



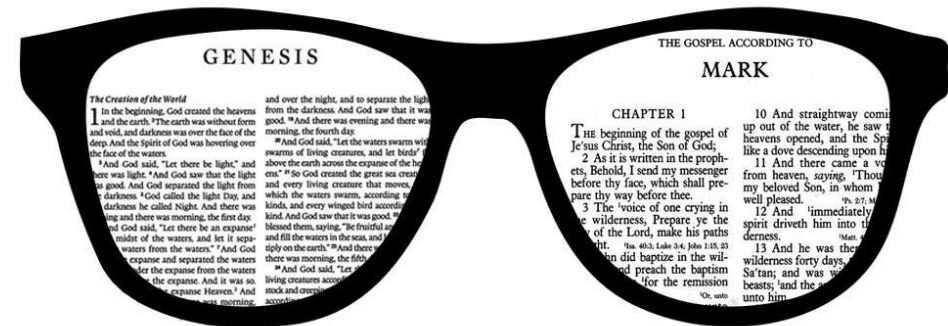
Solas

Living for God While Being in Babylon

Steve Osmond



Christian Worldview

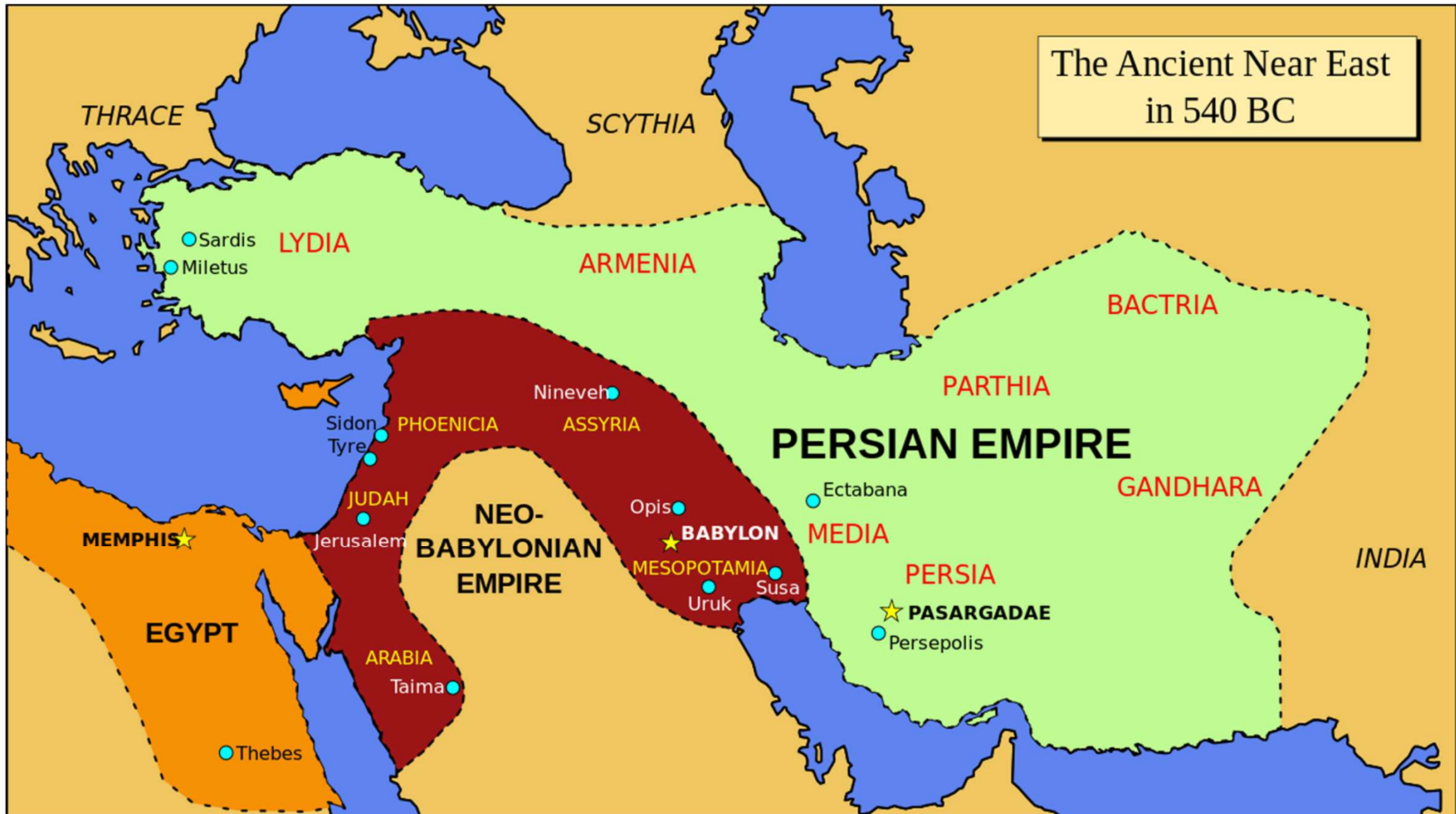


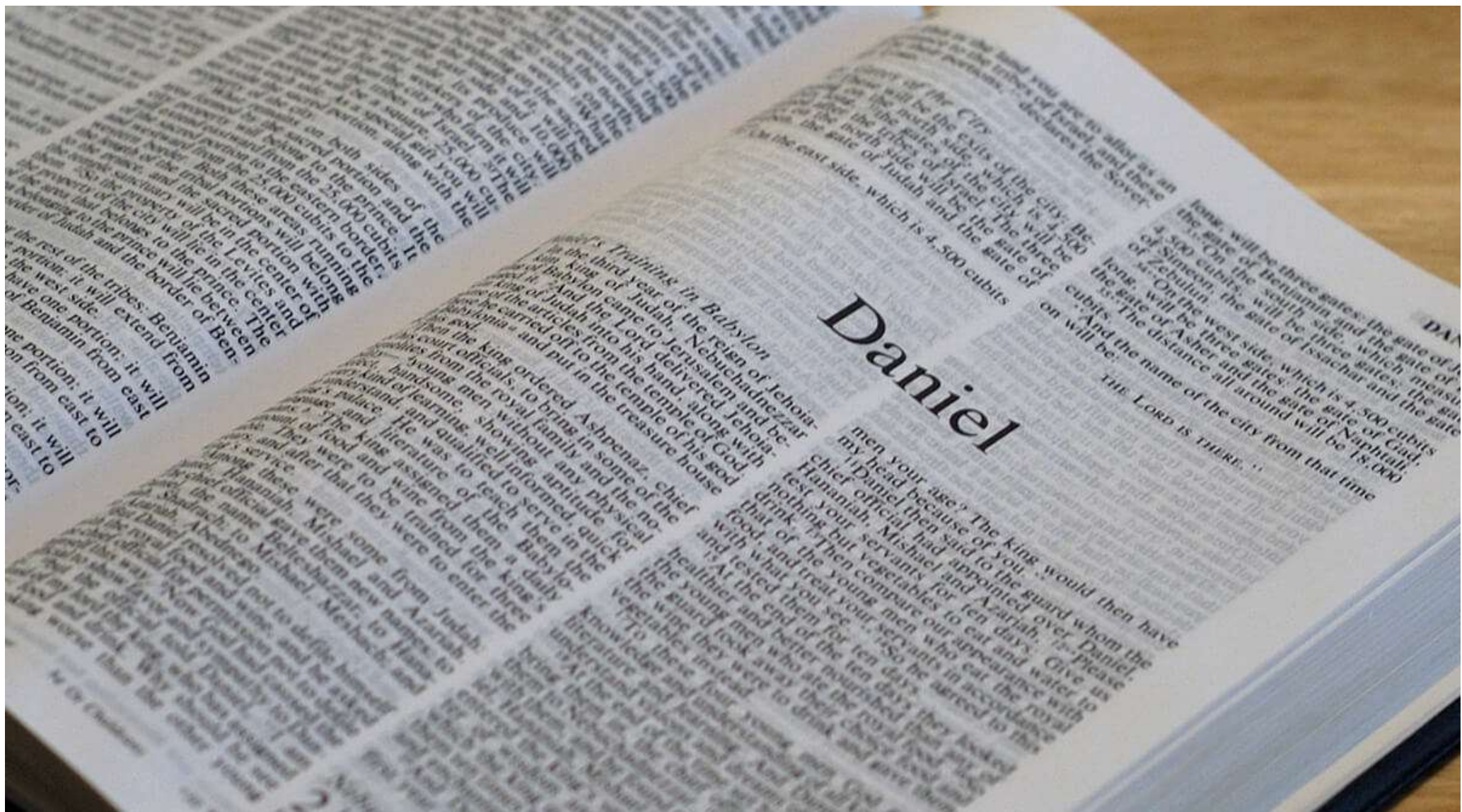
- **Truth exists**
- **God exist, is knowable**
- **God made the universe**
- **God made humans in his image – special**
- **God made humans male & female**
- **We have alienation from God because of our sin**
- **There really is right and wrong**
- **There is life after death**





The Ancient Near East
in 540 BC





In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah,
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it...

Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility—young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

Babylonian Purification

- Take the best and brightest
- A plan of reprogramming & indoctrination
- New beliefs and practices



Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah...But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

**1) To deal with the PRESSURES that faced them they drew
a line of RESISTANCE**

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service.

In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers in his whole kingdom.

And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

**2) To deal with the PRESSURES that faced them they drew
a line of DEPENDENCE**

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a line of DEPENDENCE**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”

**3) They drew a line of CONFIDENCE to make the most of
the OPPORTUNITIES that faced them**

“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. ***But even if he does not***, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”



Making the Most of the Opportunities

1) Recognise the challenges

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- 2) Don't isolate yourself

Making the Most of the Opportunities

- 1) Recognise the challenges
- 2) Don't isolate yourself
- 3) Recognise the opportunities to share your faith when they
come



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