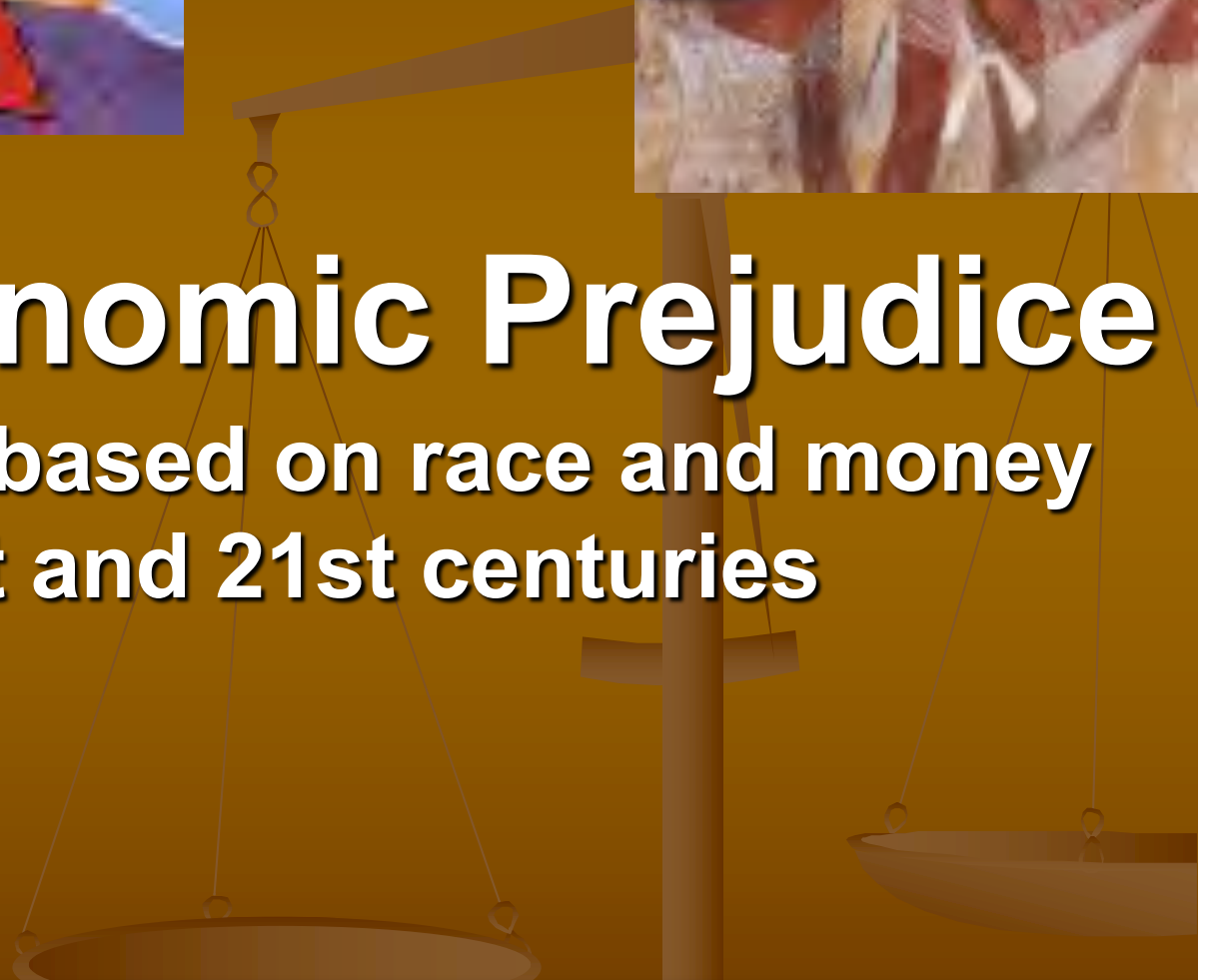


# Social-Economic Prejudice

Discrimination based on race and money  
in the 1st and 21st centuries



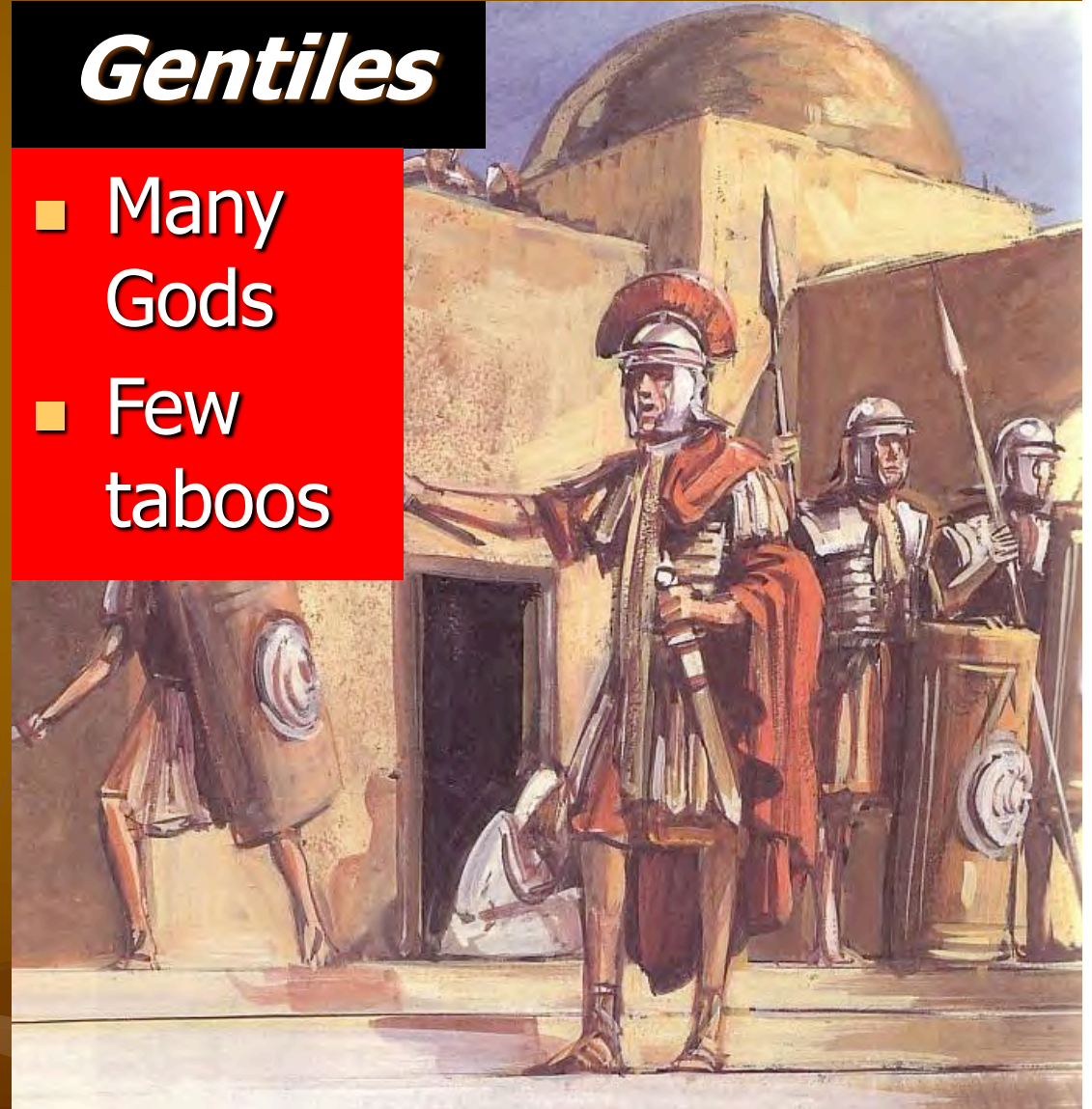
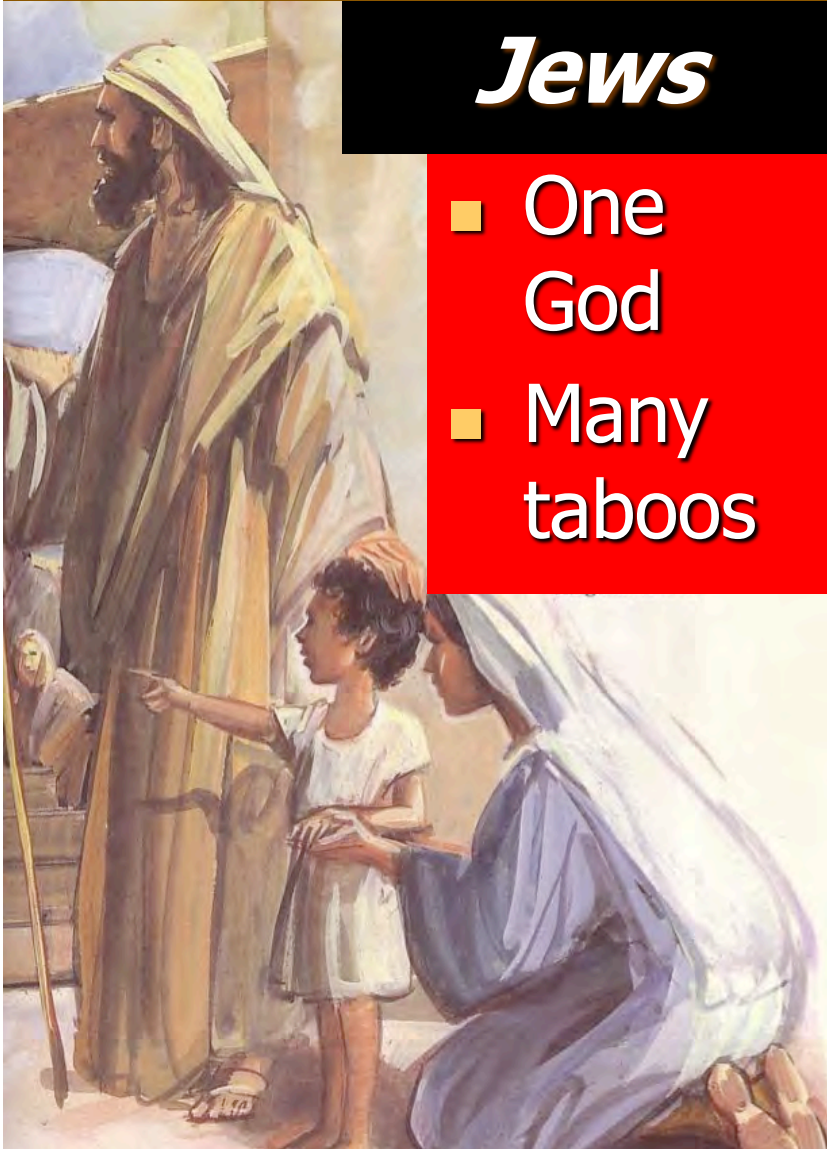
# What Were the Ethnic Differences?

## *Jews*

- One God
- Many taboos

## *Gentiles*

- Many Gods
- Few taboos



## Writing Style

### Hebrew

- Favors **poetry**, imagery & symbolism

### Greek

- Favors **outlines**, lists and bullet points

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

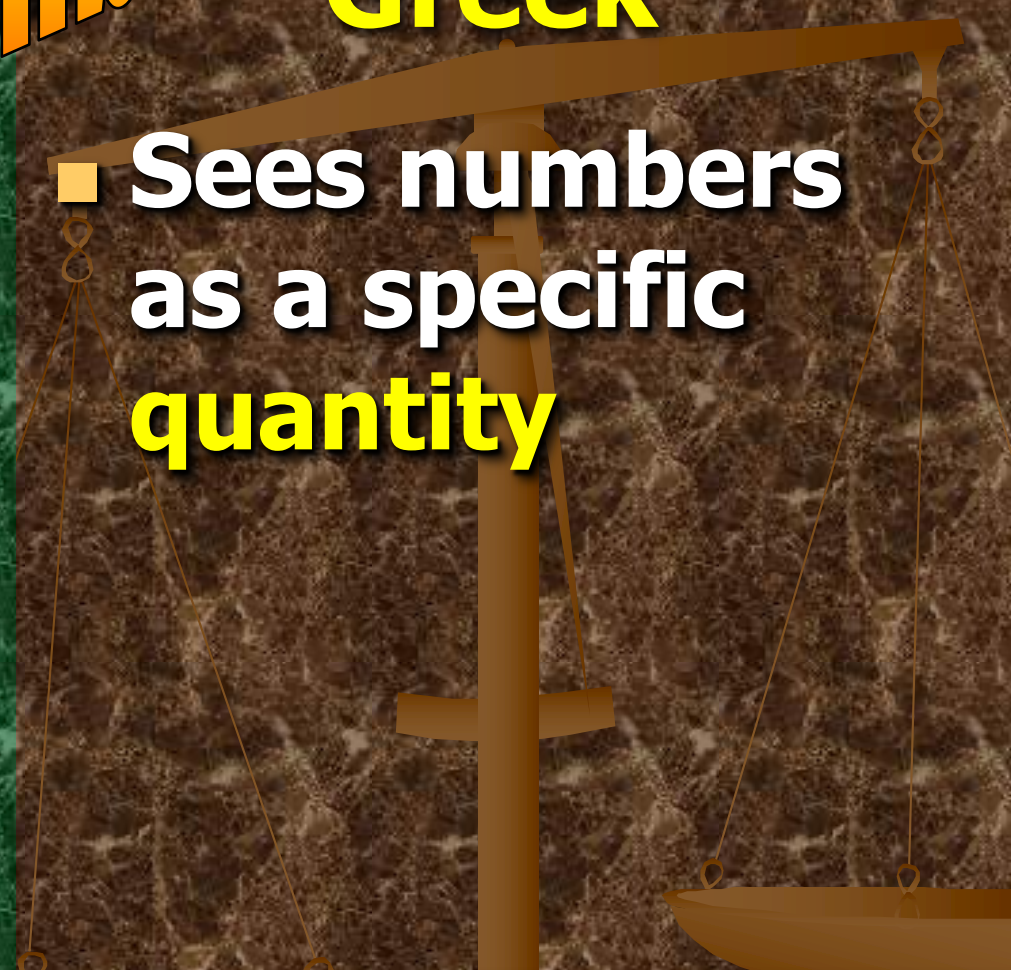
## Hebrew

- Sees numbers as a quality or **symbol**

# Numbers

## Greek

- Sees numbers as a specific **quantity**

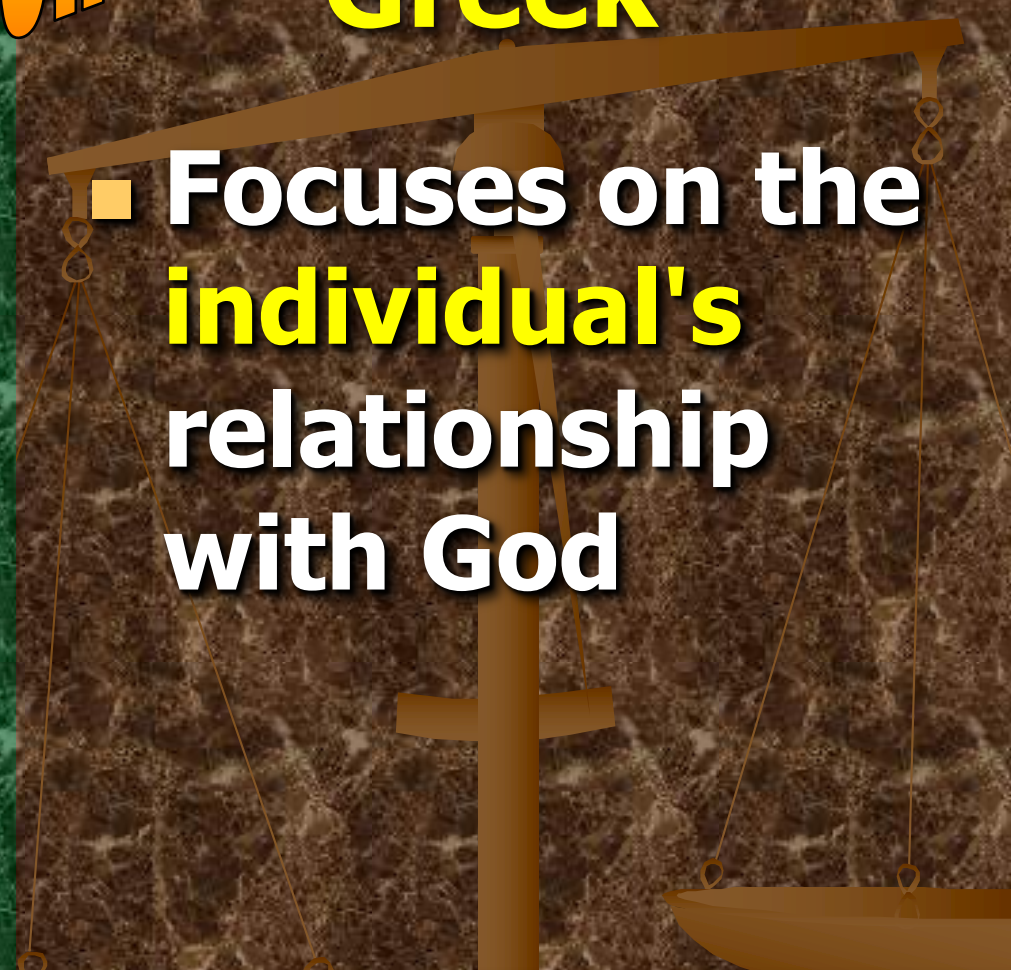


Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

# Hebrew **Relation to God** Greek

- Focuses on the **community** in relationship with God

- Focuses on the **individual's** relationship with God



Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

## Hebrew

- The kingdom of God begins **in this life.** Eternal life is lived in harmony with God.

# Eternal Life

## Greek

- The kingdom of God is **outside this world.** Eternal life will occur after this life ends.

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

## Hebrew

# Sin

## Greek

- Sin is wrong **behavior** alone.
- Emphasize what one **does** in response to faith.
- Sin is wrong actions & incorrect **thinking**.
- Emphasize what a person **knows** about faith.

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

## Hebrew

# Existence of God

## Greek

- **Assumes that God exists**

- **Tries to prove God's existence**

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

## Hebrew

# Faith

## Greek

- **Relational and personal**
- Expressed in terms of **relationship** with God rather than rationalization

- **Intellectual and impersonal**
- Expressed in creeds and **doctrine** with support through proof texts

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

## Hebrew

# Truth

## Greek

- **Experiential**
- **What** is done and who did it in Scripture
- Believing comes through **experience**
- Truth is unfolding and **relative**
- **Scientific & rational**
- **How** things are done in the Scripture
- Believing comes through **thinking**
- Truth is static and **unchanging**

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway magazine* (Dec 2003): 7-9

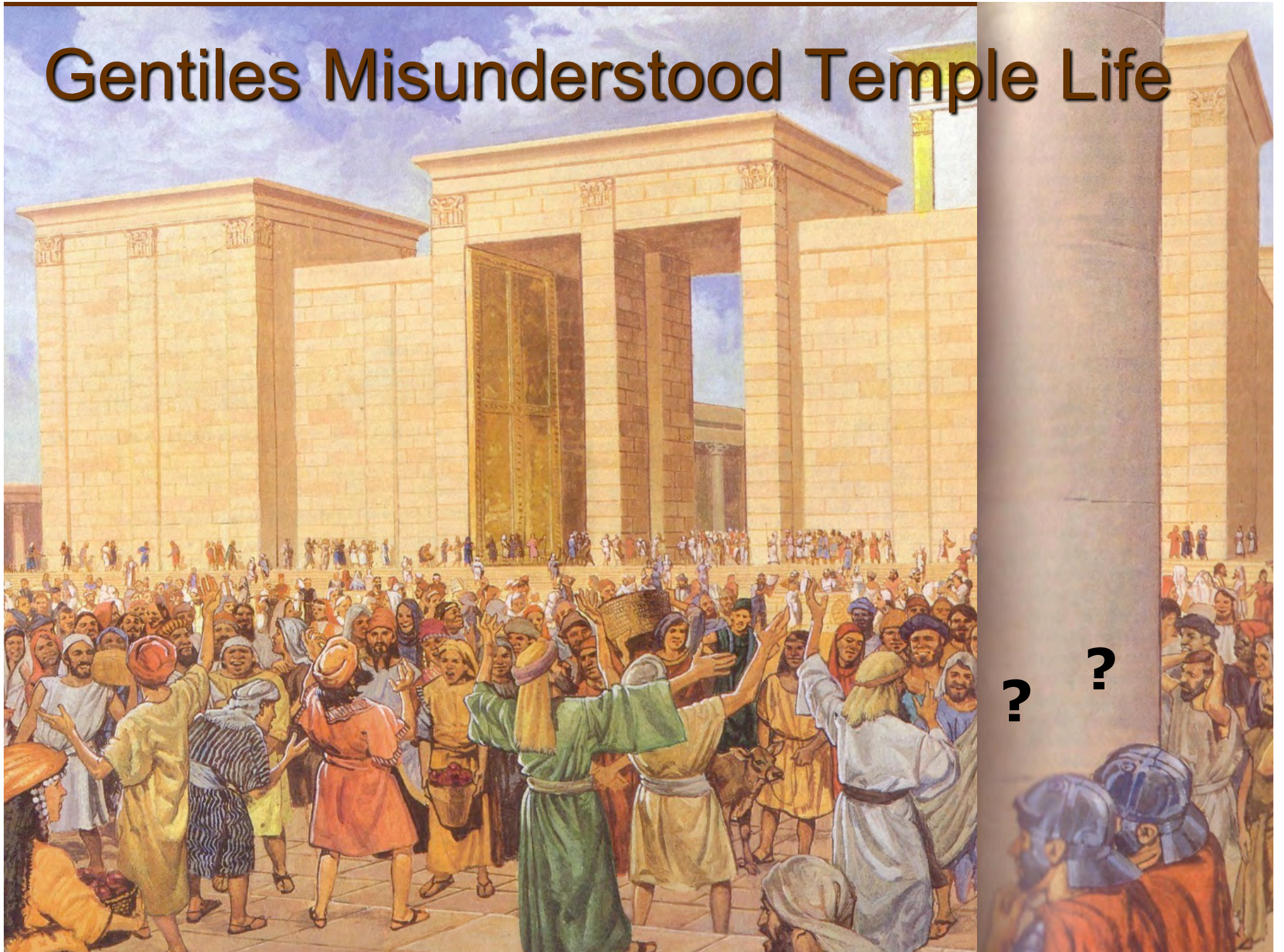
# Racial Prejudice

- 1. Gentiles hated Jews**
- 2. Jews hated Gentiles**
- 3. Judean Jews hated Galilean Jews**
- 4. Galilean Jews hated Judean Jews**

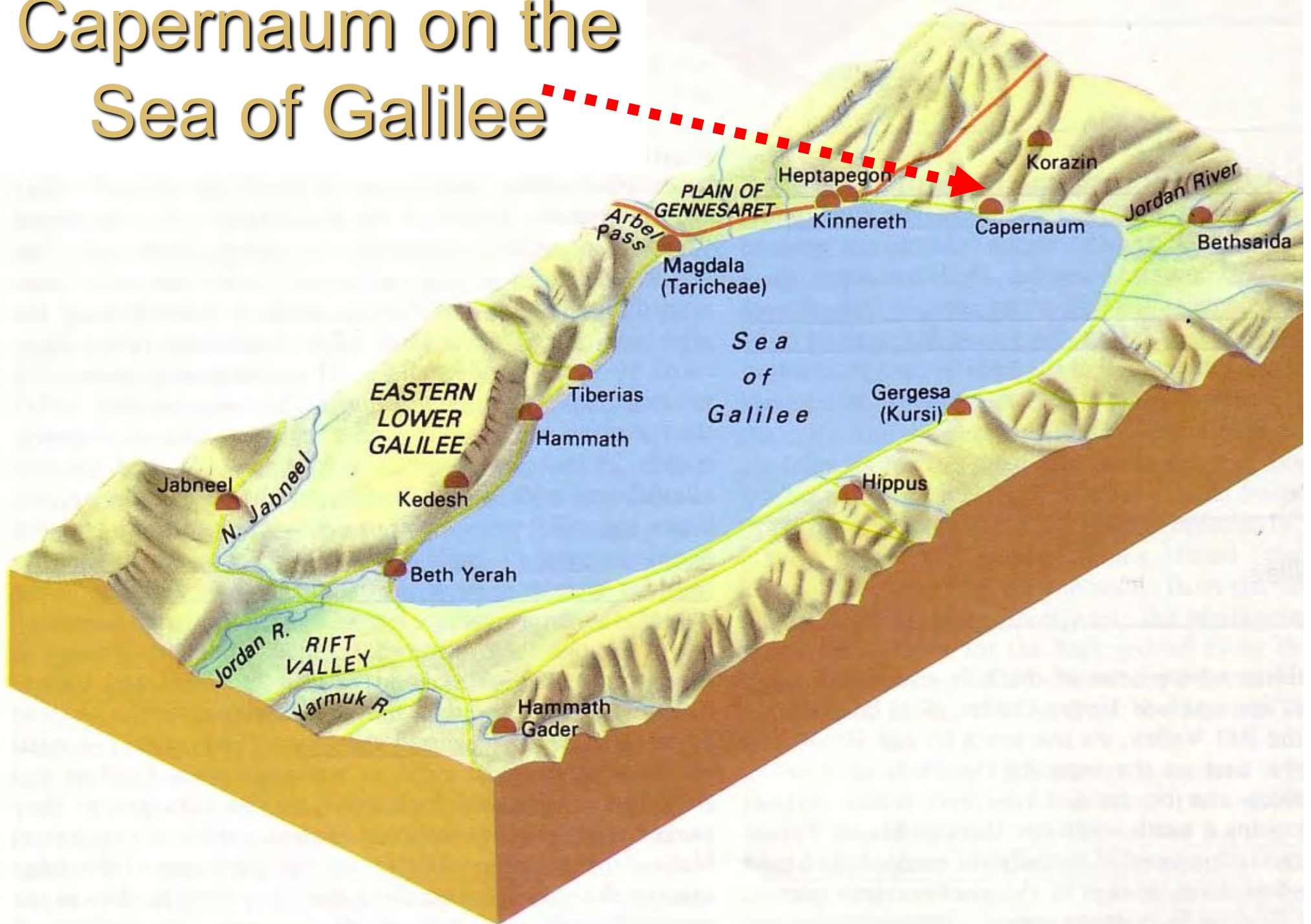
# 1. Gentiles hated Jews



# Gentiles Misunderstood Temple Life



# Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee

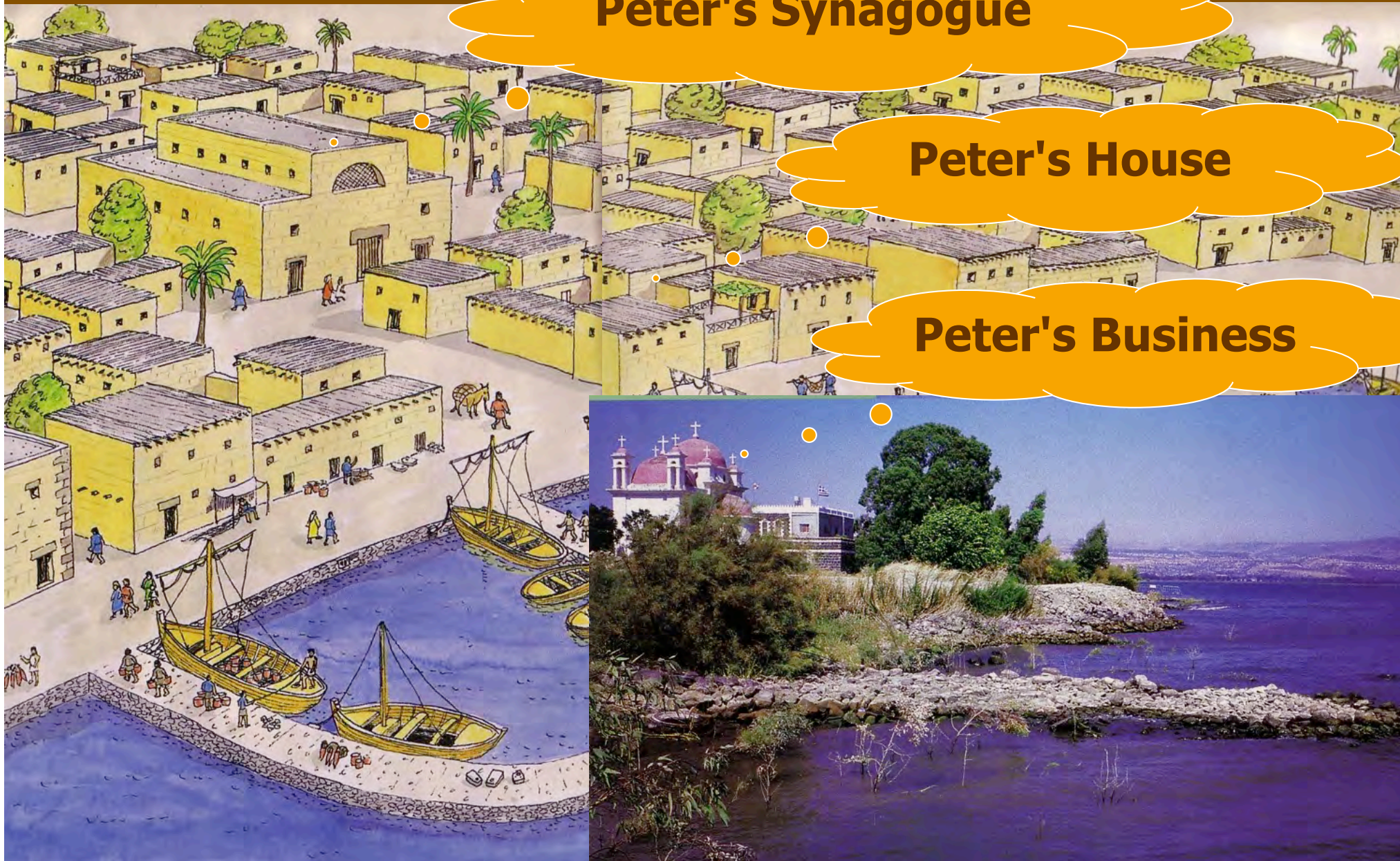


# Peter was a Jewish businessman from Capernaum

**Peter's Synagogue**

**Peter's House**

**Peter's Business**



# Capernaum Today

■ Synagogue



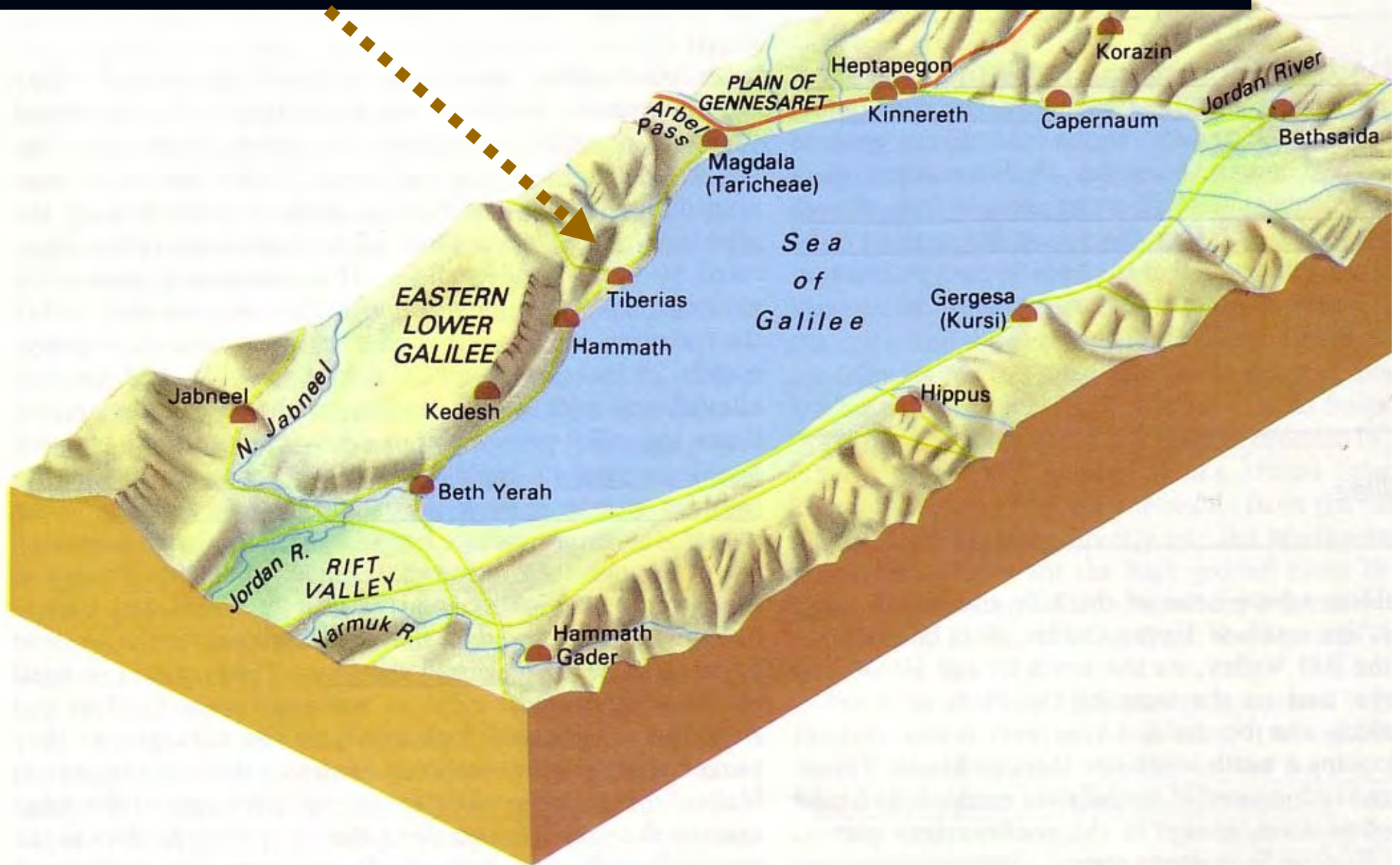
■ Peter's House





# Capernaum Model

# Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee



# Down the Coast . . . Tiberias!

- The Gentile city *par excellence*



# Racial Prejudice

106

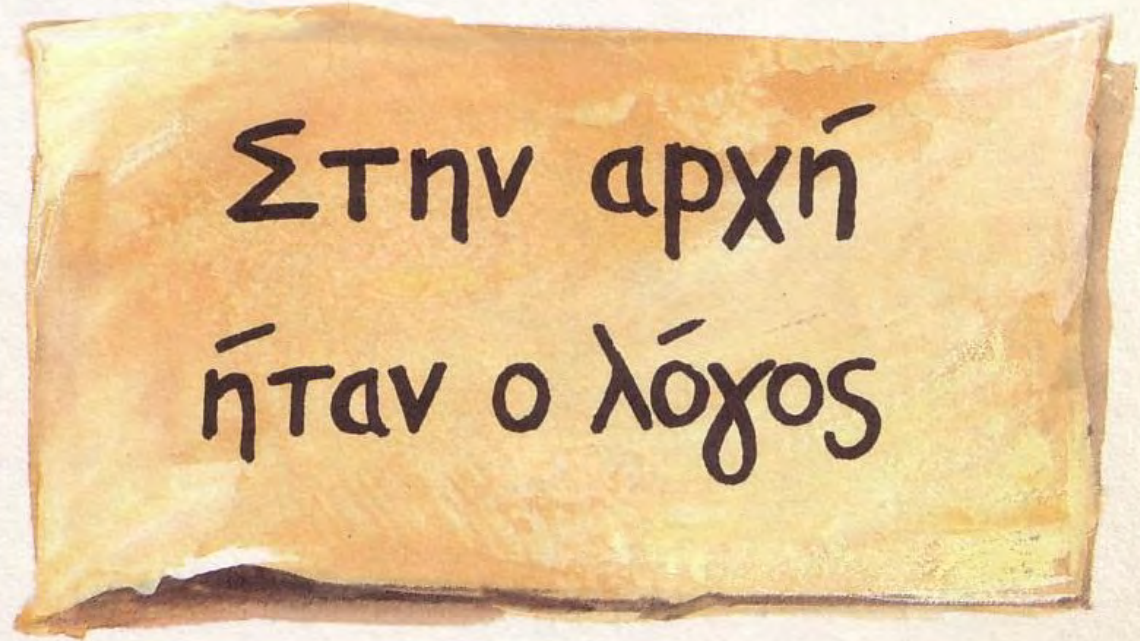
1. Gentiles hated Jews
2. Jews hated Gentiles



# Jews & Gentiles often spoke different languages



The New Testament was written in Greek, which looks like this...



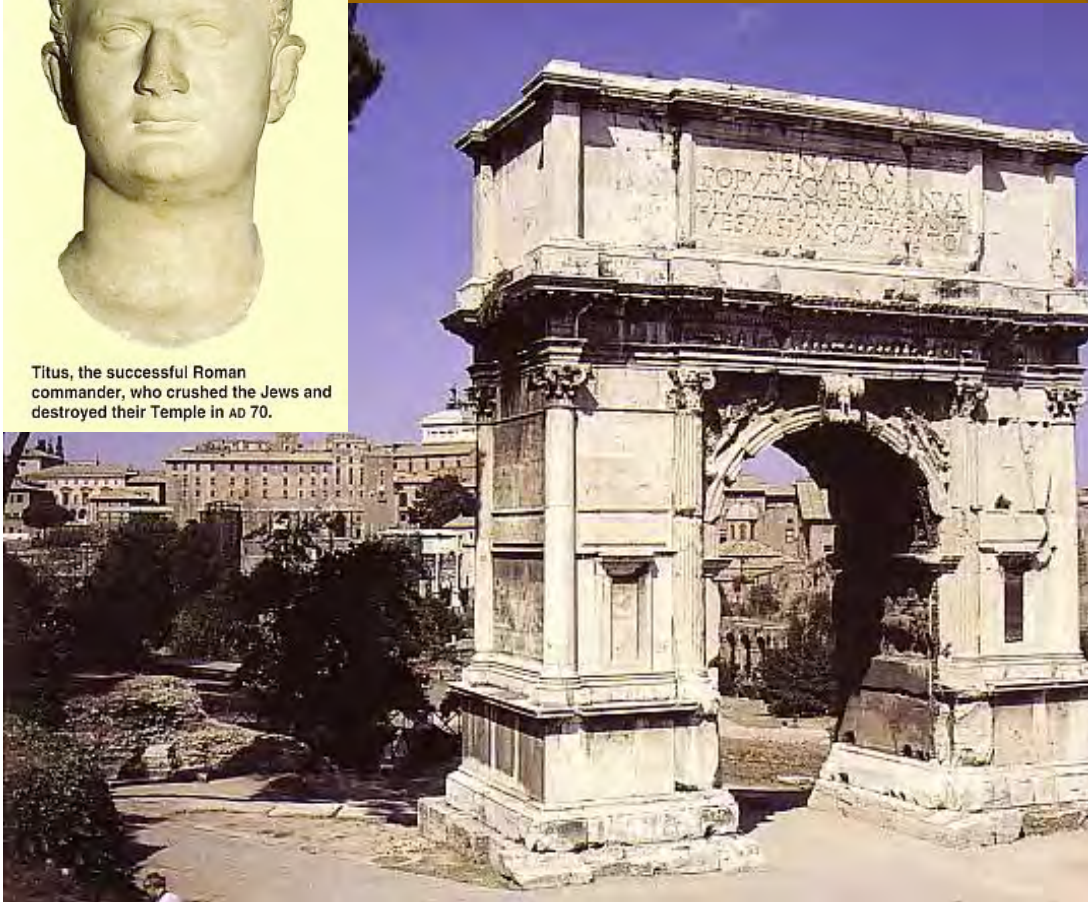
## 2. Jews hated Gentiles because...



# Gentiles twice destroyed the Jewish Temple



Titus, the successful Roman commander, who crushed the Jews and destroyed their Temple in AD 70.



Gentiles did not understand sacred Jewish practices like the high priesthood



# Racial Prejudice

- 1. Gentiles hated Jews**
- 2. Jews hated Gentiles**
- 3. Judean Jews hated Galilean Jews**
- 4. Galilean Jews hated Judean Jews**
- 5. Jews hated Samaritans**

# Samaritans stood outside of mainstream Judaism



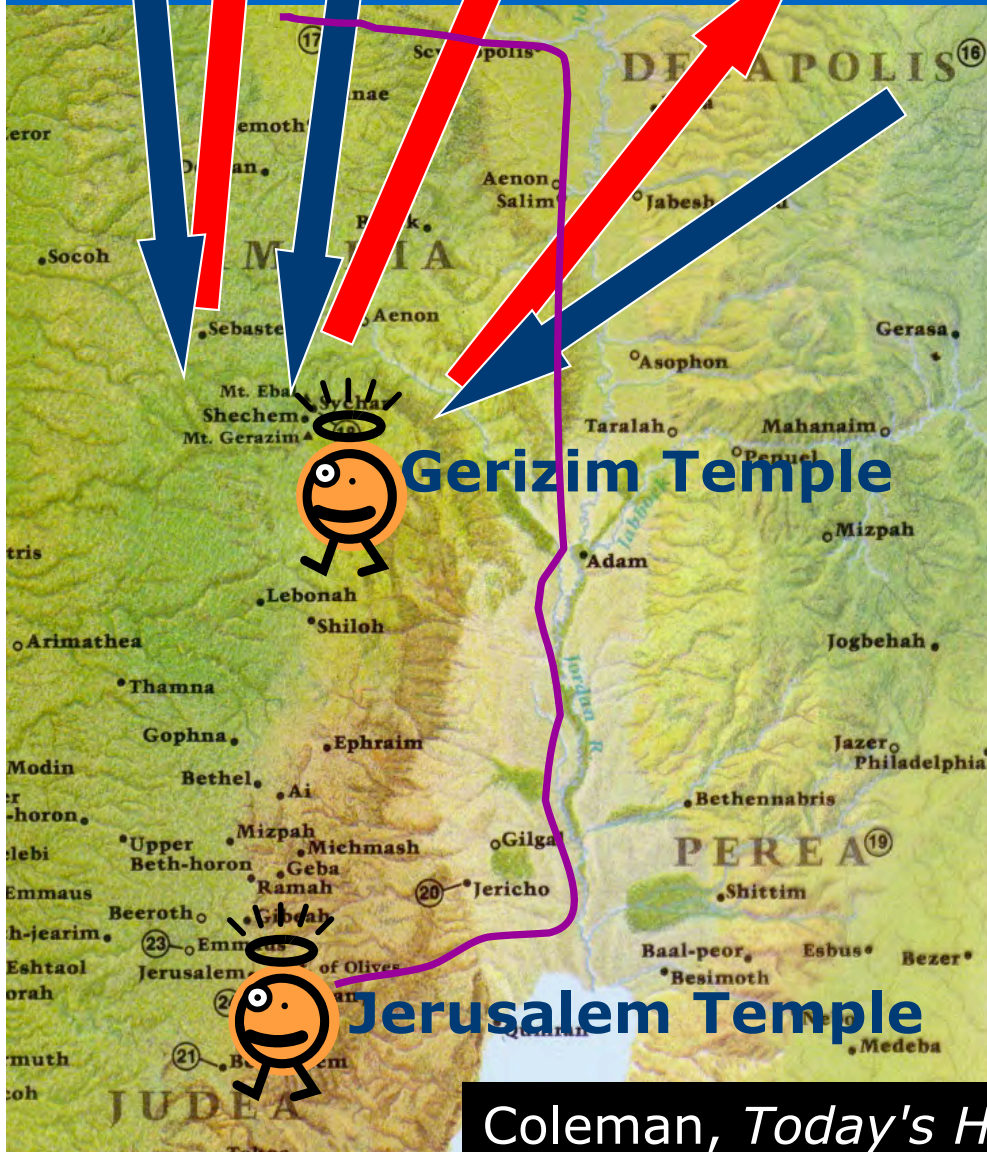
- Today 400 Samaritans live in Israel

# Reasons Jews hated Samaritans

107  
115

See 2 Kings 17:24-33

- Mixed ancestry
- Idolatry
- Opposed Ezra's reforms
- Syncretism
- Temple on Mt. Gerizim
- Strewed human bones on Jerusalem temple
- Attacked Jewish travelers



# Reasons Jews hated Samaritans

107  
115

See 2 Kings 17:24-33

- Mixed ancestry
- Idolatry
- Opposed Ezra's reforms
- Syncretism
- Temple on Mt. Gerizim
- Strewed human bones on Jerusalem temple
- Attacked Jewish travelers
- Held only the five books of Moses as Scripture

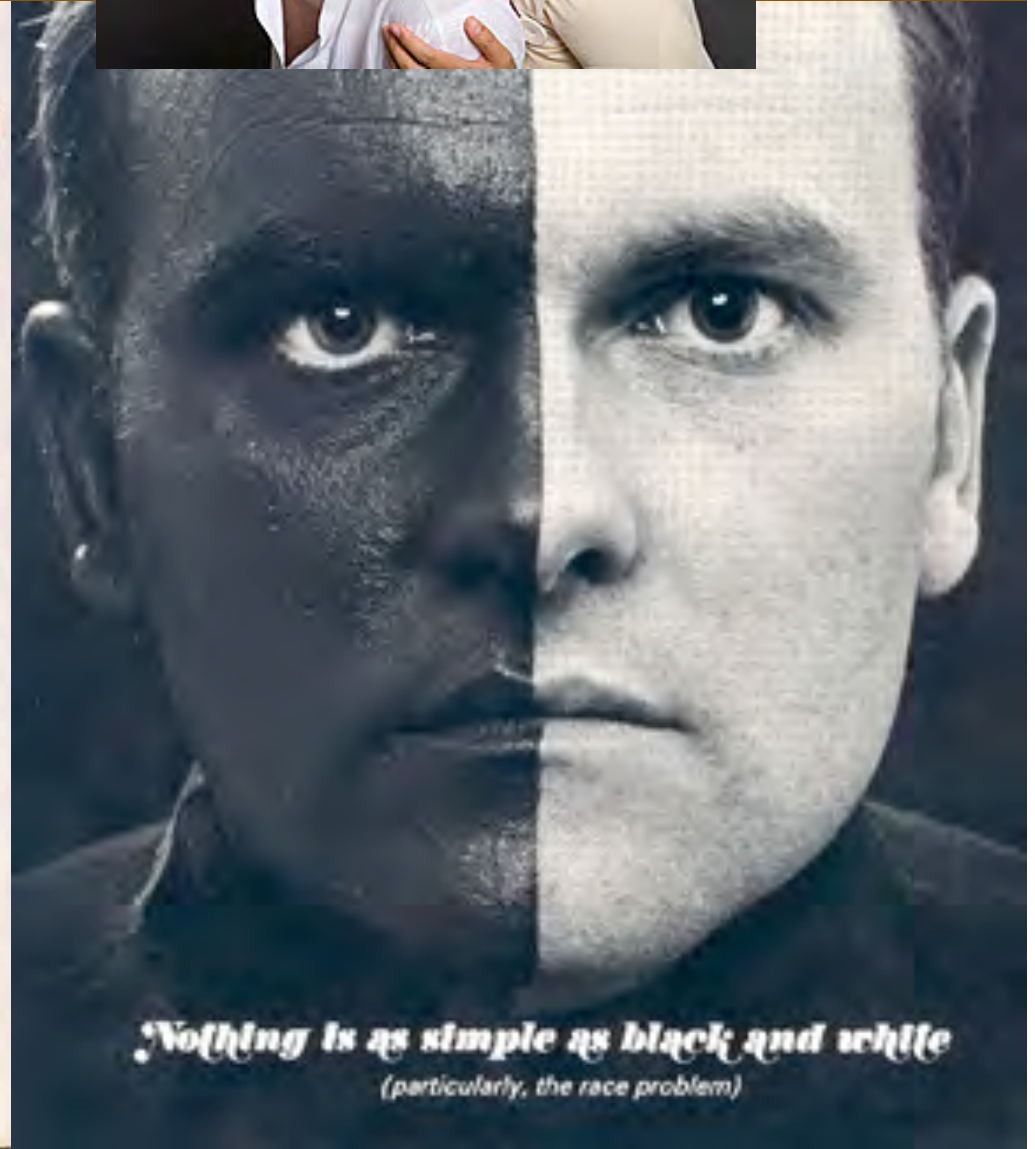


# Racial Prejudice

1. Gentiles hated Jews
2. Jews hated Gentiles
3. Judean Jews hated Galilean Jews
4. Galilean Jews hated Judean Jews
5. Jews hated Samaritans
6. Does God allow interracial intermarriage?

# Does God allow interracial marriage?

107



*Nothing is as simple as black and white*  
*(particularly, the race problem)*

42

**Can believing spouses come  
from different tribes?**



# Hate Idols – Not Idolaters



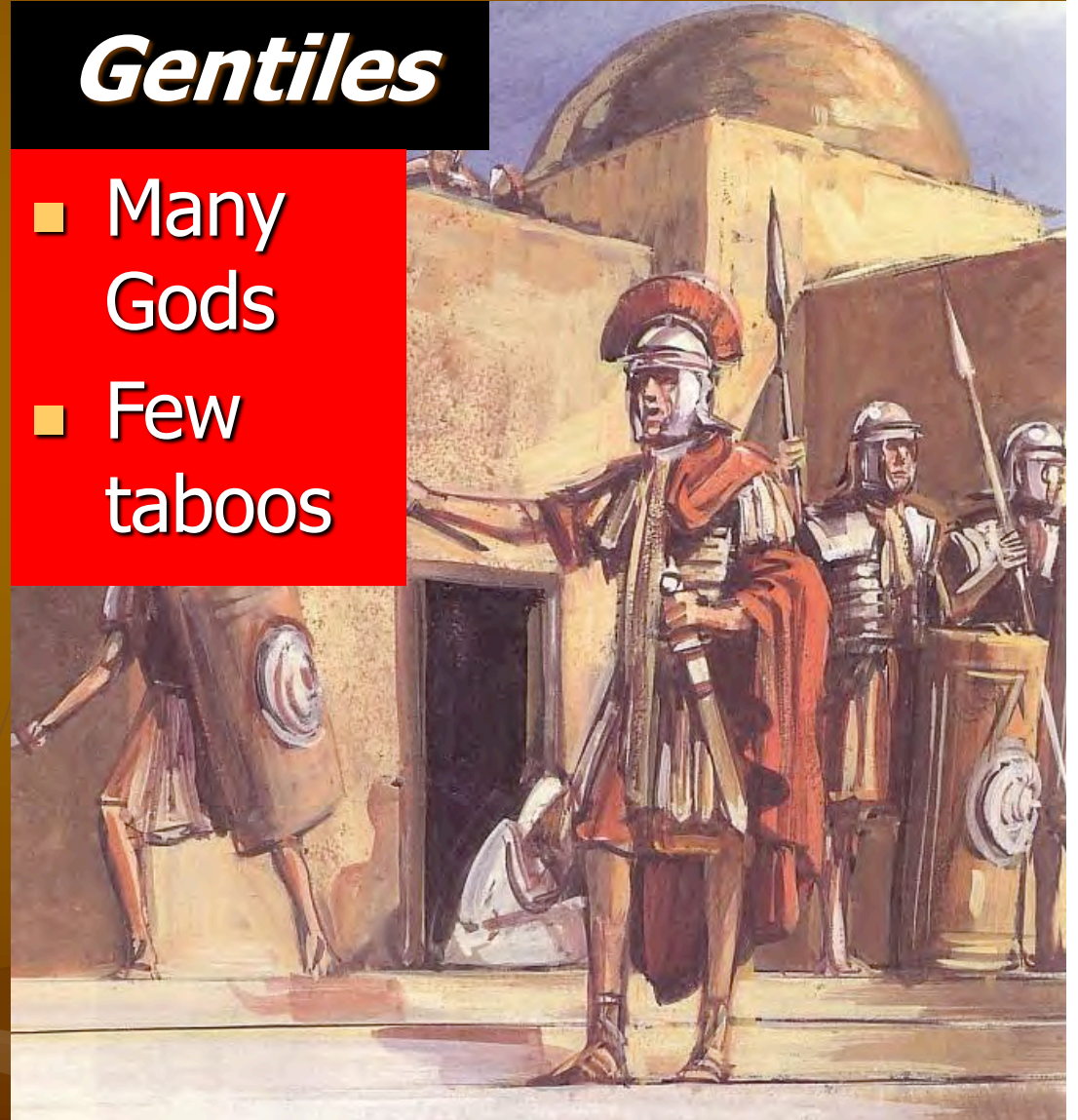
# What About Ethnic Differences Now?

## ***Jews***

- One God
- Many taboos

## ***Gentiles***

- Many Gods
- Few taboos



# The Cross Makes Ethnicity Irrelevant

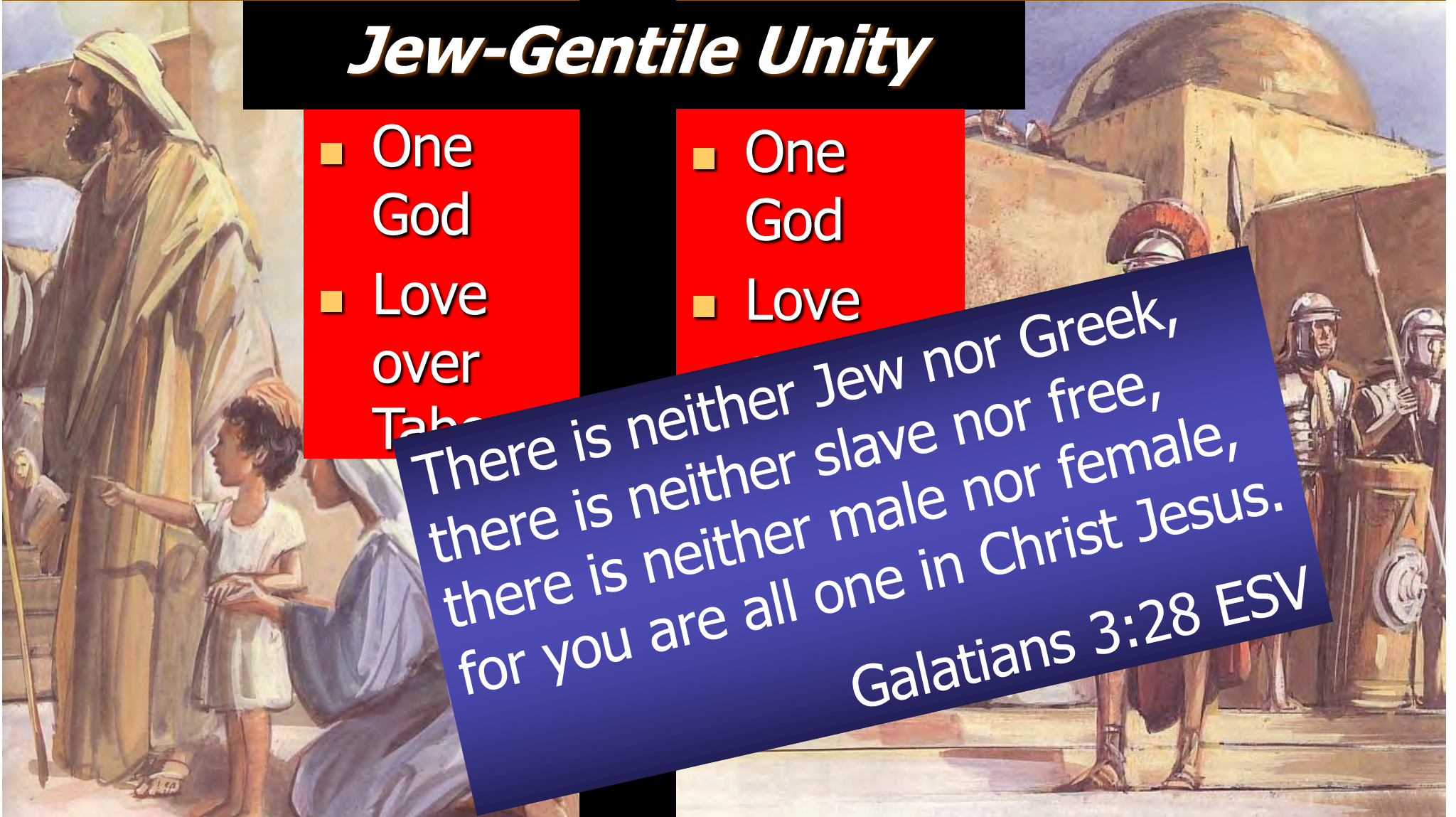
## *Jew-Gentile Unity*

- One God
- Love over Taboos

- One God
- Love

There is neither Jew nor Greek,  
there is neither slave nor free,  
there is neither male nor female,  
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28 ESV



# Racial Prejudice

1. Gentiles hated Jews
2. Jews hated Gentiles
3. Judean Jews hated Galilean Jews
4. Galilean Jews hated Judean Jews
5. Jews hated Samaritans
6. Does God allow interracial intermarriage?
7. Jesus ignored prejudices of the times

Jesus took the abnormal route

John 4:4

"Now he had to go through  
Samaria..."

Purposely

# JOHN THE BAPTIST

MATT. 3:1-4:12

MARK 1:4-14; 6:14-29

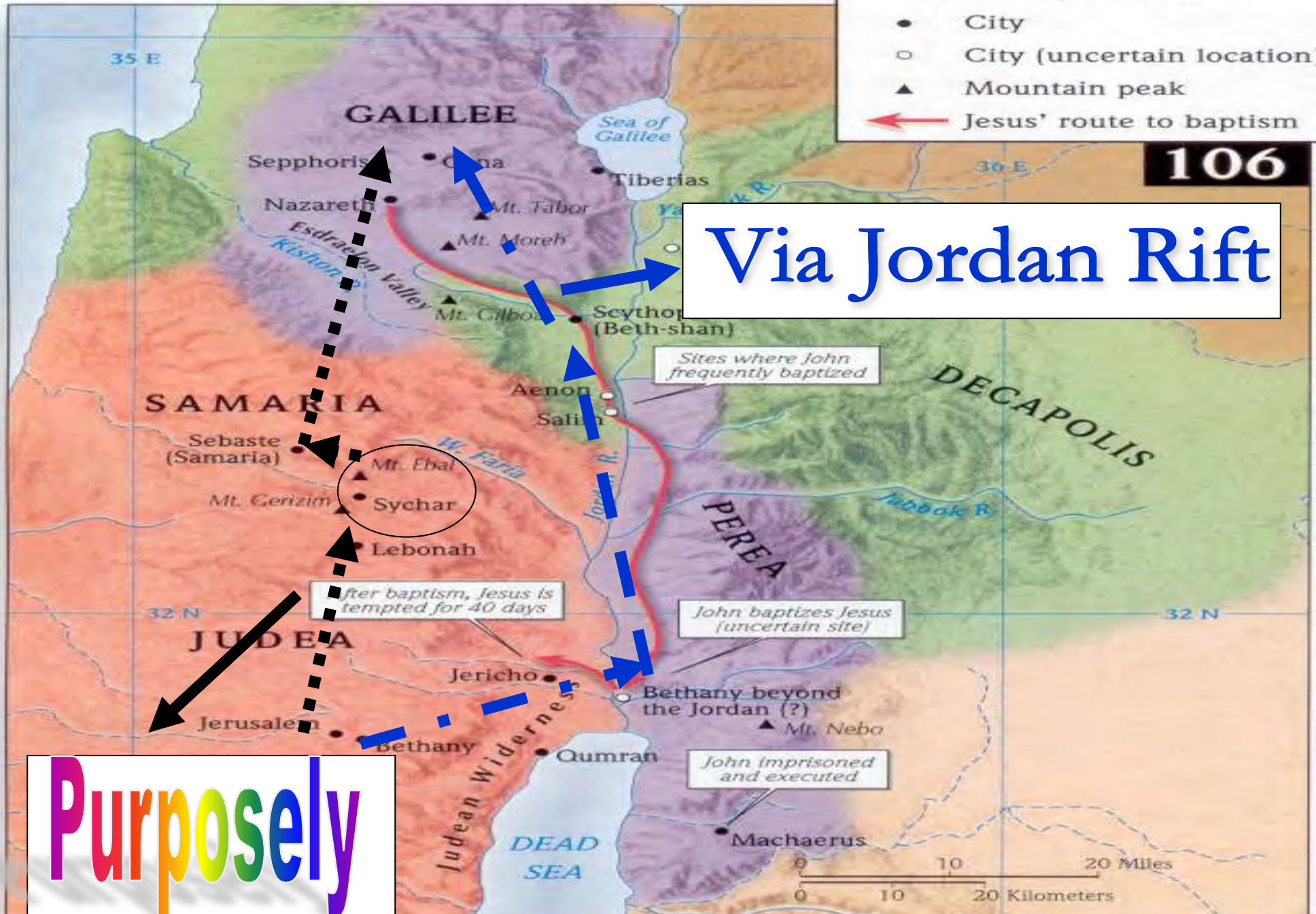
LUKE 3:1-23; 9:7-9

JOHN 1:6-8, 15-37; 3:22-24

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- ← Jesus' route to baptism

106

Via Jordan Rift



Purposely



Simon Dewey

# Racial Prejudice

1. Gentiles hated Jews
2. Jews hated Gentiles
3. Judean Jews hated Galilean Jews
4. Galilean Jews hated Judean Jews
5. Jews hated Samaritans
6. Does God allow interracial intermarriage?
7. Jesus ignored prejudices of his times
8. The early church was prejudiced

# Contrasts in Racism

Antioch

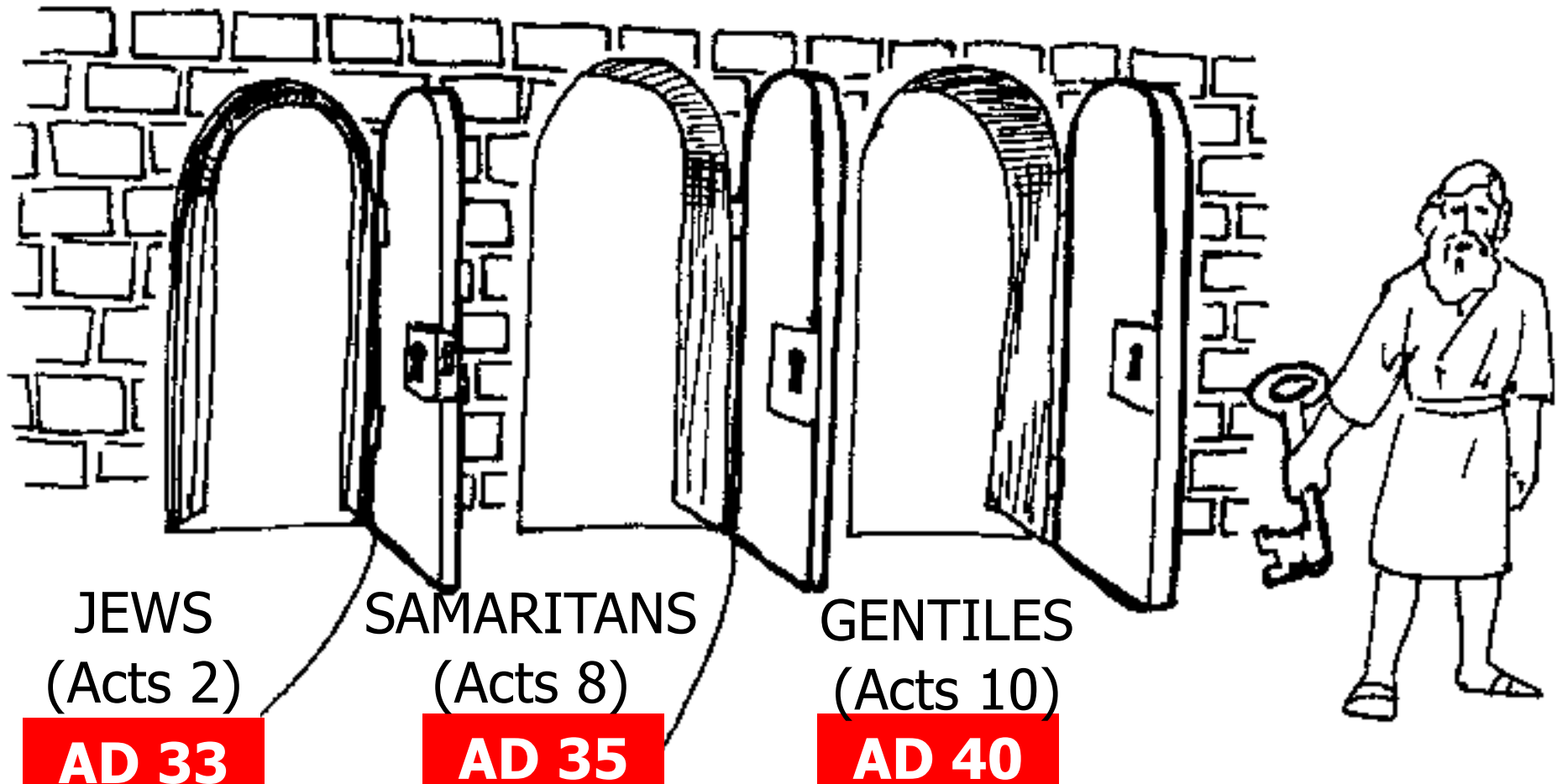
Jerusalem



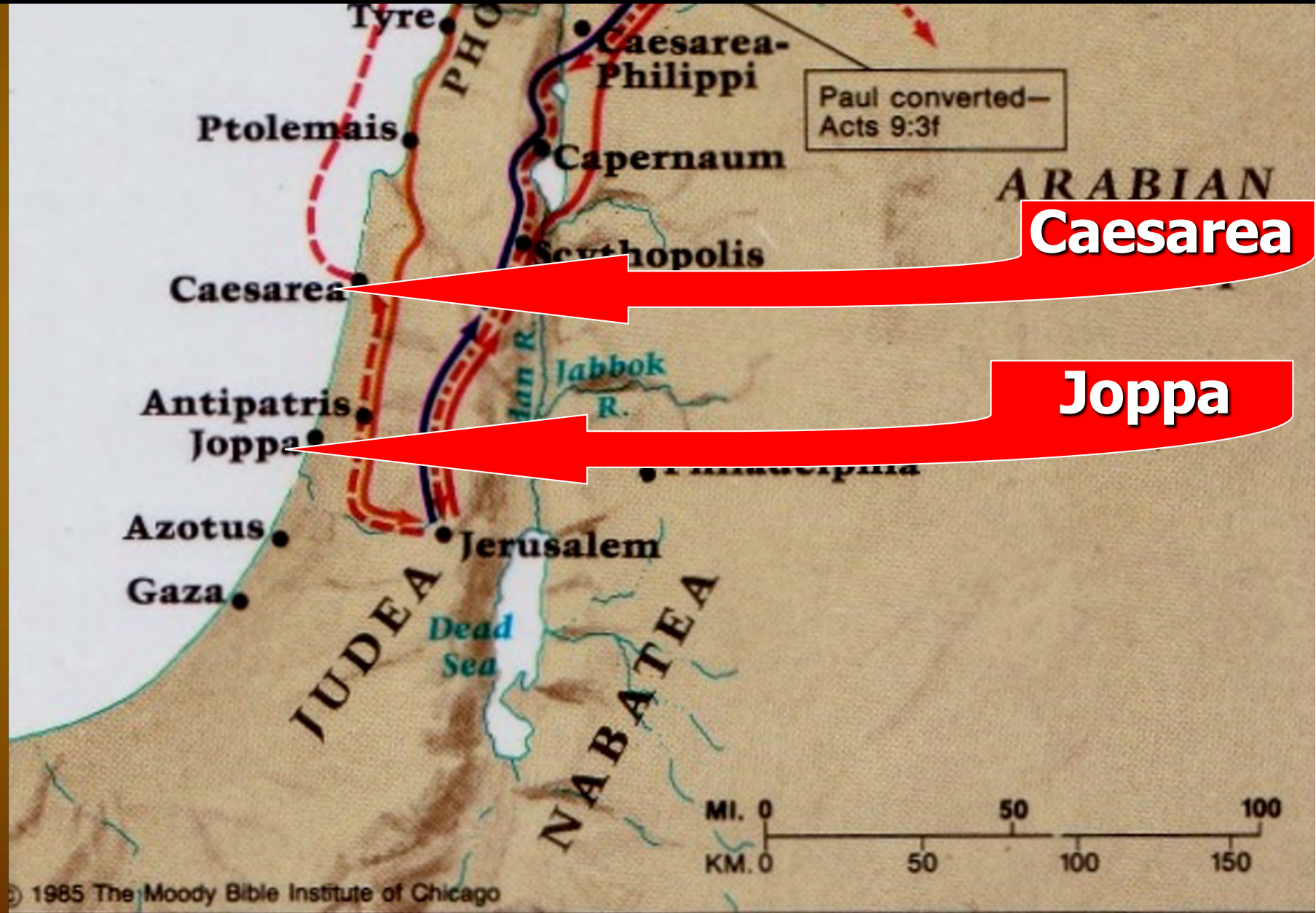
**Q: How did God overcome the prejudice in the Church at Jerusalem?**

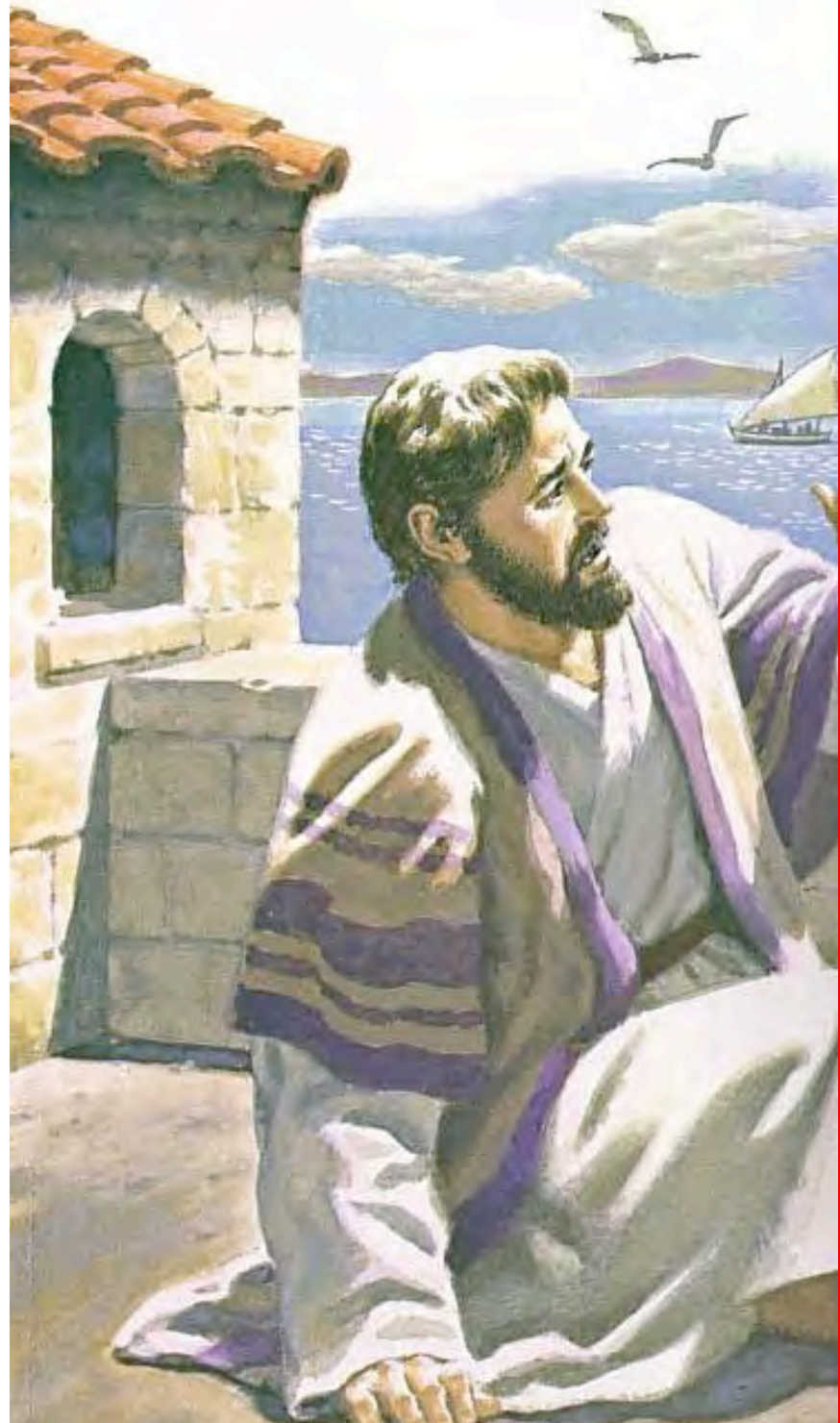
**A: Gradually**

### **PETER'S KEYS OF THE KINGDOM**

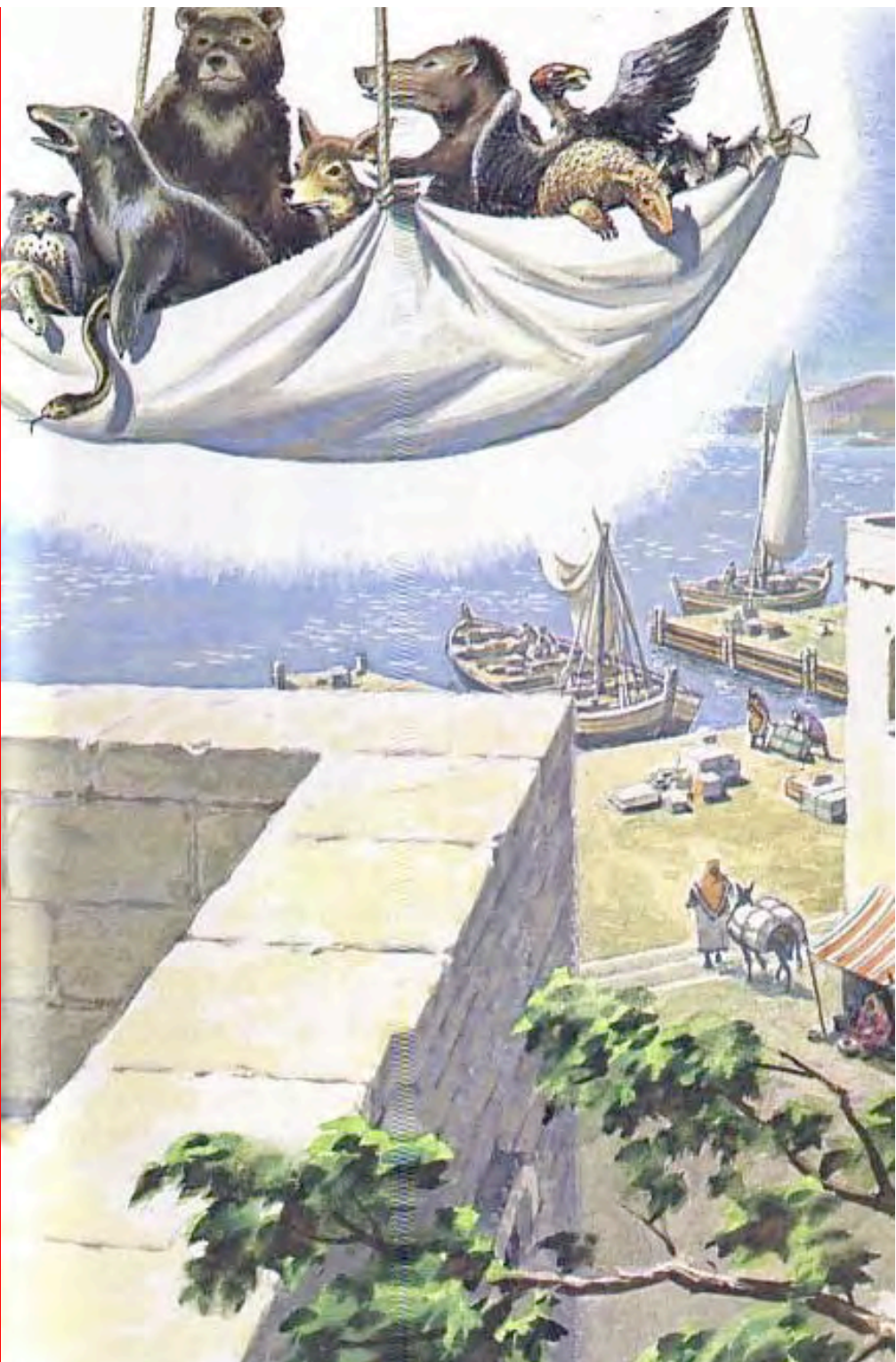


# Peter was not like Jonah at Joppa





**"Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!"**



**"What's God going to do to these unclean men?"**

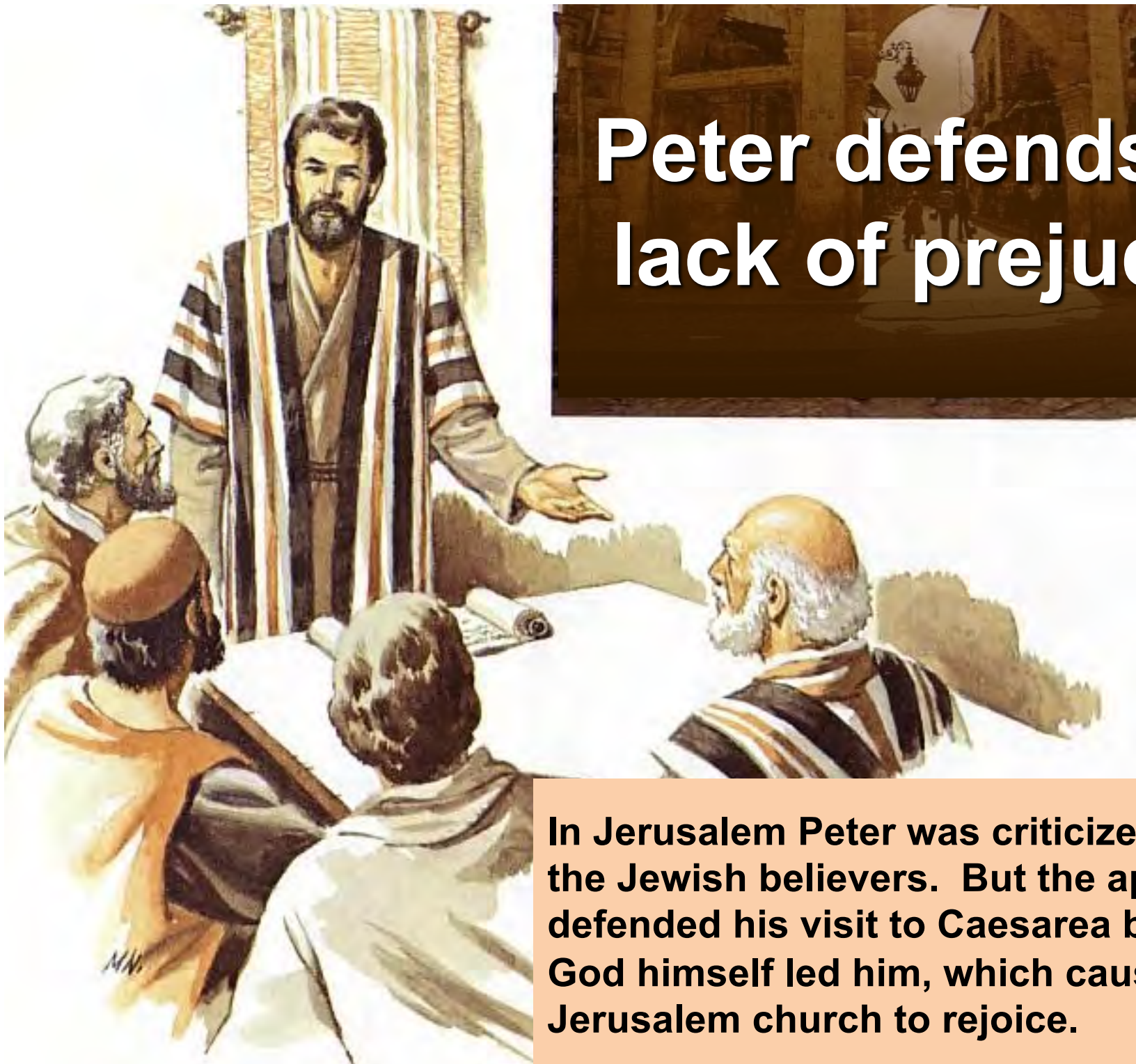


**Peter must have wondered why God wanted him to go with the servants of Cornelius**

# Cornelius bows to Peter



# Peter defends his lack of prejudice



**In Jerusalem Peter was criticized by some of the Jewish believers. But the apostle defended his visit to Caesarea by saying that God himself led him, which caused the Jerusalem church to rejoice.**



# Luther to His Followers



**"My advice, therefore, is to deal kindly with the Jews and to instruct them in the Scriptures so that they may come over to us . . . We must welcome them in our midst, permit them to work and trade among us. They will then have an opportunity to witness Christian life and doctrine. Should, however, some of them still remain stubborn, what of it? Not every one of us is a good Christian."**

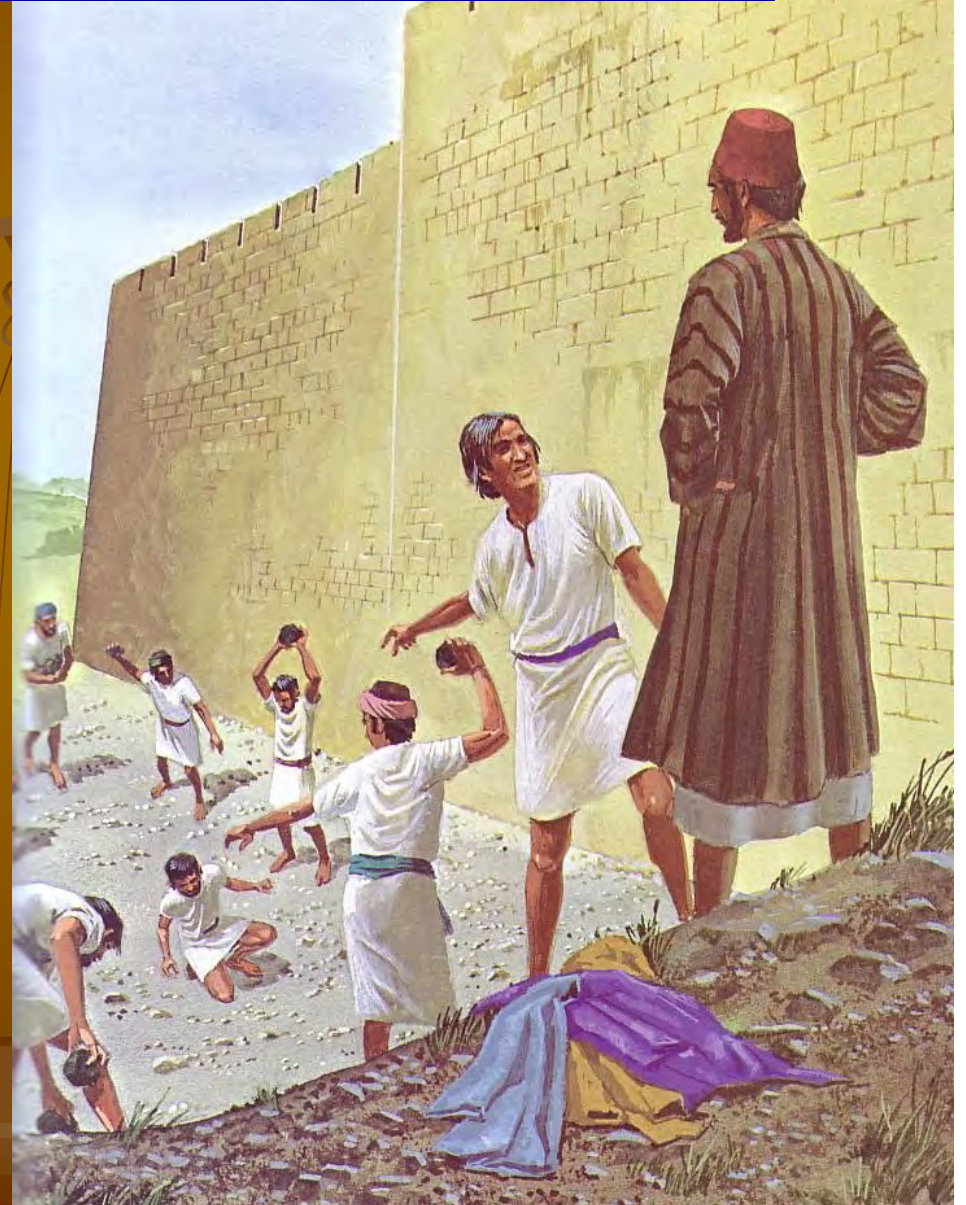
A portrait of Martin Luther, a German theologian, philosopher, and reformer. He is depicted from the chest up, wearing a black cap and a dark, high-collared garment. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly to the right of the viewer. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# After Jews Rejected the Gospel...

**"Set their synagogues on fire, and whatever does not burn up should be covered or spread over with dirt so that no one may be able to see a cinder or stone of it... Their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed... They should be put under one roof or in a stable, like gypsies, in order that they may realize that they are not masters in our land, as they boast, but miserable captives, as they complain of us incessantly before God with bitter wailing."**

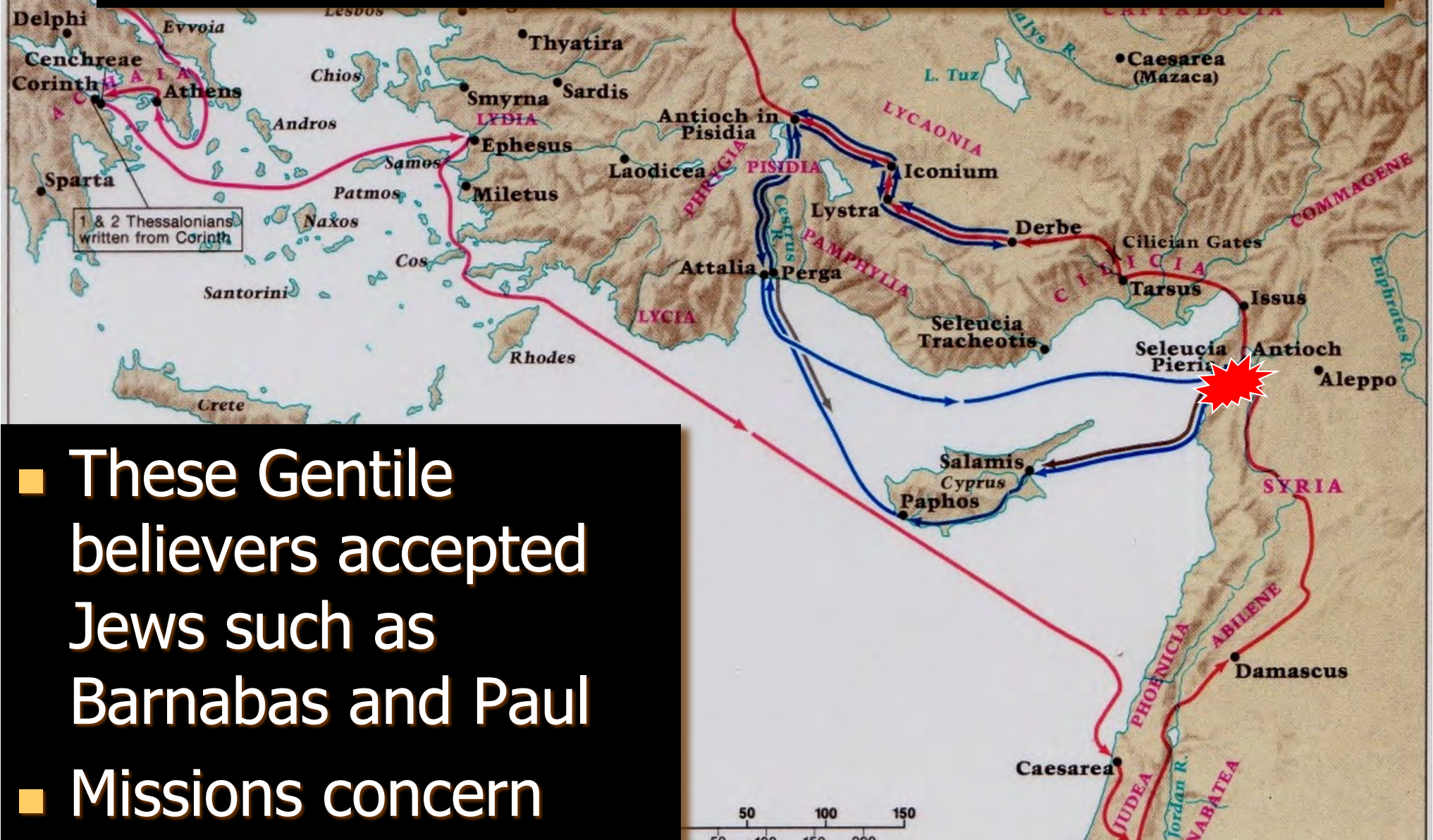
# Racist Saul Becomes Open Paul

- As Saul he supports the murder of Hellenistic Stephen (Acts 8)
- As Paul he agrees to suffer to reach the Gentiles (Acts 9)



# Paul's First & Second Missionary Journeys

## The Accepting Antioch Church



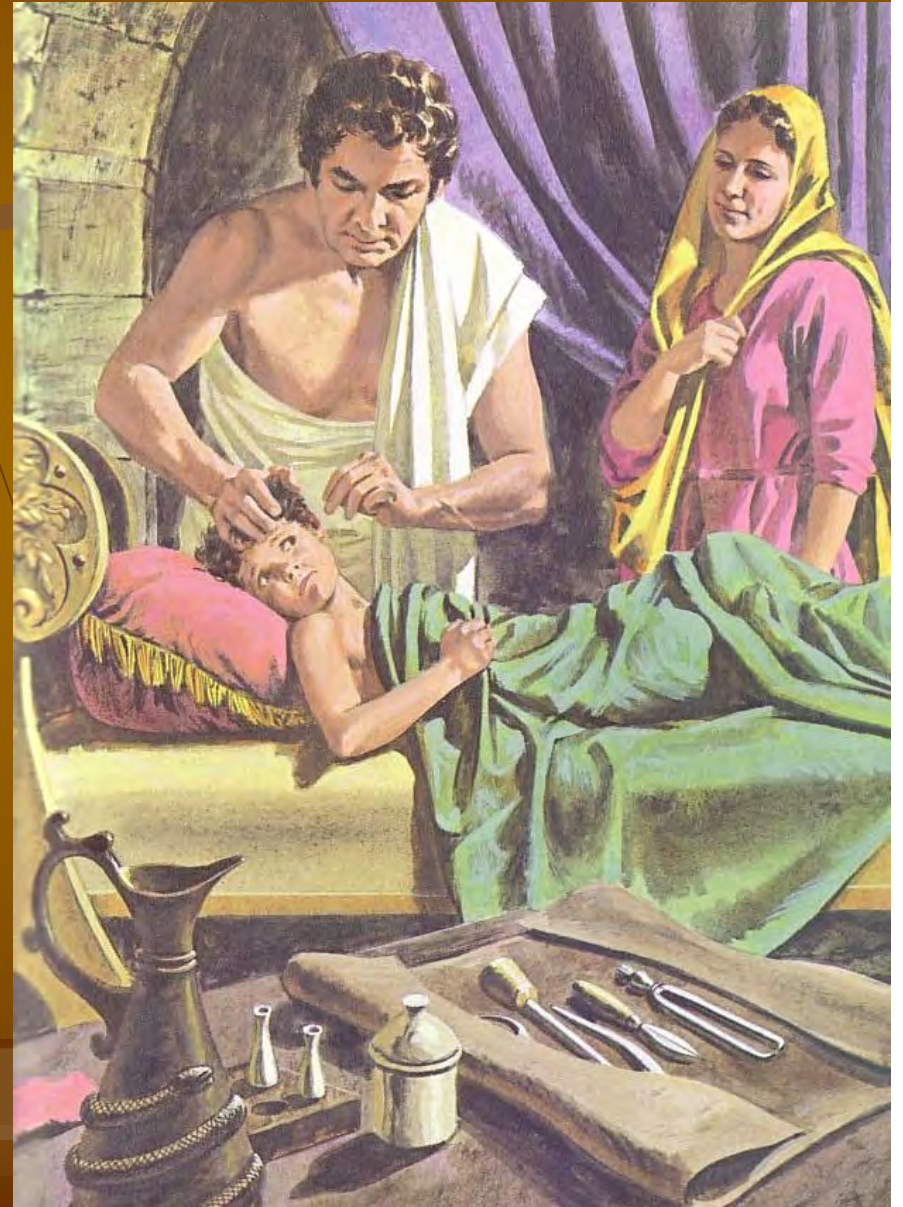
- These Gentile believers accepted Jews such as Barnabas and Paul
- Missions concern



# Paul's Third Missionary Journey

# The Accepting Antioch Church

- Gentile believers who accepted Jews such as Barnabas and Paul
- Missions concern
- **What were the implications of Paul accepting Dr. Luke on his team?**



# Jew-Gentile Conflicts at Rome

109




- **God's choice of Israel (Rom. 9-11)**
- **Food (14:1-4)**
- **Special days (14:5)**

# Philemon's Dilemma at Colosse

- What should the slave owner Philemon do with his repentant but returning slave Onesimus (now a Christian)?
- What are the implications for slave owners and employers?



- a. **Treatment of maids**
- b. **Ethnically mixed churches**
- c. **Evangelizing grass-roots Chinese**
- d. **Hospitality to other races**



**9. Are you racist too?  
(Some thought questions...)**

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