

Genesis 35:1-2 (NLT)

[1] Then God said to Jacob, “Get ready and move to Bethel and settle there.

Build an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother, Esau.” [2] So Jacob told

everyone in his household, “Get rid of all your pagan idols, purify yourselves, and put on clean clothing.

Genesis 35:3-4 (NLT)

[3] We are now going to Bethel, where I will build an altar to the God who answered my prayers when I was in distress. He has been with me wherever I have gone.” [4] So they gave Jacob all their pagan idols and earrings, and he buried them under the great tree near Shechem.

Genesis 35:5-6 (NLT)

[5] As they set out, a terror from God spread over the people in all the towns of that area, so no one attacked Jacob's family. [6] Eventually, Jacob and his household arrived at Luz (also called Bethel) in Canaan.

Genesis 35:7 (NLT)

[7] Jacob built an altar there and named the place El-bethel (which means “God of Bethel”), because God had appeared to him there when he was fleeing from his brother, Esau.

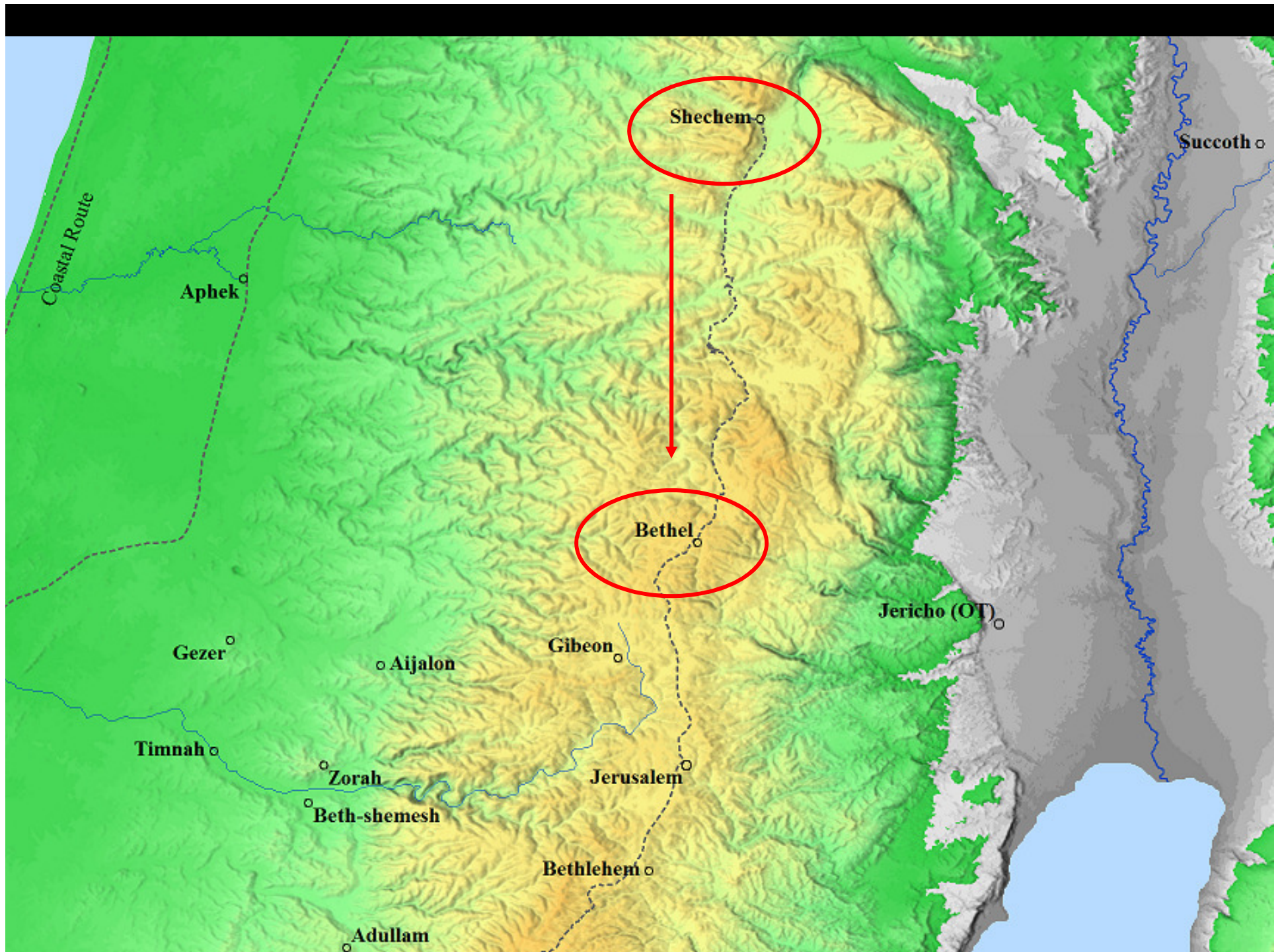
Breaking with the PAST

Genesis 35:1-29









Jacob's Instructions

- get **RID OF** foreign gods
- **BATHE**
- **CHANGE** clothes

Joshua 24:14 (NIV)

"Now fear the LORD and serve him
with all faithfulness. **THROW AWAY**
the gods your forefathers worshiped
beyond the River and in Egypt,
and serve the LORD.

Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then **CHOOSE for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, WE WILL SERVE the LORD."**

Matthew 5:29-30 (NIV)

If your right eye **causes you to sin, GOUGE IT OUT and throw it away**. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30] And if your right hand **causes you to sin, CUT IT OFF and throw it away**. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

DECISIVELY - admit exactly
what it is

RADICALLY - cut it off

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

...let us **THROW OFF everything**
that HINDERS and the

SIN that so easily ENTANGLES,

and let us run with perseverance the race
marked out for us.

There are some things in connection with the spiritual life that must be **entirely given up and destroyed**, for it is impossible to sanctify or consecrate them.

...There are things that simply must be cut off. Books have to be burned. Evil habits have to be broken. Sin must be put away. **There are things that are BEYOND all reclamation .**

Constable

Psalm 32:1-2 (NLT)

Oh, **what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven,**

whose sin is put out of sight!

[2] Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has **cleared of guilt,** whose lives are lived in complete honesty!

Psalm 32:3-4 (NLT)

[3] **When I REFUSED to CONFESS my sin,** my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. [4] Day and night **your hand of DISCIPLINE was HEAVY ON ME.** My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat.

Psalm 32:5 (NLT)

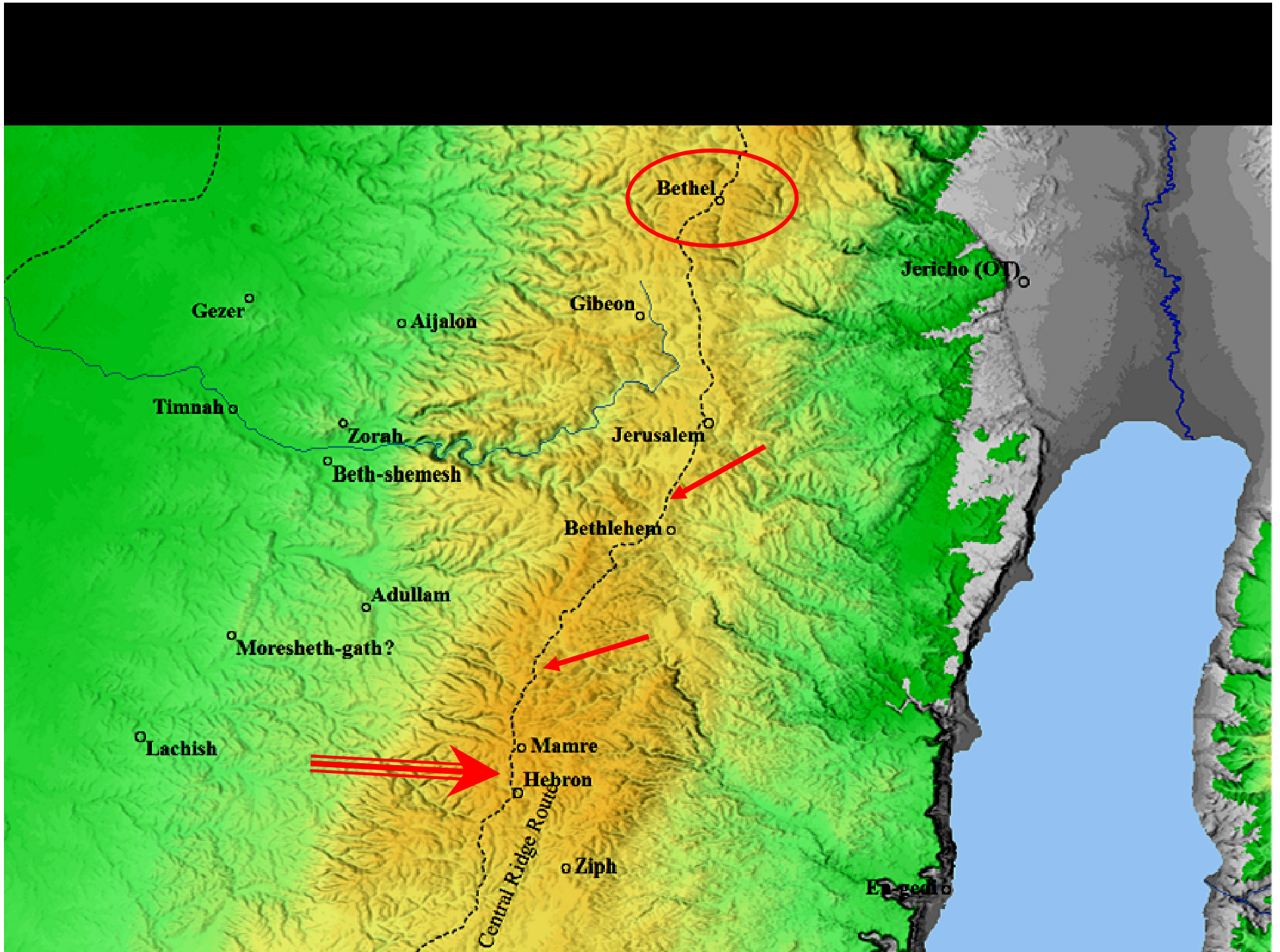
FINALLY, I confessed ALL my sins
to you and **stopped trying to HIDE my**
guilt. I said to myself, “I will **confess my**
rebellion to the LORD.”

And YOU forgave me!

ALL my guilt is GONE.

Get **RIGHT** with God

- **DESTROY** any idols in your life
- **CONFESS** your sin seek God's cleansing
- **PURSUE** God
- **OBEY** God



Reuben...

- **CHALLENGED** Jacob's Authority
- **ESTABLISHED** authority over his brothers
- made sure Bilhah would **not** become Jacob's favorite

Jacob's Sons

Leah's

- 1- Reuben
- 2- Simeon
- 3- Levi
- 4- Judah
- 9- Issachar
- 10- Zebulun

Rachel's

- 11- Joseph
- 12- Benjamin

Bilhah's

- 5- Dan
- 6- Naphtali

Zilpah's

- 7- Gad
- 8- Asher

Questions

1. What kinds of things can become idols in our lives today?
2. How can we deal with these things
Decisively and Radically?
3. What are some ways we can prepare on Saturday for Worship on Sunday?