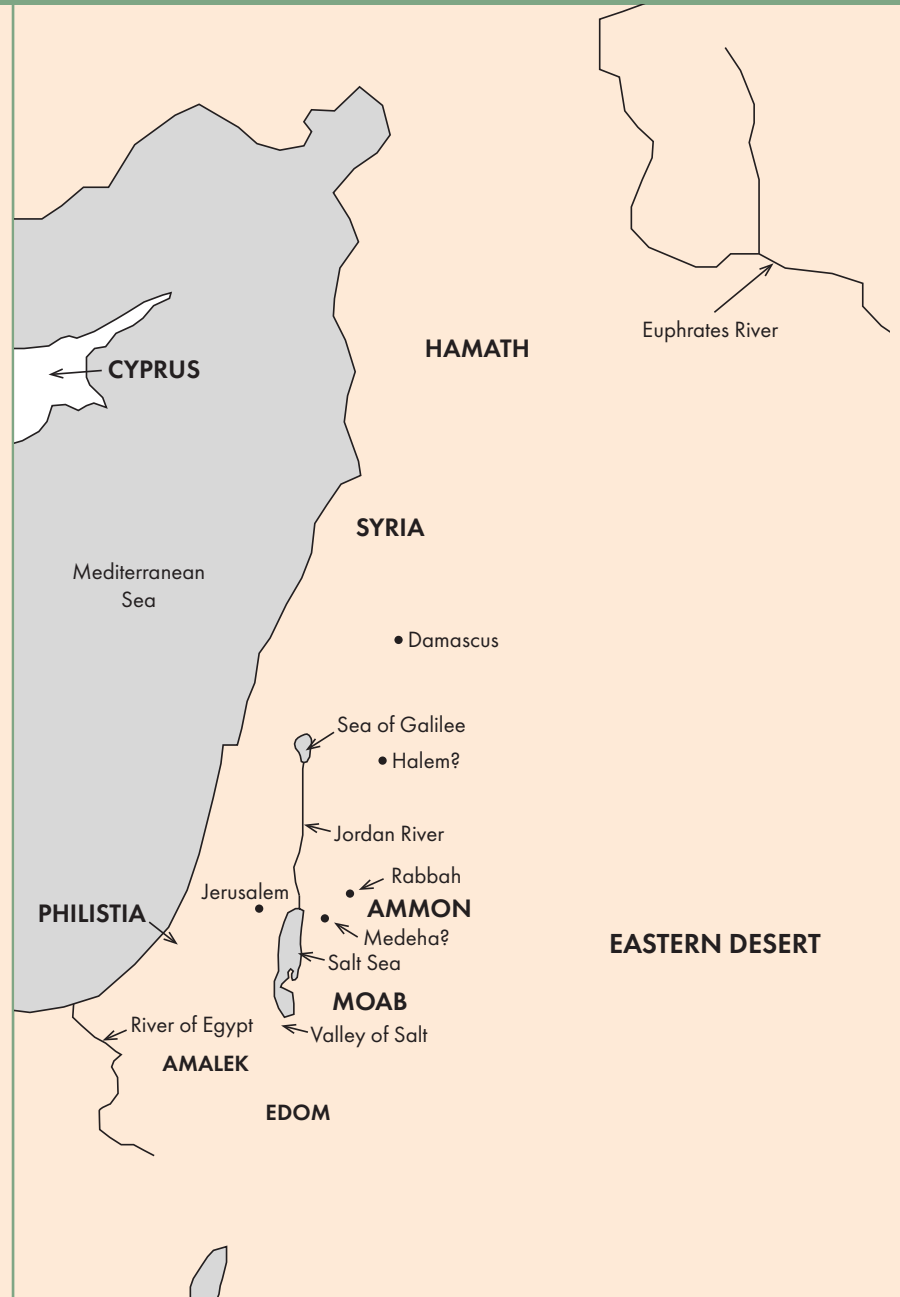


When

- The Book of 1 Chronicles was written several hundred years after King David's reign.
- David became king of Judah in approximately 1055 B.C, the year Saul died. David's reign spanned approximately 40 years (1055-1015 B.C.). He reigned over Judah for 7 years and 6 months, before becoming king over all Israel. His reign over all Judah and Israel lasted 33 years.

Key Characters

- **Hanun** – King of the Ammonites. He took the throne after the death of his father, Nahash.
- **David** – The second king over all Israel and Judah.
- **Joab** – Commander of the army of Israel.
- **Hadadezer** – King of Zobah (8:3).
- **Shophach** – The commander of Hadadezer's army.



Where

- The Ammonites lived on the east side of the Jordan River.
- The Israelites appear to have fought the Ammonites around Medeba (1 Chr 19:7).
- The Syrians called their allies from beyond the Euphrates River to help them fight David.
- The Israelites fought the army of Hadadezer at Halem.

Outline

- ***2 Samuel 10 is a parallel to this chapter.**
- **THE AMMONITES SHAME DAVID'S SERVANTS (19:1-5):**
 - + Nahash, the king of Ammon, died and was replaced by his son, Hanun.
 - + Nahash had been an ally of David's, so David sent messengers to console Hanun.
 - + But Hanun's advisors convinced him David's messengers were spies.
 - + Hanun shamed the messengers by cutting off half their beards and half their clothing and sending them home.
- **JOAB LEADS ISRAEL'S ARMY AGAINST THE AMMONITES (19:6-15):**
 - + David was so offended that he brought his army out against the Ammonites.
 - + The Ammonites hired soldiers from Syria (Zobah), Mesopotamia, and Aram-maacah to fight the Israelites.
 - + Joab and his brother, Abishai, led the army of Israel against the Ammonite force, and God gave them victory.
 - + The Syrians and Ammonites fled, and the Israelites returned home.
- **ISRAEL FIGHTS THE SYRIANS AGAIN AT HELAM (19:16-19):**
 - + The Syrians regrouped and called to allies across the Euphrates River for reinforcements. They united under the command of Hadadezer (19:16) and his commander, Shophach.
 - + David met them for battle at a place called Helam (2 Sam 10:16).
 - + Once again, the Israelites defeated the Syrians, killing tens of thousands of their soldiers.
 - + Shophach was killed during the battle.
 - + Hadadezer's men were forced to surrender and become servants to the Israelites.

Application

- Here we see an example of how God might use a national leader to weaken one country while strengthening another.
- It was God's will for the nation of Israel to increase in influence, wealth, and power.
- He brought that about through a leadership change in Ammon.
- Hanun, the new king in Ammon, made a crucial political error that ended up costing his nation and benefiting Israel.
- It's almost certain God still works this way. On the surface, politics appear to be directed by humans, but there is supernatural influence governing them behind the scenes. We call that influence God's providence.