

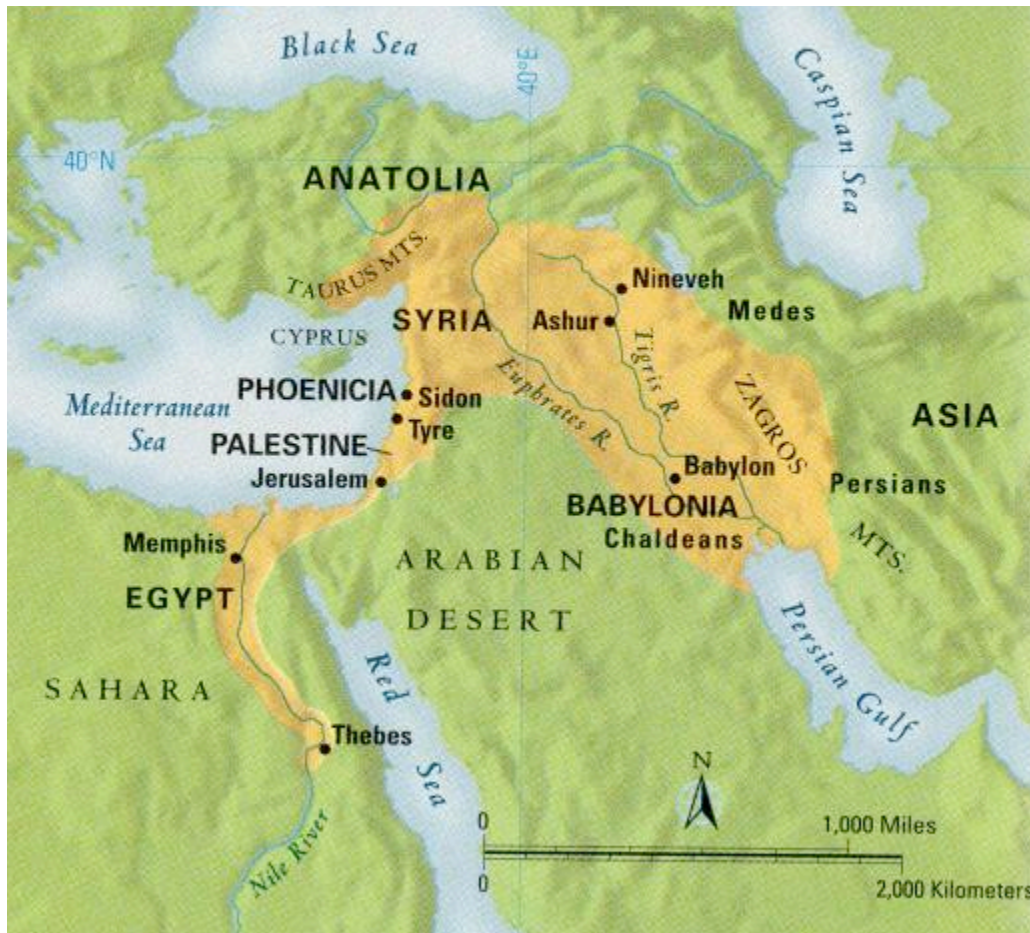
Notes & Quotes – September 13, 2009

Isaiah & Hezekiah

Isaiah 36-37

Assyria's invasion & deportation of northern kingdom of Israel (722 BC)

- Assyria's geographic expansion highlighted in beige
- covered western part of Iran, thru Iraq, east and south thru Syria & Jordan, eventually enveloping Israel and continued into Egypt



Sennacherib...

- confident in his own abilities
- hungry for power and domination
- little (or no) respect for Yahweh
- self is king (self-promotion, self-serving, self-_____)

“Deciding what I most need out of life, carefully calculating my next move, and generally allowing my autonomous self to run amuck inflates my sense of self-importance and reduces the God of my incredible journey to the role of spectator on the sidelines...One of the most arduous spiritual tasks is that of giving up control and allowing the Spirit of God to lead our lives.” – Henri Nouwen

Hezekiah...

- grasped reality for what it was (he tore his clothes & put on sackcloth)...times are desperate
- worshipped in and thru the storm (went into the temple)
 - he didn't wait for the circumstances to clear up

“It is not easy to find your way to God in a sudden crisis unless you have been in the habit of going to God about everything.” – Oswald Chambers

- had a sacred companion to give perspective...sent for wisdom from Isaiah
- set his circumstances in the larger framework of God's work

“Trust in God does not presume that God will intervene...Often trust begins on the far side of despair. When all human resources are exhausted, when the craving for reassurances is stifled, when we forgo control....” – John Shea

- prayed in acknowledgement of his dependence upon God

“I tell God what I know He knows in order that I may get to know it as He does – that is the meaning of prayer.” – Oswald Chambers