

# Israel 2014

## *A Pilgrimage*



This is a picture of an ancient Olive tree from Nazareth Village. There are many more like this one around the Mount of Olives, in the Church courtyards and the countryside in Israel.

# Course Outline

- √ May 5 – Overview of Israel and trip discussion
- May 12 – Days 0, and 1 of trip
- May 19 – Days 2, and 3 of trip
- June 2 – Days 4, and 5 of trip
  - Continue until we finish with no classes on Memorial Day Monday and VBS Monday

# Discussion Types

- Each Session of actual trip we will discuss from the itinerary our stops and look at the Biblical significance of them...In OT, In Jesus Day, Early Church, and Prophetically
- If they are a stop we have personally been to we will add some pictures, and discussions to make the visit more meaningful
- *Sessions are OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND Q's*

# Itinerary p1

Arrival Day	
Day 0	
Day 0	Arrive at David Ben <u>Gurion</u> Airport and transfer to Hotel in Tel Aviv
6:30p	Welcome Dinner
8:00	Welcome Briefing
Day 1	Open until 6:30
	See sights in Tel Aviv area
	Dinner and rest for tour next day
Day 2	Jaffa/Joppa
	Caesarea
	Acre/Akko - Lunch
	Nazareth
	Cana
	Hotel
Day 3	Cruise on Sea of Galilee
	Mount of Beatitudes
	<u>Tabgha</u>
	Primacy Church
	Capernaum

# Itinerary p2

Day 3	Lunch at Kibbutz
Cont.	Caesarea <u>Philipi</u>
	<u>Tiberias</u>
	<u>Yardenit</u> Baptism Site
	Hotel
Day 4	Mt Tabor
	Tel Megiddo
	Bethlehem – Lunch
	Church of Nativity
	Shepherds Field
	Hotel
Day 5	Mount of Olives
	Pater <u>Noster</u> Church, <u>Dominos Flevit</u> Church
	Garden of Gethsemane
	Tomb of Mary
	Mount Zion
	Upper Room
	Lunch
	<u>Ein Karem</u>
	John Baptist Birthplace –Visitation Church
	Hotel

Mount of Olives, Pater Noster Church, Dominos Flevit Church, Garden of Gethsemane, Tomb of Mary, Upper Room, Ein Karem, John the Baptist birthplace

# Itinerary p3

<b>Day 6</b>	<b>Optional Tour to Dead Sea Area</b>
	Qumran Area
	Masada
	Kalia Beach & swim
	Jericho
	Hotel in Jerusalem
<b>Day 7</b>	<b>Walking tour of Jerusalem</b>
	Western Wall
	Via Dolorosa/Temple Mount/ St Stephens Gate
	Pool of Bethesda
	Church of Holy Sepulcher
	Lunch
	Garden Tomb
	Free time in Old City
	Hotel
<b>Day 8</b>	<b>Depart per flight schedules</b>
<b>Note:</b>	<b>Itinerary is subject to change by tour operators</b>

# Material

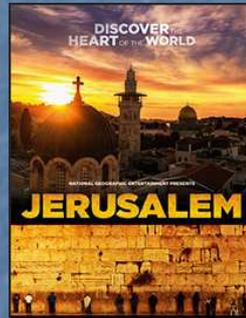
- My plan is to provide this material so we can take it with us and add our own notes as we visit the *Land of the Bible*
- It will make it much more special and give us lasting memories when we return.

## Day 0

- Most of us are going a day early for the tour which gives us time to rest before we start AND lets us take a leisurely tour of Tel Aviv
- Those who will be there will help us pick the sites for visit.
- When we cover Day 0 we will discuss what some of the selections might be

# Session 1

- Stan review the trip at a high level
- Show a YouTube clip of the movie now playing at Fernbank Science Center
  - <https://www.imax.com/movies/m/jerusalem/>
- Show a DVD called *Visions - Israel*



## Session 2 May 12, 2014

- Today we will cover the itinerary for the first 2 days of the tour
  - Tel Aviv (Open day we will decide what to see)
  - Jaffa, **Caesarea**, Acre, **Nazareth**, Cana

*Yellow means we have been there*

Make your Notes Here:



I want to start by an overview of Israel and where things are. Today we will talk about Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Caesarea, Nazareth, Acre, and Cana, First though I want to talk about the news stories you hear about rocket fire. It comes from Gaza into Israel and only reaches a few miles.

Point out Tel Aviv/Yafo, Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Gaza, Petra and location of Nazareth, Caesarea

Also I want to discuss political boundaries. Even though the State of Israel has defined boundaries from the 1967 war when the Arabs attacked Israel again, it delegates management of certain parts of the country to be managed by the Palestine Authority. These are called “The West Bank” and Gaza. The West Bank is a real misnomer because these are the Biblical areas of Samaria and Judea. You can see the butterfly area on the map which is the “West Bank”, meaning the west bank of the Jordan River. Many of the sensitive areas for Christians are in the Palestinian ruled territory (Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho). With so many Jews coming “home: to Israel from all over the world, Israel is building housing in its own area. You will hear them called settlements in occupied territory but they are historically Jewish, Every country has areas that were formally occupied by others, Israel is no different except God gave the Land to the Jews called out in the Old Testament.

# Tel Aviv

- Israel's most modern and largest city
- Started in 1948 when country was declared (as small outgrowth of Jaffa)
- Most nations have their Embassies to Israel in Tel Aviv (political correctness) including the US
- David Ben Gurion International Airport

Our first view of Israel is when we fly in over the old town of Joppa and land at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. The view is spectacular as we come in from the blue waters of the Med over the old then modern city of Tel Aviv.

Tel Aviv is a very new city starting when Israel became a country 66 years ago in May 1948. Tel Aviv is a fitting name for this city and the name is composed of two words, TEL and AVIV. You will see many site, towns, archeology sites begin with the word "Tel". While a complex word in Hebrew it means a place of remembrance, and it is a feature of the land where there is a large mound with many civilizations of artifacts buried in the Tel. "Aviv" means "Spring" or renewal. So Tel Aviv means a Remembering of Renewal, or a Place of Spring Renewal signifying Israel's belief that it represents a new beginning for the country based on all the memories and remembrances of the people who sacrificed along the way to get them to this point.

We will see other "tel" places, Tel Megiddo for example which is the ruins where the battle of Armageddon (Har Megiddo) will be fought in the future. Some say that the "Tel" Tells us of Remembrance, or Tells us of Megiddo. Not a bad way to remember what it means.

# Tel Aviv



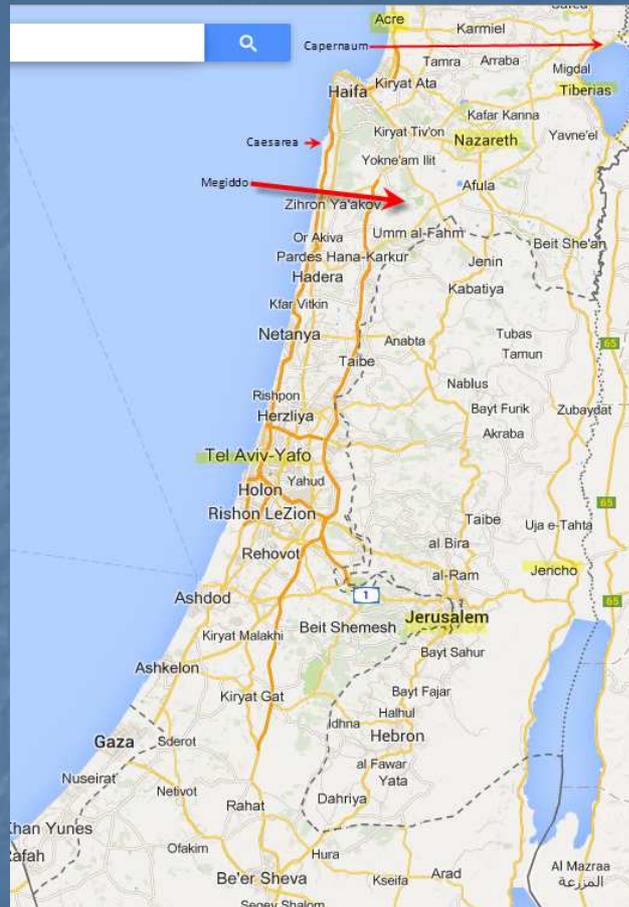
- Most important items to see for a Biblical Tour is the Independence Hall where Israel was declared a State in 1948
- Many evidences of Israel turning the desert into bloom as the technology, products, healthcare, pharmaceuticals move Israel among the top countries in the world.

The formation of Israel as a sovereign Nation, and choosing “Israel” rather than Judah is fulfillment of Biblical prophecy, and the cornerstone of the understanding of where we are in God’s timetable. Israel and Jerusalem are the ticking clock for Bible prophecy, Watch what happens there and see the future unfold, as God has spoken it.

You will see this for yourself when you get there but when Israel took over the land in 1948, it was wasteland of neglect, over grazing, and poor stewardship of the resources. Since Israel has managed the land it is bursting with farms, fruit trees, irrigation, new industry, Natural gas, Oil, and technology but the greatest resource it has is the determination of it’s people to make Israel successful and powerful to deter the aggression they have vowed “Never again”.

# Tel Aviv

- Jaffa
- Caesarea
- Acre
- Nazareth
- Cana



After Tel Aviv we will go to the other areas listed here. I will use this map to set the context and show you where we are traveling. Of these sites, we have only been to Caesarea and Nazareth so we can talk in some detail about what is there.

In each site we will talk about what you will see and make sure you understand whether it is rooted in Archeology, Tradition, or Example. In much of the areas, the early Roman church after the establishment of the Church of the Roman Empire, purchas

ed large blocks of land and built churches on the spots they decided where “authentic”. Most of this happened in the 4<sup>th</sup> century when Emperor Constantine's mother labored to bring Roman structure to the Holy Land.

With the famous split in the Eastern and Western Church there are many arguments over Holy sites between Orthodox and Catholic churches. We will see that in Jerusalem especially.

# A

## Joppa/Jaffa/Yafa



Joppa - A view from Simon the Tanners House

- From the Hebrew word for "beautiful"
- Ancient walled city originally allocated to Dan
- Port for Jerusalem where cedars of Lebanon were floated down and brought to Jerusalem for Solomon's temple
- Jonah left for Tarshish running from God and the Great Fish brought him back
- Peter raised Dorcas back to life (Acts 9:36)
- Peter was on roof of Simon the Tanners house when he got the vision from God about Gospel being for both Gentiles and Jews (Acts 10:1-11:5)

Joppa is a very old city with beautiful Mediterranean view and harbor. It has changed hands many times in the life of the city and is one of the oldest settled places in Israel. Since it was a port city it was a gateway for goods to come to Jerusalem from the Mediterranean countries and for travelers. When King David brought in the supplies to build the temple in Jerusalem, they came through Joppa. For example the Cedars used to construct the temple were floated down the sea from Lebanon to Joppa then moved to the building site.

We get an early scriptural view of Joppa when the prophet Jonah flees God's instruction from the Phoenician city of Joppa bound for Tarshish (Spain). As we remember from the Story, Jonah is thrown overboard and a great fish swallows him, where he stays for 3 days and is unceremoniously vomited up on the beach back in Joppa to "reconsider" God's direction to Him.

In the new Testament there are two stories involving Peter that are in Joppa. One where he raises Dorcas back to life (Acts 9:38-40), and the other when he is on the roof of Simon the Tanners house, and he has a vision from God about ceremonial cleanliness of food, but which he knows is really about the Good News of Jesus Christ being for all peoples...Jews and Gentiles alike...a profound turning point in Peters life and the Church's understanding of their commands from God. (Acts 10)

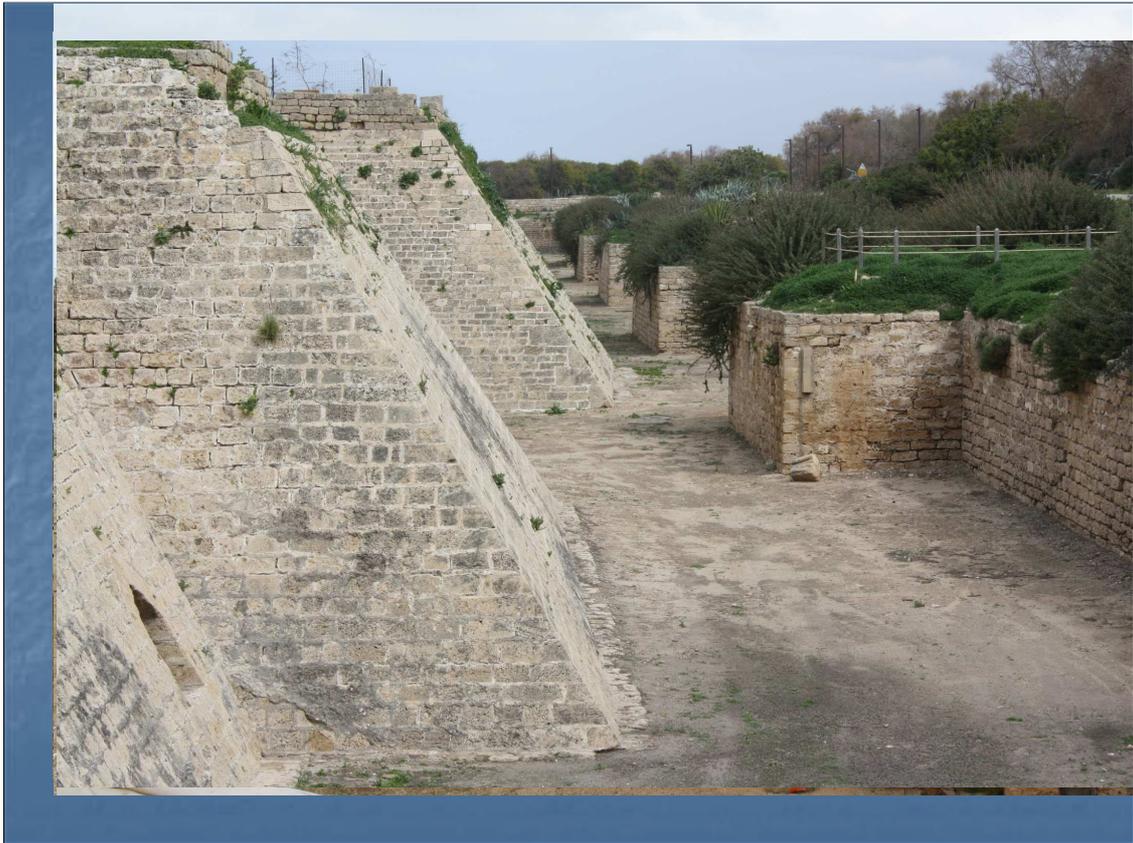
Today Joppa has been swallowed up by Tel Aviv, and is a small suburb on the shore of the large modern city of Tel Aviv right on the Med.

# A

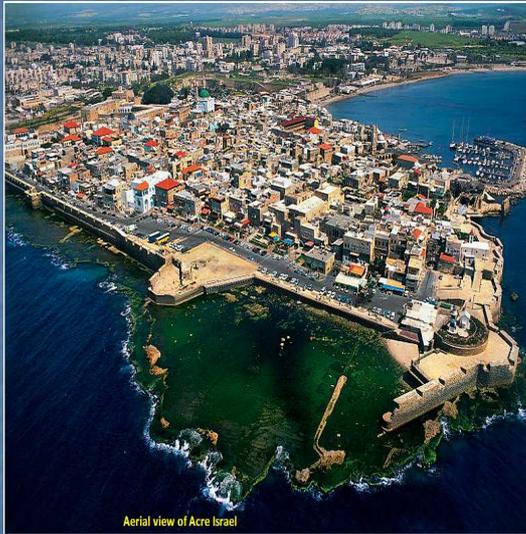
## Caesarea



- Roman town build by Herod the Great to honor Caesar
- Roman provincial governor
- Ruins are significant. This is a historically verified site



# A Acre / Akko/ Ptolemais



- Part of a line of coastal towns along the Med between Netanya and Haifa
- 3000 year old Phoenician city that has been under Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Ottoman, Crusader, and now Jewish Control
- Interesting mix of cultures and archeological remains
- Old City mostly Muslim and outside mostly Jewish

Acre or Akko or Ptolemais is a city that is over 3000 years old. It began as a Phoenician City and has been built, destroyed, and rebuilt several times. In the New Testament times it was Ptolemais and Paul stayed there for a day with the Christians who lived there. See [Acts 21:7](#) "We continued our voyage from Tyre and landed at Ptolemais, where we greeted the brothers and sisters and stayed with them for a day."

This city is now Israeli having been captured in 1948 when the Arabs attacked and killed Jews as they started a war with Israel when it declared itself a sovereign state in May, 1948.

Acre was ruled by Ottomans, Romans, Muslim Sheiks, Crusaders (Knights of St John and Knights Templar). Various mosques and buildings were built from the ruins of Caesarea, Crusader buildings, and Ottoman conquests.

Acre is also the Holy site for the Baha'i faith and now has about 75% Jews, 21% Muslims, and balance Christians and Baha'i.

# T

## Nazareth

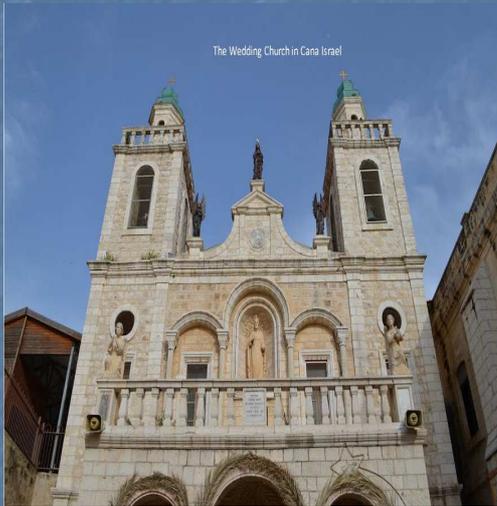


- Boyhood town of Jesus
- Nazareth Village shows re-enactment of village life in Jesus time
- St Josephs Church
- Church of Annunciation

Nazareth is a town of about 60,000 people now but in Jesus it was a very small village. There are no archeological sites here but several traditional Catholic and Orthodox sites like the Church of and Annunciation where the Angel Gabriel told Mary she would bear a son, St Josephs Church, Marys Well, as well as a re-enactment village of what life was like in Nazareth in Jesus time. Walk through and see Shepherds, work shops, fleece drying and an old Olive press like the ones that used to make Olive Oil. Also a gift shop. If you go there be sure and take the free gift and keep in handy as we fly out.

# T

## Cana of Galilee



- Arab village of Kafr Cana near Nazareth
- Traditional Site of Jesus miracle of turning water into wine
- Added to list of "Holy Sites" by Catholic Church in 17<sup>th</sup> Century
- The "Wedding" Church

Kafr Cana in the Lower [Galilee](#) is identified in Christian tradition as Cana of the Galilee. Here, according to tradition, Jesus performed the miracle of the wine, when he went to a wedding of a poor couple and turned water into wine.

In the 17th century Kafr Cana was officially recognized by the Vatican, and the pope officially confirmed that Kafr Cana is indeed Cana of the Galilee. Following this recognition the village was added to the list of Christian holy places. Some researchers identify Kafr Cana with the Kana mentioned in the ancient Egyptian Amarna letters (from about 4,000 years ago).

One way or the other, in the Roman-Byzantine period (1,000-2,000 years ago), there was a large Jewish community here, but apparently by the Mameluke period (about 800 years ago) most of the residents of Kafr Cana were Christian, although there was still a Jewish community here, too. Today most of the residents of Kafr Cana are Muslim.

In the center of the village are a few remains of ancient buildings and burial caves. The villagers have built new houses to the southeast and northeast of the ancient village. The most important site in the village is the Catholic Church, built in 1879, on the traditional site of the miracle of the wine. Beside this church is the Greek Orthodox church of St. George, built in 1886, which house two stone jars that Greek Orthodox followers believe are the jars in which Jesus performed the miracle of the wine.

There is also a church named after St. Bartholomew, built, according to tradition, on the site of the home of Nathaniel of Cana (St. Bartholomew), one of Jesus' disciples

# Session 3 May 19, 2014

- Today we will cover the itinerary for Days 3 and 4 of the tour
  - Day 3
    - Cruise on Sea of Galilee
    - Mount of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Primacy Church
    - Capernaum, Caesarea Philippi, Tiberias, Yardenit Baptism site
  - Day 4
    - Mount Tabor, Tel Megiddo
    - Bethlehem, Church of Nativity, Shepherds Field

*Yellow means we have been there*

Make your Notes Here:

# A

## Sea of Galilee

- Freshwater lake, not Sea.
- Many names
- Lowest freshwater lake in the world
- 13 miles long/7.5 miles wide, 33 miles in Circumference (less than 200 feet deep)\
- Depart from Tiberius on eastern shore

Rabbis have said that Jehovah created seven seas, but the Sea of Galilee is His delight. Josephus, the first-century Jewish historian, called it “the ambition of Nature.”

Visiting the Sea of Galilee is a highlight on any tour of Israel. The lake is known by five names: *Chinnereth* (or *Chinneroth*), Hebrew for “harp-shaped” (Num. 34:11; Josh. 12:3); Kinneret, its modern name; Gennesaret (Lk. 5:1); Sea of Tiberias, named for Roman Emperor Tiberius (Jn. 6:1, 23; 21:1); and the Sea of Galilee (Mt. 4:18; Mk. 1:16; Jn. 6:1).

At almost 700 feet below sea level, the Sea of Galilee is the **lowest freshwater lake in the world**. It is the only natural freshwater lake in Israel, serving as Israel’s largest and most important source of drinking water. It is **13 miles long, 7.5 miles wide, and 33 miles in circumference and has a maximum depth of under 200 feet**. Steep hills rise abruptly on the east and west of the lake, some to a height of 2,000 feet above sea level.

The Jordan River begins at Mount Hermon in the north and provides the major water supply for the Kinneret. Cool air blowing down from the north can meet with hot air in the valley below, causing violent storms to erupt over the lake (Mk. 4:35–41). In the Old Testament, the lake is referred to only in relationship to Israel’s borders (Num. 34:11; Josh. 12:3; 13:27).

A few cities surrounding the Sea of Galilee were Migdal (Magdala -Mt. 15:39), the home of Mary Magdalene; Hippos; Capernaum (4:13); Bethsaida (Mk. 6:45); Chorazin (Mt. 11:21); Tiberias (Jn. 6:23); and Gadara (the Gadarenes, Mk. 5:1). The cities produced an abundance of wheat, barley, figs, grapes, vegetables, and a variety of wild flowers. Today a large fishing industry exists in the area, with more than 22 varieties of fish.

Sitting in a boat in the center of the lake, Bible in hand, contemplating Jesus’ ministry is a meaningful experience on a tour of Israel. Of the 33 miracles Jesus performed around the lake, 10 were healing miracles. He also fed 5,000 men, plus women and children (Mt. 14:13–21), and demonstrated His power over nature by calming the lake’s waves (8:23–27; 14:22–33).

It was on this lake that the disciples Peter, James, and John forsook everything to follow Jesus (Lk. 5:1–11). Jesus borrowed Peter’s boat to stand in while He addressed the multitudes, and then He asked Peter to launch out into the lake and let down his net. Peter did so reluctantly, thinking the effort useless because he had toiled all night without catching anything (v. 5).

When Peter did what he was told, a miracle took place: He caught so many fish the nets broke, and two boats full of fish started to sink. Overcome with guilt because of his unbelief, Peter said to Jesus, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” (v. 8).

Jesus responded with mercy because He had a mission for Peter: “Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men” (v. 10). Upon arriving at the shore, Peter, James, and John forsook all and immediately followed Jesus (v. 11).

## View of Sea of Galilee



This was a view from the Kibbutz where we stayed at the bottom of Sea of Galilee, looking North. You can see Tiberias in the left shore. This morning was calm but the evening before was windy and stormy and whitecaps were extremely visible as the waves were violently churning. Clear understanding of the seas when Christ calmed the storm

## Boarding the boat



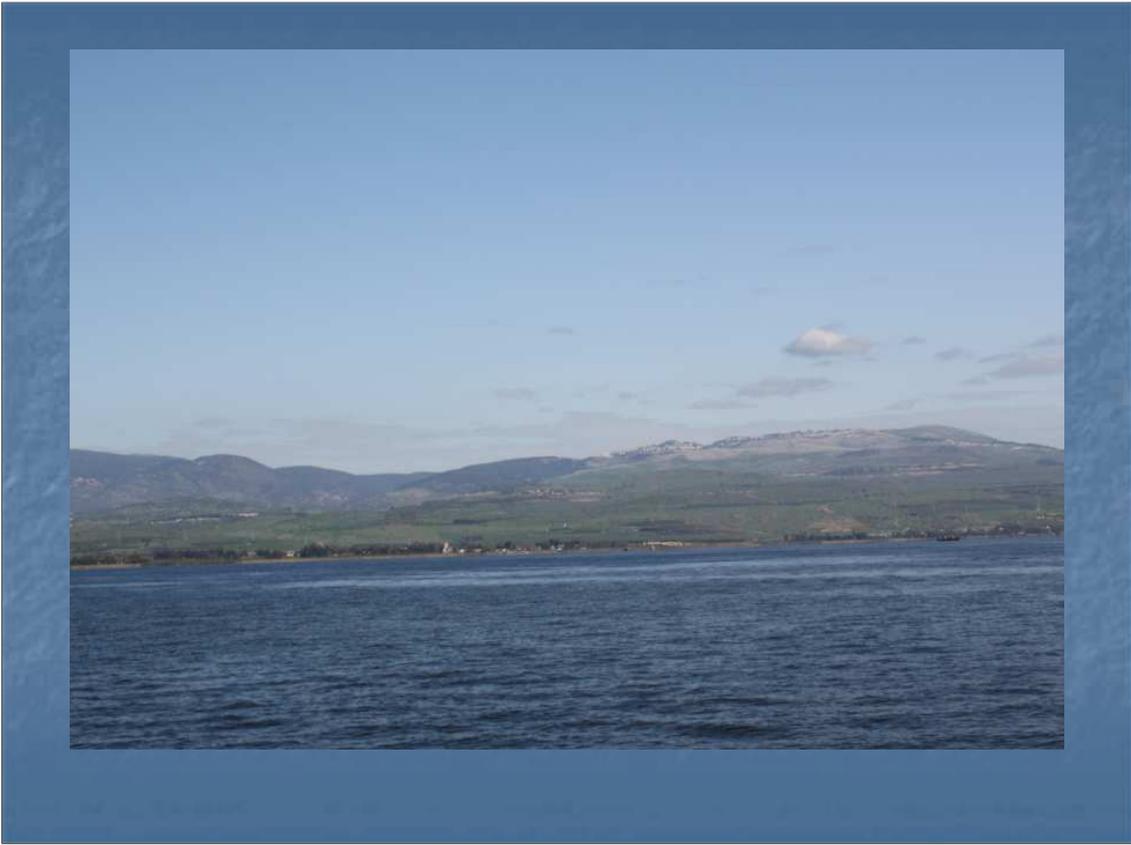
The memorable day starts with a trip from the Tiberius docks on replica boats (very safe) with engines and large decks. One can see the beauty of the Sea of Galilee immediately



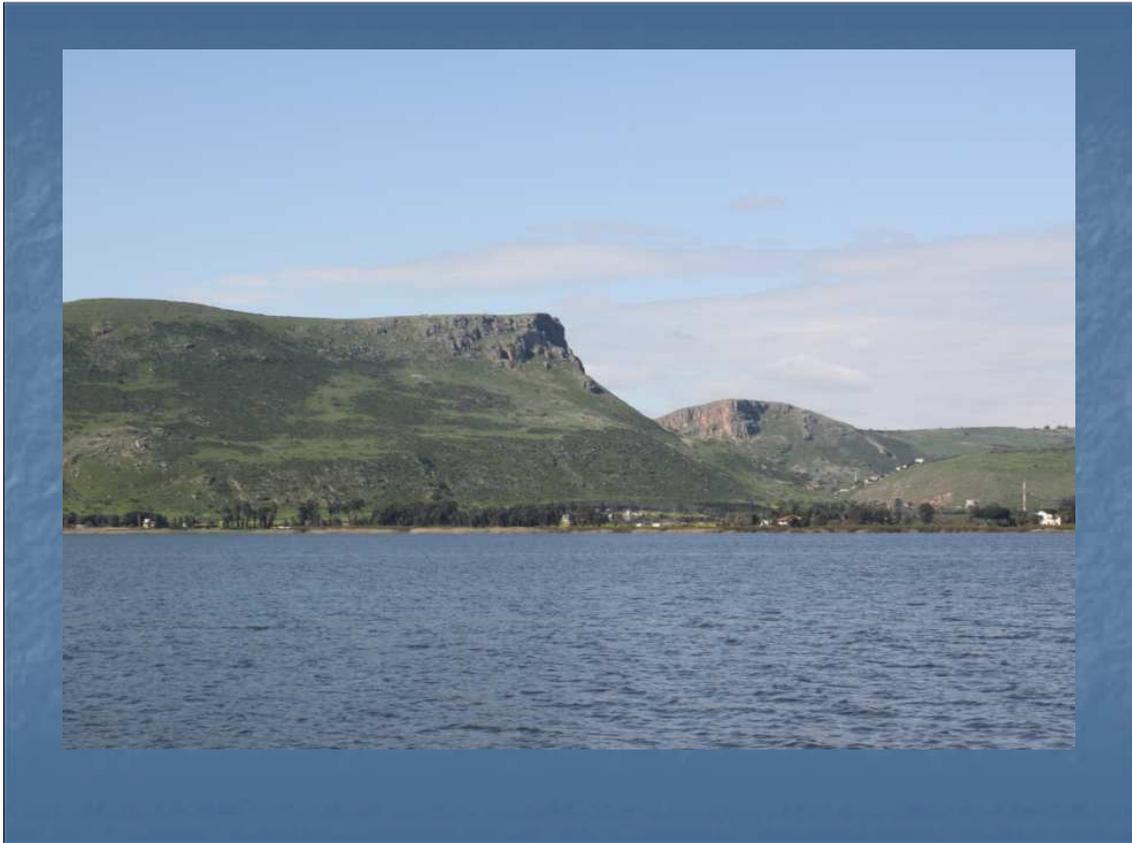




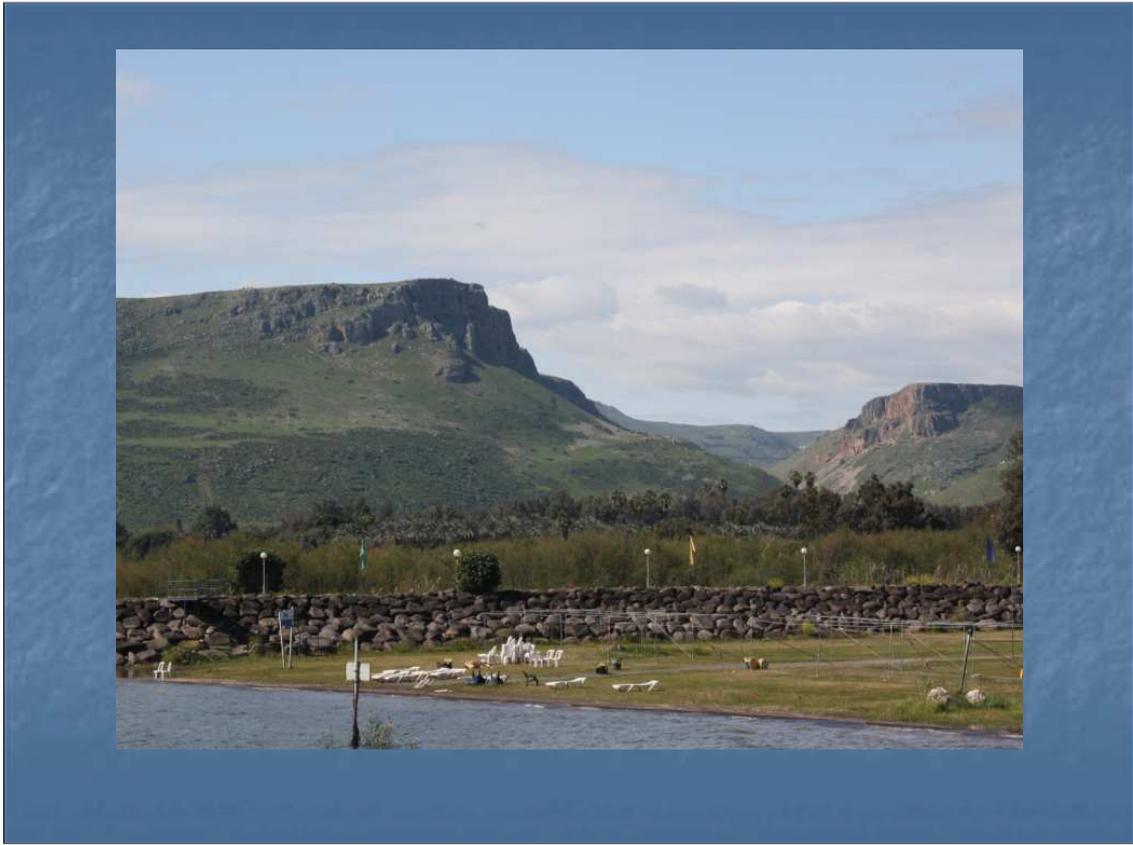
Mount Hermon in the distance, where the Transfiguration took place. Snow capped in March







Migdal, which means “tower” is at the base of this tower of rock. This is the town where Mary of Magdala (Magdalene) was from



Another view of Migdal



Video.Galilee.mov

## What fishing boats looked like



Not sure whether we will go to the museum of the boat, but it shows replica of what Peter's fishing boat would have looked like and an actual boat remains from the period. Interesting to see the tools they used and the difficulty they had in dealing with the unpredictable water conditions.

# T

## Mount of Beatitudes



Matthew 5:3-12 records Jesus' sermon to the great multitude who followed Him, but It begins in Matt 5:1-2 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them.

### The Beatitudes

He said: Blessed are...

This is not only where these powerful lessons were taught, but other critical things critical to understanding

### Salt and Light

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

### The Fulfillment of the Law

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them **but to fulfill them**. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Teachings on Murder

Teachings on Adultery

Teaching on Divorce

Teaching on Oaths

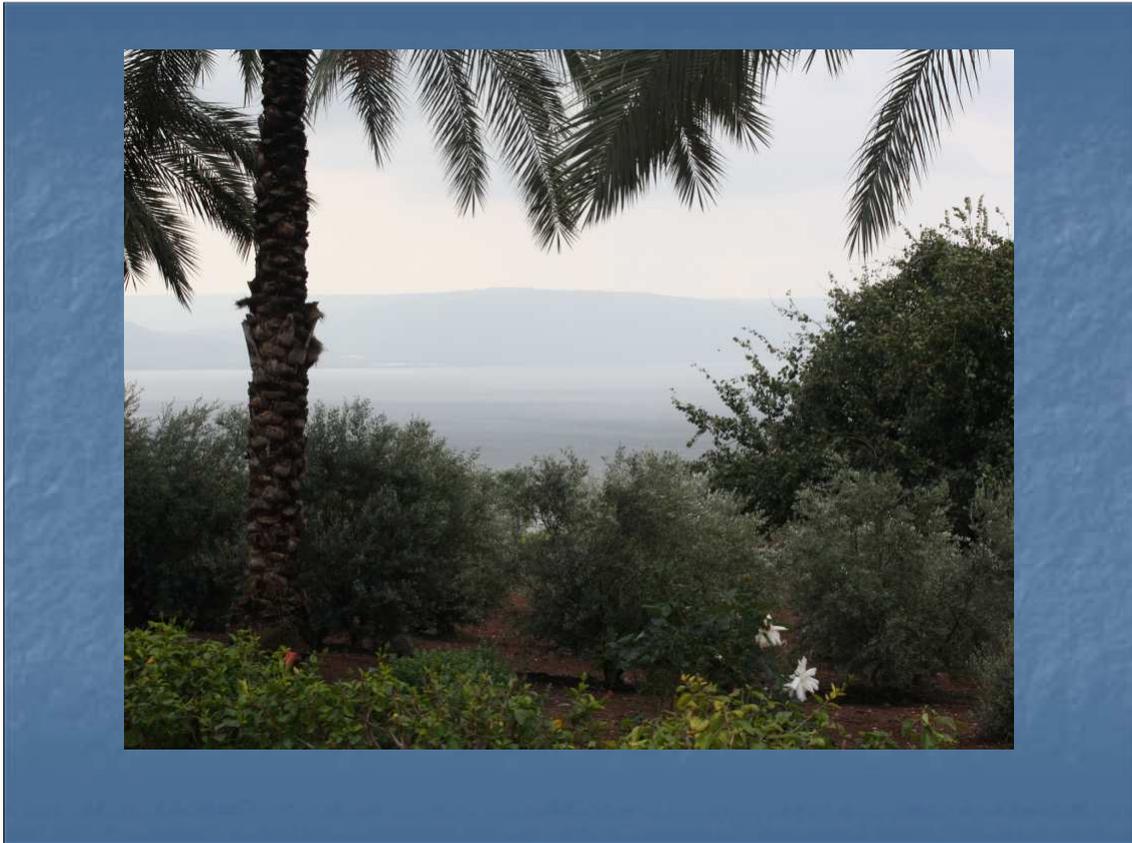
Teaching on an Eye for an Eye

Teaching on Love for your Enemies

So much of the time the church focus' on the "Be Happy" parts of the message but the harder teachings about living as Christ instructed is are not taught, to our detriment and suffering.



This is a TRADITIONAL Site. No one really knows where this part of Jesus Ministry took place except it is a meadow up a hill on Sea of Galilee and this is where the Catholic Church chose to build the commemorative church and set the tradition in place



Beauty of the area is moving, with the Sea of Galilee in the background and the Mountains visible, and to know that Jesus eyes and feet both saw and walked these paths.

# A

## Caesarea Philippi



Located on the southern slopes of Mt Hermon near the ancient city of Dan, we are in the area where the Jordan river starts. It lies in the area known as the Wadi Banias, which is a beautiful area near the Jordan River. It has several names, It was called Panion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC and was so named because of the Greek god Pan, who was worshipped at a nearby cave. This cave is still visible and many of the archeological remains are still there of pagan worship.

The cave was the reported entrance to the underworld and the place of the dead since it was extremely deep and large inside (Josephus). The name became Panias, and means "Pan's place" but since there is not the "p" sound in Arabic, it is called Banias instead,

From a Biblical perspective this is important because this is where Jesus had the discussion with the disciples, and Peter about "who do men say that I am" and finished with "Who do YOU say that I am?" This question is the most important question each of us has to answer in our lifetime. This is recorded in Matt 16:13-16

### **Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah**

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

This place also sheds some needed light on two other passages in vv17-18

17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, **and on this rock** I will build my church, and the **gates of Hades** will not overcome it.

The terms Peter and Rock are a play on words. Peter meaning small rock, and rock meaning foundation rock, Peter's confession will be the rock on which Christ will use to build the church on Himself as the Messiah, the foundation of the church. Also some Bible translations say the Gates of Hell, in the last part of v 18 but this is an incorrect translation. The cave called "Pan's Place" was the gate to the underworld place of souls. Hades means the resting place of Souls after death. Jesus' comment was that Even the depths of the pagan Hades Entrance would not overcome His Church. Not death, not the grave, not pagan superstition.

This cave was a place for an object lesson and a teaching about the coming eternity and foundational strength of His Church, and the power of Peter's confession.

# A

## Panias (Banias)



**המקדש המקודש מאז 1799**

**THE SANCTUARY OF PAN**

The sanctuary of Pan at Banias, the Roman name for the site, is one of the most important archaeological sites in the Galilee region. It was founded in the 2nd century AD by the Roman Emperor Augustus, who dedicated it to the god Pan. The site is located in a valley surrounded by steep hills, and it is one of the best-preserved Roman sanctuaries in the region. The sanctuary consists of a large temple complex, a courtyard, and a series of smaller buildings. The main temple is dedicated to Pan, and it is one of the largest and most impressive Roman temples in the region. The site is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and it is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the Galilee region.

**ARTIST IMPRESSION OF THE SANCTUARY OF PAN**

**התעת שיחזור למתחם המקודש מאז 1799**

**LEGEND**

- 1 THE TEMPLE OF AUGUSTUS
- 2 THE COURTYARD OF THE GOD PAN
- 3 THE TEMPLE OF ZEUS
- 4 THE TEMPLE OF HERCULES
- 5 THE TEMPLE OF THE SACRED COURTS
- 6 THE TEMPLE OF PAN & THE SACRED COURTS
- 7 THE TEMPLE OF PAN & THE SACRED COURTS

**1 המקדש של אוגוסטוס**

**2 הריבוע של פאן**

**3 המקדש של זאוס**

**4 המקדש של הרקולס**

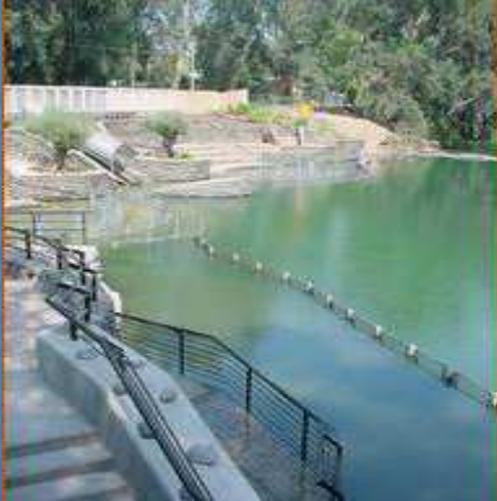
**5 המקדש של הריבוע הקדוש**

**6 המקדש של פאן והריבוע הקדוש**

**7 המקדש של פאן והריבוע הקדוש**

# T

## Yardenit Baptismal Site



- One of several sites proposed for the baptismal site of Jesus by John the Baptist
- Jordan River near Sea of Galilee
- Popular visit site

One of the traditional sites of Jesus Baptism by John the Baptist in Mark 3:13. While it is really not known at all where Jesus was baptized, it was at a traditional crossing place of the Jordan River, near the Sea of Galilee, and this is one that fills the requirements plus has plenty of parking and baptismal possibilities for those interested.

Yardenit means Little Jordan, or a place where the river narrowed and could be crossed.

# T Tabgha / Primacy Church



- Town of Tabgha
- "Primacy of Peter"
- Roman Catholic site

Church of the Primacy of Saint Peter on the Sea of Galilee in Tabgha, Israel. Traditional site where Jesus Christ appeared to his disciples after his resurrection and, **according to Catholic tradition**, established Peter's supreme jurisdiction over the Christian church. Comemorates Jesus' reinstatement of Peter as chief among the Apostles. This is a statue of Jesus telling Peter to "Feed my sheep." From a non catholic viewpoint, this is a church that was built and is venerated to support the catholic idea that Peter is the top disciple and therefore since they trace their papal history (also tradition, not historic) they are the only real church of Jesus.

The modern structure was built in 1933 and incorporates parts of an earlier 4th century church. At the base of its walls, opposite the main altar, foundations of the 4th century church are visible. In the 9th century, the church was referred to as the *Place of the Coals*. This name refers to the incident of Jesus' preparation of meal for the apostles, building a charcoal fire on which to cook the fish. Also first mentioned in the year 808 are the "Twelve Thrones", a series of heart shaped stones, which were placed along the shore to commemorate the Twelve Apostles. The church survived longer than any other in the area, finally being destroyed in 1263.<sup>[1]</sup> The present Franciscan chapel was built on the site in 1933. This church was included in the itinerary of [Pope Paul VI](#) during his 1964 visit to Israel according to Fodors' Tour Guide for Israel.



- Limestone ledge where Jesus was to have prepared Fish for the disciples

# Mount Tabor



- View from Jezreel Valley
- Deborah (Judge/prophetess) defeats Sisera
- Transfiguration of Jesus

**Mount Tabor** ([Hebrew](#): הַר תְּבוּר, [Modern Har Tavor](#) [Tiberian Har Tāḇôr](#), [Arabic](#): جبل الطور, *Jabal aṭ-Ṭūr*, [Greek](#): Ὄρος Θαβώρ) is located in [Lower Galilee](#), [Israel](#), at the eastern end of the [Jezreel Valley](#), 11 miles (18 km) west of the [Sea of Galilee](#). It was the site of the [Mount Tabor battle](#) between [Barak](#) under the leadership of the [Israelite](#) judge [Deborah](#), and the army of [Jabin](#) commanded by [Sisera](#), in the mid 12th century BC. It is believed by many [Christians](#) to be the site of the [Transfiguration of Jesus](#).<sup>[1]</sup> It is also known as Har Tavor, Itabyrium, Jebel et-Tur, and the Mount of Transfiguration.

Mount Tabor is strategically located on the main north-south ancient road, and for most Christians it is a Holy mountain - "the mount of Transfiguration". It was an important fortress during the First and Second Temple, Greek, Roman and Crusaders times.

# A

## Tel Megiddo



- Northern part of Jezreel valley
- Ancient village of Megiddo
- Site of future war of Armageddon
- View of plains where ancient and future battles will take place

Tel Megiddo is an ancient settlement with ruins near Har Megiddo (or Armageddon) where historic battles have taken place over the centuries and is the scene in Revelation where the final destruction of Satans forces gathered to destroy Israel will take place. The valley is the Jezreel valley and is a historic pathway for armies wishing to come to Israel or neighbors and fight wars.

Tel= historic hill where ruins and archeology shows the town and the look out. Very interesting views of Nazareth, Mt Tabor, Golan Heights, and the fertile valley.



Paths and sites where horses were stabled and people lived are being uncovered and more to come from the Tel that is there.



You can see the observatory on the hill to the left where we can look out over the valley.



I will show you a brief clip of the area. This is from the lookout we just saw in the previous slide.



Video 0711.mov

# Bethlehem



At the  
checkpoint...

When you come to Bethlehem, you move from the Jewish Controlled space to the Palestinian. This is a view as you come from Jerusalem into Bethlehem and cross into Palestinian territory.

# Passing through the gate...



- Notice the difference
- Arab guide gets on the bus

# Lunch in Bethlehem



- Local fare is quite good
- We will eat then go shopping and tour the city

# Bethlehem...the reality



- Local souvenir shops
  - Olive wood
  - Jewelry
  - Memorabilia
- Never far from Politics
- Bethlehem was once 85% Christian but now only 15% and getting smaller each year...being driven out

We just had a "Christian" event there called "Christ at the checkpoint" where liberal Christians, Arab Christians, and others got together to bash Israel for its treatment of Palestinians and the "wall". No mention of the fact that Israel built the wall because of the terrorists that kept coming from Bethlehem into Israel for bombings, killings and general terror activities. It has virtually stopped since the wall was built. Also no mention of the scandalous driving out of the Arab Christian community that is Biblical rather than Palestinian. Even the Pope will visit Bethlehem soon with no mention of the persecution and driving out of Christians. Fact: Only Israel can Arabs, Jews, Christians and others live in peace with protection by the state of minority rights. Arabs are in courts, judges, Knesset, Army and all places in service in Israel

# Various Scenes



# T

## Shepherds Field

- Sheep for the Passover were raised in the temple field at Bethlehem
- These sheep were the ones slated for the Passover and atonement sacrifices at the Temple
- Migdal Edar/Eder – Tower of the Flock
  - Recount Location
  - Purpose
  - Micah
  - Sign
  - Result

**Micah 5:2** where the Messiah will come from... *But thou, **Bethlehem Ephratah**, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is **to be ruler in Israel**; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

**Micah 4:8**, it even gives a more specific location in Bethlehem where the birth of the Messiah would take place, *“And thou, **O tower of the flock**, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, **unto thee shall it come**, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.*

Actually, much more is written about the angels proclaiming to the shepherds the good news... *“And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. **And this shall be a sign unto you**; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.’*

**(Luke 2:8-18)**

# T

## Church of the Nativity

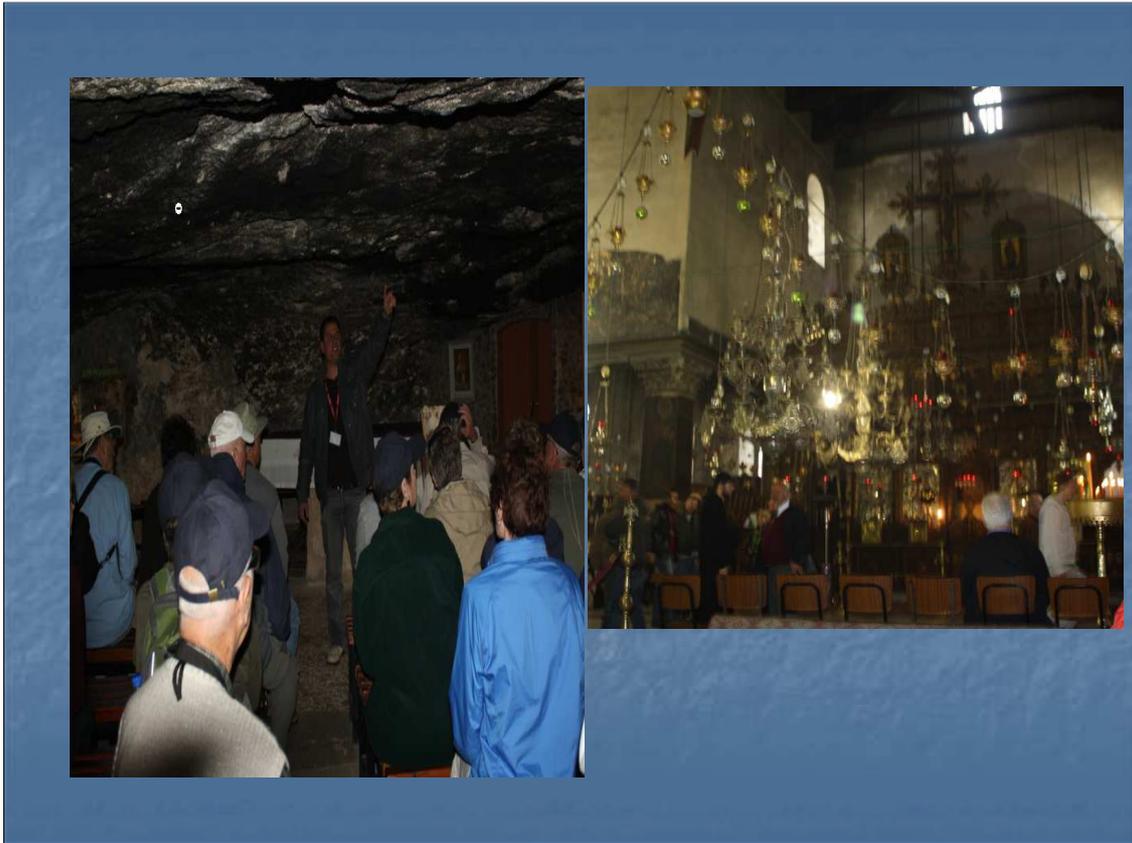


- Traditional site of Catholic church.
- Most Arab Christians are Catholic
- Legends of St George abound and many Christian boys are named George

# Inside the Church



Scenes of the Family with Shepherds, with Angels, and every possible ornament and icon that symbolizes the scene of the birth of Christ. Beautiful paintings and sculptures and Gardens.



Our guide, George, shows us the possible stable and some of the ornamentation inside the church. So many countries and churches sent oil lamps to memorialize the site. Hundreds are hanging here and in Jerusalem at the church of the Holy Sepulcher



# Crossing back into Israel





End of Day 4

# Session 3 - June 2, 2014

- Today we will cover the itinerary for the days of the tour plus Capernaum
  - Capernaum
  - Jerusalem – Day 1
- **Session 4- June 16**
  - Jerusalem or Dead Sea
- **Session 5 – June 23**
  - Jerusalem – Day 2
  - Leave for home

I will cover Jerusalem in general order of the tour but actual tour may be different due to scheduling

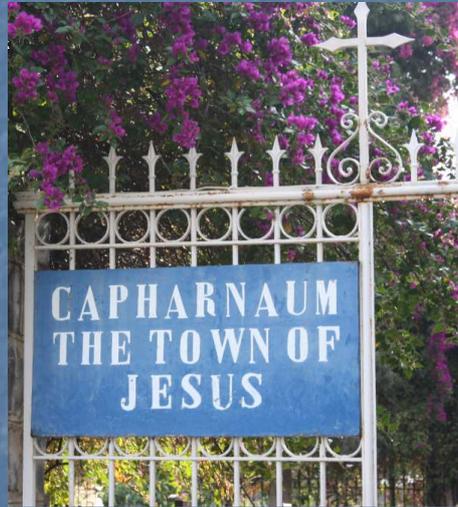
*Yellow means we have been there*

Make your Notes Here:

# A

## Capernaum

- *Kfar Nahum* – village of Nahum
- Center of Jesus' ministry
- One of the most important sites for Christians since so many of the NT events happened here



Capernaum – Kfar Nahum

Center of Jesus Ministry in Galilee

This city is on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee and became the home base for Jesus' ministry. The name means Village of Nahum but no real evidence who Nahum was. Some say the Prophet Nahum.

Through excavation and Jewish evidence, the Tel Hum dig revealed the ancient town of Capernaum and many of the houses and buildings you will see here.

Clearly visible are the ruins of houses, fishing village, a synagogue, and the churches that were built on the site. It is a wonderful place to wander around. Here are some of the things you will remember about Capernaum from the Bible

1. This is where Jesus came when he began his earthly ministry - Matt 4:13
2. Jesus recruited his first followers...Peter, James & John, and Matthew close by
3. He taught in the local Synagogue
4. Cast out demons and cured leprosy- Matt 8 1-3, 16-17
5. Raised Jairus (synagogue leader) daughter from the dead – Luke 8:41-51
6. Cured Peter's Mother in Law of a fever – Mark 1:31, Matt 8: 14-15
7. Cured a Centurion's Servant – Matt 8:5-13
8. Calms the Storm – Matt 8:23-27

# Pictures of Capernaum



# Ruins of Capernaum



Picture on the left is a view from the balcony of the Synagogue in Capernaum – You can see the village, the shops and the hill leading to the shore where the fisherman would be. At the right you see the current church built by the Franciscans over the site of Peter's house.

Picture on the right is a better view of the church and when you get closer you can see the ruins of the house under the pillars of the church.

# Ruins of Capernaum



Many pictures and examples of where the stores and personal residences existed through the ruins that have been excavated.

With the miracles and ministry of the Lord so close, it is a good place to pray for your family, their belief and faith, and your own walk with the Lord.

As many miracles and wonders that were done in the vicinity, Capernaum was cursed by Jesus for their unbelief. Although he did many things there, only a few of the residents became His followers.

Read Matt 11:20-24

## **Woe on Unrepentant Towns**

20 Then Jesus began to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent.

21 "Woe to you, **Chorazin!** Woe to you, **Bethsaida!** For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in **Tyre** and **Sidon**, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

22 But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.

23 And you, **Capernaum**, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day.

24 But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."

What can we learn from this? God has no Grandchildren, only Children. Each of us must make peace and come to the Lord individually, and we get no eternal credit/blessing from being around Christians (except in this life).

***Capernaum is a great place to walk in Jesus footsteps but also to recommit yourself to be a follower, as did Peter, James, John, Matthew, Philip and others***

***Reference books***

## Jerusalem – Day 1

- Mount of Olives, Pater Noster Church, Dominos Flevit Church, Garden of Gethsemane, Tomb of Mary, Upper Room, Ein Karem - John the Baptist birthplace

This day will be totally in Jerusalem. Here is what the itinerary shows. OF course the key items in this list, other than just the majesty of the city itself is the Mt. of Olives and Gethsemane which are real sites where we will spend some time. Other items like the two churches and the Tomb of Mary, and JB birthplace, and Upper Room are traditional sites. Ein Karem is also a traditional site

# T

## Tomb of Mary



### Tomb of Mary

Jerusalem

Steps down to the Tomb of Mary and view of sepulchre

The [New Testament](#) says nothing about the **death** and burial of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, but a Catholic Christian tradition places her tomb in a dimly-lit church at the foot of the [Mount of Olives](#).

The large crypt containing the empty tomb in the Church of the Assumption is all that remains of an early 5th-century church, making it possibly the **oldest** near-complete religious building in [Jerusalem](#).

The location of the Tomb of Mary is across the Kidron Valley from St Stephen's Gate in the Old City walls of Jerusalem, just before [Gethsemane](#).

The Church of the Assumption stands partly below the level of the main Jerusalem-Jericho road. It is reached by a stairway leading down to an open **courtyard**.

## T *Ein Karem* (Spring of the Vineyard)

- Suburb of SW Jerusalem
- Tradition says John the Baptist was born here and therefore there are many churches and religious sites
- Not sure of exactly what we will see.



**Ein Karem** ([Hebrew](#): עֵין כָּרֵם, lit. "Spring of the Vineyard", and [Arabic](#): عين كارم - 'Ein Kārem or 'Ayn Karim) (also **Ain Karem**) is an ancient village of the [Jerusalem District](#) and now a neighbourhood in southwest [Jerusalem](#). It was ethnically cleansed during the [1948 Arab-Israeli War](#) on July 16, 1948

According to [Christian](#) tradition, [John the Baptist](#) was born in Ein Karem, leading to the establishment of many churches and monasteries. In 2010 the neighborhood had a population of 2,000. It attracts three million visitors a year, one-third of them pilgrims from around the world.

### [Landmarks](#) Traditional

- [Church of St. John the Baptist](#)
- [Church of the Visitation](#)
- [Les Soeurs de Notre-Dame de Sion](#)
- [Gorny or "Moscovia" Convent](#)
- [St. Vincent](#)
- [Mary's Spring](#)

# T

## Church of the Pater Noster



Named for the "Our Father" prayer (Latin: *Pater Noster*), the **Church of the Pater Noster** stands on the **traditional site in [Jerusalem](#) where Jesus taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer.**

Emperor Constantine built a church over a cave here in 4th century, and this has been partially reconstructed.

Plaques in the cloister bear the Lord's Prayer in 62 different languages.

# T

## Dominus Flavit Church

- Commemoration church of the verse "Jesus Wept" over Jerusalem – means "cry of the Lord"
- A small church built on ruins of earlier church and has a great view of Temple Mount



**Dominus Flevit Church** is a small Franciscan church located on the upper western slope of the **Mount of Olives** in [Jerusalem](#).

Bible trivia buffs know that the shortest verse in the Bible is John 11:35, when "Jesus wept" over the death of Lazarus. But Dominus Flevit, which means "**the cry of the Lord**," commemorates a different occasion on which Jesus was moved to tears.

According to **Luke 19:41**, "As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it" because "the days will come upon you when your enemies will... dash you to the ground." (Christians believe this was fulfilled in 70 CE, when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem.) Dominus Flevit Church is believed to mark the place where Jesus' mourning over Jerusalem occurred.

The current Dominus Flevit Church was commissioned by the **Franciscans**, who still run the site, and designed by Italian architect Anton Barluzzin. Constructed in **1954**, the church is in the shape of a **tear drop** to symbolize the Lord's tears.

The current church stands on the ruins of a **7th-century church**, some mosaics of which still remain. The western window in Dominus Flevit provides a **beautiful view** of the [Temple Mount](#).

During the construction of the modern church, an **ancient Jewish tomb** dating to as early as the first century BC was discovered beneath. The tomb and several ossuaries (bone boxes) can be seen by visitors.

# T Upper Room / David's Tomb



**In the Bible** Mark 14:12-15:

## **Authenticity**

The site of the Last Supper is not known and the Gospel accounts provide few clues. It cannot be the present room, which was built in the 12th century. However, it is possible it stands over or near the original site of the Last Supper and/or Pentecost.

Beneath the floor of the building are Byzantine and Roman pavements and the foundations go back to at least the 2nd century AD. It is possible that the "little church of God" that existed on Mount Zion in 130 AD (mentioned by Epiphanius of Salamis) was on this site.

Danger and persecutions would have excluded Christian invention of a new holy place in the 2nd century, so if an active church existed in 130 it must have already been important for some time — perhaps because the upper room was nearby. In those times this was an affluent area of the city and a wealthy Christian may have opened his home for use as a church.

## **History of Last Supper Room**

The Mount Zion church was reconstructed in the 4th century after persecutions ended, at which point it was known as "the Upper Church of the Apostles." This designation referred, however, not to the Last Supper but to the apostles' receiving of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, which also occurred in an "upper room" (Acts 1:13, 2:1). A tradition located the upper room of Pentecost on Mount Zion by 348, when it was mentioned by Cyril of Jerusalem.

In the **5th century** the church was referred to as "Zion, Mother of all the Churches," and it was around this time that it was identified with the site of the Last Supper. This seems to have been based on a natural conclusion that since both Pentecost and the Last Supper occurred in an upper room, the two events happened in the same room.

The Byzantine church was destroyed by fire in 614 during the Persian attack and again in 965. It was in ruins when the Crusaders arrived, who chose it as one of the stations on the penitential procession that preceded the final assault on the city in July 1099. The Last Supper Room that pilgrims visit today was built by the Crusaders in the **12th century** as part of the Church of St. Mary of Zion.

The Crusader church became one of the glories of Jerusalem, but it fell into ruins once again after the Crusader defeat. From the mid-13th century, the remains were pillaged for building materials. The site was then revived and restored by **Franciscans** in the 14th century and used as a Franciscan monastery until 1552.

The room was transformed into a **mosque** by the Ottomans in 1524, who were less concerned with the site's Christian traditions than with the [Tomb of King David](#) (the "Prophet David" in Muslim tradition) on the level below.

## **What to See at Last Supper Room**

The Upper Room is approached via a pointed-arch entrance from the main lane on Mount Zion, then by ascending stairs immediately to the left in the courtyard. The courtyard is part of what was once a pilgrim hospice, then an Ottoman house, and now a Jewish yeshiva.

The Last Supper Room is an attractive, mostly empty **rectangular room** with pillars and a groin-vaulted ceiling. The capitals on the pillars are mainly 12th-century and Gothic in style. There are traces of 14th-century paint on the wall just inside to the right of the door. The east end originally had an altar and choir, but these were destroyed when the dome was built over the Tomb of David in the lower level.

The chamber retains the trappings of a mosque, including restored stained-glass Ottoman windows with Arabic inscriptions and the ornate **mihrab** (an alcove indicating the direction of Mecca). There are also two

# A

## Mount of Olives



Many mentions of the Mount of Olives in the New Testament. Outside of the old city and temple mount is a low valley called the Kidron Valley. On the opposite side is the Mount of Olives, so named because of the Olive Press (Gethsemane) and the Olive Trees there. Today there are few of the trees as the area has become part of the area of Jerusalem. Most of the pictures of the Temple Mount you see in the Travel brochures are taken from the Mount of Olives.

Today, you see the Islamic Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque at one end. We will talk about them later when we discuss the Temple Mount but this mountain is a very Holy site for both Christians and Jews, and less so for Muslims.

You see the walls, many of which were built by Suileman the Magnificent in the 700 ad period when Muslims and Turks ruled the land. Many of the hillside areas leading down from the Temple Mount are covered in Muslim gravestones. Across the Kidron valley the hillsides leading up to the Mount of Olives are covered by Jewish gravestones.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> picture shows the right end of the Temple Mount and you can see the gravestones, the hills and the Russian Orthodox church with the gold pointed domes.

The Mount of Olives is where Christ gave his Olivet discourse in Matthew 24-25 and talked about his **second coming** (not rapture). This is where he ascended to Heaven and where He will return with his Church for the final end of the Tribulation period. When His foot touches down the Mountain will split and a great rift will occur and He will walk the 176 miles to Petra to rescue the Jews who have taken flight before the final battle.

This site is historic, and prophetic.

Of course Gethsemane is also here and we will talk about that next.

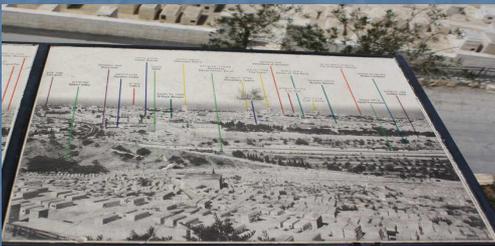


View from the Mount of Olives back to the Temple Mount. Gold Dome is Dome of the Rock, and the small gray structure at the left end of the Mount is the Al- Aqsa Mosque. This is also called Mount Moriah, and is where Abraham took Isaac to be sacrificed, the Jewish history says this is the center of the world and the Garden of Eden was here as well. The hidden spring under the temple area is the Gihon spring, one of the rivers mentioned in the Genesis account.

Of course this is also where the last Temple (Herods Temple) stood and the Holy of Holies was inside the now Dome of the Rock and Jews are prevented from going there by the Islamic trust that runs the temple mount. >>DISCUSS<<

This is where the Tribulation Temple will also stand, and will be there in the Tribulation period right before the end times and after the Rapture of the Church. Preparation is already complete by the Jewish Temple Society to prepare and train the priests.

# Other Mount of Olives Pix



Top Left -Remember when we saw the film about Israel and the scene from the Mount of Olives showed a camel. Well this is the shot we took in 2012 and he is available for pictures I guess.

Top right – The Jewish tombs facing the Temple Mount. The Jews think this is a favorable spot for resurrection when their Messiah returns. The Muslims, knowing their belief, have take all the close Spaces, except for a few around the Christian Churches in the valley

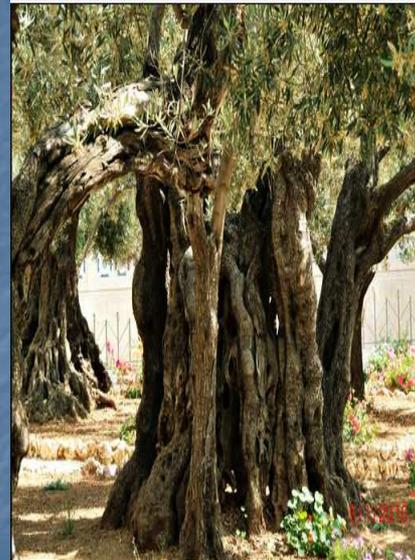
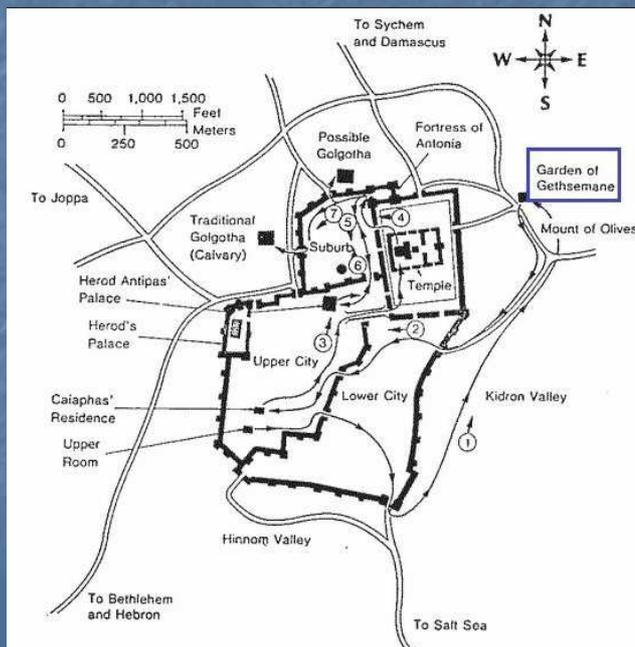
Bottom Left -There are maps of the area so you can see what you are looking at and the pictomap shows certain buildings and landmarks.

Bottom Right -The actual place for the lookout is very nice and runs along the walled area. Depending on the time of day and other tours this can be either fairly crowded or not. When we were there it was wide-open for viewing

Look around behind you as well for that is the road to Petra along the new rift that will happen when the Lord returns.

# T

## Gethsemane



**Gethsemane**, garden across the Kidron Valley on the Mount of Olives (Hebrew *Har ha-Zetim*), a mile-long ridge paralleling the eastern part of Jerusalem, where Jesus prayed on the night of his arrest before his Crucifixion. The name Gethsemane (Hebrew *gat shemanim*, “oil press”) suggests that the garden was a grove of olive trees in which was located an oil press.

Though the exact location of Gethsemane cannot be determined with certainty, Armenian, Greek, Latin, and Russian churches have accepted an olive grove on the western slope of the Mount of Olives as the authentic site, which was so regarded by the empress Helena, mother of Constantine (the first Christian emperor, early 4th century ad). An ancient tradition also locates the scene of the Gethsemane prayer and betrayal of Jesus at a place now called the **Grotto of the Agony**, near a bridge that crosses the Kidron Valley. At another possible location, south of this site in a garden containing old olive trees, is a Latin church erected by Franciscan monks on the ruins of a 4th-century church.

# Agony of the Garden



Interior of the Grotto of the Agony

There will be lots of suggestions where Jesus prayed His agonizing prayers in this Garden, but keep in mind this is a traditional site, and represents what it might have looked like on the night of His betrayal. In any case, all of us who are Christians go through our own personal Gethsemane agony at one time or another in our life.

Christ WILLINGLY chose to be obedient to the Father and go to the cross, which was the purpose for which He came. What are you or am I willing to be obedient to the Lord about.

In Gethsemane, pray for your own willingness to forsake all for Him.

# Yad Vashem



## About Yad Vashem

**"And to them will I give in my house and within my walls a memorial and a name (a "yad vashem")... that shall not be cut off."**

**(Isaiah, chapter 56, verse 5)**

As the Jewish people's living memorial to the Holocaust, Yad Vashem safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations. Established in 1953, as the world center for documentation, research, education and commemoration of the Holocaust, Yad Vashem is today a dynamic and vital place of intergenerational and international encounter.

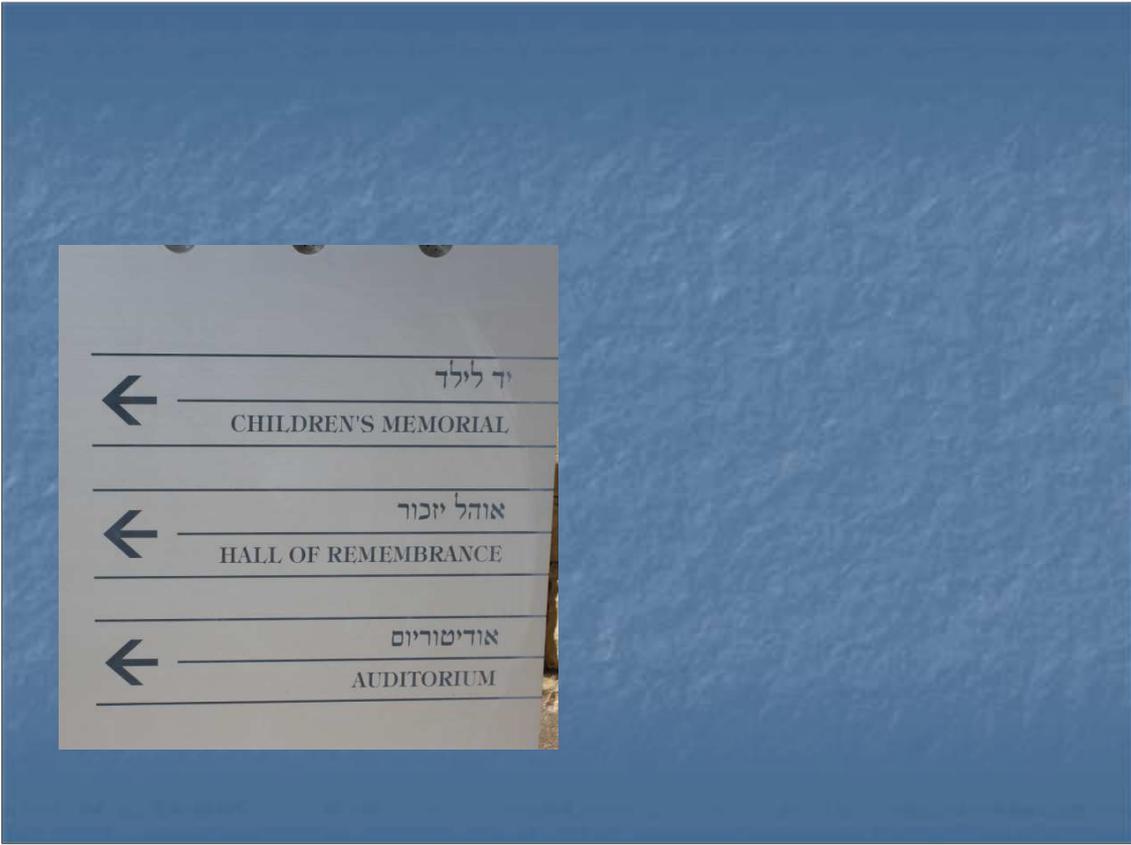
For over half a century, Yad Vashem has been committed to four pillars of remembrance:

[Commemoration](#)

[Documentation](#)

[Research](#)

[Education](#)



יד לילד

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL



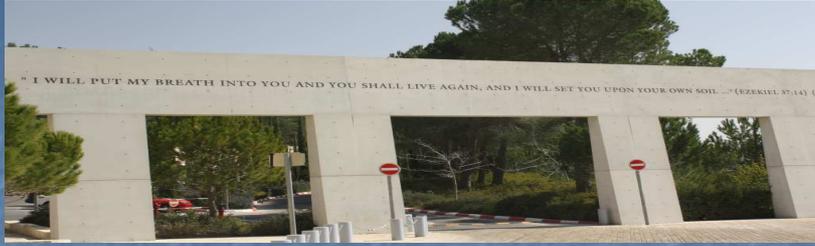
אווהל יזכור

HALL OF REMEMBRANCE



אודיטוריום

AUDITORIUM



- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Dtt1subyrA>

Pictures of remembrance

Children's Memorial

Railroad car

Shoes/ clothing / belongings

Letters

Memorial Gardens - to those who died and those who tried to save them

# Session 4 - June 16, 2014

- Today we will cover the itinerary side trip to the Dead Sea
  - Dead Sea Area
    - Qumran, Masada, Dead Sea, En Gedi
    - Jericho

## Session 5 – June 23

- Jerusalem – Day 2
- Leave for home

*Yellow means we have been there*

Make your Notes Here:

# Dead Sea

- Jordan River flows into Dead Sea
- No Outlet / 1400 ft below sea level
- High Mineral / Salt content so “nothing” can live in it
- Minerals worth \$Billions
- Area of Great Significance to Israel



The Dead Sea is really not a Sea but an inland Lake that is so salty from minerals that it supports no aquatic life. Scientists actually in 2010 found living mats of bacteria in it, so it is really not dead or a sea. Other names used are the Salt Sea, the Sea of Zo'ar (arabic), The Stinking Sea (crusader period-sulfur hot springs; the Sea of Sodom/Lot The sea of the plain (Deut 4:49, 3:17), and the East Sea (Joel 2:20). It lies in the Jordan Rift Valley between Israel and Jordan.

It has been a sea of health resort for its hot springs, and salty water, mineral baths, mud baths, and even some of the chemicals for mummification for the Egyptians. Today it supplies large amounts of potash for fertilizers and other minerals in Israeli industry.

It is also the lowest point on earth since the water is 427 Meters below sea level (nearly 1400 feet)

When you think about salt water, you tend to think about the sea. Seawater typically clocks in at around 3.5 per cent salinity. The Dead Sea's salinity averages between 33.7 to 35 per cent -- nearly ten times higher than the norm, making it one of the saltiest bodies of water in the world.

Great Beauty in the Sea and its surroundings

Prophetic mention in Ez 47:7-10, 18

**Ezekiel 47:7-18 (NIV)**

7 When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river.

8 He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Dead Sea, making the water fresh.

## Pictures of Dead Sea



You can see the deep color of the water and the stark desert and mountain landscape beside it.

In the second picture you can see an irrigation project the Israeli's have to move water to other areas, presumably for desalinization

# Pictures of Dead Sea



# Dead Sea

- Up to 42 miles long
- 11 miles wide
- 1083 feet deep
- Israel on one side and Jordan/ Edom on the other
- See Eze 47:7-18



We will see other pictures in other areas we talk about

# A

## Qumran



Qumran and its caves were lost in history around the Dead Sea, and known as the place the Essenes lived. The Essenes were a strict sect of Judaism that existed during the time of Jesus, and it is thought that John the Baptist was an Essene. They lived like monks or hermits in the desert area and followed the OT laws in a dedicated manner. They believed the organized Jewish sects of Pharisee and Sadducee were corrupt and were not following Gods law and plan

In 1947, a Bedouin shepherd or goatherd had one of his animals go into a cavern in the hills and he tossed a rock in to get him out and heard it “clink” as it hit pottery. He went back to his tribe and some of the men came to rescue the animal and found intact pottery jars holding many ancient manuscripts and scrolls. These are now called the “Dead Sea Scrolls” and contained whole books of the Jewish OT writings including both whole books and parts of other books. IT even held items like lists of daily life and activities. Esther is the only OT book without fragments included.

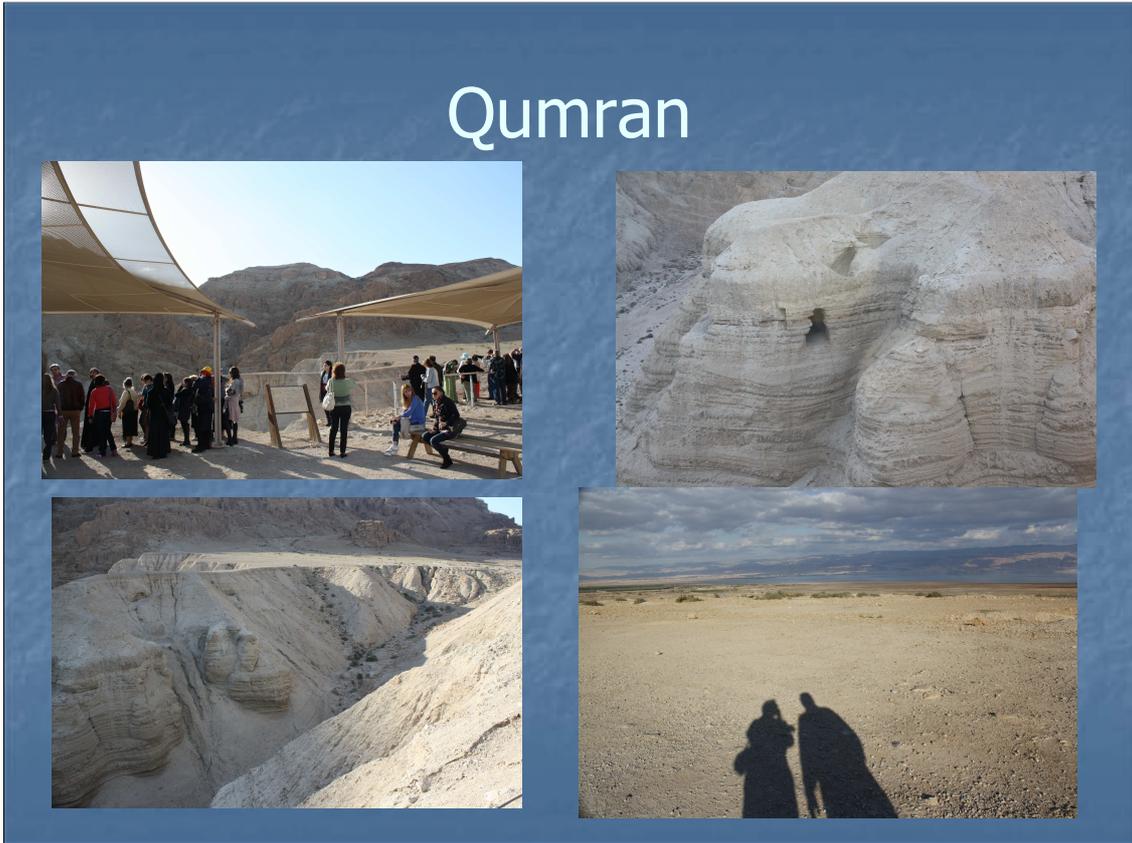
Why is this important? The earliest known copies of any OT book were dated back only to Jesus time since the Temple was destroyed in 70ad, and all of the books and records at the same time. These books date back an additional 700 years and demonstrate the accuracy of the current copies as well as date the times when the Essenes started to live in this desert wilderness encampment.

This is a fascinating tour and the books that are sold at the bookstore at the museum are wonderful keepsakes.

# Qumran



# Qumran



Picture of place where the guide walks you through the layout, then you wander through and see the rooms and daily life of these hermit Jews

Bottom left – Example of the terrain where the Bedouin was guiding his animals... ***what do they eat ??***

Top Right – what the cave entrances look like

Bottom right – Shadow of Vicki and I looking at the bushes in the foreground where the Essenes had their burial ground

# A

## Masada



Masada- what is it?

Name of an ancient site of palaces and fortifications in an isolated part of the South District of Israel in the Judean desert on a high plateau overlooking the Dead Sea.

Herod the Great built this edifice as a palace and get-away place. He was an Edomite, descendant of Esau and not in the line of promise from Jacob, but considered himself partly Jewish. He was a builder and completed the Temple we see in Jerusalem (foundation of it anyway), the Roman town of Caesarea, Tiberias, and Masada. Probably other Roman construction as well, like the decapolis towns in Galilee.

Masada had two distinct functions. As I mentioned it was a place to get away from Jerusalem, but it looked over the Dead Sea to Edom, now part of Jordan...so in case of real trouble it was a gateway for him to get out of Israel and back to Edom and Moab across the Dead Sea.

It plays no role in our biblical record, or our Christian walk but it is like the Alamo to the Jewish nation. The reason for this is told at the site, but the shorthand version is that when the Romans crushed the Jewish revolt in 66-70 ad and destroyed the temple and all the Jewish records, and dispersed the Jews across the Roman world (prophesied) there was a remnant of Jews called the Maccabees who fought the Romans down to the last man. Their final hold out was Masada and because of the type of structure it was the Romans took several years to finally wipe them out. The story of Masada is a story of Jewish national pride, remembrance, and rallying cry like the Alamo is for Americans, or the Arizona is for later generations or 911 for our generation.

At great cost and great effort the Romans camped out there, and you can see the encampment areas, and build a siege wall and used a siege battering ram to bust through the walls of Masada. When they finally got in there the Maccabees had committed suicide rather than be subject to Roman punishment.

You can read about it in the book of Maccabees in the Apocrypha inter-testamental books (Catholic Bible) or special Bibles. We believe these are non inspired books from God but history, and are valid for historical study, just not the word of God.

The tour starts with a Tram ride (or you can walk, see the trail)

# Masada



You arrive up top quickly and you are glad you are not walking as you see fearless souls attempting the walk up or better down.

# Masada



At the top there is a layout of where everything is, and it is quite large. The sign shows some of the detail of what has been preserved. You can see there was a Byzantine church there as well and you can see the structure still intact (300ad)

# Masada



View to Moab and Edom for Herods get away as he might need. Not the land peninsula that shortens his route

Roman rooms are still visible with recovered plaster and art work still there. The desert preserves the artifacts well

From the pictures you can image the Roman difficulty to get to the Maccabees

# Masada



Part of the Dove Cote where nesting birds provided for both eggs and meat for the residents.

On the right you can begin to see the siege ramp and also the square of the Roman encampment. You can see these all around the walls

## View to En Gedi



Look to the left just below the mesa and see the small line of Green trees... this is En Gedi

# A

## Ein Gedi

- Desert Oasis where David fled from Saul when Saul was trying to kill him
- The cave where David cut off a piece of Saul's robe when he went in to relieve himself



On the western shore of the Dead Sea, just down from Masada, is Ein Gedi. It is about 35 miles SE of Jerusalem. This oasis contained both a Hot water spring and a fresh water spring and had tropical vegetation because of it. In the midst of dry and desolate areas, this spot was allocated to the tribe of Judah. Read the account of David fleeing there when being pursued by Saul in 1 Samuel 23.

As I mentioned earlier as well, in Ezekiel's prophecy Ez 47:10, he mentions that in the future this will be a fresh water lake and have all manner of fish in it and fishermen will fish from EnGedi to En Eglaim for fish.

You see the Hyrax, which is a rodent like animal that was used for food, also there are wild goats here also used for food

# En Gedi



You can see the water flowing from the fresh spring, and people up at the cave entrance if you want to walk up there and see for yourself



Another map that shows the names of places in the Roman period. Note that Jerusalem and Jericho are on the western side of the Jordan River and in the area known as Judea. Smaria is to the north and the Dead Sea is listed by its Greek name of Lake Asphalt.

Notice also the Jordan Rift Valley and the wilderness or Judean Desert that leads up to Jerusalem.

Note also the area where Masada is built and the short cut over the Dead Sea for Herod to escape to Moab/Edom in the present day Jordan area.

# A

## Jericho

- One of the oldest town in the Middle east
- When Joshua crossed into Promised Land, Jericho was there
- Both OT and NT references to Jericho
- Picture of fallen ancient wall from the time of Joshua and miraculous capture of Jericho



### Jericho

Tulul Abu el-'Alayiq. Jericho probably meant "place of fragrance" or "moon city" or "city of Palms"). An ancient city in the wide plain where the Jordan Valley broadens between the Moab mountains and the western precipices, and **situated on the route of Israel after they crossed the Jordan under Joshua (Josh 3:16)**. The first mention of Jericho in Scripture is in connection with the advance of Israel to Canaan; they "camped in the plains of Moab beyond the Jordan opposite Jericho" (Num 22:1). The spies sent by Joshua were entertained in Jericho by Rahab, for which they promised her protection when the city would be destroyed (Josh 2:1-21; 6:25). The miraculous capture of Jericho, the sin and punishment of Achan, and the curse pronounced upon anyone who should attempt to rebuild it are graphically recorded (6-7). Jericho was given to the tribe of Benjamin (18:21), "and from this time a long interval elapsed before Jericho appeared again upon the scene.

It is only incidentally mentioned in the life of David in connection with his embassy to the Ammonite king (2 Sam 10:5). It was also called 'a city of palm trees' (Judg 1:16; 3:13). In its immediate vicinity the sons of the prophets sought retirement from the world: Elisha 'healed the spring of the waters;' and near it beyond Jordan, Elijah 'went up by a whirlwind into heaven' (2 Kings 2:1-22). In its plains Zedekiah fell into the hands of the Chaldeans (25:5; 39:5). In the return under Zerubbabel the 'children of Jericho,' 345 in number, are comprised (Ezra 2:34; Neh 7:36); the 'men of Jericho' assisted Nehemiah in rebuilding that part of the wall of Jerusalem that was next to the sheep-gate (3:2).

The Jericho of the days of Josephus was a distant "one hundred and fifty stadia from Jerusalem and fifty from the Jordan."

In the NT Jericho is mentioned in connection with Jesus' restoring sight to the blind (Matt 20:29-30; Mark 10:46; Luke 18:35) and His being entertained by Zaccheus (19:1-8). And finally, it was mentioned in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30), which revealed that robbers have always terrorized the road from Jerusalem to Jericho.

NT or Herodian Jericho stood on both sides of the Wadi Qelt almost two miles SW of Tell es-Sultan; there Herod the Great built his winter palace, and many more fine buildings. Archaeologists have found that S of the Wadi Qelt stood an artificial mound with a pavilion on top of it. S of the artificial mound was a wing of the palace, which is now covered over. Steps led from the artificial mound to the Wadi Qelt. At the foot of the mound on the E was a large pool, and on the W was a sunken garden backed by a grand facade with forty-eight statuary niches. A bridge led across the Wadi Qelt to the N wing of the palace, which consisted of a reception hall, two open courtyards, a bath complex, and other rooms. Nearby, Hasmonaean palaces and a monumental swimming pool have been discovered but are only partially excavated.

# Jericho

Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree...



Part of wall and fortification for Jericho from 8000-7000BC

## Sycamore Tree

"Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. Now a man named Zacchaeus was there; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to get a look at Jesus, but being a short man he could not see over the crowd. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, because Jesus was going to pass that way" (Luke 19:1-4)

Excavations at the ancient mound of [Jericho](#) in the southern [Jordan](#) valley of [Palestine](#) have yielded extraordinary finds that verify the veracity of Biblical accounts. The only surviving written history of Jericho is that recorded in the Bible. [Archaeology](#) has demonstrated that the Biblical record is a precise eyewitness account of events that transpired there many thousands of years ago.

The most famous story about Jericho, of course, is that of the walls falling, as detailed in [Joshua 6](#). Another less known, but nonetheless important, account is that of [Eglon](#), king of [Moab](#), building a [palace](#) there and extracting [tribute](#) from the [Israelites](#) for 18 years ([Judges 3:12-30](#)). Space does not allow a detailed discussion of the evidence, so I will briefly list the main finds and their correlation with the Bible.

At the time of the [Israelite](#) Conquest, [Jericho](#) was heavily fortified, as the Bible implies ([Joshua 2:5,15](#)).

Piles of mud [bricks](#) from the collapsed [city wall](#) were found at the base of the tell, verifying that "the wall fell beneath itself" (Hebrew, *watippol hahomah tahteyha*, [Joshua 6:20](#)).

An earthen embankment around the city required the fighters to go "up into the city" ([Joshua 6:20](#)).

[Houses](#) were built against a portion of the city wall that did not collapse, verifying that [Rahab's](#) house was built against the city wall (Hebrew, *betah be qir hahomah*, [Joshua 2:15](#)), and that her house was spared ([Joshua 2:14-21](#); [6:22-23](#)).

A layer of ash 3-foot thick with burned timbers and debris demonstrates that the Israelites "burned the whole city and everything in it" ([Joshua 6:24](#)).

The destruction occurred at the end of the 15th century BC, precisely the time of the Conquest of [Canaan](#) according to the internal [chronology](#) of the Bible ([1 Kings 6:1](#); [Judges 11:26](#); [1 Chronicles 6:33-37](#)). Many large jars full of charred [grain](#) were found in the destroyed [buildings](#). This is a very rare find since, because of its value, grain was normally plundered from a vanquished city. The large amount of grain at Jericho indicates:

The [harvest](#) had just been taken in ([Joshua 2:6](#); [3:15](#)).

The siege was short (seven days, [Joshua 6:15](#)).

The Israelites did not plunder the city ([Joshua 6:18](#)).

Also see: THE WALLS OF JERICO - Is the Bible accurate concerning the destruction of the walls? - [Answer](#)

There was evidence of [earthquake](#) activity, possibly the agency God used to dam up the [Jordan](#) ([Joshua 3:16](#)) and bring the walls down.

[For further details, see Bryant G. Wood, "Did the Israelites Conquer Jericho?," *Biblical Archaeology Review*, March-April 1990: 44-58; and The Walls of Jericho, *Bible and Spade*, Spring 1999: 35-42.]

Following the destruction of Jericho the site lay abandoned for a number of decades. Then, an isolated palace-like structure was constructed. It was excavated by British [archaeologist](#) John Garstang in the 1930s. He called it the "Middle Building," since it was sandwiched between Iron Age structures above and the destroyed 15th century B.C. city below.

**The archaeological finds in this stratum match the Biblical description exactly.**

The Middle Building dates to the second half of the 14th century BC, the time of [Eglon's](#) oppression according to [Biblical chronology](#) (ca. 1400 BC less the remainder of the life of [Joshua](#), [Judges 2:6-9](#); the eight-year oppression by [Cushan-Rishathaim](#), [Judges 3:8](#); and 40 years of peace under [Othniel](#), [Judges 3:11](#)).

The plan of the building is similar to other palaces of the period and fits the description given in the Bible.

The Middle Building was an isolated structure, as the Bible implies. There was no evidence for a town at Jericho at this time.

The resident was well-to-do, as seen by a large quantity of imported [Cyprriot](#) and other decorated [pottery](#).

# Session 5 - June 23, 2014

- Final session until closer to trip
  - Jerusalem – Day 2
  - Leave for home

We will have another informal meeting close to trip dates and talk about clothes, cell phone plans, power adapters, etc and final itinerary items

*Yellow means we have been there*

Make your Notes Here:

## Jerusalem Day 2

- Western Wall aka "Wailing Wall"
- Via Dolorosa
- Temple Mount
- St Stephen's Gate
- Pool of Bethesda
- Church of Holy Sepulcher
- Garden Tomb

What a packed day of important places to see. I will take them as a group and sort of walk through Jerusalem to see them

# A

## Western Wall



This is the closest place the Jews have free access to, that is closest to the Temple Mount location of the Holy of Holies, in the Temple. There have been two temples that have stood on the Temple Mount in all the years the Jews have been in the land. The first was destroyed by the Babylonians when Nebuchadnezzar conquered the land and took the Jewish people hostage to Babylon. This was the time of Daniel, and you can read about the time of exile in the Book of Daniel.

70 years later, when the Persians had conquered the Babylonians it was prophesied in Jeremiah that the people would return and Darius the Persian king let them return and rebuild their temple in Jerusalem. This took hundreds of years and was finally finished by Herod the Great, in the time just before Jesus.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> temple is called Herod's Temple and the Western wall is part of the original retaining wall of the temple mount. You will see the markings that identify one of Herod's stone foundations from all others.

The picture on the left is the view of both the men and women access point to the wall. The men go in on the left and you can see the rabbi room in the wall where they dress in their prayer shawls.

In the picture on the right you can see the women's area and people praying and inserting prayers into the wall.

It is many times called the wailing wall because this is the closest the Jews can get to their holiest site because the Muslims have "control" of the top of the Mount.

# Western Wall Area



Life happens here. You see all types of Jews from the extremely orthodox to reform Jews coming to the wall to pray. Many Christians groups all come as well. Children wait for their father near their mother while he prays

All are welcome with 3 caveats – it is a Holy place and reverence is always shown, Men and Women go to separate sides as is normal for Jewish tradition, and head coverings for Men are required. Hats or Caps are OK as well as traditional Jewish covers.

On the right is a sad commentary on the shared holy site. This artificial ramp and walkway are the only ways Jews and non muslims can access the Temple Mount. It is controllable this way and Israeli police monitor the activity and can take action if things get out of hand. The muslims allow a trickle of Jews and Christians on the mount but they are restricted from praying and worshipping openly. Muslims can enter through the historic gates and steps.

This is a huge issue and there are groups in Israel pressuring the Israeli government to take back control and permit unfettered access to all faiths, but it is a jihad waiting to happen when they do. Often a little fireworks on the temple mount well controlled by Israeli police, but pressure is mounting.

Of course the Temple Mount is a sacred and holy place, especially to Jews because it is where the Temples were, where Abraham took Isaac to be sacrificed, and where God Lived while Israel and Judah held the Arc of the Covenant

# Western Wall Heritage



On the left side of the area before you enter the Mens prayer area is an opening where Israeli archeologists have been working for decades to get down to the original floors and subterranean area of the temple that stood when Jesus walked the city. This is the entrance to the area where you get a guided tour by an English speaking Rabbi of the underground city. This is a fascinating place and you will walk the steps that Jesus walked where the shops were outside the Temple wall.

The picture on the right is our Rabbi guide talking us through what we will see and the historic period it represents using a sketch of the temple area.

## Heritage of area



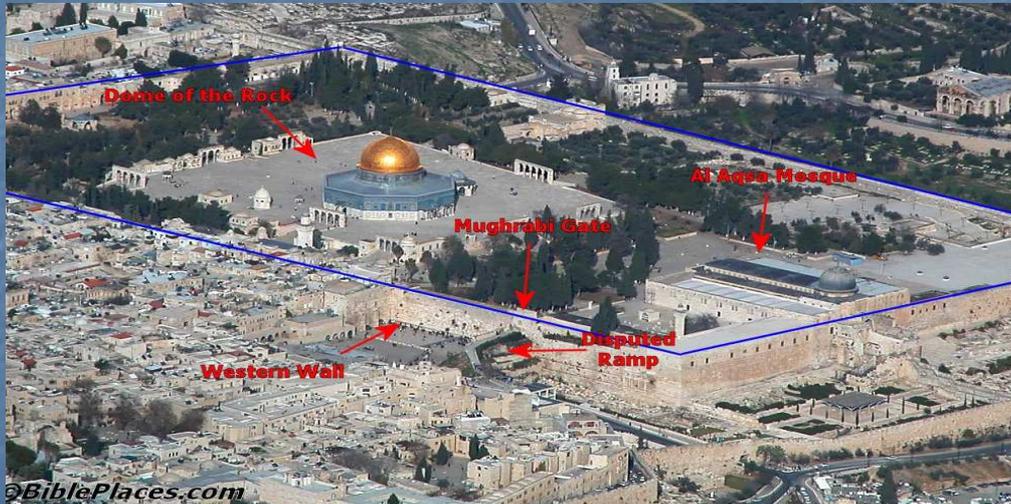
In one of the areas they show you what the area looked like in 3D form and you can see where the archeology is taking place. In a cruel twist of fate when the Muslims build the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount, the DOR was placed directly on the holy of holies where the Arc Stood and Abraham held Isaac for sacrifice, and it is a Cultural Center for Muslims. The Al Aqsa mosque is at the end of the Temple mount but in their construction bulldozers dug up thousands of tons of artifacts from the Jewish period and they were just dumped off the side of the Mount as rubbish.

The Jews have painstakingly recovered all of it and are hand sifting it all on the Mount of Olives for critical Heritage artifacts. This area is a ministry opportunity to aid the Jews recover lost history.

In this picture you see the drawing for what is Herod's Temple, which was destroyed by the Romans in 70ad and the Jews dispersed all over the empire

# A

## Temple Mount



The Temple Mount is the top of Mt Moriah where Abraham came to sacrifice Isaac. It is there the previous Temples of Judaism have been built and it the holiest site in all Judaism.

Today, Israel has sovereignty over it but to keep peace with Muslims, they allow the Muslims to control the top of the Mount with certain restrictions by Israeli police. Two of Islam's shrines are there having been constructed after 700ad and is the place where Muhammed, the prophet of Islam is said to have done night travels to Heaven.

You can see parks and meditation areas as well, plus the Gold Dome of the Rock (Rock = Foundation Stone) where Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac, and where the Arc of the Covenant stood in the Holy of Holies. Considered where Heaven meets Earth by Jews

# A

## Foundation Stone

- Location of Holy of Holies
- Inside Dome of Rock
- Considered where Heaven meets Earth
- Arc of Covenant sat there
- Hole enters a cavern called “Well of Souls”



The **Foundation Stone** ([Hebrew](#): אבן השתייה, [translit.](#) *Even haShetiya*) or **Rock** ([Arabic](#): صخرة [translit.](#) *Sakhrāh*, [Hebrew](#): סלע [translit.](#): *Sela*) is the name of the rock at the heart of the [Dome of the Rock](#) in [Jerusalem](#). It is also known as the **Pierced Stone** because it has a small hole on the southeastern corner that enters a cavern beneath the rock, known as the [Well of Souls](#). It is the holiest site in Judaism (Midrash Tanhuma, chapter 10); Jewish tradition views it as the spiritual junction of [Heaven](#) and Earth. Jews traditionally face it while praying, in the belief that it was the location of the [Holy of Holies](#) in the [Temple](#).

### Location

The rock is located towards the centre of the [Temple Mount](#), an artificial platform built and expanded over many centuries. The current shape is the result of an expansion by [Herod the Great](#) on top of vaults over a hill, generally believed to be [Mount Moriah](#). The rock constitutes the peak of this now hidden hill, which is also the highest in early biblical Jerusalem, looming over the [City of David](#).

There is some controversy among secular scholars about equating Mount Moriah, the Temple Mount and the Foundation Stone as the location where events occurred according to the Biblical narrative.

Early Jewish writings assist in confirming that the [Dome of the Rock](#), completed in 691, is the site of the [Holy of Holies](#) and therefore the location of the Foundation Stone. [Pirke De-Rabbi Eliezer](#)] a [midrashic](#) narrative of the more important events of the [Torah](#) believed to have been compiled in [Italy](#) shortly after 833 CE, writes: “Rabbi [Yishmael](#) said: In the future, the sons of [Ishmael](#) (the Arabs) will do fifteen things in the [Land of Israel](#) ... They will fence in the breaches of the walls of the Temple and *construct a building on the site of the sanctuary*”.

Religious Jewish scholars have discussed the precise location of the rock. The [Radbaz](#) is convinced that “under the dome on the Temple Mount, which the Arabs call El-Sakhrāh, without a doubt is the location of the Foundation Stone”.

# A

## St Stephens Gate



The **Lions' Gate** ([Hebrew](#): שער האריות Sha'ar Ha'Arayot, [Arabic](#): باب الأسباط, also **St. Stephen's Gate** or **Sheep Gate**) is located in the Old City Walls of [Jerusalem](#) and is one of seven open [Gates in Jerusalem's Old City Walls](#).

Located in the east wall, the entrance marks the beginning of the traditional [Christian](#) observance of the last walk of [Jesus](#) from prison to [crucifixion](#), the [Via Dolorosa](#). Near the gate's crest are four figures of [leopards](#), often mistaken for [lions](#), two on the left and two on the right. They were placed there by Sultan [Suleiman the Magnificent](#) to celebrate the Ottoman defeat of the [Mamluks](#) in 1517. Legend has it that Suleiman's predecessor [Selim I](#) dreamed of lions that were going to eat him because of his plans to level the city. He was spared only after promising to protect the city by building a wall around it. This led to the lion becoming the heraldic symbol of Jerusalem. However, Jerusalem already had been, from Biblical times, the capital of the Kingdom of Judah, whose emblem was a lion (Genesis 49:9).

In another version, Suleiman taxed Jerusalem's residents with heavy taxes which they could not afford to pay. That night Suleiman had a dream of two lions coming to devour him. When he woke up, he asked his dream solvers what his dream meant. A wise respected man came forward and asked Suleiman what was on his mind before drifting to sleep. Suleiman responded that he was thinking about how to punish all the men who didn't pay his taxes. The wise man responded that since Suleiman thought badly about the holy city, God was angry. To atone, Suleiman built the Lions' Gate to protect Jerusalem from invaders.

Israeli paratroops from the 55th Paratroop Brigade came through this gate during the [Six-Day War](#) of 1967 and unfurled the [Israeli flag](#) above the [Temple Mount](#).

The Lions' Gate is not to be confused with the [Zion Gate](#) in the Old City Wall, located in the south, leading to the [Jewish](#) and [Armenian Quarters](#).

The magnificent walls of Jerusalem's Old City were built by the [Ottoman Empire](#) under the direct supervision of Sultan Suleiman in 1542. The walls stretch for approximately 2.8 mi and rise to a height of 16–49 ft, with a thickness of 9.8 feet. All together, the Old City walls contain 43 surveillance towers and 11 gates, seven of which are presently open.

This gate is so named **St Stephens Gate** because of the tradition that the first Christian martyr was stoned outside this gate. However an earlier tradition locates this execution north of the city.

A

# Pool of Bethesda

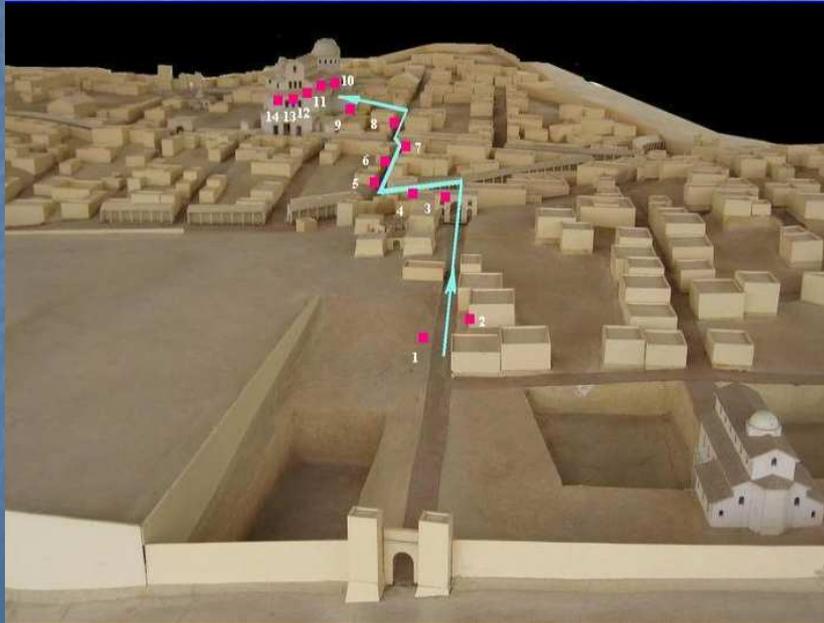


# Map of Bethesda



# T

## Via Dolorosa



Via Dolorosa ("Way of Grief" in Latin) is a road in the old city of Jerusalem, a path where Jesus was led in agony, carrying the crucifixion cross. There are a total of 14 stations along this path, based on events that occurred on the way to the Golgotha hill, the site of crucifixion, which is located at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Eight stations are marked along the old city road, while 6 additional stations are places in the compound of the church.

This path is Traditional, because it was identified 3 hundred years after the death of Christ and after the Roman destruction of the Temple and much of the old city had been rebuilt.

Via Dolorosa is located within the old city of Jerusalem. It starts from the place where tradition says He was tried and convicted - near the [Lions' gate](#) on the eastern side (Muslim quarter). It ends in the traditional crucifixion place, Golgotha, where the [Church of the Holy Sepulcher](#) is located in the west side of the old city (Christian quarter).

The path is shown (in a bright blue line) on the model of the Byzantine city (displayed at [St Peter Gallicantu](#) church), with indication of the 14 stations.

**Via Dolorosa** - Latin for the "Way of Grief"

**Via Crucis** - **Way of the Cross** - another name for this path

**Sepulchre/Sepulcher** - burial vault. From Latin: *Sepulchrum*. Based on *sepultus* - to bury the dead.

**Golgotha** - In Aramic, based on the Hebrew word: **Golgoleth** which is "skull". Refers to a hill where the traditional burial site of Jesus - the Church of Holy Sepulchre, in the Christian sector of the old city of Jerusalem. As in Matthew 27:33: "And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull". The meaning of the name may be either due to the practice of burying the skull. It can also refer to a rock that looks like a skull.

**Calvary (Calvariae)** - from Roman: place of skull. The name of the hill where Jesus was crucified and buried. Luke 23:33: "And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him..."

### The Stations of the Cross

- 1 - Jesus is condemned to death
- 2 - Jesus carries his cross
- 3 - Jesus falls for the first time
- 4 - Jesus meets his afflicted mother
- 5 - Simon helps Jesus carry his cross
- 6 - **Veronica** wipes the face of Jesus \*\*
- 7 - Jesus falls the second time
- 8 - Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
- 9 - Jesus falls a third time
- 10 - Jesus is stripped of his clothes
- 11 - Jesus is nailed to the cross
- 12 - Jesus dies on the cross
- 13 - Jesus is taken down from the cross
- 14 - Jesus is laid in the tomb

# Via Dolorosa



Markings for the street are everywhere, and also security if visible although generally not this visible, but there is no trouble here. You can see the station numbers for the stations of the cross at the various places

5- Simon of Cyrene carries the cross

10 -

T

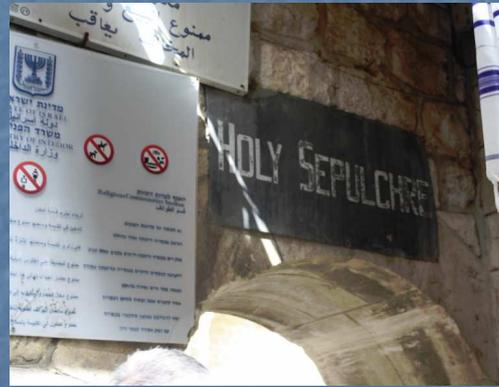
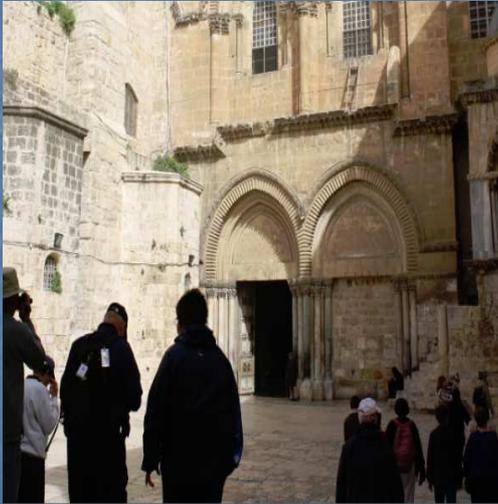
## Via Dolorosa



Shops abound with every thing you can imagine  
Clothing, scarves, jewelry, food, baked goods, candies

T

# Church of Holy Sepulcher



T

## Chapel of the Angel

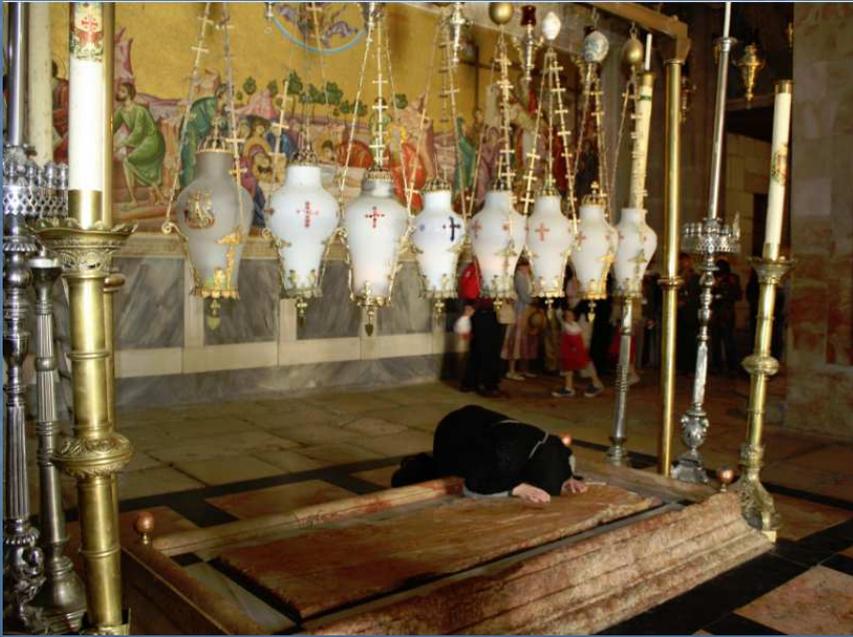


This is the final station (#14) of Via Dolorosa, located in round hall ("[Rotunda](#)"). The tomb of Jesus is located in a smaller structure in the center of the circle.

The first chamber is called the [Chapel of the Angel](#). Behind the Chapel is another narrow door which leads to a smaller inner chamber - the tomb of Jesus. Parts of the tomb's interior is seen in next slide. A marble lid covers the tomb.

T

## Laid the Body



In the church there is a slab of marble that is the place where they laid the body when they took Christ from the cross (tradition). A site of much prayer and tears for the followers who are into the symbols. The lamps are tokens given by the churches (mostly Catholic and Orthodox) that adorn and provide a measure of support for the church.

Many oil lamps, candles, iconography, and paintings adorn the walls and ceilings

T

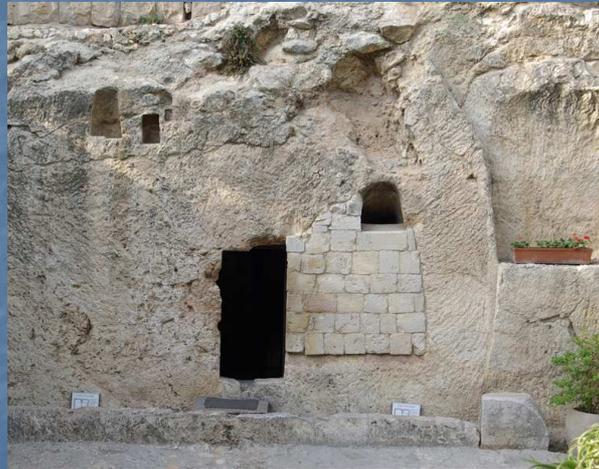
## Tomb of Jesus



The marble lid covers the tomb of Jesus. This is traditional space that is highly revered by the Catholic and Orthodox churches, and highly decorated with objects donated by the churches

# T

## Garden Tomb



The Garden Tomb is also traditional, not archeological. See <http://www.gardentomb.org/about/brief-history/>

As early as 1842 a German Theologian named Otto Thenius proposed the idea that the outcropping of rock known today as "Skull Hill" could possibly be significant in the identification of the site of the crucifixion. That idea lay seemingly dormant for quite some time until General Charles Gordon on sabbatical in the area (1883) began to publish similar ideas. Because of his importance in British society at that time the idea took hold and people began to look seriously at the claims that this could possibly be the site listed in the New Testament as Golgotha (Aramaic) or Calvary (Latin) - the place of the skull. It was the efforts of two ladies in particular, Charlotte Hussey and Louisa Hope, who followed these ideas and began to take them seriously and thought that the place ought to be preserved. In September 22, 1892 a notice was placed in the London Times asking people to donate the funds necessary to purchase the site (then offered for sale by a German family). The Garden Tomb Association was formally established in 1893 and the purchase of the property was bought about in 1894 - though it would actually be a number of years before all the legal formalities were completed.

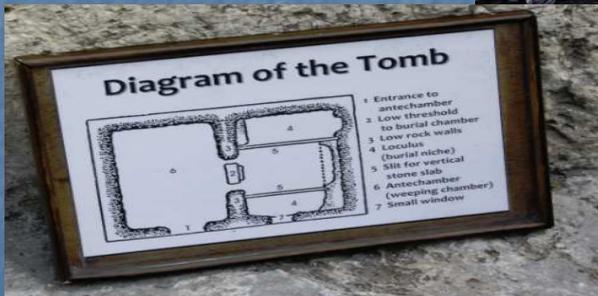
After people began to take seriously the claims that the area at the base of the rock cliff could possibly be Golgotha, it led to a renewed interest in other findings of earlier times. In 1867 an ancient Jewish tomb had been discovered and subsequently detailed and published by Conrad Schick. In light of all that was happening, people began to believe that the site may have significance and they re-examined what had been detailed previously. The Bible describes that Jesus was crucified outside the city of Jerusalem near a gate of the city along a major thoroughfare, that at the place where He was crucified there was a garden and in the garden a tomb. The tomb is described as being a tomb cut out of rock, belonging to a wealthy man by the name of Joseph of Arimathea. It had a weeping chamber, a burial chamber, it was sealed with a rolling stone, it had a traditionally low doorway through which the disciples were forced to stoop in order to look into (and enter) the tomb that morning. The words of the Gospel writers began to step out of the New Testament in living color.

All the pieces began to fit together and this tomb located on the north side of Jerusalem, just outside the Damascus Gate looked remarkably like that described in the Gospels. Having now both a tomb and a possible site of crucifixion, people were eager to further explore the area. Further excavations led to concrete ideas that the area had indeed been a garden as well in Jesus' day. As early as 1885 we already have a map showing a large cistern, a cistern used to irrigate a large garden undoubtedly belonging to a wealthy man. In 1924 a wine press believed to come from the era of the late Second Temple Period was discovered as well leading to a belief that this site, in Jesus' day, was indeed some rich man's vineyard.

Many began to think that this could possibly be the authentic site. The idea caught on and many people began to come and visit. To this day it continues to be a site that, whether it be the actual site or not - we do not know, at least beautifully pictures what is described and detailed in the Gospel accounts. It has become a garden where people come to reflect, not only on the death of our Saviour, but on His resurrection and the hope of eternal life, the life that comes from knowing the resurrected Christ.

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## Images of Garden Tomb



Upper left is the hill of Golgotha, or skull. You can see the eyes and nose pretty clearly but unfortunately when the Palestinians controlled this part of Jerusalem they built a bus station in front of it obscuring the mouth. You can see the fence to the bus station in the lower part of the picture.

Also, to the left is the Garden area and the tomb considered by many to be the correct site of the Crucifixion and burial since the place is pretty much what is called out in scripture.

We will get a guide, usually from Britain, to show us what is there and also give us the story of the preservation of this beautiful area.

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# Tomb Pictures



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## Tomb Pictures



Top left, behind the bars is the area where the body would have been laid. When you enter the tomb you have to turn to the right to see the chamber. The entry place is the place of weeping and preparation. Center is a “thru the bars” picture of where head would have been laid

Top Right, you can see where repairs have been made to the tomb where the stones have been placed back in, and we know it is a Jewish grave by several items including the small window, called a **Soul Window**.

Several items we know...if this is not the real tomb, it is a Biblically accurate version dating from the period of 2000 years ago. It is next to a Hill that looks like a Skull, and there is a Garden there as well, plus it is just outside the gates of the city and would have been on a very highly traveled road.

While this site is TRADITIONAL, it is an accurate portrayal of the actual Tomb.

# Remembrance Table

- If we are able, they have places where we can have the Lords Supper, which is extremely meaningful in the Garden Tomb
- See the small cups we brought to show



# Temptation Corner



This is the traditional site on the Temple where Satan took Jesus

**Matthew 4:5-7** (NIV)

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.

6 “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

7 Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Also, look at the ledge in the wall and you can see a former entrance to the Temple Mount that the Muslims blocked during the Suileman period. Also the stones at the bottom of the Temple Walls are part of the Jewish history that was pushed off the Temple Mount during construction of the Al Aqsa Mosque.

# Graphic of Temple



You can see the entrance in the drawing that was blocked and the parts of the Temple Mount that were cleared away for the Mosque. The temple was in ruins after the Romans destroyed the top in 70ad and the Muslims just finished the clearing of the stones so they could build their centers.

## Layers of building



You can see at the bottom the large stones that were part of the Herodian Temple foundation and the successive walls built during the occupation of Jerusalem by various Muslim Empires, the Ottoman Turks, and Suleiman the Magnificent, plus you see the top of the gray Al Aqsa Mosque.

Rich in history both secular and Biblical. Certainly the modern conflict between Muslims and Jews is predated by tribal conflicts between Jews and Edomites, Ishmaelites (Arabian), Assyrians, Egyptian, Persian, Medes (now Kurds in Northern Iraq), and the descendants of the Philistines, and Phoenicians on the coast.