

Resting in God's Providence, pt.2

Providence in Esther

September 2, 2018 Anchored

What is providence?

Why these lessons are important?

Review...

God's Providence in Esther

Why trust God's providence?

- **He is absolutely faithful (Lam 3:22-23; 1 Cor 1:9; Heb 10:23; 11:11)**
- **He is absolutely committed to His glory (Ps 115, Eph 1)**
- **He is absolutely a God of love (Psa 136; Hos 11; 1 John 4:8)**
- **He is absolutely sovereign—right, desire, power (Psa 103:19)**
- **He is absolutely holy (Isa 6; 1 Peter 1:16; Rev 4:8)**
- **He is absolutely committed to conforming me to the image of Christ (Rom 8:28, 29)**

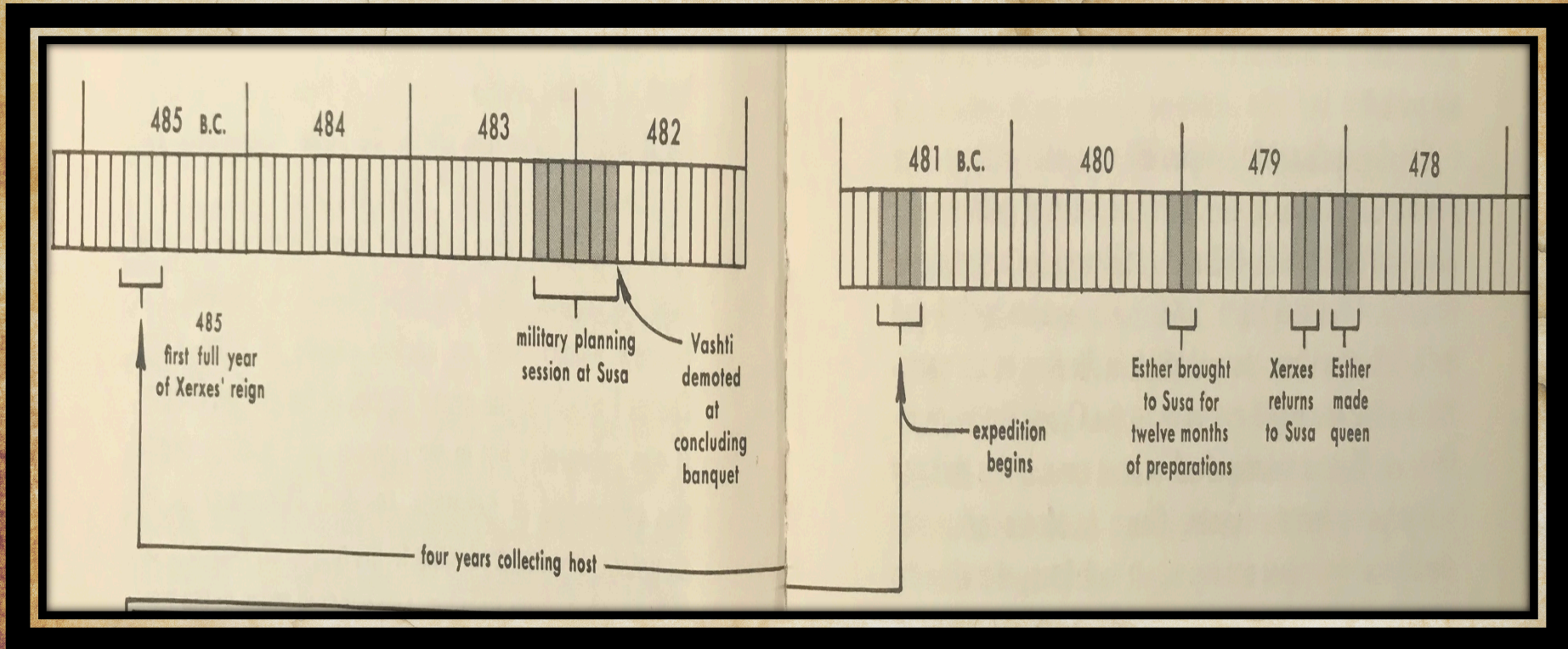
1. Providence in Historical Context of Esther

The Dating of Esther (between Ezra 6-7)

- ❑ 722 BC Assyrians conquer N. Kingdom and exile the people
- ❑ 586 Babylonians conquer S. Kingdom, destroy the temple, and exile the people
- ❑ 539 Cyrus of Persia conquers Babylon
- ❑ 538-535 Cyrus allows exiles to return (Ezr 1:1-4; cf. Jer 30:3)—First wave under Zerubbabel (Ezra 1-6)
- ❑ **486-464 Reign of Ahasuerus/Xerxes (Esther 1-10)**
- ❑ 458 BC Second wave of exiles return under Ezra (Ezra 7-10)
- ❑ 444 BC Third wave of exiles return under Nehemiah (Nehemiah 2)

Providence in Historical Context of Esther

The timeline of Esther's initial events



From *Esther: The Triumph of God's Sovereignty* by John C. Whitcomb

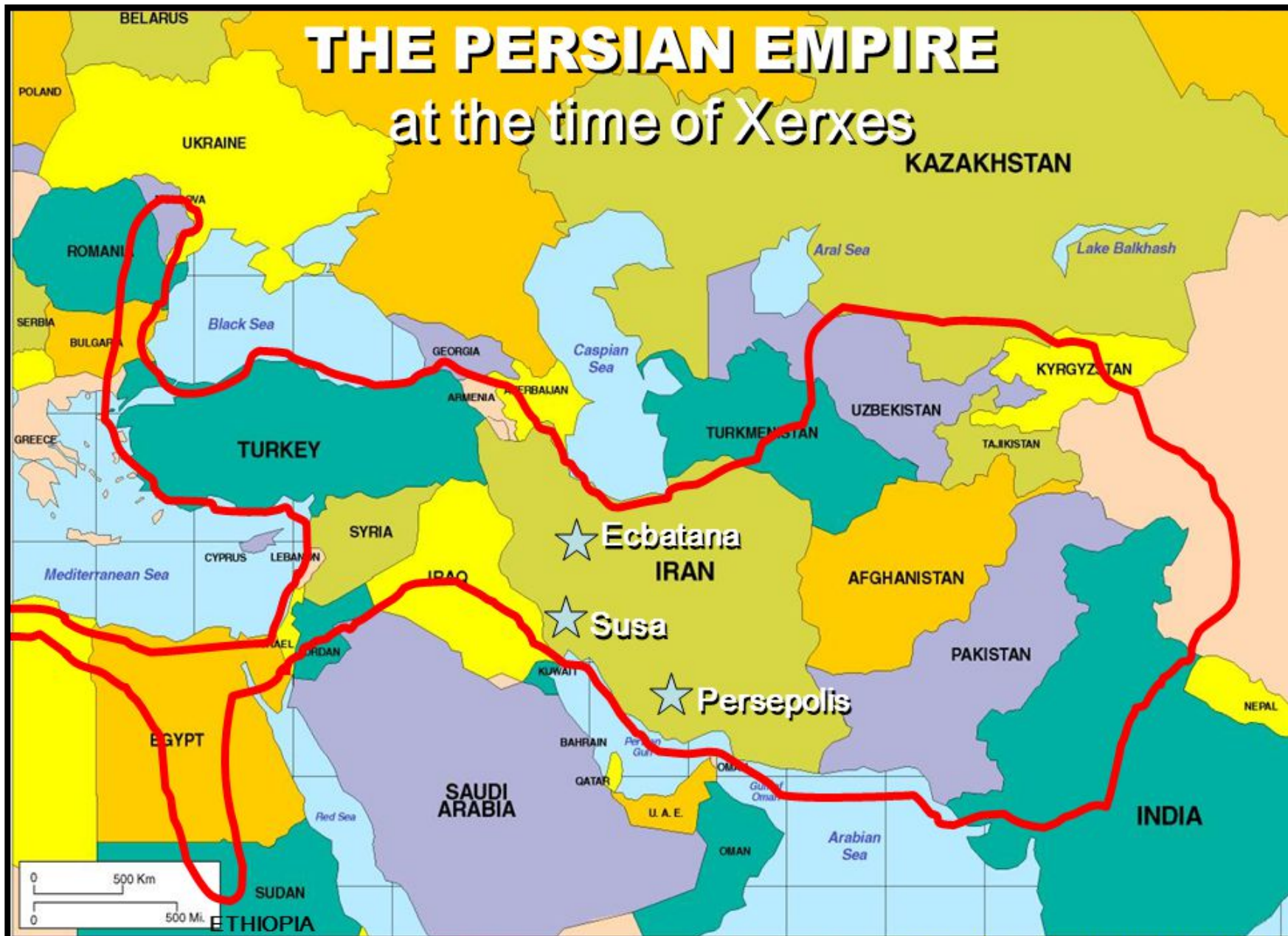
2. Providence and the Canonicity of Esther

3. Providence and the Place of Esther

4. Providence and the Prophetic Placement of Esther

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE

at the time of Xerxes



2.Providence and The Canonicity of Esther

3.Providence and the Place of Esther

4.Providence and the Prophetic Placement of Esther

5.Providence and Divine Reversal in Esther

Providential Reversal

Chp 1-2
The Splendor
of Ahasuerus

Chp 3:1-2 Haman's
exaltation

Chp 3:2-15 Haman's
vengeful plot (a Pur
is cast)

Chp 4 The plan to
reverse

Chp 5 Banquet One—
Haman's pride fed

Chp 10 The
Splendor of
Mordecai

Chp 8:9-9:32 (cf.8:1-2)
Mordecai's exaltation

Chp 8:9-9:32
Mordecai's saving
plan (Purim est.)

Chp 8:3-8 The plea to
reverse

Chp 7 Banquet Two—
Haman's pride shattered

Chapter 6

The King's lack of sleep, reading of the
chronicles, and coming of Haman
The Major Providential Act