

The Hand of God

Sessions 3 and 4

CANAAN

Sophisticated culture that starts to assimilate Abraham's descendants into their culture through intermarriage.

Judah: scepter won't depart

Suggested selling Joseph as a slave

Married a Canaanite

Slept with a shrine prostitute who turned out to be his daughter-in-law

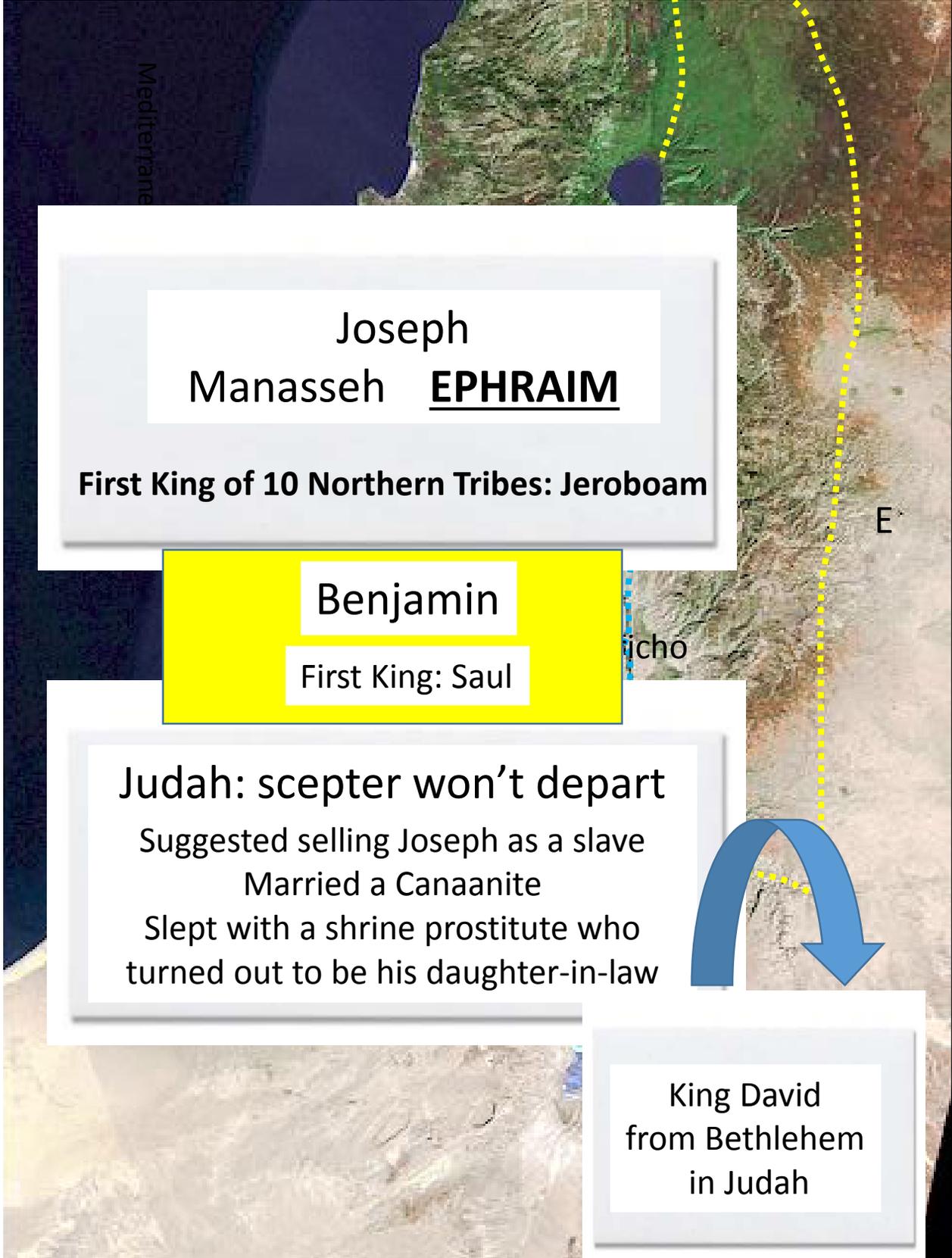
EGYPT 1500 B.C.

Founding Fathers Family Portrait
70 people move down to Egypt to escape severe famine and are made slaves over time.

Joseph

Manasseh EPHRAIM

- From which tribe did Saul, the first king of the nation, come? How did this help the tribes move into this “new phase” of having a king?
- From which tribe did David come? Where did he first reign as king?
- The capital city, Jerusalem, was in what tribal allotment?



Joseph
Manasseh **EPHRAIM**
First King of 10 Northern Tribes: Jeroboam

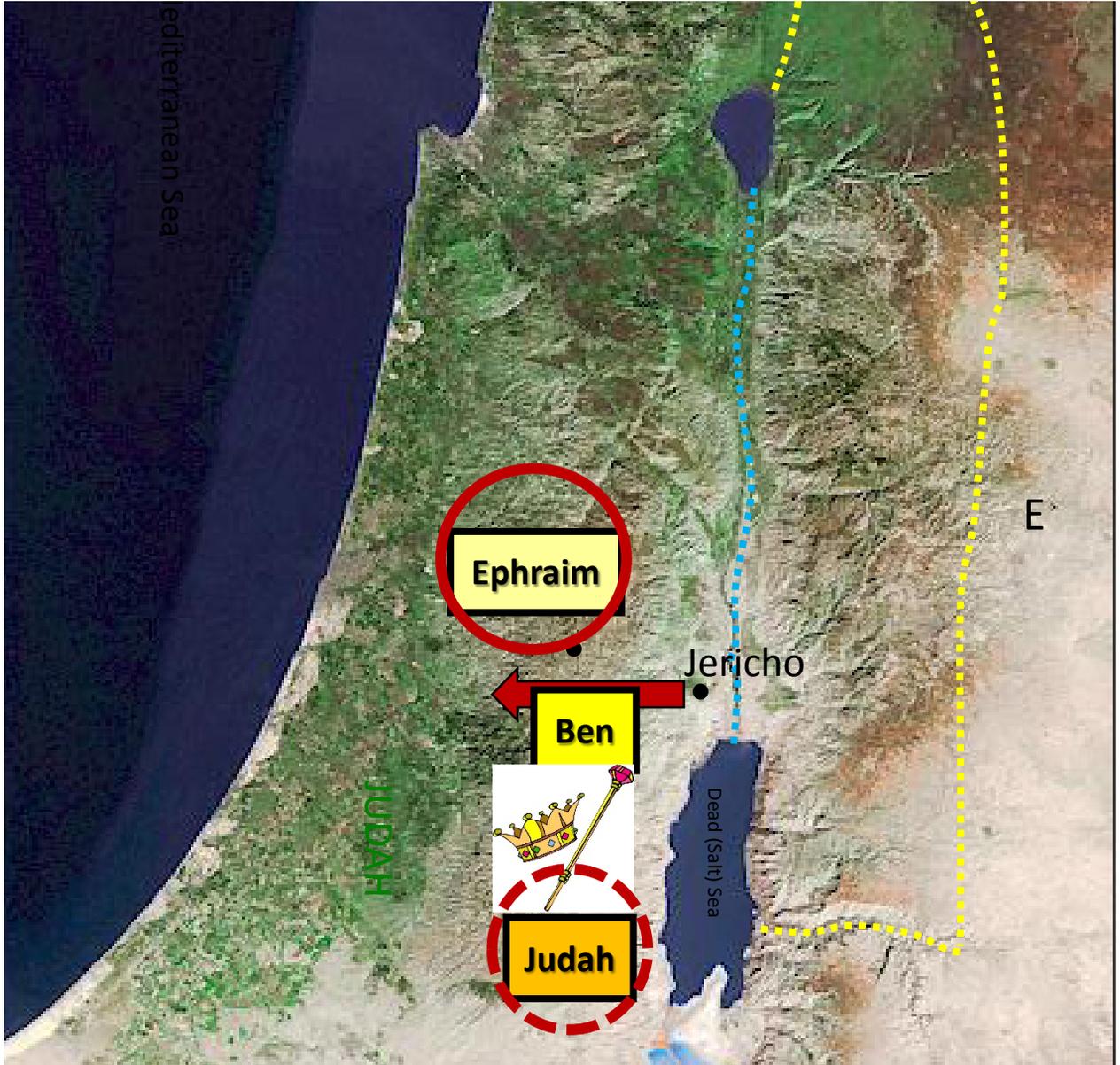
Benjamin
First King: Saul

Judah: scepter won't depart
Suggested selling Joseph as a slave
Married a Canaanite
Slept with a shrine prostitute who turned out to be his daughter-in-law

King David
from Bethlehem
in Judah

Key Events:

- When Solomon's heart turned away from God and he set up shrines for the gods of his wives, the kingdom would be torn from his son. What was the natural "fault line" for the tear? (I Kings 11:9-13)
- Why was it logical that Benjamin would merge with Judah?



- From which tribe was Jeroboam, the first king over the ten tribes of Israel from? (I Kings 11:26) Where did he rule from? (12:25)
- Jeroboam put one of the two golden calves in Bethel, on the border of the tribal allotment of Benjamin.
- What did the northern tribes call their country? ISRAEL
- What was Solomon's dynasty left to rule over? JUDAH

Before judgment, God sends warning. WHY? His desire is always to restore the relationship.

The prophet is sent with a **direct message from God** during a time of **moral decline** and great **spiritual need** to address **specific situations**.

“Surely God does nothing unless He reveals His secret counsel to His servants the prophets.” Amos 3:7

CALLING ISRAEL BACK:

- *“Maybe if the people just SEE the truth of who the TRUE GOD is, they will return.”* God sends **Elijah-Elisha** with powerful signs and miracles, but the people don’t turn back.
- *“Maybe if I tell them how this is breaking My heart, they will return.”* God sends **Hosea**, whose marriage parallels God’s relationship with Israel, but the people don’t turn back.
- *“Maybe if they see ‘Other Nations’ repent, they will return.”* God sends **Jonah** to Assyria with one simple message: “Judgment is coming in 40 days.” He didn’t even tell them to repent, but when they heard the word, they believed, repented, and cried for mercy—but Israel doesn’t turn back to God.
- *“Maybe if an outsider tells them plainly what is about to happen, they will return.”* God sends **Amos**, from a poor town in Judah, to the capital city of Samaria, to address the wealthy leaders, but the leaders don’t turn back.

II Kings 17:13-18 *Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, “Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets.” ...So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight; none was left except the tribe of Judah.*

Key Events:

- In **722 B.C.**, the nation of Israel was taken to various cities in the Assyrian Empire and foreigners were relocated into the land.

ASSYRIA 722 B.C.

**Destroys Israel (North)
and scatters the 10 tribes.**

TO ISRAEL

Elijah-Elisha



Hosea
Jonah
Amos

There were 19 Kings in Israel.

Jeroboam: first king who set up golden calves.

Ahab: married Jezebel and set up Baal worship as official religion of Israel.

TO JUDAH

Isaiah



Micah
Joel



The Key Kings of Judah.

David: was promised an enduring dynasty and house.

Solomon: built the Temple and then built shrines to the gods of his many wives.

Hezekiah: turned all Judah back to God under the threat of Assyria and with Isaiah and Micah's help. Hezekiah's son who reigned 55 years, instituted witchcraft in Judah and

Kings and Prophets-A

**By the end of the Assyrian invasion,
what do we have?**

- Saul, the first anointed king, is from Benjamin and unites the tribes, preparing them to be ruled by Judah.
- David, from Bethlehem in Judah, makes Jerusalem the capital, puts the Levites back to work praising God, and is promised an enduring Kingdom.
- Solomon builds the Temple, and God promises to put His Name there forever. But Solomon marries many women from the Other Nations and they turn his heart away to their false gods.
- Jeroboam, from the tribe of Ephraim, leads 10 tribes to a false worship of God.

TWO RESPONSES

From a rebellious heart toward God—

“I know I’m not listening to God’s warnings, but nothing has happened yet. I’m going to keep going the way I want.”

From a longing heart toward God—

“If I know I’m on a dangerous path away from God, I will listen when I am warned and will turn around.”

BABYLON 586 B.C.

Jeremiah
Ezekiel
Daniel



Obadiah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah

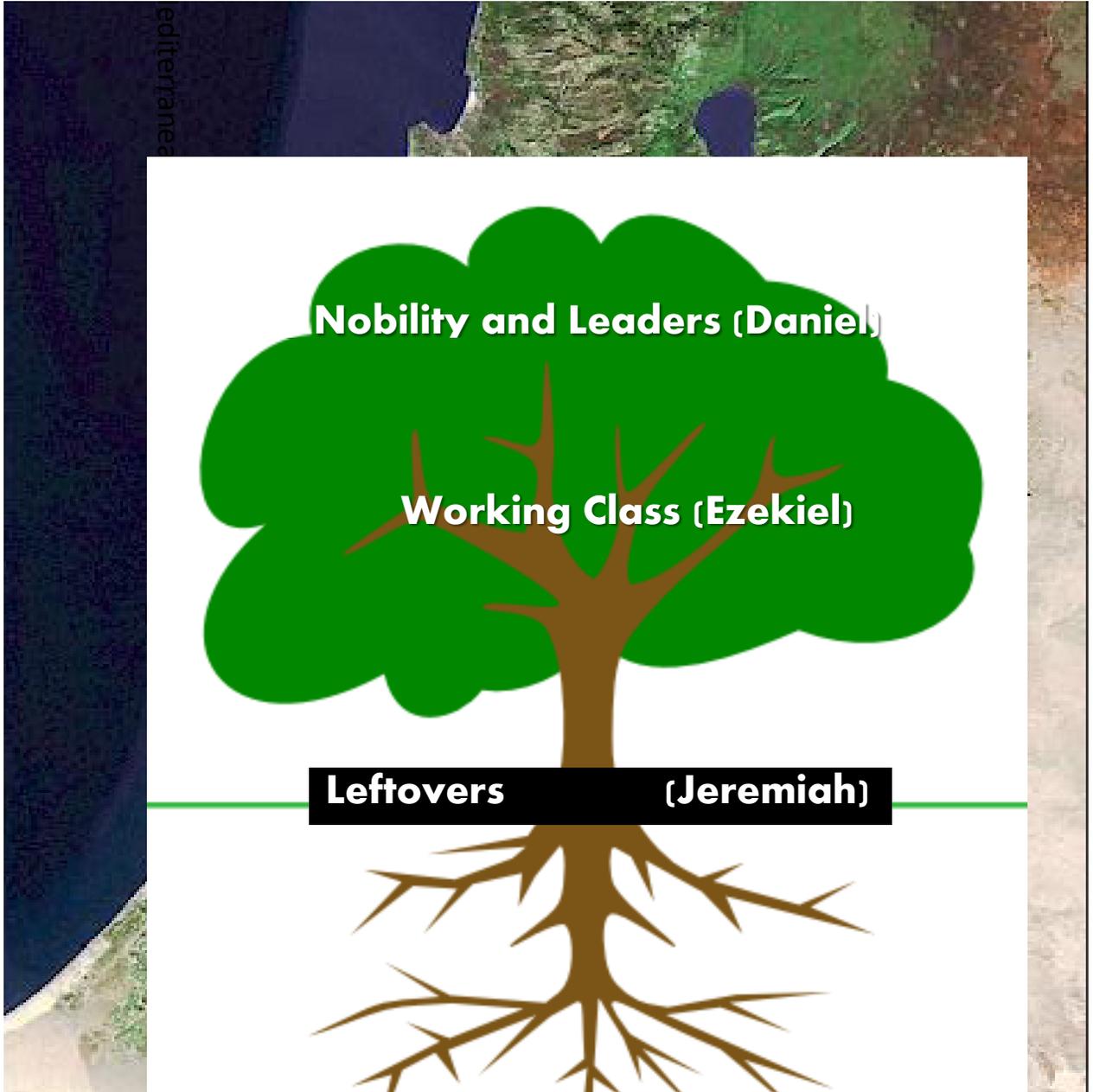


The Key Kings of Judah.

Josiah: In response to hearing God's law read, he humbled his heart and led Judah in a spiritual reform with Jeremiah's help. Because of this, judgment was stayed for 40 years.

Key Events:

- In **605, 597, and 586 B.C.**, the Babylonian Empire attacked Judah three times, taking first the young nobility, then the majority of the working class, and finally removing the remaining people. They destroyed Solomon's Temple, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, and burned the city.



Jeremiah 1:9-10 "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.
"See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms,
To **pluck up** and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow,
To build and **to plant.**"

Key Events:

- God initiates the times of the Gentiles—beginning with Babylonian rule, David’s kingly line will be under the rule of Gentile kings. In **536 B.C.** Cyrus, the king of Persia, allows the exiles to return to their land, even providing the money to rebuild the Temple.
- Ezra 1:5, 2:1

To the 10% who
return to the land to
rebuild--



Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

CYRUS of Persia

The Key Leaders in Judah.

Zerubbabel: a descendant of David with no throne and no kingdom, who leads the first return of people back to the land.

Joshua: the high priest

Ezra: A priest and scribe led the second return of exiles and taught God’s law.

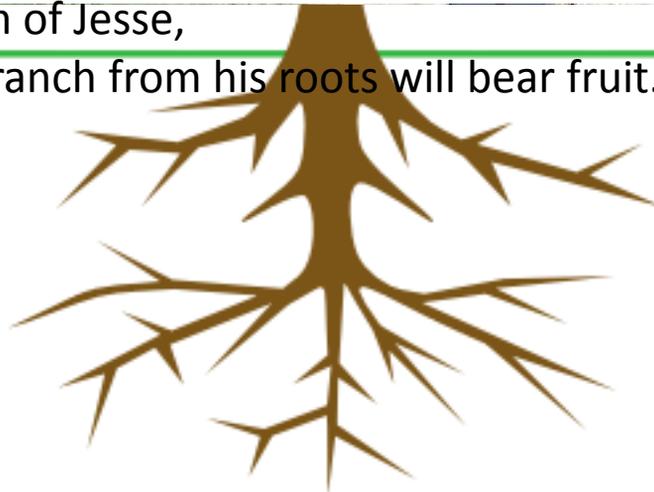
Nehemiah: rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem.

Isaiah 6:13

The holy seed is its stump.

Isaiah 11:1 Then a shoot will spring from
the stem of Jesse,

And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.



Kings and Prophets-B

**By the end of the Restoration,
what do we have?**

- Hezekiah leads Judah in a spiritual reform that spares Jerusalem from Assyrian destruction.
- Kings and Priests give the people false hope in their heritage, in their city, in the Temple, and in their religious practices.
- Nebuchadnezzar systematically removes Judah from the land, but God has His prophet with each group—speaking to the needs of His people.
- God strengthens those who return and rebuild in preparation for His Messiah.

TWO RESPONSES

From a rebellious heart toward God—

“Everyone knows that God is loving and will protect His people from harm no matter how they live.”

From a longing heart toward God—

“Even if God’s people go through costly and painful discipline, God’s mercies are new every morning and His faithfulness is great.

He is still accomplishing
His redemptive plan.”