

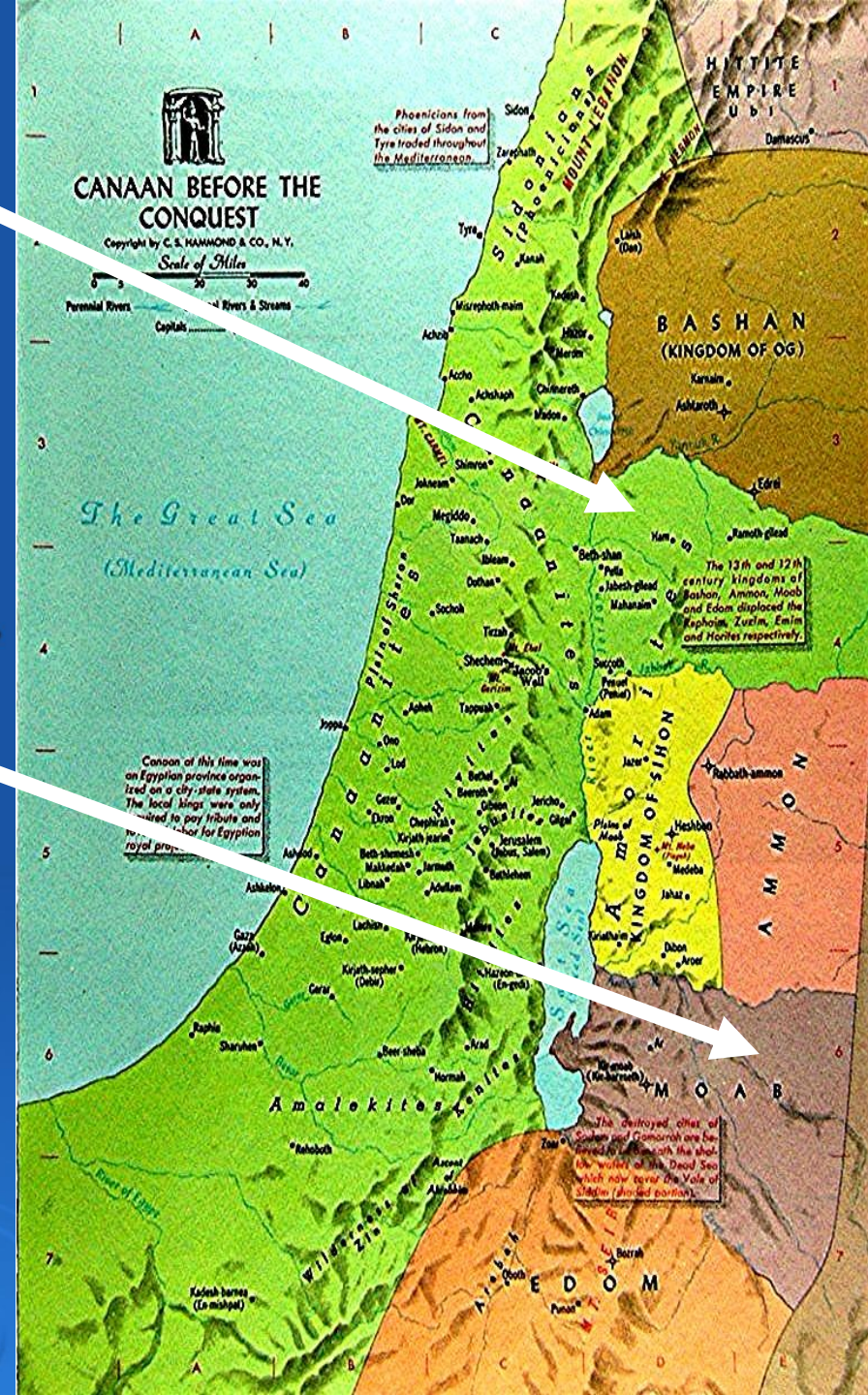
THE MARCH CONTINUES



- Brazen Serpent incident is now over
- V.10 picks up the progress of the march to Canaan
- Day-to-day life was hard
- Most Israelites now alive were BORN AFTER Israel left Egypt
- Only a few Hebrews left who had ever lived in cities

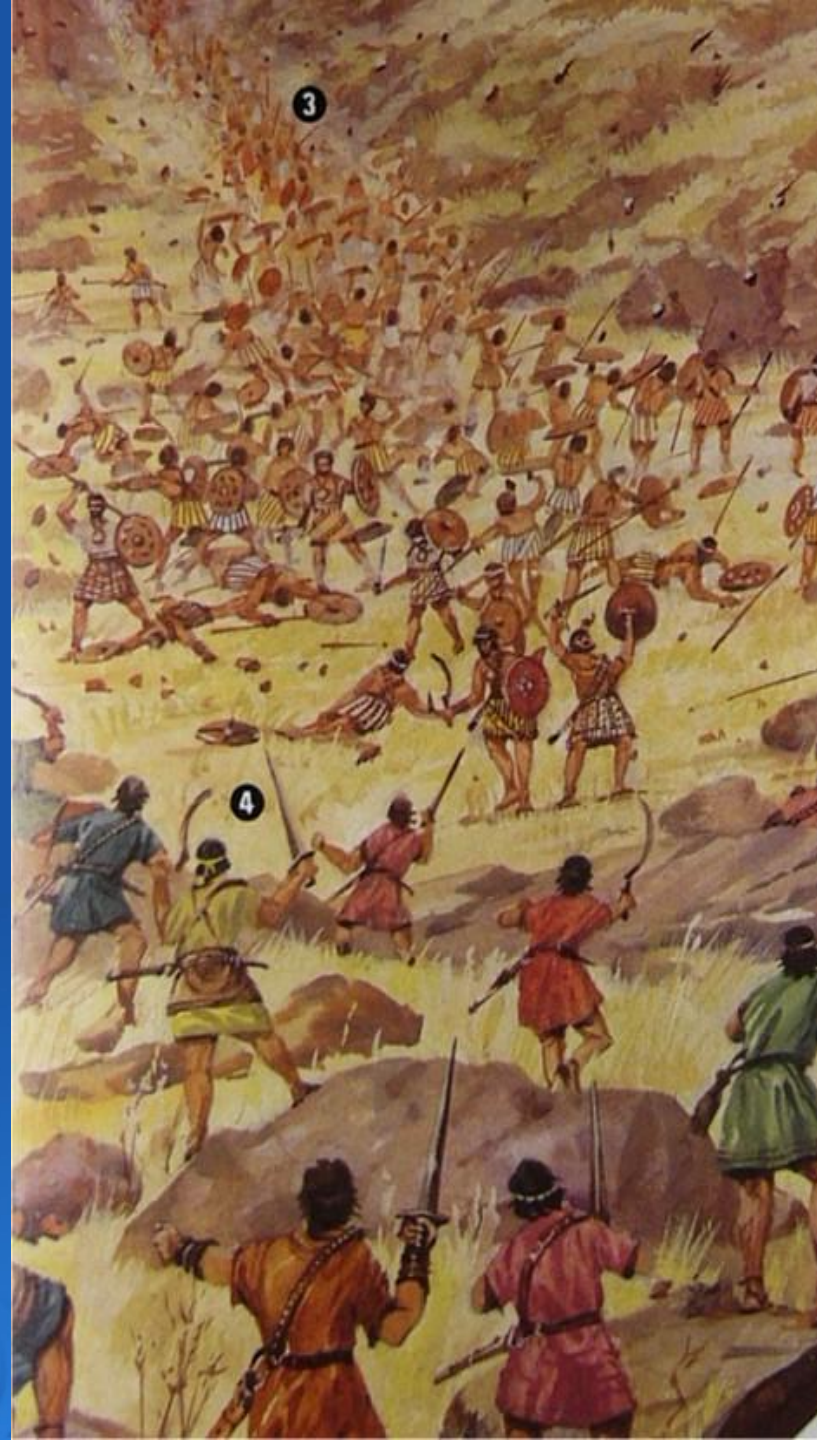
ISRAEL ENTERS TRANS-JORDAN

- The east side of the Jordan River
- Kingdom of Jordan
- Israel tries to go to the outer boundary of Moab
- Moab was worried about all these Israelites approaching their territory
- Land of Canaan was relatively stable
- Moab was not stable



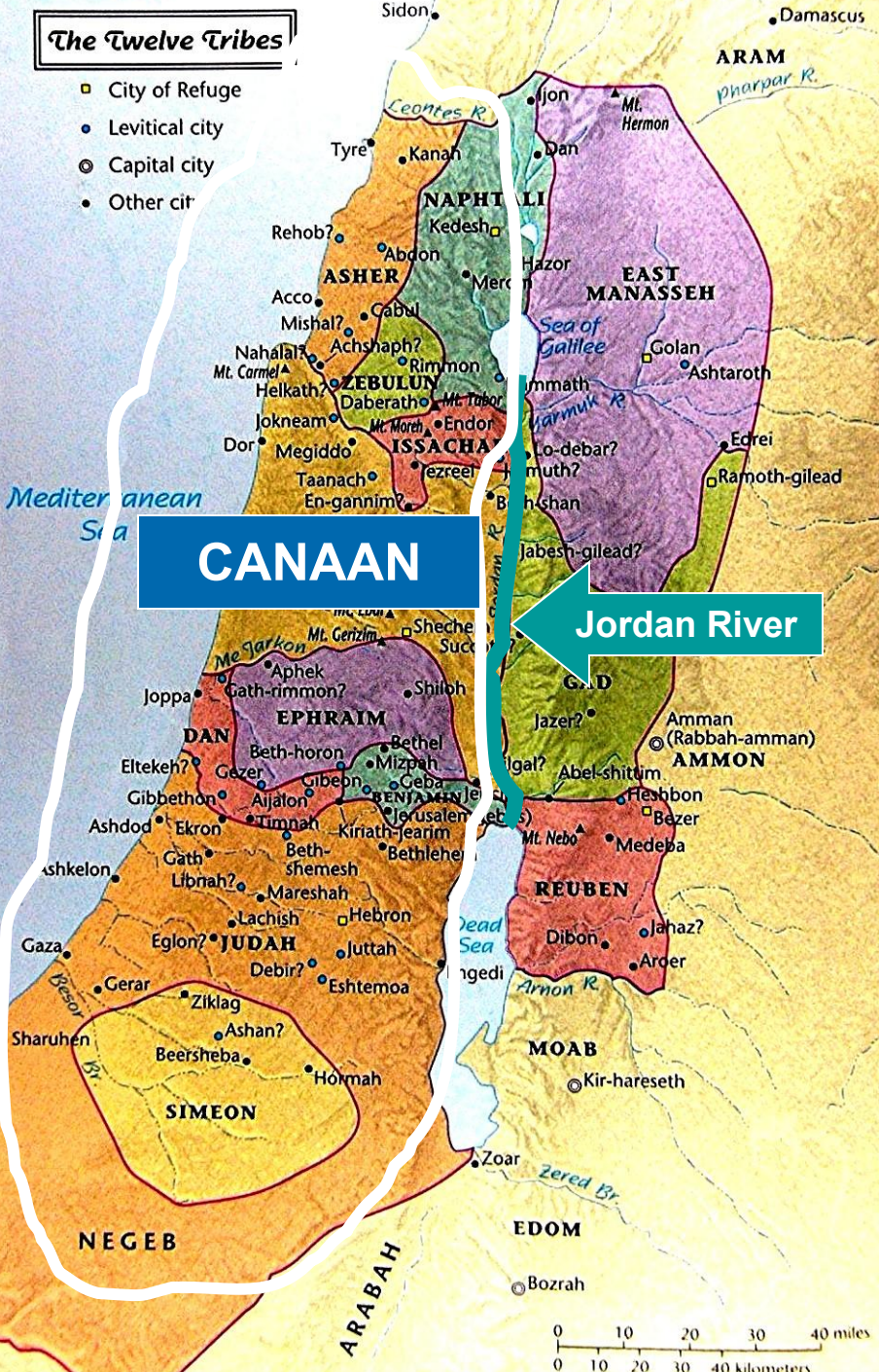
TRANS-JORDAN MOSTLY UNPROTECTED VILLAGES

- No walled cities
- Israel battles Sichon, king of the Amorites, and defeats them
- But, first, Moses asked that Sichon would allow them to pass in peace
- Like with Edom, the answer is “NO!”



The Twelve Tribes

- City of Refuge
- Levitical city
- Capital city
- Other cit



CANAAN

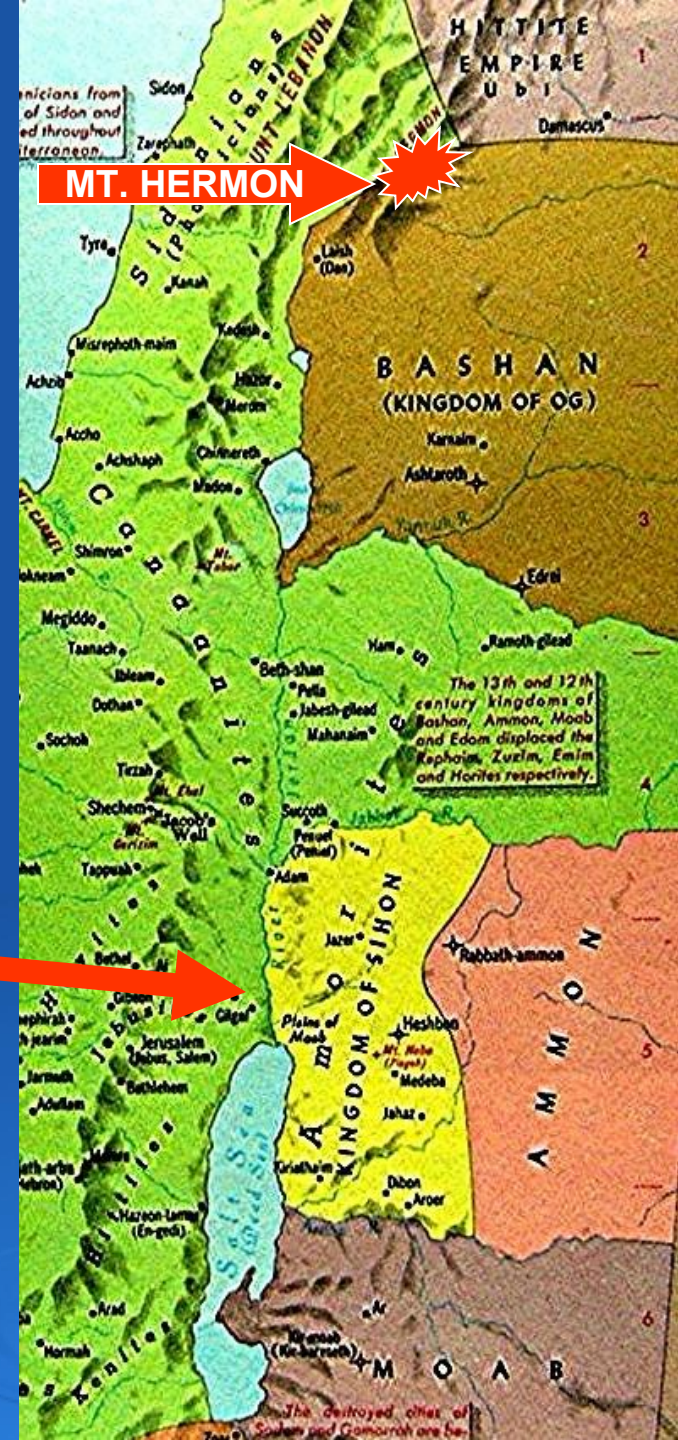
Jordan River

ISRAEL NOT IN CANAAN, YET!

- Was not Moses' intention to conquer the land to the east of the Jordan River
- But, because Israel DID acquire the Trans-Jordan, 2 ½ tribes decided to settle OUTSIDE of Canaan

ISRAEL CONQUERED MUCH LAND BEFORE ENTERING CANAAN

- Yehoveh instructed Moses to take the land of Bashan
- Today's State of Jordan occupies former Israelite land
- Israel would eventually cross into Canaan near the city of Jericho



NUMBERS 22,23,24

BALAAM AND BALAK



- Numbers is a POOR name for this book!
- All Bible book titles are made-up
- Hebrews used the first few words as the title
- Greeks tended to pick a place name or author
- Balaam and Balak story has great theological depth

Much more than simply
about a talking donkey

AN ACTUAL EVENT.....OR A FABLE?

- Jesus often taught in PARABLES
- Stories that were word-pictures of a principle
- Not necessarily real events, but the principle being taught was divine truth
- Bible uses many literary devices
- Exaggeration was a great tool of St. Paul
- To take the Bible “literally” MEANS to take it as it was meant: as metaphor, parable, poem, history, etc.

PROBABLY AN EMBELLISHED STORY

- The talking donkey and the placement of the story makes it likely this has been fable-ized
- Yet, what is being taught is divine truth
- This amazing story is a Torah within the Torah
- Balak, King of Moab
- Father was Tzippor
- Moses' wife was Tzipporaa
- Moab allies with Midian, where Tzippora was originally from



BALAAM THE MAGICIAN



- From Mesopotamia, near Carchemish
- A gentile seer, prophet
- Abraham also a gentile from Mesopotamia
- Bible presents Balaam as “neutral” in character
- Balaam seems determined to obey Yehoveh



THE TWO SIDES OF BALAAM

- Our story paints Balaam in a generally positive light
- But, in Number 31, the Israelites kill Balaam
- In Deut. 21 Balaam is seen as intending to curse Israel
- A hired gun
- KEY: Yehoveh communicates with a gentile magician.....a non-Hebrew
- However, this does NOT mean that the Lord found favor with Balaam



A FALSE PROPHET CAN TELL THE FUTURE AT TIMES



- Other Biblical false prophets could foretell the future
- A false prophet CAN be inspired by God to achieve His purposes
- Duet. 13 says false prophets can sometimes see the future
- King Saul continued to prophesy even though he was condemned by God
- Jewish sorcerers exorcized demons in Jesus name, but weren't Believers
- Jesus warned that none of these things necessarily indicted a right relationship with the Father