



Three River Fellowship

2000 TGF Bible Conference
The Complete Ministry of the 144,000

Session 2
**Israel as the Great Priest-Army in the
First Generation**

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24 November 2000
Revised: February 26, 2024

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1. ABSTRACT

This session analyzes Israel's role as the great Priest-Army in the First Generation in conquering and purifying the Land under Joshua. Israel's priestly role includes the systematic destruction of the Nephilim and the sacrifice of all Gentiles who do not submit to Jesus of Nazareth either as proselytes of the gate or righteousness. It is distinguished by angelic empowerment via the Shekhinah-Cloud as well as cooperation between the 12 Tribes of Israel. Israel's ministry in the First Generation thus provides the divine type of Israel's ministry of the Third Generation.

2. INTRODUCTION

The First Generation and its Remnant under Joshua, provide for us a portion of the theological framework by which we are to understand the ministry of the 144K. The First Generation's ministry includes: (1) Appropriating the Land; (2) The supernatural empowerment of the armies; (3) The destruction of the Nephilim within the Land (for the 144K this will be within Israel and not limited to the Gentile nations); and (4) The reaping of unrepentant Gentiles living within the Land.

Items discussed in this presentation should be used as part of the Biblico-Theological framework to be brought to bear on our understanding of the ministry of the 144K.

3. THE BIBLICO-ESCHATOLOGICAL CONCEPT OF THE GENERATIONS OF ISRAEL

In Israel's history and future there are three prophetic Generations especially marked out, each of which are forty years in duration and characterized by great apostasy on the part of reprobate Israel and obedience of Elect Israel. Below is a brief summary of each of these Generations.¹

3.1. First Generation

Israel's First Generation is identified as that generation coming out of Egypt under Moses, wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, and eventually dying off with the exceptions of Joshua, Caleb, and those under 20 years of age. A brief listing of relevant scriptures are **Ex 16:35; Num 32:13**; Acts 13:18; 1 Cor 10:1-12; and Heb 3:7-13. The First Generation of Israel is referred to as the Generation of the *Fathers* by John in his Epistle (1 Jn 2:13,14).

3.2. Second Generation

Israel's Second Generation is identified as that generation beginning with Gabriel's announcement to Zacharias regarding the conception/birth of his son John the Baptist (Luke 1:5-24). The announcement of Gabriel breaks the 400 years of silence of the inspired recorded angelic ministry. The Second Generation is explicitly called a Generation (**Mat 11:16**; 12:34,39,41,42; Acts 8:33; etc). The Second Generation of Israel is referred to as the Generation of *Young Men* by John in his Epistle (1 Jn 2:13-14). They are the Generation that sees Messiah and widows herself in her youth.

3.3. Third Generation

Israel's Third Generation is identified as that generation beginning just after the Rapture of the Body of Christ and continuing to the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom. The Third Generation is explicitly called a Generation (**Mat 24:34**; Mk 13:30; Luke 21:32). The Third Generation is referred to the Generation of *Infants* by John in his Epistle (1 Jn 2:13,18[18-27] – the *Paideia*). The Third Generation sees Anti-Christ, False Prophet, the growing up of the Wheat and Tares, the ministry of the Two Witnesses, and finally the ministry of the 144K.

¹ For a detailed discussion of the Generations of Israel see, Walsh, R.E., **The Clock of Generations**, [Proceedings of the 1997 TGF Bible Conference](#), Trinity Grace Fellowship, Pittsburgh, PA

3.4. Chart of Israel's Prophetic Generations

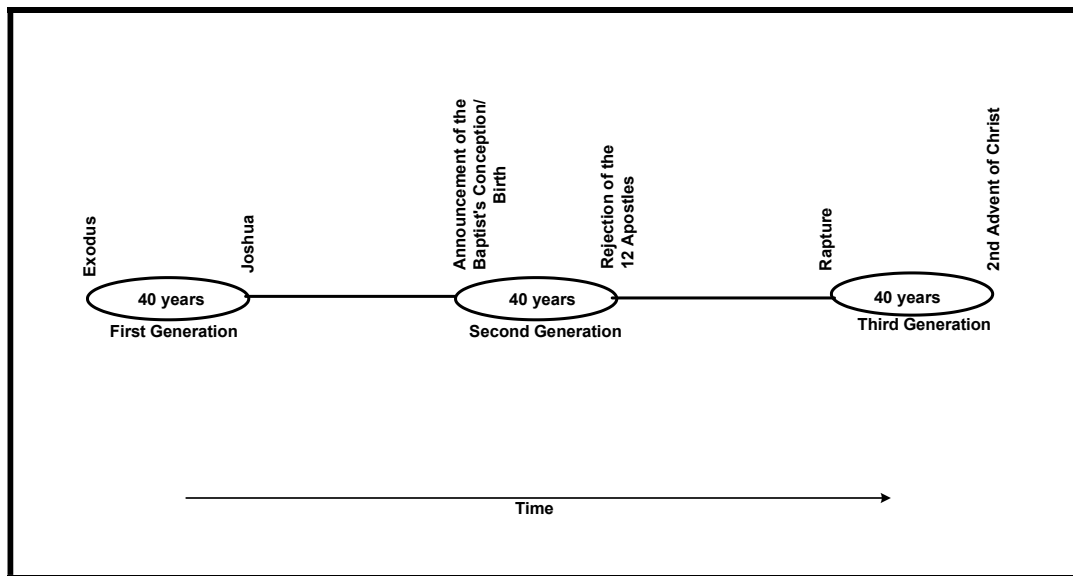


Figure 1. *The Prophetic Generations of Israel*

4. THE CONTRIBUTION OF MOSES AND THE WILDERNESS JOURNEY

There are three phases to the Exodus and subsequent Wilderness Wanderings. The first leg is the trek from Egypt to Mt. Sinai; the second leg is the trek from Mt. Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea; and finally, the third leg is from Kadesh-Barnea to the plains of Moab. Each of these legs is briefly summarized below.

4.1. The First Leg of Wandering (Egypt to Mt. Sinai)

The Israelites high-tailed it out of Goshen, Egypt and headed east toward the Wilderness of Shur, between Goshen and the Negeb. They left Egypt from the city of Raamses (a.k.a., Zoan) and proceeded to Succoth (Booths) [Ex 12:37]. From there they headed northeast to Baal-zephon, while being pursued by the Egyptian Army. They were pursued unto Pi-hahireth (Ex 14:9) and crossed the "Reed Sea". The Egyptian Army was totally destroyed as they pursued the Israelites into the parted waters. From the great "parting of the waters" the Israelites continued their journey to Mt. Sinai through Marah (15:22,23; Num 33:8), struggling along the way, murmuring about water (Ex 17:1-7), and battling with the Amalekites (Ex 17:8-16). Finally arriving at Mt. Sinai, they encamped for about 1 year. It is at Mt. Sinai that Moses receives the Law contained in Commandments and Ordinances. *For the relevant passages for this phase of the Wilderness Adventure see Ex 12-32; Num 33.*

4.2. The Second Leg of Wandering (Mt. Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea)

Ex 33:1 records Jehovah telling Moses to depart Mt. Sinai and head toward "land of Canaan" (Ex 33:1-3). Along the way, some of the murmuring Israelites, were consumed by the "fire of the Lord" at Taberah (Num 11:1-3), while a little later on Aaron (Moses' brother) and Miriam criticize Moses, whereby Miriam was temporarily stricken with leprosy (Num 12). Making their way through the Wilderness of Paran, the Israelites finally encamped at Kadesh-Barnea for approximately 38 years. It is interesting to note that Jehovah warned the unbelieving Israelites that if they displayed a lack of faith, they would wander in the Wilderness until that entire Generation over 20 years of age died off (Num 14:29).

4.3. The Third Leg of Wandering (Kadesh-Barnea to the Plains of Moab)

This is the longest in the legs of the Wilderness Wandering, lasting some 38-years (Num 13-36). It is interesting that this final period begins with Israel encamped at Kadesh-Barnea and ends seeing Israel in Kadesh-Barnea heading out to the Plains of Moab. In this 38-year period Israel traveled greatly throughout the Wildernesses of Zin and Paran. It is while at Kadesh-Barnea that Miriam dies (Num 20:1) and the Israelites continue their murmuring against God, longing to be back in the bondage of Egypt. Because of their murmuring and lack of water, Moses is instructed to "speak to the rock" (Num 20:8), but because of the hardness of the Israelites' hearts, instead of speaking the rock, Moses loses control, sins and "strikes the rock" (Num 20:11). For his lack of control and sin, Moses is not allowed to enter the Promised Land (Num 20:12). Soon Aaron dies and is buried in Mt. Hor. Continuing on and wanting to enter into the Land, the Israelites request permission of the Edomites to cross their country and finish the journey to Canaan. However, the Edomites reject their request (Num 20:14-21) forcing the Israelites to alter their itinerary as far south as Ezion-Geber on the shore of the Gulf of Aqabah (Num 33:35,36; Deut 2:8). From Ezion-Geber, Israel makes her way to the Plains of Moab, traveling just west of the King's

Highway. They finally settle in Mt. Nebo directly across the Jordan River from Jericho (Deut 34:1). Moses has prepared Israel to enter the Promise Land and under the leadership of Joshua, are to take the Land from the Canaanites, Nephilim, and Gentiles. There is to be no compromise for the unrepentant Gentile. There is to be no compromise as far as the Nephilim are concerned!

4.4. Summary Comments

It is very interesting to note that the Generation under the Leadership of Moses took only the southeastern part of the Canaanite Land, east of the Jordan River, from Kadesh-Barnea to the mountains surrounding Heshbon (Num 21:21-35). The Wanderings of Israel after coming out of the bondage of Egypt, were for the most part all outside of the Promise Land. The best that could have been hoped for (because of their unbelief) was to get to the very edge at Kadesh-Barnea. The Reprobate Nation of Israel had to die off before the Righteous of Israel could enter into the Promised Land. The taking of the Land took place under Joshua, Caleb, and those under 20 years of age, the remnant of the First Generation. Nevertheless, the taking of this eastern portion helped set up the entrance into the Land under the leadership of Joshua.

5. JOSHUA AND THE CONQUERING OF THE LAND

This section summarizes the conquering of the Land under the leadership of Joshua and is contained in Josh 1-12. The conquest of Canaan can be divided into two major campaigns: the campaign of southern Canaan (Josh 6-10), and the campaign of northern Canaan (Josh 11). Each of these campaigns is briefly discussed below.

5.1. The Campaign of Southern Canaan (Josh 6-10)

The southern campaign is first waged as the Israelites cross the Jordan and conquer Jericho and Ai. The battles of Jericho and Ai are recorded in Josh 6:1-8:29. As a result of the reputation of Israel in battle the Gibeonites deceive Joshua into thinking that they are a people from afar and Joshua agrees to accept them into Israel's land (9:3-18). When the King of Jerusalem hears of this ill-gotten treaty (10:1-4), he aligns himself with 4 southern-Canaan kings (cities of Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon) against Gibeon. Because of this treaty with Joshua, the Gibeonites request defense. So Joshua ascends from his base in Gilgal and by God's handiwork crushes these five kings. In so doing, Joshua asks God to provide more daylight in order to defeat these Amorite kings; God harkens to Joshua's request (**10:12-4 [Joshua' Long Day]**). Finally, Joshua conquers the entire southern portion of Canaan from Kadesh-Barnea to Gaza and Goshen to Gibeon, including Bethel and Gilgal (Josh 10:40-43).

5.2. The Campaign of Northern Canaan (Josh 11)

The northern campaign begins (**Josh 11:1-5**) when the king of Hazor (just north of the Sea of Galilee) covenants against Israel with many of the northern kings (cities of Madon, Shimron, Achshaph, and MANY more). God supernaturally subjects these kings into the hand of Joshua and the Israelites utterly destroy them, houghing their horses, and burning their chariots (Josh 11:9). As a result of the northern campaign, Israel through Joshua now controls all of the Land of Canaan through the northern reaches well beyond the Sea of Galilee. Joshua 12 begins with a list of the kings that Joshua conquered both from the southern and northern campaigns.

5.3. Summary Comments

Even after all these battles the Land of Canaan was not fully conquered. In fact, there was much yet to do as detailed in Josh 13:1-7. Even so the total union of all of the Land conquered by Moses and Joshua, only incorporated the immediate land surrounding the Jordan river and did not include the eastern portion of Abraham's Parcel nor did it include the Land of Shur and Goshen. Essentially the conquered land consisted of the the Land of Canaan Proper, west of the Jordan River. The west is the side of the River upon which Abraham settled, but Lot settled on the east side of the Jordan.

Even though Joshua and subsequent generations did not conquer the entire Promised Land, the actual extent of the total Land is reiterated to Joshua in **Josh 1:1-4**.

6. THE CLEANSING OF THE LAND

This section represents a very brief discussion of the cleansing of the land of both the reprobate Gentiles and Nephilim (see Gen 6:1-4).

6.1. The Destruction of the Nephilim

One of the cities Joshua conquers is Hebron. Hebron is the center for one of the nations that appears to be Nephilimic in nature. Josh 14:14,15 describe Arba as a great name among the Anakim, one of the branches of the post-Flood Nephilim. Hebron's original name was Kirjath-Arba, named after Arba. Joshua kills the Anakim from many of their centers (Josh 11:21,22).²

Moses defeats Og of Bashan (Josh 13:12), but the Gergeshites, Maachathites were not destroyed by Joshua (Josh 13:13).

See also Num 13:33, Deut 2:11,20; 3:11,13; Josh 12:4; 13:12; 15:8; 17:5; 18:16

6.2. The Submission or Destruction of the Righteous Gentiles

In this section we briefly enumerate some of the Gentiles that acknowledge Israel's Hope of the Promised Land and those killed because of their unrepented hatred toward Israel and the Land that God has given Israel.

1. **Rahab the Harlot** as a saved Proselyte-of-Righteousness-Gentile (becomes a Jewess) – Josh 2:1-21; 6:17-25; Mat 1:5; Heb 11:1; Jam 2:25
2. **The Gibeonites** – Servants of Israel, water bearers and hewers of wood – Josh 9:3-18, **23-27**
3. Many of the Canaanite nations were not totally under the curse of the Nephilim. Yet, apparently not one tribe submitted to Israel except for the Gibeonites.

6.3. Summary Comments

The fact that no unrepentant Gentile or reprobate Nephilim was to be left standing provides for our understanding of the 144K and their unrelenting attitude toward those living in the Land. The Gibeonites provide for us an example of how the repentant Gentiles are provided for and to be treated with honor and respect (Heb 7:7).

7. THE DIVISION OF THE LAND UNDER JOSHUA

See the attached map for discussion purposes.

8. THE SUPERNATURAL EMPOWERMENT OF THE WILDERNESS WANDERING AND THE CONQUERING OF THE LAND

8.1. Wilderness Wandering

The Lord goes before Moses and the Israelites via the Shekhinah Cloud and Pillar of Fire – Ex **13:21,22** (cp. 1 Cor 10:1-4); 14:19-31; 16:10; 19:9-24; 24:15-18; 33:2-23; 34:5-13; 40:34-38; **Lev 16:2,13** (Fundamental References of the Ark of Covenant); Num 9:15-22; 10:11,12; 11:25; 12:1-16; 14:14; 16:42; Deut 1:33; 5:22; 31:14-17.

8.2. Joshua and Conquering of the Land

The Ark of the Covenant is instrumental in the success of the Joshua and the Israelites in conquering the Promised Land – Josh 3:3-17; 6 (Conquering of Jericho); 7:6; 8:30-35.

Directly through Shekhinah God aids Israel in securing the Land – Josh 10:8-11, 12-14 (Joshua's Long Day), 30, 32; 6-9; 23:5, 9, **10**.

8.3. Summary Comments

The First Generation and its Remnant under Joshua were both guided by the Lord via the Shekhinah Cloud (I the Wilderness only). This Angelic leading provides a portion of the theological framework for understanding the "empowerment" of the 144K of the Third Generation as they without compromise take the ENTIRE Promised Land. Moreover, Josh 23:10 may provide for our understanding of the "power and strength" of each individual of the 144K. Each Warrior-Priest is capable of containing no less than 1000 men at any one time.

² Sadly, some remain in a few cities of the Gaza Strip: Gath, Ashdod, etc. Goliath is the offspring of these Nephilim residing in Gath some 400-years in the future.

9. THE UNITED KINGDOM UNDER SAUL, DAVID, AND SOLOMON

See attached map for discussion purposes.

10. MAPS

10.1. The Sinai Wanderings of Israel's First Generation

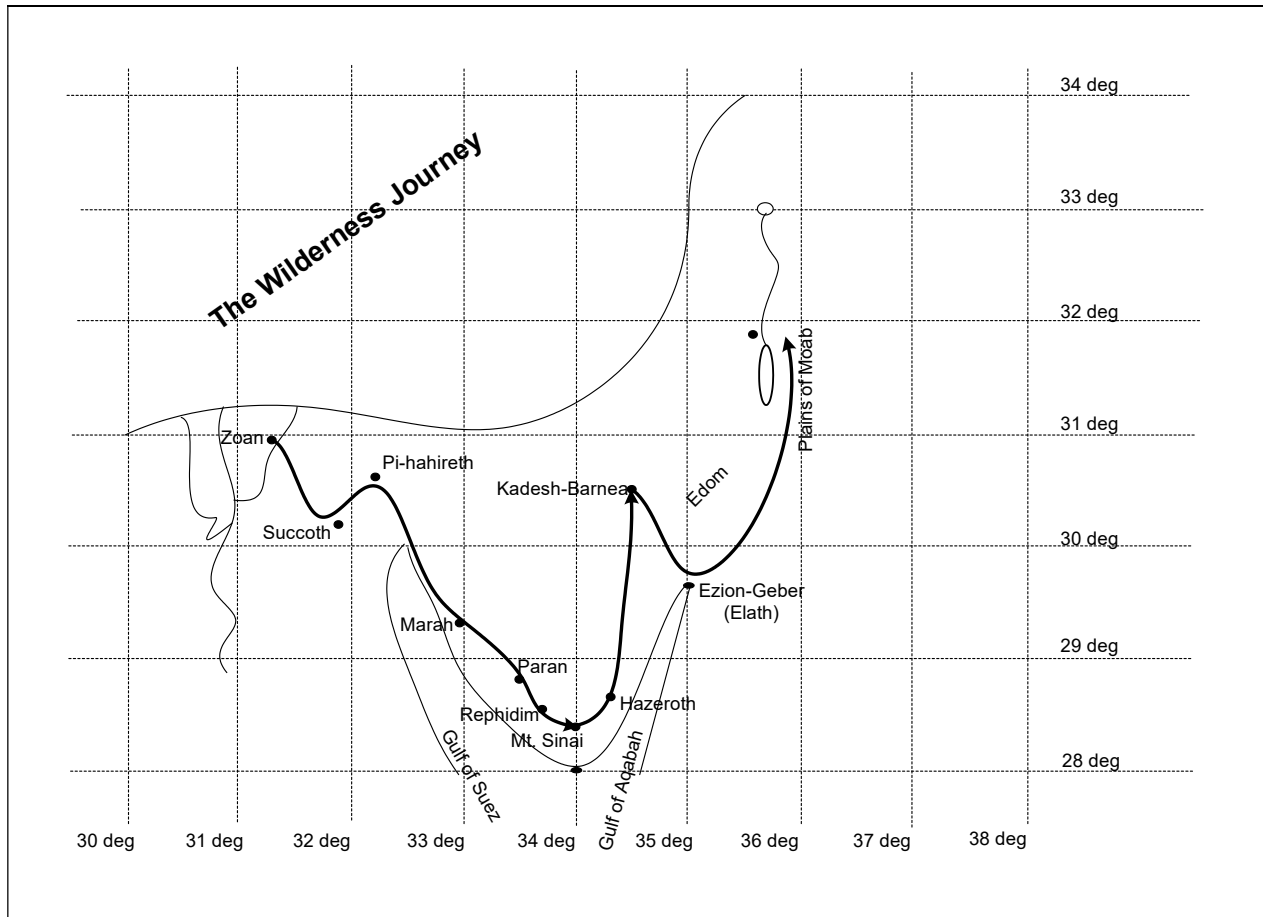


Figure 2. Israel's Wilderness Wanderings

The author is aware of the work of Ron Wyatt and the discovery of chariot wheels in the Gulf of Aqaba and a potential site of Mt. Sinai. His web site is as follows: <http://wyattmuseum.com/>.

10.2. The Campaigns of Moses and the First Generation Remnant and Joshua

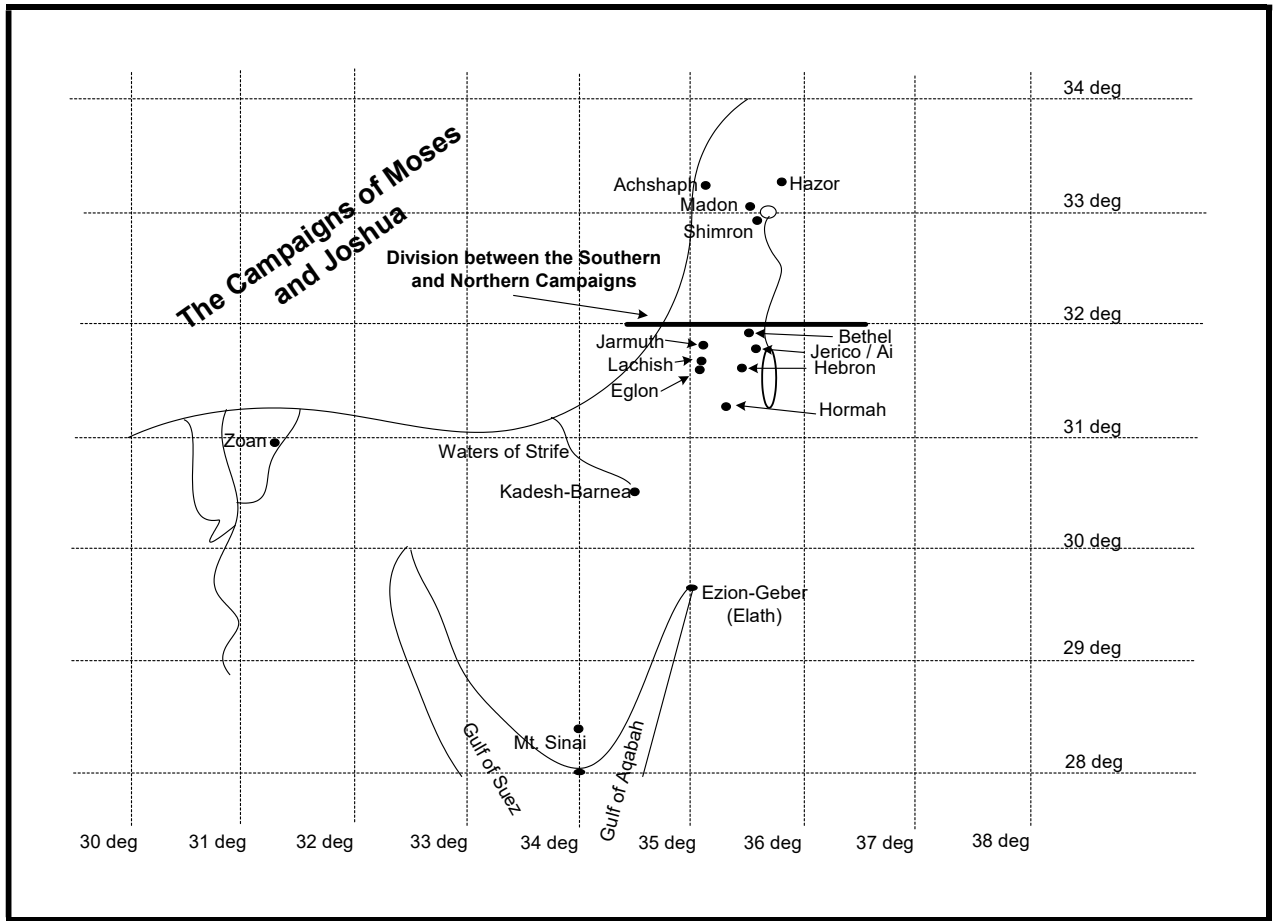


Figure 3. *The Campaigns of Moses and Joshua*

10.3. Joshua's Conquered Land

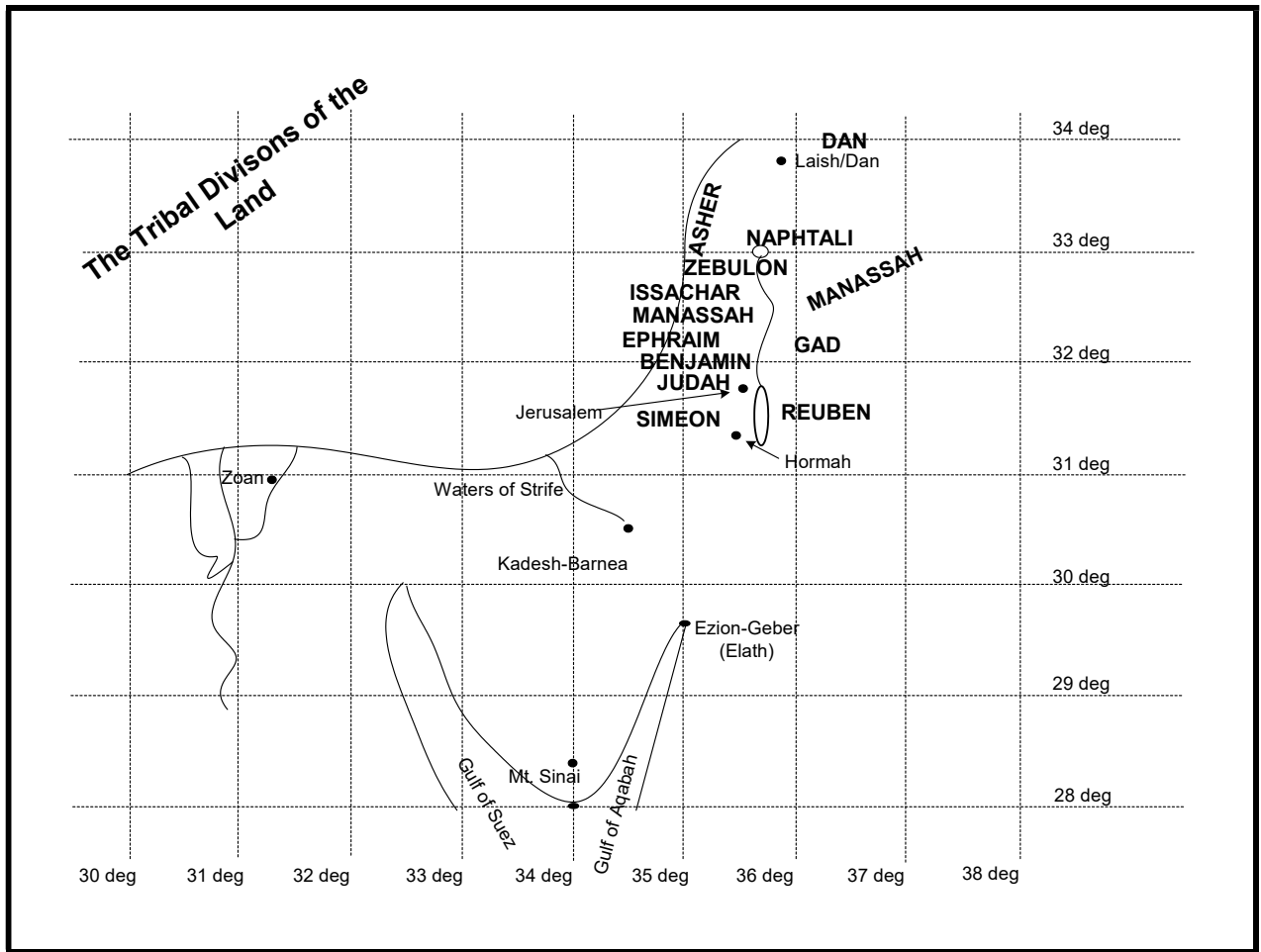


Figure 4. *The Division of the First Generation Land*

10.4. The United Kingdom of Saul, David, and Solomon

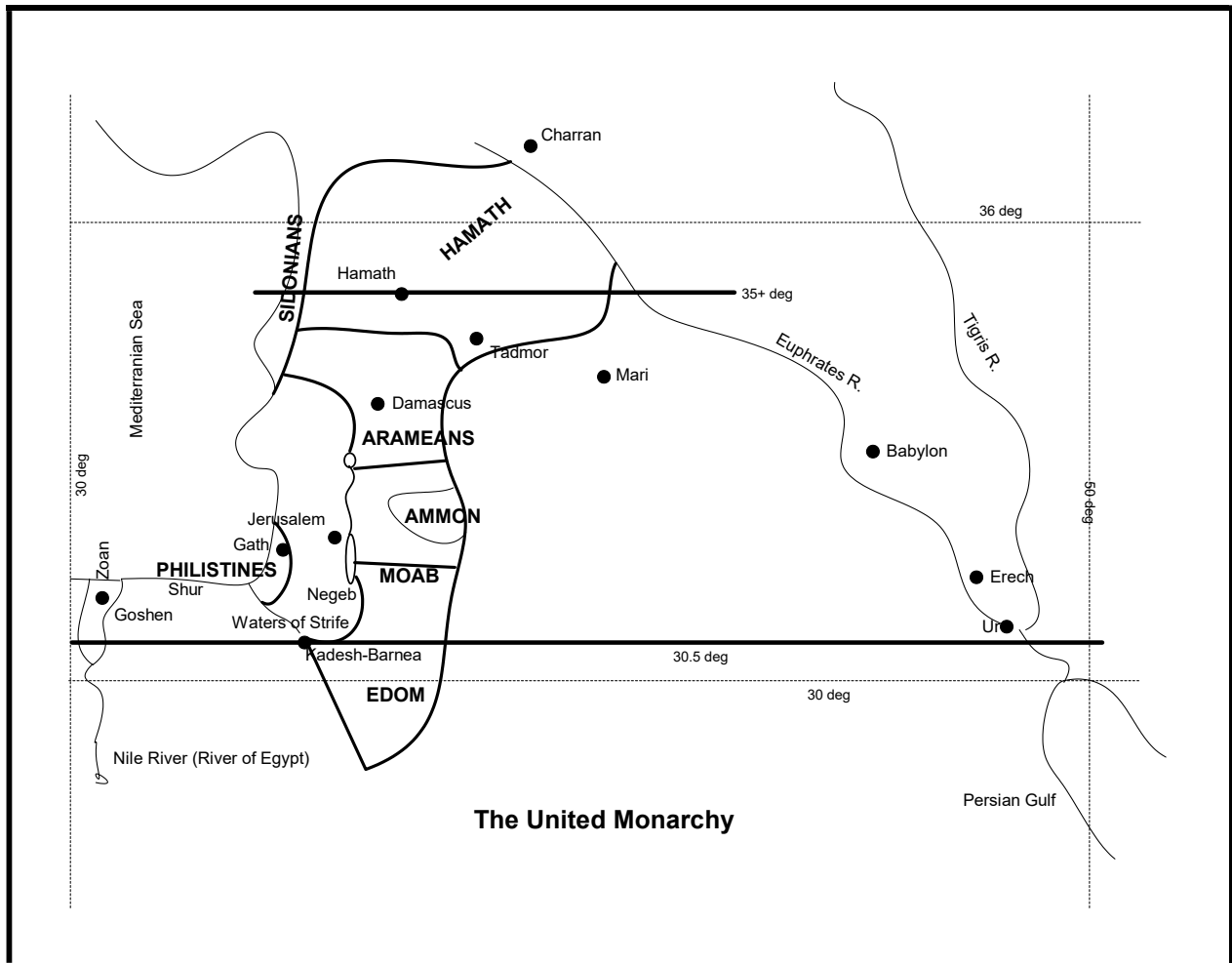


Figure 5. *The United Monarchy Under David and Solomon*

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