

# Israel *is real*

Spiritual Lessons from Historical Events

23 October 2022 | Josh Spoelstra

# United Monarchy (1050–930 BC)

## Monarchs

- Saul
- David
- Solomon

*1 Samuel 8 – 1 Kings 11*



# Divided Kingdom

Northern Kingdom =  
Israel (930–722 BC)

- 19 monarchs – all evil
- Exiled by the Assyrian Empire

Southern Kingdom =  
Judah (930–586 BC)

- 20 monarchs – about half righteous
- Exiled by the Babylonian Empire

*1 Kings 12 – 2 Kings 25*





# The Downfall of Solomon

He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines. And his wives turned away his heart. For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God (1 Kings 11:3-4 ESV)



"The Idolatry of Solomon" by Frans Francken II, 1622 (Getty Museum)



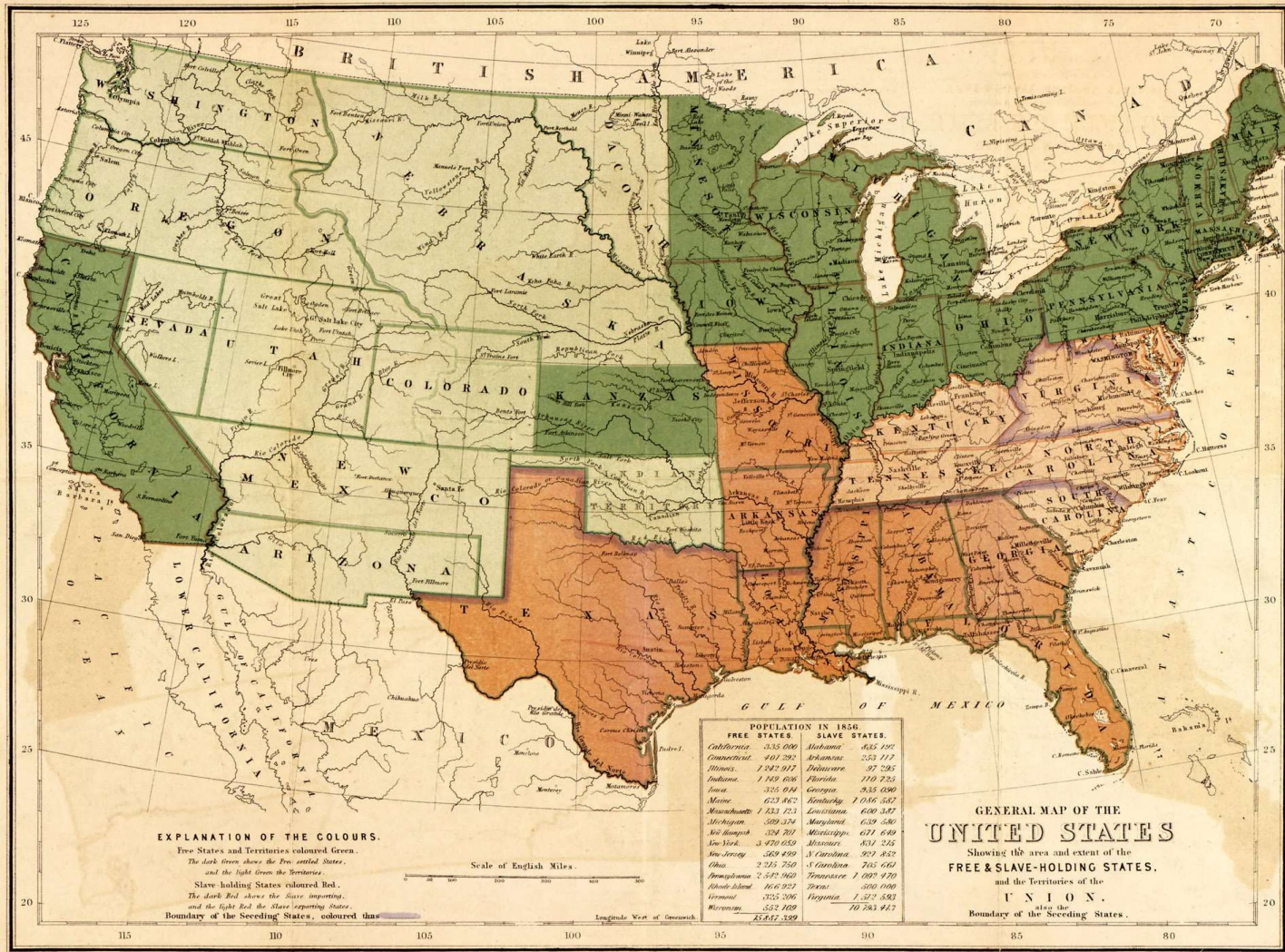
# The Consequence of Solomon's Idolatry

Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, "Since this has been your practice and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant. ...

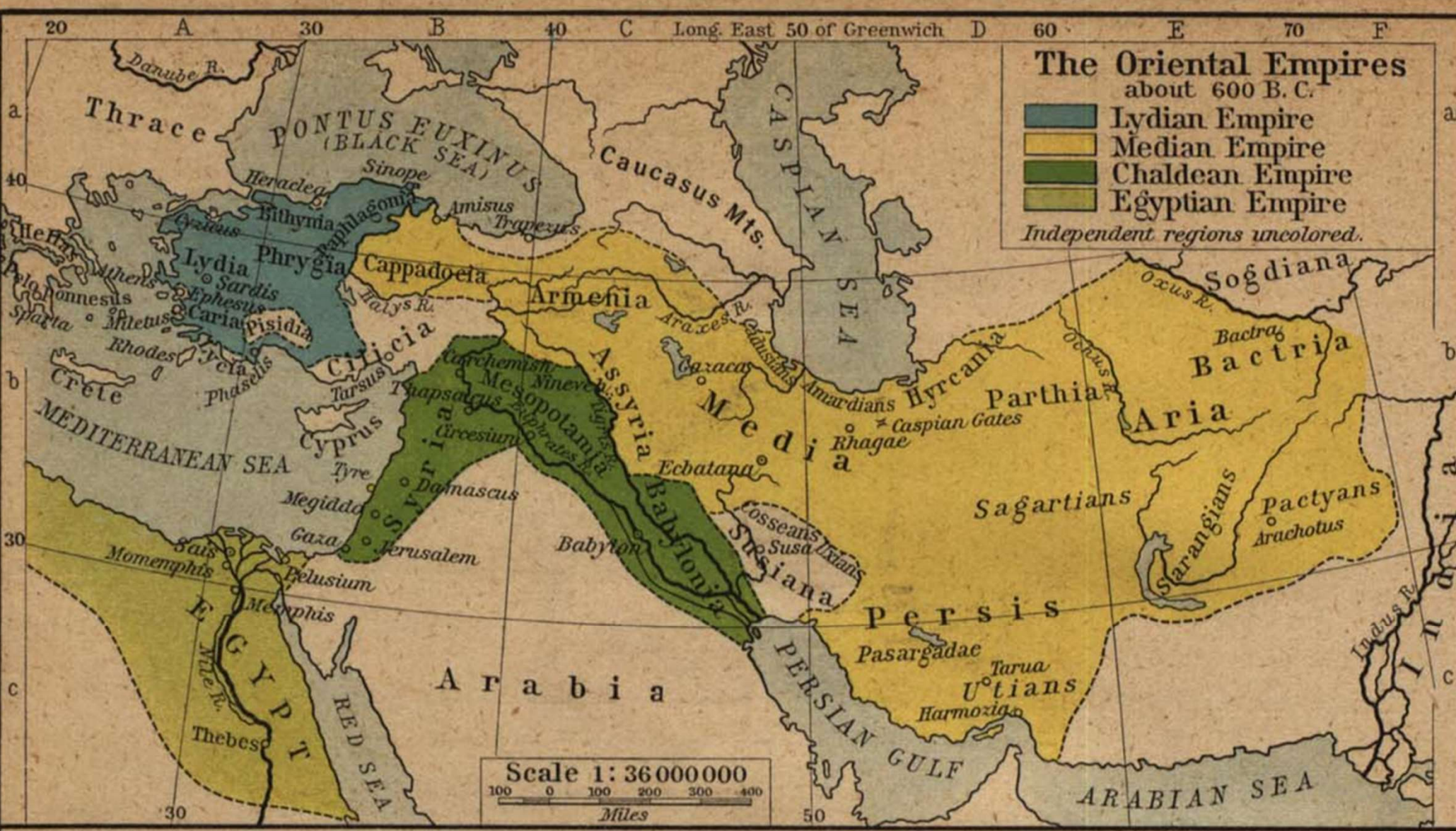
However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son, for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem that I have chosen." (1Kings 11:11-13 ESV)











20 A 30 B 40 C Long. East 50 of Greenwich D 60 E 70 F

Thrace  
 PONTUS EUXINUS (BLACK SEA)  
 Heraclea Sinope  
 Bithynia Cappadoeia  
 Lydia Phrygia  
 Sardis Ephesus Caria Pisidia  
 Cilicia  
 Tarsus Mesopotamia  
 Assyria  
 Media  
 Armenia  
 Carchemish Nineveh  
 Babylonia  
 Persia  
 Persis  
 Pasargadae Utiens Harmozig  
 Persians Susa Uxiens  
 Ecbatana  
 Rhagae Caspian Gates  
 Hyrcania  
 Parthia  
 Sogdiana  
 Bactria  
 Aria  
 Sagartians  
 Sarangians  
 Pactyans  
 Arachotus  
 Arabia  
 EGYPT  
 Memphis Thebes  
 Jerusalem  
 Tyre Megiddo  
 Gaza  
 Pelusium  
 Meneptis  
 Sais  
 Momephis  
 Red Sea  
 Arabian Sea  
 Persian Gulf  
 Caspian Sea  
 Caucasus Mts.  
 Danube R.  
 Amisus Taurus  
 Tigris R.  
 Euphrates R.  
 Indus R.









# The Empire of Alexander (333–313 BCE)







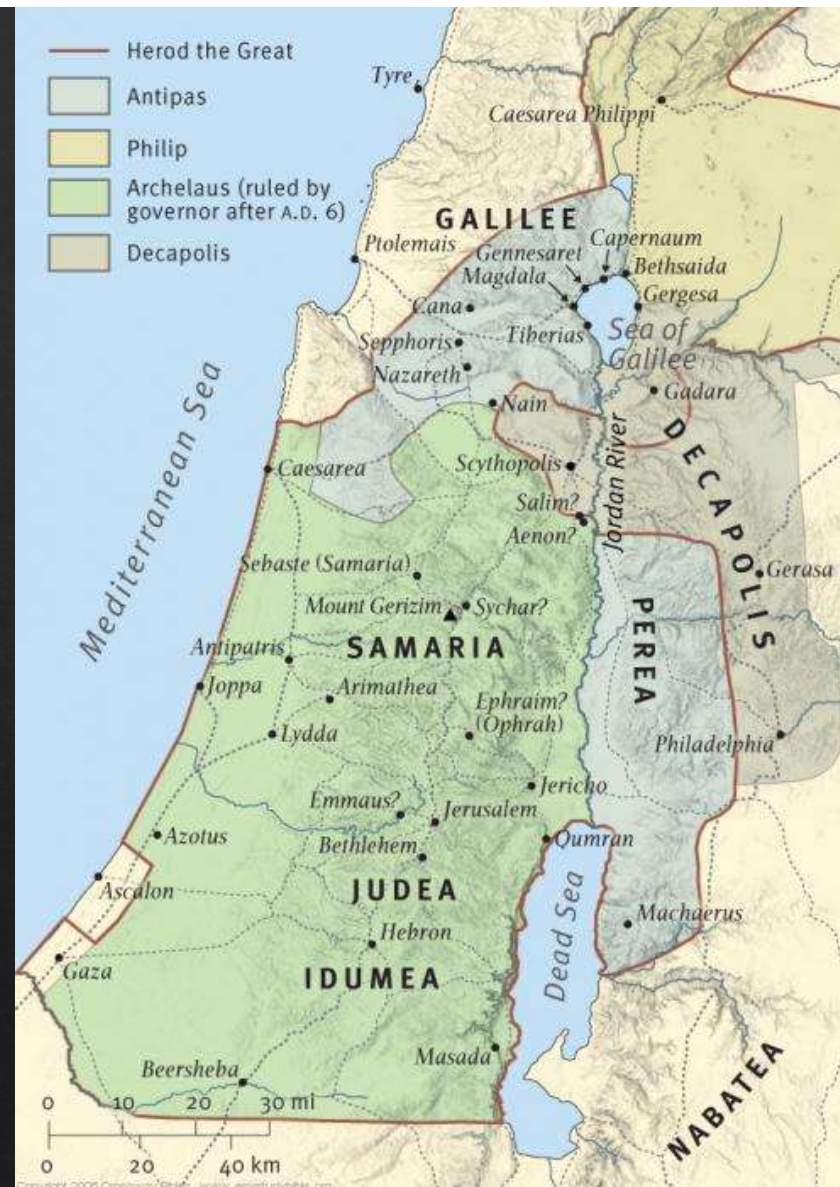
**Map of Roman Empire at its greatest extent**  
..... Roman Empire at the time of Jesus



# Roman Empire Occupancy in NT

Former Northern  
Kingdom / Israel =  
Galilee, Samaria, Perea

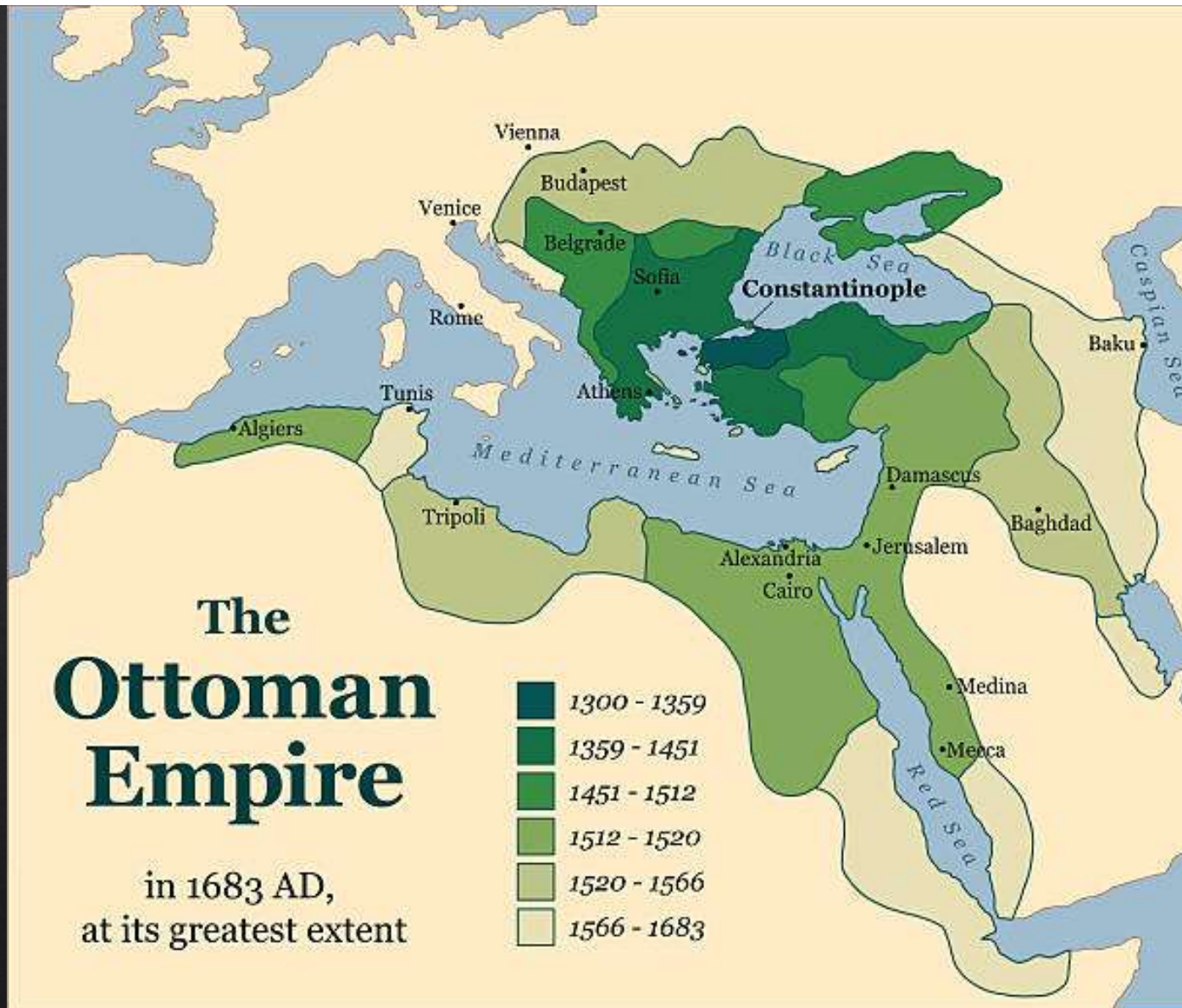
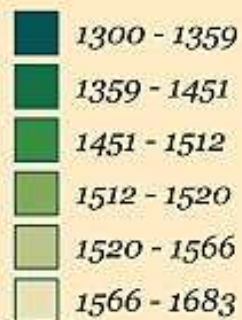
Former Southern  
Kingdom / Judah =  
Judea & Idumea





# The Ottoman Empire

in 1683 AD,  
at its greatest extent



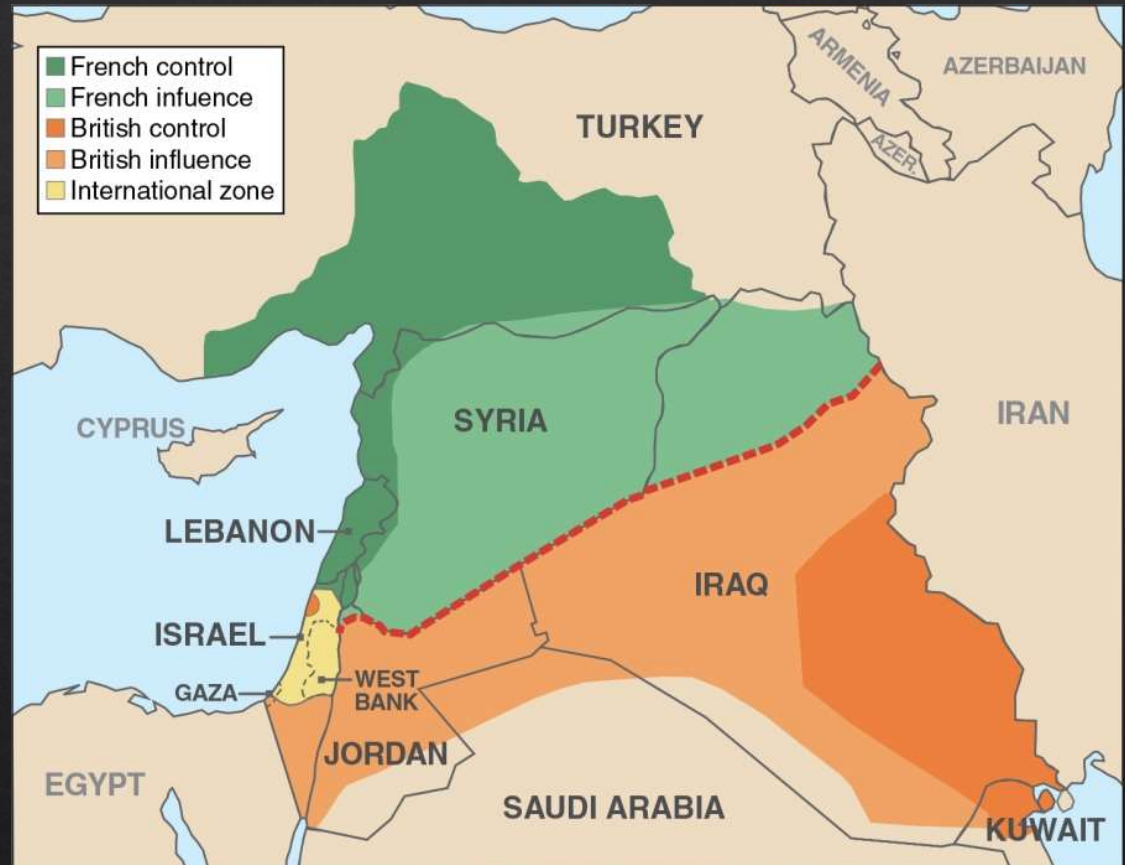






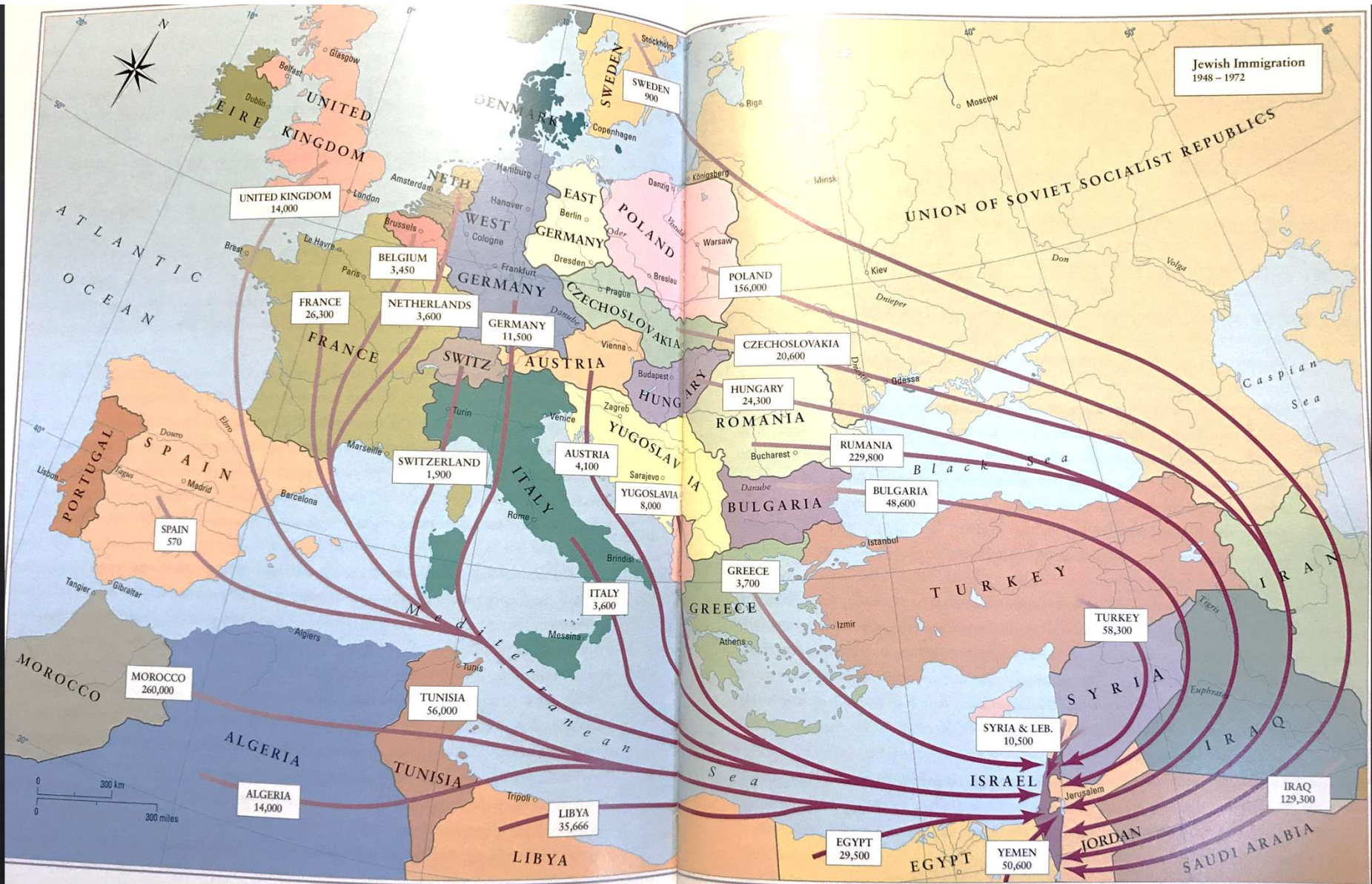
## The Fall of Empire

- After WWI, the Ottoman Empire was parceled up
- The Former Ottoman Empire consolidated into what is now Turkey



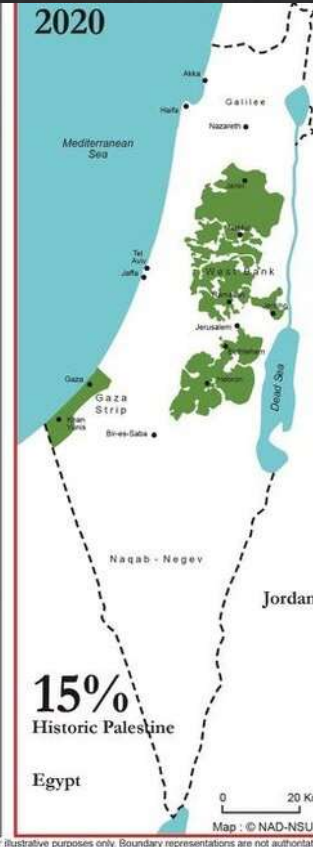
The Sykes-Picot Agreement







# Israel becomes a state in 1948



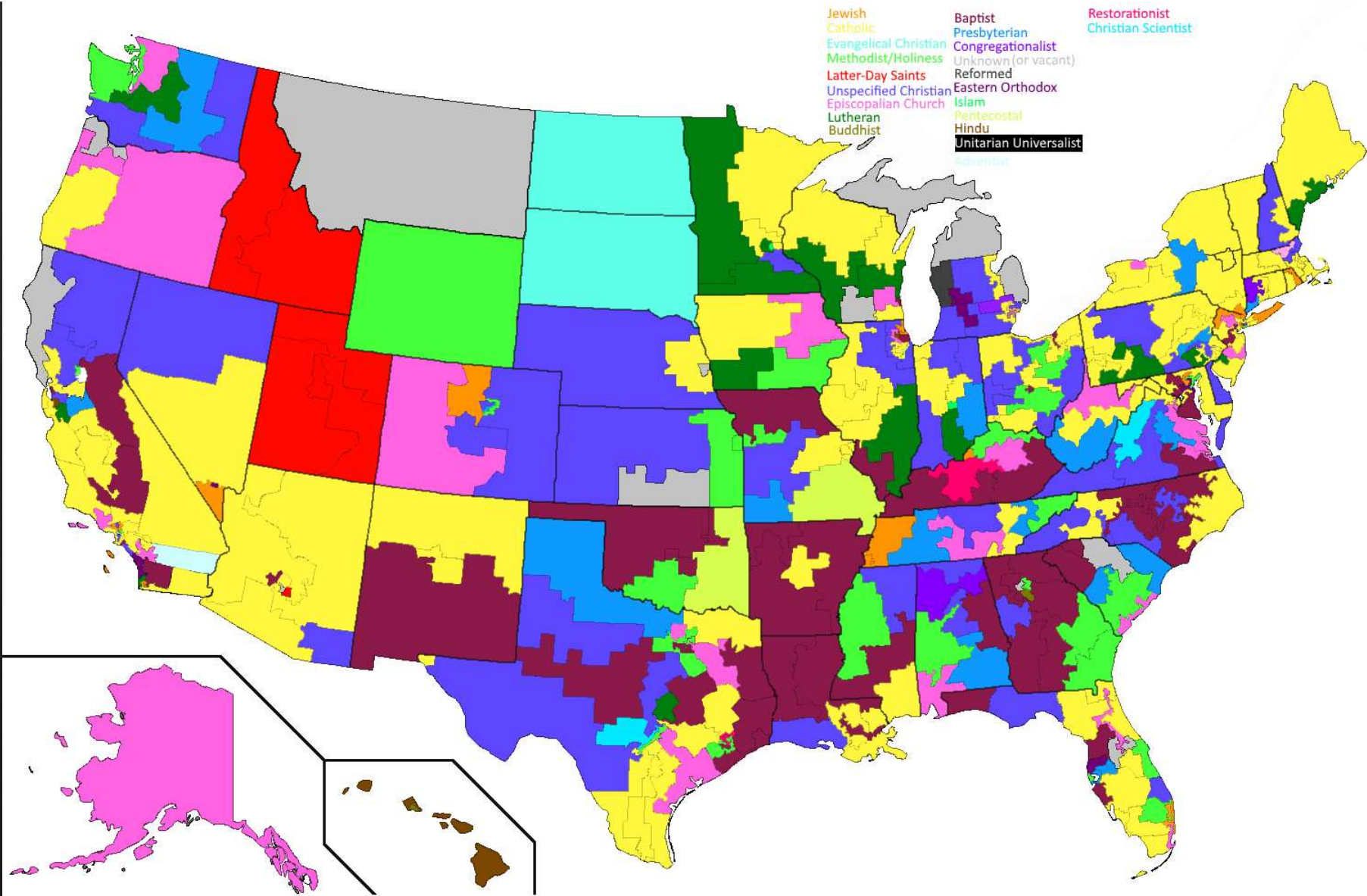
These maps are for illustrative purposes only. Boundary representations are not authoritative.



# Jerusalem

Home of the 3 monotheistic /  
Abrahamic religions:  
Judaism, Christianity, Islam







# Exhortation

**Always be ready to make your defense [Gk. *apologia*] to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence.**

(1 Peter 3:15-16a NRSV)

**So make up your minds not to prepare your defense [Gk. *apologiamai*] in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.**

(Luke 21:14-15 NRSV)

**When they bring you before the synagogues, the rulers, and the authorities, do not worry about how you are to defend [Gk. *apologiamai*] yourselves or what you are to say; for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that very hour what you ought to say.**

(Luke 12:11-12 NRSV)