

# *ARTIFACTS THAT MATTER*

## *THE BIBLE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM*

*Part 4*

*Persia*

# *Purpose of this series*

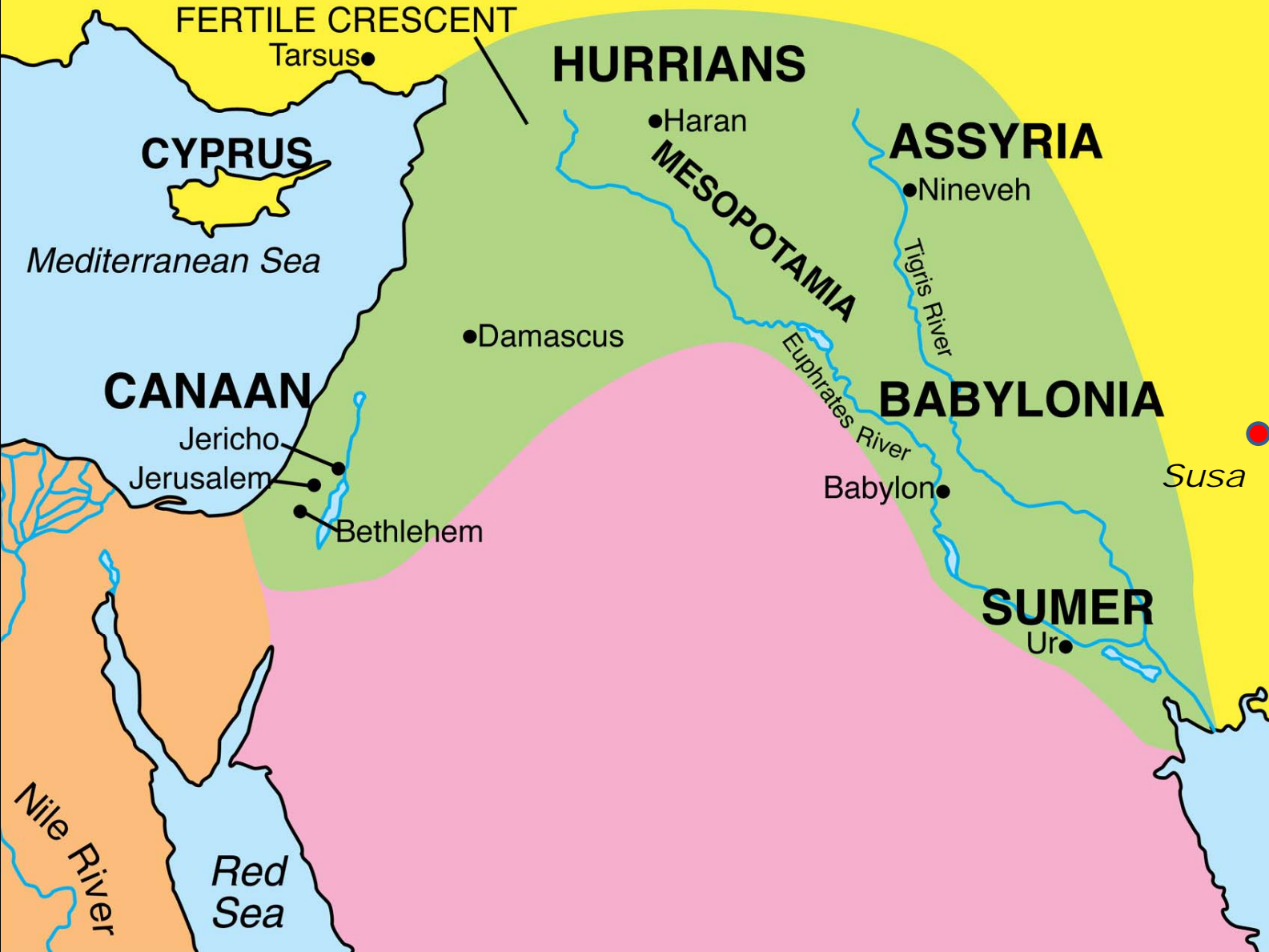
- *Support the Bible*
  - *Real places*
  - *Real people*
  - *Real events*
  - *Accurate descriptions*
- *Better understand the Bible*
- *To understand that more knowledge of history enriches our understanding of the Bible.*

# A BRIEF HISTORY

- *The kingdom of Israel divides (930 B.C)*
- *The northern kingdom taken by Assyria (722 BC)*
- *The southern kingdom taken captive by Babylon (605 BC)\**
- *Babylon falls overnight. Persian empire begins (539 BC)*
- *Southern kingdom returns*
- *Esther becomes queen of Persia (478 BC)*
- *Nehemiah sent to Judah (445 BC)*

*Dates subject to change*





FERTILE CRESCENT

Tarsus

HURRIANS

CYPRUS

Mediterranean Sea

Haran

MESOPOTAMIA

ASSYRIA

Nineveh

Tigris River

Damascus

Euphrates River

CANAAN

BABYLONIA

Jericho

Jerusalem

Bethlehem

Babylon

Susa

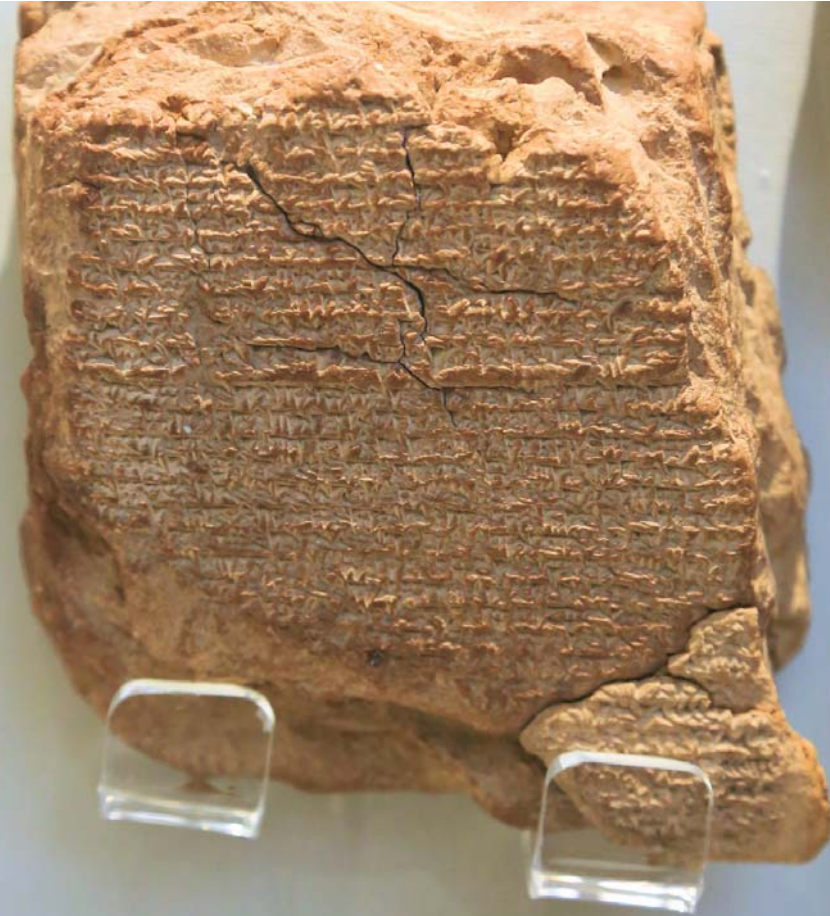
SUMER

Ur

Nile River

Red Sea

*Date: September 22-28 164 BC*















***Daniel 5:25-28***

***25 “Now this is the inscription that was written out: ‘MENĒ, MENĒ, TEKĒL, UPHARSIN.’***

***26 “This is the interpretation of the message: ‘MENĒ’—God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it.***

***27 “‘TEKĒL’—you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient.***

***28 “‘PERĒS’—your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.”***

*THE CYRUS CYLINDER*



*Describes how king Cyrus of Persia allowed captives to return to their homes and rebuild their temples.*

*“So this Daniel enjoyed success in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.”*

*Daniel 6:28*

*Around 200 years before it  
happened,  
Isaiah prophesied...*

*"It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is  
My shepherd!  
And he will perform all My desire.'  
And he declares of Jerusalem, 'She  
will be built,'  
And of the temple, 'Your foundation  
will be laid.' "*  
*Isaiah 44:28*



## *II Chronicles 36:22-23*

*22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia—in order to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah—the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying,*

*23 “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all His people, may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up!’ ”*

*See also Ezra 1:1-4*

*THE CYRUS CYLINDER*



*THE BIBLE:  
-Real People  
-Real Events*





The king's scepter

*Esther 5:1-2*

*"Now it came about on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace in front of the king's rooms, and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the throne room, opposite the entrance to the palace. When the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight; and the king extended to Esther the golden scepter which was in his hand. So Esther came near and touched the top of the scepter."*





*Esther 1:7*

*Drinks were served in golden vessels of various kinds, and the royal wine was plentiful according to the king's bounty.*





*Esther 1:1-2*

*"Now it took place in the days of Ahasuerus, the Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia over 127 provinces, in those days as King Ahasuerus sat on his royal throne which was at the citadel in Susa,"*

*Esther 2:21*

*"In those days, while Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's officials from those who guarded the door, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus."*

standing women with clasped  
of object in glass and was also  
with bottle.  
by BC, for  
from 1980s-90s 10/10









See also the collection of objects in the museum of the city of Rome.

The gold jewelry of the Etruscans is characterized by its high quality and its originality. The Etruscans were great goldsmiths and their work is still admired today. The gold jewelry of the Etruscans is a masterpiece of ancient art.



The diagram shows the structure of the eye and how it works. The iris is the colored part of the eye, and the pupil is the opening in the center. The lens is a transparent structure that focuses light on the retina. The retina is the light-sensitive part of the eye that sends signals to the brain.

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*Inscription:  
"Artaxerxes...son of Darius the kin, in whose house this silver  
drinking cup was made."*



*Nehemiah 2:1  
And it came about in the month Nisan, in the  
twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, that wine was  
before him, and I took up the wine and gave it to  
the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence.*



# *THE ACCURATE BIBLE*

- *REAL PEOPLE*

- *Cyrus*

- *Artaxerxes*

- *REAL EVENTS*

- *Cyrus sends God's people back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple*

