

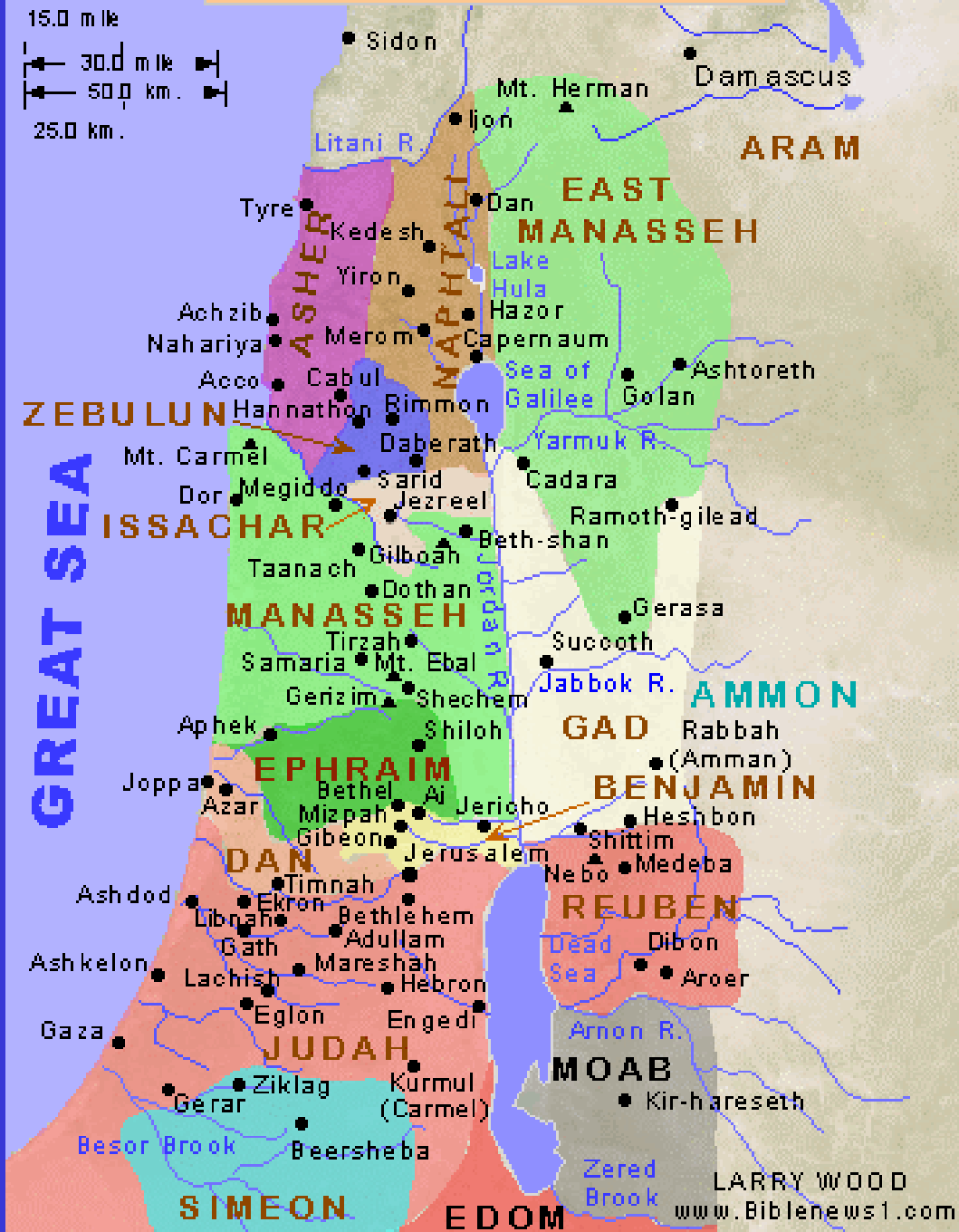
**THE
DIVDED KINGDOM –
RELATIONSHIP AND
COMMUNITY BREAKERS**

22nd October 2006

TRIBES OF ISRAEL

4-3-04

15.0 mile
30.0 mile
50.0 km.
25.0 km.



The “policy” of Rehoboam

- "If today you will be a servant to these people and serve them and give them a favorable answer, they will always be your servants.“
- "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.“
- King Rehoboam sent out Adoniram, who was in charge of forced labor, but all Israel stoned him to death.

Map 25 The division of the Kingdom

- Kingdom of Judah
- Kingdom of Israel
- Philistines



The “policy” of Jeroboam

- Jeroboam thought to himself, "The kingdom will now likely revert to the house of David. [27] If these people go up to offer sacrifices at the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem....they will kill me and return to King Rehoboam."
- The king made two golden calves. He said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."

Kingdom breakers

- Prayer free zone, not listening to God
- Ignoring wise advice
- Not being a servant but a tyrant
- Unwise choice of peacemaker
- Not trusting God's promises
- Setting up idols in place of God
- Manipulation of people
- Being half hearted about God

are also community breakers

Inverting community breakers – the community healers

- Pray at all times
- Listen to advice from a wise person – have a mentor!
- Be servants to one another
- Be a peacemaker
- Trust God
- Worship God alone
- Let people run their own lives – don't seek control
- Be full on for God

And forgive....

Discussion questions

- Can you recall falling out with someone? Over what? Was the division resolved – if so by whom?
- Have you ever witnessed others falling out and sought to reconcile them?
- How can our faith help us in disputes – how could we draw more on God's help in their resolution?