

# How to Read the Bible

Part 2: The Bible's Grand Story

# Thy Word



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# The Articles of Religion (UMC)

"The Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation."

The **BOOK** of  
**DISCIPLINE**  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



2016

# Six Movements of the Biblical Story

1. Creation

2. Crisis

3. Covenant

4. Christ

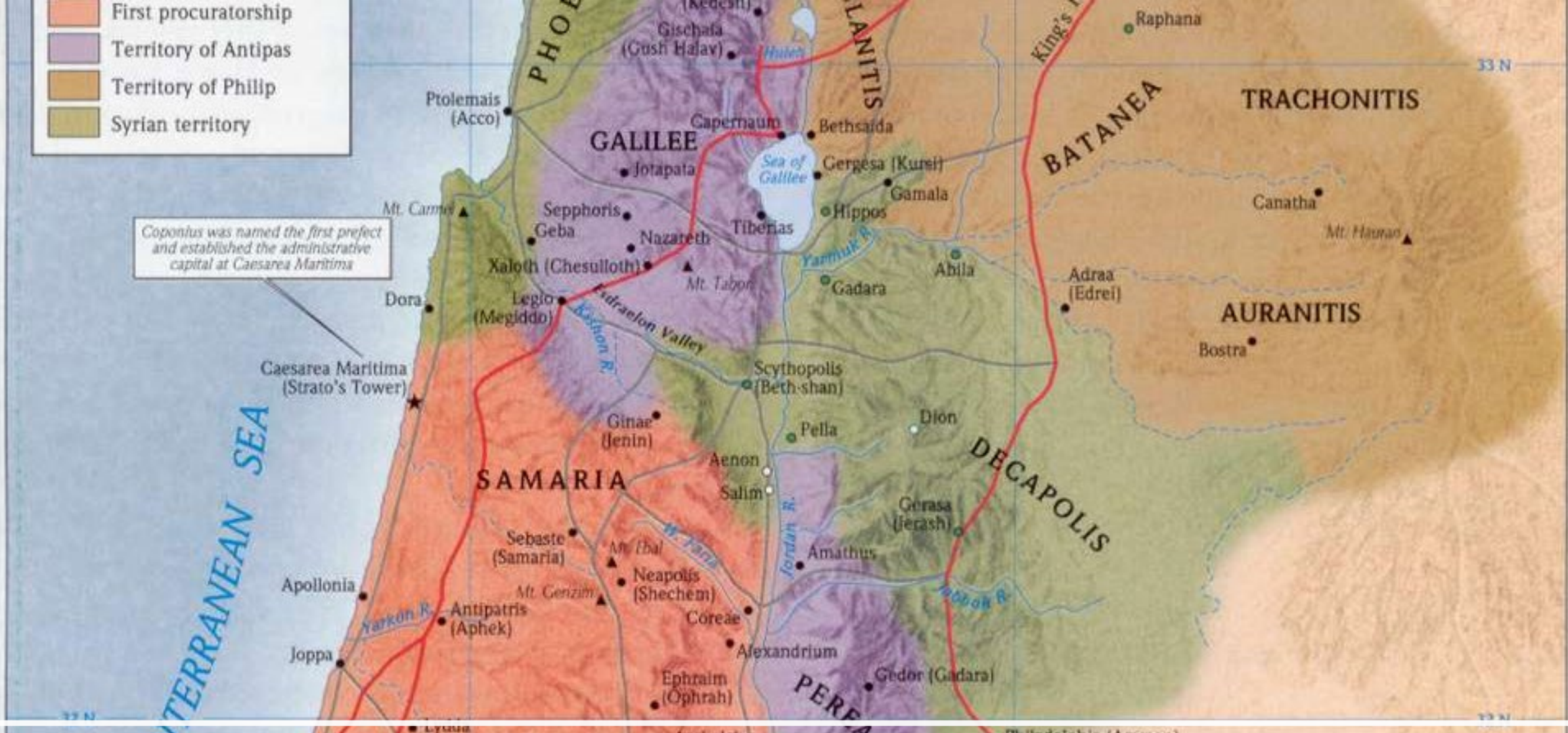
5. Church

6. Coming of  
CHRIST

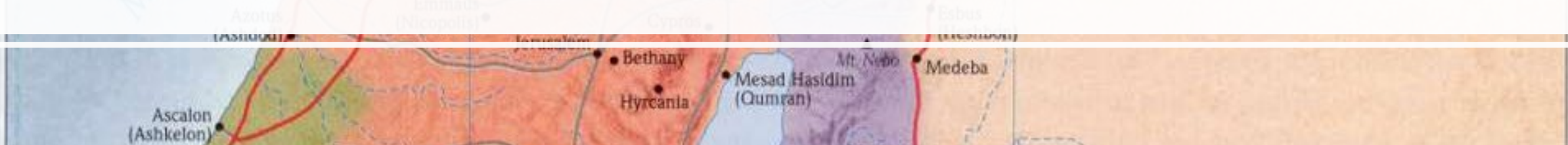


# The Ancient Near East



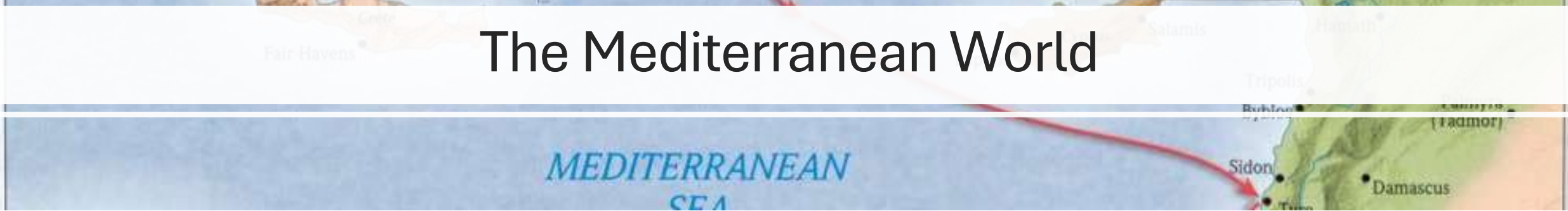


# Palestine in the Time of Jesus





## The Mediterranean World





# Three Parts of the Old Testament

- Torah (Law)
- Writings
- Prophets



# The Primeval History

- Genesis I-II
- Written before recorded time
- Intended to explain the human condition



# Covenant with Israel

- Genesis 12-Joshua
- Abram's descendants will bless all the world
- God frees Israel from slavery, leads them to the Promised Land



# History of Israel

- Judges - Esther
- In the Promised Land, Israel tends to forget God.
- God removes protection and enemies attack
- Assyrians scatter the northern kingdom of Israel
- The Babylonian exile and return
- About 1600 years of Israelite history

# Poetry, Prayer, and Wisdom

- Job - Song of Songs
- How individuals express and live out their faith during Israel's history.



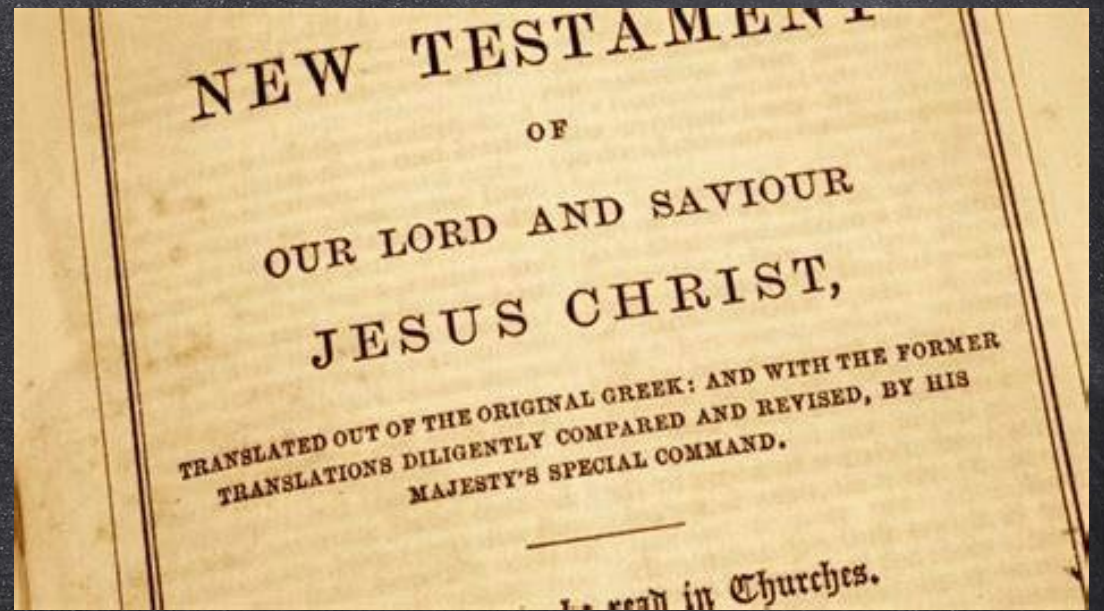
# Prophets

- Isaiah - Malachi
- Spiritual and ethical conscience of the nation.
- 700-400 B.C.



# The New Testament

- 7,958 verses -  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the whole Bible.
- Four parts:
  1. Gospels
  2. History
  3. Epistles
  4. Prophecy



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