

From Mike Gendron's newsletter, Proclaiming the Gospel

In an interview published by the Argentine Weekly "Viva", the pope listed his top ten secrets for happiness. One of them was quite shocking in view of the Great Commission given to the church by our Lord Jesus Christ. Pope Francis disagrees with the true Head of the Church in saying that we should not proselytize. He said we should respect others' beliefs because "the worst thing of all is religious proselytism, which paralyzes." The word "proselytize" means to try to convert somebody to a religious faith. The pope said "the church grows by attraction, not proselytizing."

Theme Verse of the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power
when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be My witnesses
both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,
and even to the remotest part of the earth.

Acts 4:12

(Peter to the Religious Leaders of his day)

“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”



What is the same?



What is the same?

Salvation by grace thru faith in Christ



What is the same?

Salvation by grace thru faith in Christ

What is different?



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Salvation by grace thru faith in Christ

What is different?



Messiah - Daniel 9
Suffering Servant - Isaiah 53
Throne of David - 2 Samuel 7
Law of Moses - Exodus-Deut.
Sceptre of Judah - Genesis 49
Seed of Abraham - Genesis 12 & 22
Seed of the woman - Genesis 3

What is the same?

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Jesus Christ

What is the same?

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Israel



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What is the same?

Salvation by grace thru faith in Christ

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Church



Jesus Christ

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Seed of Abraham - Genesis 3

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What is the same? Salvation by grace thru faith in Christ

What is different? Israel Church

Access thru the temple



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OT Law



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Access thru the temple

Access thru Christ

OT Law

Grace - OT + NT



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5. The book of Acts gives us the framework for the letters of Paul
6. While the gospel of Luke is about what Jesus began to do and teach, Acts of the Apostles records what Jesus continued to do through the ministry of the Holy Spirit

The Post-Resurrection Ministry of Jesus Christ

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5. Jesus redirected the disciples to their upcoming ministry

The Great Commission - Acts 1:8

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Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

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Mark 16:15 - And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”

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Luke 24:46-47 - and He said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

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John 17:18 - “As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.”

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5. Luke, in Acts, emphasizes the Holy Spirit's power for ministry and the world-wide scope and method of expansion of ministry

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But you will receive power
when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be My witnesses
both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,
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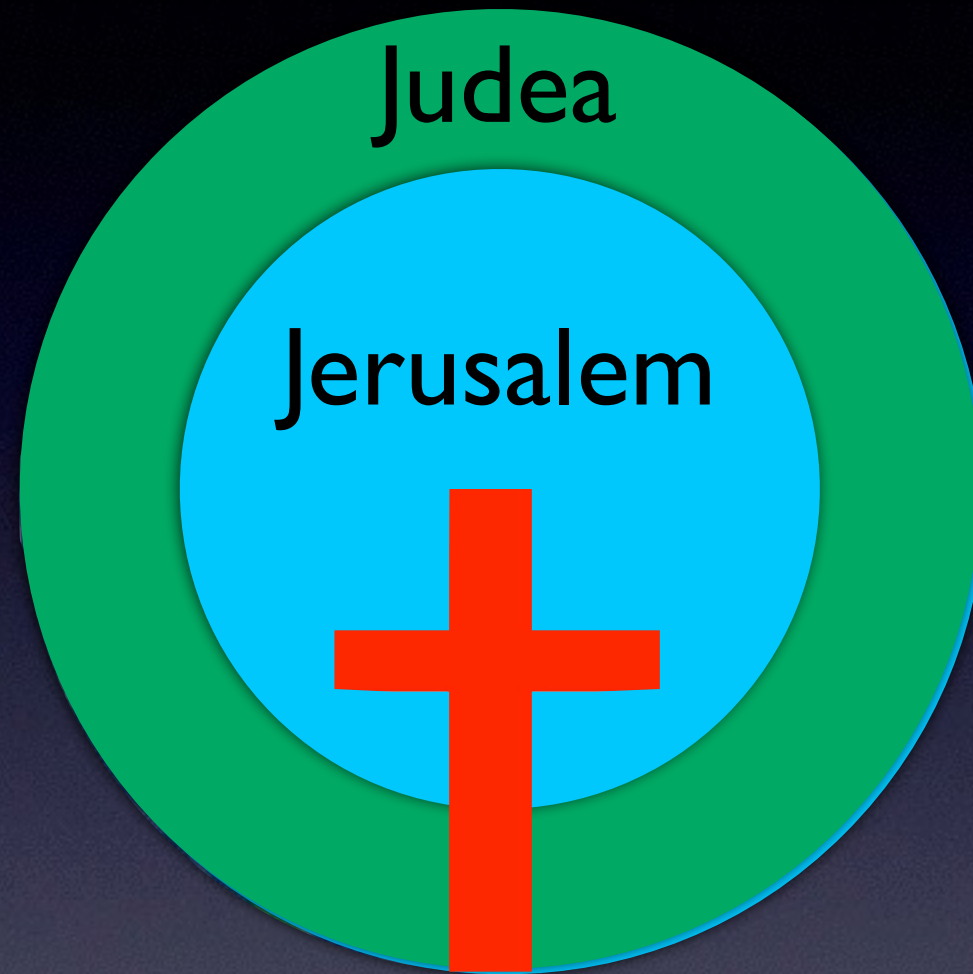
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Acts 1:8

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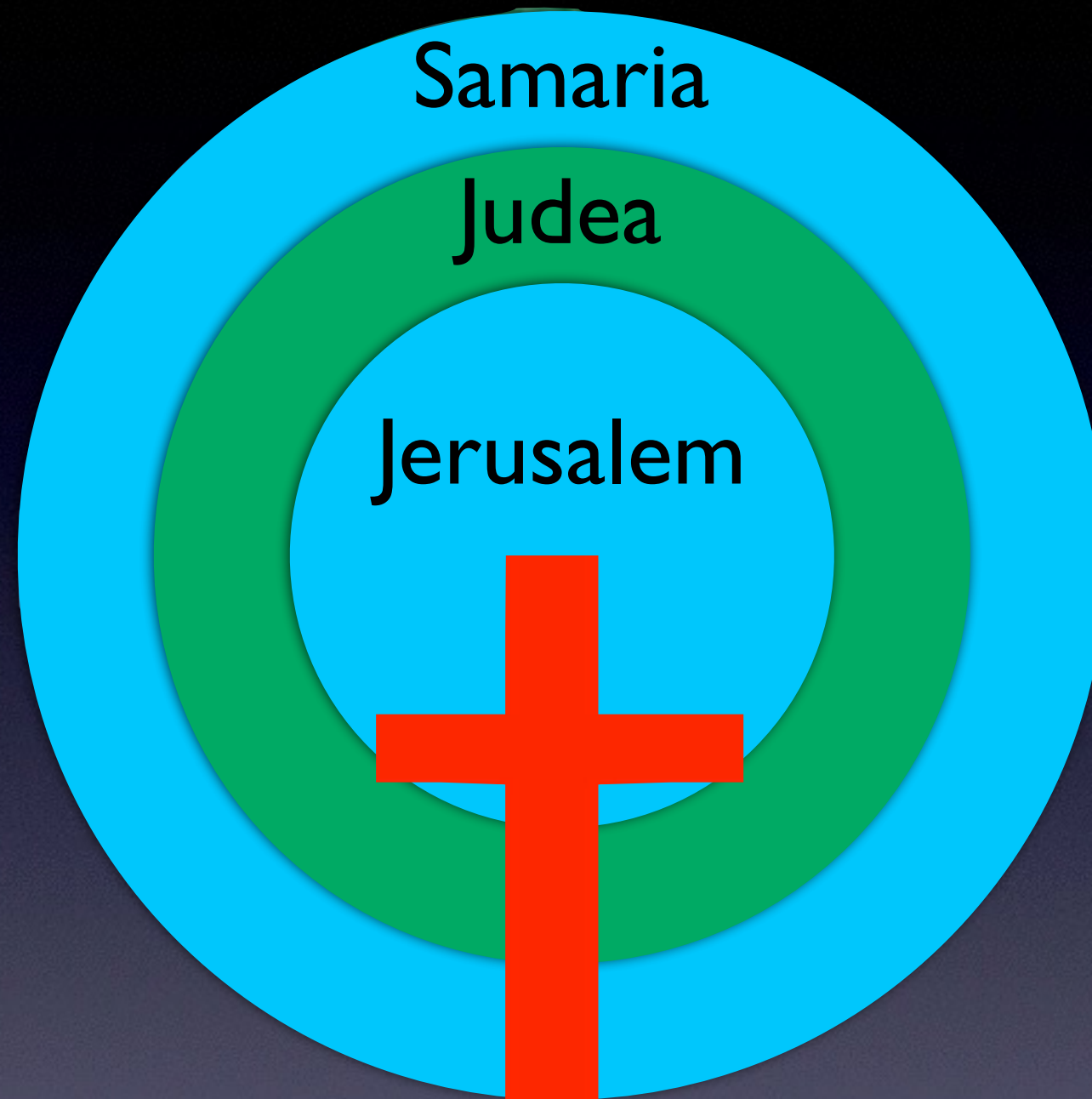
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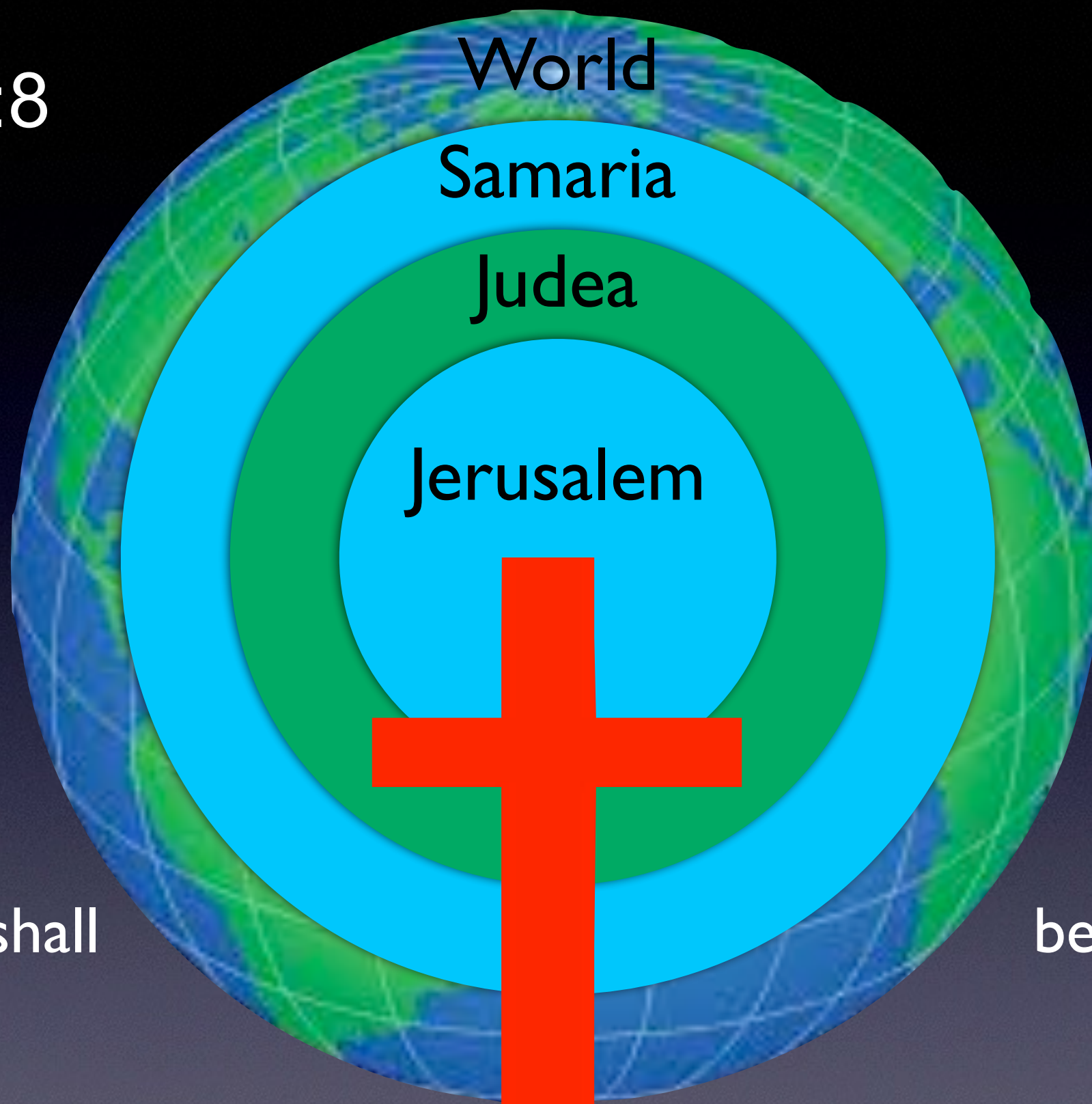
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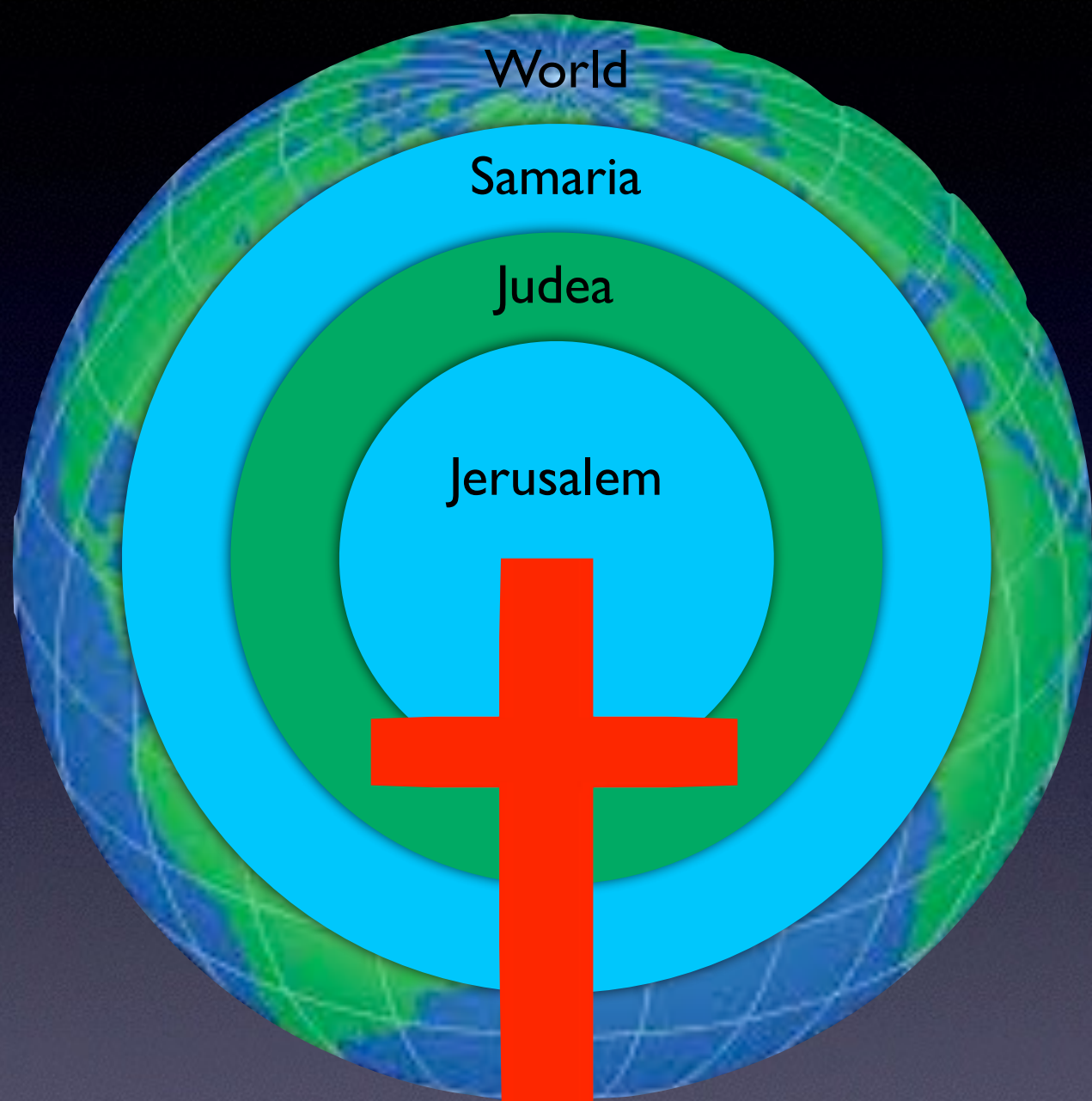
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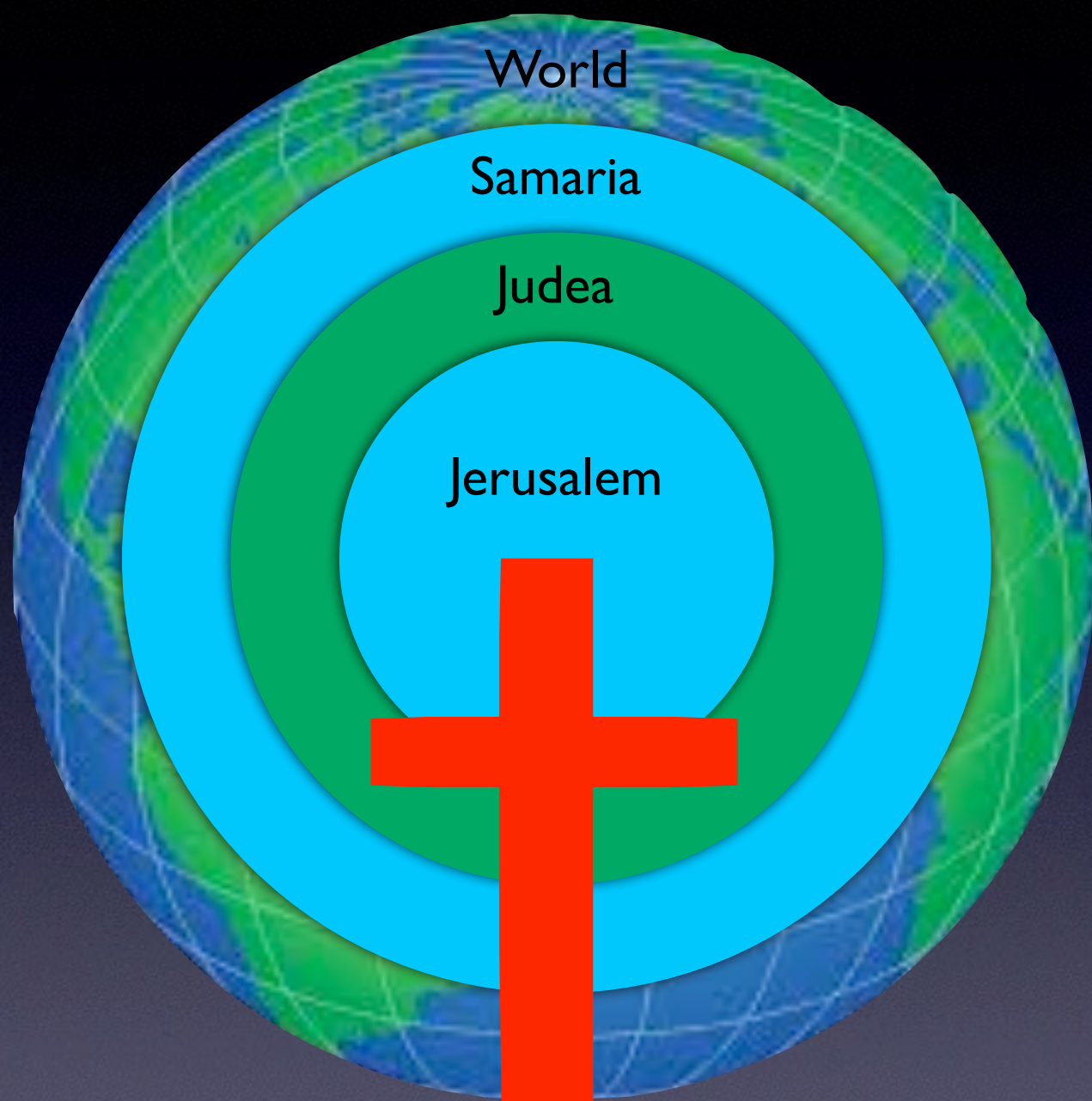


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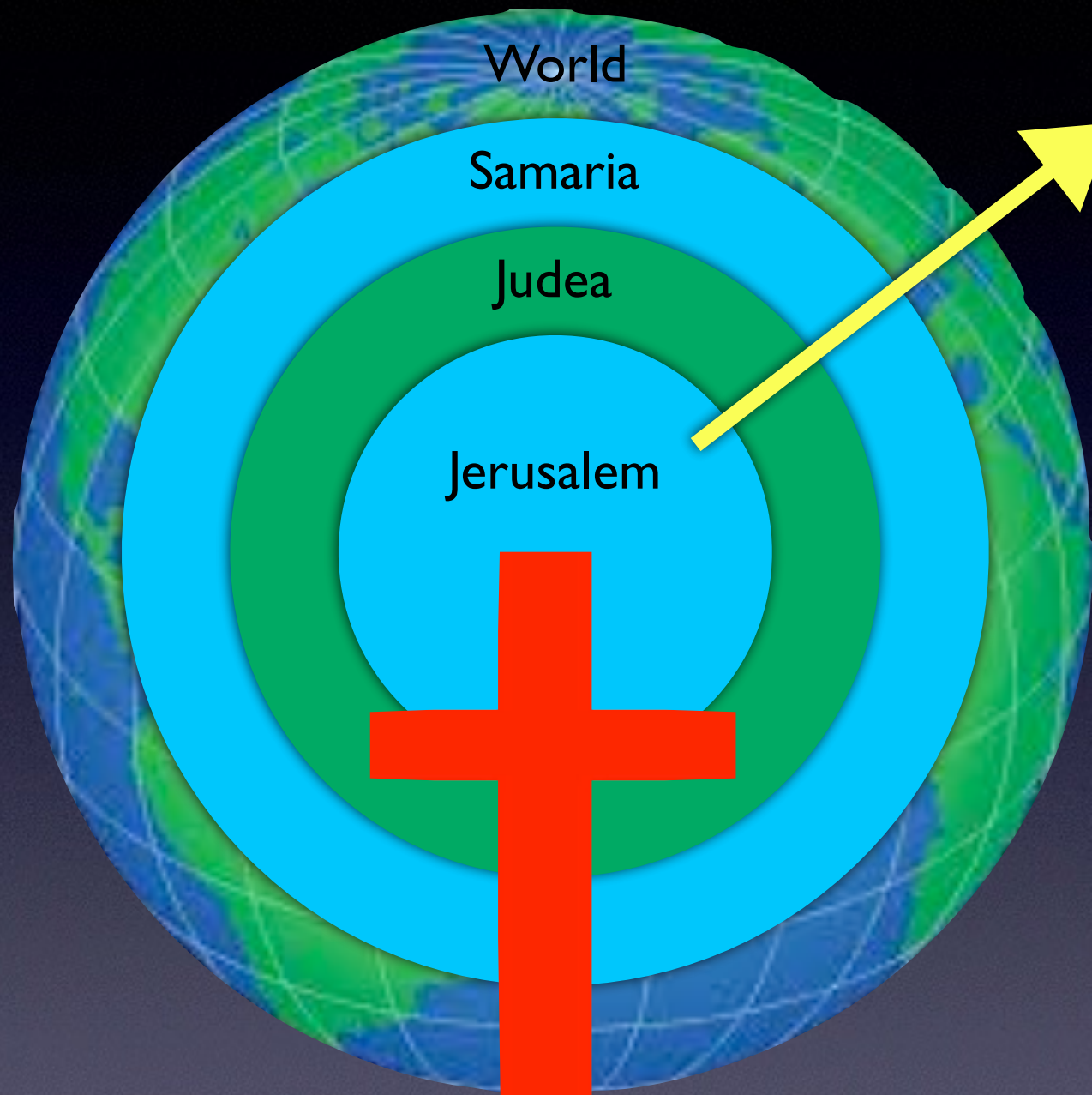
be My witnesses



Outline of Acts of the Apostles

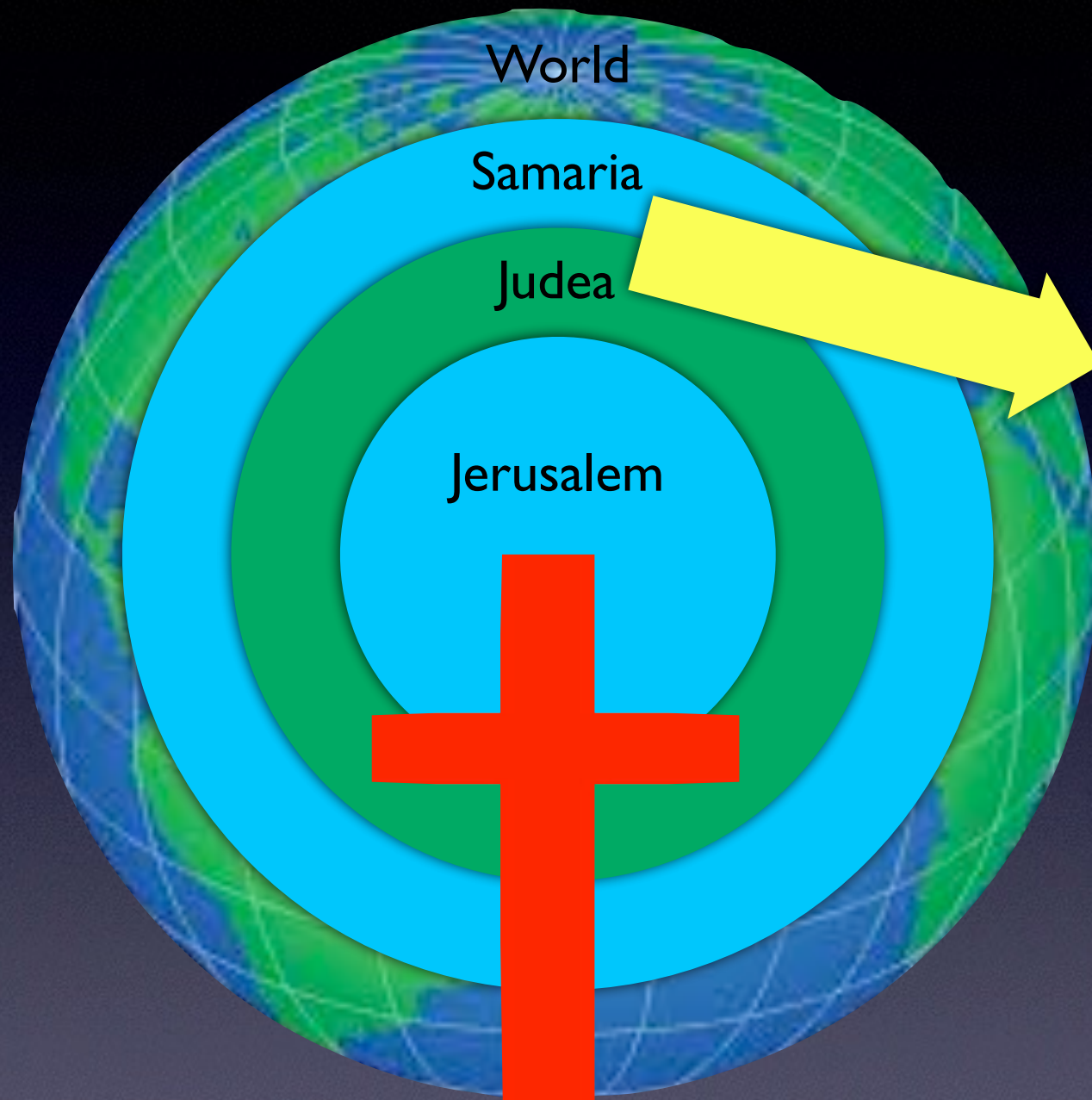


Outline of Acts of the Apostles



The Witness to Jerusalem
Acts 1:1 - 8:3

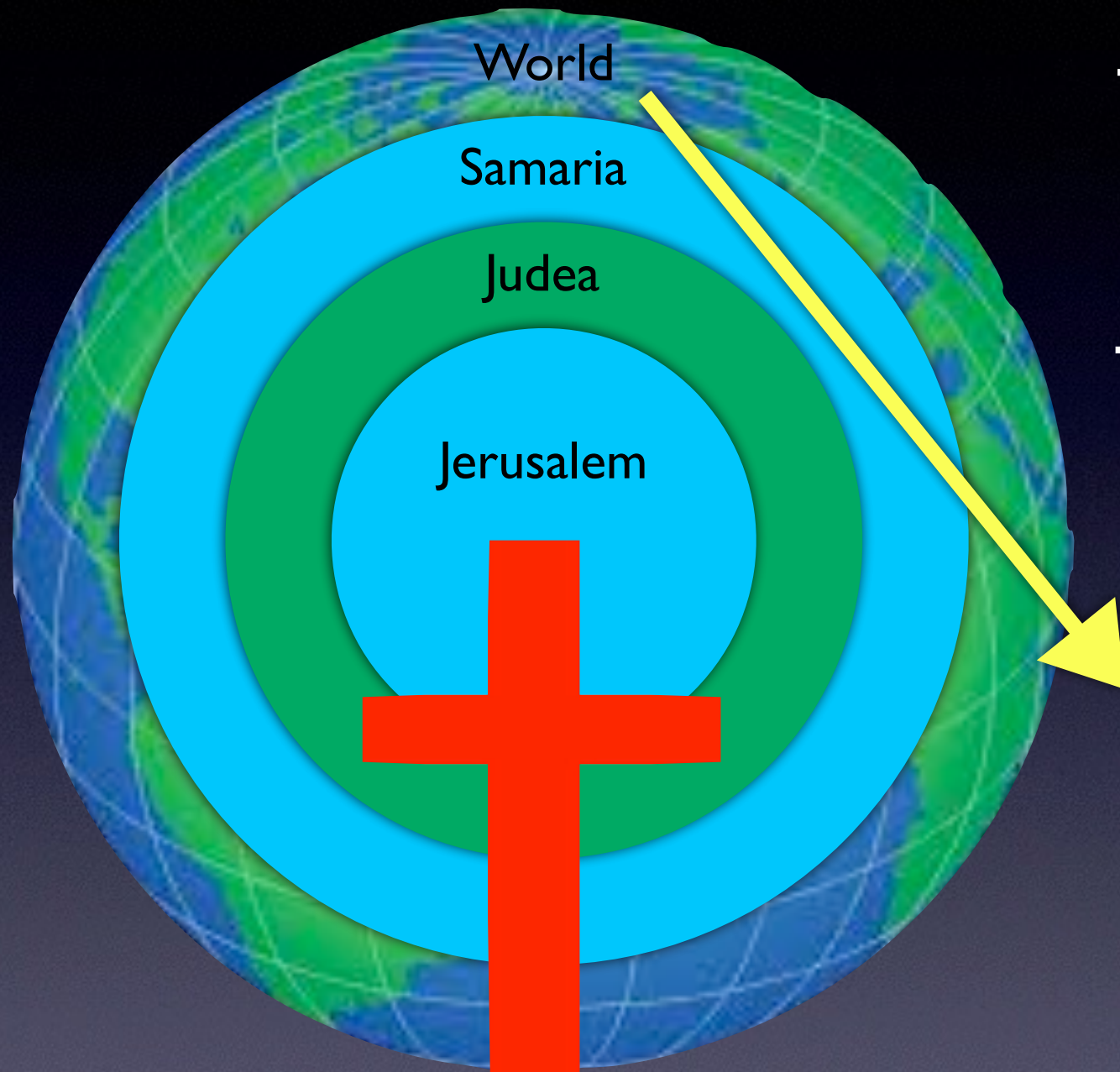
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The Witness to Judea and
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Acts 8:4 - 12:24

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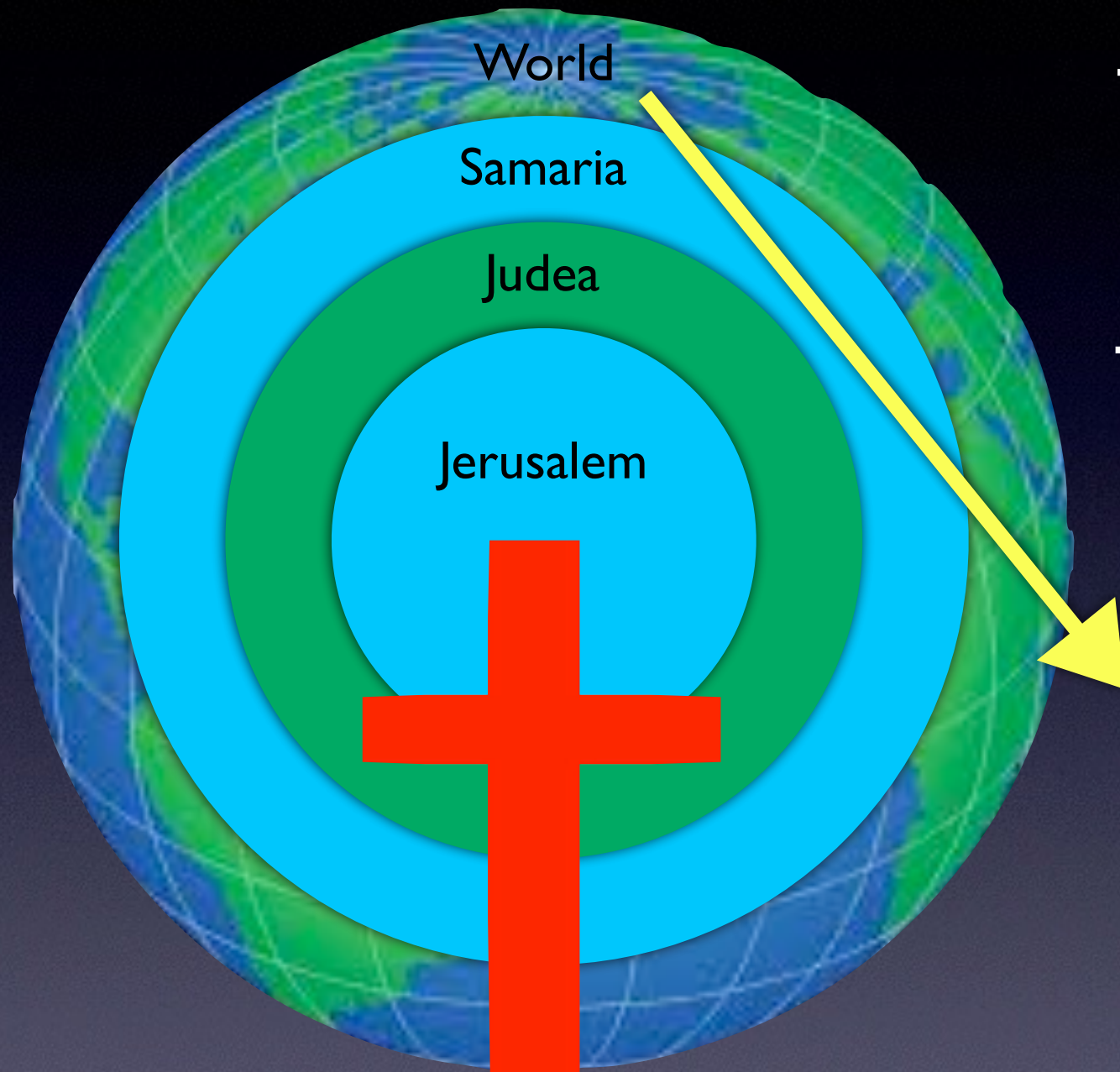


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The Witness to Judea and
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The Witness to the ends
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Acts 12:25 - 21:14

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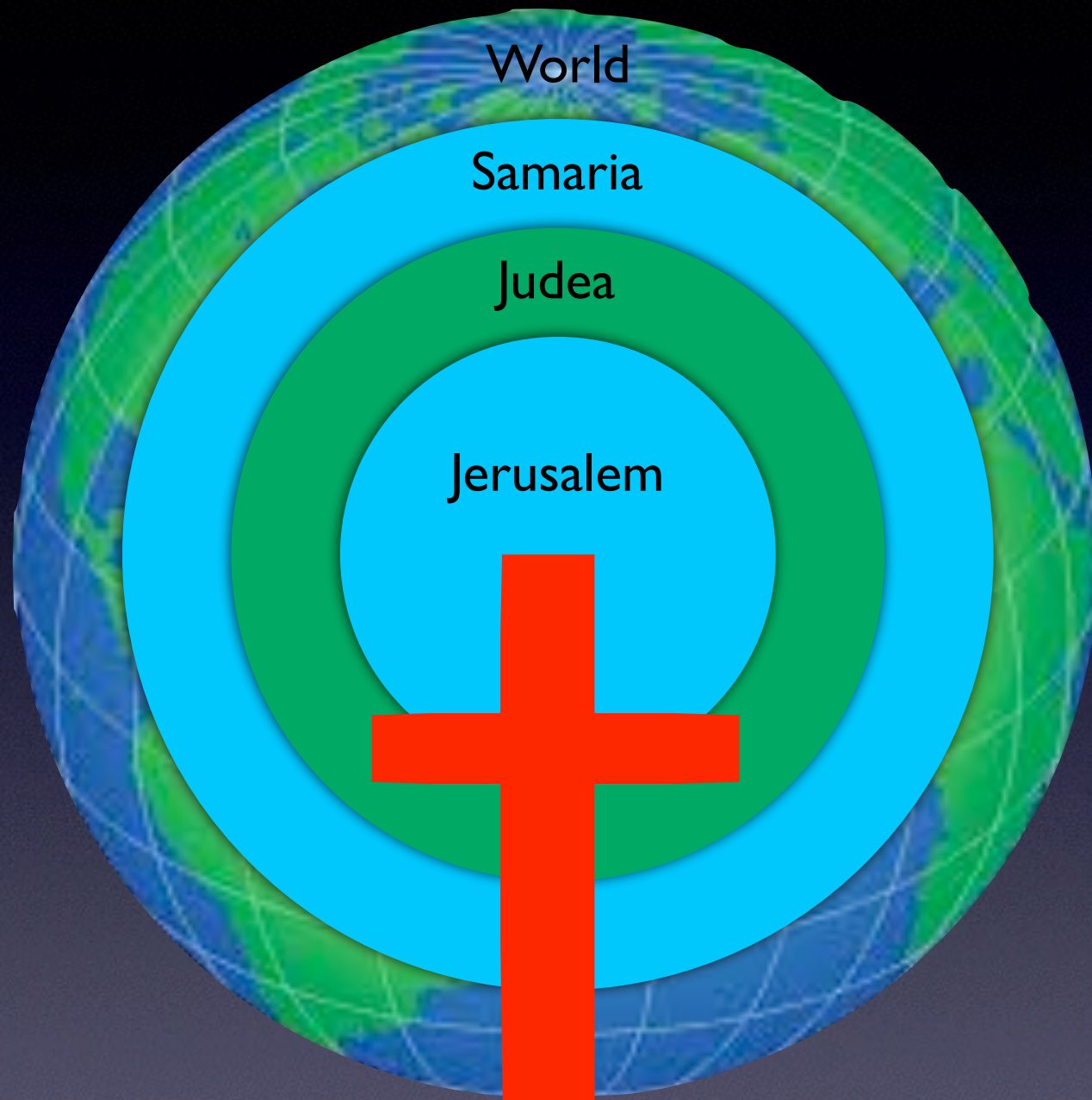
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From Jerusalem to Rome
Acts 21:15 - 28:31

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The Ascension of Jesus Christ - Acts 1:9-11

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The Ascension of Jesus Christ - Acts 1:9-11

1. Jesus was lifted up to heaven while they watched
2. The angels promised the return of Jesus but focused the disciples on the command of Jesus

Implications

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1. What do we learn from the example of Luke?

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2. What do we learn from the example of the disciples?

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1. What do we learn from the example of Luke?
2. What do we learn from the example of the disciples?
3. How do we apply the great commission given in Acts 1:8?