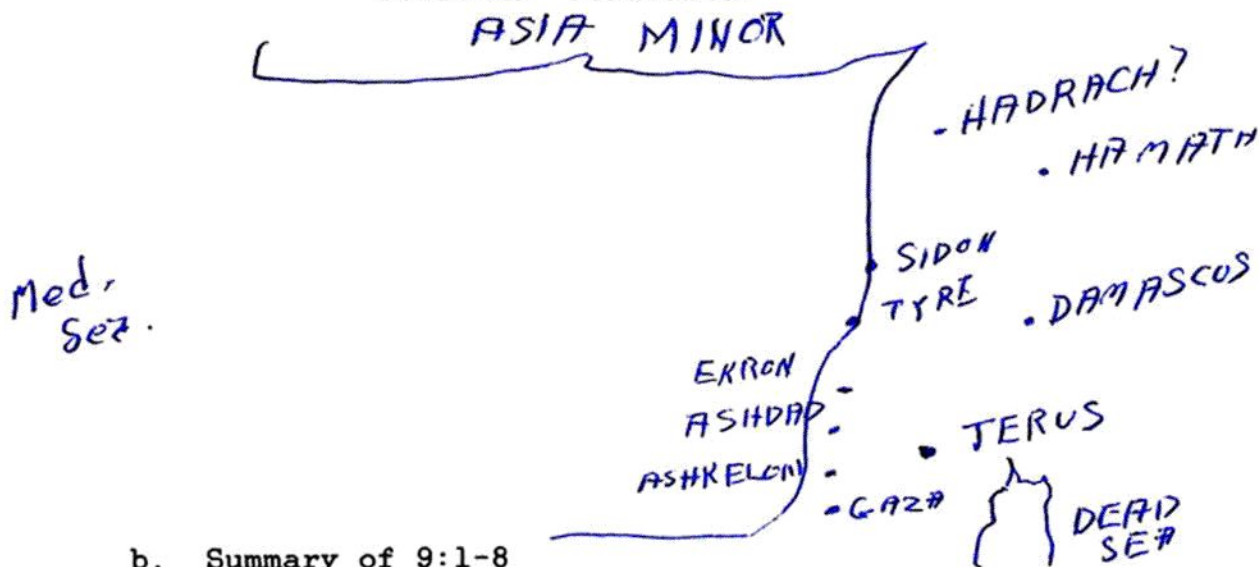


"shall not cross over"  $\text{לֹא יַעֲבֹר}$

"because now..."  $\text{כִּי עַתָּה}$

This verse is surely the heart of the chapter thus far and the question is, to what age, era, even does the prediction belong? Is the oppressor Alexander or someone unspecified? The preference in this corner is that if the immediate context makes good sense and the pertinent historical position fits it, we would do well to go with that understanding. We do not have our minds closed to other ideas, however.

And note this crude map and the way in which the territories described "surround" Jerusalem:



b. Summary of 9:1-8

-The passage teaches a judgment on the nations about Judah with the overthrow of local governments.

-It suggests the safety of Judah in this setting and may well be typical or predictive of further deliverances.

-It offers enough specific concepts of fulfilled prediction to certify the reality of the prophet's revelation and to make one listen closely to the rest of his study.