

Malachi 1:1-3 (NLT)

[1] This is the message that the Lord gave to Israel through the prophet Malachi. [2] “I have always loved you,” says the Lord. But you retort, “Really? How have you loved us?” And the Lord replies, “This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, [3] but I rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country. I turned Esau’s inheritance into a desert for jackals.”

Malachi 1:4-5 (NLT)

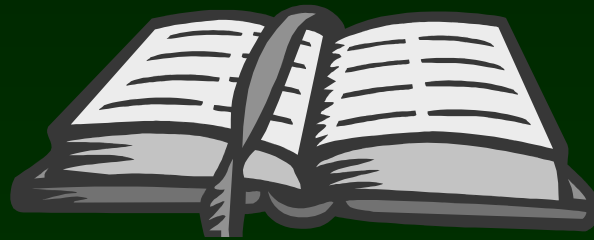
[4] Esau's descendants in Edom may say, "We have been shattered, but we will rebuild the ruins." But the Lord of Heaven's Armies replies, "They may try to rebuild, but I will demolish them again. Their country will be known as 'The Land of Wickedness,' and their people will be called 'The People with Whom the Lord Is Forever Angry.'

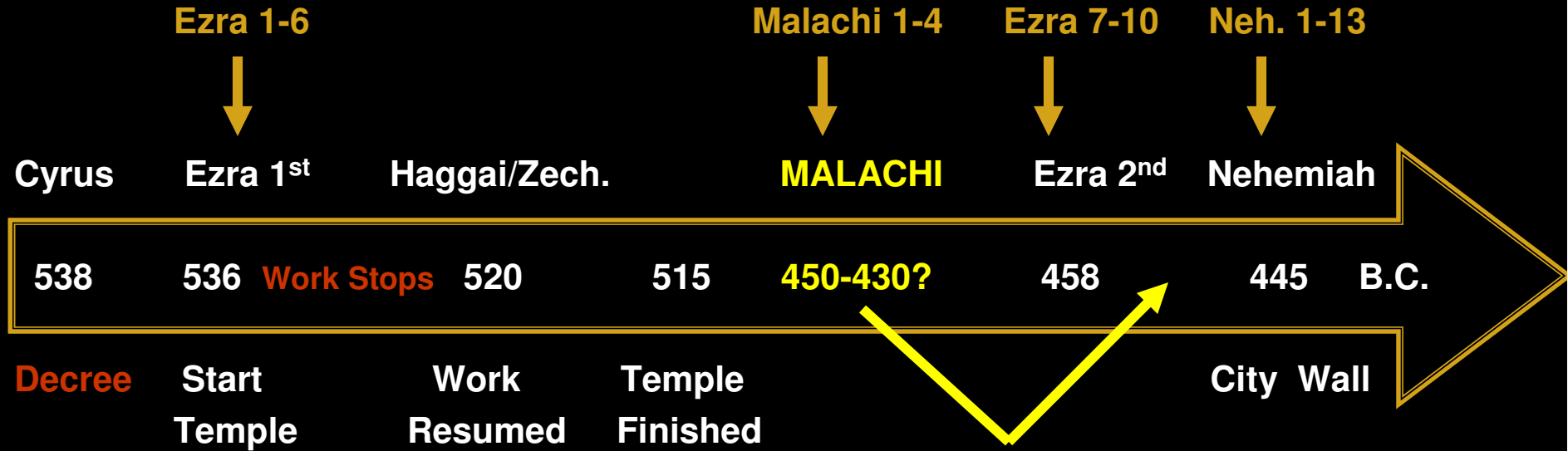
Malachi 1:5 (NLT)

[5] When you see the destruction for yourselves, you will say, ‘Truly, the Lord’s greatness reaches far beyond Israel’s borders!’”

What Went Wrong?

Malachi 1:1-5





ISRAEL



722 BC N. Kingdom - Israel

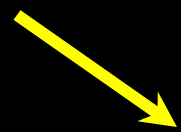
(to Assyria)



Never Returned



538 BC Judah - Israel



605 BC S. Kingdom - Judah

(to Babylon - Persia)



(Remnant Returns)

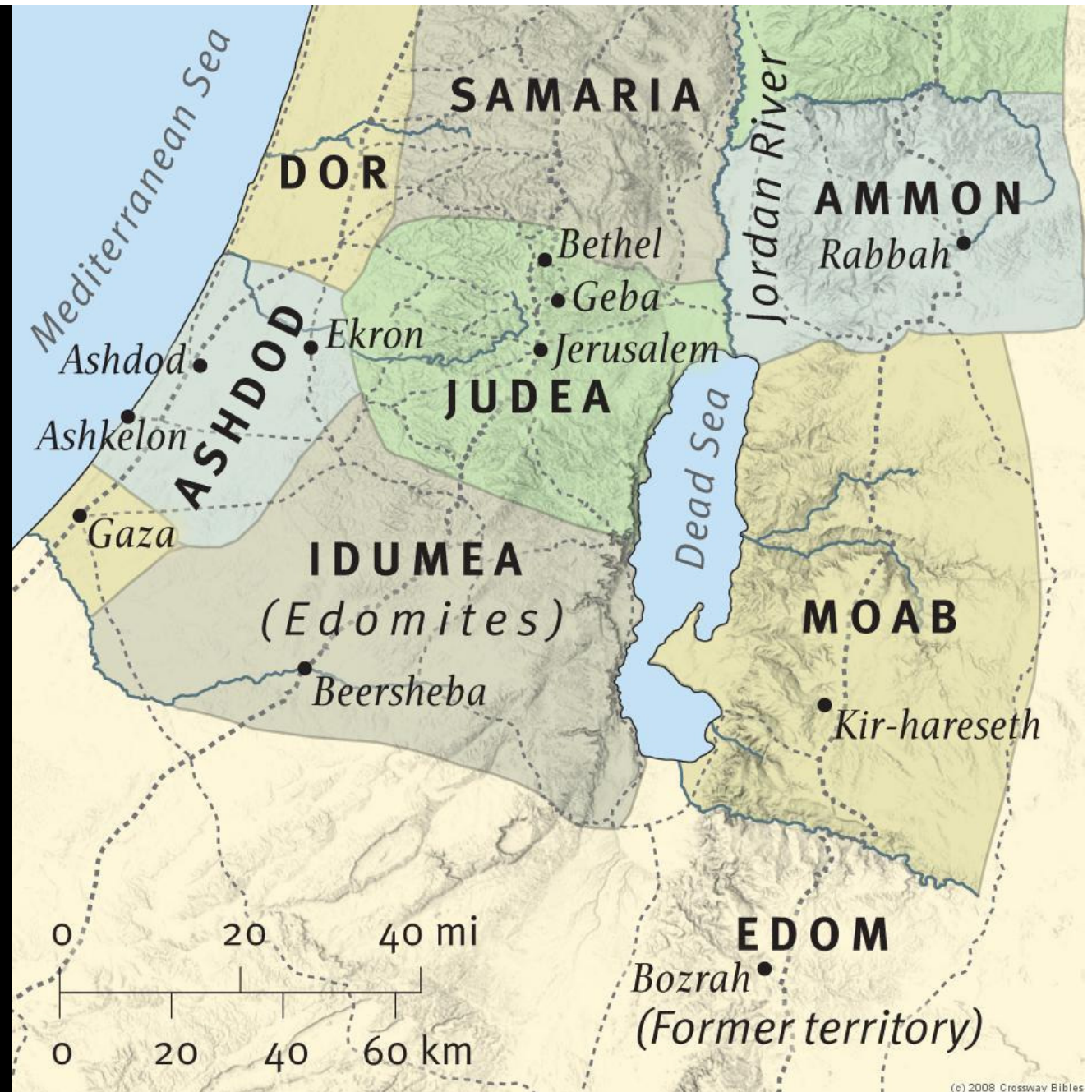
ISRAEL when Solomon was King



EDOM during the Divided Kingdom



Post Exile Israel and Edom



God's Love for Israel is... (Levy)

- **Sovereign - God called Abraham**
- **Unconditional - pure grace**
- **Everlasting - never ending**

Deuteronomy 7:7-8 (ESV)

It was **NOT** because you were more in number than any other people that the **Lord set his LOVE on you and CHOSE you**, for you were the fewest of all peoples, [8] but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers...

>everything **HARD** is not always **BAD**

>everything **EASY** is not always **GOOD**

1 John 3:1 (ESV)

See what **KIND OF LOVE** the Father has given to us, **that we should be called children of God**; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

And WITHOUT FAITH

**it is impossible to please God,
because anyone who comes to him**

must believe that he exists

and that HE REWARDS

those who EARNESTLY seek him.

Piper ~ The great temptation for Israel in the O. T. and for the church today is to forget that we are strangers not natives in this world. The temptation is to let the Lord's delay make us settle into the world and become **PASSIVE as we wait** - to forget that we are aliens and exiles - waiting for the our Lord and our final home.