

# The Christmas That Almost Wasn't

By Dr. Andy Woods



# Revelation 12:1-5

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed in the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars; <sup>2</sup>and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor pain to give birth. <sup>3</sup>And another sign was seen in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his heads seven diadems.

# Revelation 12:1-5

<sup>4</sup>And his tail swept a third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman that is about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he may devour her child. <sup>5</sup>And she gave birth to a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

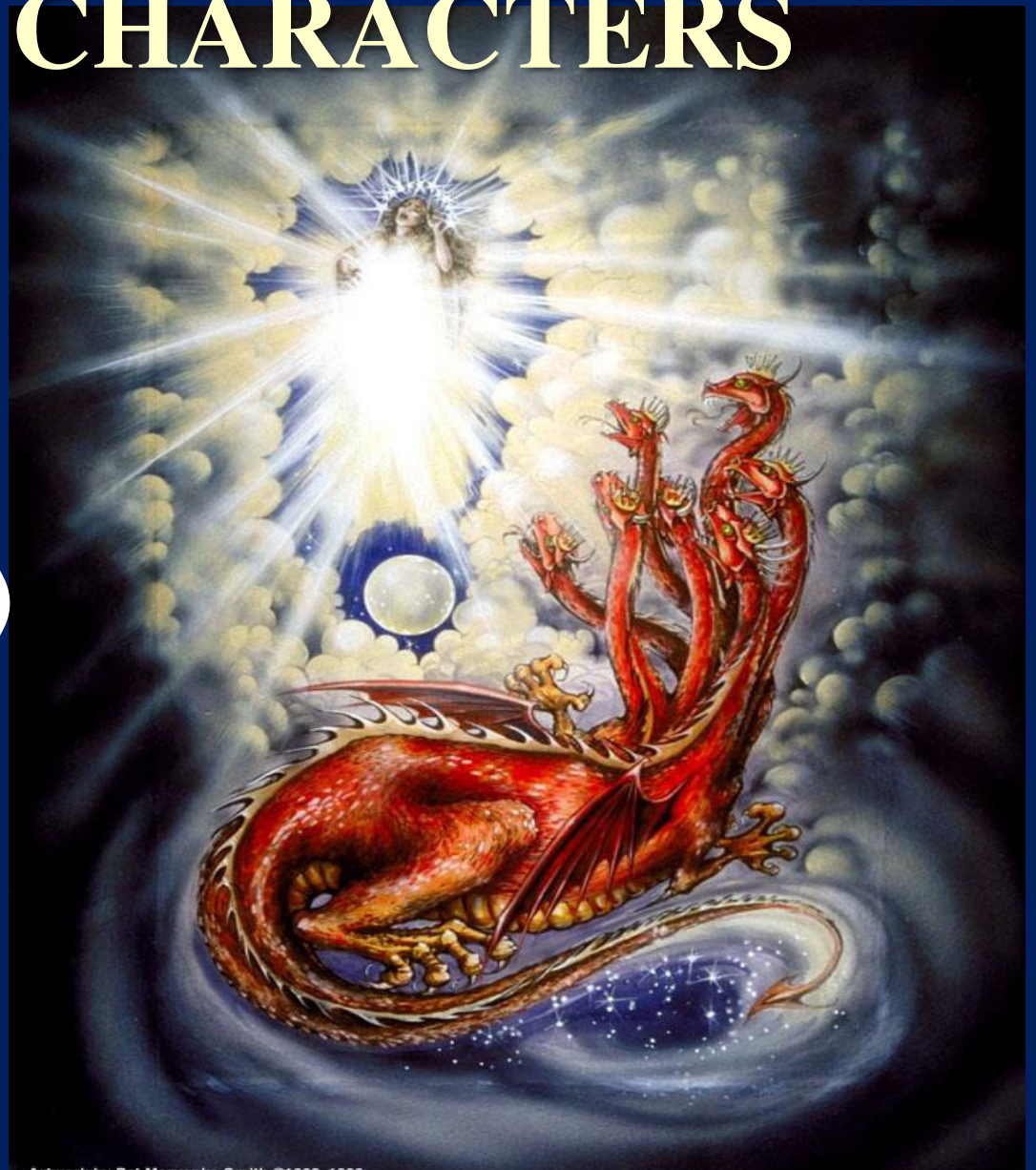
# CAST OF 3 CHARACTERS

Revelation 12:1-5

**1. SON (v.5)**

**2. DRAGON (v. 3)**

**3. WOMAN (v.1)**



# Two Rules of Interpretation

- Search the immediate context
  - ◆ Walvoord: 26X
- Search the remote context
  - ◆ Old Testament
  - ◆ Thomas: 278 / 404 verses



# CAST OF 3 CHARACTERS

Revelation 12:1-5

## 1. SON

(v.5)=Messiah

*Ps. 2:9; Acts*

*1:9*

## 2. DRAGON

(v. 3)=Satan

Rev. 12:9

## 3. WOMAN

(v.1)=Israel

Gen. 37:9-10



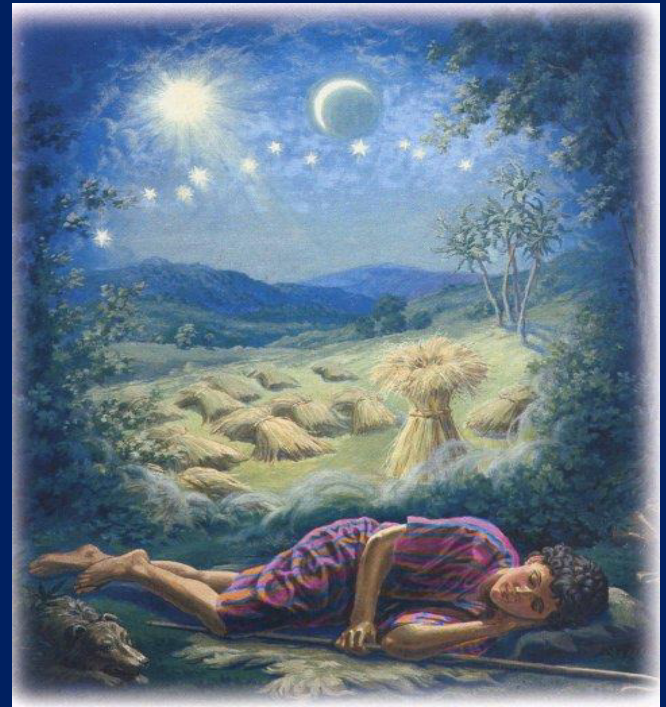
## Genesis 37:9

Now he had still another dream, and related it to his brothers, and said, “Lo, I have had still another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.



## Genesis 37:10

He related *it* to his father and to his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have had? Shall I and your mother and your brothers actually come to bow ourselves down before you to the ground?”





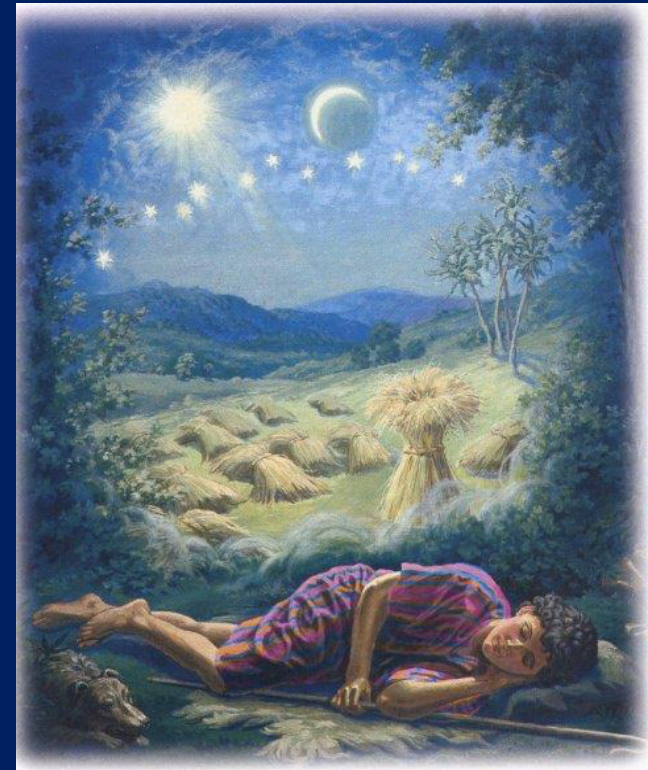
Sun = Jacob

Moon = Leah

11 Stars=Joseph's brothers

12<sup>th</sup> Star = Joseph

12 Stars=Israel's twelve tribes



# Different Perspectives of the Same Event

- Matt 2 - Physical World



- Rev 12:1-5 - Spiritual World

# Satan as Ruler of this World

- Job 1:7; 2:2
- Luke 4:5-7
- John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Ephesians 2:2
- 1 John 4:4; 5:19



# Biblical Reality of the Angelic World

- Job 1:12
- 2 Kings 6:15-17
- 1 Chron 21:1
- Dan 10:12-13, 20
- Matt 16:21-23
- Eph 6:12



# Genesis 3:15

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.” (NASB)



# Genesis 4:1

“Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, “I have gotten a manchild with the help of the LORD.”” (NASB)



## Genesis 5:29

“Now he called his name Noah, saying, “This one will give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands *arising* from the ground which the LORD has cursed.” (NASB)



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# Satanic Attempts to Stop Messiah's Birth

- Cain & Abel (Gen. 4)
- Sons of God (Gen. 6)
- Pharaoh persecutes Israel (Exod. 1)
- Joash protected from Athaliah (2 Chron. 22–23)
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- Herod persecutes Christ (Matt 2; Rev 12:4)



# Two-Fold Pattern

- Satanic attack



- God's miraculous protection

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| <u>Generation</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Lived</u> | <u>Age</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1                 | Adam        | 0-930        | 930        |
| 2                 | Seth        | 130-1042     | 912        |
| 3                 | Enos        | 235-1140     | 905        |
| 4                 | Cainan      | 325-1242     | 910        |
| 5                 | Mahalaleel  | 395-1290     | 895        |
| 6                 | Jared       | 460-1422     | 962        |
| 7                 | Enoch       | 622-987      | 364        |
| 8                 | Methuselah  | 687-1656     | 969        |
| 9                 | Lamech      | 847-1651     | 777        |
| 10                | Noah        | 1056-2006    | 950        |

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# Alternative Views

- Intermarriage between the Godly line of Seth and the ungodly lines of Cain
- Fallen angels procreating with human women



# Not Referring to Angels Refers to Angels

- Millard Erickson
- J. Sidlow Baxter
- Warren Wiersbe
- Paul Enns
- Gleason Archer
- John Sailhammer
- Wayne Grudem
- Meredith Kline
- Leupold

- John MacArthur
- Henry Morris
- Arnold Fruchtenbaum
- Robert Lightner
- D. Edmond Hiebert
- James Boice
- Robert Morey
- M. R. DeHann
- Charles Ryrie

Williamson, unpublished paper, DTS



# Sons of God?



- Old Testament uses (Gen 6:2, 4; Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7)
- Septuagint (LXX)

# Additional Arguments From Genesis 6

- Nephilim (Gen 6:4)
- Noah's perfection (6:9)
- Evil of pre-flood humanity (Gen 6:3, 5-7, 11-13)
- Necessity of the flood



# Relevant New Testament Passages

■ 1 Peter 3:19-20

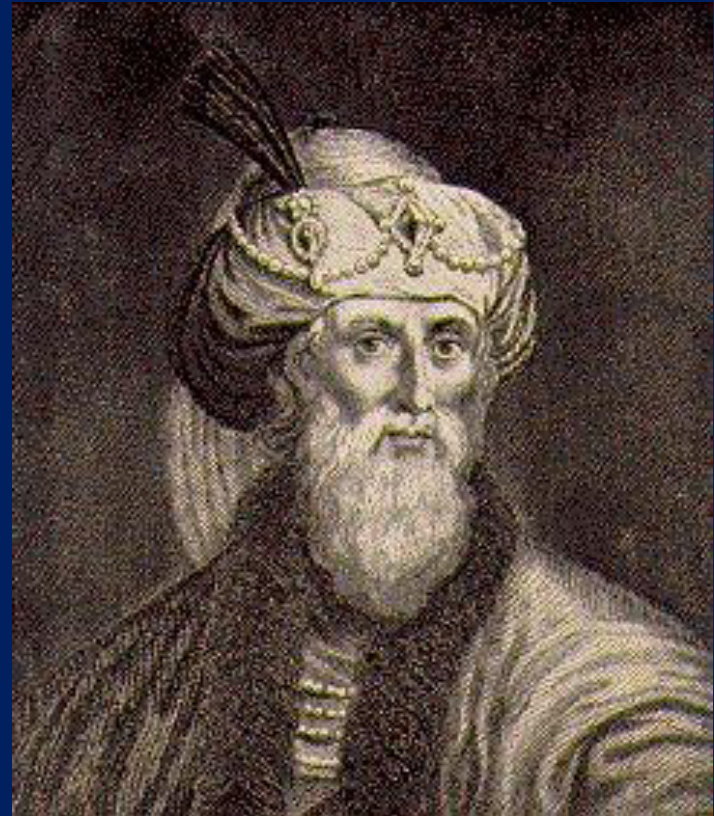
■ 2 Peter 2:4-5

■ Jude 6-7



# Jewish Tradition

- Philo
- Josephus
- Most Rabbinical Writers
- Apocrypha
- Pseudepigrapha



Renald Showers, *Those Invisible Spirits Called Angels*, 93-109

# Christian Tradition

- Justin
- Clement
- Tertullian
- Cyprian
- Ambrose
- Lactantius



Renald Showers, *Those Invisible Spirits Called  
Angels*, 93-109

# Objections

- Angels do not marry?  
(Matt. 22:30)
  
- Angels are spirits  
(Heb. 1:14)



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# Messiah Must Be:

- ◆ A man (Gen 3:15)
- ◆ Semitic (Gen 9:26)
- ◆ From Abraham's line (Gen 12:3)
- ◆ From Isaac's line (Gen 17:18-19)
- ◆ From Jacob's line (Num 24:17)







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- ◆ From the tribe of Judah (Gen 49:10)



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THE BATTLE OF  
GOG & MAGOG  
Ezekiel 38:1-17

ROSH

Russia 

MAGOG

Central Asia:

- Kazakhstan 
- Uzbekistan 
- Tajikistan 
- Kyrgyzstan 
- Turkmenistan 

MESHECH, TUBAL,  
GOMER, TOGARMAH

Turkey 

PERSIA

Iran 

ISRAEL

PUT

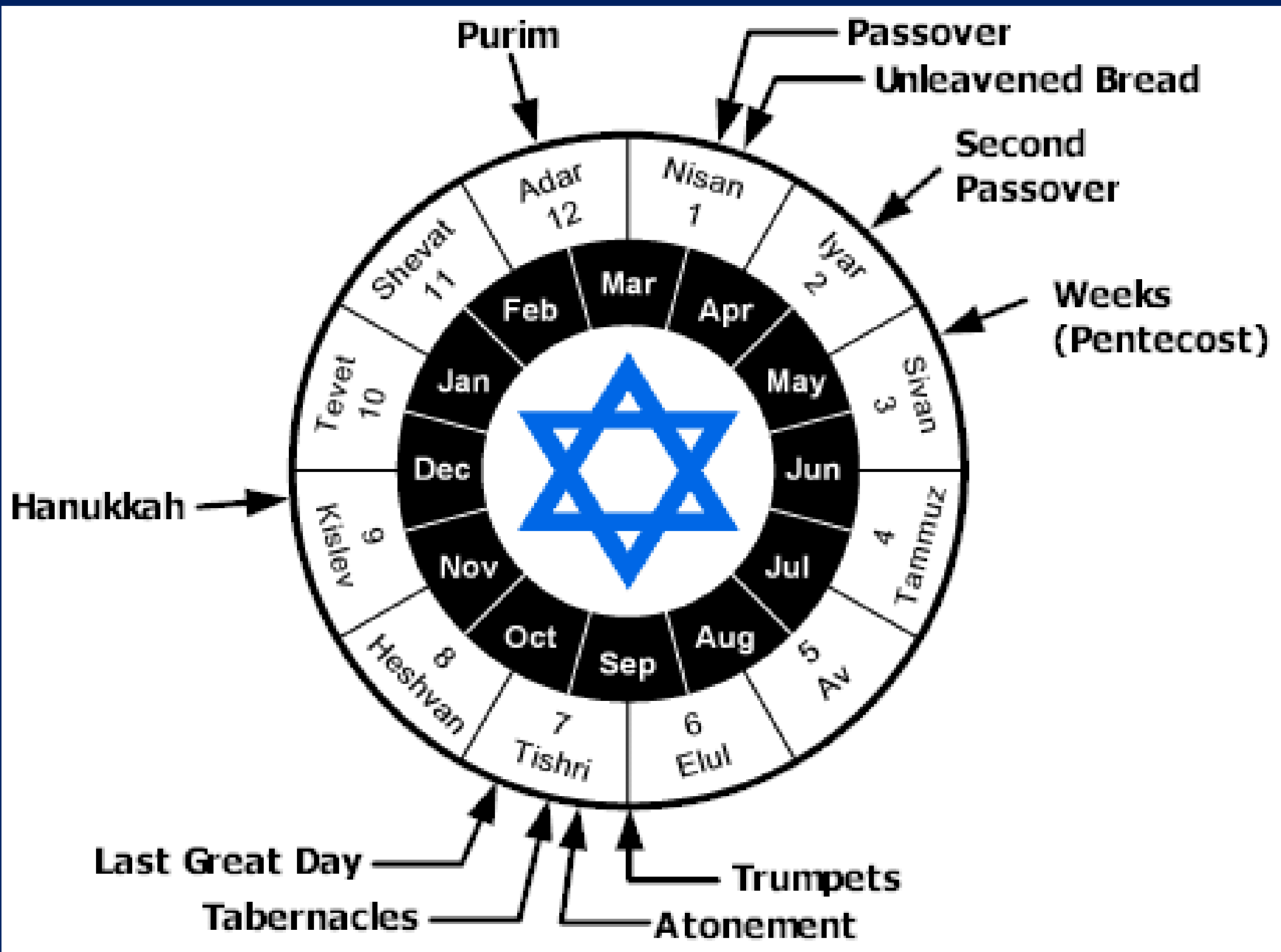
Libya 

CUSH

Sudan 

# Levitical Feasts (Lev. 23)

| <b>Feast</b>                 | <b>Season</b> | <b>Purpose</b>       | <b>Type</b>   |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <b>Passover</b>              | Spring        | Redemption           | 1 Cor 5:7     |
| <b>Unleavened Bread</b>      | Spring        | Separation           | John 6:35     |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> fruits</b> | Spring        | Praise               | 1 Cor 15:20   |
| <b>Pentecost</b>             | Spring        | Praise               | Acts 2:1-4    |
| <b>Trumpets</b>              | Fall          | New Year             | Matt 24:31    |
| <b>Atonement</b>             | Fall          | Lev 16               | Zech 12:10    |
| <b>Booths</b>                | Fall          | Wilderness provision | Zech 14:16-18 |



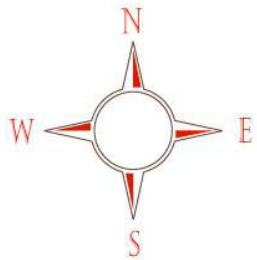
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EZEKIEL'S PROPHECIES  
AGAINST THE  
NATIONS



• EGYPT

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

• TYRE

• AMMON

• PHILISTIA

• JERUSALEM

• MOAB

• EDOM

• ASSYRIA

• SYRIA

BABYLON

• ARABIA

RED SEA

Conclusion

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