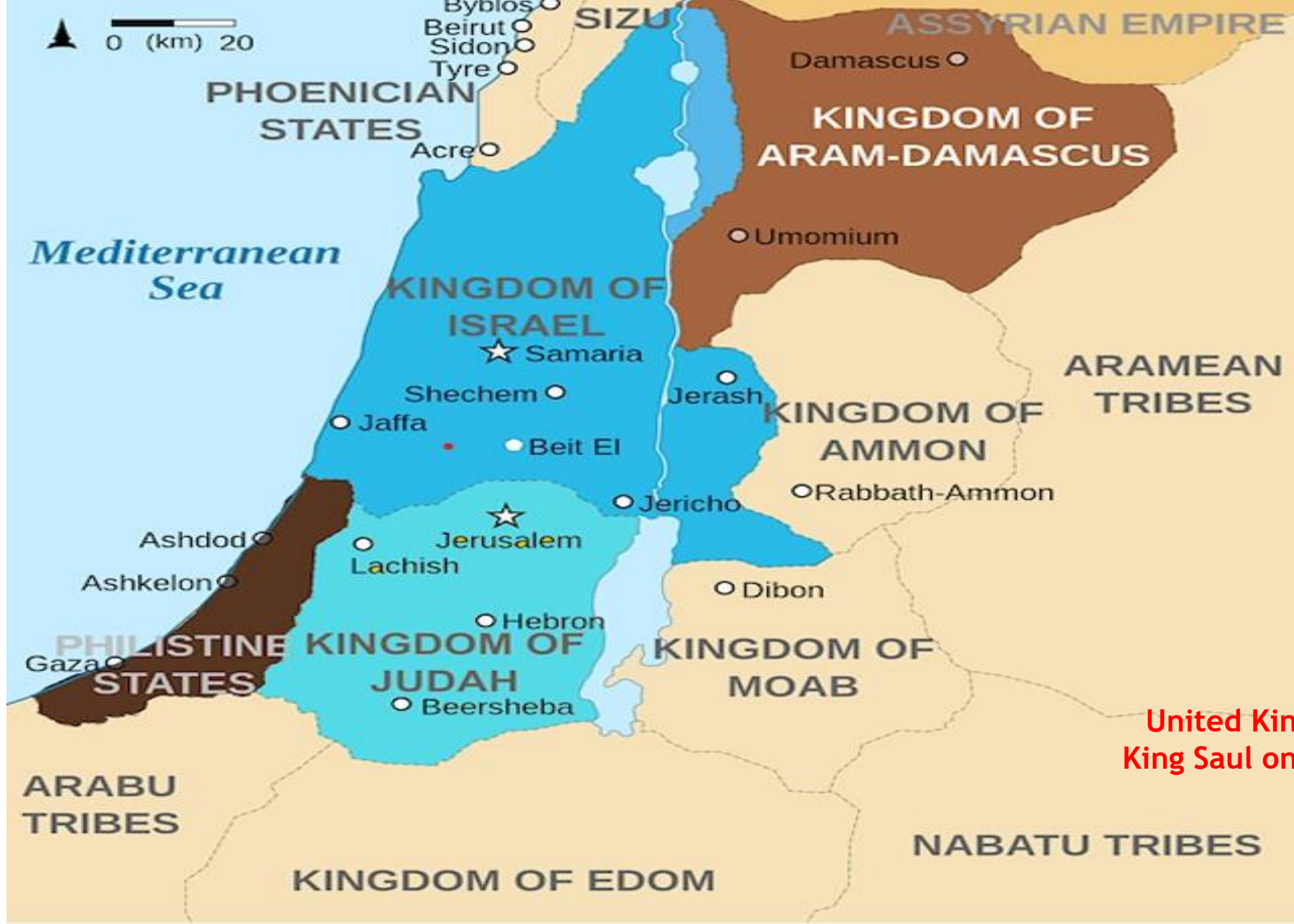
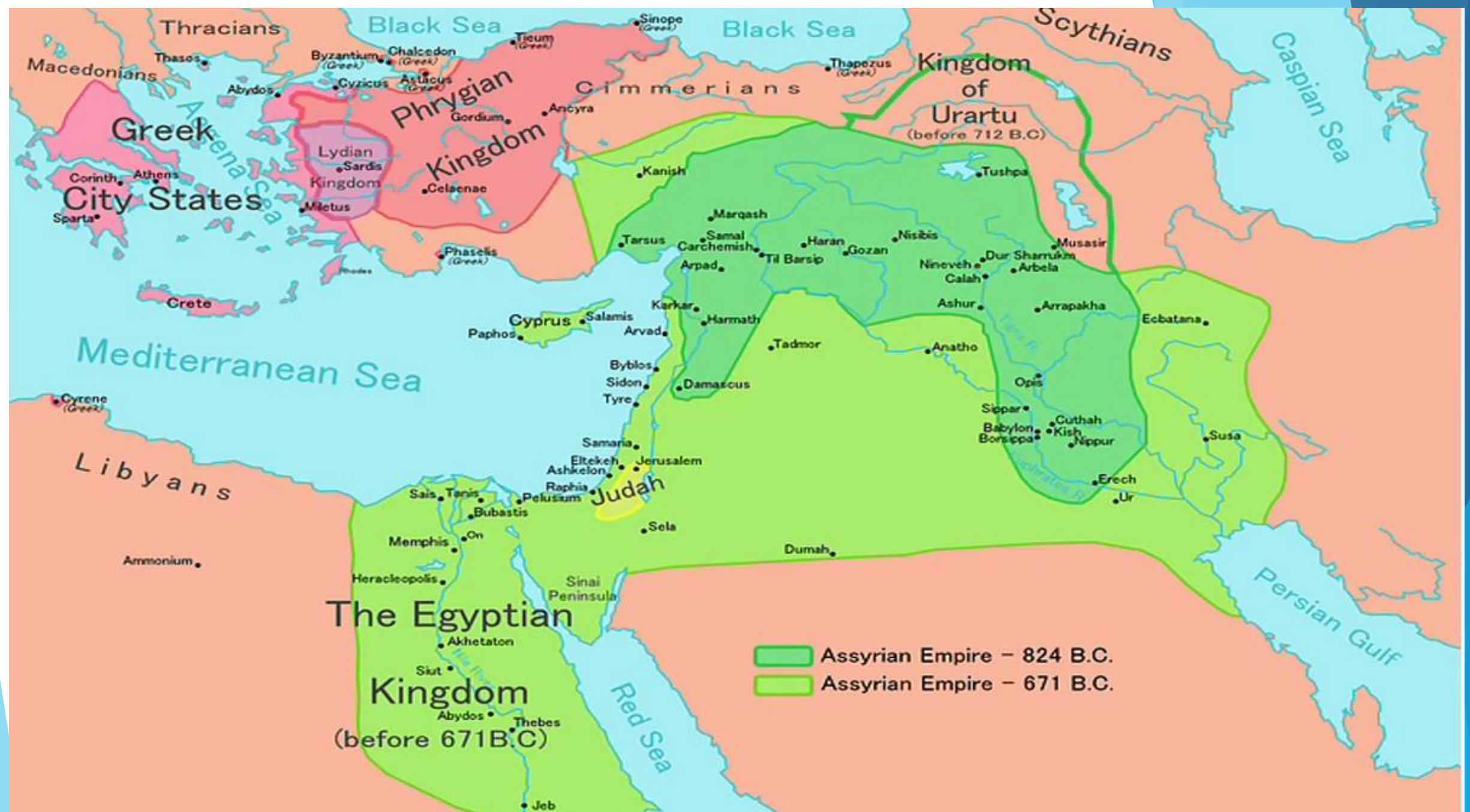


Israel and the Near  
East = Trade Route





United Kingdoms under  
King Saul only for 70 years





# Israel in Captivity



# Mishpat

- ▶ Mishpat is understood as vindication of the oppressed, requital, vengeance, or the retributive justice of God.
- ▶ Though it can involve punishment, it means most profoundly, “everyone has what she or he needs.” Like prophets who announce it, mishpat afflicts the comfortable and comforts the afflicted.

# Tsedeq (ah)

## (Righteous Vs Righteousness)

- ▶ Tsedeq is understood as
  - ▶ acquittal, deliverance, judgment, justice,
  - ▶ saving help, vindication, order in creation and community loyalty.

# Handel's Messiah: Pt 1 (Ch 40)

- ▶ Comfort, comfort my people,  
says your God.  
<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and proclaim to her  
that her hard service has been completed,  
that her sin has been paid for,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.
- ▶ <sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling:  
"In the wilderness prepare  
the way for the LORD<sup>[a]</sup>;  
make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God.<sup>[b]</sup>  
<sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up,  
every mountain and hill made low;  
the rough ground shall become level,  
the rugged places a plain.  
<sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all people will see it together.  
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

# Servant Song #1: Isaiah 42: 1-9

- ▶ Isaiah 42 presents the servant to the world with the Lord's approval and backing ("whom I uphold, my chosen").
- ▶ The servant is bestowed with the Holy Spirit and given a task: to faithfully bring justice to the nations while protecting the vulnerable ("a bruised reed he will not break").
- ▶ Normally this task would be a king's to do for his country, but here, the servant goes further by establishing a perfect justice in a worldwide kingdom.



# Servant Song #23- Isaiah 49: 1-7

- ▶ CH 49: Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- ▶ 2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. 3 And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- ▶ 4 But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God."49: 5 And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—
- ▶ 6 he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
- ▶ 7 Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.

# Servant Song #3- Isaiah 50: 4-9

- ▶ CH 50: 4 The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.
- ▶ 5 The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 6 I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
- ▶ CH 50: 7 The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
- ▶ 8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9 It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.
- ▶ 10 Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant, who walks in darkness and has no light, yet trusts in the name of the Lord and relies upon his God?

# Servant Song #4- Isaiah 52:13- 53:12

- ▶ CH 53: 4 Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ▶ 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- ▶ CH 53: 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.
- ▶ 8 By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.
- ▶ 9 They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.