

**“The well-being of man. . .is morally and spiritually conditioned by a principle confirmed by divinely imposed sanctions. Now this principle holds good generally in all nations of every age. But its operation has often been obscured to human eyes by the time ‘lag’ between the moral breach and the infliction of the sanction. While it is always true that the nation which has ‘sown the wind’ shall also certainly ‘reap the whirlwind’ (Hos. 8:7), the harvest is generally and mercifully long delayed (2 Pet. 3:9); and for this very reason men often fail to see the causal connection. . . .But in the case of Israel in her Mediatorial Kingdom of history, the moral government of Jehovah was not only declared at Sinai but also was confirmed spectacularly in the recorded history of that kingdom by means of divine sanctions immediately imposed.”**

Alva McClain, The Greatness of the Kingdom

# **SUZERAINTY-VASSAL TREATIES OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST**

**Preamble**

**Historical Prologue**

**Stipulations**

**Witnesses**

**Sanctions (Cursing/Blessing)**

**Procedures of Ratification & Maintenance**

## CONSISTENCY PROOF

$P$  = “I am a retired USAF officer”

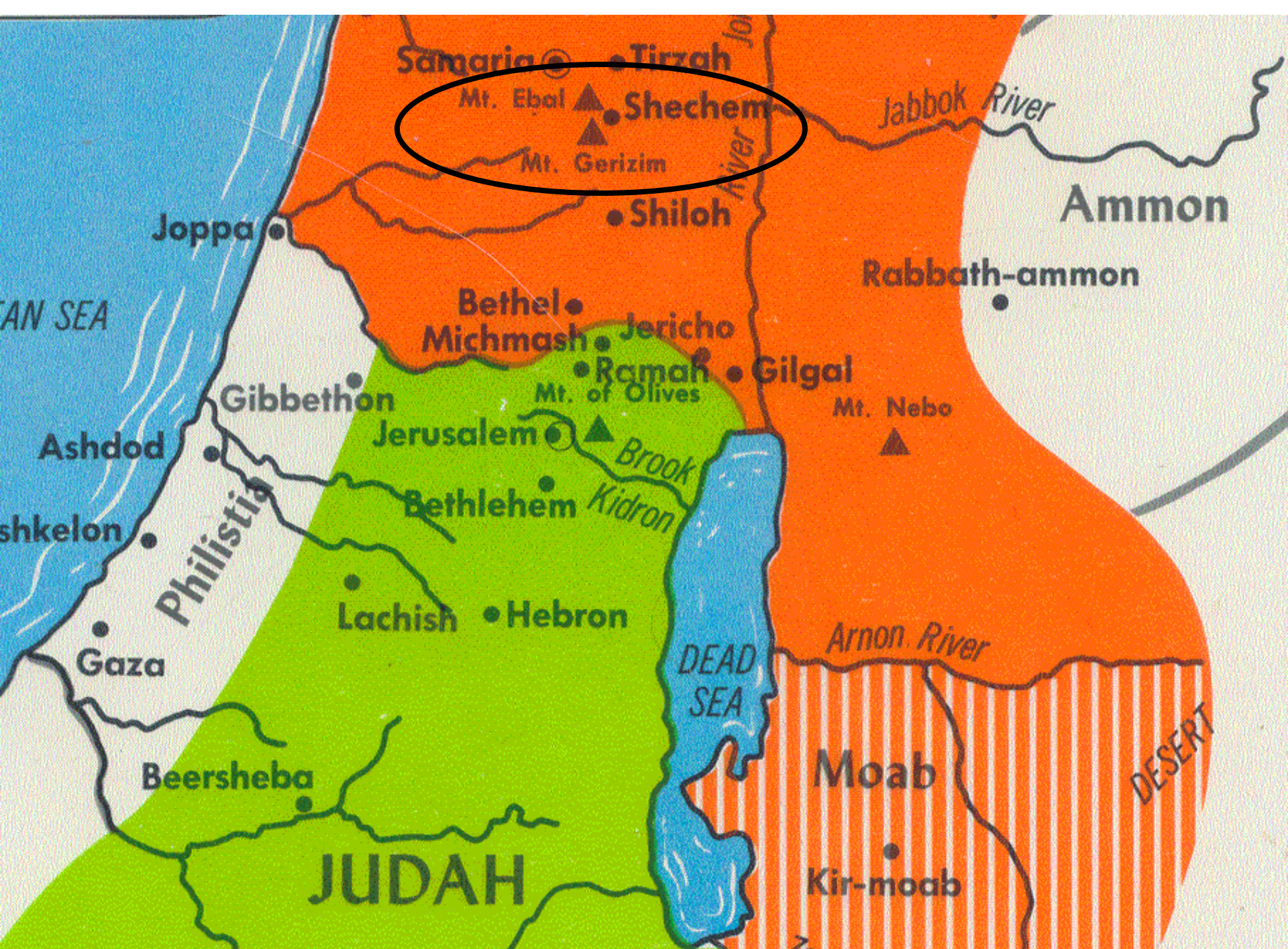
$\sim P$  = “I am NOT a retired USAF officer”

$P \wedge Q$  = Either “I am a retired USAF officer” Or  
“The moon is made of cheese”

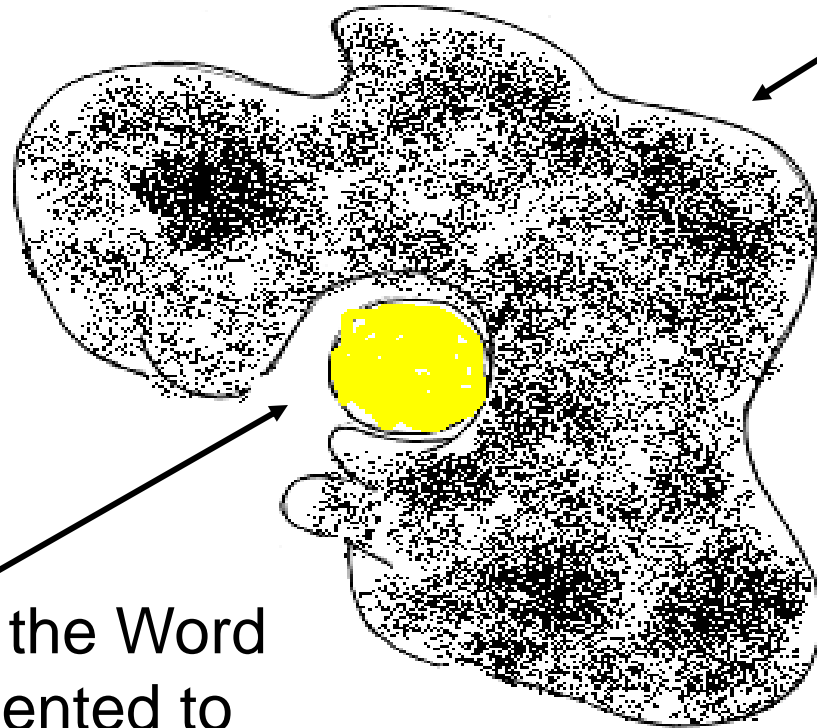
$\sim P$  is true as well as  $P$

$Q$  must be true (any nonsense proposition can  
be show to be true once contradictions are  
allowed)





# UNBELIEF SWALLOWING UP A BIT OF THE WORD OF GOD



Unbelief  
reinterpreting the  
Word of God  
within its own  
categories

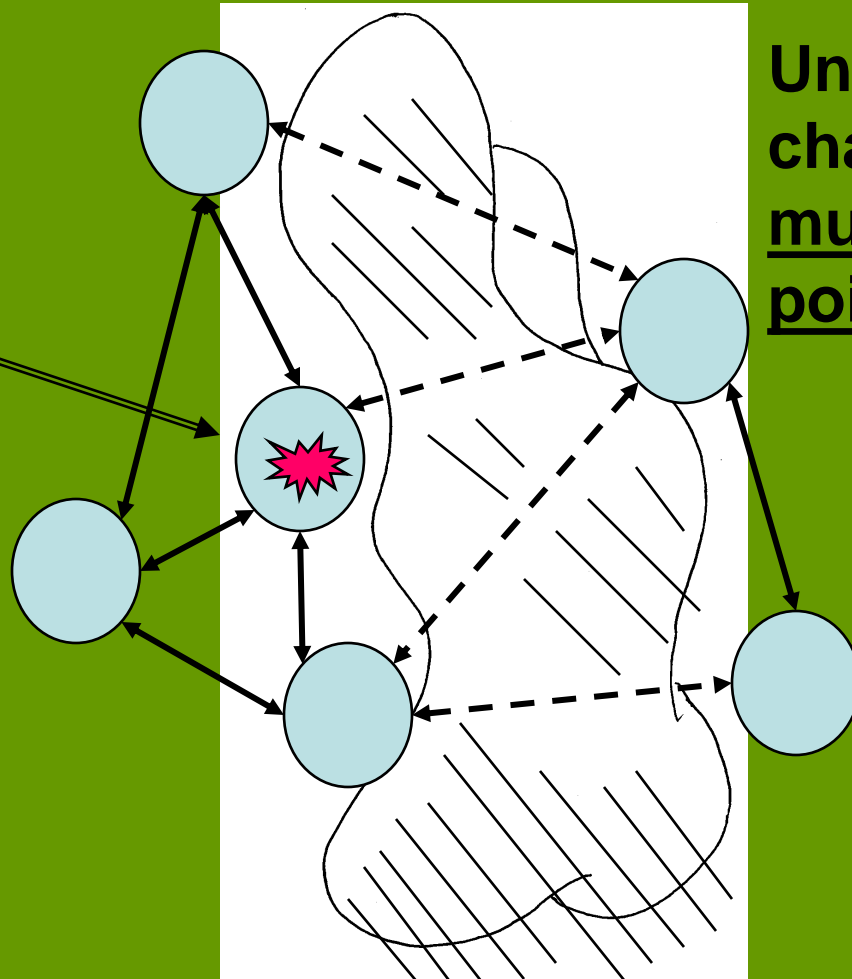
A portion of the Word  
of God presented to  
unbelief

**“Unbelief controls my interpretation of the situation”**



# UNBELIEF FORCED INTO A CONTRAST IN MANY AREAS SIMULTANEOUSLY

A portion of the Word of God presented to unbelief as part of a network



Unbelief challenged at multiple points

**“Word of God controls my interpretation of the situation”**