

THE DIASPORA, November 16, 2024

The Diaspora refers to the scattering of the Jewish people to other nations.

It comes from the Greek word meaning "to scatter."

There are two types of diasporas.

- 1. Voluntary**
- 2. Forced**

Examples of Voluntary Diasporas

- Jacob & Family to Egypt (Gen. 46:6)**

Genesis 46:6 ▾ New International Version ▾

⁶ So Jacob and all his offspring went to Egypt, taking with them their livestock and the possessions they had acquired in Canaan.

Examples of Voluntary Diasporas

- **Jacob & Family to Egypt (Gen. 46:6)**
- **Judeans to Egypt (Jer. 43:7)**

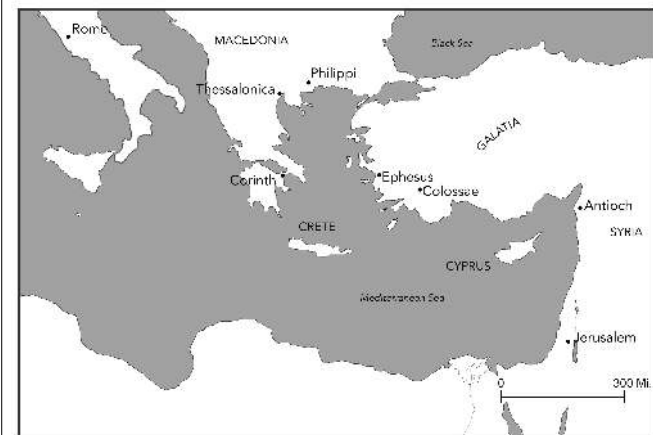
Jeremiah 43:7 ▾ New International Version ▾

7 So they entered Egypt in disobedience to the LORD and went as far as Tahpanhes.

Examples of Voluntary Diasporas

- **Jacob & Family to Egypt (Gen. 46:6)**
- **Judeans to Egypt (Jer. 43:7)**
- **Escape from the Roman Empire**

THE MISSIONARY JOURNEYS



Examples of Forced Diasporas

- **The Assyrian/Babylonian Exiles**

2 Kings 17:6 ▾ New International Version ▾

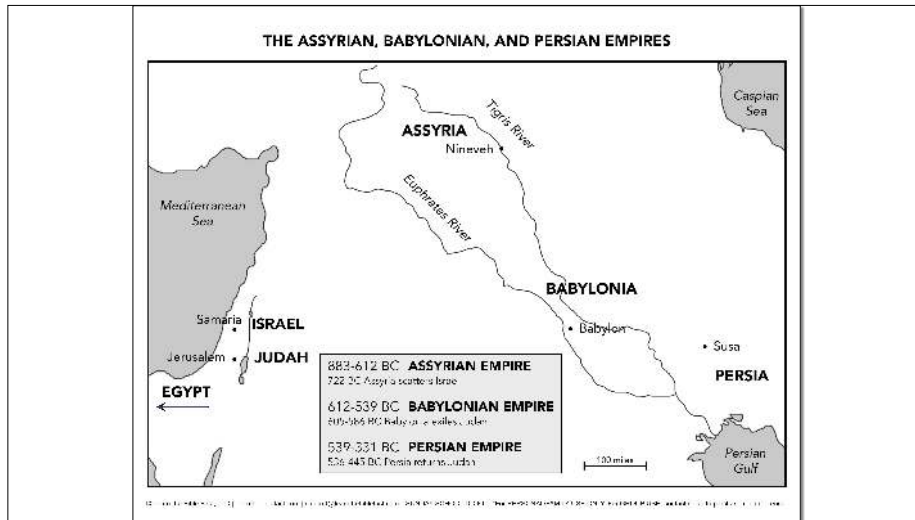
6 In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria. He settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the Habor River and in the towns of the Medes.

THE ASSYRIAN, BABYLONIAN, AND PERSIAN EMPIRES



2 Kings 25:11 ▾ New International Version ▾

11 Nebuzaradan the commander of the guard carried into exile the people who remained in the city, along with the rest of the populace and those who had deserted to the king of Babylon.



Examples of Forced Diasporas

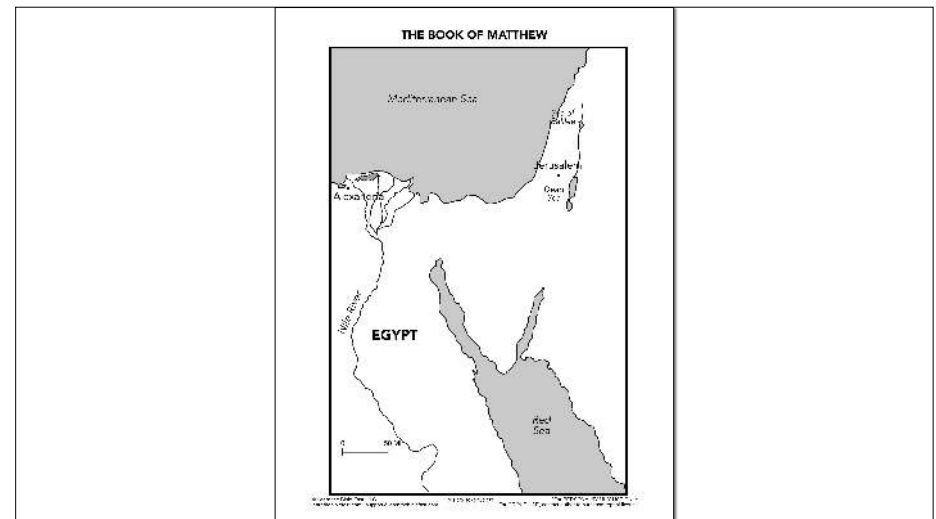
- **The Assyrian/Babylonian Exiles**
- **The Ptolemy Exile**

The World of Jesus by William Marty

301 BC - The Intertestamental Period

Palestine came under Ptolemaic/Egyptian rule when Ptolemy I (known as *Soter*; r. 323–285 BC) invaded and easily captured Jerusalem because the Jews refused to fight on the Sabbath. He reportedly deported 100,000 to Egypt, which partially accounts for a large Jewish population there. Ptolemy did not force Hellenistic rule and culture on Palestine, allowing the Jews to live according to their traditions. They were free to observe the Law, and the high priest was responsible for governing.

Resources: Jewish People in Egypt During the Time of Jesus



Examples of Forced Diasporas

- **The Assyrian/Babylonian Exiles**
- **The Ptolemy Exile**
- **The Scattering After Stephen's Death**

Acts 8:1 ▾ New International Version ▾

8 And Saul approved of their killing him.

The Church Persecuted and Scattered

On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

