

Genesis 12:1-2 (NIV)

The LORD had said to Abram, Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. ² I will make **YOU** into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and **YOU** will be a blessing.

Genesis 12:3 (NIV)

I will **ble**ss those who **BLESS YOU**, and
whoever **cur**ses you **I WILL CURSE**;
and **ALL** peoples on earth will be
BLESSED through you.

Jeremiah 29:4-5 (NIV)

This is what the **LORD Almighty**, the God of Israel, says to all those **I CARRIED** into **exile** from Jerusalem to Babylon:

⁵ **Build** houses and **settle** down; **plant** gardens and eat what they produce.

Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV)

Also, **seek the peace and prosperity** of the city to which I **have carried you** into exile.

Pray to the Lord for **IT**, because

IF it **prosper**s, you **TOO** will prosper.

God's UNSEEN Hand

Esther 1-2

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)

The LORD had said to Abram, Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

² I will make you into a **great nation** and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will BE a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **ALL** peoples on earth will be **BLESSED** through you.

Esther shows us **HOW** God **KEPT** His Promises...

- to **Abraham**
- to the **Gentile** world

Jeremiah 29:4-5, 7 (NIV)

This is what the **LORD Almighty**, the **God of Israel**, says to all those **I CARRIED** into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:

⁵ **Build** houses and **settle** down; **plant** gardens and eat what they produce.

⁷ Also, **seek** the **peace** and **prosperity** of the city to which **I HAVE CARRIED you** into exile.

Pray to the Lord for **IT**, because

IF it prospers, you **TOO** will prosper.

The Three Returns from Exile







Caspian
Sea

MEDIA

• ECBATANA

ZAGROS MOUNTAINS

• SUSA

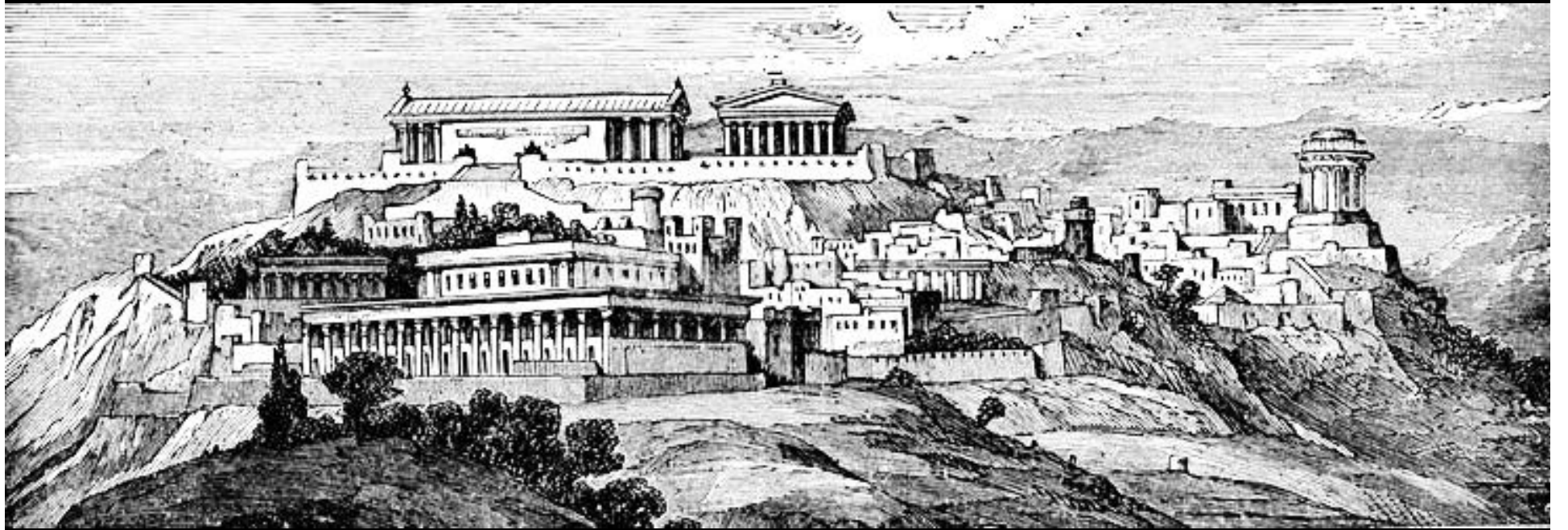
ELAM

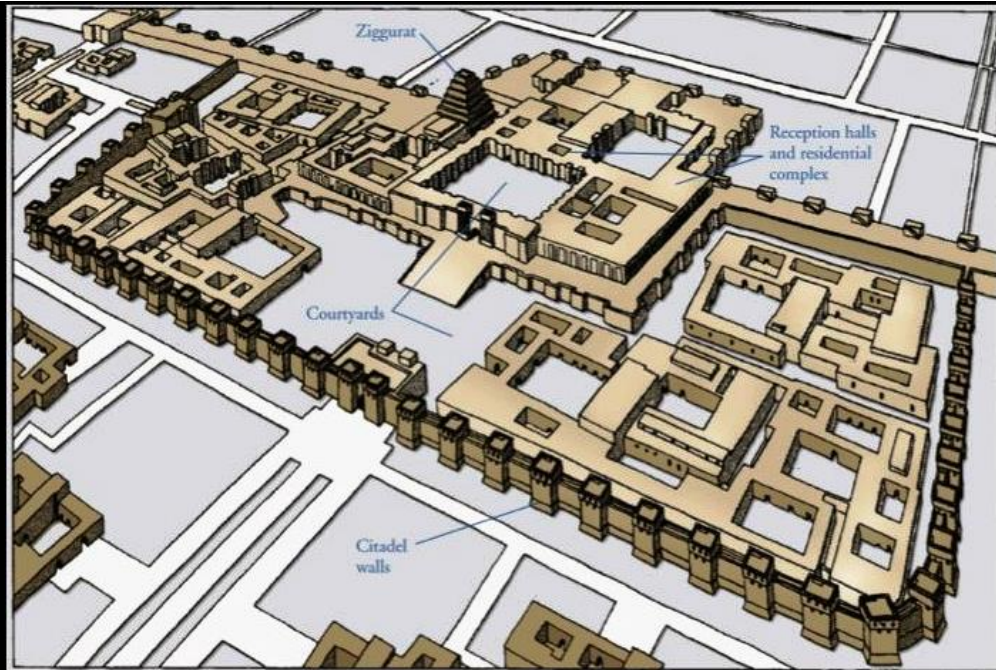
BABYLON

• PERSEPOLIS

PERSIS

Persian Gulf





→ Vashti is **REMOVED** as Queen

God is not mentioned in the book of Esther,
but **He is everywhere apparent**
as **the ONE** who opposed and foiled
Satan's diabolical schemes
by **providential intervention.**

The **OMISSION** of God's Name could be understood... MBI

1- as a way of showing God's **Faithfulness**

Deut. 31:16-17 (NLT) ...these people will begin to worship foreign gods, the gods of the land where they are going. They will **abandon ME and break MY covenant** that I have made with them. ¹⁷ Then **MY anger will blaze** forth against them. **I will abandon them, hiding My FACE from them...**

**The OMISSION of God's Name could
be understood... MBI**

1- as a way of showing God's Faithfulness

**2- as a literary style showing that when Israel
FORGOT their God He did NOT forget them**

**→ Mordecai is in the right PLACE at
the right TIME**

**21 Mordecai was sitting at the KING'S
GATE ...two of the king's officers
...became angry and CONSPIRED to
assassinate King Xerxes.**

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

And we know that **in ALL things**

God WORKS for the **GOOD**

of those who **love Him,**

who have been **called** according

to **His purpose.**

God **ALWAYS** does
the **right THING**
at the **right TIME**
for our **Ultimate Good**

Jeremiah 29:5, 7 (NIV)

⁵ **Build** houses and **settle** down; **plant** gardens and eat what they produce.

⁷ Also, **seek the peace and prosperity** of the city to which **I have carried you into exile.**

Pray to the Lord for **IT**, because

IF it **prosper**s, you **TOO** will prosper.

Jeremiah 29:10-11 (NIV)

This is what the LORD says: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, **I WILL come** to you and **fulfill MY gracious promise** to bring you back to this place.

¹¹ For **I know** the **plans I have** for you, declares the LORD, **plans to prosper you** and **not to harm** you, plans to **give you HOPE** and a **future**.

12 **THEN** you will **call upon ME** and
come and **pray to ME**,
and **I WILL LISTEN** to you.

13 You will **seek ME** and **FIND ME**
when you **SEEK ME**
with **ALL your heart.**