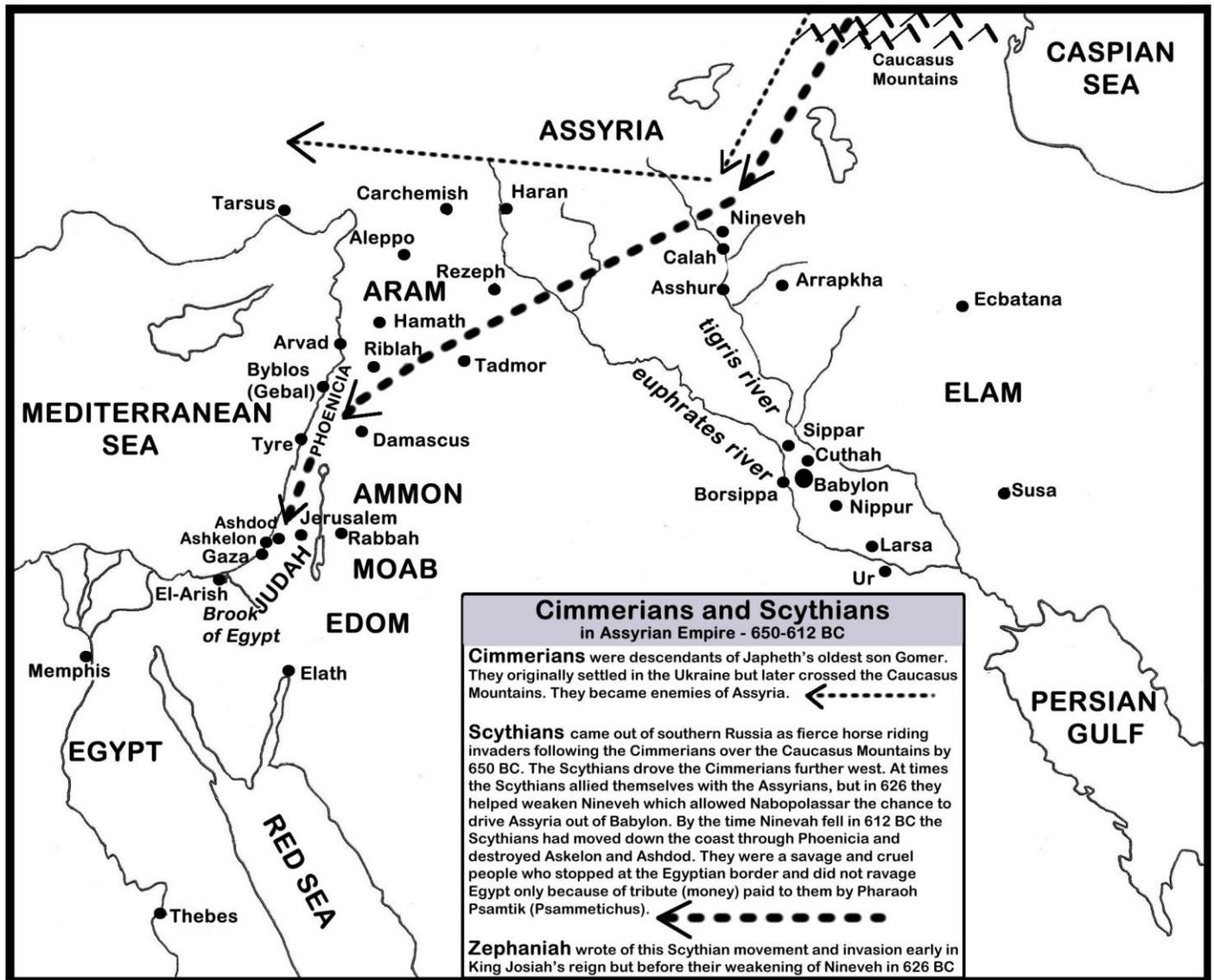


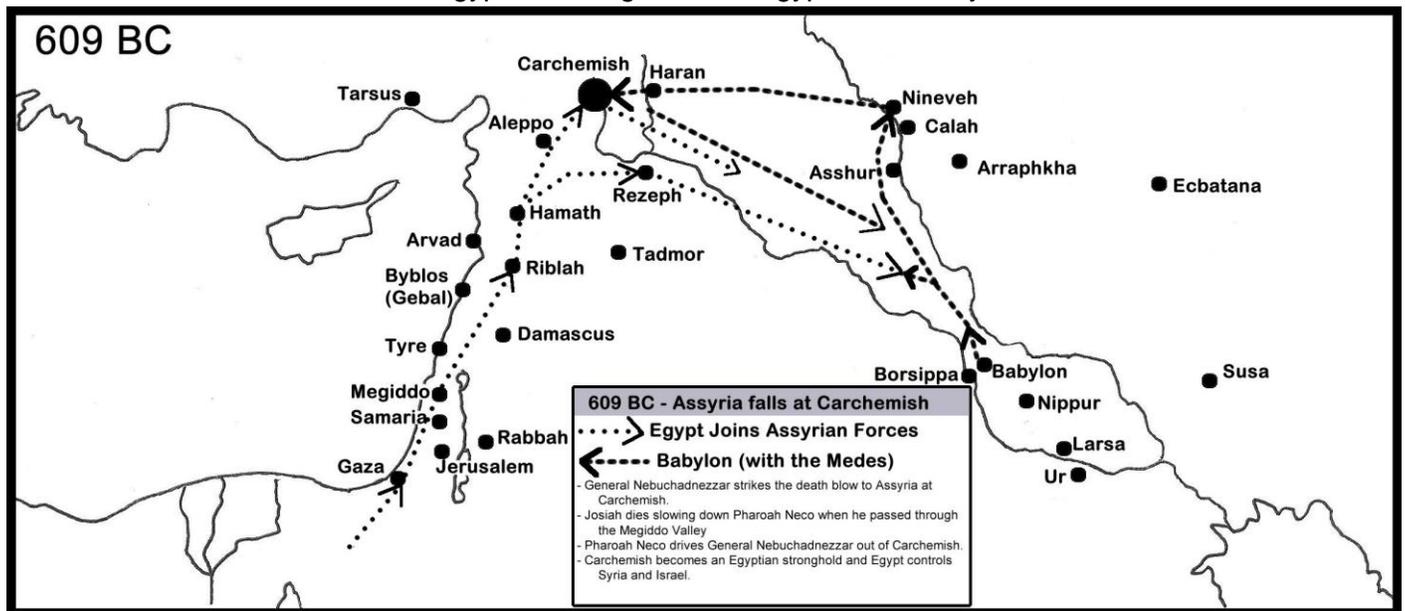
## Timeline for the Life and Times of Jeremiah

- 721** Northern Israel (10 tribes) dispersed by Shalmaneser (2 Kings 17:3).  
Sargon I resettles the land of northern Israel (2 Kings 17:24).
- 701** Sennacherib invades Judah and his army is annihilated (2 Kings 18:13)
- 697** Manasseh becomes king of Judah
- 681** Isaiah sawed in two about this time (2 Chron. 33:10; 2 Kings 21:16; Hebrews 11:37)
- 650** Manasseh taken prisoner to Babylon by Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria, because Manasseh joined Shamash-Shum-Ukin's rebellion (652-648 BC) (2 Chron. 33:11)
- 648** Manasseh repents and is released to return to Jerusalem (2 Chron. 33:12)  
Manasseh begins an attempt to reform and rebuild Jerusalem and Judah  
Manasseh's son Amon has a son named Josiah.  
Jeremiah is born (?)
- 642** Manasseh dies and Amon begins an evil two year reign (2 Kings 21:19-22)
- 640** Amon is assassinated (2 Chr. 33:24-25; 2 Kings 21:23-26)  
Eight year old Josiah becomes king (2 Chr. 33:25-34:1-2; 2 Kings 22:1-2)  
Jeremiah is about eight years old  
Zephaniah is about eight years old  
Habakkuk is also a young boy or man
- 632** Josiah, 16 years old, begins to seek the Lord (2 Chr.34:3)  
Jeremiah has been growing up in Anathoth with the priests, prophets and the Levites who are the students of the Word
- 628** Josiah, 20 years old, begins to smashed the idols in Judah (2 Chr.34:3-7)  
Daniel is born around this time
- 627** Jeremiah is called by God to stand in the office of a prophet to Judah and the nations  
Nabopolassar rallies the Chaldean tribes against the Assyrians  
Jeremiah chapters 1, 2, 3  
Assyria's last great king, Ashurbanipal, dies
- 626** Scythian invaders (from the north) invade Assyria and weaken Ninevah  
Nabopolassar drives Assyrians out of Babylon
- 625** Nabopolassar becomes King of Babylon
- 624** The prophet Zephaniah gives his book. He discusses:  
1) the present Scythian invasions into Judah,  
2) the coming Babylonian destruction, and  
3) the coming of the day of the Lord.  
Medes from the NE defeated the Scythians and began to pressure Assyria

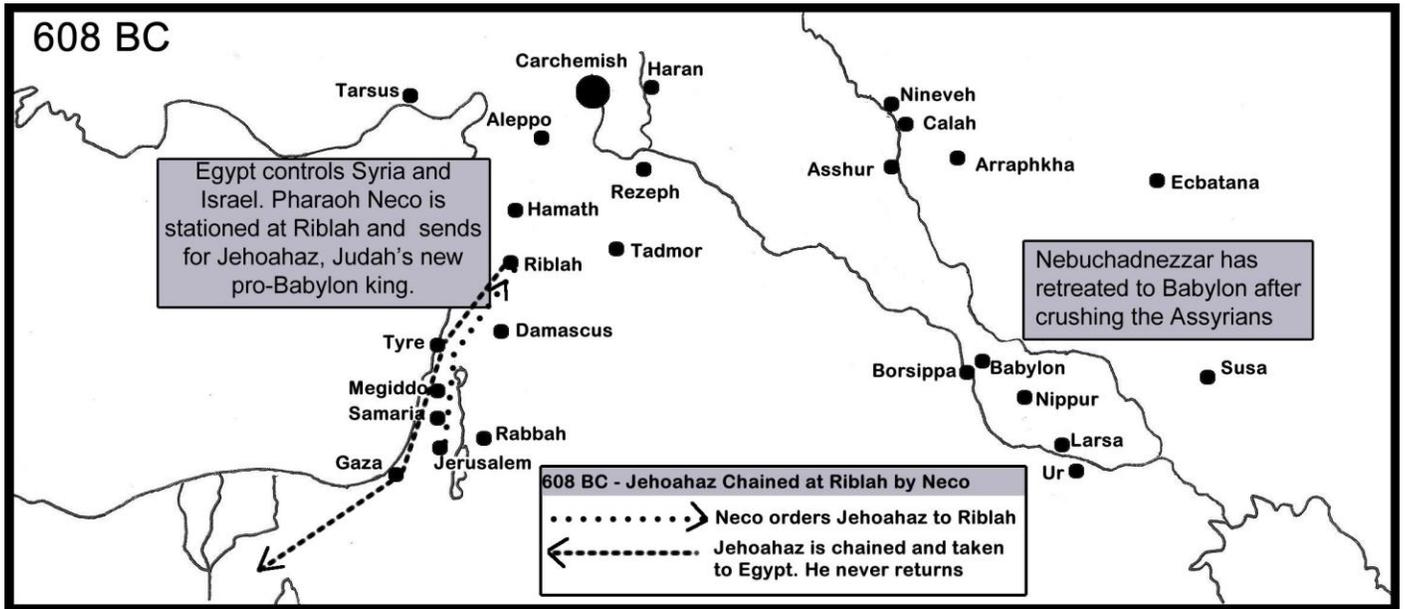


- 623** Josiah repairs temple (age 26) (2 Chr.34:8-13; 2 Kings 22:3-7)  
 The priest Hilkiah finds the book of the Law (Deuteronomy) (2 Chr.34:14-20; 2 Kings 22:8-13)  
 Jeremiah 3:6-6:30  
 The prophetess Huldah prophecies for Josiah the same thing as Jeremiah (2 Chr.34:21-32;  
 2 Kings 22:14-20)  
 Josiah Renews the Covenant between the Lord and the people of Israel (2 Kings 23:1-3)  
 Josiah intensifies the purification of the land (2 Kings 23:4-27)  
 April 14-21 Josiah celebrates the Passover for the first time since the days of the judges  
 (2 Kings 23:22) (2 Chr.35:1-19)
- 622** Jeremiah chapters 11 and 12 (2 Chr. 34:32)  
 Jeremiah chapters 7, 8, 9, 10  
 Josiah tries to purify the land
- 616** Combined Egyptian-Assyrian army stops Nabopolassar movement to the North and West of Babylon
- 614** Medes capture and destroy the Assyrian city of Asshur.

- 612** Medes and Babylonians combine to conquer Nineveh  
 The last Assyrian ruler, Ashur-uballit II retreats west into Haran.  
 Nineveh is destroyed according to Nahum's prophecy from 663-654 BC  
 Babylon and King Nabopolassar become the world power
- 610** Ashur-uballit II (Assyria) and Pharaoh Neco II (Egypt) unsuccessfully defend Haran against Medes and Babylon. Assyria retreats to Carchemish
- 609** General Nebuchadnezzar (also, crowned prince) strikes the death blow to Assyria at Carchemish. Egypt continued to support Assyria; Judah supported the new Babylonian power  
 Josiah dies slowing down Pharaoh Neco who was trying to pass through the Megiddo Valley to move his troops north to assist the Assyrians against Nebuchadnezzar.  
 (2 Chr.35:20-27; 2 Kings 23:29-30))  
 Jeremiah composes laments for Josiah according to 2 Chronicles 35:25, and portions of these are found in Jeremiah 22:10, 13-17  
 Pharaoh Neco drives General Nebuchadnezzar out of Carchemish.  
 Carchemish becomes an Egyptian stronghold and Egypt controls Syria and Israel.



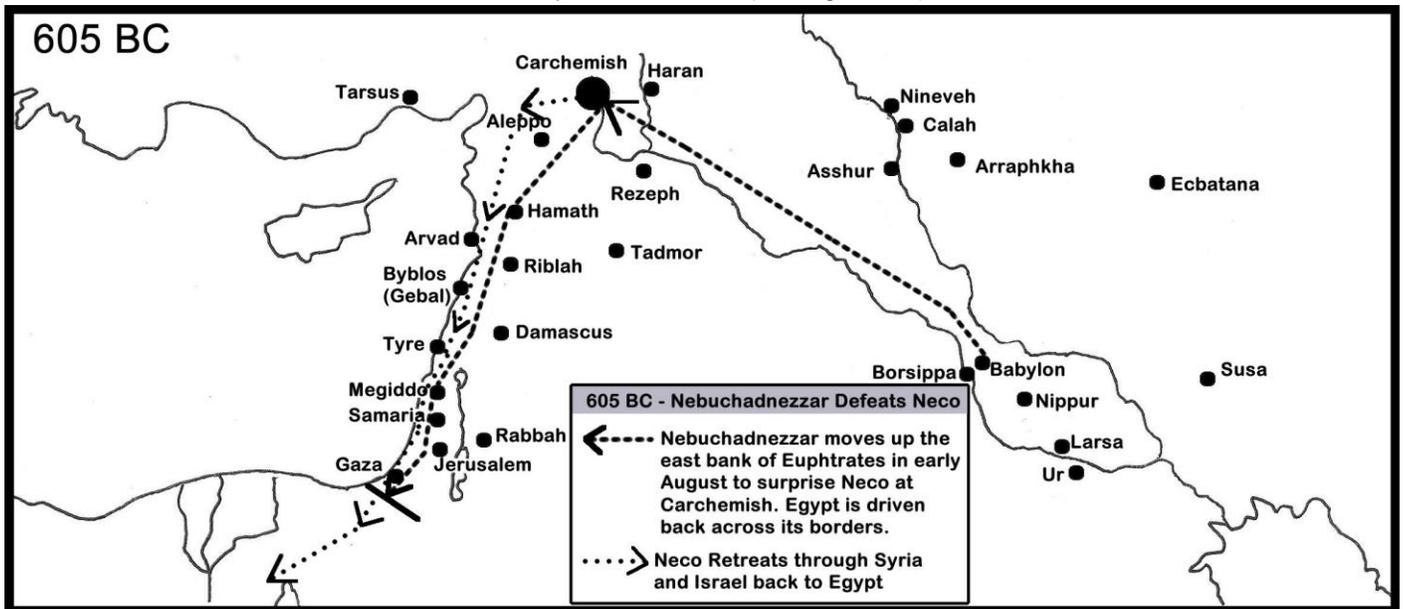
- 608** Jehoahaz, 23 years old, becomes king for three evil months. Jehoahaz is Josiah's middle son.  
 (2 Chr. 36:1-2)  
 Jehozhaz goes up to Riblah (on the Onontes River in Syria) to appear before Neco, but is put in chains by Neco because of his and Judah's pro-Babylon position. He is taken to Egypt never to be released. (2 Kings 23:33-34)  
 Pharaoh Neco places a heavy tax/tribute on Judah (2 Kings 23:35)  
 Pharaoh Neco makes Josiah's oldest son Eliakim (age 25) King of Judah and renames him Jehoiakim (2 Kings 23:34-37; 2 Chron. 36:4-5; Jeremiah 22:11-12)  
 Jeremiah is about 40 years old; Daniel is about 20 and Ezekiel is about 14  
 Jeremiah 22, 26  
 Citizens of Jerusalem are taxed heavy by Jehoiakim to appease Neco.



607 Jehoiaim opposes Jeremiah  
Egyptian forces battle Babylonian forces near the Euphrates River

606 Habakkuk is written

605 General Nebuchadnezzar moves up the east bank of the Euphrates early in August to surprise attack Pharaoh Neco at Carchemish  
General Nebuchadnezzar drives Pharaoh Neco back into Egypt  
Nebuchadnezzar takes control of Syria and Israel (2 Kings 24:1)



August 16 Nebopolassar, Nebuchadnezzar's father, dies.  
Nebuchadnezzar stops pursuing Neco in order to begin a 3 week race 580 miles back to Babylon  
Nebuchadnezzar sets his newly acquired lands in order and takes Jews, Phoenicians, Syrians, Egyptians and others captive and send them back to ABabylon with his heavily armed military.  
Daniel (age 23?) is taken captive to Babylon (Daniel 1:1-13; Jeremiah 46:2; 52:28-30)  
King Jehoiakim is also taken to Babylon, but he will return.  
September 7, Nebuchadnezzar has arrived in Babylon and secured the throne  
October 1, King Nebuchadnezzar is back in Syria

**604** Jeremiah chapters 35, 45 (to Baruch), and 46-49 (to the nations)  
 Jeremiah prophecies to Baruch (ch. 45)  
 Prophet Uriah flees and is killed (Jer. 26:20)

**603** Jeremiah chapters 25 and 36:1-8  
 Jeremiah chapters 13-20  
 Aramean, Moabite, Ammonite, Chaldean raiders invade Judah because of the famine mentioned in Jeremiah 14 and Second Kings 24:2, 3 (and, again in 599):  
*"The Lord sent Chaldean, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite raiders against him. He sent them to destroy Judah, in accordance with the word of the Lord proclaimed by his servants the prophets."*

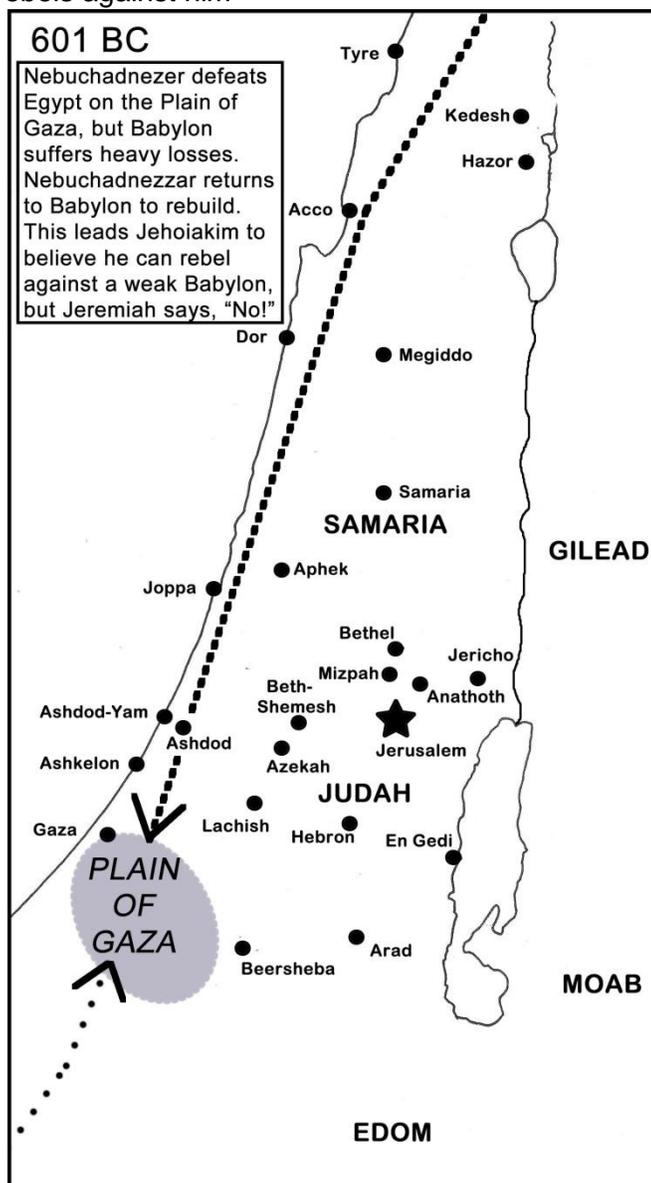
February, Nebuchadnezzar returns to Babylon  
 In Babylon Nebuchadnezzar calls for some of his captives (including Daniel) to make an appearance before him (Daniel 1:14-20)  
 Daniel is placed into the service of Nebuchadnezzar's palace.  
 Nebuchadnezzar has a dream of the statue with the head of gold and body of silver, bronze, iron and clay. Daniel interprets the dream (Daniel 2:1-49)  
 Nebuchadnezzar's younger brother, Nabu-suma-lisir, rebels against him  
 Nebuchadnezzar orders that a statue be created and bowed down to, but Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refuse (Daniel 3:1-30)

**602** Jeremiah chapter 36:9-32

**601** Egypt and Babylon meet on the Plain of Gaza  
 Egypt is driven out of Asia, but Babylon suffers heavy losses  
 Nebuchadnezzar and his troops have to return to Babylon to recover  
 Jehoiakim sees this as a chance to rebel and stops paying his annual tribute which he had paid three times beginning in 605 BC. (2 Kg 24:1)  
 Darius the Mede is born.

**600** Nebuchadnezzar stays in Babylon all year rebuilding his military

**599** Due to the void of power in the Middle East (Assyria fallen, Egypt driven back, Babylon retreated) tribal raiders from the east such as Arameans, Ammonites, Moabites and Chaldeans resume raiding Judah.  
 Second Kings 24:2, 3:  
*"The Lord sent Chaldean, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite raiders against him. He sent them to destroy Judah, in accordance with*



*the word of the Lord proclaimed by his servants the prophets.”*

Cyrus is born

December, Nebuchadnezzar marches out to begin collecting his delinquent tributes from all the countries he had taken but who had withheld payment in his absence. He begins in Syria.

- 598** Jehoiakim is three years delinquent on his Babylonian tribute payment. Nebuchadnezzar is ready to head south into Judah to collect his tribute. Jehoiakim dies on December 7 and due to the eastern raiders his body is thrown over the wall and is not buried since people can't risk going outside the city walls. This fulfills Jeremiah's prophecy to Jehoiakim in Jer.22:18-19. Jehoiakim's son Jehoiachin becomes king at age 18 (2 Kings 24:6, 8-9) Jeremiah prophecies to Jehoiachin in Jeremiah 22:20-30
- 597** February, Nebuchadnezzar arrives in Jerusalem and begins to besiege the city (2 Kings 24:10-16) March 10, Nebuchadnezzar takes Jerusalem 2 Chronicles 36:9-10 2 Kings 24:11-16 – *“Nebuchadnezzar removed all the treasures from the temple...and from the royal palace...he carried into exile all Jerusalem: all the officers and fighting men, and all the craftsmen and artisans...only the poorest people of the land were left.”* Jehoiachin is removed as king and Josiah's third son, Zedekiah, becomes king at the age of 21 (2 Kings 24:15-18) April, Nebuchadnezzar heads back to Babylon with 10,000 more captives which include Ezekiel and Jehoiachin (2 Chron. 36:10; 2 Kings 24:15-17) Ezekiel is 25 years old Ezekiel settles in the captives colony on a canal of the Euphrates River called Tel-Abib. Here Ezekiel will work with other captive craftsman and artisans for the next five years. When Ezekiel is 30 years old in 593 the Lord will appear to him and call him to be a prophet (Ezekiel 1) Jeremiah 24 Jeremiah writes a letter found in Jeremiah chapter 29 and send it to the recent captives in Babylon
- 596** Nebuchadnezzar fulfills Jeremiah 49:34-39 when he marches to Carchemish to drive out the Elamite raiders. He drives them down the Tigris River. Nebuchadnezzar begins a 13 year siege on Tyre He never finishes the siege. Alexander the Great does so in 332 BC. These prophecies are recorded in Ezekiel 26:2-21.
- 594** Jeremiah 27, 28, 29, 50 and 51 Zedekiah begins to plan a revolt against Nebuchadnezzar along with Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre and Sidon (Jeremiah 27:3) as described in 2 Chronicles 36:12-14 and 2 Kings 24:20b). Zedekiah *“did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke the word of the Lord. He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him take an oath in God's name.”* (2 Chron. 36:12-13) Nationalistic and patriotic conservative prophets are whipping up support for the revolt by generalizing scriptures such as:
- Isaiah 37:21-35
  - Psalm 2
  - Psalm 20
  - Psalm 21
  - Psalm 72

August, the prophet Hananiah gives a false prophecy of Jeremiah 28  
 October, Hananiah is dead according to Jeremiah's words in Jeremiah 28:16  
 Nebuchadnezzar sends for Zedekiah to be brought to Babylon to interrogate him concerning the rumors he has heard concerning a Judean revolt.  
 Burach's brother, Seraiah, accompanies King Zedekiah to Babylon.  
 Jeremiah gives Seraiah (Burach's brother) a scroll that contain prophecies concerning Babylon's eventual fall. Seraiah is to read these prophecies out loud in Babylon, tie them to a rock and throw them into the Euphrates (Jeremiah 50-51)

- 593** July 5, Ezekiel sees his first vision and is placed in the office of prophet by God  
 Ezekiel is 30 years old. Ezekiel has been in Babylon 5 years (along with King Jehoiachin)  
 Jeremiah is 55 years old  
 Daniel is 35 years old. Daniel has been in Babylon 12 years
- 592** Ezekiel 8, 9, 10 – The glory of God leaves the Temple in Jerusalem  
 Ezekiel 12 – Ezekiel digs through the wall  
 Ezekiel 13 and 14 – Ezekiel condemns false prophets  
 Ezekiel 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
- 591** Ezekiel 20, 21, 22, 23
- 589** Jeremiah 21  
 January 10, Ezekiel 24 – Ezekiel sees the boiling kettle and Ezekiel's wife dies.  
 Pharaoh Hophra promises Judah and King Zedekiah that Egypt will be there to help Zedekiah's revolt against Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon.  
 2 Chronicles 36: 15-17, *"The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them through his messengers again and again, because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place. But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the Lord was aroused against his people and there was no remedy. He brought up against them the king of the Babylonians..."*  
 Zedekiah joins Pharaoh Hophra/Apries, Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre and Sidon in a revolt against Babylon when Pharaoh Hophra/Apries marches north to Tyre and Sidon.
- 588** January 15, Babylon marches against Judah (Jeremiah 25:3; 2 Kings 25:1) and the siege begins  
 According to Jeremiah 34:6-7 and a Hebrew ostraca found at Lachish (number IV and ANET, 322)  
 Nebuchadnezzar first attacked the cities in the Shephelah: Lachish and Azekah.
- 587** Nebuzaradan begins reigning with Nebuchadnezzar  
 Nebuzaradan is in charge of the Jerusalem siege  
 January 12, Ezekiel 29  
 Egypt comes to Jerusalem's aid and the Babylonians leave Judah to fight Pharaoh Hophra  
 Jeremiah attempts to leave Jerusalem during the break in the siege to go to the territory of Benjamin to buy some property (Jeremiah 37)  
 Jeremiah 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 37  
 Jeremiah is put in a vaulted cell in a dungeon (Jeremiah 37:16)  
 Jeremiah is put in the courtyard by Zedekiah (Jeremiah 37:21)  
 Jeremiah has a dream of Israel's pleasant future while he is in the courtyard (Jeremiah 30-31)  
 Jeremiah buys the field while he is in the courtyard (Jeremiah 32)

Jeremiah promises restoration (Jeremiah 33)

Zedkiah sends for Jeremiah (Jeremiah 21)

Jeremiah is thrown into the cistern (Jeremiah 38:6)

Jeremiah gives Zedekiah final warning and the slaves are released, but taken back (Jeremiah 34)

**586** July, there is no food left inside Jerusalem.  
July 18, Babylon breaks through the walls. It had been a 2 ½ year siege.  
Ezekiel prophesies that Zedekiah will come to Babylon but he will not see Babylon in Ezekiel 12:13.  
Jeremiah chapter 39 occurs  
Jeremiah 52 occurs  
August 14, Nebuzaradan returns to burn Jerusalem.  
Jeremiah writes Lamentations  
Jeremiah 40:1-6 occur  
Nebuzar-Adan finds and releases Jeremiah from chains when he found him at Ramah (Jer. 40:1)  
Jeremiah is invited to go to Babylon as a royal guest (Jer. 40:4)  
Jeremiah elects to stay in Judah and is given provisions and a gift (money) from King  
Nebuchadnezzar by Nebuzaradan (Jer. 40:4-6)  
Gedaliah is made governor in Judah to represent King Nebuchadnezzar (Jer. 40:7-16)  
Gedaliah is assassinated by the Ammonites on October 7 (Jer.41:1-8)  
Remaining Jews flee to Egypt for safety.  
Jeremiah prophesies against the Jews in Egypt and to Egypt itself. He says that Nebuchadnezzar  
will be back to take Egypt. (Jer. 41:16-42:30)  
Psalm 74 is written  
Psalm 79 is written  
Psalm 94 is written

**571** April 26, Ezekiel 29:19, Ezekiel prophesies that Nebuchadnezzar would invade Egypt

**570** Ezekiel's last recorded prophecy at the age of 52  
Daniel 4, Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a great tree. Nebuchadnezzar is warned of his pride.

**569** Nebuchadnezzar invades Egypt in fulfillment of:

- Jeremiah 43:8-13
- Jeremiah 46:13-26
- Ezekiel 29:19

Jeremiah is not heard from again. His final fate is:

- Stoned by the Jews in Egypt
- Dies in Egypt
- Taken by Nebuchadnezzar back to Babylon after Egypt is conquered.

Jeremiah is 79 years old.

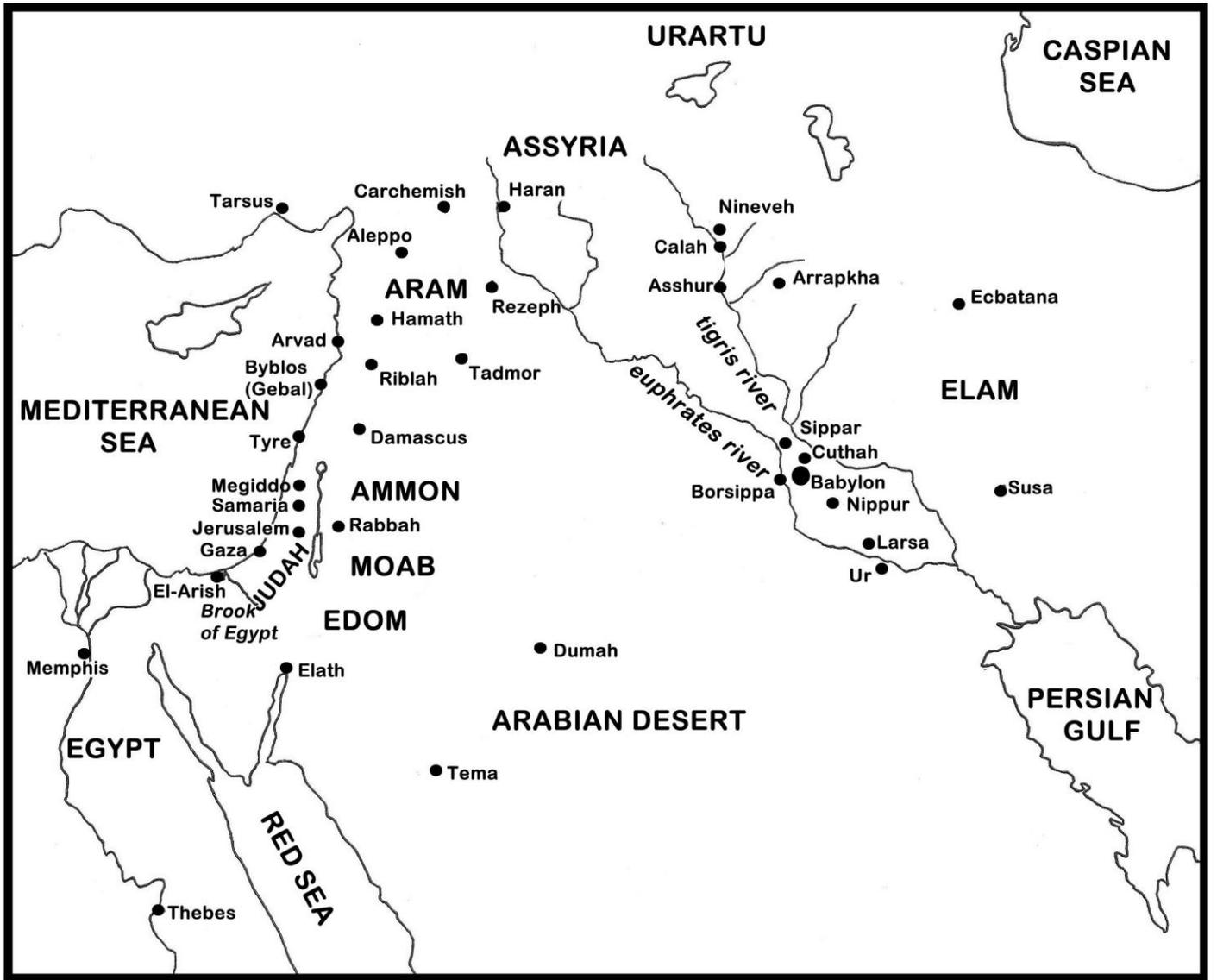
Daniel is 59 years old.

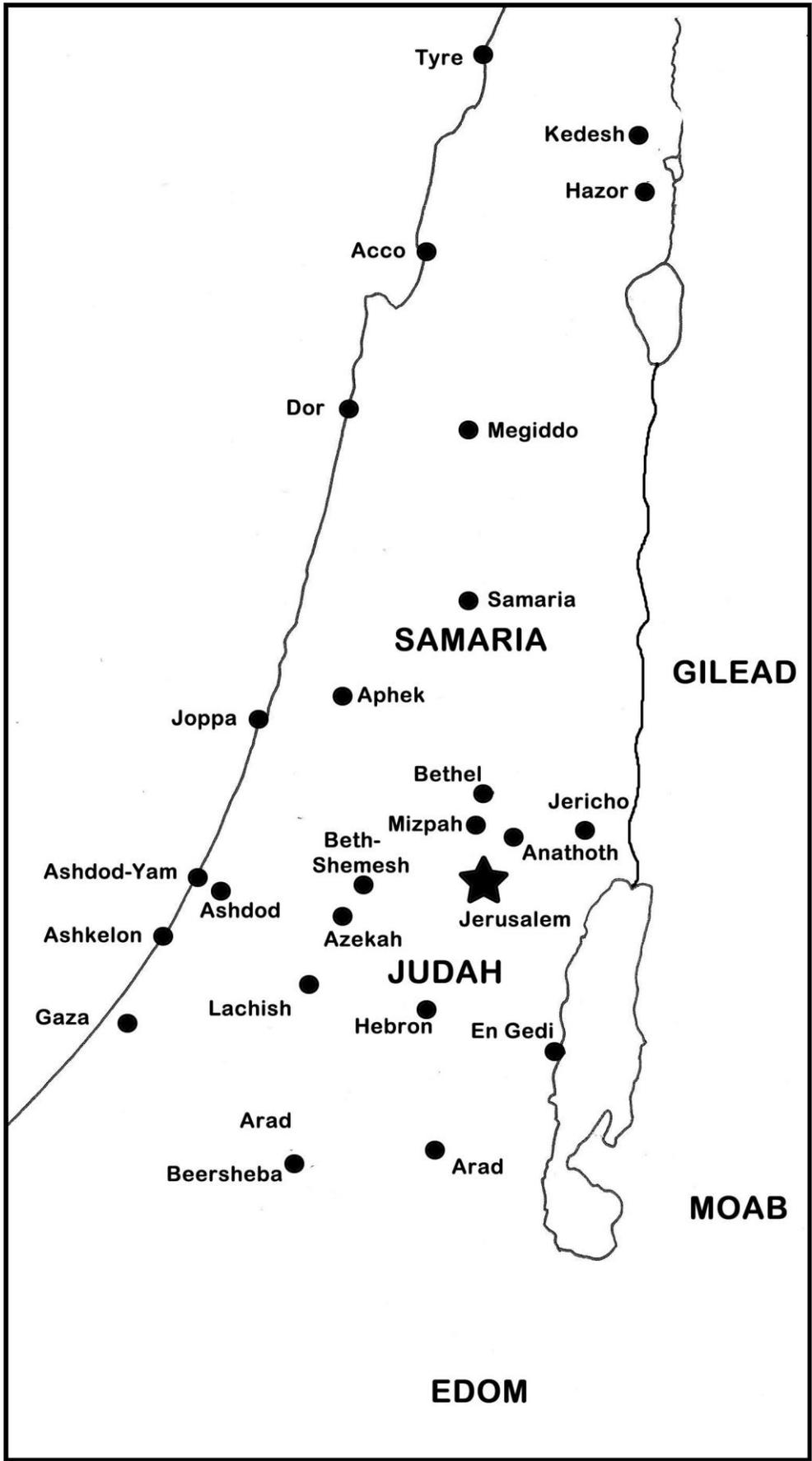
Nebuchadnezzar returns to Babylon after defeating Egypt and utters the fateful words of Daniel 4:28-33:

*"Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?"*

**569-563** Nebuchadnezzar is in exile and goes insane.

- 562** August, Nebuchadnezzar repents and glorifies God  
Nebuchadnezzar is restored to his throne  
September, Nebuchadnezzar dies
- 561** Evil Merodach, Nebuchadnezzar's son, begins to reign  
Evil Merodach releases 55 year old Jehoiachin from a 36 year prison term  
on March 22 (2 Kings 25:27-30)
- 560** If Jeremiah wrote the final verses of his book while in Babylon then he would be 88 years old  
Jeremiah 52:31-34 is written closing the book of Jeremiah with the beginning of God's promise to restore Israel beginning to blossom
- 559** Cyrus begins to reign in Persia
- 556** Nebuchadnezzar's son-in-law, Nabonidus, begins to reign. Nabonidus had married  
Nebuchadnezzar's daughter Nitocris and they have a son named Belshazzar. (Nitocris will become  
the aged queen mother who advises Belshazzar at his drunken feast to call on Daniel to interpret the  
writing on the wall in 539)
- 553** Daniel chapter 7, Daniel's dream of four beasts  
Belshazzar begins reigning for his dad (Nabonidus) because his dad has gone west into Arabia to  
gain more land.
- 551** Daniel chapter 8, Daniel's vision of a ram and a goat (or, Darius and Alexander from the 300's BC)
- 539** Daniel chapter 5, Cyrus overthrows Babylon at Belshazzar's party.  
Daniel 9, 10 and 11
- 538** Cyrus allows the Jews to return to Judah  
Daniel chapter 6, Daniel is thrown into the lion's den  
Daniel is 90 years old  
Ezra chapter 1 occurs
- 536** Rebuilding of the temple begins. Altar is built and the foundation is laid  
Daniel's last recorded year. He dies at about 92 years of age
- 516** The temple is completed by Zerubbabel
- 476** Queen Esther is still in Persia
- 457** Ezra returns and has a revival to the Law and to God
- 445** Nehemiah returns to rebuild the wall
- 440** Ezra is written
- 432** Malachi is written
- 430** Nehemiah is written





## **586 BC - Bullae from Jeremiah 38:1 belonging to:**

### **1) Gedaliah son of Pashhur**

### **2) Jehucal son of Shelemiah**

A bulla (or, bullae plural) is a piece of clay pressed with an impression from a ring that served as a symbol or signature of an individual, generally only used by royalty or high-ranking officials in government. The small piece of clay would be attached to a rolled up document (scroll) that had been wrapped with a string. The moist clay would be used to seal the scroll and then stamped or pressed with the seal (or, signet ring). The bullae in Jerusalem that were on sealed documents were burned in the fire set to the city by the Babylonians in 586. The clay bullae were baked or “fired” in the heat causing them to be hardened which preserved them like small pieces of glazed tile. Once these two bullae were discovered in 2005 and 2008 they were still legible after 2,500 years. It would appear that these two officials of Judah’s last king, Zedekiah, had left some “paperwork” on their desk tops or in the royal “files” (archives) that fateful day that Nebuzaradan set fire to the royal palace as described in 2 Kings 25:8 and Jeremiah 52:12 on Aug 14, 586. The scrolls were consumed in the flames, but the small drops of clay with the “signature” of these two men who opposed Jeremiah in the very royal palace where they were found were preserved. They are now on display.



**Figure 1 Gedaliah son of Pashhur. The ancient text reads:  
“Le Gedaliyahu Ben Pashhur”**



**Figure 2 - Jehucal son of Shelemiah. The ancient text reads:  
“Le Yehuchal Ben Shelemiyahu Ben Shavi**



Figure 3 - Galyn stands by display of the Gedaliah (L) and Jehucal (R) Bullae

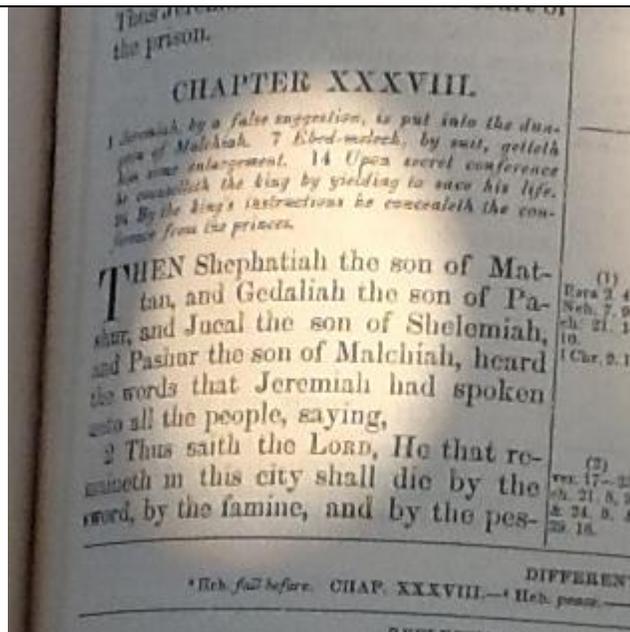


Figure 4 - Biblical text from Jeremiah 38:1



Figure 5 - Gedaliah Bulla discovered in 2008 in the City of David below the palace of David



Figure - Gedaliah Bulla. The bullae measure about 1 cm.



Figure 7 - Jehucal Bulla – discovered in 2005 in the palace of David and the kings of Judah.



Figure 8 - Jehucal Bulla



Figure 9 - Sample of Bullae on a sealed scroll

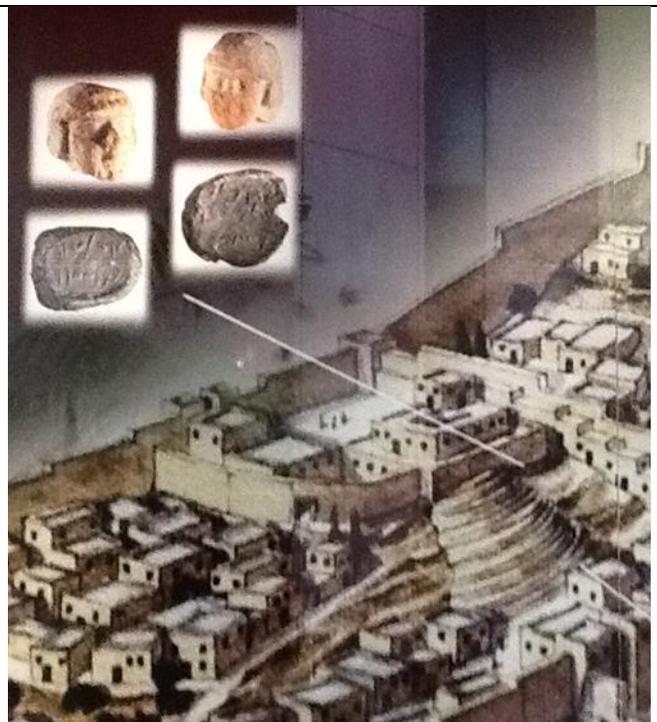


Figure 10 - Location of the find



Figure 11 - Gedaliah son of Pashhur (left) and Jehucal son of Shelemiah (Right)