

Uber

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HOPE

400 Years of Silence

God was still present.

God was still working.

Malachi 3:17-18

“On the day when I act,” says the Lord Almighty, “they will be my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as a father has compassion on his son who serves him. And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.”

Psalm 44

Awake, Lord! Why do you sleep? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever. Why do you hide your face and forget our misery and oppression? We are brought down to the dust; our bodies cling to the ground. Rise up and help us; rescue us because of your unfailing love.

HOPE

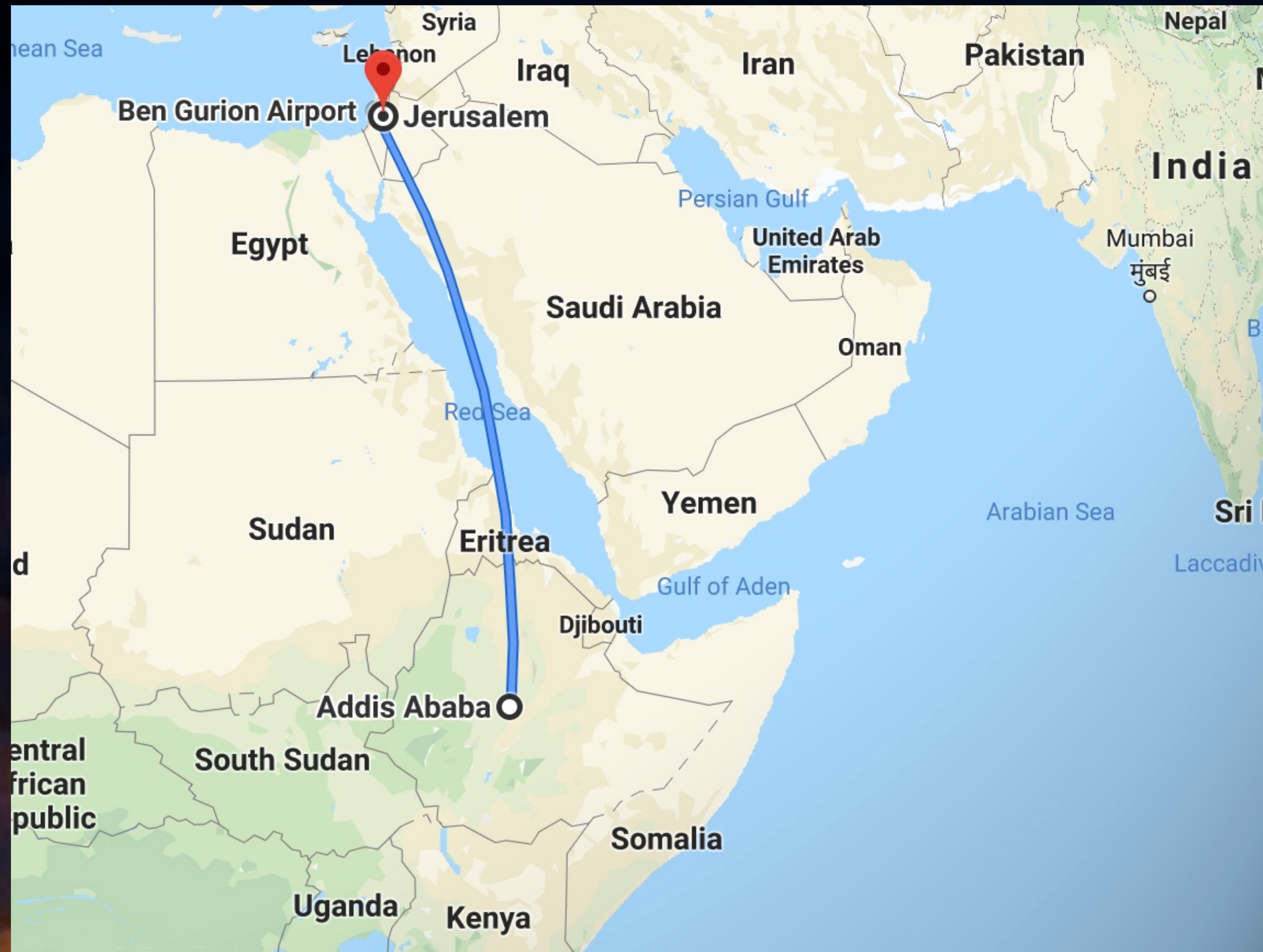
Malachi 3:17-18

“I will act”...and God does!

God is at work. He is rearranging the set preparing to act in your heart at exactly the right time, in exactly the right way, even though He may do so in a way that you are least expecting.

Matthew 2:1-2

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About the same time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”



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Matthew 2:3-6

King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of the religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

Matthew 2:7-8

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so I can go worship him too!”

Matthew 2:9-11

After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They...bowed down and worshipped him...and gave him gifts.

Matthew 2:12

When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

We serve a God who comes on the scene in unconventional ways. We serve a God who moves and calls and works in ways we might not predict. But as the Magi were, if we are watching, if we are ready, we will see him at work and have the privilege to join in. But it takes attention, intentionality, long obedience and momentary obedience. An act of obedience CAN change the world.

**“What does this mean for me
when I’m standing in line at the
grocery store?”**

HOPE

**In this Advent season, how will you
be intentionally obedient?**

How can you change the world?

