

# Judges Series

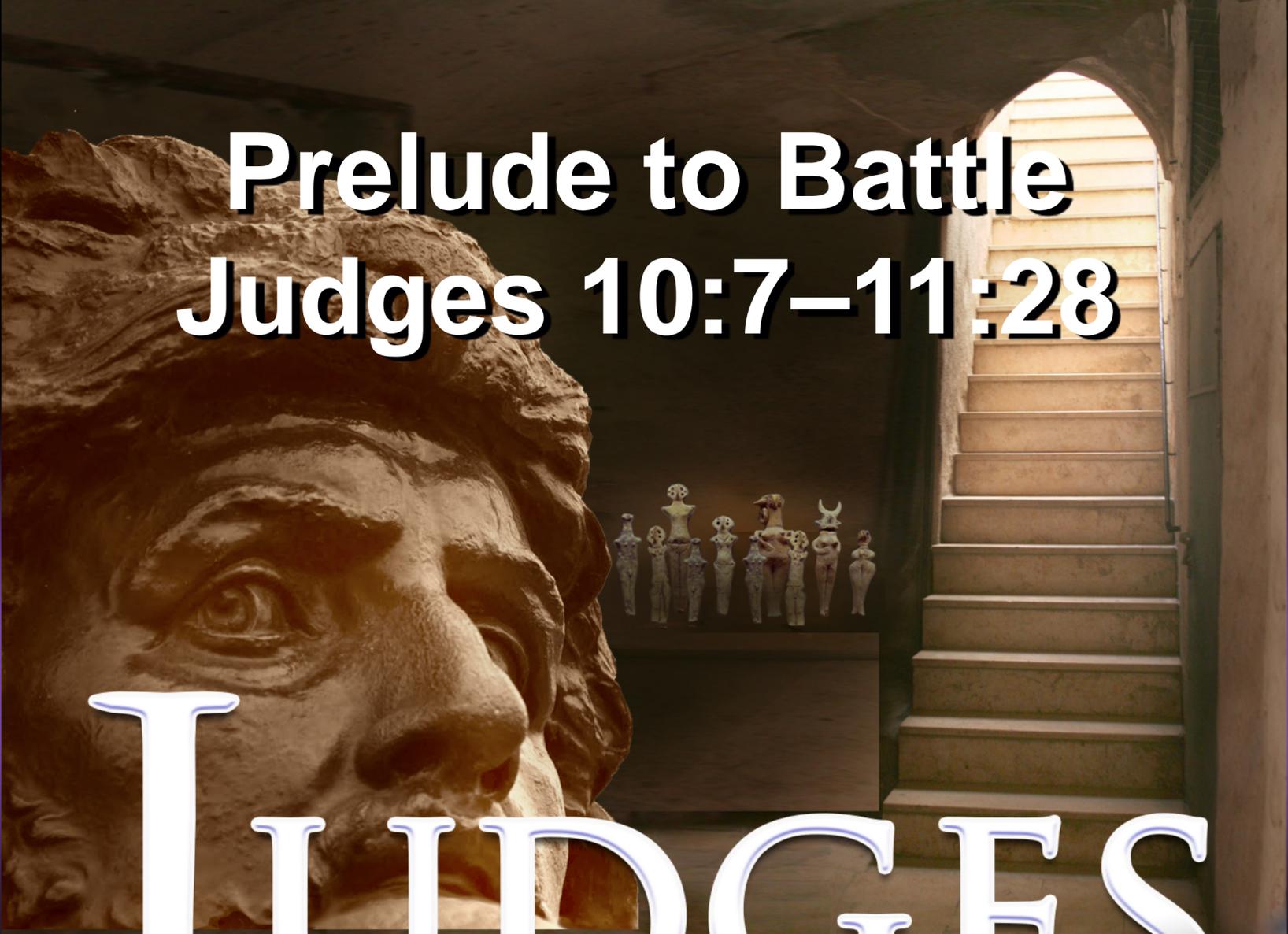
## Lesson #77

November 1, 2022

Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

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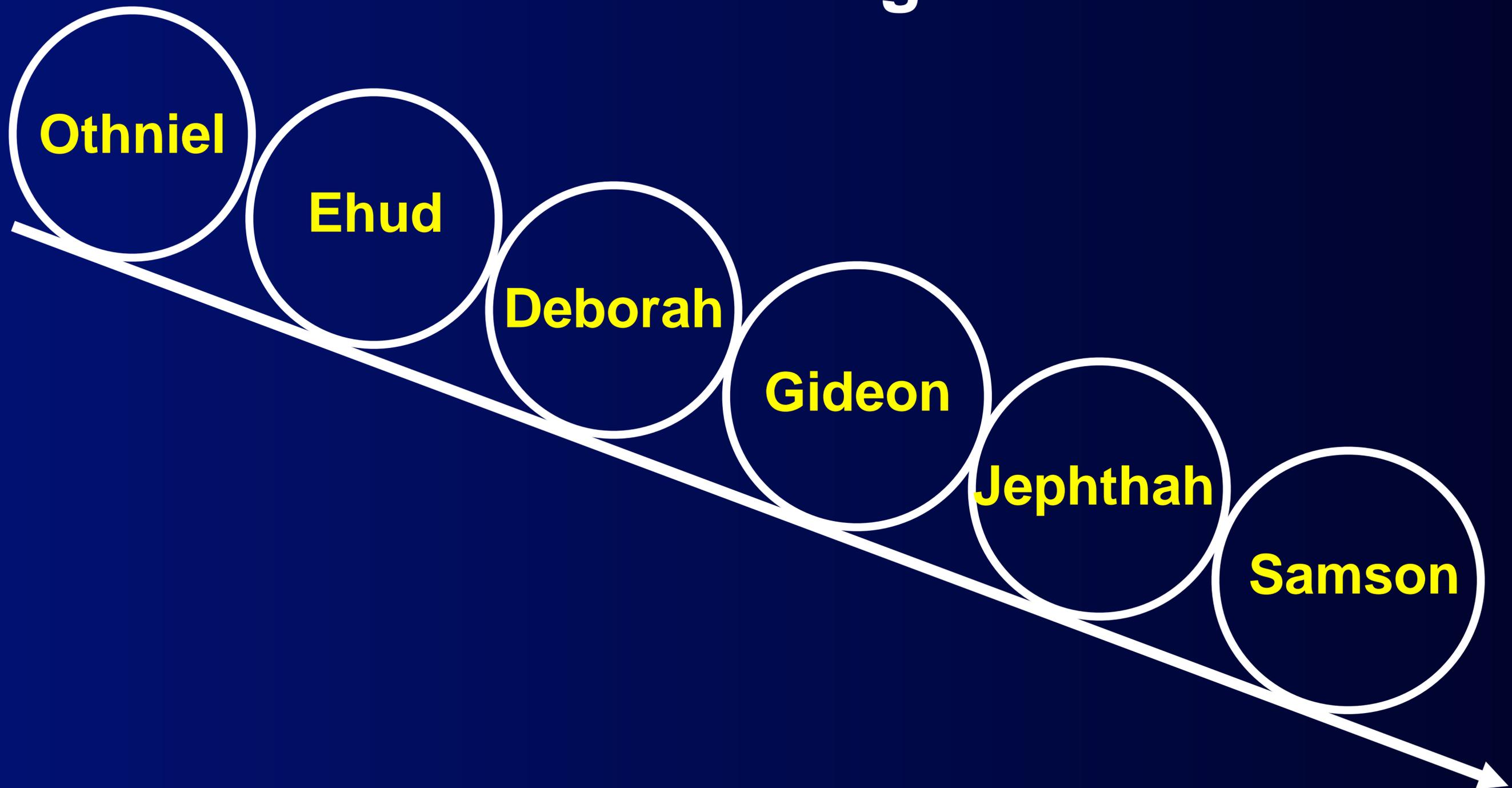
**Prelude to Battle**  
**Judges 10:7–11:28**

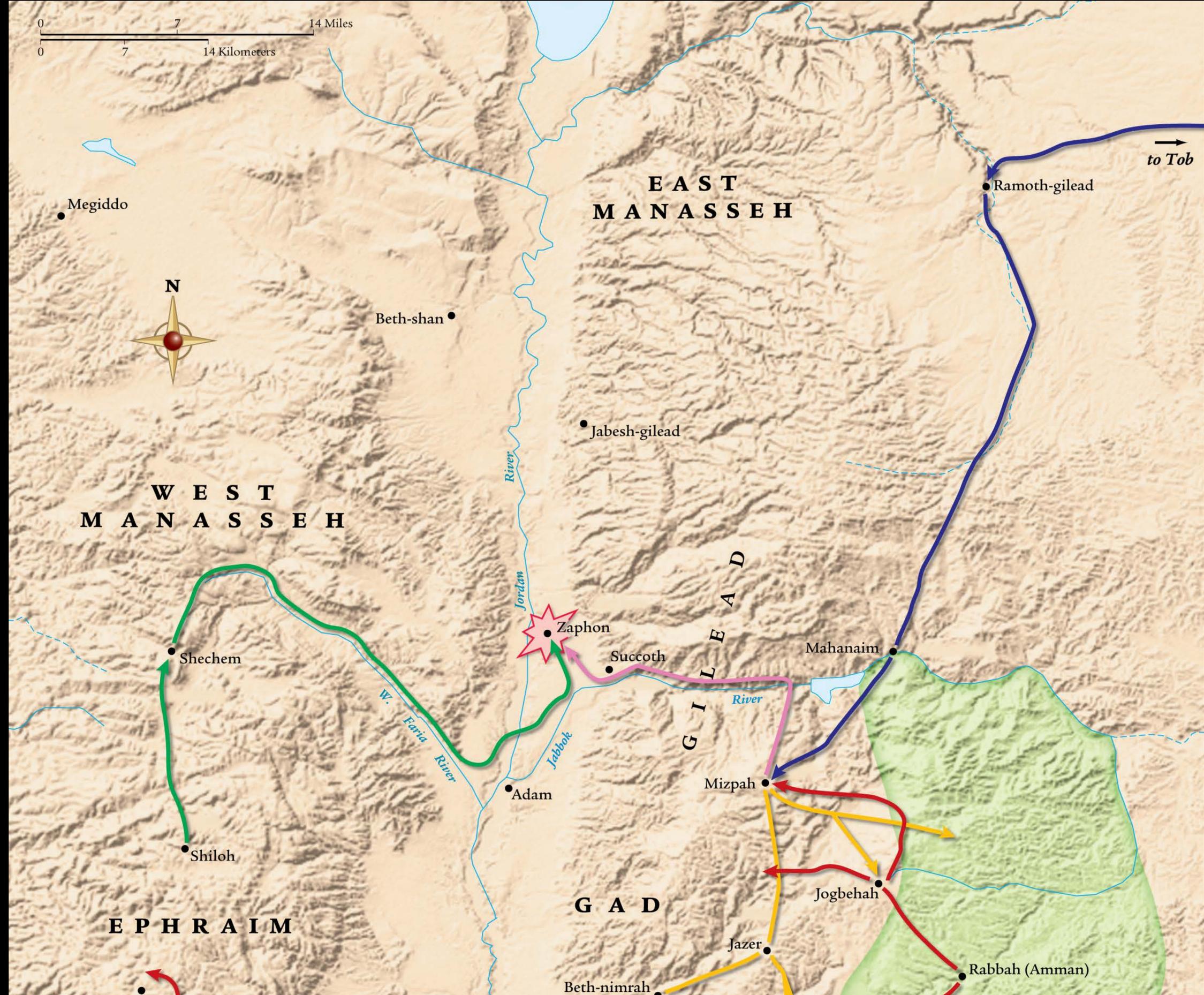
# JUDGES

2021

**When Chaos Was King**

# Deterioration of Positive Volition in the Judges





0 7 14 Miles  
0 7 14 Kilometers



Megiddo

Beth-shan

**EAST  
MANASSEH**

Ramoth-gilead

→  
*to Tob*

Jabesh-gilead

**WEST  
MANASSEH**

Zaphon

**GILEAD**

Shechem

Succoth

Mahanaim

Adam

Mizpah

**EPHRAIM**

**GAD**

Jogbehah

Shiloh

Jazer

Rabbah (Amman)

Beth-nimrah

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

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

JEZREEL VALLEY  
ZEBULUN

Aijalon | Ailon

NAPHTALI  
Kedesh-naphtali

with Deborah at the battle of Mt. Tabor (Judg. 4:6)

Golan

Ashtaroth

Yarmuk EAST  
MANASSEH

#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)

Valley  
ISSACHAR

Mt. Tabor

Ophrah

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

Kamon

Havvoth-jair

Ramoth-gilead

WEST  
MANASSEH

#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)

Shamir

Tirzah

#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)

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

Shechem

Pirathon

Jabbok

Succoth

Penuel

Mizpah

Mahanaim

Yarkon River

EPHRAIM

Shiloh

Gilgal

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

Arumah

Adam

GAD

Joppa

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

Bethel

Mizpah

Ramah

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

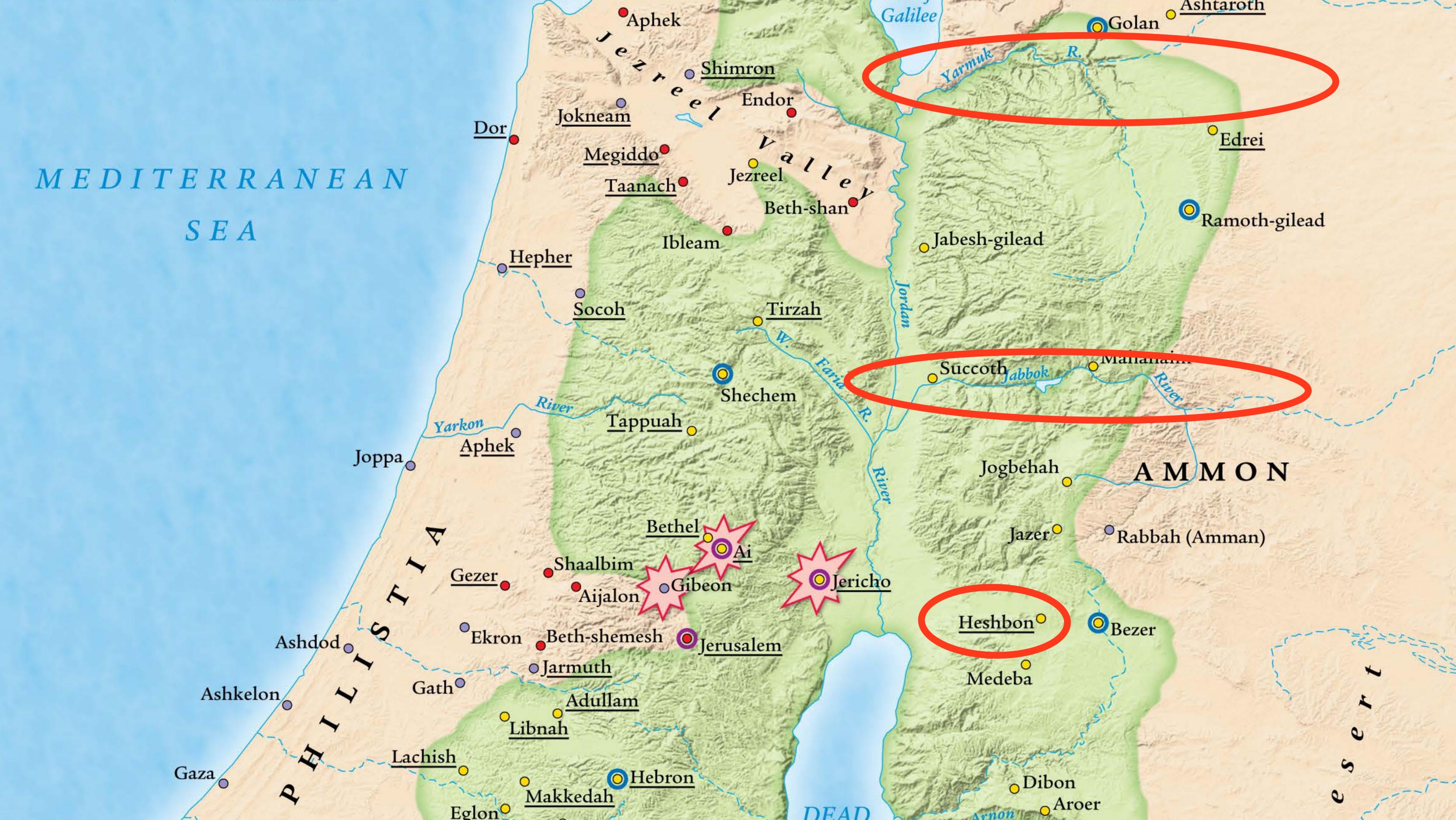
Jericho

Gilgal

Jazer

Rabbah (Amman)

Heshbon



MEDITERRANEAN SEA

PHILISTIA

Jezreel Valley

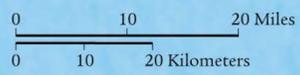
AMMON

desert



Map labels: Aphek, Shimron, Endor, Megiddo, Taanach, Jezreel, Beth-shan, Ibleam, Hephher, Socoh, Tirzah, Shechem, Tappuah, Joppa, Aphek, Bethel, Ai, Gibeon, Jericho, Shaalbim, Aijalon, Gezer, Ekron, Beth-shemesh, Jerusalem, Jarmuth, Adullam, Libnah, Lachish, Hebron, Makkedah, Eglon, Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Dor, Jokneam, Jabesh-gilead, Succoth, Jogbehah, Jazer, Rabbah (Amman), Bezer, Medeba, Diben, Aroer, Ramoth-gilead, Edrei, Ashtaroth, Golan, Galilee, Yarmuk R., Jordan River, Faria R., Yarkon River, Arnon River, DEAD SEA.

 Valley nominally controlled by Saul  
 Saul's kingdom



**Bashan/Golan Heights**

Site where Saul's corpse was impaled

Site where Saul died

Site where Saul was buried

Area around Jebus not controlled by Saul

**MOAB**  
Kir-hareseth

**EDOM**

**Judg. 10:17, “Then the people of Ammon mustered the troops and set up camp in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled together and camped at Mizpah. ~RD**

**Judg. 10:18, “And the people, that is, the leaders of Gilead, said to one another, ‘Who is the man who will begin the fight against the people of Ammon? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.’ ”**

**Judg. 11:1, “Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he was the son of a harlot; and Gilead begot Jephthah.” ~NKJV**

**Judg. 10:18b, “Who is the man who will begin the fight against the people of Ammon?”**

**Who is this man, Jephthah?**

**What qualifies him to lead?**

**What is his character?**

**Where is God in the process of raising up Jephthah?**

**What is Jephthah’s relationship with *Yhwh*?**

## **Jephthah's Negatives**

- (1) he was the bastard son of a prostitute;**
- (2) he was an outcast from his family and tribe;**
- (3) he associated with outlaws and the dregs and rejects of society and operated outside the law;**
- (4) he was a Gileadite, which, from the Ephraimites' perspective in particular, is equivalent to living on the "wrong side of the tracks."**

**Judg. 11:2, “Gilead’s wife bore sons; and when his wife’s sons grew up, they drove Jephthah out, and said to him, ‘You shall have no inheritance in our father’s house, for you are the son of another woman.’”**

**Judg. 11:3, “Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and dwelt in the land of Tob; and worthless men banded together with Jephthah and went out raiding with him.”**

**Judg. 11:4, “It came to pass after a time that the people of Ammon made war against Israel.**

**Judg. 11:5, “And so it was, when the people of Ammon made war against Israel, that the elders of Gilead went to get Jephthah from the land of Tob.**

**Judg. 11:6, “Then they said to Jephthah, ‘Come and be our commander, that we may fight against the people of Ammon.’ ”**

**Judg. 11:7, “So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, ‘Did you not hate me, and expel me from my father’s house? Why have you come to me now when you are in distress?’ ”**

**1 צָרָרָה *tzarar-1***

**qal wawConsec 3 fem sing apoc  
to bind, restrict, distress  
to be in a tight spot, severely stressed**

**Judg. 11:8, “And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, ‘That is why we have turned again to you now, that you may go with us and fight against the people of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.’ ”**

**Judg. 11:9, “So Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, ‘If you take me back home to fight against the people of Ammon, and the LORD delivers them to me, shall I be your head?’ ”**

**Judg. 11:10, “And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, ‘The LORD will be a witness between us, if we do not do according to your words.’”**

**Judg. 11:11, “Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and commander over them; and Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD in Mizpah.”**

## **Conclusion**

- 1. God is in the background. He is not mentioned, He is not said to deliver them. But we see His gracious work despite Israel's apostasy and carnality.**
- 2. If you are still alive, God still has a plan for your life.**
- 3. No matter how badly you self destruct in life, God will never leave you or forsake you. He is always faithful. No matter how barren our life, He is still the One who brings life where there is death.**

- **Jephthah owns the negotiations with the Ammonites, they lose. Judg. 11:12–28**
- **Jephthah is given undeserved grace by God to ensure the victory. Judg. 11:29**
- **Jephthah's pagan vow. Judg. 11:30–40**

- **Jephthah owns the negotiations with the Ammonites, they lose.  
Judg. 11:12–28**
- **Opening statements. Judg. 11:12–13**

**Jephthah:**

**Judg. 11:12, “Now Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon, saying, ‘What do you have against me, that you have come to fight against me in my land?’ ” ~NKJV**

## **Ammonite King:**

**Judg. 11:13, “And the king of the people of Ammon answered the messengers of Jephthah, ‘Because Israel took away my land when they came up out of Egypt, from the Arnon as far as the Jabbok, and to the Jordan. Now therefore, restore those lands peaceably.’ ” ~NKJV**

B A S H A N

Sea of Galilee

Ashtaroth

Yarmuk River

Edrei

Beth-shan

Ramoth-gilead

Jabesh-gilead

A D

Jabbok River

ivnananaim

A M M O N

Jazer

Rabbah (Amman)

G I L

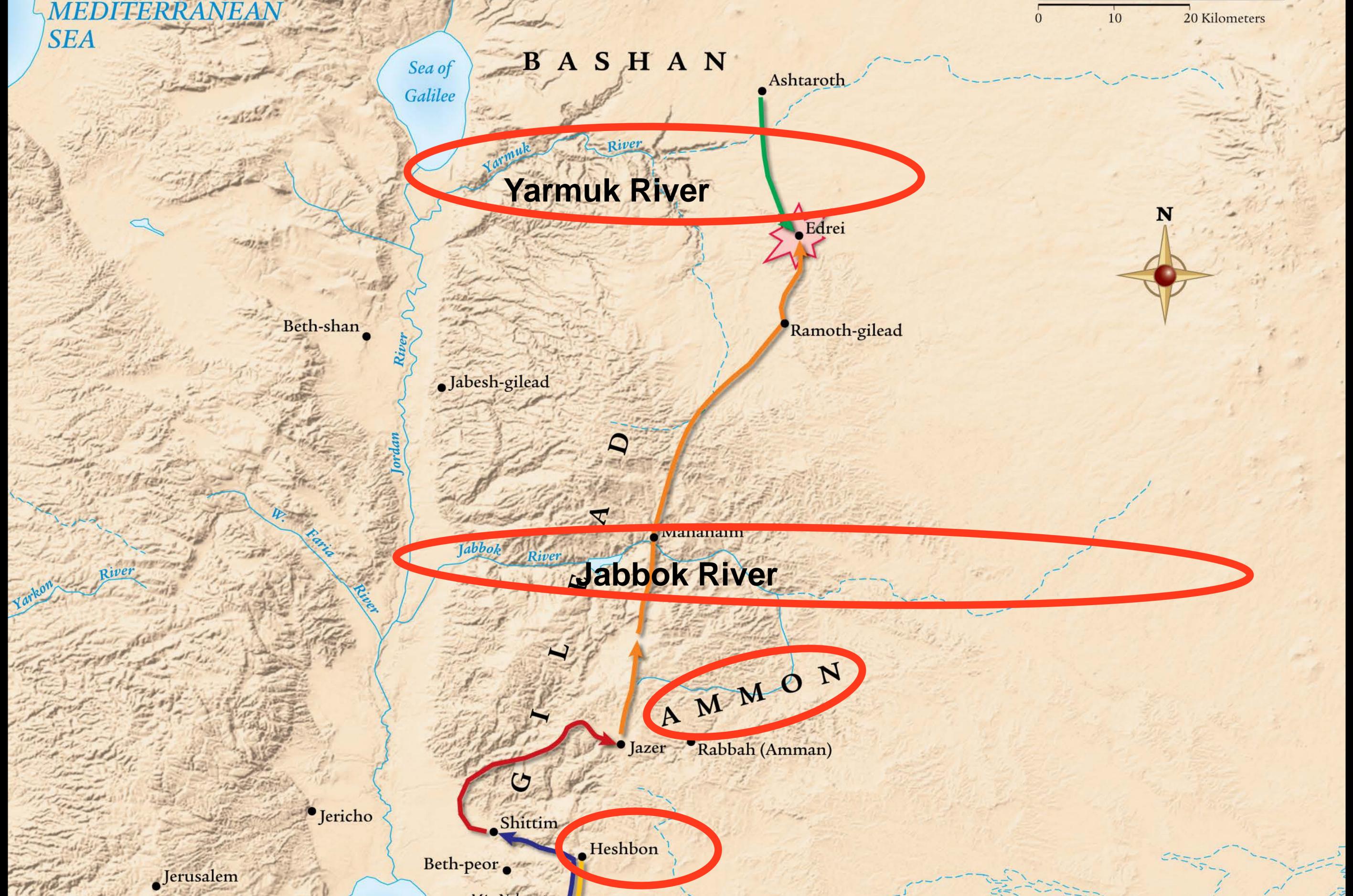
Jericho

Shittim

Heshbon

Beth-peor

Jerusalem



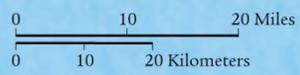
- **Jephthah owns the negotiations with the Ammonites, they lose. Judg. 11:12–28**
- **Opening statements. Judg. 11:12–13**
- **The negotiations, Jephthah's 4 arguments. Judg. 11:14–27**

## **The Preface (Judges 11:14–15)**

**Judg. 11:14, “So Jephthah again sent messengers to the king of the people of Ammon,**

**Judg. 11:15, “and said to him, ‘Thus says Jephthah:  
“Israel did not take away the land of Moab, nor the land  
of the people of Ammon;” ’ ” ~NKJV**

-  Valley nominally controlled by Saul
-  Saul's kingdom



MEDITERRANEAN SEA

0 10 20 Miles  
0 10 20 Kilometers

**BASHAN**

Sea of Galilee

Antaroth

Yarmuk River

Edrei

Beth-shan

Ramoth-gilead

Jabesh-gilead

G I L E A D

Mahanaim

Yarkon River

W. Faria River

Jabbok River

**AMMON**

Jahaz

Jericho

Shalim

Heshbon

Jerusalem

Beth-peor

Mt. Nebo

Medeba

Almon-diblathaim

Jahaz

DEAD SEA

Dibon

Aroer

Arnon River

Mattanah





Mediterranean Sea

AMORITES

Euphrates R.  
Tigris R.

BABYLONIA

EGYPT

CANAAN

AMMON

MOAB  
EDOM

Aleppo

Kedesh

Mari

Sidon

Tyre

Rabbah

Jerusalem

Babylon

Nippur

Isin

Larsa

Lagash

Ur

Memphis

Nile R.

**Numb. 21:12, “From there they moved and camped in the Valley of Zered.**

**Numb. 21:13, “From there they moved and camped on the other side of the Arnon, which is in the wilderness that extends from the border of the Amorites; for the Arnon is the border of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.”**

**~NKJV**



Yarmuk River

Jabbok River

Arnon River

Zered River

Site where Saul's corpse was impaled

Site where Saul was buried

Site where Saul died

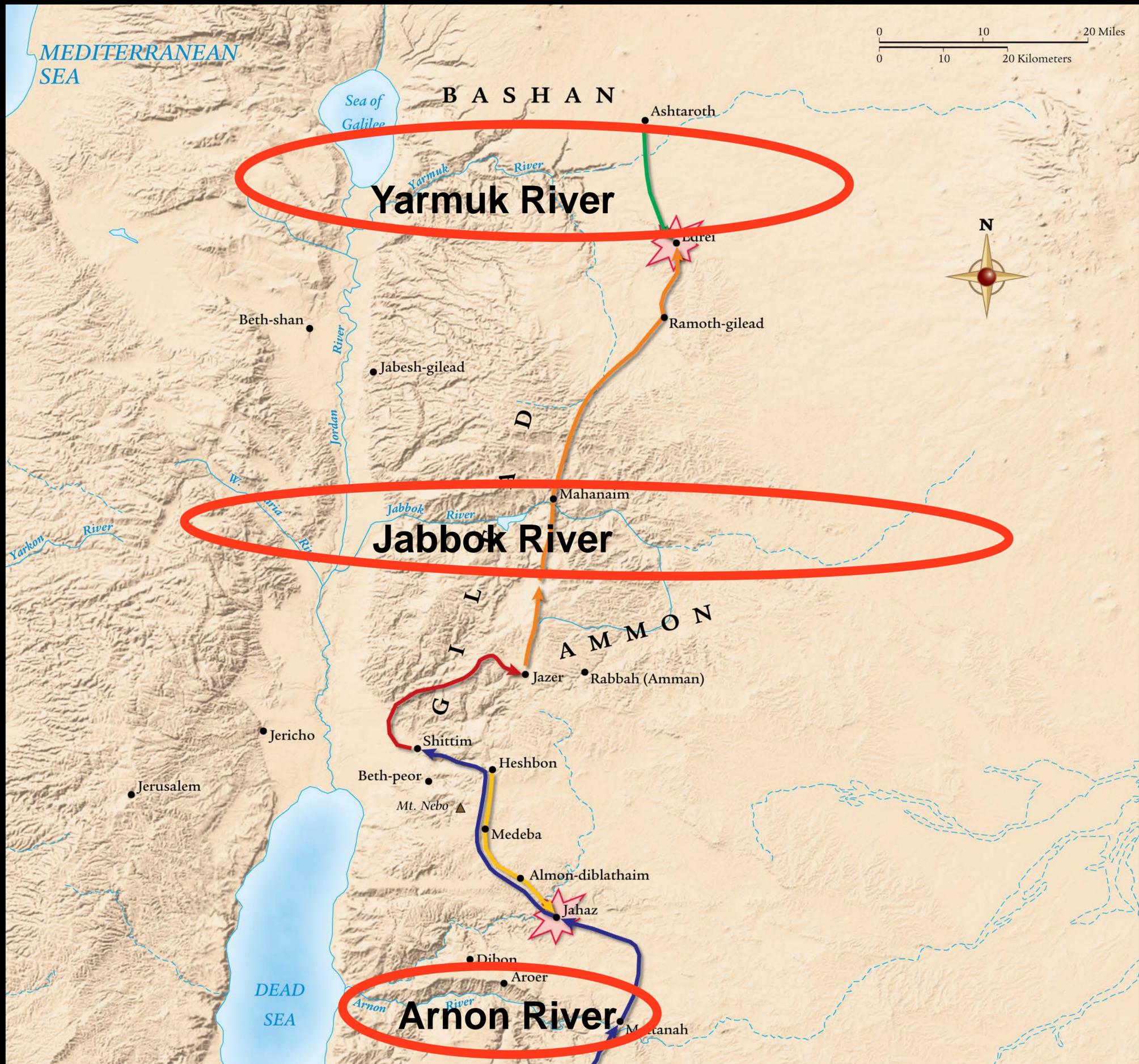
Area around Jebus not controlled by Saul

## Historical (Judges 11:16–22)

**Judg. 11:16, “for when Israel came up from Egypt, they walked through the wilderness as far as the Red Sea and came to Kadesh.**

**Judg. 11:17, “Then Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, ‘Please let me pass through your land.’ But the king of Edom would not heed. And in like manner they sent to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So Israel remained in Kadesh.**

**Judg. 11:18, “And they went along through the wilderness and bypassed the land of Edom and the land of Moab, came to the east side of the land of Moab, and encamped on the other side of the Arnon. But they did not enter the border of Moab, for the Arnon was the border of Moab.” ~NKJV**



**Judg. 11:19, “Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, king of Heshbon; and Israel said to him, ‘Please let us pass through your land into our place.’**

**Judg. 11:20, “But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together, encamped in Jahaz, and fought against Israel.**

**Judg. 11:21, “And the Lord God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them. Thus Israel gained possession of all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country.” ~NKJV**

**Numb. 21:21, “Then Israel sent messengers to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying,**

**Numb. 21:22, “ ‘Let me pass through your land. We will not turn aside into fields or vineyards; we will not drink water from wells. We will go by the King’s Highway until we have passed through your territory.’**

**Numb. 21:23, “But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. So Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel in the wilderness, and he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel.” ~NKJV**

**Numb. 21:24, “Then Israel defeated him with the edge of the sword, and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the people of Ammon; for the border of the people of Ammon was fortified.**

**Numb. 21:25, “So Israel took all these cities, and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and in all its villages.**

**Numb. 21:26, “For Heshbon was the city of Sihon king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and had taken all his land from his hand as far as the Arnon.” ~NKJV**



**Yarmuk River**

Site where Saul's corpse was impaled

Site where Saul died

Site where Saul was buried

**Jabbok River**

Area around Jebus not controlled by Saul

**Arnon River**

**Zered River**

**Judg. 11:22, “They took possession of all the territory of the Amorites, from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan.” ~NKJV**

## **Theological Argument (Judges 11:23–24)**

**Judg. 11:23, “ ‘And now the LORD God of Israel has dispossessed the Amorites from before His people Israel; should you then possess it?’ ”**

**Judg. 11:24, “ ‘Will you not possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So whatever the Lord our God takes possession of before us, we will possess.’ ”**

**~NKJV**

## **Personal (v. 25)**

**Judg. 11:25, “ ‘And now, are you any better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he ever strive against Israel? Did he ever fight against them?’ ” ~NKJV**

## **Chronological (v. 26)**

**Judg. 11:26, “ ‘While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and its villages, in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities along the banks of the Arnon, for three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time?’ ” ~NKJV**

## Conclusion

**Judg. 11:27, “ ‘Therefore I have not sinned against you, but you wronged me by fighting against me. May the Lord, the Judge, render judgment this day between the children of Israel and the people of Ammon.’ ” ~NKJV**

- **Jephthah owns the negotiations with the Ammonites, they lose. Judg. 11:12–28**
- **Jephthah's win-lose attempt to manipulate God. Judg. 11:29–33**
- **Jephthah's pagan vow. Judg. 11:34–40**

**Judg. 11:29, “Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced toward the people of Ammon.**

**Judg. 11:30, “And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord, and said, ‘If You will indeed deliver the people of Ammon into my hands,**

**Judg. 11:31, “ ‘then it will be that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the people of Ammon, shall surely be the Lord’s, and I will offer it up as a burnt offering.’ ” ~NKJV**

**Judg. 11:32, “So Jephthah advanced toward the people of Ammon to fight against them, and the Lord delivered them into his hands.**

**Judg. 11:33, “And he defeated them from Aroer as far as Minnith—twenty cities—and to Abel Keramim, with a very great slaughter. Thus the people of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.” ~NKJV**

- **Jephthah owns the negotiations with the Ammonites, they lose Judg. 11:12–28**
- **Jephthah's win-lose attempt to manipulate God. Judg. 11:29–33**
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