

Judges Series

Lesson #14

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Testing Faith
Judges 2:6ff; Genesis 22



JUDGES

**Moral Relativism
Destroys a Nation**

2021 Series

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

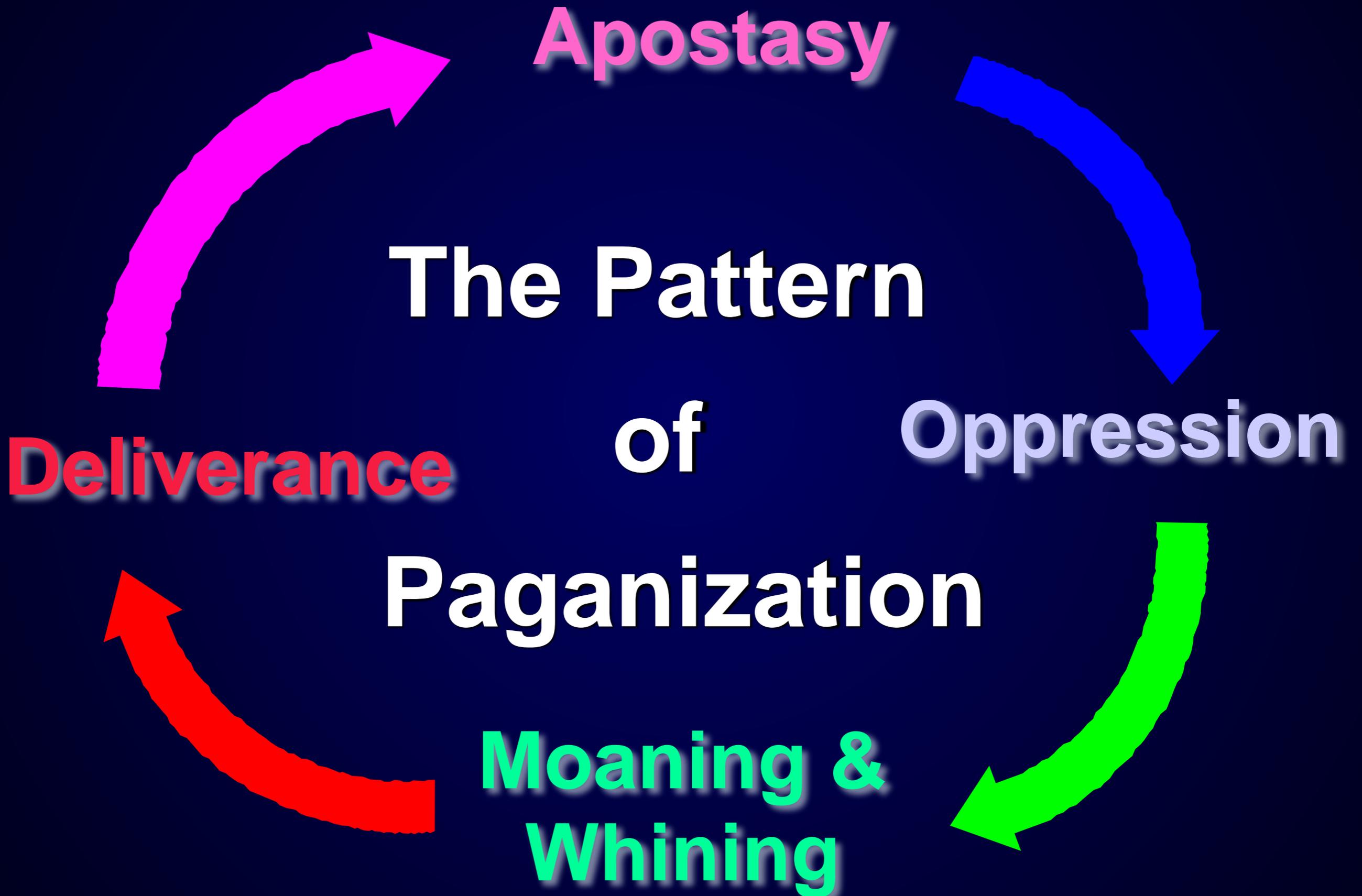
**and the
People**

Chap. 19–21

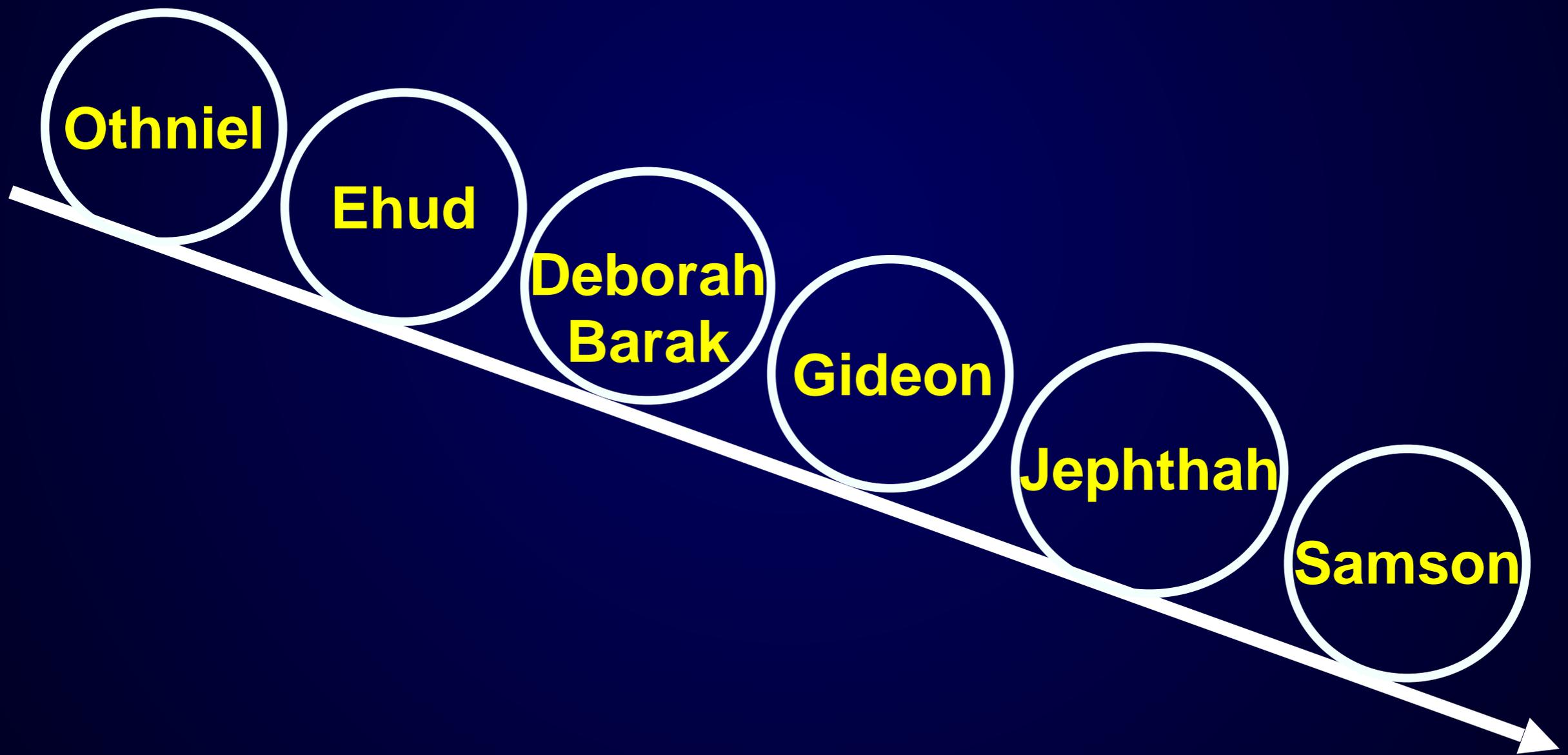
Judg. 2:20, “Then the anger of the LORD [literally, ‘the nose of the *Yhwh* burned’] was hot against Israel; and He said, ‘Because this nation has transgressed My covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not heeded My voice,’ ”

Judg. 2:20, “Then the Justice of the Lord was severe against Israel; and He said, ‘Because this nation has transgressed My covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not heeded My voice,

Judg. 2:21, “ ‘I also will no longer drive out before them any of the nations which Joshua left when he died,’ ” [~RD paraphrase]



Sliding into Paganism in *Judges*



Judg. 2:22, “so that through them I may test Israel, whether they will keep the ways of the Lord, to walk in them as their fathers kept them, or not.

Judg. 2:23, “Therefore the Lord left those nations, without driving them out immediately; nor did He deliver them into the hand of Joshua.”

**“Anger”
God’s Judicial
Action**

The Pattern

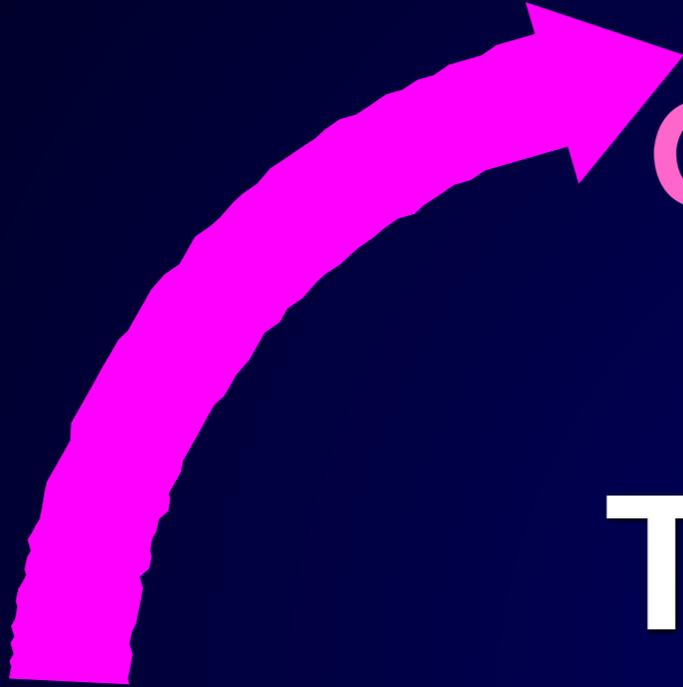
Deliverance

of

Discipline

Divine Judgement

**“Change of
Mind”**





Judg. 2:22, “so that through them I may test Israel, whether they will keep the ways of the Lord, to walk in them as their fathers kept them, or not.”

Judg. 2:23, “Therefore the Lord left those nations, without driving them out immediately; nor did He deliver them into the hand of Joshua.”

נָסָה *nasah*

**piel infinitive Const
to test, try, to prove;
used 36× in the OT,
used 3× in *Judges*
2:22; 3:1, 4**

πειράζω *peirazō* (Septuagint-LXX)

**aor act infin to tempt,
test; try**

Judg. 3:1, “Now these are the nations which the LORD left, that He might test Israel by them, that is, all who had not known any of the wars in Canaan”

Judg. 3:4, “And they were left, that He might test Israel by them, to know whether they would obey the commandments of the LORD, which He had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses.”

נָסָה *nasah*

piel infinitiveConst

to test, try, to prove;

used 36× in the OT,

used 3× in *Judges*

2:22; 3:1, 4

Matt. 4:1, “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil.”

Matt. 4:3, “Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.’ ”

**πειράζω *peirazō* aor act
infin to tempt, test; try**

1 Cor. 10:13, “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

πειρασμός *peirasmos*

masc sing nom

(m) temptation, test

James 1:2, “My brethren, think about it as joyful when you encounter various tests,

James 1:3, “because you know that the evaluation of what you believe produces endurance.

James 1:4, “But let endurance have its maturing work, that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.”

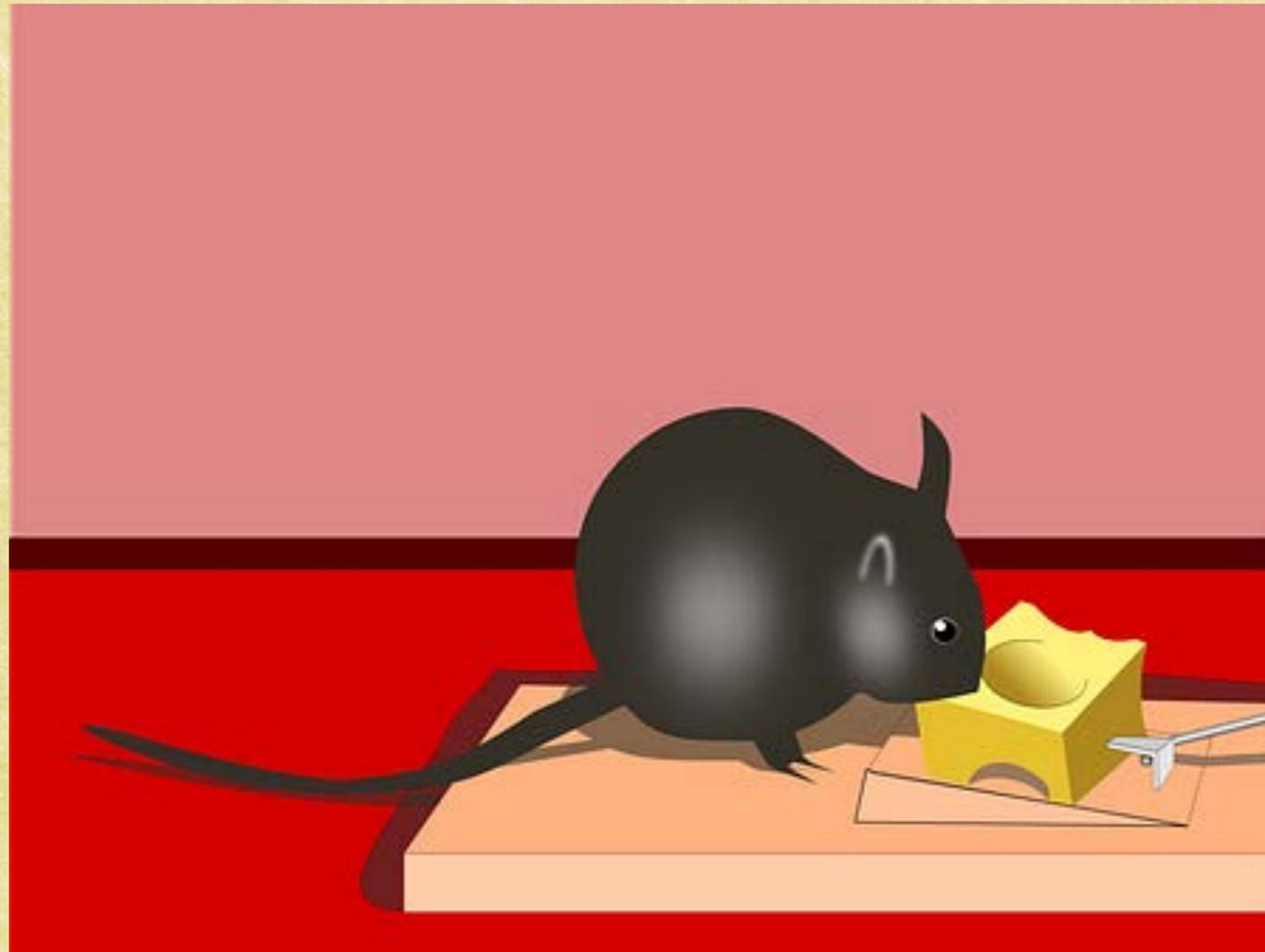
James 1:14, “But each one is tested when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”

What the Bible Teaches About

Temptation and Testing



Judg. 2:3, “Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you; but they shall be thorns in your side, and their gods shall be a snare to you.’ ”



Judg. 2:22, “so that through them I may test Israel, whether they will keep the ways of the LORD, to walk in them as their fathers kept them, or not.”

נסה *nasah* piel infinitive Const to test, try, to prove



1. Definition: A test is any situation in life when the believer has the option of choosing between applying doctrine or using his own resources to solve the problem.

2. Tests are not merely difficult situations, serious decisions, or handling unforeseen obstacles. If you think this, you have already lost the battle.



DVP
Trust
Faith-Rest
Drill

10
Spiritual
Skills

-
+
V

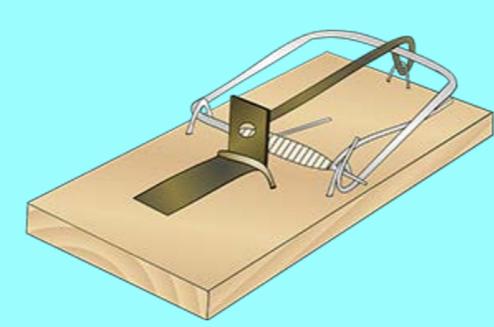
HVP

Self-Protective Strategies



Test/Temptation

- Inconvenience**
- People testing**
- System testing**
- Health**
- Finances**
- Grief (loss)**
- Weather**



Emotional sins
Anger, anxiety

Overt sins to control
Intimidate, threaten,
dominate

Sins of the tongue: to destroy
Manipulation,
micromanagement, slander



3. Tests are the opportunities to demonstrate what biblical truth we have learned and assimilated into our souls.

**James 1:2, “My brethren, think about it as joyful when you encounter various tests,
James 1:3, “because you know that the evaluation of what you believe produces endurance.**

James 1:4, “But let endurance have its maturing work, that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.”

Tests may originate from one of three sources:

4. Tests arise from our own sin nature.

5. Some tests are the result of living in a fallen world, and one under the control of Satan, the “god of this age”. 2 Cor. 4:4

6. Some further tests arise from the consequences of our own bad decisions based on the sin nature.

7. The solution to every test is found in the character of God, the Spirit of God, and the revealed Word of God.

8. There is no problem, no circumstance, no situation—good, bad, wonderful or disastrous—that is too great for the grace or power of God.

9. The central issue therefore in the Christian life begins with being in fellowship and then proceeds on the basis of the Faith-Rest Drill (FRD).

10. Israel failed and we fail because we:

a. fail to make learning and applying the Word of God the number one priority in our life.

**b. fail to walk by the Spirit, abide in Christ,
walk in the light, consider ourselves dead
to sin.**

c. fail to trust God exclusively and radically.

11. Illustrations of Divine testing in Israel.

Gen. 22:1, “Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, ‘Abraham!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ ”

The Ten Tests of Abraham for Spiritual Growth

**1. The test to go to a new land and to
leave the family behind.
Gen. 12:1–9 (Land; FRD)**

Gen. 12:1, “Now the LORD said to Abram, ‘Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father’s house, to the **land which I will show you;’ ”**

Gen. 12:2, “And I will make you a great **nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; And so you shall be a **blessing**;”**

Gen. 12:3, “And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

2. The test to trust God by staying in the land during the famine.

Gen. 12:10–20 [Land; FRD / Grace Orientation (G/O)]



Gen. 12:7, “And the LORD appeared to Abram and said, ‘To your descendants I will give this **land.’ So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him.”**

3. The test to treat Lot with grace and generosity.

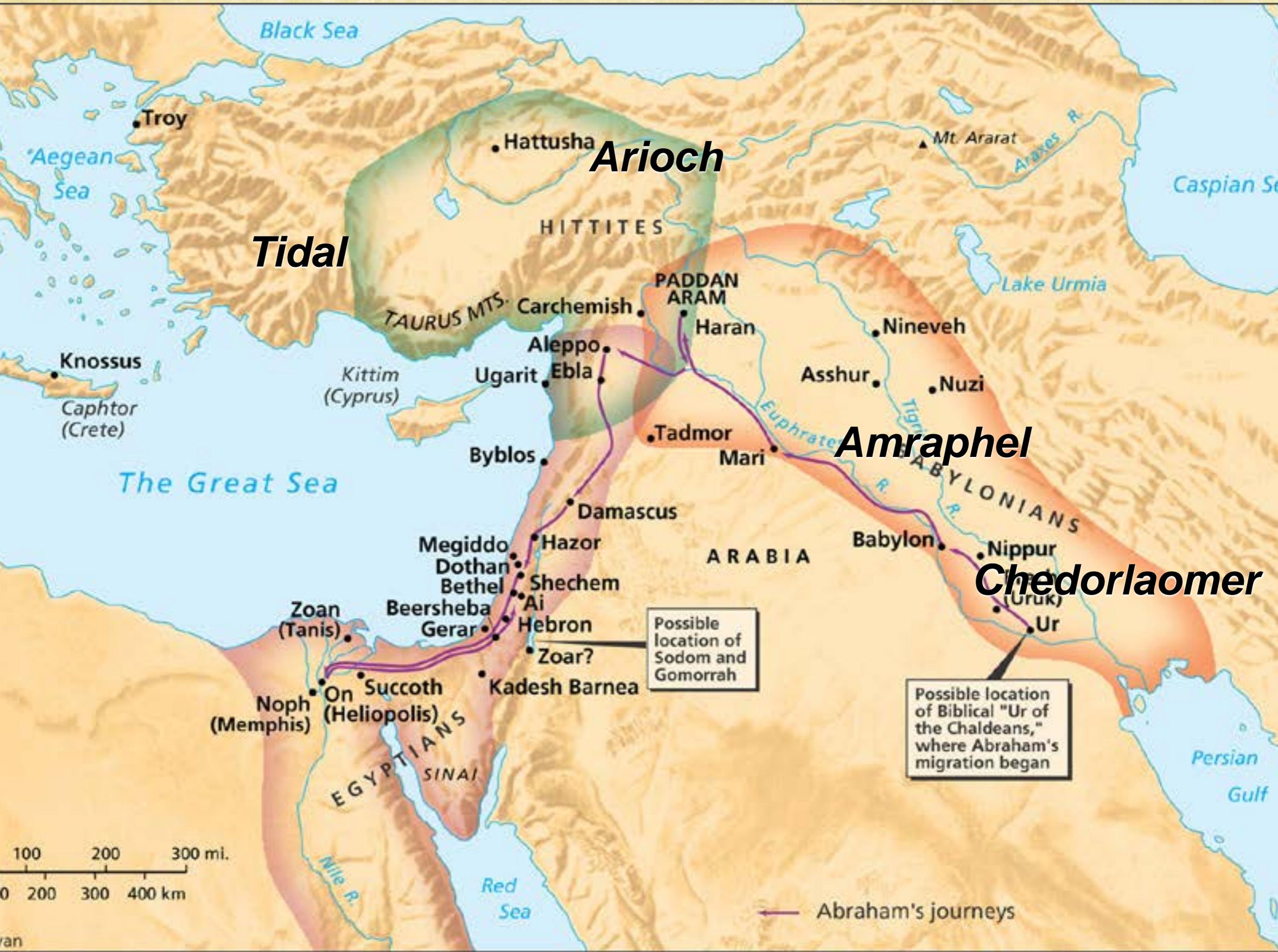
Gen. 13:1–17. (Land; G/O)

Gen. 13:14, “And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, ‘Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;

Gen. 13:15, “ ‘for all the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever.’ ”

Gen. 13:16, “And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.”

4. The test to protect and defend his neighbors. Gen. 14:1–17 (Blessing; G/O)



Tidal

Arioch

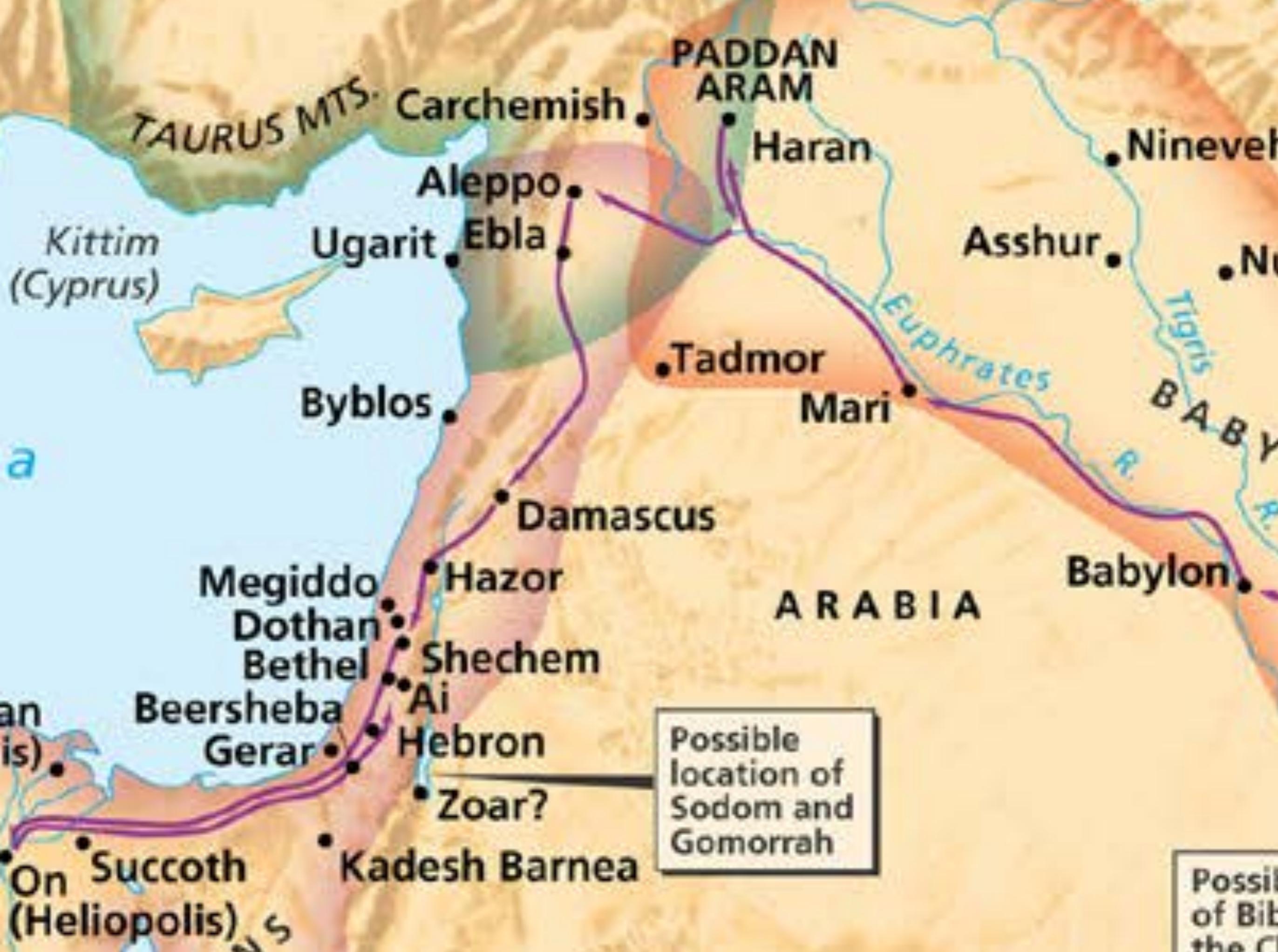
Amraphel

Chedorlaomer

Possible location of Sodom and Gomorrah

Possible location of Biblical "Ur of the Chaldeans," where Abraham's migration began

Abraham's journeys



Possible location of Sodom and Gomorrah

Possible location of the City of the Dead



Turkey

Syria

Lebanon

Iraq

Israel

Jordan

Saudi Arabia

Egypt

Tigris

Euphrates

Nile

Sea



Hobah

Lebanon

Damascus

Ashtaroth

Rephaim

Zuzim

Kiriathaim

Emim

Sodom

Jordan

Horites

Saudi Arabia

Salem

Hebron

Israel

Amorites

Amalekites

Kadesh

Barnea

El Paran

Euphrates

**5. The test to express his gratitude to God.
Gen. 14:18–24 (Blessing; G/O)**

**6. The test to not be worried about the seed but to trust God. Gen. 15:1–21
(Seed; FRD)**

7. The test to use Hagar to have a descendant. Gen. 16:1–16 (Seed; FRD)

8. The test to be circumcised.
Gen. 17:1–25 (Seed; FRD)

**9. The test of hospitality to his visitors.
Gen. 18:1–15 (Blessing; G/O)**

**10. The test of intercession to one who had abused his generosity. Gen. 18:16–33
(Blessing; G/O)**

11. The test to protect the seed during the visit to Gerar. Gen. 20:1–18 (Seed; FRD)

**12. The test to protect the heir from the jealousy of Ishmael. Gen. 21:1–21
(Seed; FRD)**

**13. The test to sacrifice the promised seed.
Gen. 22 (Seed; FRD; Personal Love for
God)**

Hebrews 11:10, “for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”