

# Map tour of God's Preparations for Christmas and the coming of the Messiah



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## The Mediterranean World

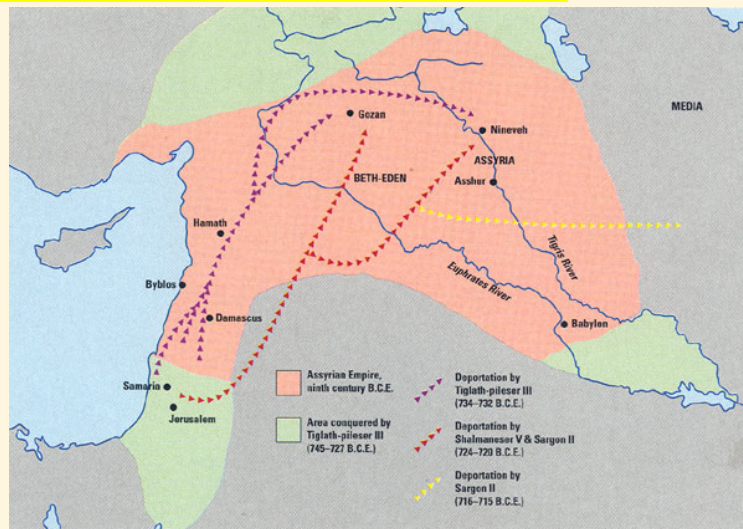


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Home of God's Chosen people the nation of Israel, founded by Abraham. His sons Isaac and Jacob lived there and then Jacobs 12 sons went to Egypt where they lived for 400 years and grew into a nation.

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## Assyrian Deportation



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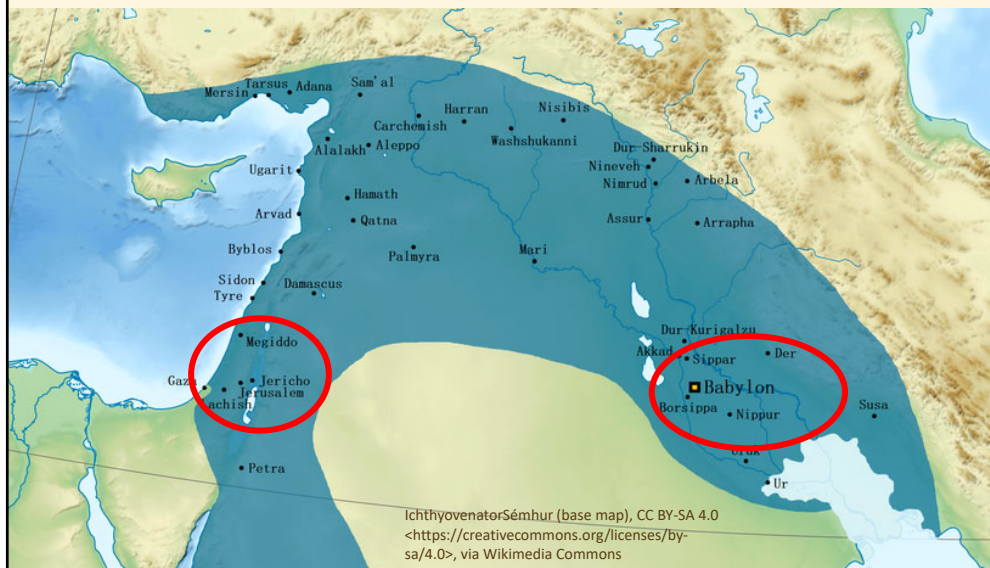
After God brought His people out of Egypt, their covenant with Him was if they worshipped Him only and were obedient to Him, they would be blessed and stay in the land. If not, they would be thrown out of it.

They disobeyed and after hundreds of years of warnings were conquered and deported, first by Assyria, then by Babylon.

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## Babylonian Deportations



The result of these deportations is that there are now Jewish settlements all over this huge area.

In addition to the scattering of the people, they brought with them the worship of the one true God, establishment of synagogues, and copies of God's written word promising the Messiah.

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## Alexander's Empire—all now Greek Speaking

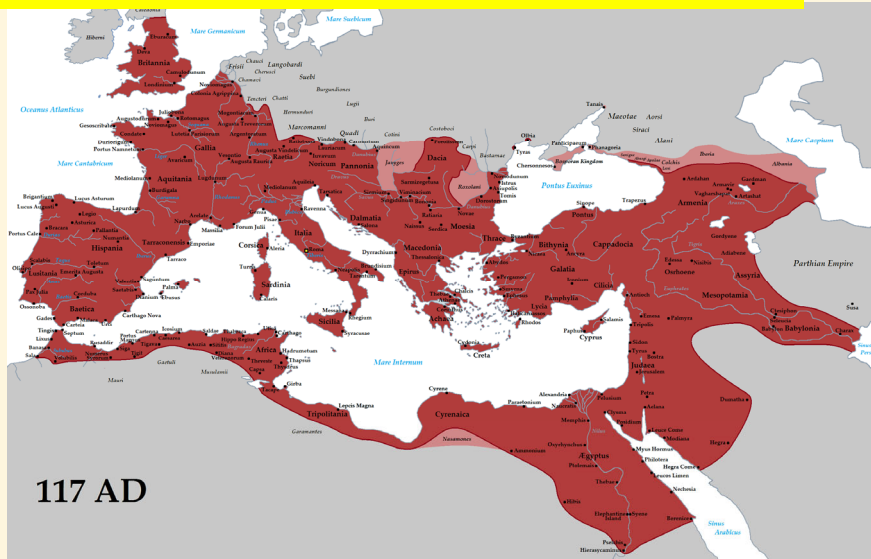


The Babylonian Empire was then conquered by the Medes and Persians who were then conquered by Alexander, who required all the people in it to adopt the Kione Greek language. For purposes of trade, culture, and political expediency, even those outside his empire adopted Greek as the universal language also.

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## The Roman Empire and Pax Romana

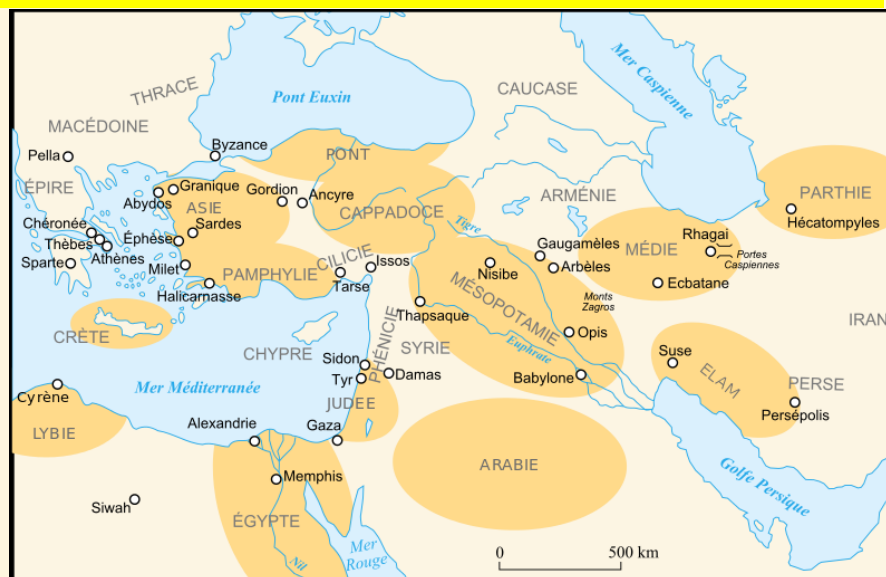


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The next great empire was Rome. In the vast lands they conquered, they enforced the Pax Romana and built roads linking the entire empire and all the scattered Jewish communities back to Jerusalem and a way to safely travel to it.

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## Some areas of the Jewish Diaspora during the time of the Apostles



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Because of the Pax Romana and the Roman roads, the Jewish people who were scattered throughout the known world and with them their scriptures, their synagogues, their belief in the one true God and a coming Messiah, could now all be linked together.

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## Roman Roads throughout the Empire and the Pax Romana



Acts tells us about many who most likely traveled these roads to come to Jerusalem on Pentecost: "Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs"

Marked on the Roman roads.

Ochoa Sigüencia, Luis & Gómez-Ulalde, Martín & Kamara, Afroditi. (2016). Cultural Management and Tourism in European Cultural Routes: from theory to practice.

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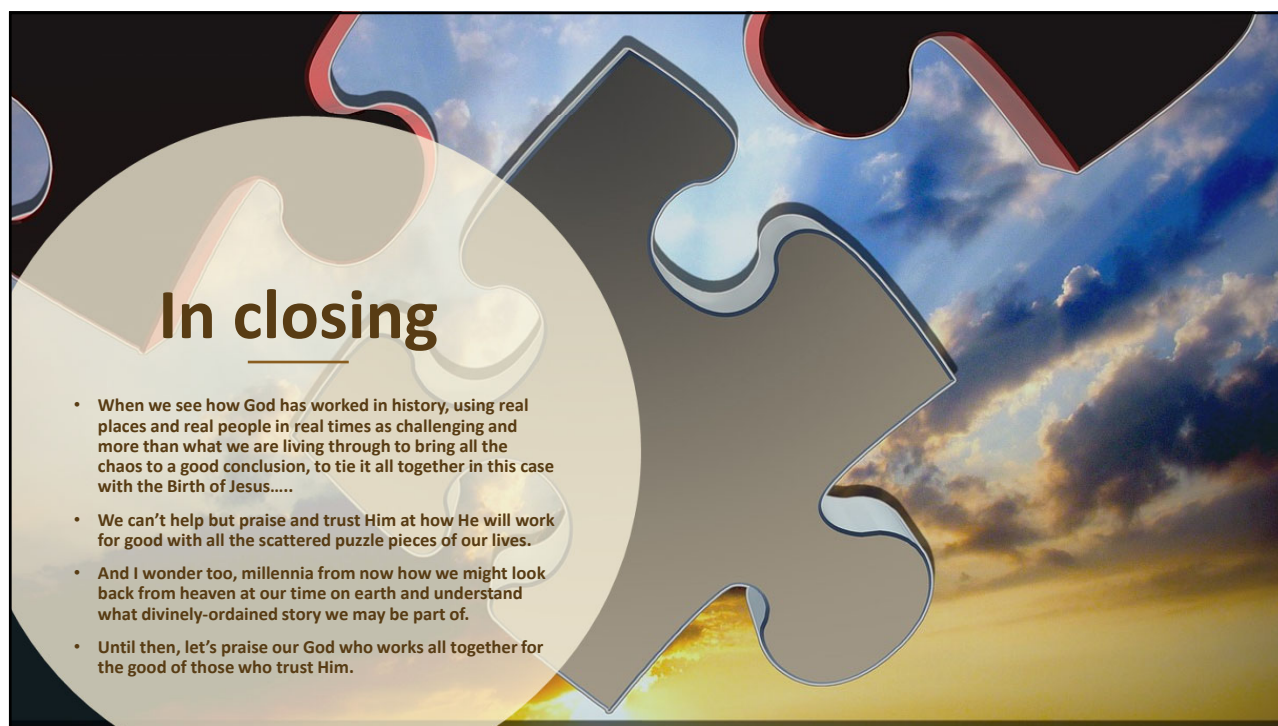
## Paul's journeys over Roman Roads, to Jewish Synagogues, all having the same scriptures, with the same prophecies about the Messiah



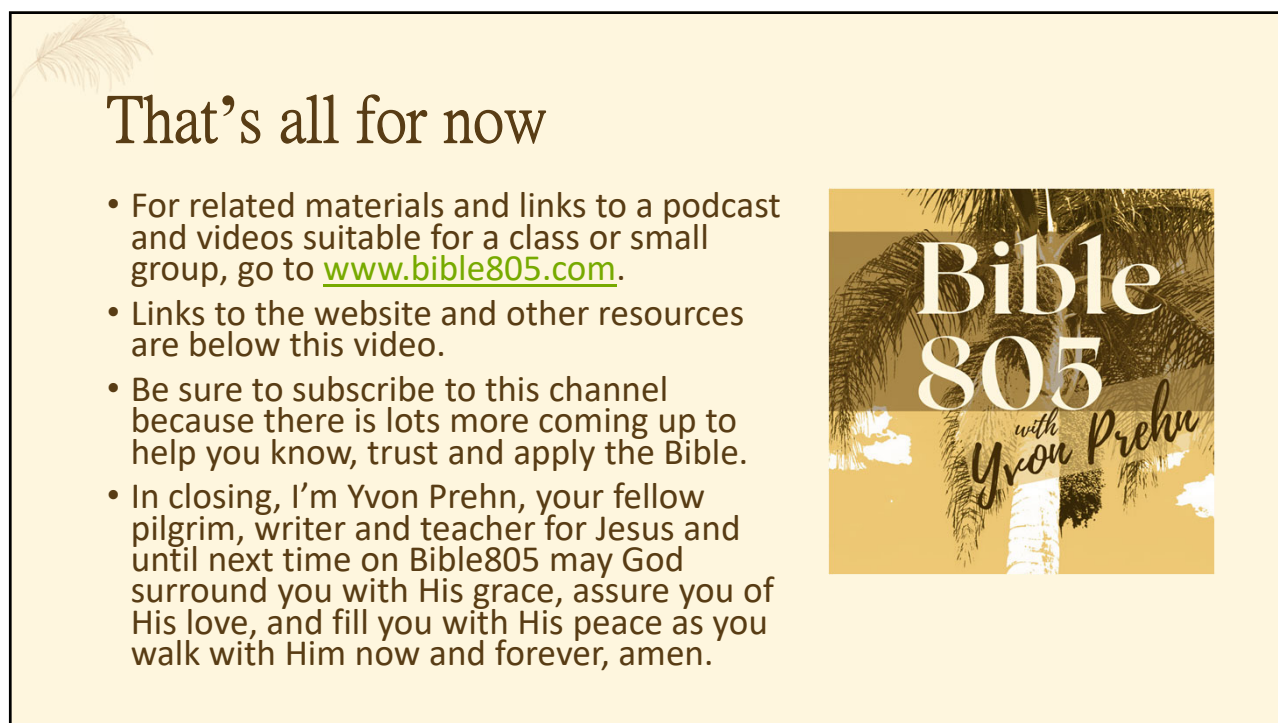
Much of the same area and the same roads were then traveled by the Apostle Paul to share the good news about Jesus—as he traveled from synagogue to synagogue and read the scriptures in Greek and taught them how Jesus fulfilled the prophecies about the long-awaited Messiah.

Geraki at the Greek language Wikipedia, CC BY-SA 3.0 GR <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/gr/deed.en>>, via Wikimedia Commons

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