

The Kings of Judah and Israel

LESSON #04 | God Stirs Up Three Enemies Against Israel

Teacher: Pr. Cornelius Koshy

I Kings 11:14-22

14 And the LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom.

15 For it came to pass, when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the host was gone up to bury the slain, after he had smitten every male in Edom;

16 (For six months did Joab remain there with all Israel, until he had cut off every male in Edom:)

17 That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little child.

18 And they arose out of Midian, and came to Paran: and they took men with them out of Paran, and they came to Egypt, unto Pharaoh king of Egypt; which gave him an house, and appointed him victuals, and gave him land.

...

21 And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country.

22 Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country? And he answered, Nothing: howbeit let me go in any wise.

1. Which word in verse 14 has the same meaning as "enemy"?

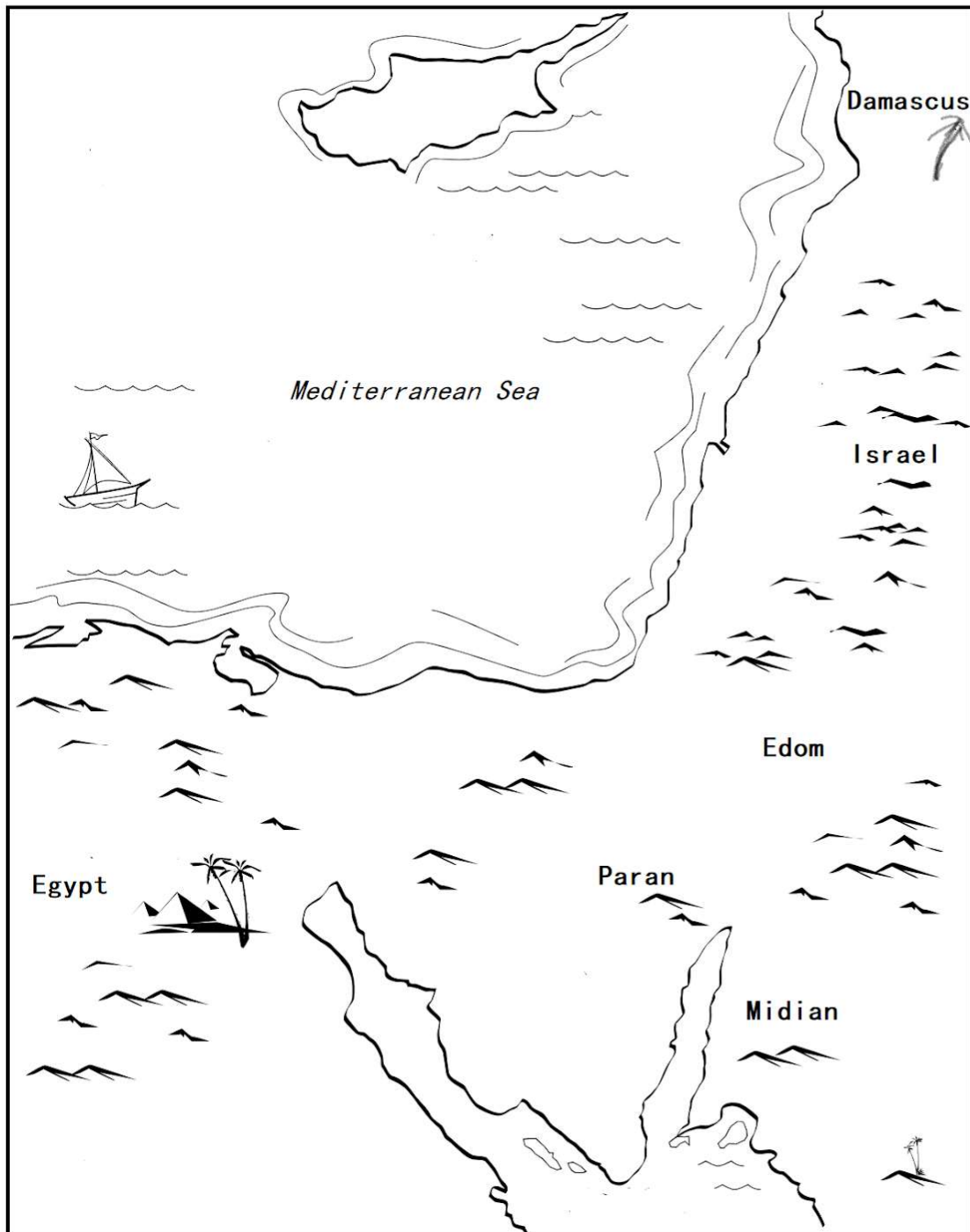
2. What does the phrase "the LORD stirred up an adversary" tell us about God's control over the enemies of Solomon?

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3. In the map below, draw the route which Hadad the Edomite took when he fled from Edom, through Paran, to Egypt, where Pharaoh gave him a house and his daughter as his wife. Then, trace the route which Hadad took when he returned to war with King Solomon in Israel.



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I Kings 11:23-25

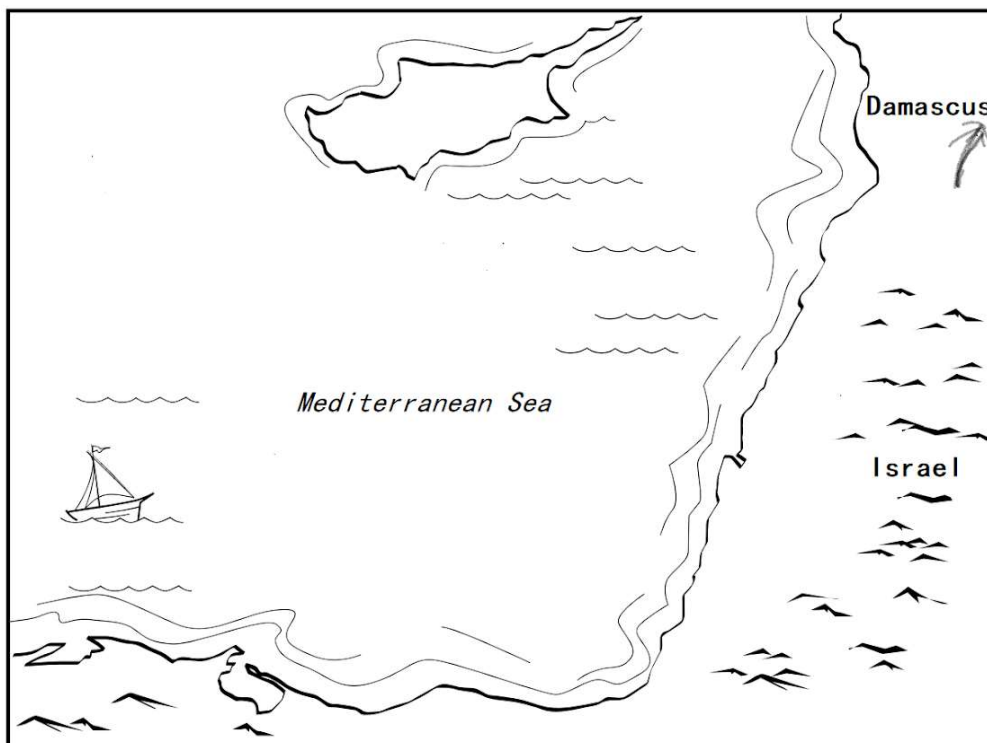
23 And God stirred him up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, which fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah:

24 And he gathered men unto him, and became captain over a band, when David slew them of Zobah: and they went to Damascus, and dwelt therein, and reigned in Damascus.

25 And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

4. Which phrase repeats itself in this account of Solomon's second adversary?

5. In the map below, draw the route Rezon would have taken from **Damascus** to **Israel** to attack King Solomon.



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6. From these accounts of Solomon's enemies, what lesson can be applied to wars and fightings that happen in our world today?

1 Kings 11:26-28

26 And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his hand against the king.

27 And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father.

28 And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph.

7. What is the name of the third enemy of Solomon?

_____ the son of _____

He was a Jew, from the tribe of _____.

He was a ruler, in charge of the house of _____.

8. From 1 Kings 9:15, what could have been the reason why Jeroboam was unhappy with King Solomon?

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9. In summary, God raised three enemies against King Solomon,

Hadad from the s _____

Rezon from the n _____

Jeroboam from I _____

10. In Romans 9, Paul's exhortation on God's sovereignty explains why God raises up enemies of Israel. Fill in the blanks below:

17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my p_____ in thee, and that my name might be d_____ throughout all the earth.

18 Therefore hath he m_____ on whom he will have m_____, and whom he will he h_____. ... 23 And that he might make known the riches of his g_____ on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory." (Romans 9:17, 18, 23).