

Romans – the story so far

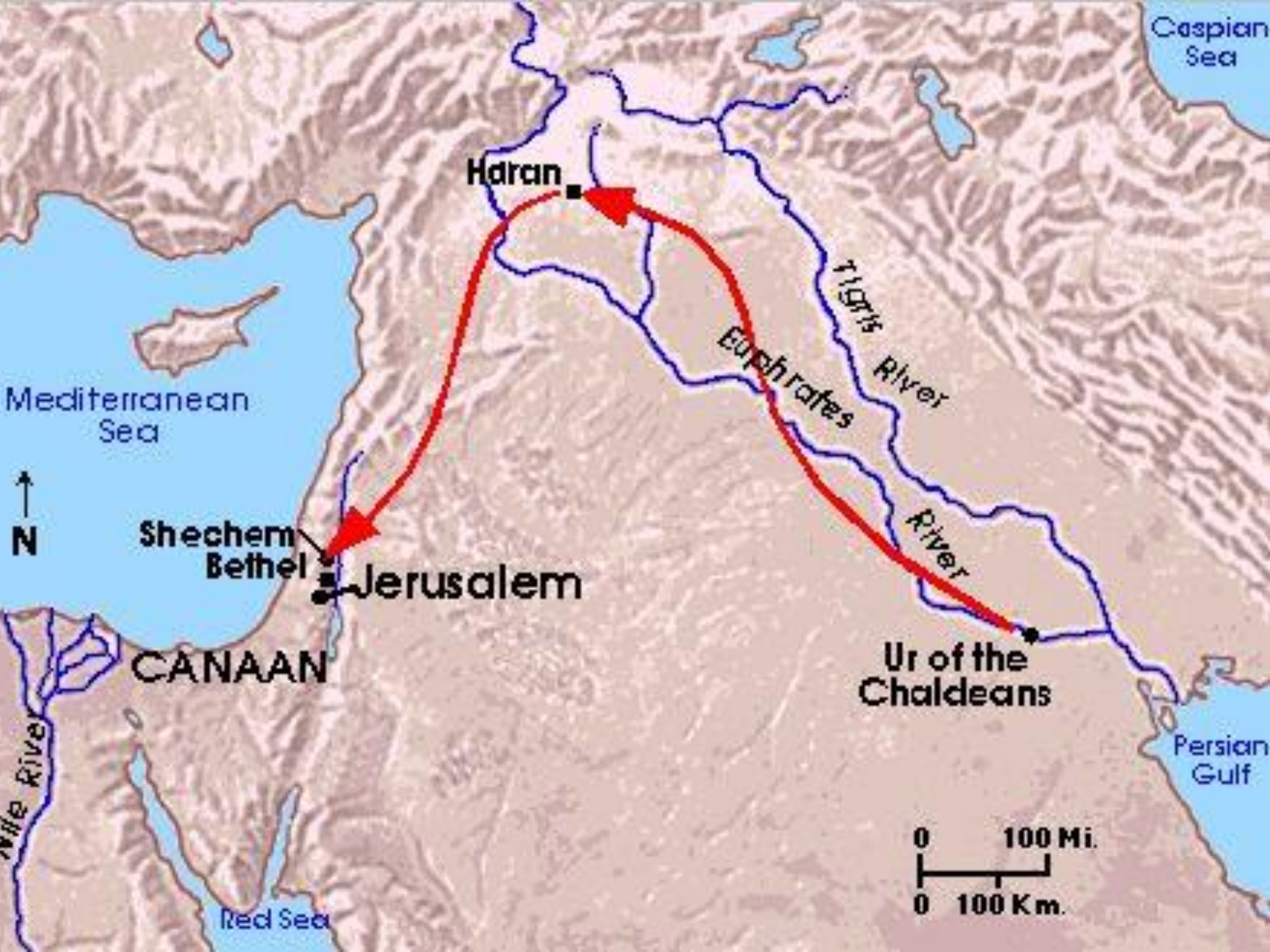
- ◆ *we all have a sin problem*
- ◆ *we can't fix it ourselves by trying hard to obey a list of rules*
- ◆ *God's solution is to come to earth in the person of Jesus and to die for us in our place*

Two questions

- ◆ *How does this actually work?*
- ◆ *Why isn't this just God's Plan B?*







Caspian Sea

Haran

Tigris River

Euphrates River

Mediterranean Sea

N

Shechem
Bethel

Jerusalem

CANAAN

Ur of the Chaldeans

Persian Gulf

Tiber River

Red Sea

0 100 Mi.
0 100 Km.

The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you, [L] [SEP] I will make your name great, [L] [SEP] and you will be a blessing.

Genesis 12.1-2

'Look up at the sky and count the stars – if indeed you can count them.' Then he said to him, *'So shall your offspring be.'*

Genesis 15.5

*Abram believed the
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to him as righteousness.*

Genesis 15.6

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Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.' Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why 'it was credited to him as righteousness.'

Romans 3.4.18-21



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Righteousness

- ◆ *what God is and does*
- ◆ *God's character is righteous*
- ◆ *God's actions are righteous*
- ◆ *God's righteousness can be ours too*



Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

Romans 4.4-5

Two key points

- ◆ *You don't have to be Jewish to be part of God's family*
- ◆ *Abraham's true descendants are those who have Abraham's faith*

'the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them. And he is then also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

Romans 4.11-12

For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath.

Romans 4.14-15a

And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

Romans 4.15b-16

