



RECORDING THIS SESSION



Bible Study

- Year 3

Ezekiel 38-44

Ezekiel, as depicted by Michelangelo on the Sistine Chapel ceiling

OPENING PRAYER

Antiphon 2: Help us, O God our Savior, and pardon all our sins.

Psalm 79:1-5,8-11,13

Lament for Jerusalem

If only you had known what would bring you peace
(Luke 19:42)

O God, the nations have invaded your land,
they have profaned your holy temple.
They have made Jerusalem a heap of ruins.
They have handed over the bodies of your servants
as food to feed the birds of heaven
and the flesh of your faithful to the beasts of the earth.

They have poured out blood like water in Jerusalem;
no one is left to bury the dead.
We have become the taunt of our neighbors,
the mockery and scorn of those who surround us.
How long, O Lord? Will you be angry for ever;
how long will your anger burn like fire?

Do not hold the guilt of our father against us.
Let your compassion hasten to meet us;
we are left in the depths of distress.
O God our savior, come to our help.
Come for the sake of the glory of your name.

O Lord our God, forgive us our sins;
rescue us for the sake of your name.

Why should the nations say: Where is their God?

Let us see the nations around us repaid
with vengeance for the blood of your servants that was
shed!

Let the groans of the prisoners come before you;
let your strong arm reprieve those condemned to die.

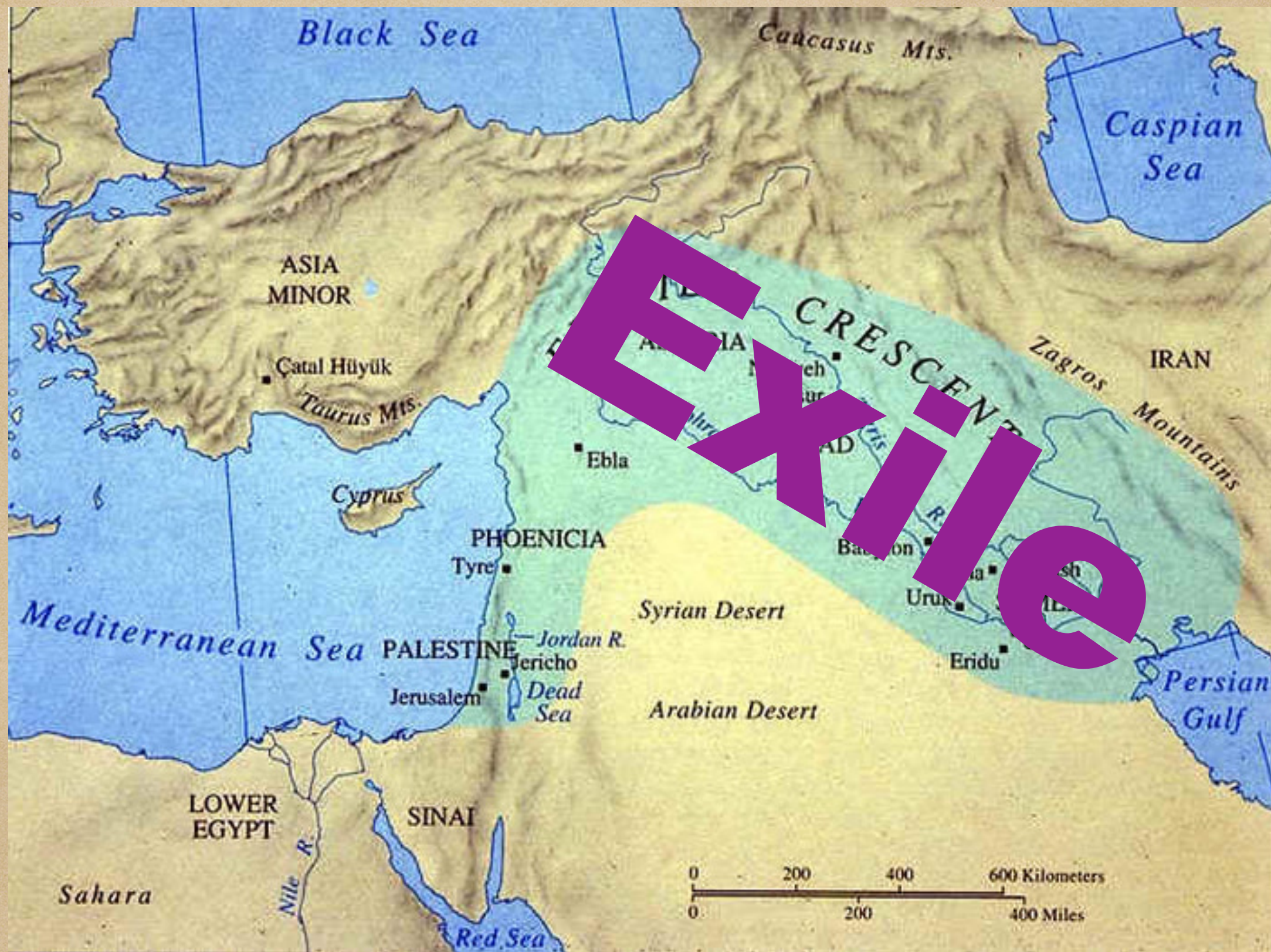
But we, your people, the flock of your pasture,
will give you thanks for ever and ever.
We will tell your praise from age to age.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

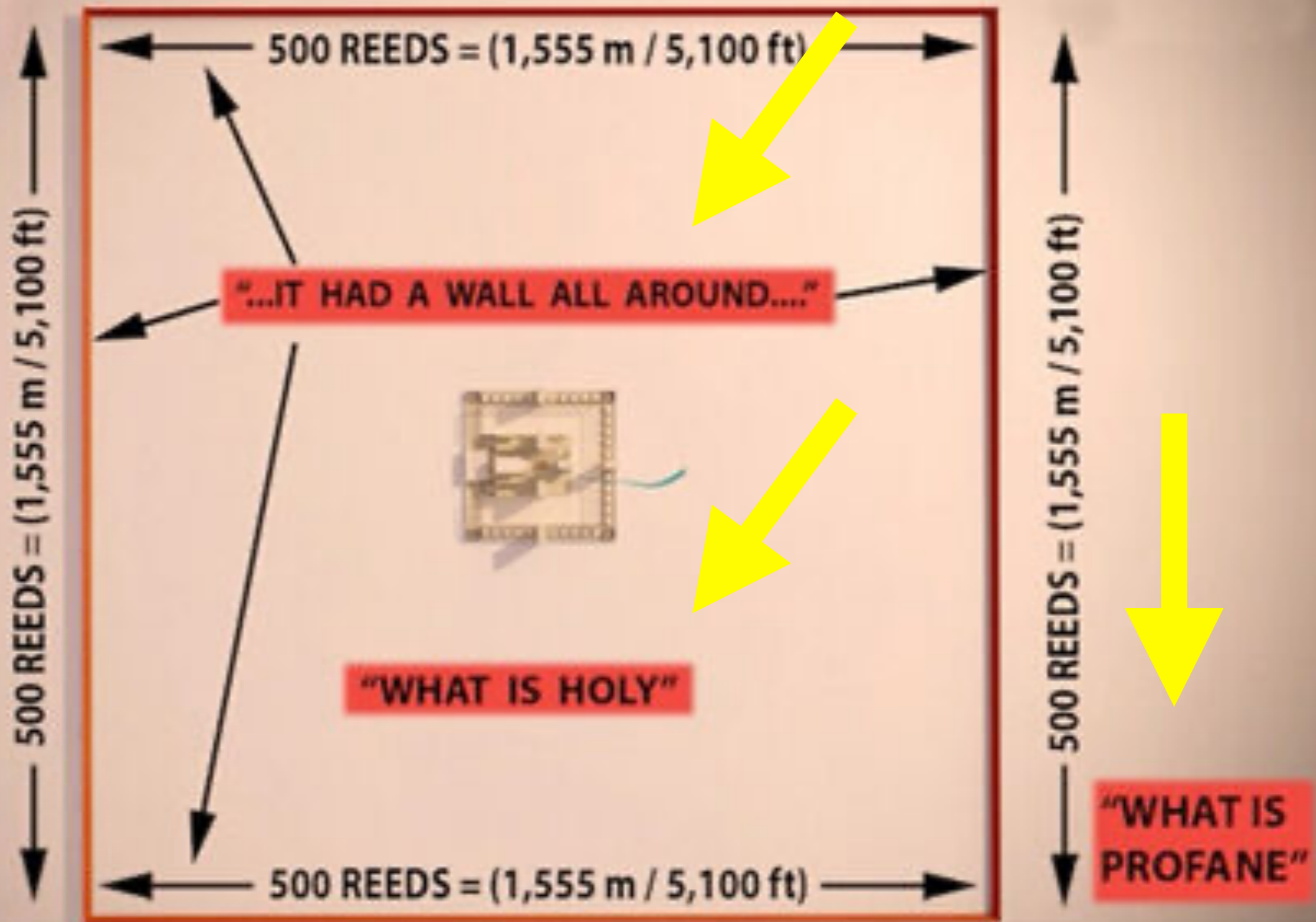
— as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Psalm Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, shepherd of your Church, in order to strengthen our faith and lead us to the kingdom, you renewed and far surpassed the marvels of the old law. Through the uncertainties of this earthly journey, lead us home to the everlasting pastures.

Antiphon: Help us, O God our Savior, and pardon all our sins.

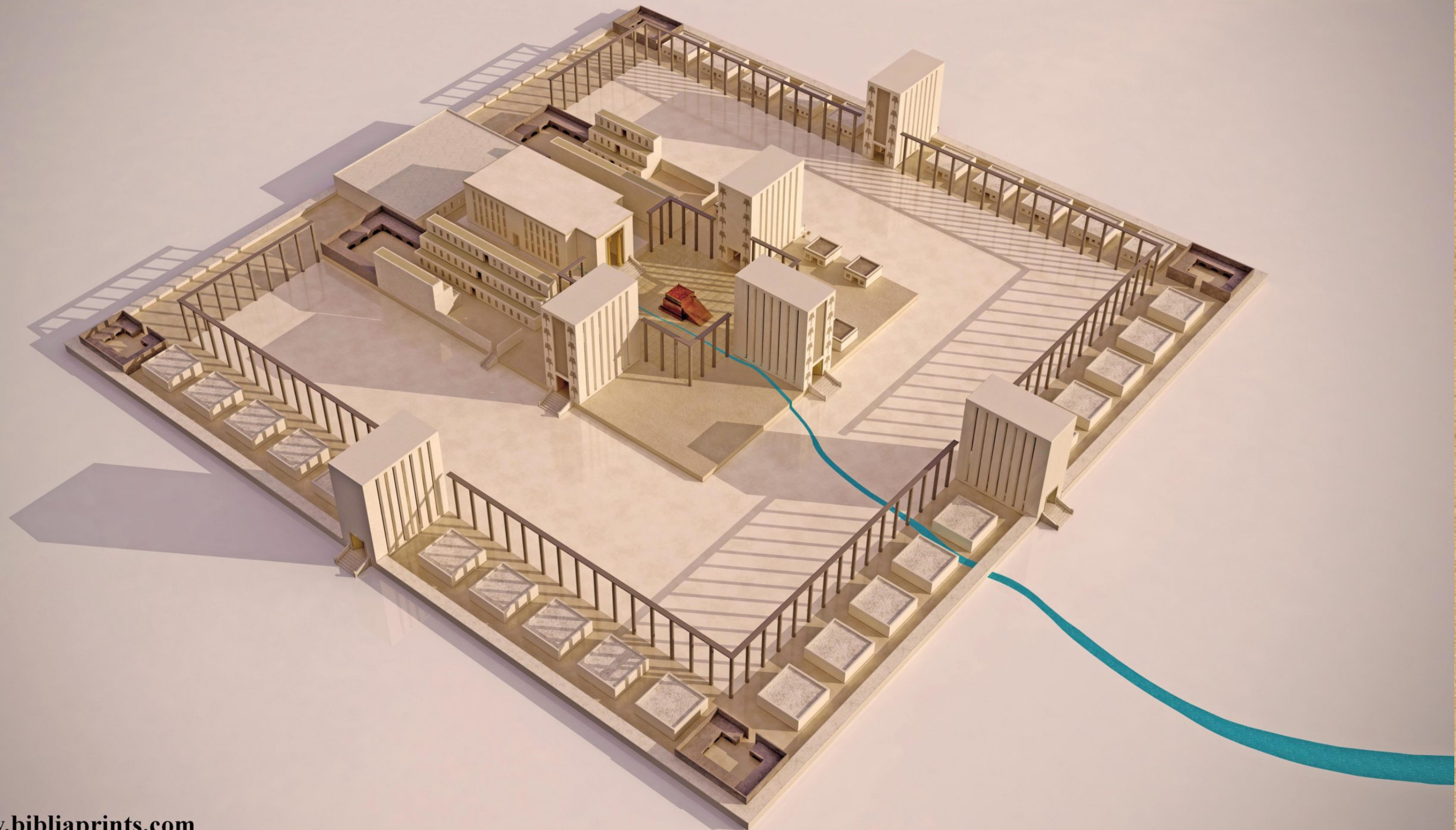


<https://historyonlinenow.weebly.com/section-1-civilization-in-the-fertile-crescent.html>



Ezekiel 42:15-20

EZEKIEL'S TEMPLE VISION





<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/places/main-articles/second-temple>



<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-second-temple>

Chapter 43

V. The New Israel

Restoration of the Temple

- ♦ **The Glory of the Lord Returns**
- ♦ Ezekiel's Vision continues
- ♦ v2 At East Gate: THE GLORY OF THE GOD OF ISRAEL WAS COMING FROM THE **EAST**!
 - ♦ Similar in appearance to Chap 1, vision when he was coming to destroy Jerusalem
 - ♦ v4, glory of Lord entered Temple via East gate
- ♦ v5, spirit lifted him up, to the inner courts
- ♦ READ v5b - oh yeah!!! (*Remember: Ex 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11; 2 Chronicles 7:1*) -
 - ♦ *The 'Shekinah' - the settling or dwelling of God's Spirit*



Chapter 43

V. The New Israel

Restoration of the Temple

- ♦ **The Glory of the Lord Returns**
- ♦ v6, Ez hears God speak — “*my throne*”
- ♦ v7, READ - **God desires to dwell with his people in his holy place
- ♦ God’s house must never be defiled
- ♦ v9, READ

Restoration of the Temple

- ♦ **The Law of the Temple**
- ♦ God wants Ez to tell the people of the vision of the Temple — about his presence returning
 - ♦ Wants them to be ashamed of their sins
- ♦ v11, want Ez to tell all the detail of the new Temple
- ♦ And to WRITE IT DOWN so they have it always to refer to - so they will be careful to observe all the laws (Remember *Shema!*, Deut 6:4-8)

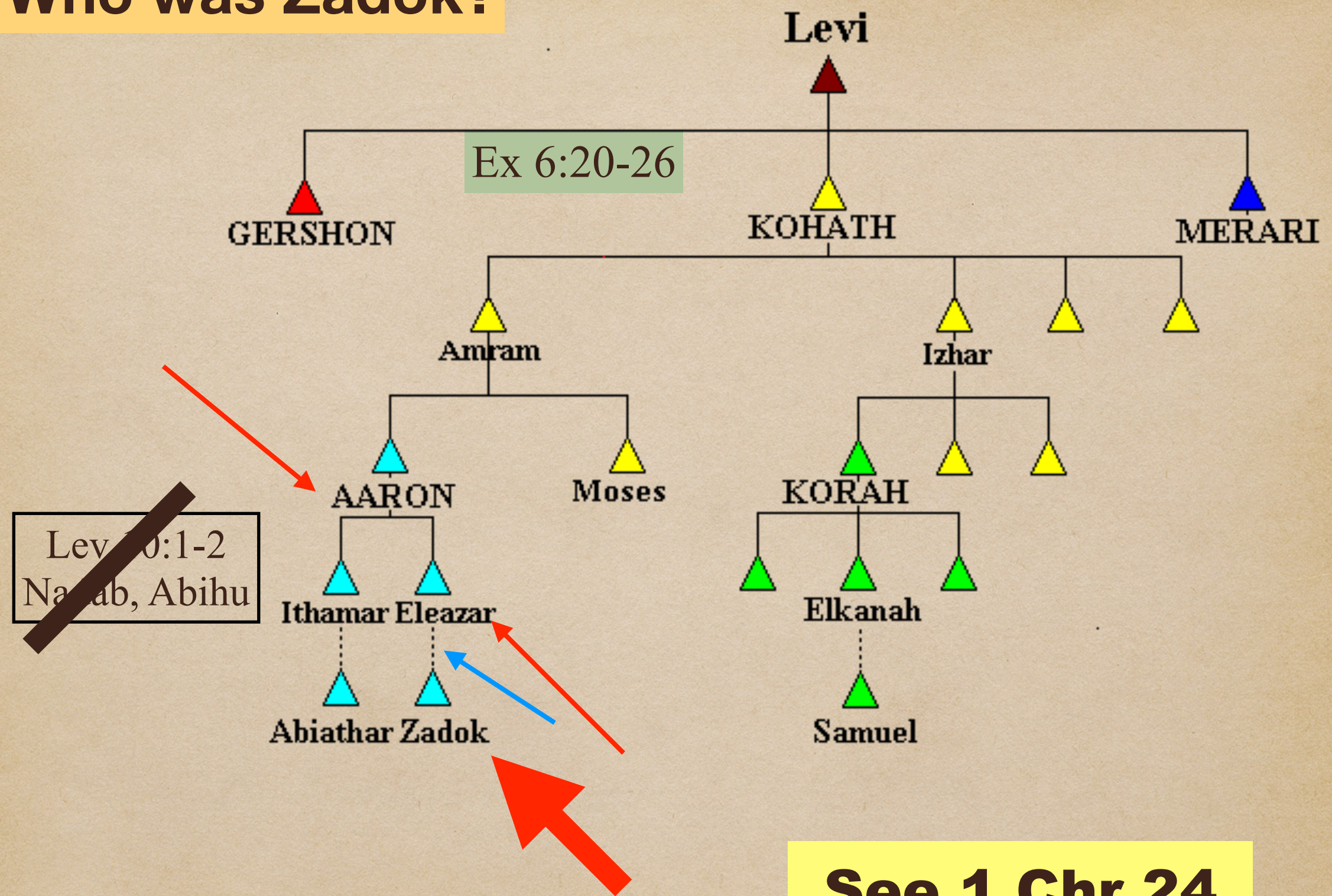
Chapter 43

V. The New Israel

Restoration of the Temple

- ♦ **The Altar**
- ♦ vv13-17, Specific dimensions of the Altar
- ♦ v18: Altar statutes - for sacrificing
 - ♦ The High Priest will be in the line of **Zadok**
 - ♦ **Who was Zadok?** - one moment...
- ♦ Young bull brought to priest -
- ♦ Day 2 - unblemished male goat
- ♦ Unblemished young bull and ram
- ♦ Salt, sacrifice
- ♦ Daily x 7 days - male goat
- ♦ V27, when done, from day 8 on- priests can sacrifice burnt and communion offerings
- ♦ "Then I will be pleased with you"

Who was Zadok?



RECALL

Not mentioned
in 2 Samuel

1 Chronicle 24

David makes preparations for the Temple

- There was orderly distribution of service prescribed for the Temple
 - **Priestly Divisions** (24) - for sons of Aaron
 - **Zadok** — 16 groups
 - Ahimelech — 8 groups
 - **Functions assigned impartially by lot
 - v6- Scribe Shemaiah, in presence of king - records everything
 - NOTE - v10b, the 8th lot to **Abijah**
 - Zechariah: Luke 1:5, 1:9
 - **Other Levites**, vv 20-31, note last line of v31

Chapter 43

V. The New Israel

Who was Zadok?

- ♦ 43:18 - The High Priest will **now** be specifically from the line of **Zadok**
- ♦ **1 Chr 5:27-41 - Aaron → Eleazar → Phinehas
→ → → → Zadok**
- ♦ During David's battles and lifetime, Zadok was a faithful, dependable priest (along with Ahimelech) - 2 Sam 8:15-17
- ♦ **Zadok** (with Nathan the prophet) anointed Solomon king after David's death (1 King 1:45)

Restoration of the Temple

- ♦ **The Closed Gate**
- ♦ v1, A closed gate facing east
- ♦ through which the Lord will enter the holy Temple
 - ♦ v2, “Must remain closed”
 - ♦ For the Lord will enter the Temple through that gate
 - ♦ — and remain
- ♦ v3, prince may sit and eat meal - king of this new theocracy
 - ♦ While his sacrifice is being offered
 - ♦ Assumes the prince reigns in accordance with the laws of God
 - ♦ Prince will enter and leave by this gate



The Beautiful Gate, or The Golden Gate

<https://www.crystalinks.com/jerusalem Gates.html>



The Beautiful Gate, or The Golden Gate

<https://www.crystalinks.com/jerusalem-gates.html>

The **Golden Gate**, — oldest of the current gates in Jerusalem's Old City Walls.

According to **Jewish tradition**, the **Shekhinah (Divine Presence)** used to appear through this gate, and will appear again when the Messiah comes (Ezekiel 44:1-3) and a new gate replaces the present one; that is why Jews used to pray for mercy at the former gate at this location. Hence the name Sha'ar Harachamim, the **Gate of Mercy**.

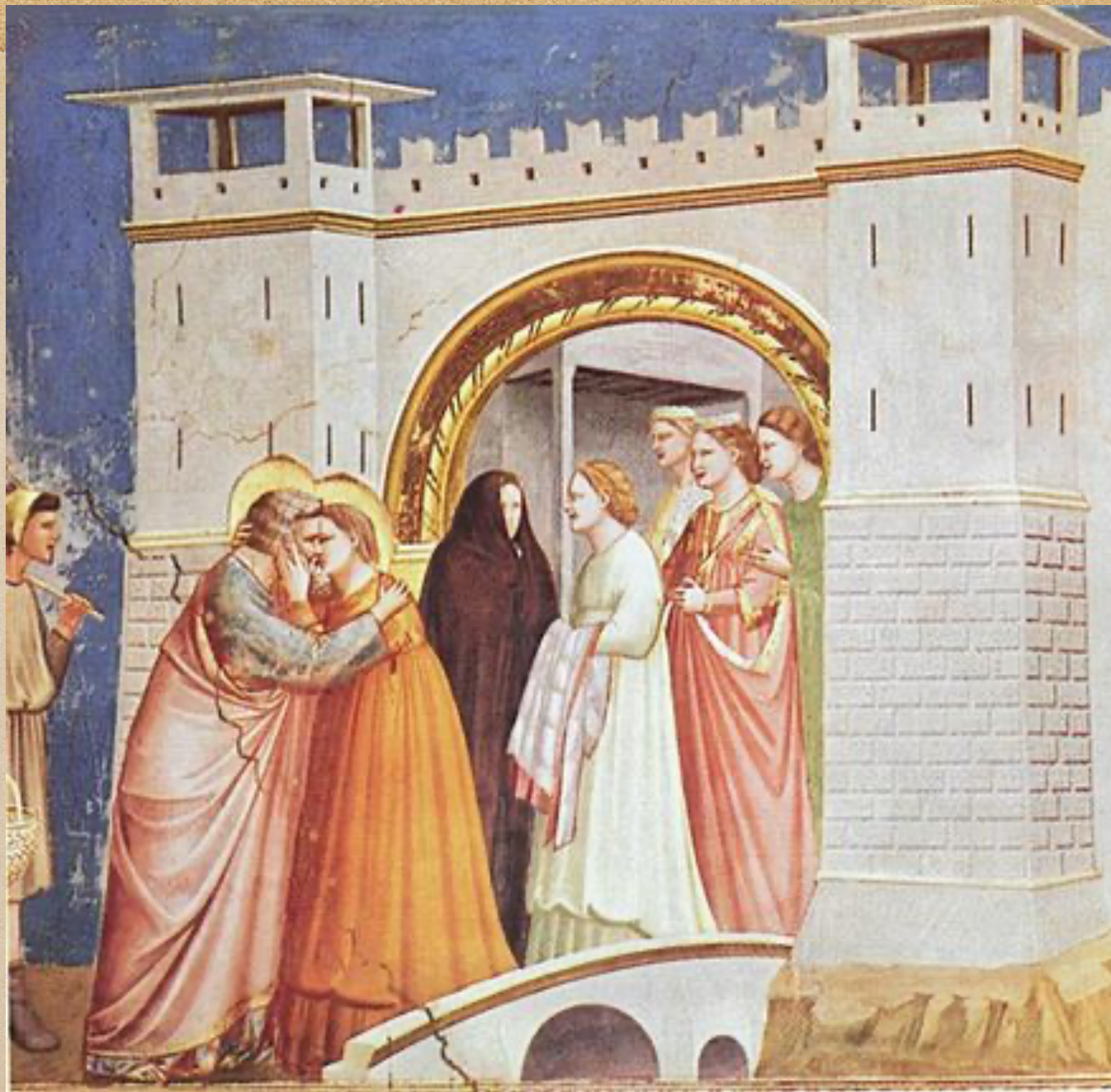
In **Christian apocryphal texts**, the gate was the scene of a meeting between the parents of Mary, so that Joachim and Anne Meeting at the **Golden Gate** became a standard subject in cycles depicting the Life of the Virgin. (*Protoevangelium of James*, §4)

****It is also said that Jesus passed through this gate on Palm Sunday.**

In Arabic, it is known as the **Gate of Eternal Life**.

In ancient times, the gate was known as the **Beautiful Gate**.

Acts 3:1-10



Legend of St Joachim, Meeting at the Golden Gate,
By **Giotto di Bondone**, 1305, in the **Scrovegni Chapel**
(*Protoevangelium of James*, §4)



- ♦ Fathers of Church = figure of Our Lady's perpetual virginity

Who is this gate, if not Mary? Is it not closed because she is a virgin? Mary is the gate through which Christ entered this world, when he was brought forth in the Virginia birth and the manner of his birth did not break the seals of virginity.

- St Ambrose of Milan in *The Consecration of a Virgin and the Perpetual Virginity of Mary*, §8, §52

Chapter 44

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **Admission to the Temple**
- ♦ v4, *aahhh, so amazing* - the glory of the Lord, the **Shekhinah**
- ♦ v5, Lord: Again: pay close attention, look carefully, listen intently — so you can tell Israel EVERYTHING — about my laws
- ♦ v6b, Say: Enough!
 - ♦ vv7-9, the indictment, the New Order
 - ♦ Uncircumcised (heart and flesh), non-Israelites were caring for the Temple
 - ♦ Covenant was broken
 - ♦ From now on, no uncircumcised, non-Israelite will enter Temple
 - ♦ God's house is holy

Chapter 44

V. The New Israel

The New Law

♦ Levites

- ♦ v10, those Levites who strayed, worshiped idols
- will bear consequences of their sin
- ♦ v11, their job: **only as** gatekeepers and temple servants, slaughter animals for sacrifice
- ♦ Were a stumbling block for God's people
- ♦ v13, are 'defrocked' - no longer serve as priests, touch sacred things, etc...
 - ♦ Will be servants (note God's mercy - *could have killed them*)

Chapter 44

V. The New Israel₁

The New Law

- ♦ **Priests**
- ♦ v15, **Sons of Zadok** were faithful during adversity
- ♦ v16, they may enter my holy place, sanctuary
- ♦ Remember Leviticus
- ♦ v17, wear linen garments, v18, Turbans on head
- ♦ v19b, Take off holy garment when leave — so not to transfer his holiness/[consecrated-ness] to the people
- ♦ v20, don't shave, but be well kempt
- ♦ List of regulations continue, vv21-31
 - ♦ NOTE v 23, key!!
 - ♦ NOTE v28



<https://www.geni.com/people/Zadok-1-High-Priest/6000000007133203236>

Chapter 45

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **The Holy Portion**
- ♦ vv1-3, Specific measurements for an area of land for the Temple priests
 - ♦ V4 - READ - *[our priests have rectories, provided by the Church]*
- ♦ v5- area for Levites caring for Temple
- ♦ v6, - for all Israel
- ♦ v7-8, for the prince, near the Temple -
 - ♦ Proximity to Temple is a reminder that their responsibility is to care for the Lord's people
 - ♦ Admonition to the princes: v9 - "as the king goes, so go the people"

Chapter 45

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **Weights and Measures**
- ♦ v10, honest scales
- ♦ Honesty in dealing with one another
 - ♦ Remember the poor, vulnerable, marginalized
 - ♦ The orphan, widow, the alien
- ♦ God has always had a preferential option for the poor — and so does the Catholic Church
 - ♦ *Catholic Charities - 100% to intended*

Chapter 45

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **Offerings**
- ♦ Specific regulation for offerings
- ♦ v15, 1/200 sheep, ...atonement
 - ♦ People take the offerings to the prince
- ♦ v17, princes are to provide burnt offerings....on feast days, ...
 - ♦ Provide purification, grain, burn, and communion offerings — to make atonement on behalf of the house of Israel

Chapter 45

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **The Passover**
- ♦ Instructions for Passover given
 - ♦ People did not celebrate Passover because there was no Temple in which to sacrifice
 - ♦ in Babylon or in Jerusalem
- ♦ **The Feast of Booths**
- ♦ AGAIN, Feast of Booths, - a celebratory feast, remembering God's providential care while in the desert
 - ♦ — and now, during the Exile

Chapter 46

V. The New Israel₁

The New Law

- ♦ **Sabbaths**
- ♦ East gate of inner court closed x 6 days
- ♦ On Sabbath and new moon (Num 28:11-15, 1 Sam 20:5) -
 - ♦ East gate of inner court to be **Open**
- ♦ Prince comes in through that gate, priests offer his burnt offerings
 - ♦ Offerings specified in vv4-7
- ♦ Gate closed at evening
- ♦ v3, people of land bow down and worship God when gate is opened

Chapter 46

V. The New Israel₁

The New Law

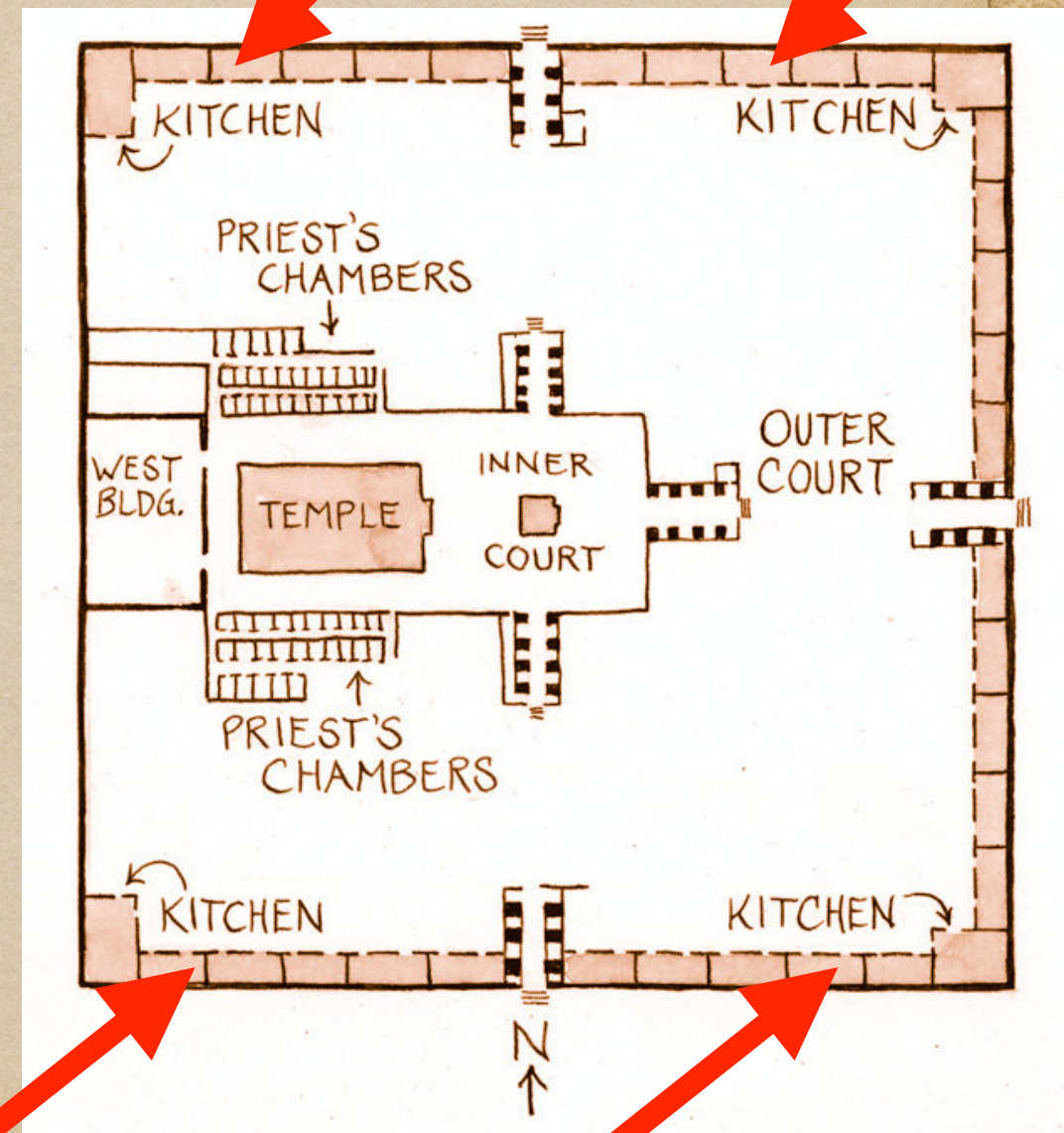
- ♦ **Ritual Laws**
- ♦ Rules on entering the Temple
 - ♦ V8, Prince enters...
 - ♦ V9, people enter....
 - ♦ V10, prince will be with them...
 - ♦ V11, on feasts, festivals....bring...
 - ♦ V13, EVERY DAY — burnt offering...
 - ♦ V15, perpetual burnt offerings

Chapter 46

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **The Prince and the Land**
 - ♦ Gift to sons → sons
 - ♦ Gift to servants → servant, until his release, then goes back to prince
 - ♦ Do not seize property of people
- ♦ **The Temple Kitchens**
 - ♦ V20, Where priests cook reparation offerings, etc
 - ♦ V24, kitchens to cook sacrifices of the people

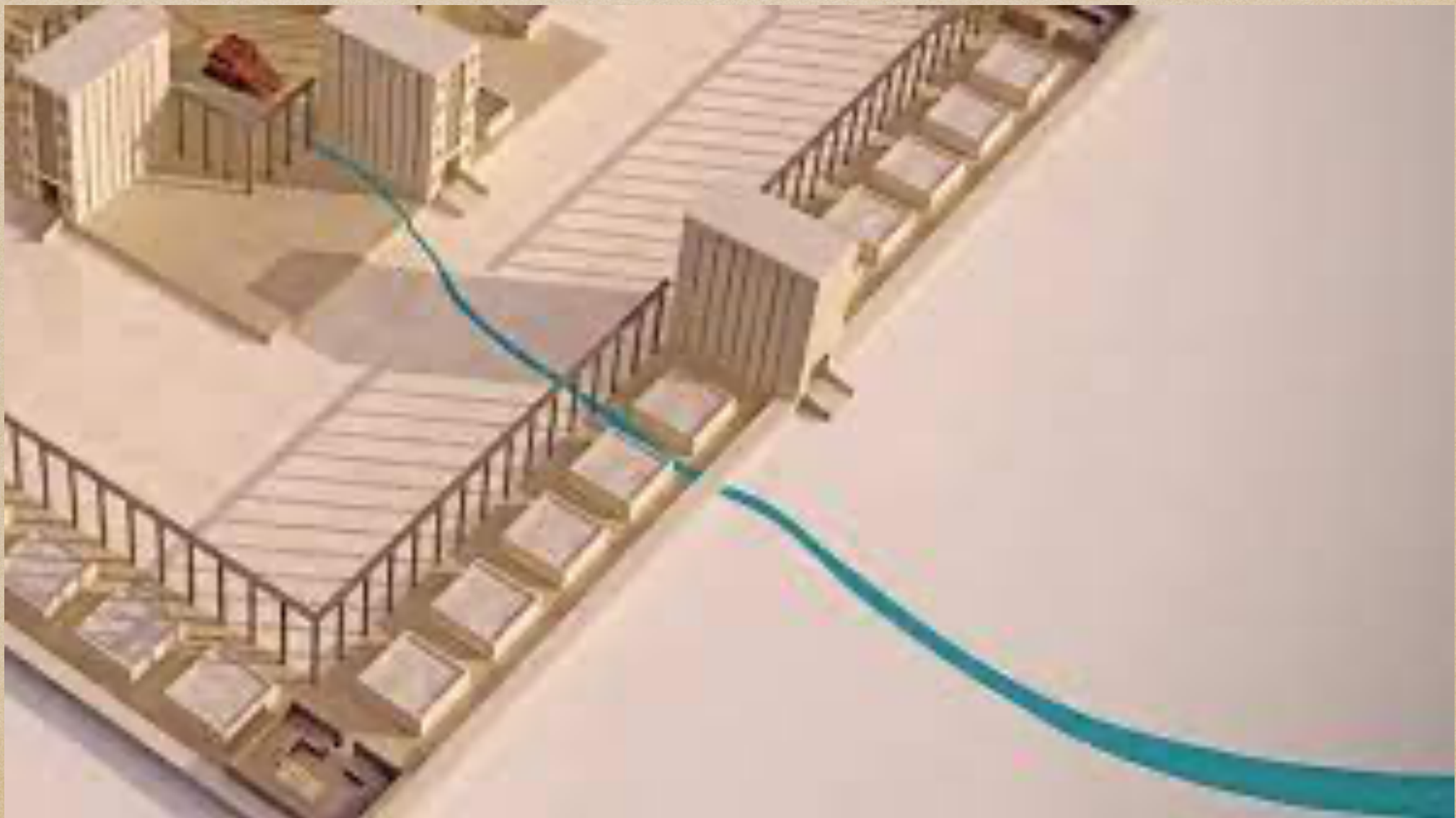


Chapter 47

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ The Wonderful Stream



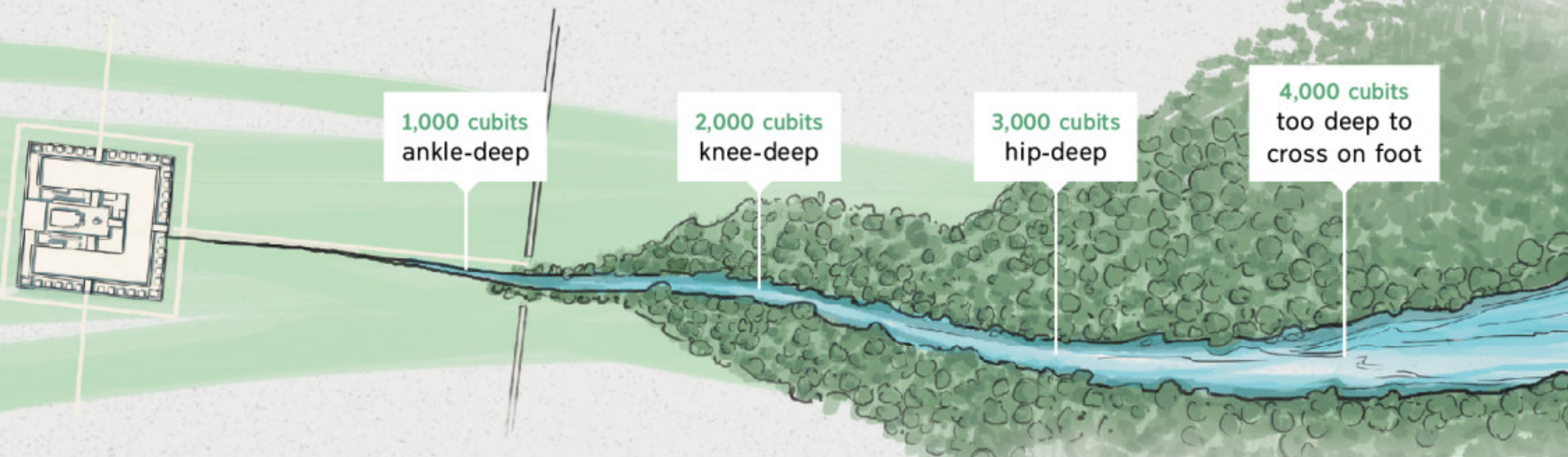
Chapter 47

V. The New Israel

The New Law

♦ The Wonderful Stream

<https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/pure-worship/teaching-boxes/trickle-water-becomes-torrent/>

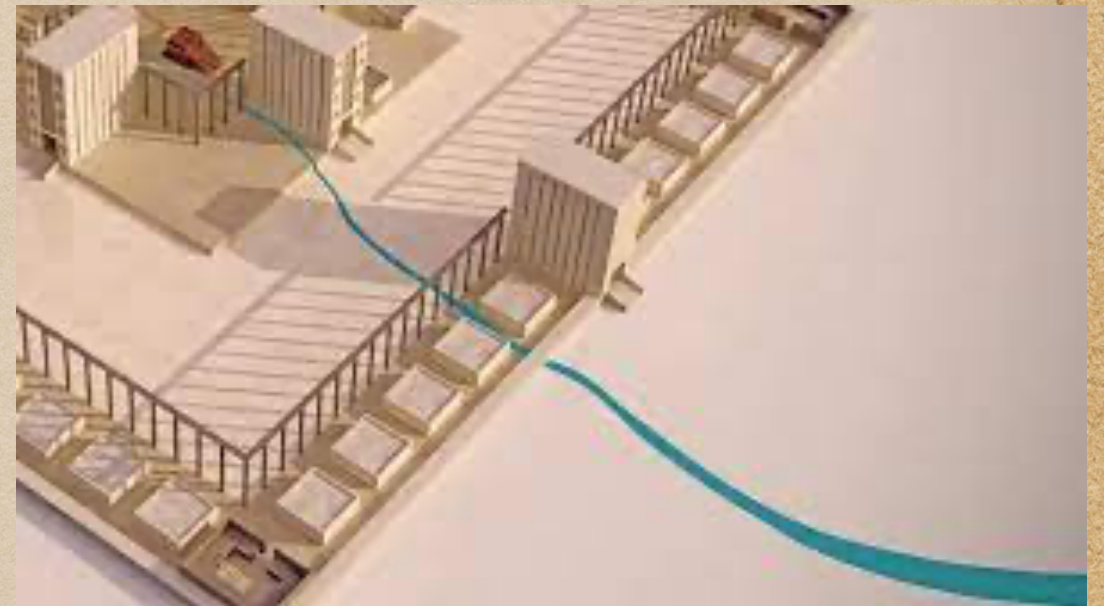


Chapter 47

V. The New Israel

The New Law

- ♦ **The Wonderful Stream**
- ♦ v6, Do you see this?
- ♦ Have a seat.
- ♦ V8, these waters flow to purify the polluted waters of see, to refresh them
- ♦ These waters will make clean
- ♦ St. Jerome: waters = teaching of the Church
- ♦ St. Barnabas: waters of baptism overflowing with spiritual nourishment



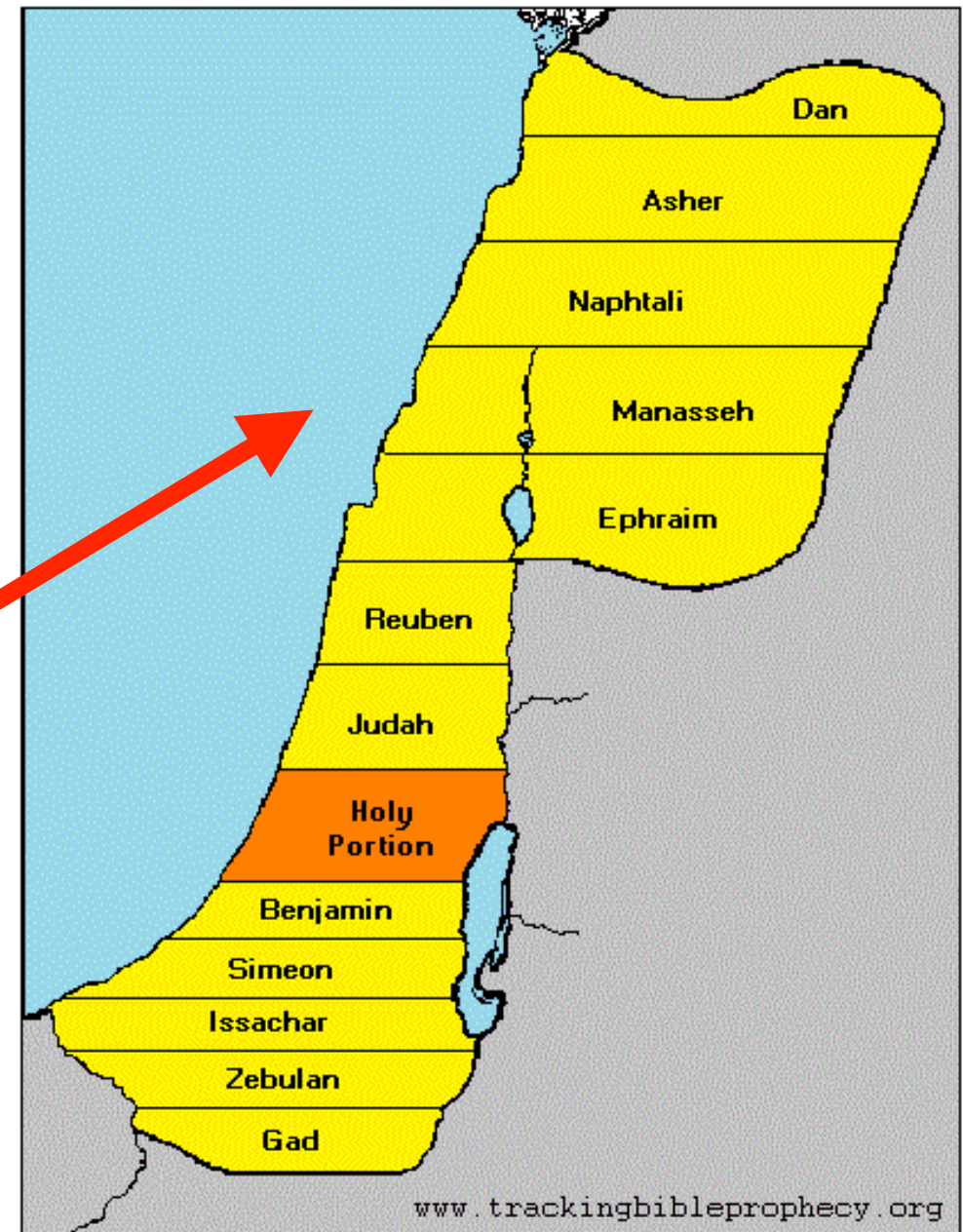
Chapter 47

V. The New Israel

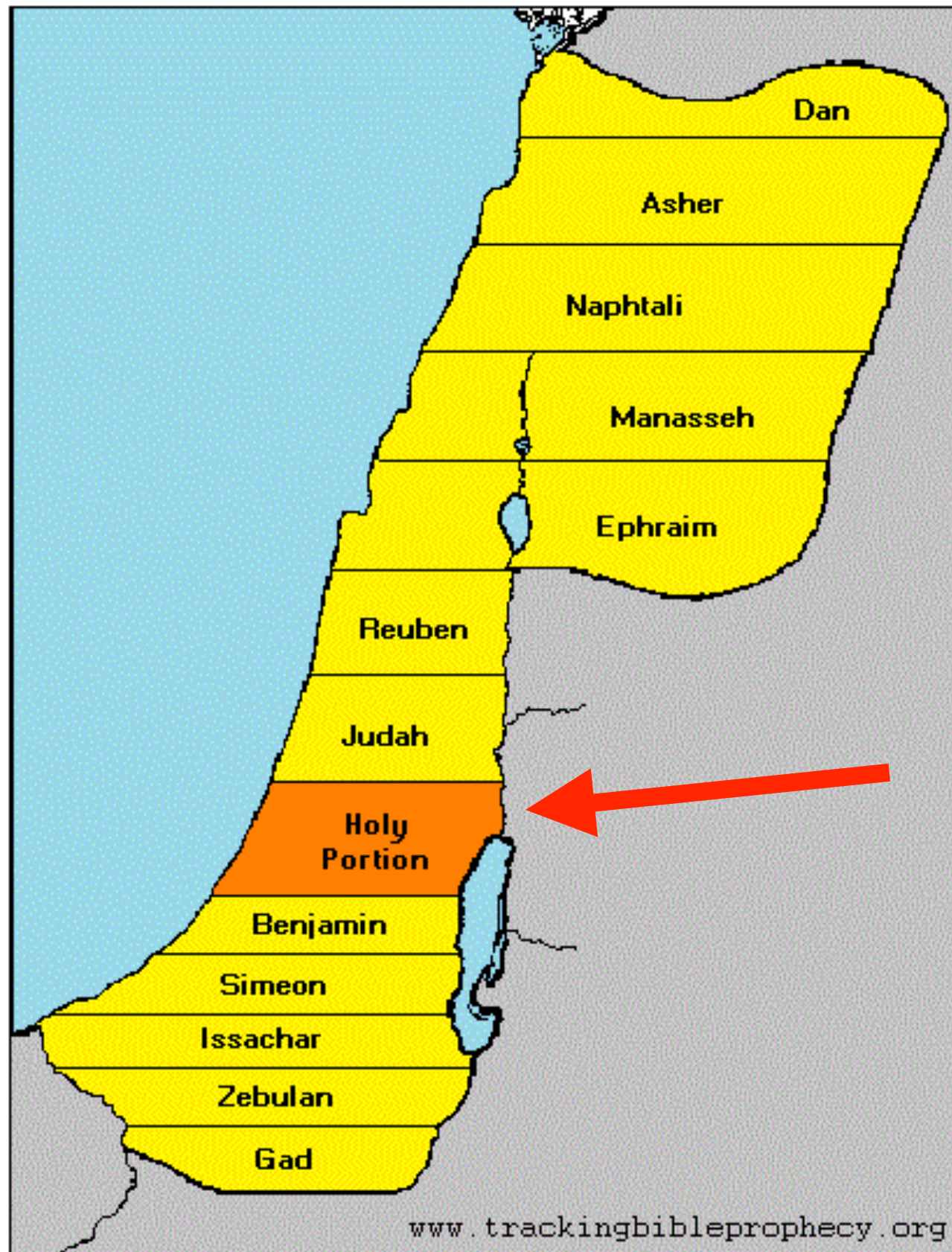
The New Israel

- ♦ **Boundaries of the Land**
- ♦ v13, Joseph = Ephraim and Manasseh
- ♦ **The Northern Portions**
 - ♦ **Note vv21-23**
 - ♦ God sees, is aware of, and cares/provides for the resident alien

Millennial Land Allotment - Ezekiel 47:15-21



Millennial Land Allotment - Ezekiel 47:15-21

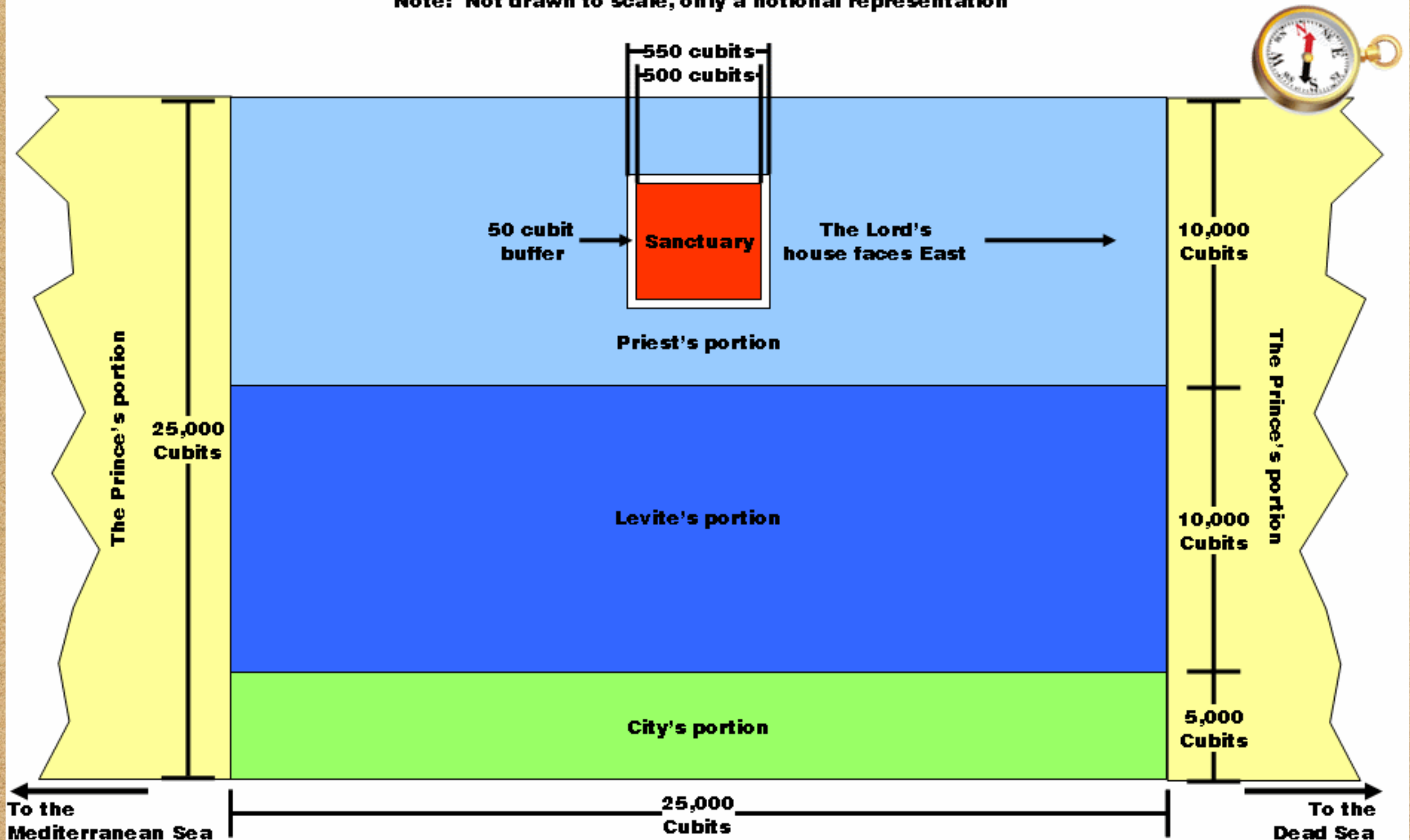


Joshua's Divisions



The New Israel - The Sacred Tract

Note: Not drawn to scale, only a notional representation

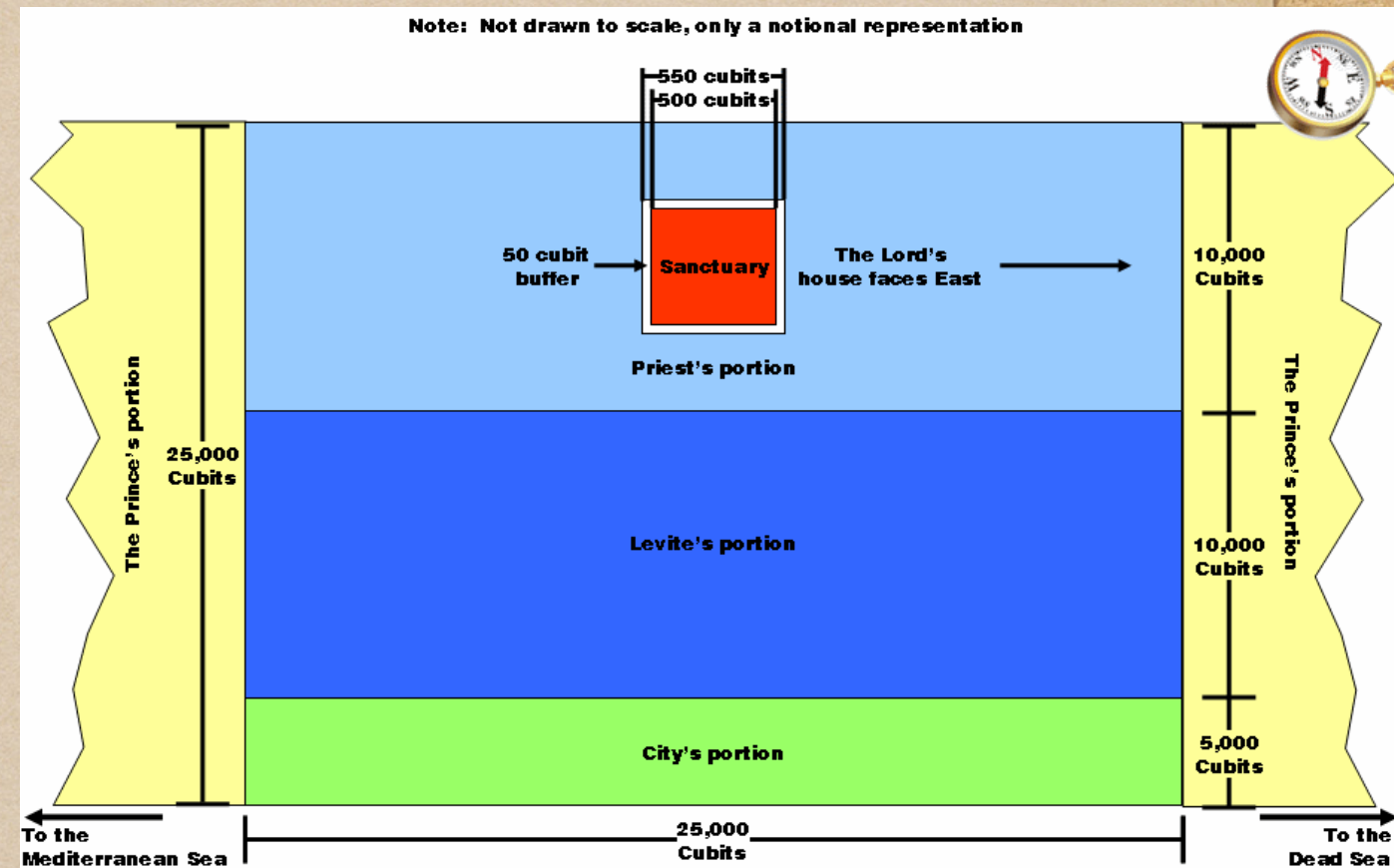


Chapter 48

V. The New Israel

The New Israel

- ♦ **The Sacred Tract**
- ♦ V8 - specific dimensions - with Temple in the Center of the plot
- ♦ Within it
 - ♦ V10-11, the consecrated priests, of Zadok
 - ♦ V13, Levites
 - ♦ V14, cannot sell, transfer, exchange the sacred tract of land
- ♦ V15, rest can be used for non-sacred things: homes, pastures, etc
- ♦ V19, cultivate it, provide food for workers
- ♦ V21-22, princes' portions at sides - eastward and westward



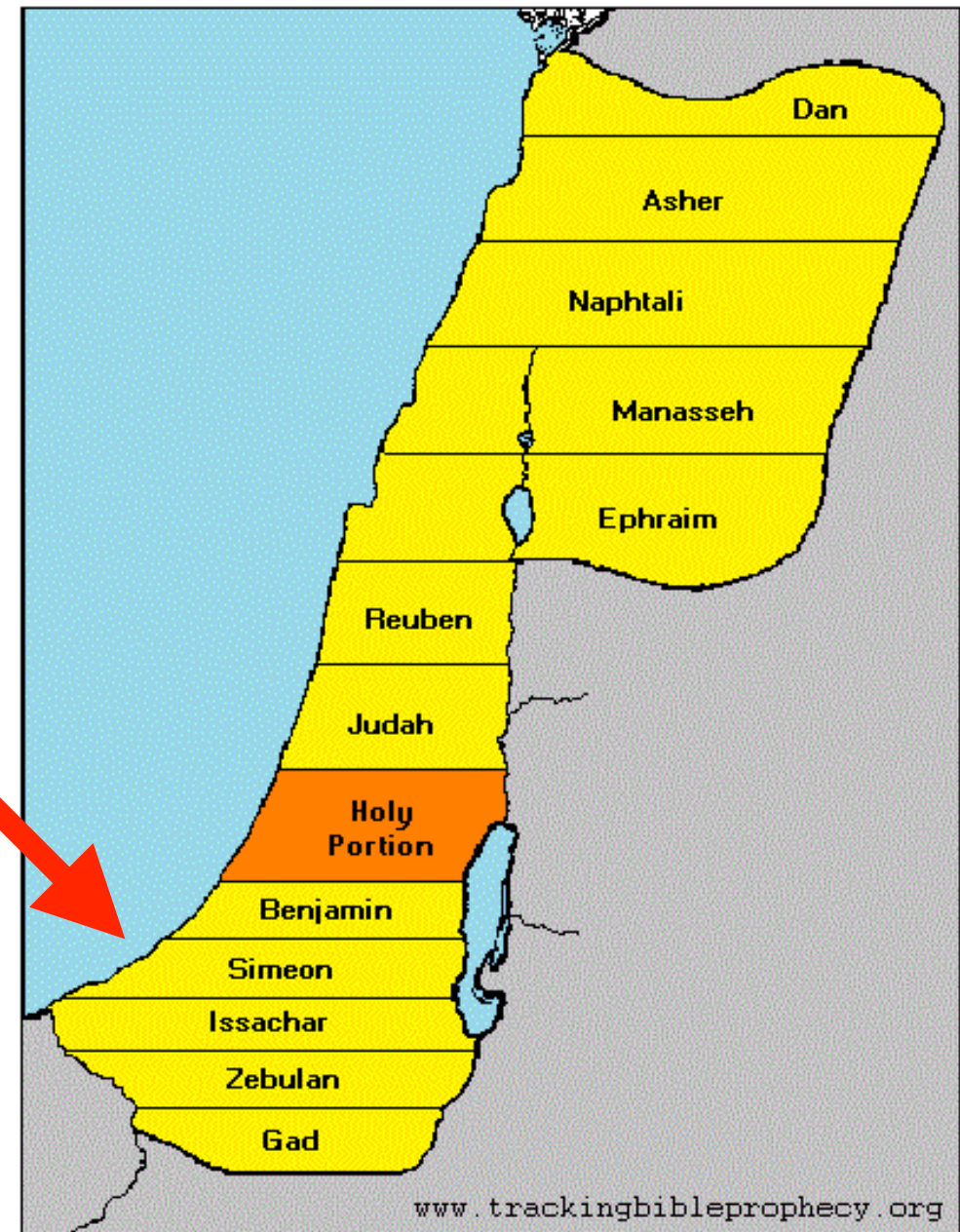
Chapter 48

V. The New Israel

The New Israel

- ♦ The Southern Portions

Millennial Land Allotment - Ezekiel 47:15-21

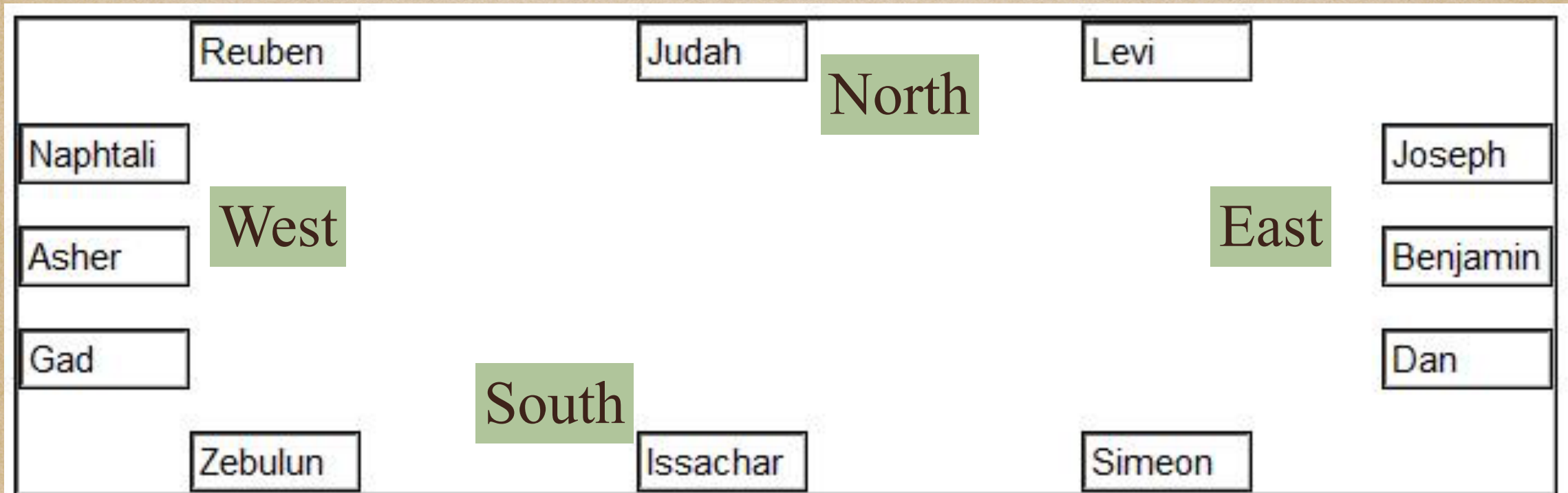


Chapter 48

V. The New Israel

The New Israel

- ♦ **The Gates of the City**
- ♦ 12 tribal gates -
 - ♦ v32, Note '**Joseph**' - not Ephraim and Manasseh



Chapter 48

V. The New Israel₁

The New Israel

- ♦ **The Gates of the City**
- ♦ Ezekiel ends: READ v35

**The Lord
Is There.**

John 10 - Jesus: "I am the gate."



Of interest;

Lives of the Prophets (Apocryphal Text):

Ezekiel died in Babylonia where "the leader of the Israelite exiles" killed him after being chastised for worshiping idols.

Another version is that Ezekiel was killed by an unidentified member of either the tribe of Dan or Gad, who had blamed him for cursing their children and flocks.

SAINTS OF THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Catechism §61:

“The patriarchs, prophets and certain other Old Testament figures have been and always will be honored as saints in all the Church's liturgical traditions.”

In the Litany of Saints at our high Masses we sing/pray:
"All you Holy Patriarchs and Prophets, Pray for us ”

CATHERINE WILKINS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYNAGOGUE / Part 1



<https://www.romeartlover.it/Ancsyna1.html>

CATHERINE WILKINS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SYNAGOGUE - PART 1

SAINTS OF THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Catechism §61:

“The patriarchs, prophets and certain other Old Testament figures have been and always will be honored as saints in all the Church's liturgical traditions.”

In the Litany of Saints at our high Masses we sing/pray:
"All you Holy Patriarchs and Prophets, Pray for us ”



Charmaine Carter

NEXT WEEK:

[Second] Isaiah - Chapters 40 - 48

**The Beginning of the Synagogue -
Part 2 (3 part series)**

CLOSING PRAYER

Antiphon 1: The Lord has brought me to green pastures, alleluia.

Psalm 23

The Good Shepherd

The lamb himself will be their shepherd and will lead them to the springs of living waters.
(Revelation 7:17)

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

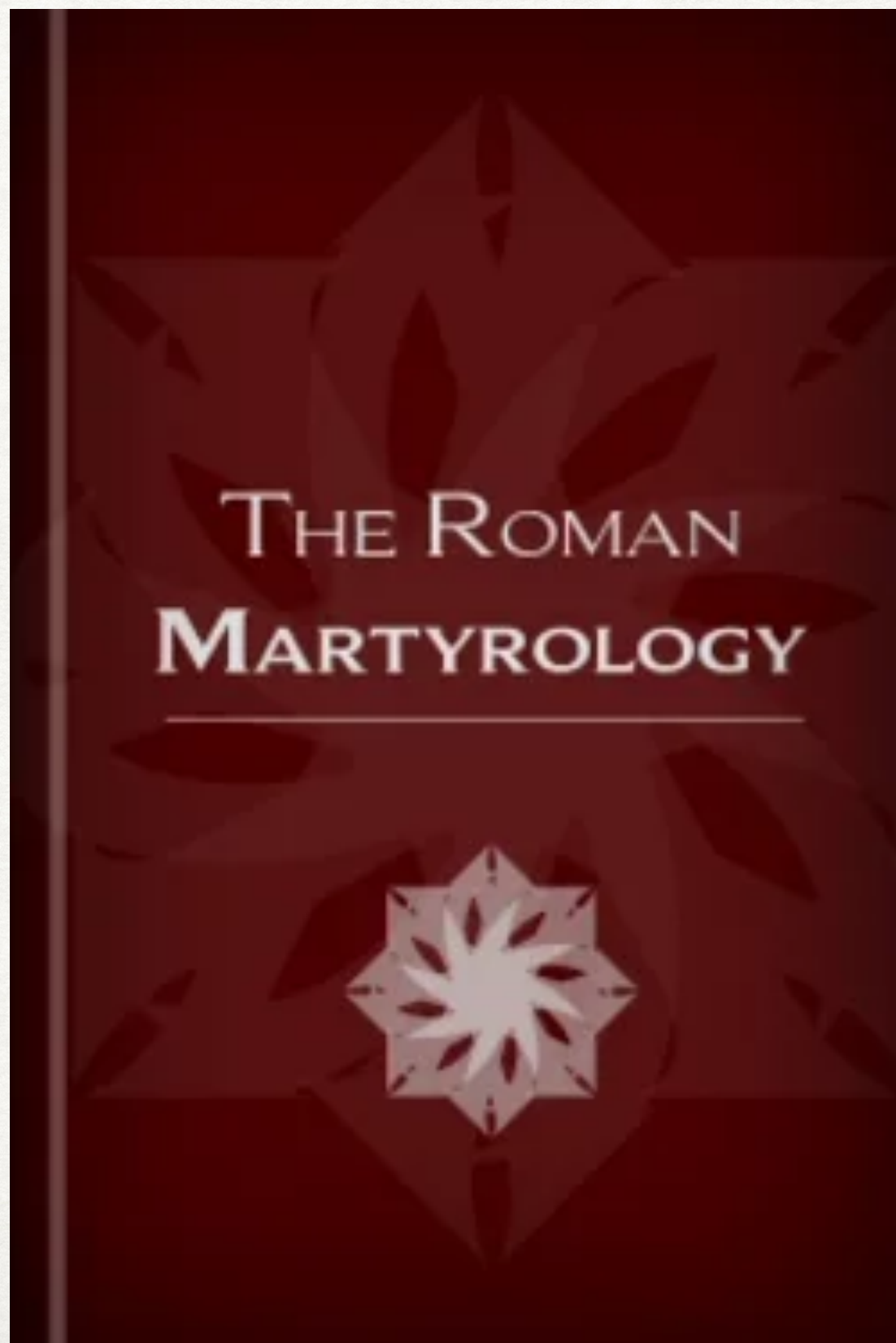
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
— as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Psalm Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of your Church, you give us new birth in the waters of Baptism; you anoint us with oil, and call us to salvation at your table. Dispel the terrors of death and the darkness of error. Lead your people along safe paths, that they may rest securely in you and live for ever in your Father's house.

Antiphon: The Lord has brought me to green pastures, alleluia.

May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
— Amen.

ROMAN MARTYROLOGY



Hebrews 12:1-3

(Read Heb 11
Hall of Faith)