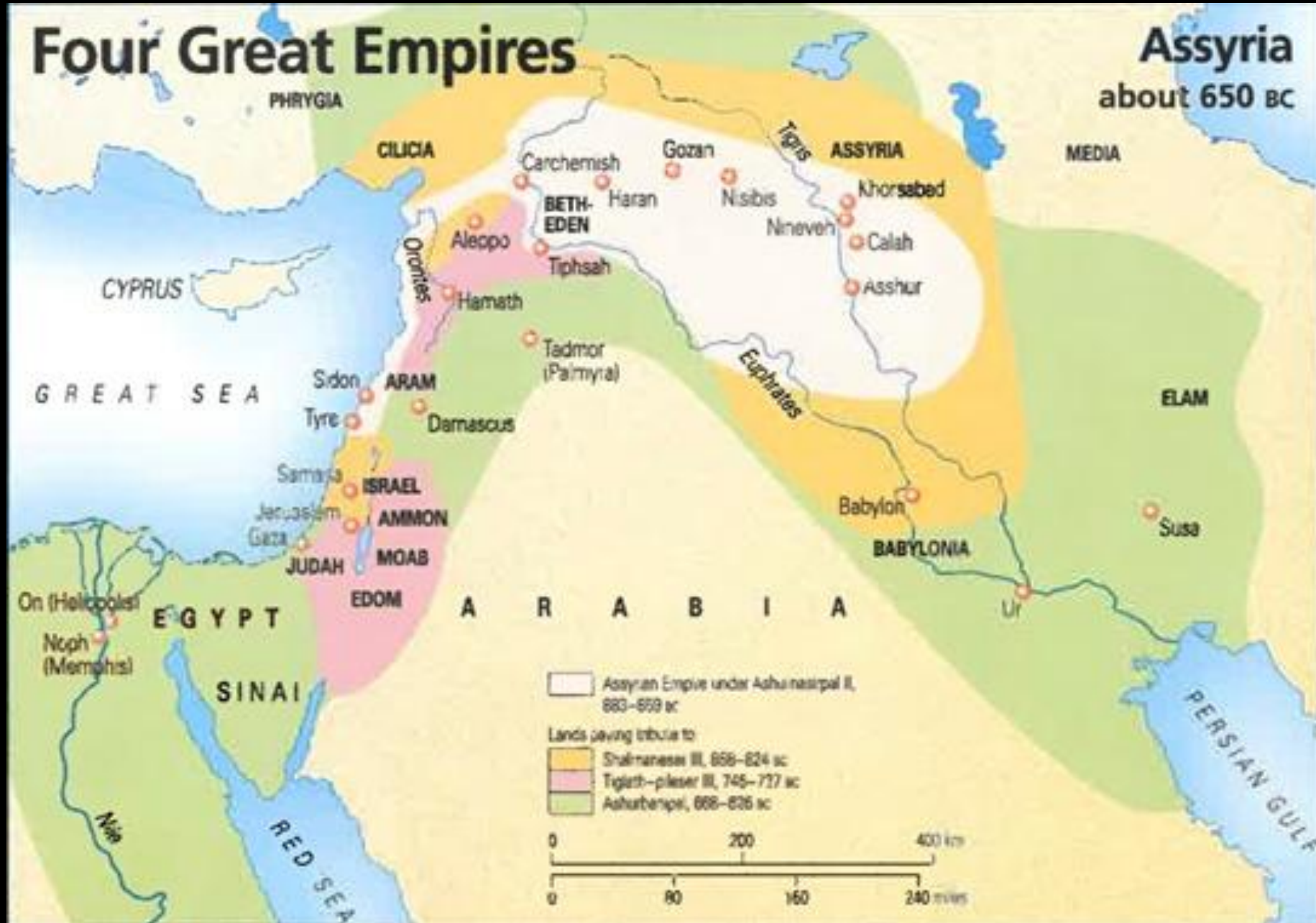


# King Hezekiah



# Four Great Empires

Assyria  
about 650 BC



# King Hezekiah



## 2 Kings: 18

<sup>1</sup>In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hezekiah son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. <sup>2</sup> He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother's name was Abijah daughter of Zechariah. <sup>3</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father David had done. <sup>4</sup> He removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it. (It was called Nehushtan.)

<sup>5</sup> Hezekiah trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. <sup>6</sup> He held fast to the Lord and did not stop following him; he kept the commands the Lord had given Moses. <sup>7</sup> And the Lord was with him; he was successful in whatever he undertook. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. <sup>8</sup> From watchtower to fortified city, he defeated the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory.

# King Hezekiah



<sup>13</sup> In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah's reign, Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. <sup>14</sup> So Hezekiah king of Judah sent this message to the king of Assyria at Lachish: "I have done wrong. Withdraw from me, and I will pay whatever you demand of me." The king of Assyria exacted from Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. <sup>15</sup> So Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the temple of the Lord and in the treasuries of the royal palace.

<sup>16</sup> At this time Hezekiah king of Judah stripped off the gold with which he had covered the doors and doorposts of the temple of the Lord, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

# King Hezekiah



<sup>32</sup>“Do not listen to Hezekiah, for he is misleading you when he says, ‘The LORD will deliver us.’ <sup>33</sup> Has the god of any nation ever delivered his land from the hand of the king of Assyria? <sup>34</sup> Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena and Ivvah? Have they rescued Samaria from my hand? <sup>35</sup> Who of all the gods of these countries has been able to save his land from me? How then can the LORD deliver Jerusalem from my hand?”

# King Hezekiah



**19**

<sup>5</sup>“Tell your master, ‘This is what the LORD says: Do not be afraid of what you have heard—those words with which the underlings of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me. <sup>7</sup> Listen! When he hears a certain report, I will make him want to return to his own country, and there I will have him cut down with the sword.’”

# King Hezekiah



<sup>35</sup> That night the angel of the Lord went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the Assyrian camp. When the people got up the next morning—there were all the dead bodies! <sup>36</sup> So Sennacherib king of Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there.

<sup>37</sup> One day, while he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisrok, his sons Adrammelek and Sharezer killed him with the sword, and they escaped to the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son succeeded him as king.

# King Hezekiah

