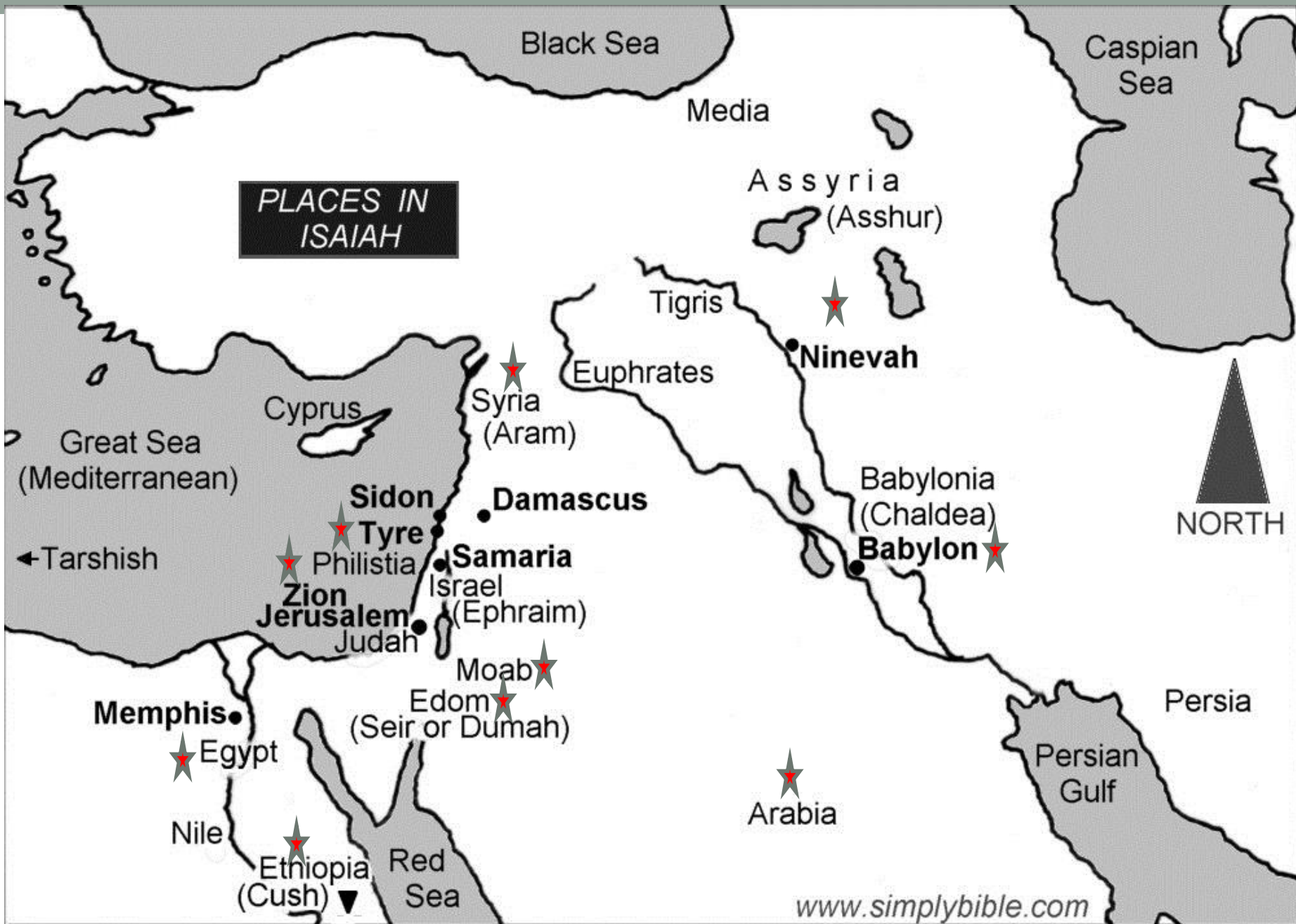


Isaiah

**PLACES IN
ISAIAH**



The Man

- Name means “salvation of the Lord,” or “the Lord is salvation” (constant theme throughout the book).
- Son of Amoz (1:1; 2:1; 13:1). Bible reveals nothing more of him; Jewish **tradition** says he was the brother of Amaziah, king of Judah.
- Apparent from a number of references that he lived in Jerusalem.
- Wife called a “prophetess” (8:3). Simply the wife of a prophet, or did she have the gift of prophecy?

The Man

- At least two sons:
 - Shear-Jashub (7:3)—means “a remnant shall return” (Isaiah speaks often of this remnant).
 - Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz (8:3)—means “speed the spoil, hasten the booty” (8:4 explains the meaning).
- **Tradition:** executed (sawn in two) by Manasseh a few years after he began his reign.
 - Hebrews 11:37 an allusion to this death?

Time Frame

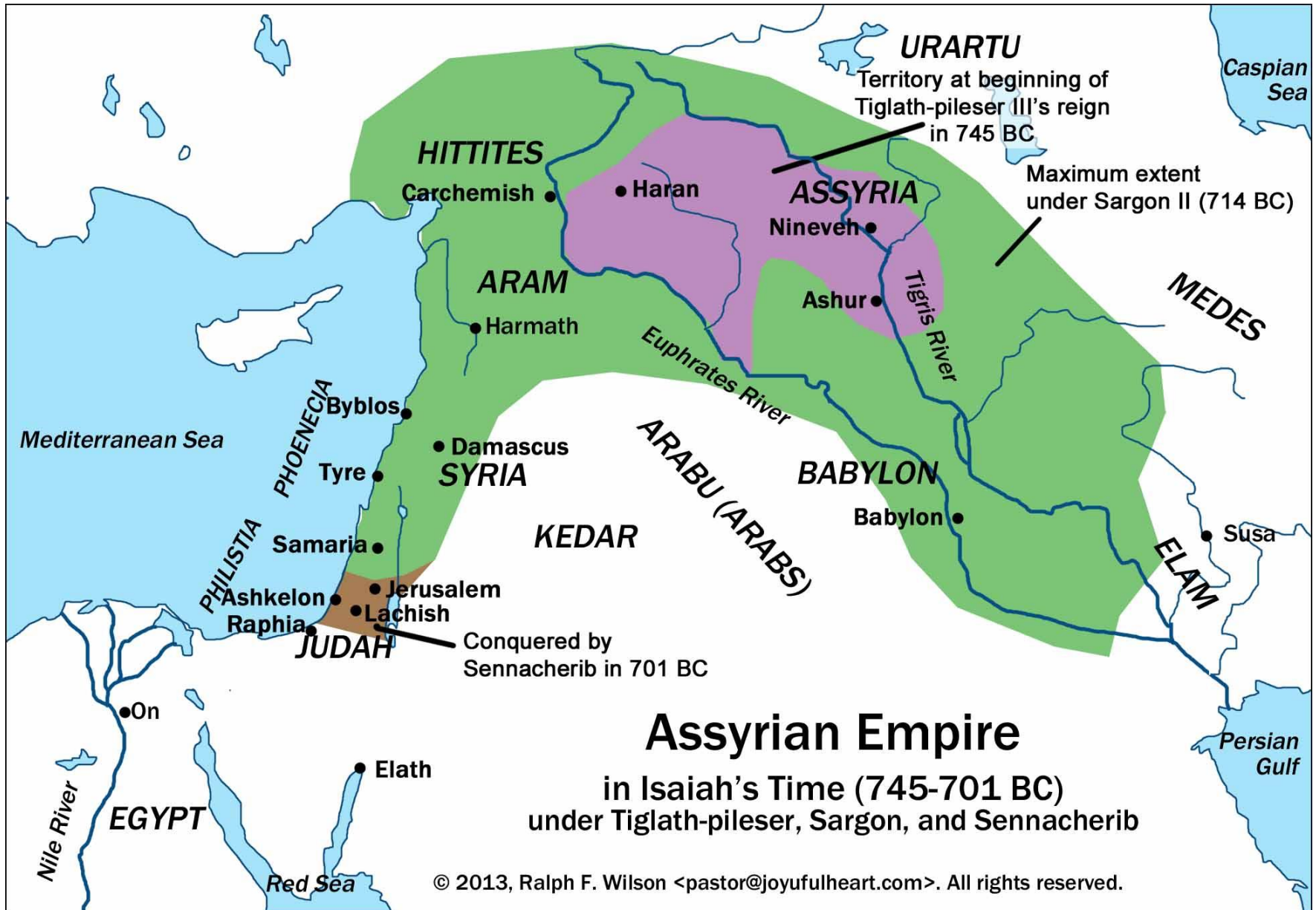
- Prophesied from about 739 B.C. to 690 B.C., “in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah” (1:1).
 - “The year that King Uzziah died” (6:1) is used as the beginning point.
 - Historical background for this period can be found in **2 Kings 14–20** (Uzziah called Azariah in some references) and **2 Chronicles 26–32**.

Conditions Before Isaiah's prophecy

- Isaiah grew up in the divided kingdom period, during the reigns of Uzziah, king of Judah, and Jeroboam II, king of Israel.
- These were times of great affluence and prosperity, for both Israel and Judah (2 Kgs. 14:21–29; 2 Chron. 26).
- Isaiah makes it clear they did NOT handle this prosperity very well. Isaiah preaches to both nations, but primarily to Judah.

Condition of Judah during this time

- Threatened from *within* by its spiritual decay and moral corruption.
- Threatened from *without* by Syria, Assyria, and the northern kingdom of Israel.
 - See bottom of p. 5 for four different Assyrian invasions into Israel, three of which are covered in Isaiah.
- Northern kingdom of Israel taken into captivity by the Assyrians in 722/21 B. C.



Contemporaries

- **Amos** (760–750 B.C.), who prophesied to Israel, would have prophesied just shortly before Isaiah did.
- **Hosea** (750–725 B.C.), who prophesied to Israel, would have overlapped Isaiah.
- **Micah** (735 to 700 B.C.) prophesied to Judah, so his ministry coincided with Isaiah's.

We will learn more about...

- What it means to trust in the “Holy One of Israel” (Ahaz did not; Hezekiah did).
 - 10:20; 12:1–2; 25:9; 26:3–4; 30:1–3; 30:18; 40:27–31.
 - Look for other passages that speak of relying, trusting, looking to, waiting on, etc.
- God, both His character and His works.
 - “The LORD of hosts” (62x), meaning essentially the all powerful God.

We will learn more about...

- God's judgment against sin—not just against Israel and Judah, but all nations.
- The true nature of sin—the affront to God that it truly is (watch for the various descriptions of sin, especially in the latter part of the book).
- The comfort (18x) and peace (34x) God alone can provide.

We will learn more about...

- The **living** God vv. idols (chs. 44–45 in particular)
 - “Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other” (45:22).
- The Messiah or the Christ, especially in His SERVANT role (esp., 49–50), and then as the suffering SERVANT (52–53).
- The Messiah’s kingdom—its glory, and its inclusion of Gentiles (esp., 60–66).