



*In the beginning...*

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

# The Life of Jacob

## Chapter 34

# Genesis

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# The Life of Jacob

## The Return To Canaan

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# Genesis 34

<sup>1</sup> And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.

Genesis 34:1

- *“This action loosened a stone that caused a landslide”* - Chuck Missler
- Curiosity has killed far more than just a cat!
- We must prepare our children for life in the world

# Genesis 34

<sup>2</sup> And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her.

Genesis 34:1-2

- Hebrew *laqah*, **took** (v. 2), indicates that an irresistible force was used.
- The word *ana*, **defiled**, indicates dishonorable treatment.
- A woman had no expectancy of ever having a valid marriage following defilement

# Genesis 34

<sup>3</sup> And his soul clave unto Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spake kindly unto the damsel.

Genesis 34:1-2

- Lust promises satisfaction but cannot deliver
- We all fall victim to the notion that if we have 'such and such' we will be happy.
- We will not.
  - Acquisition of wealth, possessions, security, love, comfort cannot fulfill the longing we each experience

# The Now & The Then

<sup>7</sup> ...all my springs are in thee.

Psalm 87:7

- The fulfillment we seek can only be found in Christ
- *“If you can’t do it now, you won’t do it then”*
- We think that if we had a certain thing, it would change the situation.
- It can’t, because the thing is not what we lack

# The Compromise of Dinah

- It began with Investigation
  - She “*went out to see the daughters of the land*”
  - This was not just a fleeting visit
  - Evidently she stayed for many days
- And ended with compromise
  - “*He took her and lay with her, and defiled her*”
- Followed by de-sensitisation
  - She stayed “*in the camp of the Hivites*” until her brothers take her away
  - v:26 shows that she continues to live with Shechem





# The Blessed Life

Psalm 1:1-6

- 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

**Psalm 1:1-3**

# Council of the Ungodly

- Step 1 on a downward slope
- We are walking through life...
- We have a choice who to listen to
- Step 2: the result of listening to the council of the ungodly
- Causes us to stop & 'stand in the way with sinners'
- Step 3: The edges become so blurred we end up sitting & participating

# Becoming Numb

<sup>1</sup> Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

<sup>2</sup> Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

**1 Timothy 4:1-2**

Check the destination before buying the ticket! – Chuck Missler

# Genesis 34

<sup>4</sup> And Shechem spake unto his father Hamor, saying, Get me this damsel to wife.

<sup>5</sup> And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter: now his sons were with his cattle in the field: and Jacob held his peace until they were come.

<sup>6</sup> And Hamor the father of Shechem went out unto Jacob to commune with him.

**Genesis 34:4-6**

# Genesis 34

<sup>7</sup> And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth, because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done.

**Genesis 34:7**

- Jacob “heard” about it?
- His sons seem to be the only ones upset
- Jacob remains silent

# Genesis 34

<sup>8</sup> And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray you give her him to wife.

<sup>9</sup> And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters unto us, and take our daughters unto you.

<sup>10</sup> And ye shall dwell with us: and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye therein, and get you possessions therein.

**Genesis 34:8-10**

# Genesis 34

<sup>11</sup> And Shechem said unto her father and unto her brethren, Let me find grace in your eyes, and what ye shall say unto me I will give.

<sup>12</sup> Ask me never so much dowry and gift, and I will give according as ye shall say unto me: but give me the damsel to wife.

**Genesis 34:11-12**



# Genesis 34

<sup>13</sup> And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully, and said, because he had defiled Dinah their sister:

<sup>14</sup> And they said unto them, We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one that is uncircumcised; for that were a reproach unto us:

<sup>15</sup> But in this will we consent unto you: If ye will be as we be, that every male of you be circumcised;

**Genesis 34:13-15**

# The Proposal of Hamor

- Hamor tries to "sell them" on the idea
- Focus on the BENEFITS
- Rather than what is RIGHT
- Remember:
- Jacob was called to "his country" and "his family"
- Not Hamor's family and country

# Genesis 34

- <sup>16</sup> Then will we give our daughters unto you, and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people.
- <sup>17</sup> But if ye will not hearken unto us, to be circumcised; then will we take our daughter, and we will be gone.
- <sup>18</sup> And their words pleased Hamor, and Shechem Hamor's son.

**Genesis 34:16-18**

# Genesis 34

<sup>19</sup> And the young man deferred not to do the thing, because he had delight in Jacob's daughter: and he was more honourable than all the house of his father.

<sup>20</sup> And Hamor and Shechem his son came unto the gate of their city, and communed with the men of their city, saying,

**Genesis 34:19-20**

- Note the council met at the gate of the city

# The Gates of Hell

<sup>18</sup> And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**Matt 16:18**

# Genesis 34

21 These men are peaceable with us; therefore let them dwell in the land, and trade therein; for the land, behold, it is large enough for them; let us take their daughters to us for wives, and let us give them our daughters.

22 Only herein will the men consent unto us for to dwell with us, to be one people, if every male among us be circumcised, as they are circumcised.

**Genesis 34:21-22**

- They offer a “Sign of a Covenant with God” to unbelievers

# Genesis 34

<sup>23</sup> Shall not their cattle and their substance and every beast of theirs be ours? only let us consent unto them, and they will dwell with us.

<sup>24</sup> And unto Hamor and unto Shechem his son hearkened all that went out of the gate of his city; and every male was circumcised, all that went out of the gate of his city.

**Genesis 34:23-24**

- **Hidden motives!**

# Genesis 34

**25** And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brethren, took each man his sword, and came upon the city boldly, and slew all the males.

**26** And they slew Hamor and Shechem his son with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went out.

**Genesis 34:25-26**



# Genesis 34

27 The sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and spoiled the city, because they had defiled their sister.

28 They took their sheep, and their oxen, and their asses, and that which was in the city, and that which was in the field,

29 And all their wealth, and all their little ones, and their wives took they captive, and spoiled even all that was in the house.

**Genesis 34:27-29**

# The Revenge of the Brothers

- Simeon & Levi are after more than "revenge"
- They saw that the men were "in pain"
- They labeled their actions as "righteous retribution"
- THEN...they plundered the people
- It doesn't sound like they are on any "Righteous Mission"
- Greed thinly veiled by a "righteous cause"

# Genesis 34

**30** And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, Ye have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites: and I being few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me, and slay me; and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.

**31** And they said, Should he deal with our sister as with an harlot?

**Genesis 34:30-31**

# Jacob's Light Rebuke

- Notice:
  - Jacob does not rebuke his 10 sons for killing
- Only concern that *“the inhabitants of the land might gather themselves together against me and kill me.”*
- His sons "get the last word"
  - *“Should he treat our sister like a harlot?”*

# The Burden of Compromise

- Jacob's "freewill choices" have got him in lots of trouble

<sup>12</sup> All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any

<sup>23</sup> All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.

**1 Cor 6:12, 10:23**



*In the beginning...*

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

# The Life of Jacob

## Chapter 35

# Genesis 35

- <sup>1</sup> And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother.
- <sup>2</sup> Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments:

**Genesis 35:1-2**

# Jacob's Call to Repentance

- Jacob recognized the corrupting influence of "the world"
- Foreign gods
  - Representing corrupt passions
- Garments
  - Representing loss of identity
- Like Joshua, Jacob called his family to Separate:



# Jacob's Call to Repentance

<sup>14</sup> Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.

<sup>15</sup> And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

# Our Call to Separate

<sup>14</sup> Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? <sup>15</sup> And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? <sup>16</sup> And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>17</sup> Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

**2 Cor 6:14-17**

# Genesis 35

<sup>3</sup> And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.

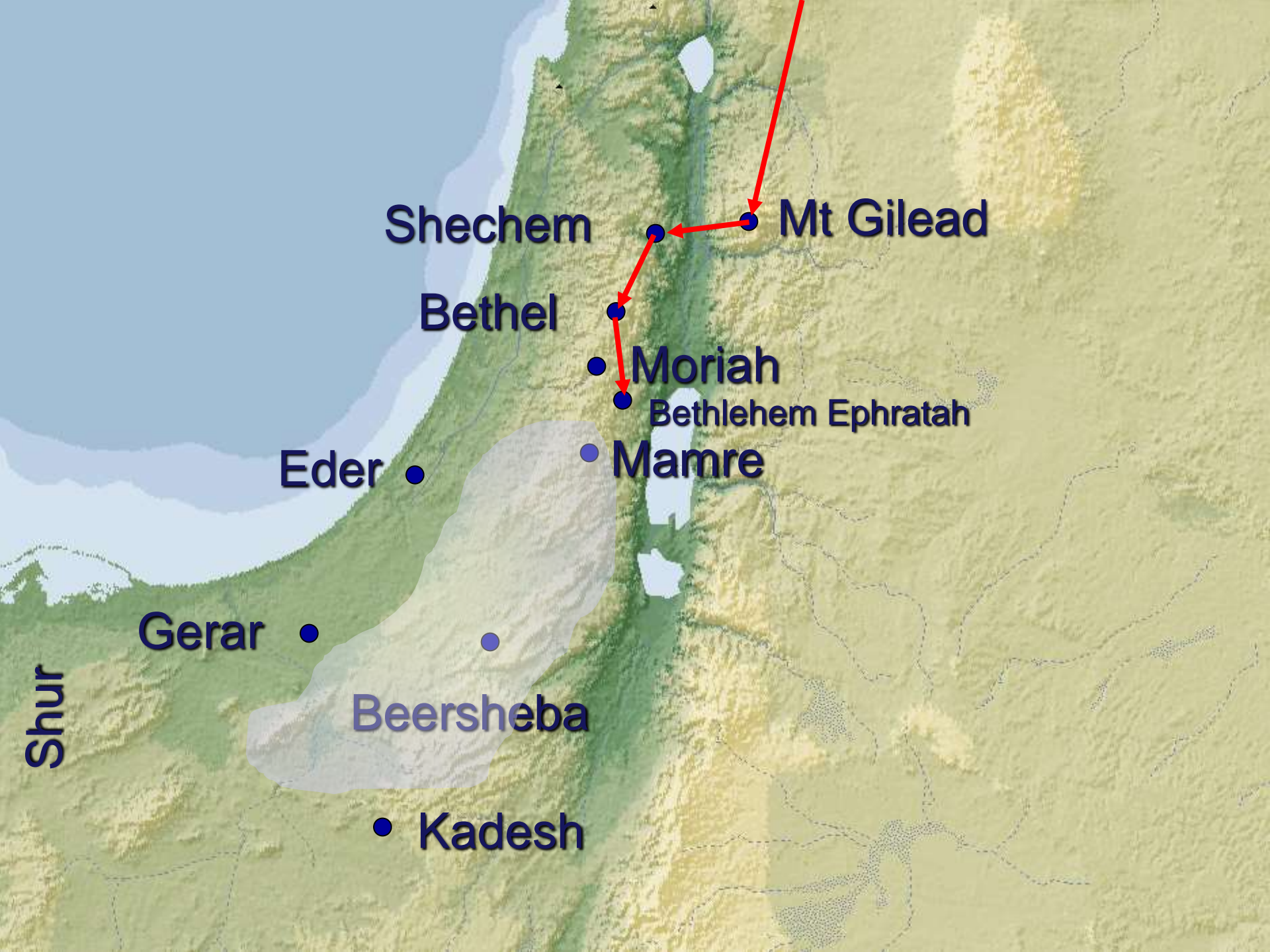
<sup>4</sup> And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem.

**Genesis 35:3-4**

# Genesis 35

- <sup>5</sup> And they journeyed: and the terror of God was upon the cities that were round about them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob.
- <sup>6</sup> So Jacob came to Luz, which is in the land of Canaan, that is, Bethel, he and all the people that were with him.
- <sup>7</sup> And he built there an altar, and called the place El-beth-el: because there God appeared unto him, when he fled from the face of his brother.

**Genesis 35:5-7**



Shechem

Mt Gilead

Bethel

Moriah

Bethlehem Ephratah

Eder

Mamre

Gerar

Beersheba

Kadesh

Shur

# Genesis 35

<sup>8</sup> But Deborah Rebekah's nurse died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak: and the name of it was called Allon-bachuth.

<sup>9</sup> And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padan-aram, and blessed him.

<sup>10</sup> And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel.

**Genesis 35:8-10**

# Genesis 35

<sup>11</sup> And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;

<sup>12</sup> And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.

**Genesis 35:11-12**

# Genesis 35

<sup>13</sup> And God went up from him in the place where he talked with him.

<sup>14</sup> And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone: and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon.

<sup>15</sup> And Jacob called the name of the place where God spake with him, Bethel.

**Genesis 35:13-15**



# Genesis 35

<sup>16</sup> And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.

<sup>17</sup> And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, Fear not; thou shalt have this son also.

<sup>18</sup> And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Ben-oni: but his father called him Benjamin.

# Genesis 35

- 19 And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.
- 20 And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day.
- 21 And Israel journeyed, and spread his tent beyond the tower of Edar.

Genesis 35:19-21

# Micah's *Other* Prophecy

<sup>8</sup> And thou, **O tower of the flock,** the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

**Micah 4:8**

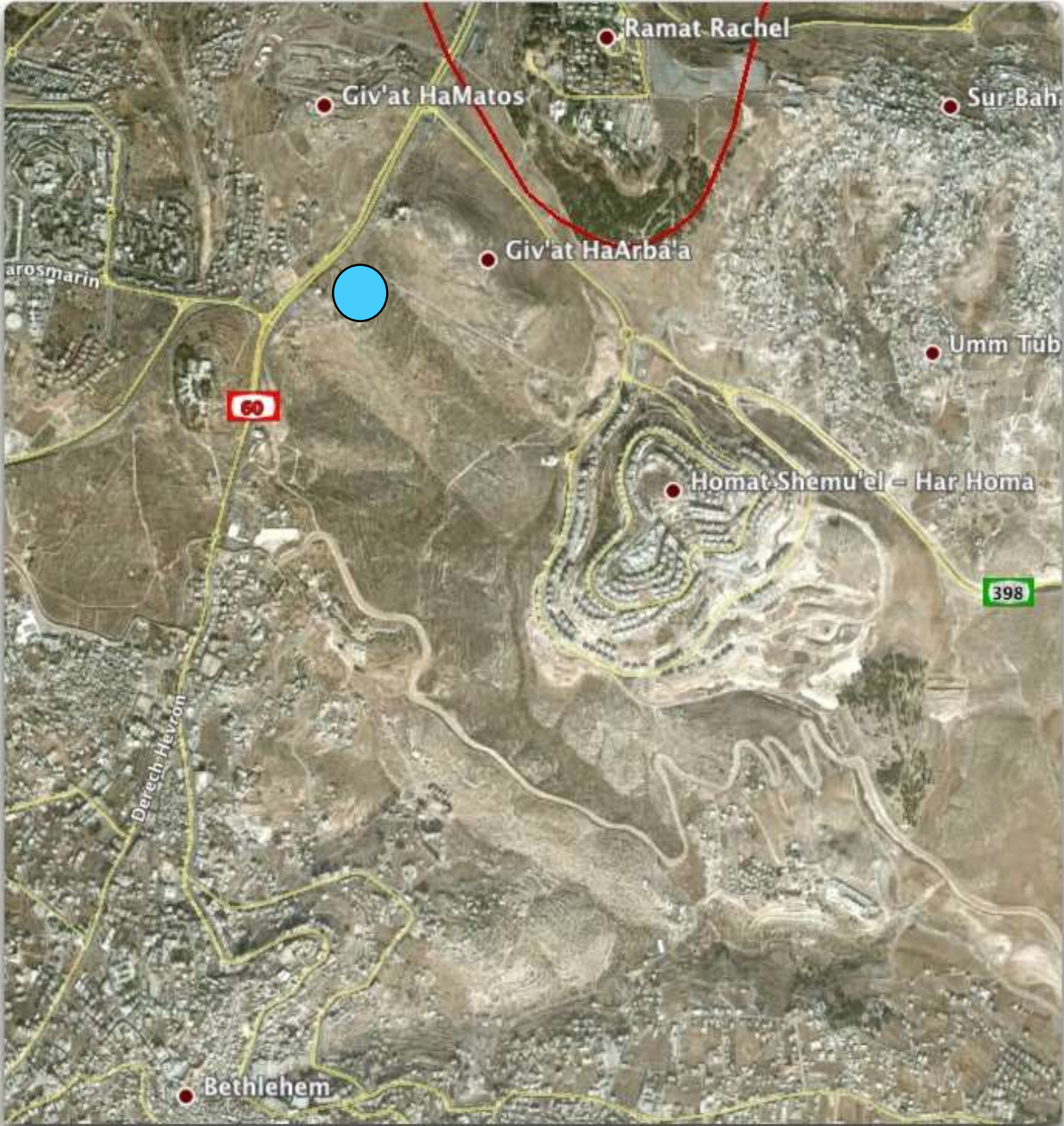
# The Tower of the Flock

- The Hebrew phrase tower of the flock here, is "migdal edar" [mig-dawl ay-der]
- It refers to a particular tower that was built in ancient times to watch over the valley on the edge of Bethlehem, to protect the city,
- The name means "watch tower of the flock"
- Several of these towers are recorded in scripture
  - We find them in Judges 8:71, 9:46, & 9:51; and in 2 Kings 9:17, 18:8; and in Nehemiah 3:1

# The Tower of the Flock

- Rabbi Short states:
- *“This Migdal Eder was not the watchtower for the ordinary flocks that pastured on the barren sheep ground beyond Bethlehem... but it lay close to the town on the road to Jerusalem”*. [Book 2 chapter 6](#)
- Migdal Eder, is also mentioned in the Jewish Targums and is translated *“The anointed one of the flock of Israel”*





Ramat Rachel

Giv'at HaMatos

Sur Bah

arosmarin

Giv'at HaArba'a

Umm Tub

60

Homat Shemu'el - Har Homa

398

Derech Hevron

Bethlehem

# The Tower of the Flock

- It was built as a watch tower...
- ...to be used by shepherds for protection from robbers and wild animals
- Given the significance of the sheep around Bethlehem (destined for Temple sacrifice), it was an important look-out to guard against trouble
- But it served a dual purpose...



# The Tower of the Flock

- During lambing season the sheep were brought to the tower from the fields, as the lower level functioned as the birthing room for sacrificial lambs.
- Being themselves under special rabbinical care, these shepherds would strictly maintain a ceremonially clean birthing place.

# The Tower of the Flock

- Once birthed, the shepherds would routinely place the lambs in the hewn depression of a limestone rock known as "the manger"
- They would "wrap the new-born lambs in swaddling clothes," preventing them from thrashing about and harming themselves "until they had calmed down" so they could be inspected for the quality of being "without spot or blemish"
  - *Jewish oral tradition & Alfred Edersheim, the Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah.*

# O Holy Night

- All the places to reside in Bethlehem were full
- Jesus was therefore ‘born in a manger’
  - Tradition has told us that the Inn Keeper directed them to his/a stable
- The Shepherd’s were in the fields around Bethlehem
- The angels appeared to announce Jesus’ birth (the Messiah!)
- The angles gave the Shepherd’s a sign
  - But no directions!

# The Sign!

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

**Luke 2:1-18**

# The Sign!

<sup>12</sup> And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find **A babe** wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in **THE manger.**

**Luke 2:1-18**

- The Greek text indicates they were to find **A babe** lying in **THE manger**
- Thus a babe lying in the manger itself would be that which would confirm the words of the angel
  - Jesus was the Lamb slain from the foundation of the Word!

# Genesis 35

**22** And it came to pass, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine: and Israel heard it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:

**23** The sons of Leah; Reuben, Jacob's firstborn, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Zebulun:

**Genesis 35:22-23**

# Genesis 35

24 The sons of Rachel; Joseph, and Benjamin:

25 And the sons of Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid; Dan, and Naphtali:

26 And the sons of Zilpah, Leah's handmaid; Gad, and Asher: these are the sons of Jacob, which were born to him in Padan-aram.

**Genesis 35:24-26**

# Genesis 35

- 27 And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.
- 28 And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.
- 29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

**Genesis 35:27-29**





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