

JONAH - INTRODUCTION

- 1) Overview of the story of Jonah
- 2) Identify the major characters/locations in Jonah
- 3) The Significance of Jonah then, and now

JONAH - OVERVIEW CHAPTER 1

- 1) God's word comes to Jonah (1:1)
- 2) Jonah rejects the word of the LORD (1:3)
- 3) God judges Jonah (1:4)
 - a) God's word comes to the sailors through Jonah(1:12)
 - b) The sailors reject the word of the Lord (1:13)
 - c) God judges the sailors (1:13)
 - d) The sailors repent (1:14)
 - e) God forgives & relents concerning judgment (1:15)
 - f) The sailors feared, sacrificed to & praised God (1:16)

JONAH - OVERVIEW CHAPTERS 2-3

- 1) Jonah repents (2:1-9)
- 2) God forgives & relents concerning judgment (2:10)
- 3) God's word comes to Jonah, and he obeys (3:1-3)
 - A. God's word comes to Nineveh through Jonah (3:4)
 - B. Nineveh repents (3:5-9)
 - C. God forgives & relents concerning judgment (3:10)

JONAH - OVERVIEW CHAPTER 4

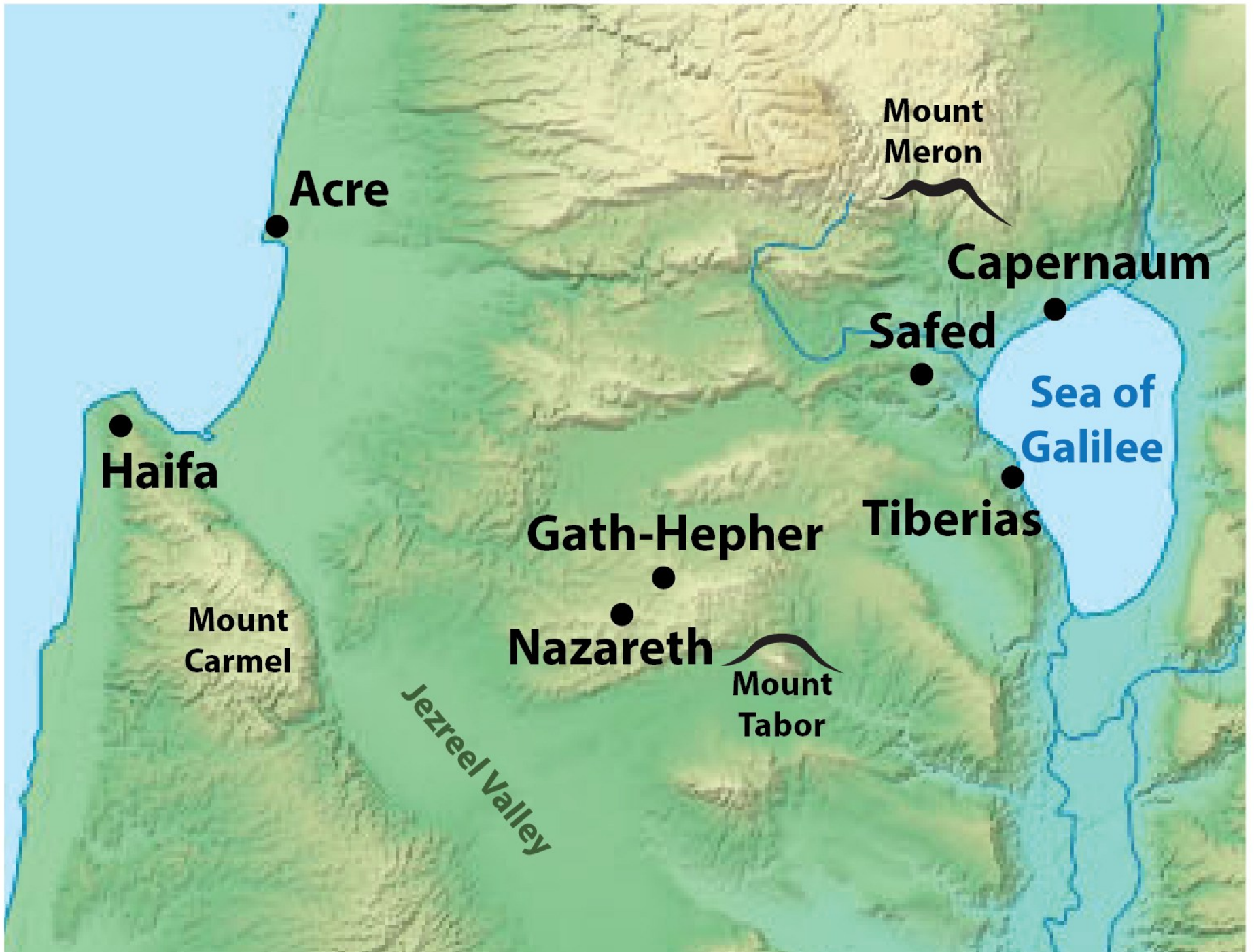
- 1) Jonah rejects God's forgiveness of Nineveh & goes east of the city in hopes to see it destroyed (4:1-5)
- 2) God shows grace to Jonah through the plant (4:6)
- 3) God judges Jonah through the worm & wind (4:7-8)
- 4) God reasons with Jonah to repent (4:9-11)

JONAH – CHARACTERS AND LOCATIONS

- 1) Jonah the son of Amittai
- 2) Israel during the reign of King Jeroboam II
- 3) Nineveh (Assyria)

2 KINGS 14: 23-26

In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel became king in Samaria, *and reigned* forty-one years. He did evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel sin. He restored the border of Israel from the entrance of Hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, which He spoke through His servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was of Gath-hepher.



Acre

Mount Meron

Capernaum

Safed

Sea of Galilee

Haifa

Tiberias

Gath-Hepher

Mount Carmel

Nazareth

Mount Tabor

Jezreel Valley

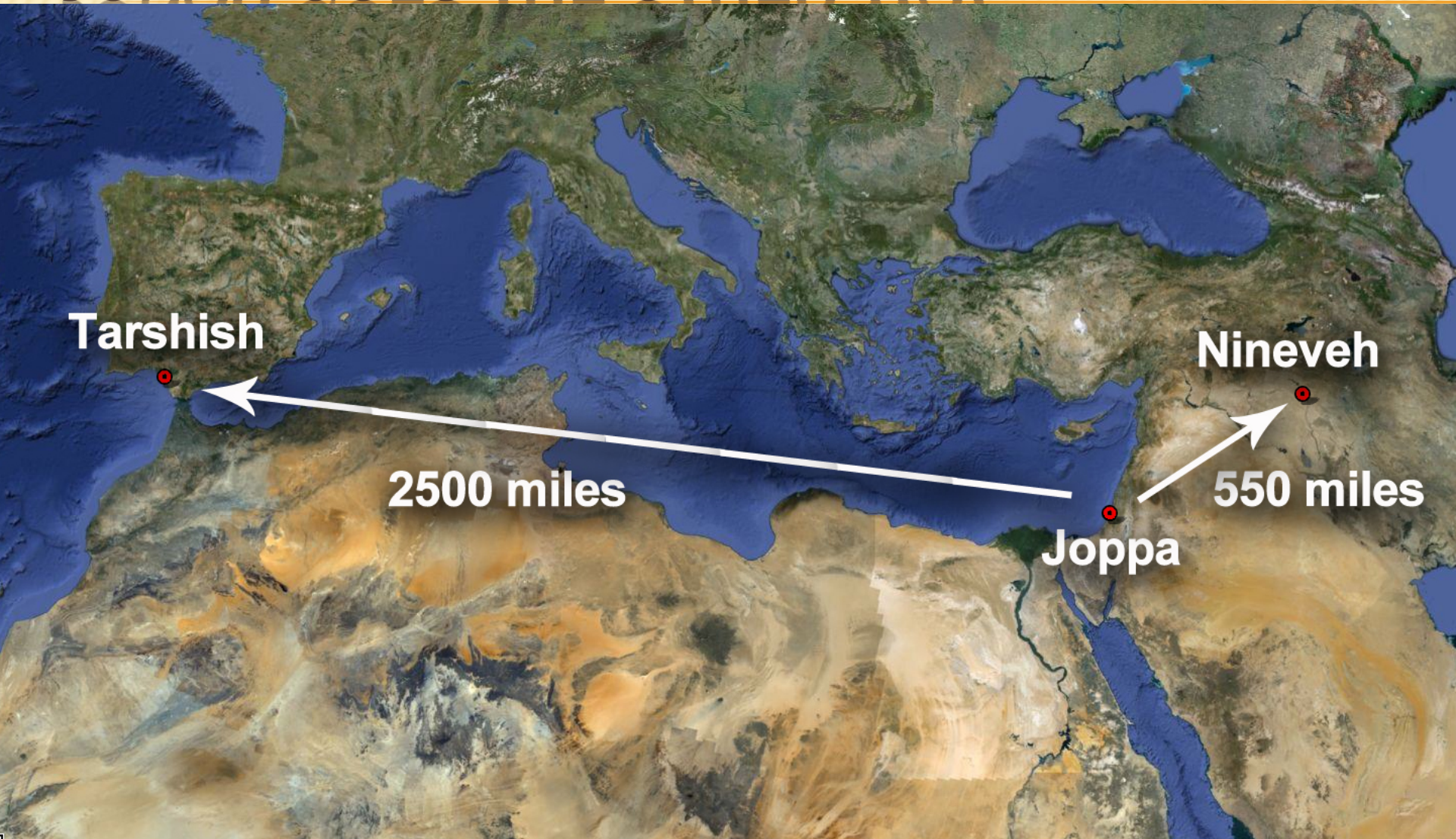
Israel and Judah at the Time of Jeroboam II
786–746 BCE

Israel
 Judah



0 50 km
0 50 miles

JONAH GOES THE OTHER WAY



Tarshish

2500 miles

Nineveh

550 miles

Joppa

GENESIS 10:8-12

Now Cush became the father of Nimrod; he became a mighty one on the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD.” The beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. From that land he went forth into Assyria, and built Nineveh and Rehoboth-Ir and Calah, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.



LYDIA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

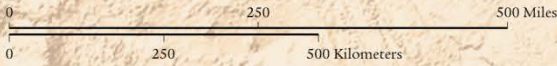
Sahara Desert

EDOM

MAT-ARIBI

Arabian Desert

RED SEA



BLACK SEA

Caucasus Mts.

CASPIAN SEA

MEDIA

ELLIPi

ELAM

PERSIA

PERSIAN GULF

URARTU

SUMER

TABAL

Byzantium

Halys River

L. Tuz

Kayseri

Malatya

Tarsus

Carchemish

Aleppo

Qarqar

Arvad

Byblos

Sidon

Jerusalem

Gaza

Amman

Memphis

Serabit el-Khadim

Ezion-geber

Thebes

Nile River

Araxes River

L. Van

L. Urmia

Nineveh

Calah

Assur

Ekallatum

Sippar

Babylon

Der

Susa

Ur

Ecbatana

Bronze relief from Balwat: Shows 3 spikes each with 8 male heads standing like a totem pole



ASHURNASIRPAL, KING OF ASSYRIA

“I flayed as many nobles as had rebelled against me [and] draped their skins over the pile [of corpses]; some I spread out within the pile, some I erected on stakes upon the pile ... I flayed many right through my land [and] draped their skins over the walls.”

Bronze relief from Balwat: Severed heads hang from the walls of Kulisi as flames devour the city. A dismembered prisoner is impaled on a stake and an Assyrian soldier grasps the hand of a captive missing his other extremities. Notice the dismembered hands and feet.



ASHURNASIRPAL, KING OF ASSYRIA

“I felled 50 of their fighting men with the sword, burnt 200 captives from them, [and] defeated in a battle on the plain 332 troops. ...With their blood I dyed the mountain red like red wool, [and] the rest of them the ravines [and] torrents of the mountain swallowed. I carried off captives [and] possessions from them. I cut off the heads of their fighters [and] built [therewith] a tower before their city. I burnt their adolescent boys [and] girls.”

Relief of the
Siege of
Lachish from
the palace of
Sennacherib:
Jewish soldiers,
defenders of
Lachish, are
excuted by
being impaled
on spikes.
Notice the
prisoners are
handcuffed and
naked.



From the Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III: Captioned “The tribute of Jehu, son of Omri” This occurred in 841 BC. Jehu, King of Israel is prostrate before the Assyrian King Shalmaneser III.



ASHURNASIRPAL, KING OF ASSYRIA

“In strife and conflict I besieged [and] conquered the city. I felled 3,000 of their fighting men with the sword ...I captured many troops alive: I cut off of some their arms [and] hands; I cut off of others their noses, ears, [and] extremities. I gouged out the eyes of many troops. I made one pile of the living [and] one of heads. I hung their heads on trees around the city.”

Relief of the Siege of Lachish from the palace of Sennacherib:
Two naked Jewish prisoners are being flayed alive by Assyrian soldiers, meanwhile (left) Jews, witnessing the torture, are being deported as slaves.



JONAH – THE SIGNIFICANCE: THEN

- Israel, and Jonah, needs to repent, and follow the LORD their God, then he will forgive them and relent of judgment on them.
- Israel is supposed to bless the nations (Gen 12). Jonah does, but not willingly. Israel need to *willingly* bless the nations through the Gospel.

JONAH – THE SIGNIFICANCE: NOW

- Are there people who seem too evil, or wretched to receive the Gospel? They need it! And we need to tell it to them.
“So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17
- If we, individually and nationally, are doing evil, we too need to repent, and God will forgive us and relent concerning judgment.