

Judges Series

Lesson #71

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Choose Which God You Will Serve
Judges 10:1–10



JUDGES

2021

When Chaos Was King

Judg. 17:6, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Judg. 18:1, “In those days there was no king in Israel.”

Judg. 19:1, “And it came to pass in those days, when there was no king in Israel, ...”

Judg. 21:25, “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Outline of “Judges” (Chieftains, Tribal Rulers, Leaders)

1:1–3:6

Introduction

**How Israel went from
spiritual victory
to being worse than
the Canaanites**

Incomplete obedience

Compromise

Failure

Cycles of discipline

3:7–16:31

Paganization of the Leadership

Othniel (the best)

Ehud

Shamgar

Deborah

Gideon

Tola, Jair

Jephthah

Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

Samson (the worst)

17:1–21:25

Paganization of the Priests

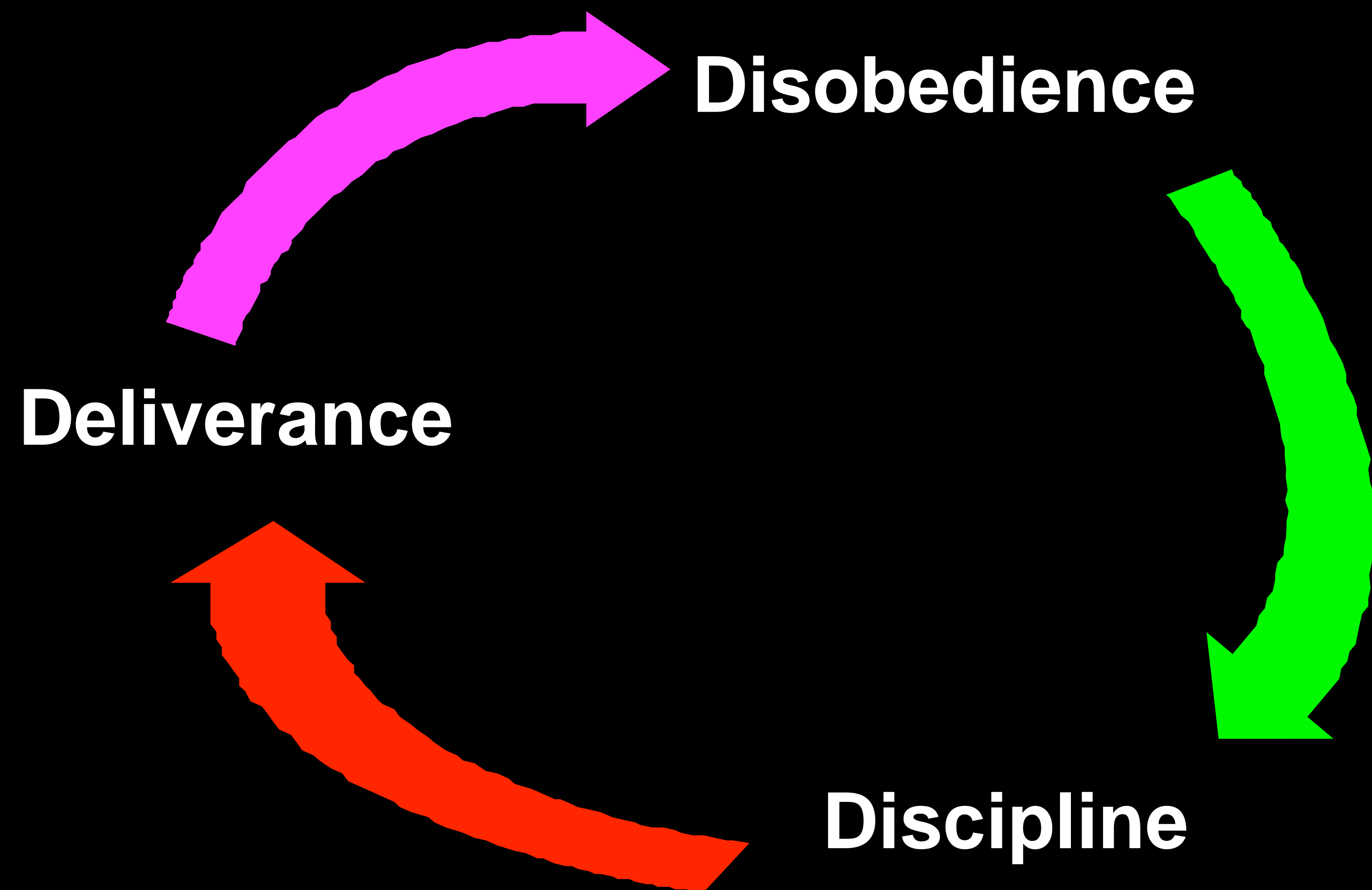
Chap. 17–18

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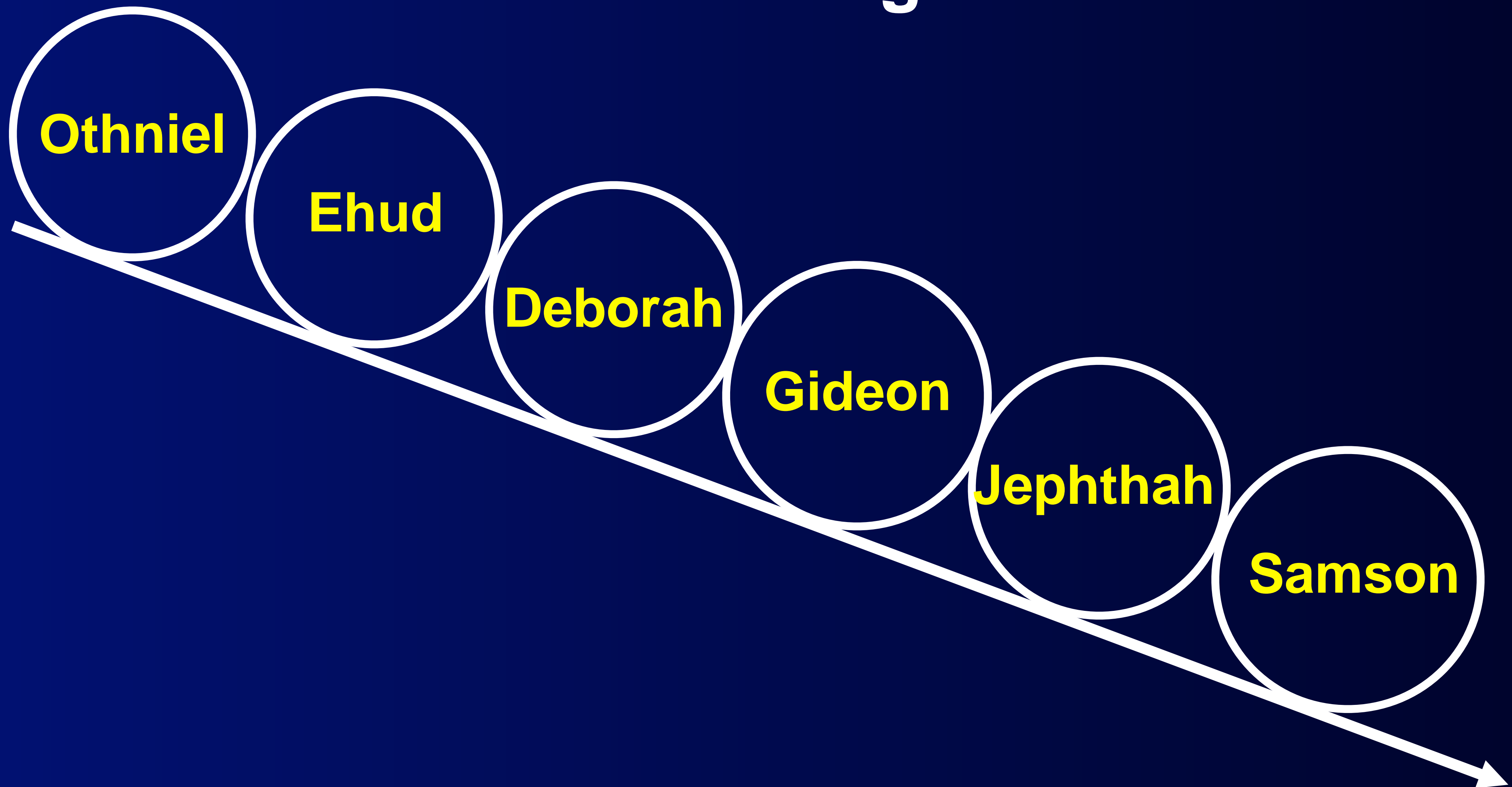
People

Chap. 19–21

The Cycles of the Judges



Deterioration of Positive Volition in the Judges



Introduction

Tola “worm”—Judges 10:1–3

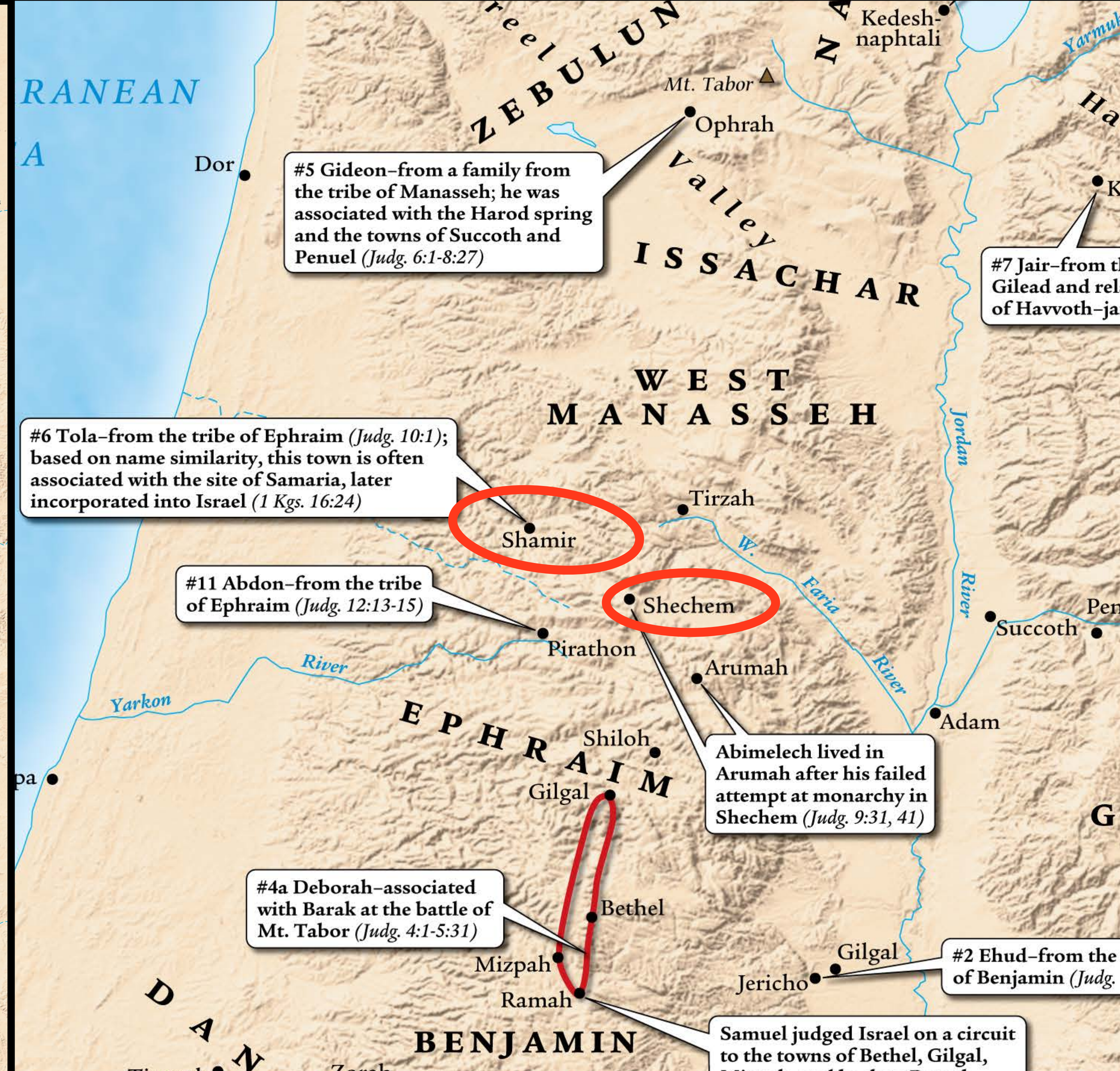
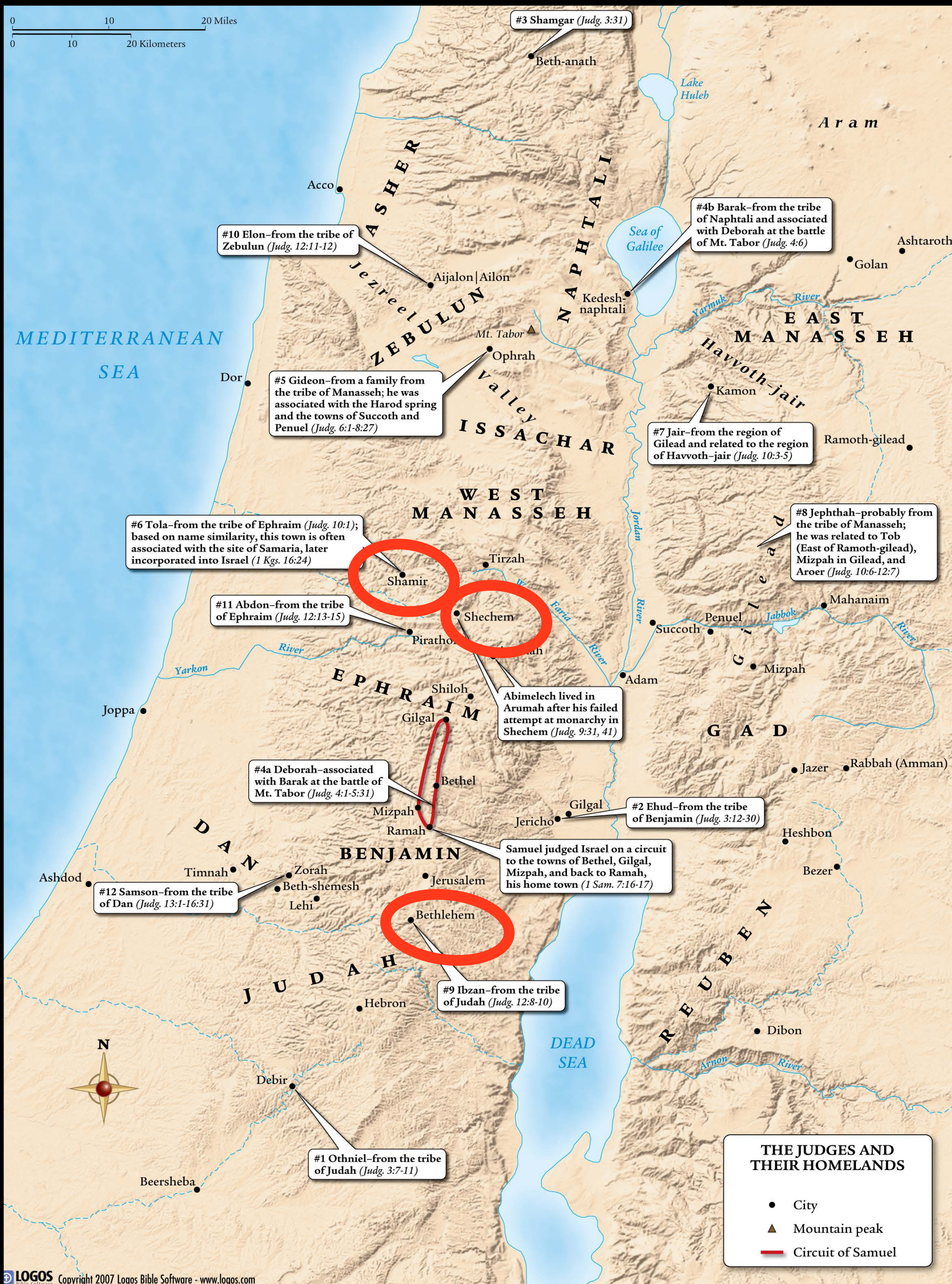
Yair “Yah is light”—Judges 10:4–5
“may Yah enlighten”

Postscript

Ibzan “swift”—Judges 12:8–10

Elon “oak”—Judges 12:11–12

Abdon “service”—Judges 12:13–15



Judg. 10:1, “Now after Abimelech died, Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, arose to save Israel; and he lived in Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim.

Judg. 10:2, “And he judged Israel twenty-three years. Then he died and was buried in Shamir.”

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Gen. 46:13, “The sons of Issachar were Tola, Puvah, Job, and Shimron.”

Num. 26:23, “The sons of Issachar according to their families were: of Tola, the family of the Tolaites; of Puvah, the family of the Punites;”

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Judg. 10:2, “And he judged Israel twenty-three years. Then he died and was buried in Shamir.”

Judg. 10:3, “And after him, Jair the Gileadite arose, and judged Israel twenty-two years.

Judg. 10:4, “And he had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys, and they had thirty cities in the land of Gilead that are called Havvoth-jair to this day.

Judg. 10:5, “And Jair died and was buried in Kamon.”

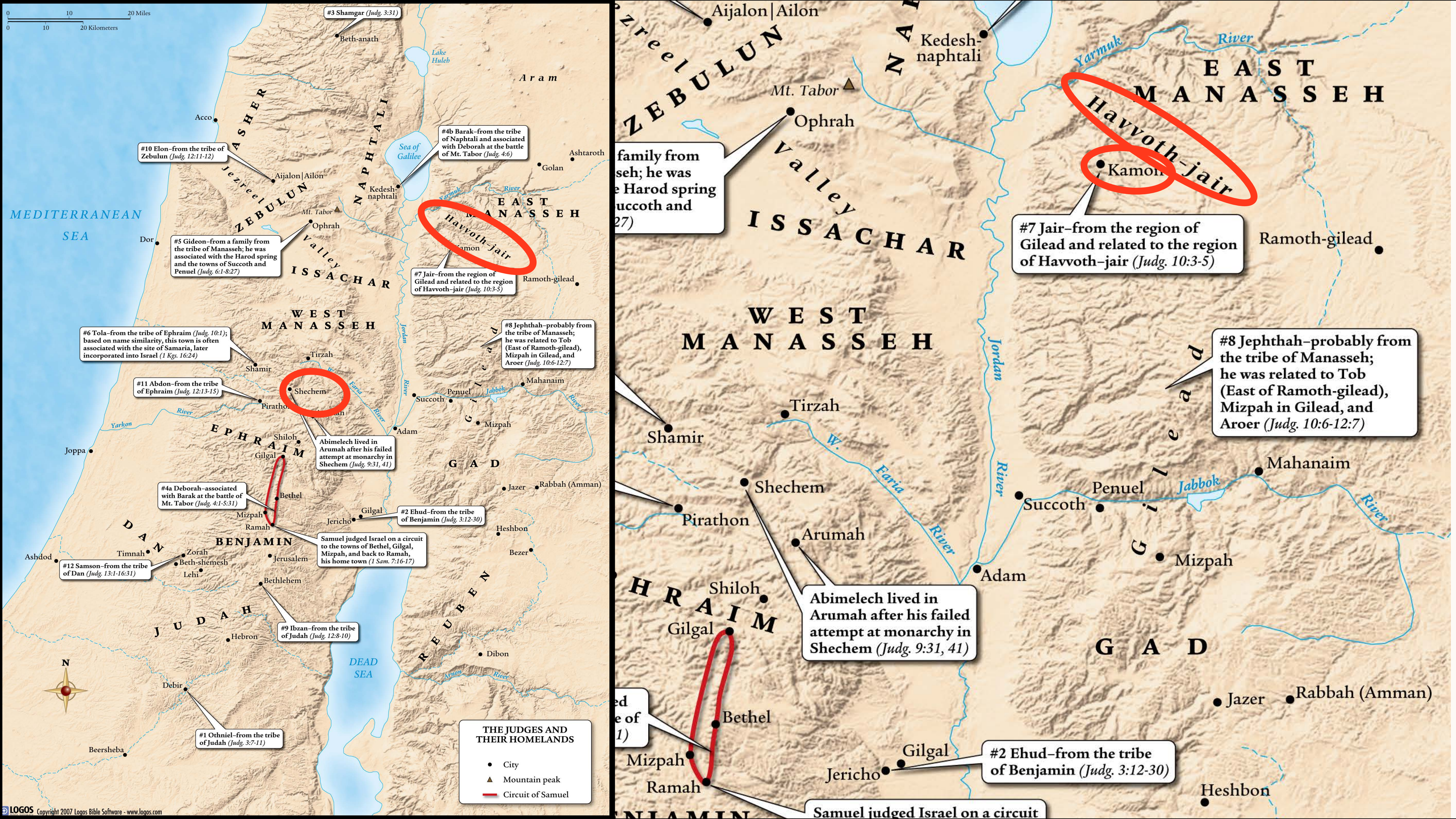
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Num. 32:41, “Also Jair the son of Manasseh went and took its small towns, and called them Havoth Jair.”

Deut. 3:14, “Jair the son of Manasseh took all the region of Argob, as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites, and called Bashan [Golan] after his own name, Havoth Jair, to this day.”



0 10 20 Miles
0 10 20 Kilometers

THE JUDGES AND THEIR HOMELANDS

- City
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Circuit of Samuel

#10 Elon—from the tribe of Zebulun (Judg. 12:11-12)

#5 Gideon—from a family from the tribe of Manasseh; he was associated with the Harod spring and the towns of Succoth and Penuel (Judg. 6:1-8:27)

#6 Tola—from the tribe of Ephraim (Judg. 10:1); based on name similarity, this town is often associated with the site of Samaria, later incorporated into Israel (1 Kgs. 16:24)

#11 Abdon—from the tribe of Ephraim (Judg. 12:13-15)

#12 Samson—from the tribe of Dan (Judg. 13:1-16:31)

#1 Othniel—from the tribe of Judah (Judg. 3:7-11)

#3 Shamgar (Judg. 3:31)

#4b Barak—from the tribe of Naphtali and associated with Deborah at the battle of Mt. Tabor (Judg. 4:6)

#7 Jair—from the region of Gilead and related to the region of Havvoth-jair (Judg. 10:3-5)

#8 Jephthah—probably from the tribe of Manasseh; he was related to Tob (East of Ramoth-gilead), Mizpah in Gilead, and Aroer (Judg. 10:6-12:7)

Abimelech lived in Arumah after his failed attempt at monarchy in Shechem (Judg. 9:31, 41)

#4a Deborah—associated with Barak at the battle of Mt. Tabor (Judg. 4:1-5:31)

#2 Ehud—from the tribe of Benjamin (Judg. 3:12-30)

Samuel judged Israel on a circuit to the towns of Bethel, Gilgal, Mizpah, and back to Ramah, his home town (1 Sam. 7:16-17)

#9 Ibzan—from the tribe of Judah (Judg. 12:8-10)

family from seh; he was the Harod spring succoth and (27)

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Samuel judged Israel on a circuit

Judg. 10:6, “Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the Lord and did not serve Him. ~NKJV

Judg. 10:7, “And the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the sons of Ammon.”

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יָסַף *yasaf*

hif wawConsec impf

3 masc plur

to add, do again

רָעָה *ra' lit hara'*

masc sing abs

bad, evil

Mostly defined in context as idolatry

Judg. 10:6, “Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the Lord and did not serve Him.” ~NKJV

עבד *avad*
qal wawConsec 3
masc plur
to work, serve, the
work of a slave

עזב-1 *azav-1* qal
infinitiveConst
to forsake,
leave, abandon

Judg. 3:7, “So the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. They forgot the LORD their God, and served the Baals and Asherahs.”

שָׁכַח *shakach*

qal wawConsec 3 masc

plur

to forget, to abandon,

ignore

עָבַד *avad*

qal wawConsec 3

masc plur

to work, serve, the

work of a slave

Judg. 10:6, “Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the Lord and did not serve Him.” ~NKJV

יָסַף *yasaf*

hif wawConsec impf

3 masc plur

to add, do again

רָעָה *rā'āh* bad, evil, usually followed by the worship of idols. Evil begins by abandoning God and turning to alternatives, which are always one of Satan's snares.

Judg. 2:11, “Then the sons of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals,”

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Judg. 2:11, “Then the sons of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals,”

They did not know ... they did evil ... they enslaved themselves to the *Ba'als*.

Judg. 2:12, “and they forsook the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed themselves down to them; thus they provoked the LORD to anger.

Judg. 2:13, “So they abandoned the LORD and served [enslaved themselves to] Baal and the Ashtaroth.”

**עזב-1 *azav-1* qal
infinitiveConst
to forsake,
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They did not know ... they did evil ... they served the *Ba'als* ... they abandoned ... they enslaved themselves

Josh. 24:1, “Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.”

Josh. 24:2, “ ‘ “And Joshua said to all the people, ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel: “Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods.

Josh. 24:3, “ ‘ “Then I took your father Abraham from the other side of the River, led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his descendants and gave him Isaac.

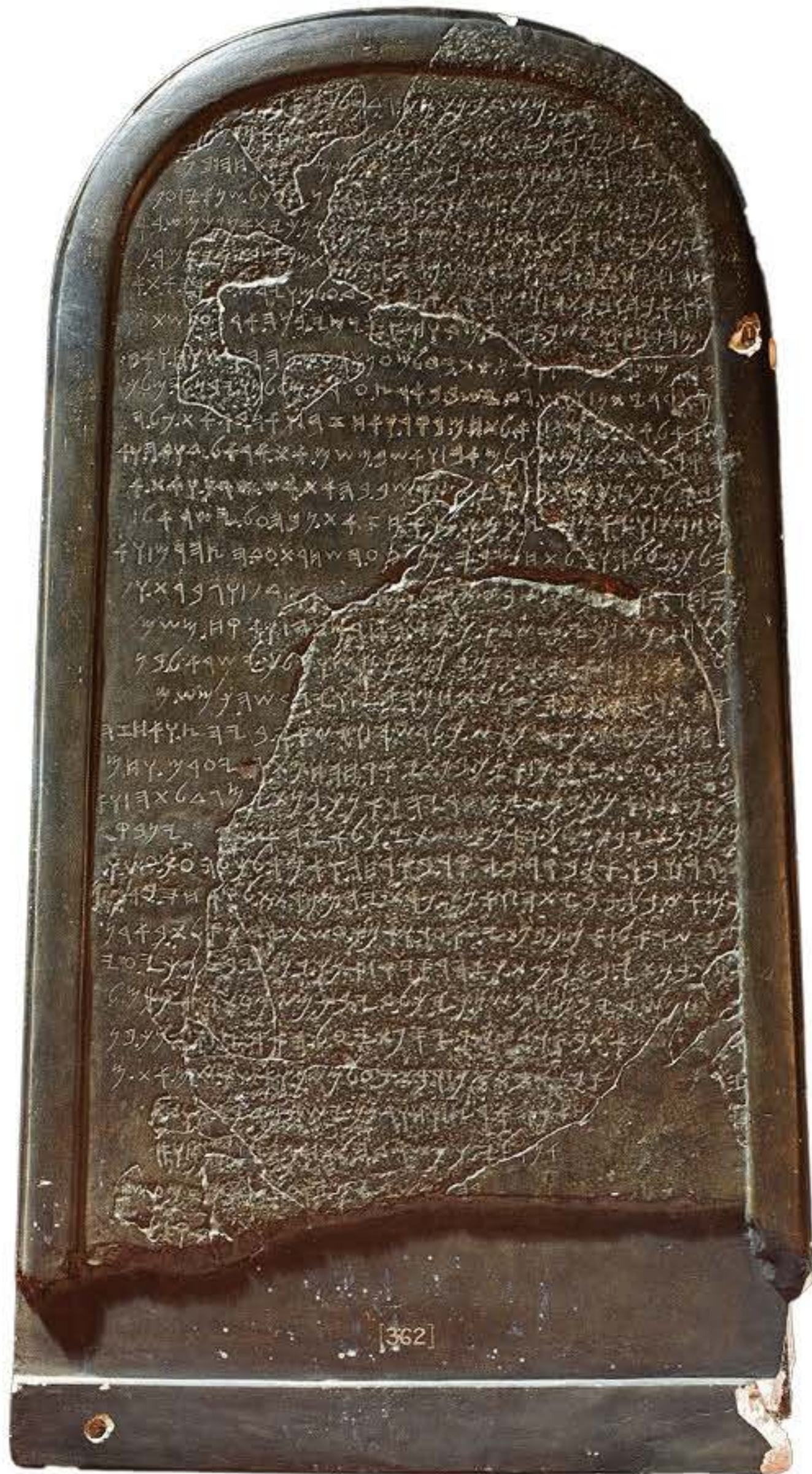
Josh. 24:4, “ ‘ “To Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. To Esau I gave the mountains of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt.

Josh. 24:5, “ ‘ “Also I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to what I did among them. Afterward I brought you out.” ’ ”

Josh. 24:14, “ ‘Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!

Josh. 24:15, “ ‘And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.’

Josh. 24:16, “So the people answered and said: ‘Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods;’ ”



The Mesha Stele

Jordan (835 BC)

This stele was erected by the Moabite king Mesha to commemorate his various achievements as king. One of these victories was achieved his war with Israel during the reign of Omri (2 Kgs 3:4-27). The inscription also mentions the divine name--after his victory at Nebo, Mesha had all the vessels of Yahweh removed and set before Chemosh, the god of the Moabites.

“I am Mesha, son of Chemosh[-yat], king of Moab, the Dibonite. My father reigned over Moab 30 years, and I reigned after my father. Now I built this high place to Chemosh in Qarhoh, a high place of salvation, because he saved me from all the kings and because he made me victorious against all my enemies. Omri was king of Israel, and he afflicted Moab many days because Chemosh was angry with his land. Then his son succeeded him, and he also said, ‘I will afflict Moab.’ In my days he said so, but I was victorious against him and his house, and Israel was utterly destroyed forever. Now Omri had taken possession of all the land of Mahadhbah (= Medeba) and had dwelled in it during his time and half the days of his son—40 years. But Chemosh dwelled in it in my time.”