

**THE
PROPHET
ISAIAH IN
ADVENT**

**BRIAN
PURFIELD**



OUTLINE OF SESSION

- **Who or What is a Prophet?**
- **Who was First Isaiah?**
- **The Structure of the Book of Isaiah**
- **Readings for Week 1 of Advent**

WHO OR WHAT IS A PROPHET?

- **Prophecy in general**
 - Attempts to communicate with God's world & to understand God's plan
 - E.g. Ezekiel 21:21
- **Hebrew *nabi* – root “to call”**
 - Greek *prophetes* – “a spokesperson”
- **Charismatic – people with special gifts**

WALTER BRUEGGEMANN

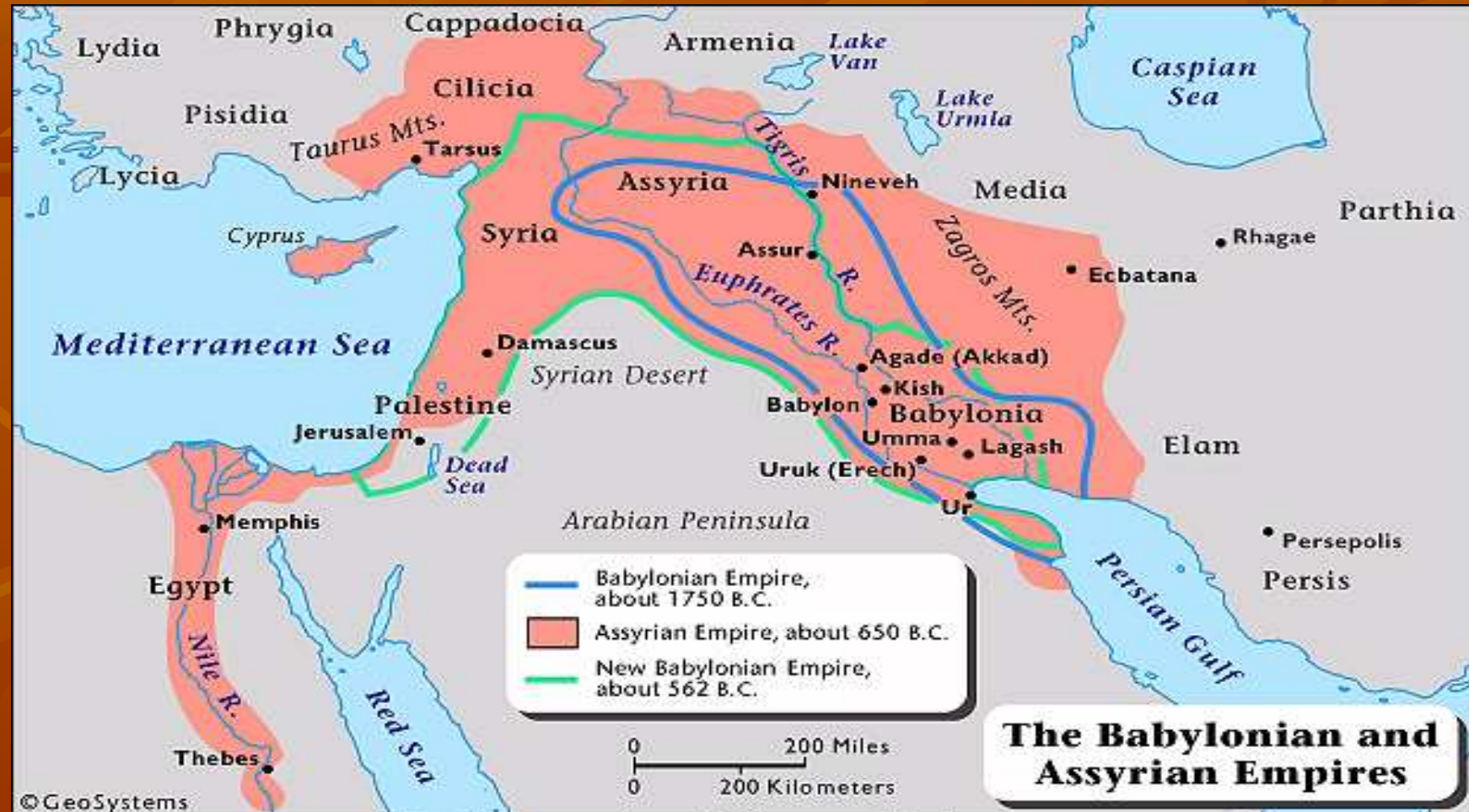
- *“The task of the prophetic ministry is to nurture, to nourish & evoke a consciousness & a perception of things which is an alternate one to the consciousness & perception of things in the dominant culture.”*

An Introduction to the Old Testament
(2003)

ISAIAH

- **Leading citizen in Jerusalem; lived during reigns of King Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz (735-715 BC) & Hezekiah (715-687 BC)**
- **Married to a prophetess; two children:**
 - *Shear-Jashub – “A remnant will return”*
 - *Mahershalalhashbaz – “Quick spoil, speedy plunder”*

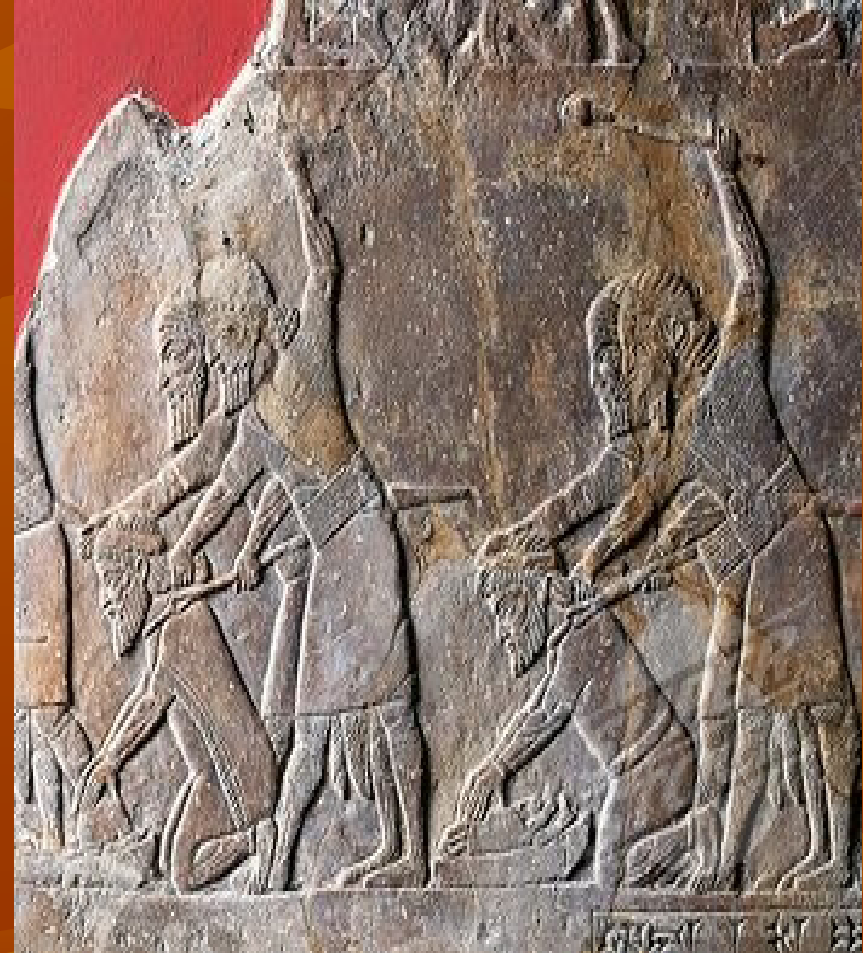
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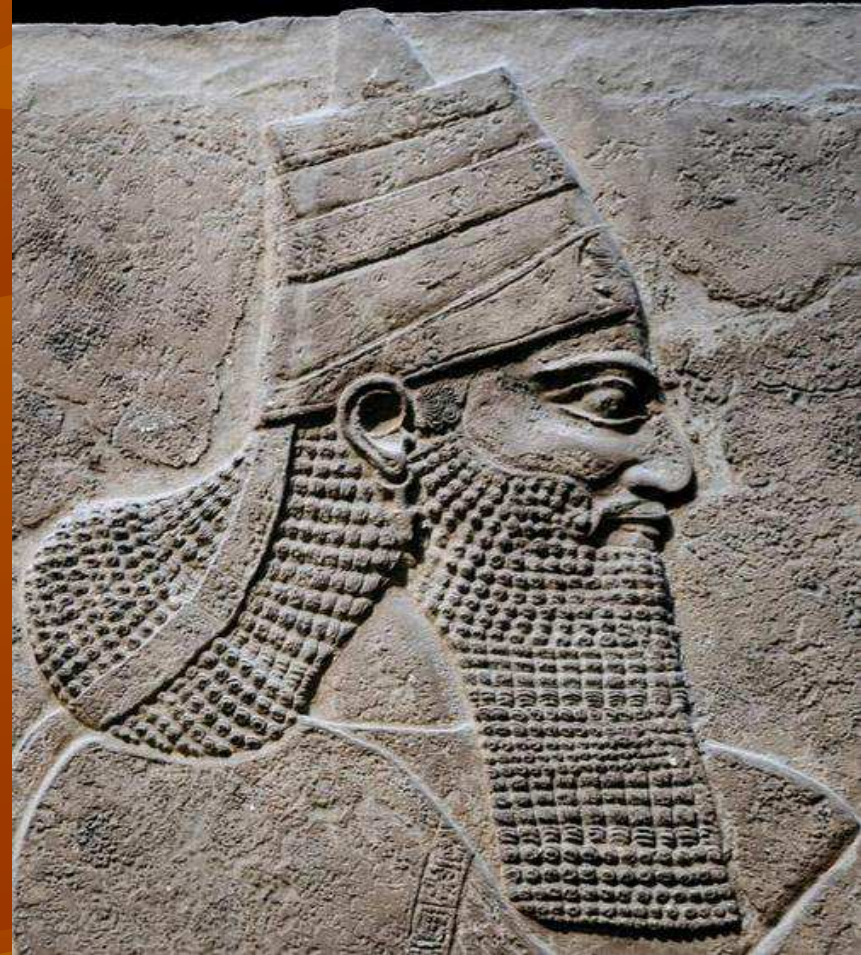
NINEVEH





Israel & Judah: 8th Century BC

- **Tiglath Pileser III**
 - **Siege of 734 BC**
 - **King Ahaz**
- **Sennacherib**
 - **Siege of 701 BC**
 - **Capture of Lachish**
 - **King Hezekiah**



STRUCTURE OF ISAIAH



- **Jerusalem judged & condemned (chs 1-12)**
- **God's righteousness among the peoples (chs 13-27)**
- **A righteous king in Jerusalem (chs 28-35)**
- **Jerusalem saved, but shadow of Babylon looms (chs 36-39)**
- **Return to Jerusalem from Babylonian exile (chs 40-55)**
- **New heavens & new earth (chs 56-66)**

ADVENT WEEK 1

Dec 2nd First Sunday of Advent

Dec 3rd Mon. **Is 2:1-5** *The Lord draws all the nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom*

Dec 4th Tues. **Is 11:1-10** *On him the Spirit of the Lord rests*

Dec 5th Wed. **Is 25:6-10a** *The Lord invites us to his banquet and wipes away the tears from every cheek.*

Dec 6th Thurs. **Is 26:1-6** *Let the upright nation come in, she, the faithful one.*

Dec 7th Fri. **Is 29:17-24** *That day the eyes of the blind will see.*

Dec 8th Sat. Immaculate Conception

[Is 39:19-21,23-26 - *He will be gracious to you when he hears your cry.*]

MONDAY WEEK 1

Dec 3rd Mon. Is 2:1-5 *The Lord draws all the nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom*

Mt 8:5-11 *Many will come from east & west to take their places in the Kingdom of heaven.*

TUESDAY WEEK 1

- **Dec 4th Tues. Is 11:1-10** *On him the Spirit of the Lord rests*
- **Lk 10:21-24** *Jesus is filled with joy by the Holy Spirit*

WEDNESDAY WEEK 1

Dec 5th Wed. Is 25:6-10a *The Lord invites us to his banquet and wipes away the tears from every cheek.*

Mt 15:29-37 *Jesus cures many & multiplies the loaves*

THURSDAY WEEK 1

Dec 6th Thurs. **Is 26:1-6** *Let the upright nation come in, she, the faithful one.*

Mt 7:21,24-27 *The person who does the will of my Father will enter the kingdom of heaven*

FRIDAY WEEK 1

- **Dec 7th Fri. Is 29:17-24** *That day the eyes of the blind will see.*
- **Mt 9:27-31** *Two blind men who believe in Jesus are cured.*