

THE
BOOK OF NĒ-HĒM-Ī-ĀH.

CHAPTER 1.

understanding by Hanani the
Jerusalem, mourneth, fasteth,
& His prayer.
of Nē-hēm-ī-āh the
And it
month Chis-

B. C. c. 446.

Lev. 26. 39,
Deut. 4. 29-31,
2. 30. 1.
Deut. 30. 4.

transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations:

9 "But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them

from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen

~ The Book of Nehemiah ~

At-A-Glance

An Overview of the Books of the Bible

The Book of Nehemiah

PENMAN: Nehemiah

POSITION: OT - History

PERIOD: 431 BC

PLACE: Jerusalem, Babylon

PHASE: Mosaic; (The Restoration)

PUBLIC: Hebrews / Mankind

KEY POINTS:

History (bookend) - cont'd past Ezra (2nd book)

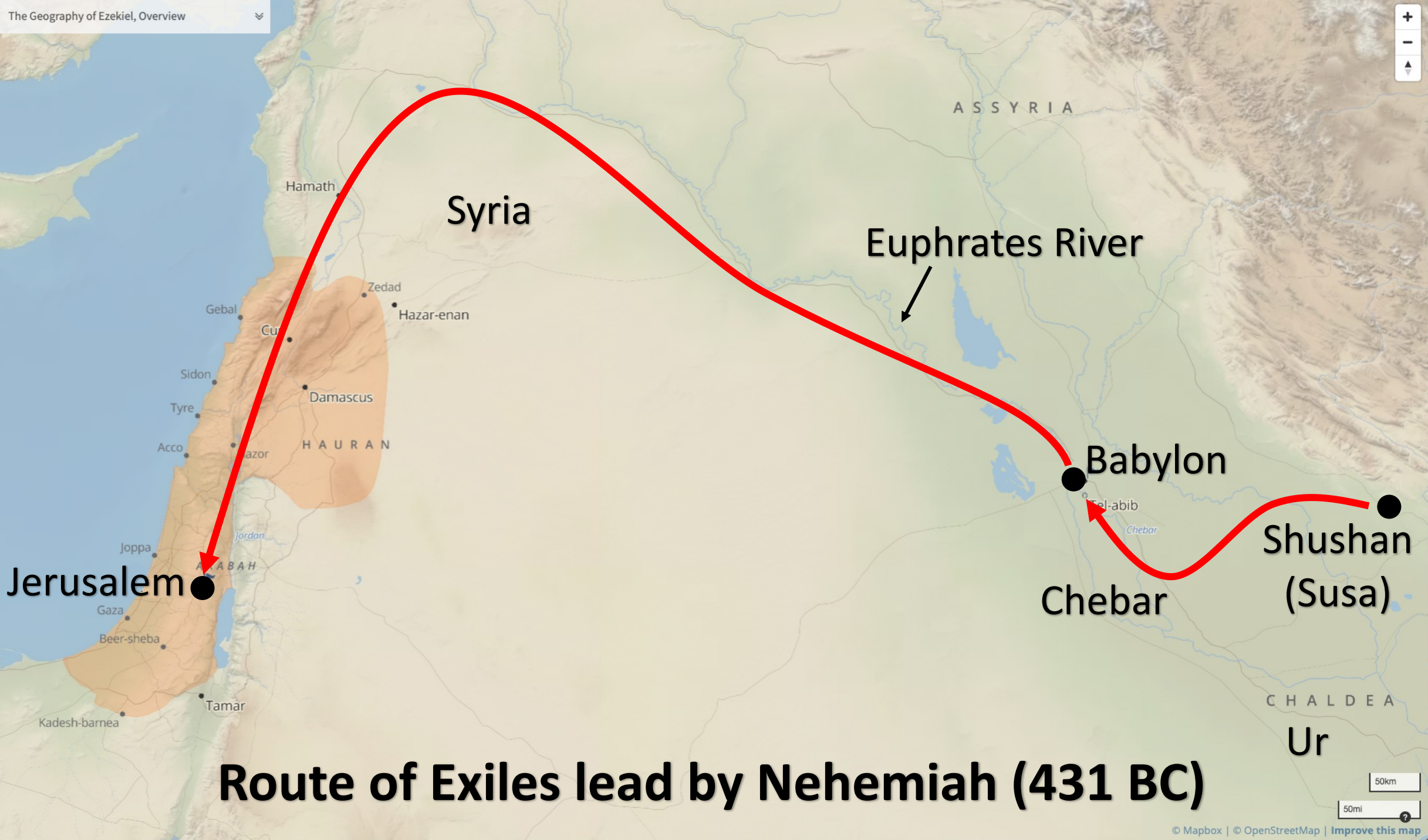
Rebuilding (James 2:24)

Protection, property, people restored

God fulfills His promise of restoration of His people







Jerusalem ●

Babylon ●

Shushan
(Susa) ●

Chebar

Euphrates River

Syria

ASSYRIA

Hamath

Zedad

Hazar-enan

Gebal

Cu

Sidon

Tyre

Acco

azor

Damascus

HAURAN

Joppa

ABAHA

Gaza

Beer-sheba

Tamar

Kadesh-barnea

Tel-abib

Chebar

CHALDEA

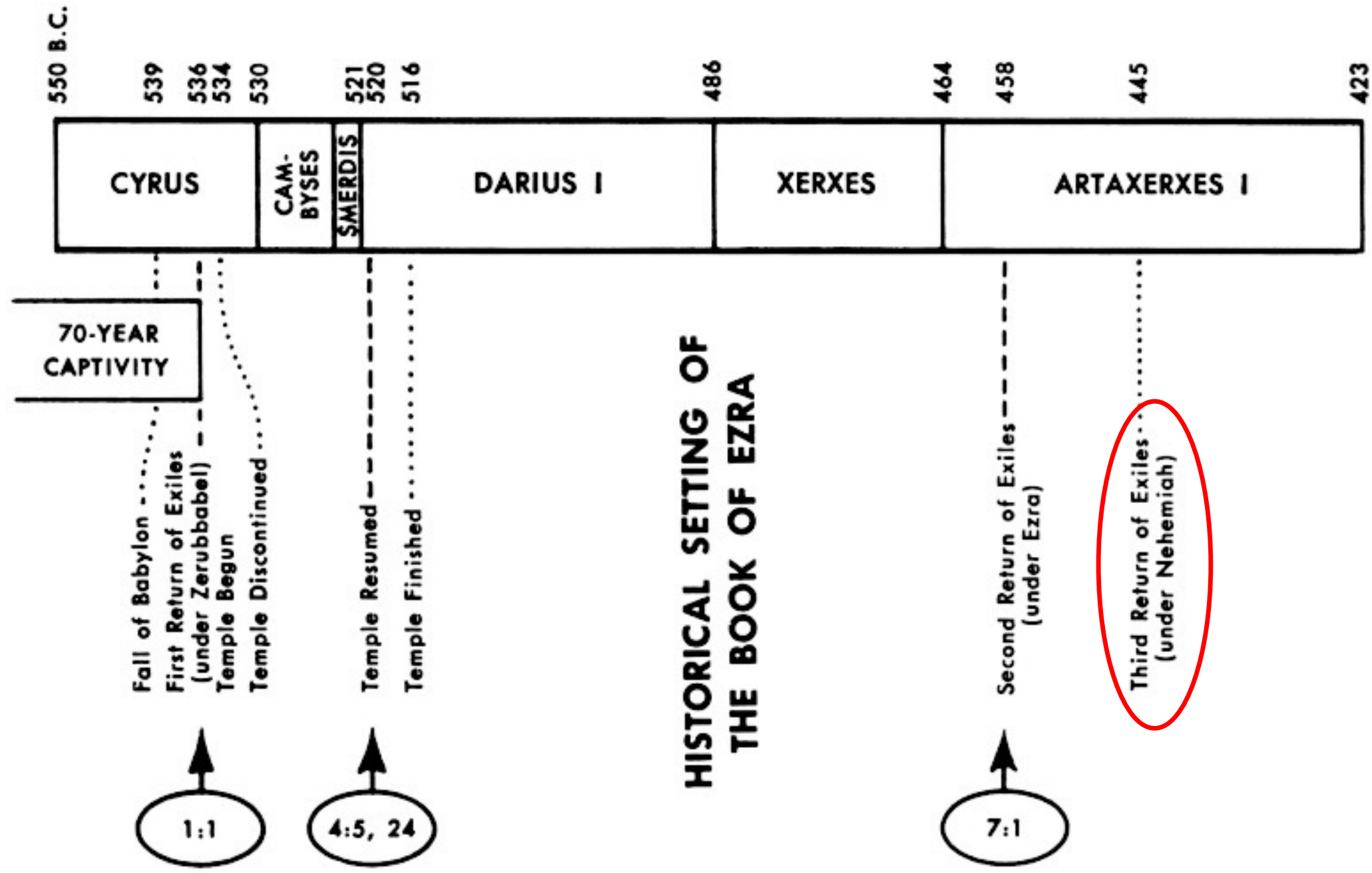
Ur

Route of Exiles lead by Nehemiah (431 BC)

50km

50mi

1	ANTE-DILUVIAN PHASE	Creation – 2349 B.C.	Gen. 1:1 - 8:12
2	POST-DILUVIAN PHASE	- 1921 B.C.	Gen. 8:13 - 11:26
3	PATRIARCH PHASE	- 1706 B.C.	Gen. 11:26 - 46:7
4	EGYPTIAN BONDAGE	- 1491 B.C.	Gen. 46:8 - Ex. 14:31
5	WILDERNESS WANDERING	- 1450 B.C.	Ex. 15:1 - Josh. 3:17
6	CONQUEST OF CANAAN	- 1430 B.C.	Joshua 4:1 - Judges 3:9
7	THE JUDGES	- 1095 B.C.	Judges 3:10 - 1 Sam 10:17
8	UNITED KINGDOM	- 975 B.C.	1 Sam 11:1 - 1 Kings 11:43
9	DIVIDED KINGDOM	- 721 B.C.	1 Kings 12:1 - 2 Kings 17:41
10	JUDAH ALONE	- 586 B.C.	2 Kings 18:1 - 25:30
11	BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY	- 536 B.C.	2 Chr. 36:22 - Ezra 1:4
12	THE RESTORATION	- 432 B.C.	Ezra 1:1 - Nehemiah 13:31
13	BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS	- 5 B.C.	
14	COMING OF IMMANUEL	- 29/30 A.D.	Matthew; Mark; Luke; John
15	THE CHURCH	- Current	Acts 2:1 – Revelation 22:21



HISTORICAL SETTING OF THE BOOK OF EZRA

Mount Moriah is the name of the hilltop north of the city of David. It is part of the same Eastern Hill of Jerusalem on which David built his city. This hill is first mentioned in the book of Genesis as the place where Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:2).

David's Palace was built on the ruins of the Jebusite Citadel. The excavated "Stepped Stone Structure" supported this building on the east.

Western Hill

Eastern Hill

Central Valley
(later: Tyropoeon Valley)

"Stepped Stone Structure"

Valley Gate

Kidron Valley

Gates

Pool (receives water from Gihon Spring)

Platform for drawing water

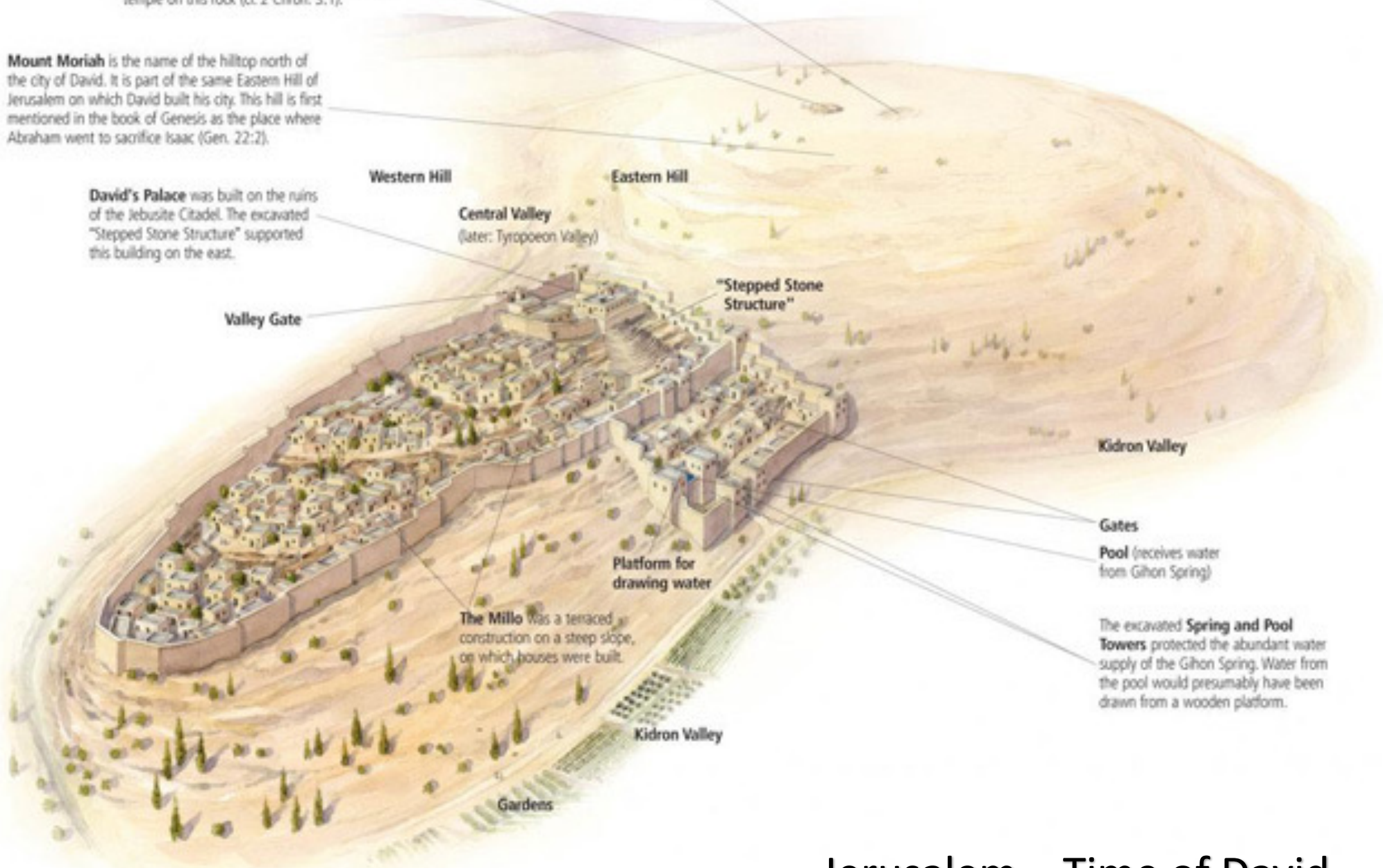
The **Millo** was a terraced construction on a steep slope, on which houses were built.

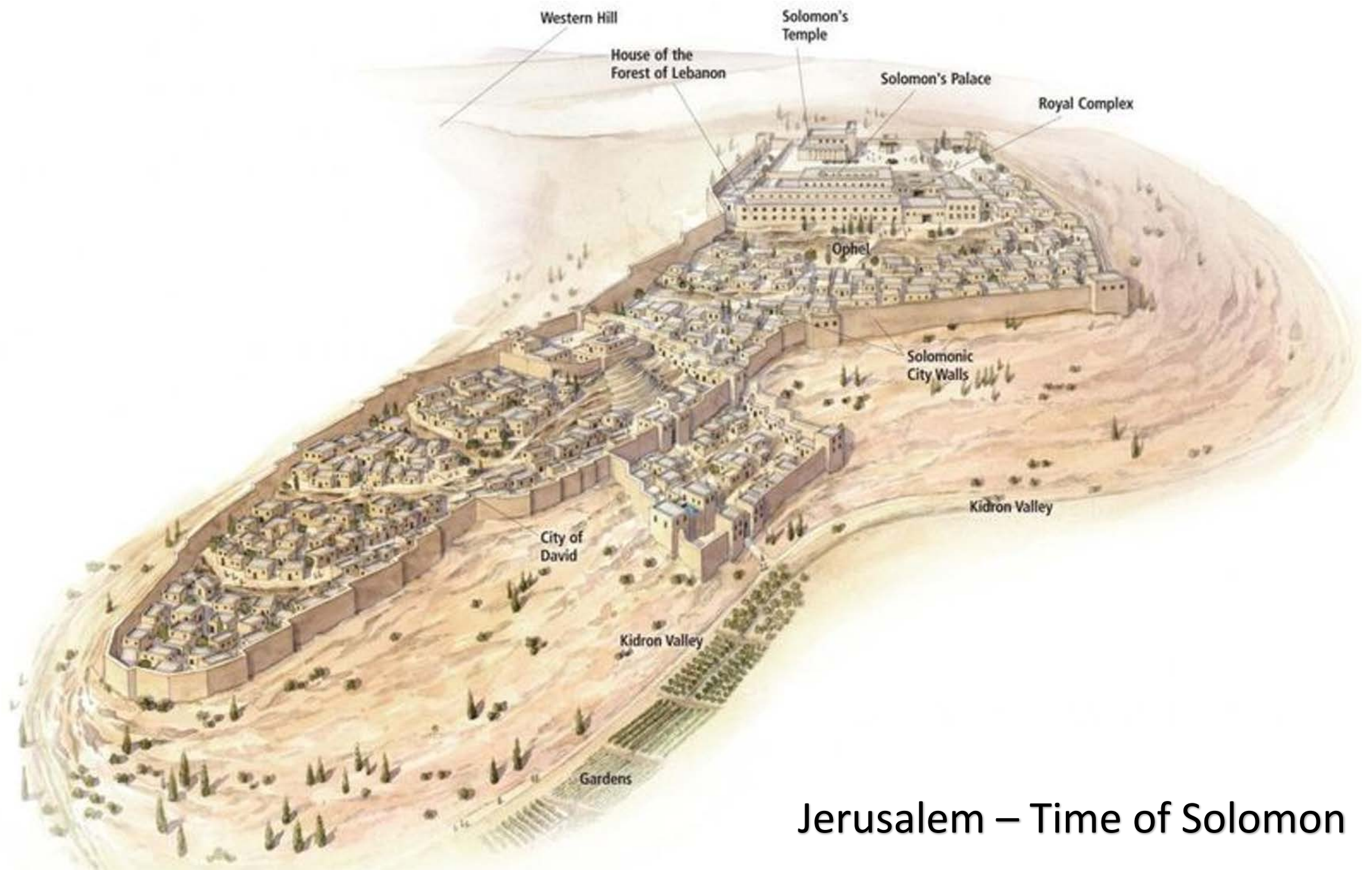
The excavated **Spring and Pool Towers** protected the abundant water supply of the Gihon Spring. Water from the pool would presumably have been drawn from a wooden platform.

Kidron Valley

Gardens

Jerusalem – Time of David





Jerusalem – Time of Solomon

The Western Hill was not occupied at this time. However, the ruins of the Broad Wall (3:8; 12:38), the Middle Gate (Jer. 39:3), and the destroyed houses remained part of the landscape of Jerusalem. This area was not rebuilt until the middle of the second century B.C.

The Valley Gate (2:13, 15; 3:13), the remains of which were excavated in 1924, was part of the western city wall. The other gates and the Tower of the Ovens, mentioned in chs. 3 and 12, are unattested to in the archaeological record, but are placed in the drawing in the order in which Nehemiah records them.

The Temple and the altar were rebuilt soon after the return from exile. The dimensions of the temple, given as 60 cubits (90 feet/27 m) high and wide (Ezra 6:3), probably refer to those of the porch. (For a cutaway illustration of the temple, see p. 813.)

The Temple Mount was restored by Nehemiah as part of the fortification of Jerusalem.

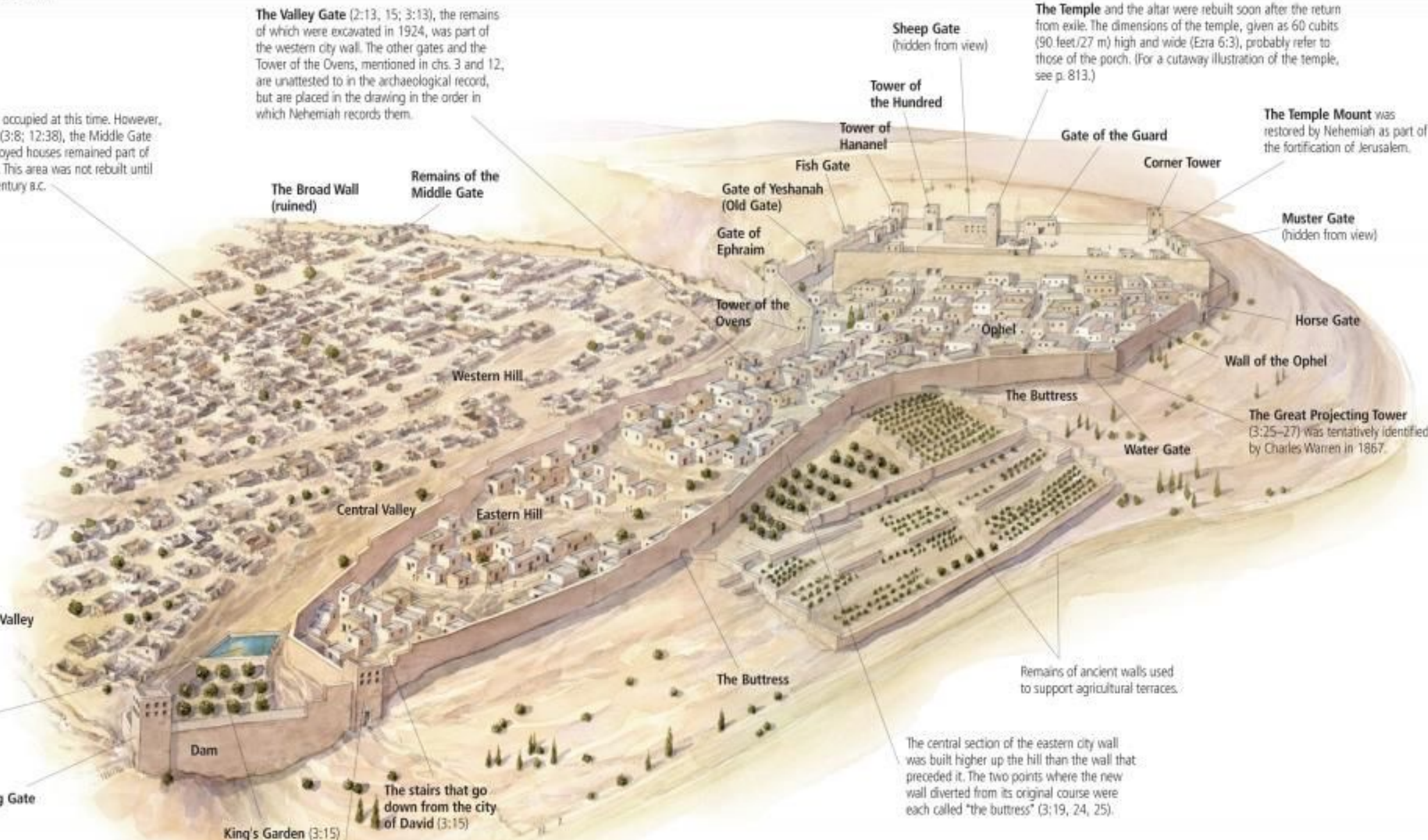
Muster Gate (hidden from view)

Horse Gate

The Great Projecting Tower (3:25-27) was tentatively identified by Charles Warren in 1867.

Remains of ancient walls used to support agricultural terraces.

The central section of the eastern city wall was built higher up the hill than the wall that preceded it. The two points where the new wall diverted from its original course were each called "the buttress" (3:19, 24, 25).



Jerusalem – Time of Nehemiah

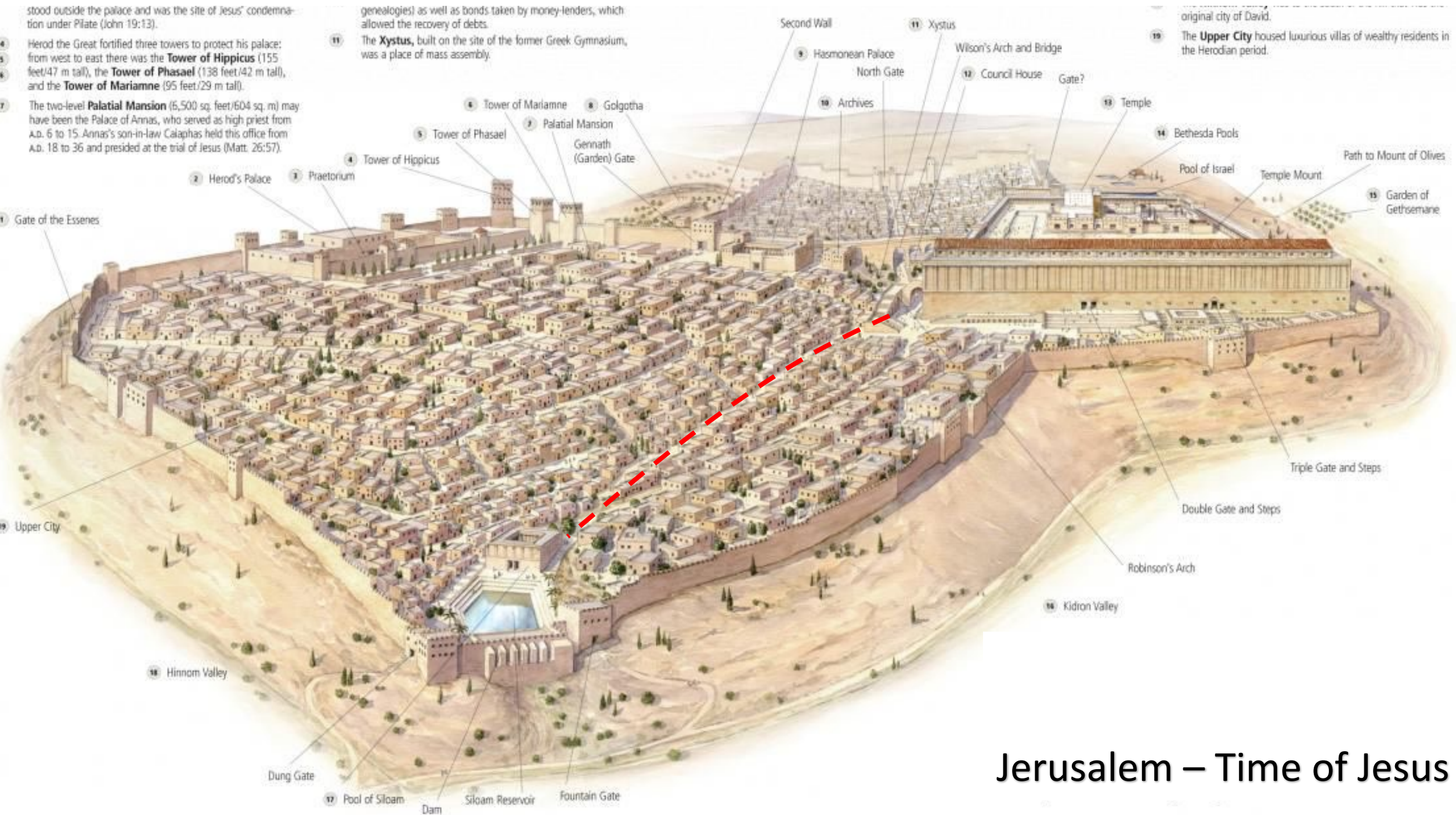
stood outside the palace and was the site of Jesus' condemnation under Pilate (John 19:13).

Herod the Great fortified three towers to protect his palace: from west to east there was the **Tower of Hippicus** (155 feet/47 m tall), the **Tower of Phasael** (138 feet/42 m tall), and the **Tower of Mariamne** (95 feet/29 m tall).

The two-level **Palatial Mansion** (5,500 sq. feet/604 sq. m) may have been the Palace of Annas, who served as high priest from A.D. 6 to 15. Annas's son-in-law Calaphas held this office from A.D. 18 to 36 and presided at the trial of Jesus (Matt. 26:57).

genealogies) as well as bonds taken by money-lenders, which allowed the recovery of debts.

11 The **Xystus**, built on the site of the former Greek Gymnasium, was a place of mass assembly.



original city of David.
 19 The **Upper City** housed luxurious villas of wealthy residents in the Herodian period.

Jerusalem – Time of Jesus



The Book of Nehemiah



- Carpenter /
builder (Mt 16:18)

KEY PASSAGES:

1:3; 4:6,9,17,20; 6:15-16

8:1-4,8

9:1-3

KEY PHRASES:

"For the people had a mind to work"

"Build" (17x)

The Book of Nehemiah

GREAT LESSONS:

"Yahweh Comforts" - cupbearer

Power of and respect for God's word

God blessed those who learned from captivity

God's people suffering affliction and reproach / be ready!

unity - stand in the gap - sword and shovel

Leadership in the church - faithfulness & courage

Communication

The Book of Nehemiah

PRACTICAL APPLICATION (HOW DOES THIS BOOK APPLY TO ME?)

MY FAITH:

- Our faith is worth fight for!
- Keep your guard up!
- Hardship and sacrifice will be rewarded
- Seek the Lord's guidance (9:32) / kingdom (Mt 6:33)

MY ACTIONS:

- Repentance is not always easy – pray!
- Do your job/duty well!