

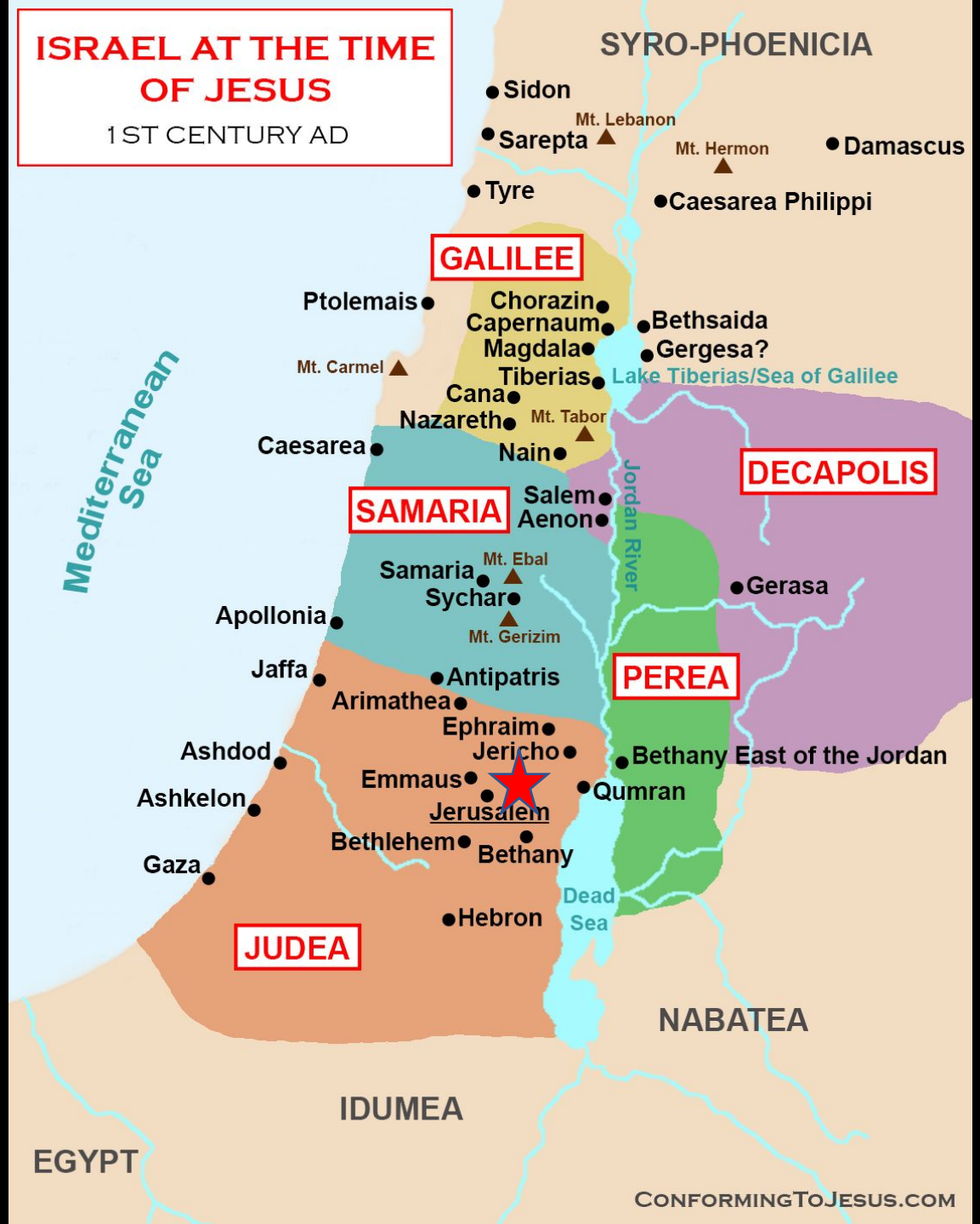
 **MOSAIC**

ACTS

Empowerment . Mission . Persecution . Expansion

10 Week Series • Sundays @ 10am • 1Mosaic.org

ISRAEL AT THE TIME OF JESUS
1ST CENTURY AD





White Rhino Average Height = 6 Ft (1.8 meters)

White Rhino Average Weight = 2000 Kg (2 tons)



9 Ft
8 Ft
7 Ft
6 Ft
5 Ft
4 Ft
3 Ft
2 Ft
1 Ft



How is your life making
an impact?

“In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in **the daily distribution of food**. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “**It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.**”

(Act 6:1-2, NIV)

“Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.””

(Act 6:3-4, NIV)

“This proposal pleased the whole group.
They chose Stephen, **a man full of
faith and of the Holy Spirit...**

(Act 6:5, NIV)

“So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.”

(Act 6:7-8, NIV)

“But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke. Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, “**We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.**” So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin.”

(Act 6:10-12, NIV)

““You stiff-necked people! **Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised.**
You are just like your ancestors:
You always resist the Holy Spirit!”

(Act 7:51, NIV)

“Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him — you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

(Act 7:52-53, NIV)

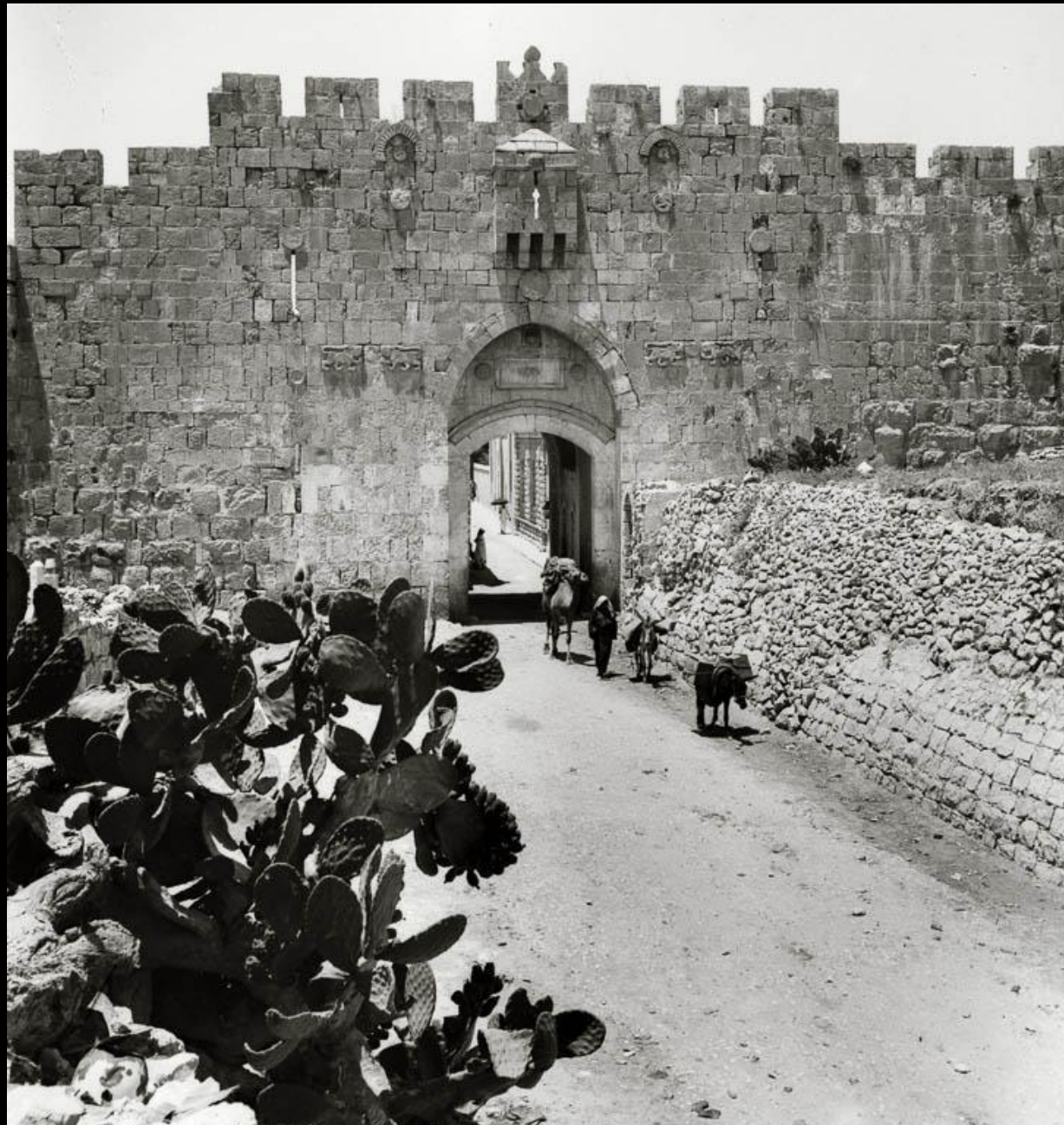
“When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.””

(Act 7:54-56, NIV)

“At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.”

(Act 7:57-58, NIV)

Saul was in agreement with his execution



St. Stephen's Gate

And they cast him out of the city and stoned him



Limestone sling stones, from Lachish, 8th century BC

“While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “**Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.**” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “**Lord, do not hold this sin against them.**” When he had said this, he fell asleep.”

(Act 7:59-60, NIV)

“And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.”

(Act 8:1, NIV)

Stephen's life was an **unstoppable force** that literally set-in motion the spread of the modern-day Church...

because he understood the **power** that was in him, he did not fear the **persecution** that was on him and he lived for the **purpose** that was placed before him... **to bring God glory!**

As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit"



Statue of Stephen gazing into the heavens, at the Church of St. Etienne






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**Thank You, Bryan &
Tina Winder!!**

**SEVEN Faithful &
Fruit-filled Years of
Service... Bless God!!**

We Love You.