE, PART OF THE SEA PEOPLES WHO WERE DEFEATED BY THE EGYPTIANS, AND SETTLED IN PHILISTIA

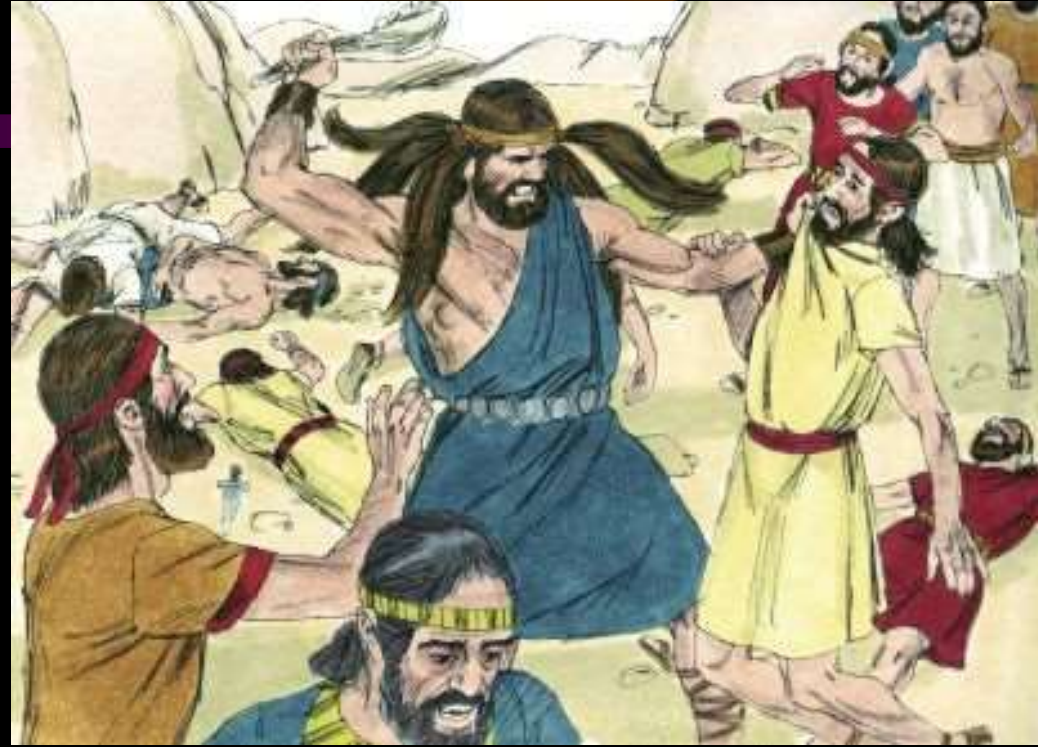
**The time of
Samson as a
judge of Israel
but fell under the
temptations of
the worldly
Philistine women
(Las Vegas effect)**



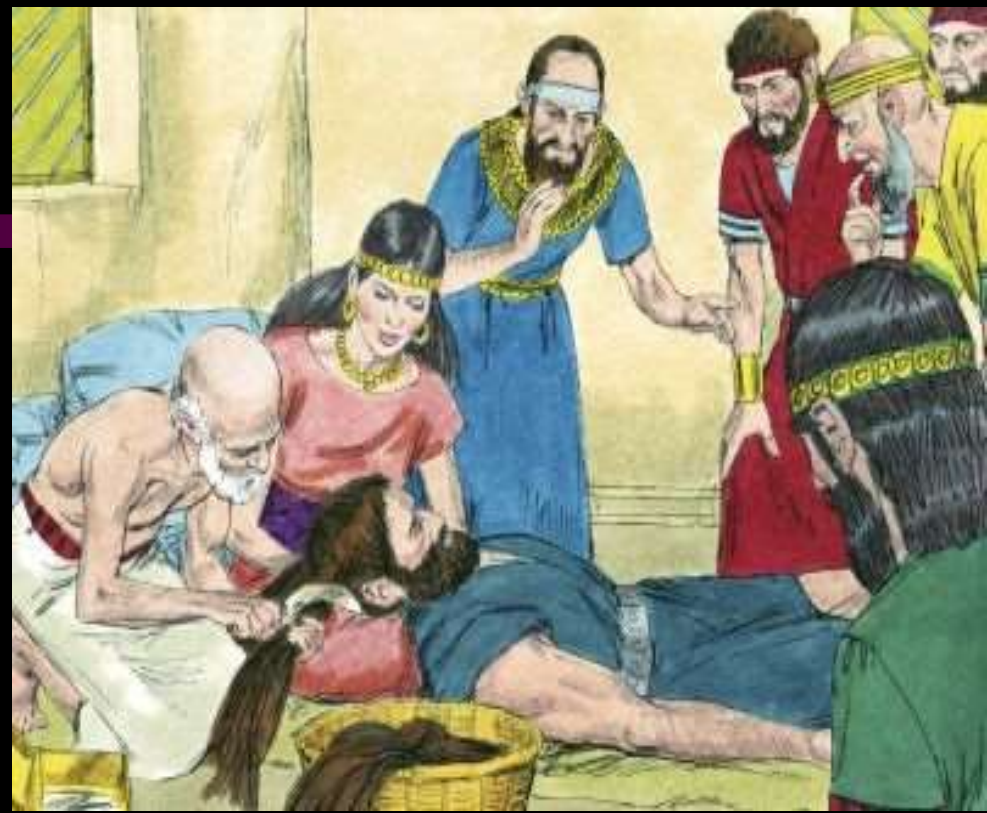
Judges 13:1; 14:1-4, says, “Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord delivered them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years...Now Samson went down to Timnah, and saw a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines. So he went up and told his father and mother, saying, ‘I have seen a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife. But his father and mother [objected, for they] did not know that it was of the Lord—that He was seeking an occasion to move against the Philistines. For at that time the Philistines *had dominion* over Israel.”



**Judges 14:19-20 --
Samson's Philistine wife
was given to another
man and he takes
vengeance, destroying
their crops with fire and
killing 30 Philistines.**



**Judges 15:12-20, When
attacked, Samson strikes
down a 1,000 Philistines
with the jaw of a donkey,
for God had given him
superhuman strength. He
judged Israel for 20 years.**



Next, Judges 16:5, Delilah offered Judges 16:17 He reveals the money for Samson's secret. secret of his strength to her

Judges 16:1, 5, "Now Samson went to Gaza and saw a harlot there, and went in to her...And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, 'Entice him, and find out where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and every one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.'" Samson eventually yielded the secret to the harlot, his long hair was cut & he was captured and then blinded.



Judges 16:21 So Samson is blinded and taken as a prisoner. He meditates & repents before God. He is forgiven and his hair begins to grow, God giving him back his supernatural strength.



Judges 16:23, The Philistines hold a big celebration to their sea & fish god, Dagon

“Dagon is a prominent deity in Babylonian...mythology, often associated with the sea & agriculture. Initially revered as a fertility god, Dagon’s identity evolved over centuries, reflecting the changing cultural landscapes of the ancient Near East. The importance of Dagon in these cultures cannot be overstated; *as a god of the sea*, he was central to the lives of those who depended on fishing and maritime trade” (Babylonianmythologyworldwide.com). Dr. C. H. Gordon says the divine name Daguna = Dagon appears in Minoan Linear A tablets on Crete c. 1500 B.C.



Judges 16:26, Samson braces himself against the famous Minoan Style Temple Pillars and pushes. Two temple pillars, 6 feet apart, of Minoan style, have been found in Philistine cities!

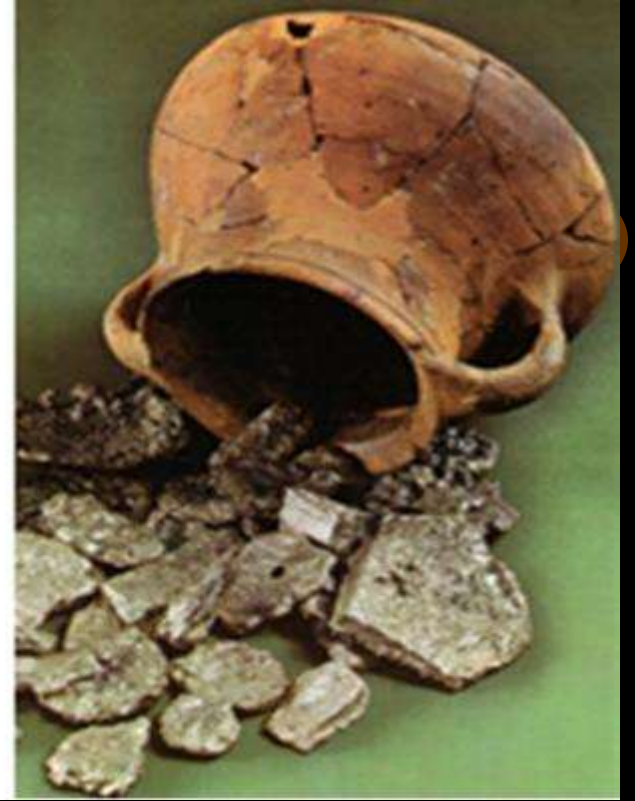


Judges 16:26-29 Samson brings the house down, the Philistine Temple, with some 3000 people in it, dealing them a great blow.





A "Pim" stone weight (left), of the type used to weigh the value of silver ingots like the ones found in Ein-Gedi (right).



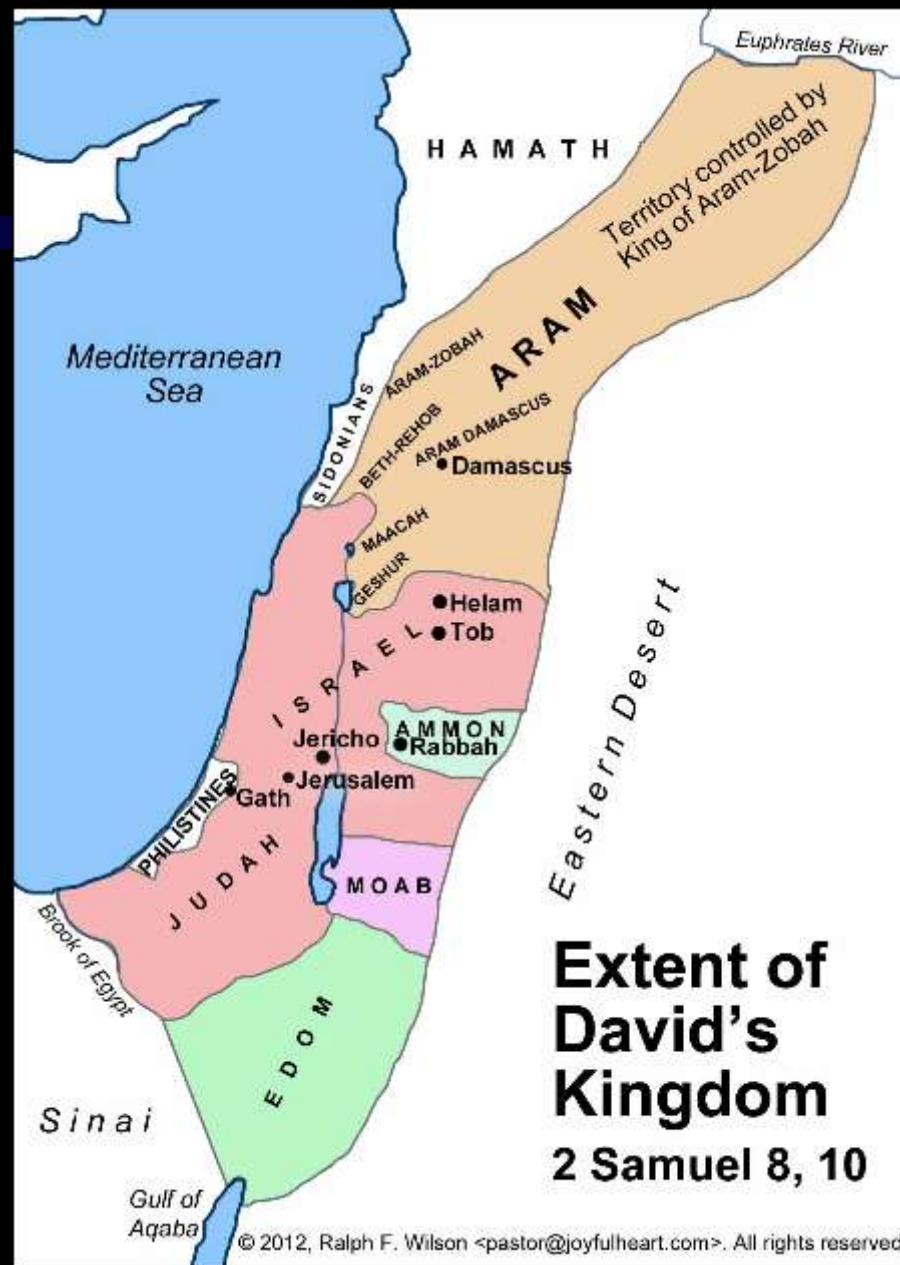
In Saul's day, the Philistines had the monopoly of iron tools & weapons. 1 Sam. 13:19, "There were no blacksmiths in Israel. The Philistines would not allow them because they were afraid the Israelites would make iron swords and spears" (CEV).

The Heb. term "pim" appears in the Bible in 1 Samuel 13:21, where it describes the charge for sharpening plowshares and mattocks. The King James Version had previously translated the term as a "file." The New King James Bible corrected the translation based on the archaeological discovery. It appears David who lived among the Philistines as a soldier who discovered their iron technology.



Next, in David's time, with God helping him, he slew the Philistine Goliath and later being blessed with iron weapons, they defeated the Philistines and took over much of their territory.

1 Chr. 14:16-17, "So David did as God commanded him, and they drove back the army of the Philistines from Gibeon as far as Gezer. Then the fame of David went out into all lands, and the Lord brought the fear of him upon all nations."



THE EXTENT OF DAVID'S KINGDOM – NOTICE WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE PHILISTINE TERRITORY – JUST A SLIVER OF LAND. EVENTUALLY, WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE PHILISTINES WAS CONQUERED BY THE ASSYRIANS AND THEN THE BABYLONIANS AND THEY DISAPPEARED FROM HISTORY – BUT NOT THEIR MINOAN WAYS OR THEIR TEMPTATIONS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE.

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

1. JUST AS IN ISRAEL'S DAY, GOD HAS LEFT THE SINFUL WAYS OF SOCIETY TO TEMPT US, TO SEE IF WE WILL CONTINUE TO OBEY HIS LAWS OR TO SUCCUMB TO THE TEMPTATIONS OF THE WORLD. AS LUKE 8:14 says, "Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard [God's truths], go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity."
2. SO, TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE CAN BE GOOD -- IF USED THE RIGHT WAY. BUT FOLLOWING GOD'S WAY IN THIS MODERN WORLD IS WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT.
3. WE KNOW EVENTUALLY, THE "LAS VEGAS SINFUL STYLE" WILL LEAD TO GOD INTERVENING IN THE WORLD & BRINGING HIS KINGDOM OF PEACE, JOY AND RIGHTEOUSNESS. LET'S ALWAYS LOOK TO THAT COMING KINGDOM, THAT IS MUCH BETTER THAN THE MINOANS OR PHILISTINES EVERY HAD, AND PRAY, "YOUR KINGDOM COME!"