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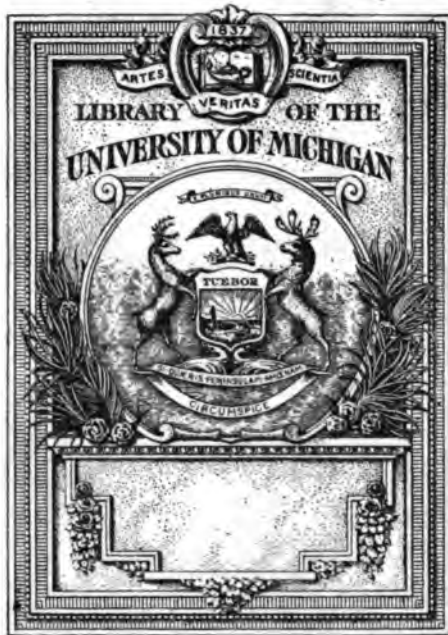
# HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF BIBLE LANDS

A Manual for Teachers

WITH FOURTEEN MAPS

By  
RICHARD MORSE HODGE

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



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# HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF BIBLE LANDS

A Manual for Teachers

WITH FOURTEEN MAPS

By **RICHARD MORSE HODGE, M. A., D. D.**  
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# Historical Geography of Bible Lands

## A MANUAL FOR TEACHERS

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The "HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF BIBLE LANDS" is a study of geography as a factor in Bible history.

The subject-matter of the course is weighty enough for adult students, while the method is sufficiently simple and vivid for pupils of fourteen years of age.

The thirteen chapters provide a three-months' course of thirteen lessons. The course thus meets the requirements of a summer session of a Sunday school.

If a more thorough study of the material provided by the MANUAL is desired, a course of several months' duration may be arranged by subdividing the chapters and devoting two or more lessons to each of them.

This book is a manual for teachers, and, in accordance with modern practice, it furnishes more information than a teacher will be able to impart, especially to the younger students for whom the course is primarily intended.

The pupil's book is an "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands." It contains the historical and geographical tables which are in the MANUAL, and provides for eight maps and several pictures. Two of the maps are entirely complete as printed. Six of them are development maps designed to be finished by the pupil by means of pen and crayon. Three of the development maps and the pictures are optional. The maps for the "Historical Atlas" are double the size of those in the MANUAL, and seven of them correspond, map for map, to the first seven of the maps of the MANUAL.

The MANUAL itself may be used as a text book by teacher-training classes, by adult Sunday-school classes desiring a review of Bible history, and by college Bible classes. On account of the maps in the MANUAL, such classes will be able to prosecute the course successfully without the aid of the "Historical Atlas." The Atlas will prove valuable for them, however, if they employ it as an additional text book, for adults are never too old to develop these maps. The more mature the student the more he will learn from such work.

### GENERAL DIRECTIONS

The course combines narrative and map work.

The chapters are planned as so many stages of an imaginary tour of Bible lands. This is a story method. The journey is an imaginary experience, with the dramatic interest of a personal tour in foreign lands, punctuated by a series of historical anecdotes of graphic or homely interest at every stopping-place and by the wayside. These

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stories are narrated by the teacher in the class room, and some of them are read by the student from the Bible at home.

Maps are as necessary for an imaginary journey as for actual travel. A country is definitely visioned by observations of its outline, the elevation and quality of its surface, and its size. Of these elements of geography, size and elevation are the most commonly neglected. An adequate treatment of distance and elevation will be found in these pages. The figures which are furnished are chiefly valuable at the moment in making comparisons essential to realistic mental pictures of considerable areas.

Local views, such as an actual traveller gets through his eyes, are obtained in the class room by means of stereoscopic photographs. In the stereoscope the perspective is so vivid that the instrument sometimes creates the illusion for the beholder that he is actually on the spot.

The teacher is to arouse the initiative of the student to combine the studies of geography and biblical history. The student must gain the habit of mentally locating events on the map and develop for himself a mental historical atlas. In every chapter of the course different places are first to be recognized as parts of the present-day world and then identified as the locations of certain events of Bible history.

Several events of an international character and their dates are mentioned in more than one chapter. This makes them increasingly familiar.

The frequent mention of dates is to make the order and spacing of events very clear, rather than to emphasize particular years for retention in the memory. The more important dates are several times repeated during the course. They are given in the following table and are the only dates which need to be memorized:

#### IMPORTANT DATES OF BIBLE HISTORY

1200 B.C. (about)	Moses
1000 B.C. (about)	David
721 B.C.	Fall of the Kingdom of Israel
586 B.C.	Fall of the Kingdom of Judah
333 B.C.	Alexander the Great in Asia
167 B.C.	Jewish War of Independence
63 B.C.	Palestine under Roman rule
4 B.C.	Birth of Jesus
70 A.D.	Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans

The essential results of the course, which the student is expected to remember, are clearly indicated in the last chapter, which is a test exercise in locating Bible towns and countries and in recalling events which have given these places their significance in biblical history.

**HOME WORK.** The results of even actual travel need to be conserved by personal records of some kind for future reference. At the best a journal of this kind will be illustrated with maps and photographs. In this course the home work of the student consists of (a) developing certain maps and mounting them in his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands," (b) studying the geographical and historical tables printed in this Atlas, and (c) reading certain Bible passages. The Atlas may be illustrated also with several penny prints of a geographical character, if the class elects to use them.

**PREPARATION OF THE TEACHER.** The best way is to go through the whole course before beginning to teach it. Study each chapter in detail, reading the Bible references and completing the "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands" just as if you were a pupil. Finally go over each chapter afresh immediately before teaching it. It is especially important for the teacher to develop the maps for the "Historical Atlas," both on account of the amount of geography which he will learn by doing this work and in order to appreciate exactly what he is requiring of his students.

While the **MANUAL** and the Bible together furnish all of the information essential for teaching the course, the teacher who desires more reading is directed by page references at the end of each chapter to "BIBLICAL GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY," by Charles Foster Kent, published by Charles Scribner's Sons. For still further information he may read "HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE HOLY LAND," by George Adam Smith, published by George H. Doran, New York, and articles in a Bible dictionary. Hastings' "Dictionary of the Bible" is especially valuable.

**MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE.** A list of the materials necessary will be found on page 83, and where to obtain them on page 84.

# Historical Geography of Bible Lands

## CHAPTER I

### NEW TESTAMENT LANDS

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, xiii, Klemm Relief Map of Palestine, a stereoscope and Stereograph 10852. (Notice that the maps designated by Roman numerals are those in the MANUAL, while "Map C" and those numbered by Arabic figures refer to the larger maps, which the student will mount eventually in the "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands.")

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Appoint four students "Chartmen," one to hold Map C; another, Map 2; another, Map 3; and the other Map 4. Each "Chartman" is to furnish the special information sought, whenever the teacher has something to show the class by means of the map which has been assigned to said "Chartman."

Every place mentioned in the text of a chapter will be found on one of the maps listed at the head of the division of the chapter in which the name of the place occurs. If the name of the place is not found on the map in every case, the situation of the town or country in question is indicated generally by a dot or boundary line, and in every case the information conveyed in the text will make the identity of the place unmistakable. Whenever a geographical name is uttered in the class room and its location is not already thoroughly familiar to the class, the "Chartmen" are immediately to look for it on their different maps. The teacher at the same time will be finding it on a map of the MANUAL, should it be there. Thus no time will be lost in locating the place in question. The mention of no geographical name should be passed by until every member of the class knows its position on the map. "Where is" such and such a place? and "What happened there?" will be the leading questions asked by the teacher, and by the students also, during the course. The burden of the answers to the former of these questions will fall upon the students, and, to the latter question, upon the teacher.

Name the holder of Map C, "Reckoner," to announce the latitude or longitude of different places whenever such information may be needed. Appoint a fifth student, "Calculator," to figure the distances between places in miles, according to instructions under "Distances" printed on Maps C, 2 and 3. Have him do this work either at the blackboard or on paper: Appoint a sixth student "Reader," to find and read Bible references when called upon to do so during the lesson.\*

The teacher should distribute the appointments at successive lessons so that students will have their turns at holding different maps.

No. 2 will be the map used most frequently throughout the first chapter.

**JOURNEY.** An imaginary tour taken by the class to Palestine, which will be extended in future chapters to Bible lands beyond it. In this chapter we proceed by three

\*CONDENSING THE COURSE. Teachers whose class-room period is too limited for them to pursue in every particular the plan of instruction prescribed in the MANUAL, should dispense with the reading of Bible references in the class room and not appoint a "Reader." They may condense the course still further by dispensing with the services of a "Reckoner" and a "Calculator."

stages: from the home town of the class to a United States port, by steamship to the nearest Bible land, and thence to Palestine.

A Bible land is first to be located, by observing its direction and distance from other countries and its shape, size and resources. Secondly it is to be recognized, by references to recent and other events of its history. And thirdly it is to be identified, by allusions to biblical events which took place within its bounds.

**UNITED STATES TO PALESTINE.** Question the class regarding the direction in which Palestine lies, what ocean must be crossed on the way, what sea must be entered and navigated to its end to reach our destination, and the United States port at which we should embark on the voyage.

Boys and girls in their teens are to be found who know of the "Palestine" to which every winter journeys are made by American tourists, but who do not know that this is the Palestine of which they hear at Sunday school. Children just as old, sometimes ask if the Mediterranean Sea on wall maps in Sunday school is the same Mediterranean which they find in their school geographies.

**By Rail to New York.** Question the class regarding the approximate length of the journey from their home town to New York.

**THE VOYAGE.** Map C. Have the "Reckoner" furnish from his Map C the longitude of New York and of Palestine ( $74^{\circ}$  West and  $35^{\circ}$  East). Have the "Calculator" figure the distance in degrees ( $109^{\circ}$ ), and then in miles by multiplying the number of degrees by 55 (see "Distances" on Map C), and announce the result in round numbers (6,000 miles).

**NOTE.** Maps are representations of a curved surface flattened. A map necessarily distorts the image of the earth's surface, and, for large areas especially, no scale of miles will measure with any degree of accuracy distances both north and south and those east and west. In the maps for this course each degree north and south is approximately the same number of miles, namely, seventy. The degrees east and west vary in length from approximately 70 miles on the equator to 0 at the poles. Directions for measuring approximate distances, both north and south and east and west, are printed on the Student Maps C, 2 and 3, and on Maps i, ii, and iii of the MANUAL.

**Atlantic Ocean.** Have the "Chartman" with Map C (if necessary use a globe or a map of the world) trace our course to the

**Strait of Gibraltar.** Question the class upon whether Spain, whose coast we are passing, was a Bible country. Remark that Paul intended to go to Spain (Romans 15: 28), but evidently failed to accomplish his plan, also that Jonah is described as paying his fare from Joppa, Palestine, to "Tarshish," which may have been a port in Spain (Jonah 1: 3), but that in any case he failed to complete his voyage.

**Mediterranean Sea.** Map C. Show by referring to the "Chartman," who holds this map, that the distance from end to end of this sea is the same as that from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean across the United States at the same latitude, and that just one-half way through this sea we reach the

**Strait of Messina.** Between Sicily and Italy, which are clearly Bible lands.

**ITALY.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Recognize this country as shaped like a boot. Show that it is mountainous. Recall its recent war with Turkey in Tripoli; its famous cities: Rome,

Naples, Florence, Venice, Milan; its great men of the past: Cato, Cicero, Julius Cæsar, the Medicis, Vergil, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Galileo, Garibaldi; that it was the seat of the ancient Roman Empire; and that Paul and probably Peter were martyred here.

**SICILY.** Maps 2, xiii. Recognize that this island is triangular in shape and is mountainous. Recall that it frequently suffers severe earthquakes.

Relate that Paul touched at Syracuse, one of its eastern ports, on his way to Rome (Acts 28: 11-14).

**Sea.** A cruise southward past this port brings us in about 175 miles to the little island south of Sicily, now called

**MALTA.** Maps 2, xiii. The "Melita" of the Bible. Remark that it is 18 miles long by 9 miles wide. Recall that it is a British possession.

Relate that it belonged in Bible times to the Phœnicians of Palestine and later to the Romans, and that Paul was shipwrecked on its coast on his voyage to Italy. (Acts 27: 39—28: 10.)

**Sea.** A further voyage of 500 miles eastward carries us to the entrance of the Ægean Sea, off the west end of the mountainous island of

**CRETE.** Maps 2, xiii. Recall that its control passed from Turkey to Greece as a result of the Balkan wars of 1912 and 1913.

Relate that Paul stopped at its south port of Fairhavens on his voyage to Rome, and that he had previously dispatched a letter thither to Titus. (Acts 27: 7-13. Titus 1: 1-5.)

**Ægean Sea.** For 200 miles northward we pass the coasts of

**GREECE.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. The "Achaia" of the Bible. Recognize this country as a mountainous peninsula. Recall the famous Greek cities: Athens, Corinth, Sparta; its great characters of the past: Homer, Solon, Sappho, Phidias, Pericles, Socrates, Plato, Lycurgus, Demosthenes; its well-known battles: Marathon, Thermopylæ and Salamis; and its part in the recent Balkan war.

Relate that Paul taught at Athens and at Corinth.

**MACEDONIA.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. This also is a mountainous country. Recall how it passed with its important port of Salonika, to Greece in 1913 at the close of the Balkan war, and that it was the country of which Alexander the Great was king when he extended his conquests as far as India.

Relate that Paul here entered Europe in the course of his missionary work.

**Sea.** Sailing eastward about 175 miles we cross the Ægean Sea, pass by the Dardanelles and turn south for 300 miles along the western coast of

**ASIA MINOR, Turkey.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Show that the country is mountainous. Recall that the coast region was the ancient Ionia and counted Troy, Ephesus and Sardis among its cities.

Relate that Paul established churches in both western Asia Minor and across it from east to west. Observe that some 60 miles southwest of Ephesus we pass the small island of

**PATMOS.** Map 3. Rocky and almost barren and about 15 miles in circumference. Named in the Book of Revelation as the scene of its visions.



**Sea.** Map xiii. We clear the Ægean Sea on passing north of the island of Rhodes, and in 500 miles eastward we reach Syria, passing on the way north of

**CYPRUS.** Maps 2, xiii. A mountainous and fertile island, 150 miles long and lying about 60 miles from Syria. Recall that it long belonged to Turkey, but has been administered by Great Britain since 1878.

Relate. It was early settled from Phœnicia, whose cities, Tyre and Sidon, will be found in Syria southeast of the island. Greek settlers came later and after that many Jews. In the 2nd century of the Christian era, however, all Jews were expelled from the island owing to an uprising of the Jews against the Roman government. Cyprus came under the sway at different times of Assyria, Persia, Macedonia, Egypt and Turkey. It was the home of Barnabas, who made missionary journeys to the island, first with Paul and Mark and afterwards with Mark only.

**SYRIA, Turkey.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. A province which includes Palestine, as it often did in ancient times. It extends along the whole eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, which is a distance of 260 miles. Show that it is mountainous and is bounded on the south and east by the Arabian desert, which creeps on the east to within 100 to 150 miles of the sea. Remark that the only good port on the coast to-day is Beirut (pronounced bayroot), the "Berytus" of Map xiii.

Syria is both an Old and a New Testament country. The other New Testament lands are behind us in the northwest and the other Old Testament lands lie before us in the south and east.

**PALESTINE, Syria.** Maps 2, 3, 4, iv and Klemm Relief Map. The home of Jesus and for about 1200 years of the Jewish race. Recall that pilgrims and other travellers from many lands are constantly visiting the country on account of its historic associations. Remark that it has a population of about 400,000 Moslems, Jews and Christians; that of the Jews there are now about 150,000; that its inhabitants are supported largely by what travellers expend within its bounds; and that it has been under Turkish rule since 1516 A.D.

Have each student view the country through the stereoscope with Stereograph 10852. Also show the class the Klemm Relief Map of Palestine.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to mount Map C on page 2 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands."

With the aid of this map he is to complete the table "JOURNEY FROM THE UNITED STATES TO PALESTINE," on page 19 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands," by filling in the blanks which call for the name of the town in which he lives and several figures. The Mediterranean Sea will prove to be 41° long.

#### JOURNEY FROM UNITED STATES TO PALESTINE

.....to New York	=	..... miles
(Home town)		
New York to Palestine	=	6,000 miles

Total distance ..... miles

Length of the Mediterranean Sea, .....° of longitude × 55 = ..... miles

**OPTIONAL HOME WORK.** The student may elect to mount in his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands" the Klemm Relief Maps of The Holy Land and the Orient. These maps are to be developed by tracing the coast lines and the courses of the Jordan and Nile Rivers with pencil. The maps are to be cut apart and trimmed, and pasted one on page 16 and the other on page 17 of the "Historical Atlas."

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 3, 4, 7-12, 269, 277.*

## CHAPTER II

### SOUTHERN OLD TESTAMENT LANDS

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps ii, viii, xiii and Klemm Relief Map.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps C, 2, 3, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint the second of them, "Reckoner," to measure distances in degrees of latitude and longitude. Appoint a fourth student, "Calculator," to reduce the degrees to miles; and a fifth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

Maps 2 and viii will be used most frequently.

**VOYAGE.** Map 2. From the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf, to locate and identify Egypt and Arabia as Bible lands.

**Mediterranean Sea.** Map xiii. Show that in 150 miles westward from the southwestern coast of Palestine we pass Port Said (20 miles northwest of "Pelusium" on the map) at the eastern border of Egypt, and 150 miles further at the western edge of Egypt we reach

**ALEXANDRIA, Egypt.** Maps 3, xiii. Relate. It was founded by Alexander the Great in 332 B.C. Greeks, Egyptians and Jews had separate quarters of the city assigned to them. About 200 B.C. the Old Testament was here translated into Greek, and this "Septuagint" version was used and quoted by New Testament writers.

**Suez Canal.** Map viii. Dug by the French, 1859-1869. Returning to Port Said, founded in 1860 at the head of the Canal, we pass into this waterway.

Relate. In Bible times Egypt was guarded across the Isthmus of Suez by a wall and line of forts. Show that east of the Canal is the Wilderness of Paran, where the Israelites wandered before invading Palestine, while immediately west of it lies

**GOSHEN, Egypt.** Map viii. On the eastern portion of the Nile delta and between 30 and 40 miles in length.

Relate. Here the Israelites pastured their flocks from the time of Joseph to that of Moses, about 400 years. When they fled the country they turned southward from before the fortifications on the isthmus and crossed the shallows at the head of the Red Sea, or, as is more probable, the southeastern end of Lake Timsah, one of the shallow sheets of water on the isthmus (Exodus 14).

This portion of the delta has always been occupied by transient nomads (roaming pastoral tribes) from the eastern deserts, as we know from Egyptian monuments and from a case in the last century. In the latter instance Mohammed Ali, the ruler of Egypt from 1805 to 1849, induced certain tribes from the east to settle on the Nile delta, in the old land of Goshen, and engage in the culture of the silk-worm. When this ruler died, the exemptions from taxation and service in the army, which he had promised the settlers, were ignored and these nomads fled in a single night with their flocks to the desert like the Israelites of old (Exodus 12: 40-42).

**Gulf of Suez.** In 100 miles we reach the southern terminus of the Suez Canal and our ship is opposite

**CAIRO, Egypt.** Maps C, 3. On the Nile. Relate. This is the present capital of the country. It was founded about 970 A.D. It is the seat of the largest Mohammedan university in the world, which enrolls 10,000 students. Opposite the city on the west bank of the Nile are the great pyramids of Gizeh and the colossal Sphinx. A few miles northeast of the city stood Cleopatra's Needle, the obelisk now in Central Park, New York. Ten miles south of the city are the ruins of

**MEMPHIS, Egypt.** Maps C, 3. At the upper end of the delta, on the west bank of the Nile. The ancient capital of Lower Egypt.

Relate that this was one of four places in the country where we know Jews made settlements after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians in 586 B.C., the other places being on the delta and further up the Nile.

**Red Sea.** Sailing further south, we observe from our maps that the western coast of the Sea runs from 75 to 150 miles east of the Nile River throughout the 300 miles necessary to bring us opposite

**THEBES, Egypt.** Maps C, 3. On the Nile. The ancient capital of Upper Egypt, whose Temple of Karnak is perhaps the most magnificent ruin in the world.

Relate. An inscription in this temple by Shishak names 156 places which he captured in Syria and Palestine, to which corresponds his taking of Jerusalem in the time of Rehoboam, about 932 B.C., according to I Kings 14: 25, 26. From the tombs on the west bank of the river have been taken mummies dating from Bible times, among them Ramses II, who is claimed to be the pharaoh who oppressed the Israelites in Goshen.

**Red Sea.** Maps C, 2. About 100 miles further, at latitude  $24^{\circ}$  are we  $7^{\circ}$ , or 500 miles, from the mouth of the Nile (as may be learned from the "Reckoner" and the "Calculator"). Show that this distance is the same as from Havana, Cuba, to northern Florida, and that both measurements are made in the same latitude. Here we are opposite

**ASSUAN, Egypt.** Map 3. Just below the first cataract of the Nile (indicated on the map by a double line), whose falls marked the southern end of Egypt and formed a barrier to navigation and invasion from above. Above this cataract are five others in the 600 miles to Khartum.

Relate. At the cataract at Assuan is the granite quarry of ancient Egypt, and also the great dam for the regulation of the annual overflow of the river, which has recently been constructed by the British, who now control the country. Here, too, on the Island of Elephantine records have been discovered of a Jewish temple built by settlers from Palestine not long after the razing of Jerusalem by Babylon. (Compare Jeremiah 41: 1—43: 7.)

**EGYPT.** Maps C, 2, and Klemm Relief Map. An all but rainless land. Show that the country is lowland and that it is fertile only in the ribbon of arable land made by the Nile. Remark that the narrow valley is bounded by hills about 300 feet high until it reaches the delta, where it spreads to 150 miles. Show that Egypt is thus shaped like a snake; that it is bordered and guarded by deserts more or less elevated; and, with a latitude of Florida, its air is warmed and dried by deserts and cooled by breezes from two seas.

Relate. The Nile has made Egypt by annually overflowing its banks and depositing

rich soil carried in its waters from the mountains of Abyssinia. The area of Egypt is but one-eighth of the size of Kansas. It is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. It was, like Babylon and Arabia, one of the most ancient civilizations, its written records going back to 3000-5000 years B.C., while remains are found of a cruder culture older still. About 1000 B.C., however, it ceased to develop and since about 500 B.C. it has been a dependency generally of one foreign government after another.

**GEOGRAPHY AND THE PLAGUES.** Geography furnishes local color to the narratives of the plagues of Egypt ascribed to Moses. The Nile turns dark red at the close of June, although from mud, not from "blood." Hot winds from the southwest at times blow the desert sand in streaks, darkening some places in Egypt more than others. Frogs would amount to a plague more frequently but for a bird, the ibis, which feeds upon them. Flies are excessive even in winter, according to American standards. We now know that flies carry germs and this may have a bearing upon the disease plagues of the Exodus records (Exodus 7-12).

**ARABIA.** Maps C, 2. In the Suez Canal and the Red Sea we have been passing the coasts of Arabia at the same time that we have been opposite Egypt. The Red Sea is about 200 miles in width. Show that Arabia has the shape of a skirt with a train to the east; that it is one of the largest peninsulas in the world; that it extends from the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean; that it would reach from North Carolina to South America, and is equal to one-third of the United States; that we have been passing a barren, harborless coast, almost immediately beyond whose narrow shore rises at once a lofty tableland; that this tableland reaches at least 1,000 feet elevation in a very few miles, and that it does this around the whole border of Arabia, defining its shape in the same way as is done by its coasts and at greater length. Remark that the plateau rises throughout the greater portion of central Arabia, to 3,000 and 4,000 feet elevation; that one-third of this is sand and the rest is arid; that it has scattered oases; that the annual rainfall is less than 10 inches (compare Europe and the eastern half of the United States, where it is 20 to 75 inches a year); that it is a region of mountain air, which, dried as well as heated by deserts and cooled by sea breezes, makes an invigorating climate; that in most of Arabia the scanty population consists of nomads, who wander from oasis to oasis; that all Arabia supports only the same population as Egypt; that the Arabians are famous for their swift horses and camels; and that from nomads of Arabia south of Palestine sprang the Hebrews, perhaps originally from central Arabia via the Euphrates valley (compare the story of Abraham).

**Red Sea.** Observe that while opposite Assuan, we are also opposite

**MEDINA, Arabia.** Maps 2, 3. Located at the northern of the two junctions of roads shown on Map 3. Show that it is about 100 miles from the coast of the Red Sea.

Relate. It was the place where Mohammed died. It has a population of 20,000 people, and was the capital of the Mohammedan Empire until 661 A.D., when the rulership passed for nearly 100 years to Damascus.

**Red Sea.** Descending about 200 miles further we are about one-half way down the sea and opposite

**MECCA, Arabia.** Located at the southern of the two road junctions shown on Map 3 and inland about 70 miles. The sacred city of the Mohammedan world, to which every Moslem is expected to make a pilgrimage at least once in his life-time.

Relate. It has a population of 50,000 people. It was the birthplace of Mohammed, who lived 570-632 A.D., who founded his religion professing one God and himself, His prophet, who wrote the Koran, the Moslem scriptures, and conquered Arabia before he died.

His successors subdued Palestine, Syria, Egypt, North Africa, southern Spain, Persia, Asia Minor, Afghanistan, India in part, the Balkan states, and, in 1453 A.D., took Constantinople. They invaded Europe both by way of Spain, meeting defeat at Tours, France, in 732 A.D., and also by way of the Balkans, being hurled back from before the walls of Vienna in 1683. In the meantime, between 1096 and 1272 A.D., the Moslems repelled seven European crusades to secure the Christian control of Palestine, the first of which was the most successful, holding the country for 90 years.

**Red Sea.** From  $20^{\circ}$  to  $13^{\circ}$  N. latitude, or from two-thirds of the distance from the Mediterranean Sea to the southern point of Arabia, we skirt for 500 miles (7 times 70, as the "Calculator" will figure them) the region of a group of countries in

**SOUTHWESTERN ARABIA.** Maps C, 2, ii. Remark that this is a fertile portion of Arabia (the smaller country of Oman on the eastern coast is fertile also), and that the mountains reach an elevation of 7,000 feet and chill and precipitate the moisture of the trade winds from the east and secure for this region alone among Old Testament lands a rainfall of as much as 20 to 40 inches a year. Show that some of its streams flow east and are absorbed in the desert; that the fertile area is triangular in shape (about 500 by 600 by 700 miles, or 150,000 square miles, about the size of California); that it is in the latitude of Hayti and Porto Rico. Remark that the climate is cooler and more stimulating than that of the lower plateau further east and north; that southwestern Arabia is the seat of an ancient civilization; that as on the Nile, Euphrates and Tigris Rivers, irrigation is necessary and supplies both wealth and the stimulus of strain; that, more isolated than the countries on those great streams, Arabia developed a civilization somewhat less advanced than theirs; and that the western part of Arabia, east of the whole length of the Red Sea has been under Turkish rule since 1517 A.D.

**ARABIA. Expansion of Population.** Maps 2, 3. Relate. The limited sustenance afforded by the peninsula results in an overflow of its population about every thousand years. Until recent times one wave of it would break directly upon Palestine and the Nile delta, and the other would pour north upon the Euphrates valley and there sometimes filter northwest into Syria and turn south into Palestine. This expulsive power of Arabia appears in the story of Abraham, in the conquest of Palestine by the Israelites, in the spread of Mohammedanism, and, at present in the desolation wrought in the last 50 years, across central Africa, for the stream from overstocked Arabia found vent this time southwestward.

**Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf.** Map 2. Show by referring to the "Calculator," that we have sailed from the Mediterranean through the Red Sea an equivalent of about  $21^{\circ}$  of latitude and have covered some 1,500 miles (21 times 70 miles). We now sail the Indian Ocean northeastward an equivalent of about  $23^{\circ}$  of longitude and cover thereby another 1,500 miles (23 times 65 miles). We continue the voyage by turning northwestward from the Indian Ocean to the head of the Persian Gulf, a distance of about 1,000 miles further. Our voyage about the coasts of Arabia thus amounts to about 4,000 miles.

By this time, moreover, we have circumnavigated Bible lands as far as an ocean-

going steamship will permit; and this 4,000 miles added to the voyage from the United States to Palestine of 6,000, accomplished in Chapter I, yields for us a total journey by water of about 10,000 miles.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to develop Map 2 and mount it on page 4 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands."

*Optional Reference Reading.* *Biblical Geography and History, Kent.* *Egypt, pages 4, 5, 106-114, 194-196, 207, 208.* *Arabia, page 7.*

CHAPTER III  
EASTERN OLD TESTAMENT LANDS

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Stereograph 11487.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps C, 2, 3, for each of which appoint a "Chartman." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

Map 2 will be used most frequently.

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**VOYAGE.** Map 2. Along the northern shore of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and back, and up and down the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers, in order to identify the Bible lands of Persia, Susiana, Media, Babylonia, Assyria and Mesopotamia.

**Persian Gulf.** Map 2. A cruise from the mouth of the Euphrates River into the Indian Ocean as far as longitude 62° east will skirt the whole southern coast of **MODERN PERSIA**. Show that it is a mountainous country.

Returning, remark upon the mountains of the more limited **ANCIENT PERSIA**, whose snow tops, 130 miles away, are visible from the sea over ranges 10,000 feet high.

**EASTERN TURKEY.** Map 2. Show that the country is fan-shaped; that it is divided from modern Persia on the east by an almost straight line from the mouth of the Euphrates River to the eastern end of the Black Sea, and from Arabia on the south by a line pointing towards the northeastern corner of the Mediterranean Sea and falling away to the south so as to include Syria and Palestine within the Turkish domain; that this eastern portion of Turkey embraces the Tigris-Euphrates basin, the province of the modern "Mesopotamia," while in Bible times the same valley was divided between the countries of Babylonia, Mesopotamia and Assyria; also that all of the valley but the northern portions of Assyria and Mesopotamia is of lowlands of less than 1,000 feet elevation.

Relate. Turkey gained control of this territory in 1517 A.D., since which it has lost its former prosperity and become largely barren.

**Euphrates and Tigris Rivers.** Maps 2, 3. Leaving our steamship in the Persian Gulf, we can ascend these streams by a river steamboat. In the flood season in summer we can reach Beles, at 36° N. latitude and 38° 15' E. longitude, about where the road along the river turns away from it westward. This is 60 miles south of **CARCHEMISH**, on the same river, where the Babylonians defeated the Egyptians in 605 B.C. on the last attempt made by Egypt to invade the Euphrates valley.

This voyage carries us all the way to Syria, to within 140 miles of the Mediterranean Sea. Here our log will record about 5,000 miles since we sailed south from the point opposite us on the Syrian coast.

Returning we can go up the Tigris River about 400 miles to the head of steam navigation at



**BAGDAD.** Map 2. At latitude  $33^{\circ} 21'$ , 55 miles north of the site of Babylon and 225 miles southeast of the ruins of Nineveh. Founded about 762 A.D., the capital of the Mohammedan Empire until 1258 A.D., whence the califate passed for 300 years to Egypt and thence by 1517 A.D. to Constantinople. For several centuries the greatest city of Western Asia, with a population at one time of 1,500,000. The population is now but 180,000. Here we find ourselves within what in Bible times was

**BABYLONIA.** Maps C, 2, 3. Show that this and the other five countries considered in this chapter are in the latitude of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, and are of the same area as those states; that it is one of five of the six countries of this chapter, which are each of them from 3 to 5 times the size of Palestine, or of about the area of Arkansas; and that it is one of four of these countries which have fertile lowlands, and the only one of them altogether lowland or of less than 1,000 feet elevation. Remark that it shares with all of the five others an annual rainfall of only 10 to 20 inches (compare the eastern half of the United States with 20 to 75 inches); that it is one of three of them watered by the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers; that, enriched by river deposits of soil, all three of them are capable of yielding great wealth, if extensively irrigated; that the Euphrates is 1,800 miles long and sluggish (notice its many loops and turns), and the Tigris, whose source is only 2 or 3 miles from the former, is 1,100 miles long, its name, "arrow," indicating its swiftness; that Babylonia is protected on the south by the elevation and barrenness of the desert, and has no natural barrier between it and Mesopotamia or Assyria; that Babylonia generally controlled Mesopotamia and with Assyria it was often at war; that these three countries form a natural unity, which was sure to compel political union through the successive supremacy of first one and then the other of the two richer and more eastern of them; and that the air, warmed and dried by the southern desert and cooled by mountain and sea breezes, made an invigorating climate, which, combined with wealth and the strain demanded by agriculture and war and the exchange with other lands of products and ideas, produced a strong race.

Relate. In prehistoric times the inhabitants were Sumerians and developed by 4000 B.C. a remarkable civilization, as old at least as that of Egypt. By 2300 B.C. they were conquered by a less civilized race of Semites: of the same stock as the Arabians and Israelites. The conquerors imposed their language upon the country, a tongue more nearly akin to Hebrew (the language which the Israelites adopted from the Amorites of Palestine), than to Arabic, and which to-day we call "Assyrian." They fused with the previous inhabitants and inherited their literature, art and science. The scholars whom they developed used the, by that time, dead Sumerian language and read and translated its classics. Tablets of the work of these grammarians have been unearthed in the last half-century by American and European archæologists. Their temples were like those of Syria, from which some students surmise that these Semites came from the west. They used clay for building and for tablets for writing. What stone and metal they employed had to be imported from Assyria. They colonized Assyria and Mesopotamia and controlled them. In time the Babylonians became subject to Assyria. By 606 B.C. they regained their ascendancy and became a world power. In 597 B.C. they deported about 8,000 picked men of Judah, the prophet Ezekiel among them. These captives amounted, with women and children, to from 30,000 to 40,000 persons, and were planted in the region immediately south of Babylon (II Kings 24: 10-16). In 586 B.C. the Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and deported at least 800 heads of families (Jeremiah

52: 28-30). At Babylon the Jews developed the greatest literary activity of their history. They compiled their historical works up to date and collected and wrote several books of prophecy.

**BABYLON, Babylonia.** Maps 2, 3. The capital of the country and the greatest city in Bible times, from the time of the fall of Nineveh until after that of Alexander the Great. The scene of the Book of Daniel. Pass Stereograph 11487 for a view of the ruins of Babylon.

**MESOPOTAMIA.** Map 2. The name meaning "Land between rivers."

Relate. The country as known in ancient times had three natural divisions, often divided between as many different peoples. It was controlled generally by Babylon or Assyria. It contributed at different times to the population of Palestine.

**HARAN, Mesopotamia.** Maps 2, 3. Within 100 miles northeast of the point which we reached at the head of navigation on the Euphrates. The principal city of the country.

Relate. Abraham was located here. It was Rebecca's home. Thither Jacob fled from Esau and gained wives and a fortune (Genesis 11: 31; 24; 28—31).

**ASSYRIA.** Map 2. Show that it is more mountainous than lowland.

Relate. Its people came from Babylonia, whence they derived their arts and sciences. They developed a more hardy race than the people from whom they sprang. By 1700-1600 B.C. they achieved independence of Babylonia, and by 1300 B.C. became a world power, extending their empire west and south as far as Egypt. Their recovered records contain the names of several of the kings of Israel and Judah, who paid them tribute, and give chronological lists of their own kings, which enable us to adjust the Hebrew chronologies from 854 B.C. onward and to assume that "40" and "20" in the Bible are round numbers. By 721 B.C. their armies destroyed the kingdom of Northern Israel (II Kings 17: 4-6), and 20 years later devastated Judah, taking 46 walled towns and 200,000 captives, and all but seized Jerusalem (II Kings 18: 13—19: 37, and an Assyrian inscription). By 606 B.C. their capital fell before the combined attack of Medes and Babylonians and their empire came to an end.

**NINEVEH, Assyria.** Maps 2, 3. On the east bank of the Tigris River, the capital of the country and the dominant city of Bible lands for over 500 years.

Relate. Its government was a military despotism. The policy of its kings was to capture trade routes and deflect them to their city, by which to gain wealth and larger armies, in order to sack more cities, levy tribute and coerce yet more trade. They enslaved their own subjects and finally their soldiers, sapping the strength of their people, so that their city once destroyed and the army with it, the power of Assyria collapsed forever. These kings made 30 invasions of Syria or Palestine in 250 years on and after 876 B.C. The city is the subject of the Books of Nahum and Jonah.

**Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.** Return by steamboat to the steamship which we left in the Persian Gulf, and take a position off the coast of

**SUSIANA.** Map 2. The "Elam" of the Bible. More mountainous than lowland.

Relate. It was successively independent and subdued by Assyria, Babylonia, Persia, Greece and Rome. Some of its inhabitants, among other peoples, were transported to central Palestine after the fall of Samaria in the 8th century B.C. (Ezra 4: 9,

10), and from the mixture of imported foreigners and the Hebrews remaining in central Palestine sprang the race of Samaritans, who figure in New Testament story.

**SUSA, Susiana.** Maps 2, 3. The "Shushan" of the Bible, and the capital of the country.

Relate. Cyrus made this city one of the capitals of the Persian Empire. Here was the summer palace of the Persian kings, where Nehemiah was royal cup-bearer, and whence he was commissioned to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 1:1—2:8). It was the scene of the Book of Esther and of one of the visions of the Book of Daniel.

**MEDIA AND PERSIA.** Maps 2, 3. Media alone among Bible lands is not to be reached by navigation of some kind, having no coast or large rivers. Show that Media was three times the size of any of the other five countries considered in this chapter, but had a large area of waterless salt desert, and that Persia was the most mountainous of them all. Remark that both of these countries had plains over 5,000 feet high and ranges of more than 10,000 feet and valleys of grass.

Relate. When these mountain Medes and Persians enter Bible history we are meeting with our own Aryan, or Indo-European, race. To Media, some of whose territory had been seized by Assyria, was transported a portion of the tribes of northern Israel (II Kings 17:6). And to Media belongs the credit of destroying Nineveh. Cyrus the Great of Persia annexed Media in 549 B.C., took Babylon in 538 B.C. and the same year issued permission to the Jews to rebuild Jerusalem (Ezra 6:3). He was hailed a deliverer in the Book of Isaiah (44:28—45:13). He extended his empire as far as Thrace in Europe, Egypt in Africa and to the borders of India. His successors, Darius and Xerxes, fought the battles of Marathon, Thermopylae and Salamis, in a vain effort to conquer Greece. The Persian Empire fell before Alexander the Great of Macedonia in 331 B.C.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to learn by heart the table of "IMPORTANT DATES OF BIBLE HISTORY," to be found on page 19 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands." (See page vi of the MANUAL for the same table.)

*Optional Reference Reading.* *Biblical Geography and History, Kent.* Assyria, pages 176-181, 185-188. Babylonia, pages 5-7, 91, 92, 197, 198. Susa, pages 200, 201.

## CHAPTER IV

### ROUTES CONNECTING BIBLE LANDS

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps v, vii, viii, xiii.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps C, 2, 3, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

Map 3 will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEYS.** Map 3. Land travel. A loop, encircling the desert of northern Arabia: from Babylon to Palestine and Egypt and through Arabia back to the point of starting; and, a hook: from Nineveh, via Syria and the overland route to Rome and back by sea to Palestine. Purpose, to identify the ancient routes of armies and trade.

**DOUBLE ROUTES.** Maps C, 3, xiii. Show that at least two routes ran from the Tigris-Euphrates valley to Palestine, two from Palestine to Egypt, two from Egypt to Arabia, two from Arabia to Babylon, and, that both a land and a sea route connected Rome and Palestine; that the Arabian desert deflected travel about its borders and made Palestine the pathway between the great civilizations of the ancient world, and the meeting-place of Europe, Asia and Africa; that these routes involved a distance from Babylon to Rome equal to that between the Bermuda Islands and Denver, and a distance, north and south equivalent to that from Boston to Havana, Cuba.

**BABYLON TO PALESTINE.** Maps 2, 3. Locate the city of Ur in Babylonia.

Relate that it was a great city before Babylon became important and was the starting point of the journeys ascribed to Abraham in the Book of Genesis (Genesis 11: 31).

Trace our way from Babylon to Syria over the tortuous road along the Euphrates River, whose windings make this journey northwestward more than three times the air-distance, until we turn southwest and south into Palestine. Over this route of 1,500 miles of travel toiled the Jewish captives in 597 and 586 B.C. on their way from Jerusalem to Babylon.

**PALESTINE TO EGYPT.** Maps 3, v. Trace two routes: the shorter one along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, taken probably by the caravan to which Joseph was sold by his brothers at Dothan in central Palestine, and the longer route taken by the Israelites under Moses, in their wanderings from Egypt to Palestine.

**EGYPT TO ARABIA.** Map 3. Trace the two routes to the head of the Gulf of Akabah (the eastern arm of the Red Sea), and from this point the two routes south over the barrens of Arabia to its fertile mountain valleys in the southeast (southwestern Arabia). Remark that the eastern of these routes is that used by Moslems on their annual pilgrimages to Mecca.

**ARABIA TO BABYLONIA.** Map 3. Trace two routes running north over the deserts of central Arabia to the Euphrates River.

**ASSYRIA TO SYRIA.** Maps 2, 3. Trace our way along the Tigris River to Nineveh, Assyria, and from there across mountains over the route travelled by the armies of Assyria on their campaigns to Syria and Egypt, passing through Haran in Mesopotamia, already discussed in the previous chapter.

**SYRIA TO ITALY.** Maps 3, xiii. Trace our way along the overland route from Antioch, Syria, the starting point of Paul's missionary tours to Europe, going north through Syria and west through Cilicia, where we pass Tarsus, the birthplace of Paul, crossing Asia Minor to the Ægean Sea, going by boat to Macedonia, by road over Epirus and by boat again over the Adriatic Sea to Italy.

**ITALY TO THE EAST.** Map xiii. Trace our way by the sea route to Egypt, Palestine and Syria.

#### **TRAVEL IN BIBLE TIMES.**

**Rivers.** Maps 2, 3. Rivers were used more extensively for transportation than roads. Of them by far the most important were the Nile, the Euphrates and the Tigris.

The Nile is navigable by steamboat to the first cataract, just above Assuan, about 500 miles from its mouth.

The Euphrates is navigable for 1,100 miles by steamboat and for 100 miles further by small boats and rafts.

The Tigris carries steamboats for 400 miles above its junction with the Euphrates, or about 500 miles above the Persian Gulf, and small boats for about 350 miles more, or to about 20 miles below Nineveh, while rafts come down the river from a distance of about 275 miles further up stream, or from a point over 1,100 miles from the Gulf.

**Mediterranean Sea.** Maps C, xiii. This, during Old Testament times, was in large measure a Phœnician sea, with the chief port at Tyre, Syria. In New Testament times it was controlled by the Romans, who subdued Tyre and destroyed Carthage, a colony of Tyre in North Africa, nearly opposite Italy.

**Red Sea.** Maps 2, 3, v, viii. The scene of the early maritime ventures of the Hebrews during the period of the kings. They used the port of **EZION-GEBER**, at the head of the Gulf of Akabah, during the reigns of Solomon and Jehosaphat, but to a limited degree (I Kings 9: 26-28; 22: 48, 49). The Jews were not a maritime people and never have been. Their possessions in Palestine did not extend to the Mediterranean coast, unless temporarily between Philistia and Phœnicia, until the 2nd century B.C., when they secured Joppa, a port without a harbor. In New Testament times Herod the Great constructed a harbor at Cæsarea.

**Condition of Ancient Roads.** Maps 3, v, xiii. We encounter a difficulty in the use of the very word "road," especially in Old Testament countries. "Route" is more accurate, for roads were often no more than tracks or trails. Good roads came in Asia with the rise to power of Indo-European races. First the Persian post roads made a new epoch in road making. The Romans followed and were still greater road builders. Their roads in the east, however, were not constructed until the 2nd and 3rd centuries of the Christian era. In New Testament times travel between Palestine and Rome averaged about 15 miles a day on foot and 25 miles a day for wagons. On Oriental roads travel was much slower and the vehicles were two-wheel affairs, as four-wheelers

could not negotiate the stony places. The horseman has frequently to dismount on account of stones on many of the highways of Palestine to-day.

Since 1898 a macadam road runs from the Mediterranean coast to Jerusalem, from Jerusalem southwest 20 miles to Hebron and from Jerusalem northeast 16 miles to Jericho. These stretches were laid by the sultan of Turkey for the emperor of Germany in anticipation of the visit which he paid to Palestine in that year, and were limited to his proposed itinerary. This was in accordance with the Oriental custom of "preparing a highway for the king." This courtesy of the sultan compelled him to construct a similar road for the kaiser from Haifa, the port just north of the headland of Mt. Carmel, for a distance of 20 miles southeast to Nazareth.

**Conditions of Travel.** Maps C, 3, xiii. Danger and expense both militated against travel in ancient times to an extent difficult for us to imagine. The perils were robbery, murder and exposure. Persons rarely travelled alone beyond their own country in Old Testament days. Even in the Roman period, however, when journeys were much more safe and expeditious than formerly, travellers generally went in companies for better protection. Thus Paul had companions on his journeys and apparently without exception. And Roman roads were at their safest in Paul's day. Less than a century before New Testament times Roman ships under Pompey largely cleared the Mediterranean Sea of pirates. We know however that pirates still preyed somewhat upon Mediterranean shipping until the United States put a stop to this survival of the practice through a conflict with Tripoli in 1801-1805. (See II Corinthians 11:23-27 for what Paul said of his perils by land and sea.)

**Voyages.** Map xiii. By New Testament times Jews travelled in large numbers by ship to Palestine from homes all over the western portion of the Roman Empire, in order to attend the annual feasts at Jerusalem. And Paul used the sea extensively in his travels.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to develop Map 3 and mount it on page 6 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands."

With Maps 2 and 3 before him, he is to learn the table of "APPROXIMATE AIR-LINE DISTANCES FROM PALESTINE," to be found on page 19 of his Atlas.

APPROXIMATE AIR-LINE DISTANCES FROM PALESTINE	
To EGYPT.....	250 miles
To MESOPOTAMIA.....	500 miles
To BABYLON.....	1,000 miles
To ROME.....	2,000 miles

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 73-84.*

## CHAPTER V

### THE WILDERNESS SOUTH OF PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps viii, x, xi, and Klemm Relief Map.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps C, 2, 3, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint a fourth student, "Reckoner," to measure distances in degrees of latitude and longitude on Map viii; also a fifth student, "Calculator," to reduce the degrees to miles; and a sixth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

Maps 3 and viii will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEY.** Maps 3, viii. From Egypt to Palestine, in order to identify the region through which Moses led the Israelites prior to their invasion of Palestine.

**TABLELANDS AND MOUNTAINS.** Maps C, 2, viii, Klemm Relief Map. Show that at the Suez Canal, at what was the Isthmus of Suez, the Israelites were confronted on the east with a triangular territory, bounded by two seas and two isthmuses, the sides of which were approximately 200 miles each. Find from the "Reckoner" that both the southeastern and southwestern sides of this triangle cover  $3^{\circ}$  of latitude and the northern side extends for  $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  of longitude. Have the "Calculator" reduce these figures to miles as follows:  $3 \times 70$  miles of latitude = 210 miles, and,  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 60$  miles of longitude = 210 miles.

The area of this triangle is about 15,000 square miles; equivalent to that of Maryland and Delaware. It is of the same width and latitude as Florida. Almost all of it is over 2,000 feet above the sea.

**WILDERNESS OF PARAN.** Maps 2, viii, Klemm Relief Map. The region in which the Israelites wandered during the greater part of a generation. Of which the Wilderness of Shur and of Zin are portions. A tableland of 2,000 to 2,500 feet elevation. Remark that it is bounded on the south and east by mountains much higher; that its mountain air is dried by deserts and both heated by them and cooled by sea breezes, furnishing an invigorating climate; that it has a rainfall of less than 10 inches a year, but that, while it has long stretches of sandy desert, much of it in the springtime is covered with vegetation, and it has a number of oases; that it furnishes sustenance for a limited number of nomads and their flocks; and that the territory is counted with Egypt.

**THE ROUTE EASTWARD.** Maps 3, viii. Show that the routes to Palestine are three, the southern one going around the land of Edom. Remark that, for the Israelites on their escape from Goshen, the shortest route was along the Mediterranean Sea, but this approach was held by the Philistines (Exodus 13:17). Taking the middle route, we cross the Brook of Egypt, a wady (a water course which is dry excepting in the rainy season) and in about 125 miles we meet a cross-trail, 50 miles south of Palestine, and hard by we find

**KADESH-BARNEA.** Maps 3, viii. This is by far the most important oasis of the whole country west of Edom. It is a plain 6 by 10 miles, bounded by a rim of broken hills, easily defended and watered by a stream issuing from a rock and collected near it by two wells and two pools. It contains a few acres of wheat and barley, and there are birds, bees and rabbits. The Israelites defeated the Amalekites to gain possession of this oasis (Exodus 17: 8-13). They made it a headquarters, and a base also for their first and unsuccessful attack upon Palestine (Numbers 13; 14). The biblical narratives identify the place with "Rephidim" and "Meribah" (Exodus 17: 1-13. Numbers 20: 10-13; 27: 14. Deuteronomy 32: 51. Ezekiel 47: 19; 48: 28). It was discovered in 1842 and again in 1882, in spite of the nomads, who feared that Europeans would appropriate it, once they should learn what a remarkable oasis it was. Smaller oases lie within a few miles of Kadesh-Barnea.

**Route Southeastward.** Map 3. This track carries us in about 75 miles to

**ELATH.** Maps 3, viii. Very likely the "Elim" of Exodus 15: 27, of twelve springs and seventy palm trees. It lies just east of Ezion-geber, the port where some kings of Judah maintained ships.

**MIDIAN.** Maps 3, viii, Klemm Relief Map. This was probably east of the Gulf of Akabah, or else immediately east of Edom. The evidence in any case regarding its situation is uncertain.

Relate. It was to Midian apparently that Moses fled from Egypt in his youth and became a shepherd (Exodus 2: 11-22). Thither he led the Israelites. And here some Midianites joined his confederacy of tribes (Numbers 10: 29-33. Judges 1: 16; 4: 11). Within its bounds in all probability was

**MT. SINAI.** Maps 3, viii. In Midian, as Deuteronomy 1: 2 and Exodus 3: 1 indicate, and as Deuteronomy 33: 2 and Judges 5: 4, 5 permit, especially since "Seir" and Edom (two names of the same country) may have been used in the last two passages to cover a region further south than Edom proper.

Relate. The mountain was a volcano (Exodus 19: 12-18), and extinct volcanos are to be found immediately east of the Gulf of Akabah and in Edom. Here the Israelites worshipped Jehovah and covenanted with him for the conquest of Palestine. And here Aaron is said to have made a golden calf for worship (Exodus 32).

**PENINSULA OF SINAI.** Maps 2, 3, viii. Show that we can round the Gulf of Akabah from the east and in 100 miles southwestward reach the peaks over 6,000 and 7,000 feet high, where amid a tangled mass of mountains, narrow valleys and little water, a tradition has been fostered since about 400 A.D., that somewhere here Mt. Sinai was situated.

Relate. In this region the Egyptians mined tin and malachite at the time of the Exodus and garrisoned the country with troops. This circumstance, the barren character of the country, and the passage in Deuteronomy 1: 2, make it very doubtful if the Israelites ever penetrated this peninsula. We find here the Convent of St. Catharine, built in 527 A.D., where, among old parchments, which ignorant monks were using for the kindling of fires, the German scholar Tischendorf, in 1844 and 1859 discovered one of our two best New Testament manuscripts, written about 400 A.D. It is called the Sinaitic Manuscript and is now in the Imperial Library at Petrograd, Russia.



**Route Northward.** Maps 3, viii. Returning to Elath, we can take the road northeast and north, curving about the east of Edom, the route attributed to the Israelites under Moses on their way to invade Palestine (Numbers 20: 14—21: 20).

**EDOM.** Maps 2, 3, viii, x, xi, Klemm Relief Map. Show that the country is shaped like a cucumber; that it is 100 miles north and south (compare the Gulf of Akabah, and the Suez Canal also, each of which is 100 miles long); and that caravan routes belt its borders on the north, south, east and west. Remark. A steep valley on the west of it is below sea-level. The road north and south over the tableland of Edom twice passes heights of over 5,600 feet. This is the most impregnable of Bible lands. It is penetrated only by mountain paths and narrow canyons, sometimes hundreds of feet deep. Its capital, Petra ("Rock") contains numerous cave dwellings cut into the soft and highly colored sandstone. Its plateaus are arable. The Edomites were a robber people, who levied tribute upon passing caravans.

Relate. The Edomites and Hebrews were at bitter enmity for centuries (Book of Obadiah). The Edomites were conquered by David (I Kings 11:15, 16. II Samuel 8: 13, 14, where "Syrians" should be "Edomites") and Amaziah (II Kings 14: 7), kings of Judah, and again about 100 years B.C. by the Jews, who forced circumcision upon them. In the meantime after 586 B.C., when Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Babylonians, the Edomites encroached upon Judea (Map xi).

**HOME WORK.** The student is to develop Map 4 in part: from below sea-level to 2,000 feet elevation.

**OPTIONAL CLASS WORK. Sand Map of Palestine.** Maps 4, iv, Klemm Relief Map, Stereograph 10852. The moulding of Palestine in damp sand is an excellent lesson preparatory to the development of Map 4, and in anticipation of the next six chapters of the course. The sand makes a more direct representation of the country than a printed map, and will produce a definite picture in the student's mind of what his colors on a flat map like Map 4 express. The exercise calls for a special meeting of the class.

The sand tray should be about three-quarters as wide as it is long. If it is three and one-half by two and one-half feet it ought to be about 5 inches deep. A card-board box, with a piece of oilcloth on the bottom will answer, if a wooden tray is not available. Sand to the depth of 1 inch over the whole tray is the quantity desired. In a tray of this length the Dead Sea should be 10 inches long. This represents fifty miles, or 5 miles to the-inch. Lake Galilee will be 65 miles north of it, or 13 inches away. Nearly half-way between the Dead Sea and Lake Galilee the Mediterranean Sea is 50 miles distant from the Jordan River, or just the length of the Dead Sea. A slight curve through this point, running at an angle of 70° from the base of the map, will mark the Mediterranean coastline. No other measurements for the lateral outline of the country are necessary. The Klemm Relief Map of the Holy Land, Map iv, or Stereograph 10852 viewed through the stereoscope, will show the relative elevations of land to be moulded. The elevations will prove to be exaggerated three and one-half fold, as this has been found a good proportion for relief maps, in order to make the distinctions in surface sufficiently evident. The depression of the Jordan Valley below the level of the Mediterranean may safely be left to the imagination. The smoother the sand is finished the more easily will the size of the country be realized.

Several persons can mould different portions of the map simultaneously under the direction of the teacher. He needs only to have moulded the map once himself to enable him to direct a class how to do it entirely with their own hands. The narration of a few stories definitely located will make this representation of Palestine remembered as a historical map. And those who make it once will find themselves reading it into any map of Palestine which they may ever look at thereafter.

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 115-118.*

## CHAPTER VI

### THE PHYSICAL CHARACTER OF PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, vii, viii, ix, x, xiii, xiv, and Stereographs 10852, 10899, 3125.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps C, 2, 3, 4, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint the holder of Map 4 to measure distances according to the ten-mile scale in its border and to answer questions on elevations of land. Appoint a fifth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

**OPTIONAL MATERIAL.** Wall Map A, Physical Palestine, hung before the class, will prove a great advantage. It is a reproduction of Map 4 on a larger scale.

Map 4, or Map A, will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEY.** Maps 4, iv. Trips from the south over the coast plain, the western and the eastern tablelands and the Jordan valley, in order to learn the character of Palestine as a stronghold.

**KADESH-BARNEA.** Maps C, 2, 3, 4, iv, vii, viii, ix. Locate the headquarters of the Israelites of 3,000 years ago, lying on the desert tableland 50 miles south of Palestine. Pass around the class Stereograph 10852 and observe the very rough character of the barren waste before us. It is called the **NEGEB** ("dry land"). This became the Hebrew word for south, so that, in Genesis 13: 1; Numbers 13: 17; 21: 1 and Deuteronomy 1: 7 "south" means north by compass.

Show the width of Palestine from the Mediterranean Sea to the desert on the east (100 miles) and its length (160 miles), from the end of the Dead Sea to the base of the Lebanon Mountains (of which "Mt. Hermon," on Map vii is a peak), and north of which the Israelites never settled. Notice that Palestine, including the whole area of Map 4, is about the size and shape of New Hampshire and Vermont (see inset on Map C), while Palestine, as confined to the land occupied by the Hebrews, is nearer the size of Vermont alone. Observe, too, that Palestine is in the latitude of Georgia. Remark that its tablelands have the elevation (1,000 to 3,000 feet) of western North Carolina and very much the same climate, with a less rainfall, viz., 10 to 20 inches a year (compare the 10 to 75 inches in the United States); that famines were not infrequent, owing to long droughts, and that a sense of dependence upon Providence for rain developed in its inhabitants (compare I Kings 17: 1; 18. Amos 4: 7-10). Show the fertile plains and notice that the tablelands are grassy and especially desirable to nomads for pasturing their flocks.

Pass the stereoscope to observe on Stereograph 10852 the four north and south zones of the country: the coast plain, the western tableland, the Jordan gorge and the eastern tableland. Identify these zones on Maps 4, iv, and vii.

**COAST PLAIN.** Maps 3, 4, iv, vii, viii, ix, x, xiii. Pass Stereograph 10852 to consider the feasibility of invading Palestine via this plain. Show that the plain is 100 miles long by from 6 to 20 miles wide.

Relate. This point of attack was the best apparently, geographically considered. Egypt always invaded Palestine by this plain. Both Assyria and Babylon have entered the plain from the north and used it as a base to reach the tableland and conquer the Hebrews there. The crusaders in the Middle Ages invaded the country in the same way. The plan was apparently impossible for the Israelites, however, because they seem to have had a rival in the conquest of Palestine in the Philistines. Either shortly before or while the Israelites were wandering in the desert, this people had sailed from Crete ("Caphtor," Amos 9:7) to Egypt and reached the southern end of the plain (compare Genesis 10:19. Deuteronomy 2:23. Exodus 13:17).

Meanwhile the Israelites had to find another way by which to win the country. If they succeeded in gaining the western tableland, they would then have to hold it against the attacks which the Philistines would develop against their position in the highlands. There was need of haste, apparently, for the Israelites to get the tableland before the Philistines could do so. In this they succeeded.

The Philistines proceeded with their conquest of Palestine until they were checked by David, but for whom no doubt it would have become a Philistine country. As it was, the Philistines gave the country their name, for "Palestine" is a form of the word "Philistia." The Philistines, being from Crete, were probably of European descent. If so, Goliath was no doubt a big, fairhaired, blue-eyed Greek. The Philistines were more civilized than the Israelites when they both entered Palestine. David had many Philistines in his army and to them apparently he owed not a little of his military successes after he made peace with their country on the southern half of the coast plain.

**WESTERN TABLELAND.** Maps 3, 4, iv, viii. Observe that the Israelites might make a direct attack from Kadesh-Barnea upon their north. Recall that they attempted this. They first sent spies a few miles into the mountains (Numbers 13). We can go further. After reaching the highest point of over 3,000 feet elevation, opposite the center of the Dead Sea, we may travel northward for 70 miles, dropping gradually to lower ground, until we arrive at the almost sea-level Plain of Esdraelon, which spreads V-shaped 15 miles across the north by 15 miles on the east by 15 miles on the southwest.

Relate. If the Israelites could take the plateau and this plain, they could use the latter for a base from which to occupy the tableland further north, and ultimately the tableland east of the Jordan. Once in possession of these highlands they could watch the armies of Egypt, Assyria and Babylon march up or down the coast plain, on their way to invade each other's territory, and feel secure against attack themselves, excepting only as these armies might turn aside and attempt to force a passage up one of the narrow valleys to the tableland. The Israelites, however, failed in their first pitched battle north of Kadesh-Barnea against the Amorites of the western tableland and were driven back upon their base in the desert (Numbers 14).

**EASTERN TABLELAND.** Maps 3, 4, iv, vii, viii, ix, x, xiv. Show that this is as lofty as the western tableland and averages a greater elevation. It is also colder, with snows sometimes 2 to 3 feet deep in Gilead. Observe, with the aid of Stereograph 10852, the two approaches to this plateau: one leading northeast to the south of the Dead Sea and then eastward on the south of Moab, a distance of 100 miles from Kadesh-Barnea, and the other going around Edom to the same point, a distance of 200 miles; and that it would be hazardous for the Israelites to attempt to fight their way through Moab

northward over their mountains, more than 3,000 feet high, and across their very deep river gorges. Pass Stereograph 10899, looking north, first locating this view on Map xiv, and having every student carefully observe the direction in which the picture looks.

*The same care should be taken to observe the direction of every stereoscopic view used during the course, especially as the first impression of the direction of a picture is surprisingly persistent.*

This valley of the Arnon River is the most stupendous chasm in Palestine, being 3,000 feet deep and 2 miles across. Show that the Israelites might turn north and skirt the eastern border of Moab along the western edge of the desert.

Relate. After a lapse of a generation following their first assault upon the western tableland, the Israelites pursued the plan of invasion just outlined. They used both approaches from Kadesh-Barnea, apparently, to reach the frontiers of Moab. They suffered greatly for the want of water on the march around Moab. Once opposite the Jordan River they confronted the Amorites north of Moab and took their stronghold (Numbers 21: 21-31). Here Moses died, with western Palestine lying in view from the Nebo range, whose elevation is 2,600 feet (Deuteronomy 34: 1-5). From here the Israelites worked their way down over the mountains, descending more than 4,000 feet to the Jordan River, which they prepared to cross for an attack upon the western tableland.

**JORDAN VALLEY.** Maps 4, iv, vii, ix, x, xiv. Pass Stereograph 10852 and remark that this is one of the most remarkable clefts on earth.

The surface of the Dead Sea is 1,292 feet below ocean-level and its bottom in part is 1,300 feet lower still, or one mile lower than Jerusalem. Cliffs on the shore of this sea have in places an almost sheer fall of 1,500 to 3,000 feet. Lake Galilee is 682 feet below ocean-level, and Lake Merom (or "Huleh"), 9 miles further north, is 7 feet above the sea. Nine miles north of this lake we reach an elevation of 500 feet at the base of the Lebanon range. The Dead Sea is  $47\frac{1}{2}$  miles long by 10 miles at its widest part. Lake Galilee is pear-shaped and is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  long by 8 miles wide. Lake Merom is 4 miles long. The Jordan ("descender") descends nearly 10 feet a mile after leaving Lake Galilee, but, owing to the way the rocks of its bed were gradually formed, it nevertheless meanders 200 miles in the 65-mile air distance of its course below Lake Galilee. This river is 90 to 100 feet across near Lake Galilee, 150 feet wide in its lower reaches and 500 feet wide and only 3 feet deep at its mouth. In flood season (December) it spreads in some places to a breadth of from 500 feet to one mile. It now has four bridges and its fords number from 20 to 25. The fords are dangerous, for the current is swift (Stereograph 3125, looking west). The river is fed by the snows of the Lebanon Mountains, three-quarters of Mt. Hermon being drained by its sources. The Dead Sea has no outlet excepting evaporation, which takes care of the entire influx of the watershed. The valley in the south is tropical,  $118^{\circ}$  being registered at times in the shade in summer. Snakes and wild beasts haunt its jungles (II Kings 17: 24-26. Matthew 3: 7). Its clay banks drop into the stream in flood season. In 1257 A.D. a landslide of this character occurred at a place above the mouth of the Jabbok River, over 16 miles north of Jericho, and dammed the flow of the Jordan completely for several hours, thus suggesting how the Israelites under Joshua might have crossed the empty river bed when the stream was in flood (Joshua 3: 14-17). Show that desert strips in the Jordan valley alternate with patches of fertile land. Compare John the Baptist as both in the desert and at the Jordan (Matthew 3: 1-6).

**WESTERN TABLELAND.** Maps 4, iv, vii, ix. Pass Stereograph 10852 and observe the different narrow valleys leading from the plain of the lower Jordan to the highlands, northwest, west and southwest.

Relate. The Joseph tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, and other tribes at different times probably, passed up the valleys northwestward and gained the highlands between the southern and central portions of the tableland. Thence they worked their way northward and southward. Other Israelitish bands turned from the Jordan southwestward over the Desert of Judea (eastern Judah) and entered the southern portion of the tableland. Meanwhile during the march from Kadesh-Barnea, some of the Israelites remained behind and sifted into the western tableland directly from the south. Among them we count the Kenites of Midian and some clans of Caleb (Judges 1:20). Other tribes, already north of Moab, drifted northward on the eastern tableland.

Invasions of Palestine by desert tribes do not confine themselves to attacks in force. Following their ingrained desert habits, they pass into pasture lands with their flocks and herds in small scattered bands. Families and clans unite to give battle when circumstances compel them to open conflict. They make contracts for pasturage and for quarters in towns and villages. They become slaves to townsmen until they can usurp the control of a city and make "hewers of wood and drawers of water" of their former masters. This is a long process. It goes far to account for the 100 to 200 years involved in the subjugation of Palestine by Israelites, lasting from the time of Joshua to David (Judges 1:21-36).

By Saul's day the Philistines had forced their way from their seat in the southern half of the coast plain into the tableland over the territory of Benjamin and Judah and established garrisons there and taxed the Israelites. Then raiding the Plain of Esdraelon they there defeated and slew Saul in battle. David by defeating their garrisons in Judah compelled their return from the plain in the north. Then, by driving them back from the tableland, he secured the independence of Judah and Benjamin and put all Israel under obligation to him as their savior from Philistine rule (I Samuel 13:5-23; 28:1-5; 31:1-13. II Samuel 5:17-25; 8:1).

**THE BEAUTY OF PALESTINE.** Map iv. The Old Testament describes Palestine as "a land flowing with milk and honey." Modern travellers find the country conspicuous for its health and beauty.

Most of it has an elevation of over 2,000 feet with decidedly mountain air. The foliage varies from the palms and luxuriant gardens of the tropical Jordan valley, to the hardy fruit, grain and grass of the cool plateaus. For several months the ground is covered everywhere with wild flowers in a profusion that defies exaggeration. The scenery has the wide variety of broad and narrow valleys, low and lofty plains, rolling uplands and mountain peaks and ranges, and rocky gorges, some of them deep canyons, which are wild and barren in the extreme.

To some tourists this beauty is a surprise, partly no doubt because the Bible is signally void of observations of physical nature and scenic description, and partly because some travellers have found the country forlorn because it fails to look prosperous.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to complete the development of Map 4 and mount it on page 8 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands."

**OPTIONAL HOME WORK.** Wall Map A, Physical Palestine. This map may be developed in crayon in the same way as Map 4, of which it is a larger copy. This is a class exercise and a special meeting of the class will be required for the purpose, perhaps at the home of the teacher.

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 13-26, 33, 45-63, 87-105, 118-130, 138, 139.*

## CHAPTER VII

### THE POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, v, vi, vii, viii, ix, x, xi, xiii, xiv and Stereographs 10862, 10852.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps 2, 3, 4, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

**OPTIONAL MATERIAL.** Wall Map A. Physical Palestine. Also Student Map 21, described under "Home Work."

Maps vii, ix, x, will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEY.** Map x. A tour of Palestine to locate the centers of political control and to observe the extent of the territories which they commanded during the Hebrew occupation of the country.

**EASTERN AND WESTERN PALESTINE.** Maps 3, 4, iv, vii, ix, x, xi. Recall how the deep valley of the Jordan divides the mountains of Palestine into two tablelands. Show that these highlands are each of them about 150 miles long by about 25 miles wide, and that the Hebrew possessions were flanked on the east by the Kingdom of Damascus, by Ammon and the desert; on the south by Moab, Edom and the Negeb; on the west by Philistia and Phoenicia; and on the north by the Lebanon Mountains; that the coast plain for 45 miles was Philistia and for 55 miles north of it to Mt. Carmel was the Plain of Sharon, held at most only intermittently by the Hebrews.

Relate that history demonstrates that the political control of the country belongs to the western section, which is better watered, is a natural highway of more extensive trade, supports a larger population and is more impregnable than the tableland east of the Jordan River. Observe the larger number of Israelitish tribes which settled in the west.

**NORTH AND SOUTH PALESTINE.** Maps vii, x. Show how we may start at the edge of the eastern desert, about 10 miles south of the latitude of the mouth of the Jordan River, and travel westward 25 miles to the Dead Sea, follow its east shore line northward, its north shore also, and cut a little north of west about 40 miles across the tableland, and thus trace the line that divided the northern and southern kingdoms of the Hebrews. Recall that this is the line of invasion pursued by Joshua in the campaign in which he got between the natural political centers to the north and south.

Remark that northern Palestine embraced two-thirds of the territory and three-fourths of the arable land occupied by the Hebrews; that it supported the larger population and had the greater wealth; also that its wider valleys were open to invasion as well as to commerce, and physically and politically it was more divided than Judea.

**EPHRAIM.** Maps 2, 4, iv, vii, ix, x, xi. Show that a journey northward from the center of the tableland on the line just followed, conducts us in about 25 miles to Shechem, Ephraim, the physical center of western Palestine.



Relate. It is the center of political control also. It was throughout the greater part of the Hebrew possession and so remains to-day. Ephraim was always the dominant tribe of the Israelites in Palestine for the 500 years that it endured, excepting, when in the middle of this period David and Solomon of Judah ruled all of the tribes from the center of control in southern Palestine, an exception due to the genius of David and in spite of a geographical disadvantage.

Draw a circle on Map ix, with a radius of 20 miles about Shechem, which will reach Bethel on its southern border, and observe how it embraces the two Joseph tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh.

Relate. Manasseh was important only for its location in the northern district of the focal position of Ephraim. Its special part in the history, for which its name need be remembered, is confined to the period of the judges, the first 150 years of the Hebrew occupation of Palestine, and, principally to events bearing upon the control of the Plain of Esdraelon, the great grain field of central Palestine. This is true of all of the other tribes of Israel of central, northern and eastern Palestine. Again the few tribes of southern Palestine went by the name of "Judah" after the time of David and Solomon. From that time onward during the period of the two kingdoms the land of the Hebrews was known by the names of "Ephraim," or "Israel," in the north and of "Judah" in the south, with "Gilead" to designate the Hebrew district east of the Jordan (Hosea 10: 11; 11: 1-3; 12: 11). After the conquest of Northern Israel by Assyria in 721 B.C., the area of the former tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh became "Samaria." By New Testament times the district north of that had become "Galilee," and "Gilead" became "Perea."

In the meantime, before the exile, tribal individuality was modified by race fusion. First the Old Testament people were nomad tribes from the desert. Then they mixed with the Amorites and Hittites whom they found in the land before them and became the Hebrew people of the greater part of Old Testament history, a race probably about one-half Israelite in blood. This new blood contributed to the survival of the Israelites. Without such mixture with the agriculturalists of a land, nomads, on coming into an arable country, generally develop all of the vices of the peasant and the nomad and become lazy, lustful, crafty and cruel.

When the Assyrians overthrew the northern Hebrew kingdom they deported 27,000 captives taken in the City of Samaria to provinces in the east, where they were absorbed by other peoples. They imported colonists to take their places, and the result was the mixed race of "Samaritans." The Samaritans came successively under Babylonian, Persian, Greek, Jewish, Roman, Arabian and Turkish control, and a remnant of less than 100 of them survive to-day at Shechem. Finally the only remaining Hebrews were Judeans, which name was shortened to "Jews." They began, about 445 B.C., to conserve their Hebrew blood by adopting the policy of marrying only within their race (Nehemiah 13: 23-31). By this means the Jewish race has remained a distinct people, and, alone among the Palestinian peoples of Bible times, has escaped absorption by other races.

**MANASSEH.** Maps 4, iv, vii, ix, x, xiv. A journey of 20 miles north of Shechem carries us across the territory of this tribe to the Plain of Esdraelon. Recall (Chapter VI) that the frontier of the plateau was at the mercy of whoever possessed this plain. Show from Map ix that it was held by the Canaanites when the Israelites invaded Palestine.

Relate. Deborah of Ephraim summoned Barak of Issachar to attack the Canaanites

on the Plain of Esdraelon and secure it for Israel. This he accomplished with troops from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, Zebulun, Naphtali and Benjamin. Pass Stereograph 10862 (looking N.W.). The probable battleground is about 8 miles away from **MT. GILBOA**, where we stand as we look at the picture. (This mountain juts upon the southeastern part of the Plain of Esdraelon.) Rain, as in the case of this battle, will turn the low ground where the combat took place into a morass. According to Egyptian inscriptions Asher and Gad were already in Palestine before the Israelites entered the country. These tribes and Dan and Reuben are ridiculed by Deborah for not furnishing troops in the emergency, while Judah was not yet strong enough apparently to be thought of as sending help (Judges 4; 5). Later Midianites overran the same plain and Gideon of Manasseh expelled them with troops from Ephraim, Manasseh, Naphtali, Zebulun and Asher (Judges 6; 7). Machir was a clan of Manasseh that crossed the Jordan from the west and settled in northern Gilead.

**GALILEE.** Maps 2, vi, vii, ix, x, xi. About 60 miles north and south by 15 to 30 miles east and west.

Relate. The hill district lying north of the Plain of Esdraelon is by no means prominent in Old Testament history, owing no doubt to the comparatively few Israelites who penetrated the region (Judges 1: 30-33). Solomon forfeited 20 of its cities to Tyre in payment for cedar for his palace and temple (I Kings 9: 11). In 736-734 B.C. Tiglath-pileser IV of Assyria deported much of the population (II Kings 15: 29), and later Assyrian kings imported other peoples in their place (Ezra 4: 10). From 586 to the 2nd century B.C. Jews in Palestine were confined to the community at Jerusalem. In 164 B.C. Jews who lately had entered Galilee were rescued by Simon and brought back to Jerusalem (I Maccabees 5: 14-23). In 104 B.C. the Jewish king, Aristobulus I, conquered Galilee and forced Judaism upon the inhabitants, compelling them to be circumcised. After 445 B.C. Jews who might be in Galilee would not marry foreign women (Nehemiah 13: 23-31). The district is called "Galilee of the Gentiles" in Isaiah 9: 1; I Maccabees 5: 15, and Matthew 4: 15. Compare also John 7: 41, 52. Galileans developed a dialect of their own (Matthew 26: 73). They were especially insurrectionary against Roman tyranny, e.g., Acts 5: 36, 37. According to the Talmud, Galileans always preferred honor to money.

The population was dense in New Testament times. There were 240 towns. Galilee was the home of Jesus and the sphere of most of his public teaching.

**DAN.** Maps vii, ix. Relate that this tribe early migrated from its position west of Benjamin to the northern limit of Galilee and dispossessed a Phoenician city of its inhabitants and called the place by its own name (Judges 18). Samson sprang from Dan, but his family evidently remained behind at the first lodgment of the tribe on the border of Philistia (Judges 13—16). (Notice that the chapters of the Book of Judges are not in strict chronological order.)

**PHOENICIA.** Maps 4, iv, vi, vii, xiii. Pass Stereograph 10852 and observe that this was a mountainous country, from 10 to 25 miles wide, lying on the coast northwest of Galilee.

Relate. It was the leading maritime country of the ancient world before the rise of the Greek and Roman powers, controlling the Mediterranean Sea and engaging in extensive trade and colonization along its different coasts. Its people were of Semitic origin. They were in almost uninterrupted alliance with the Hebrews during Old Testa-

ment times, until they were conquered by the Greeks in the 4th century B.C. Jesus found refuge here for a time after completing his public teaching in Galilee (Mark 7:24-30).

**KINGDOM OF DAMASCUS.** Maps 2, 3, iv, vii. Sometimes called "Syria" in the Old Testament. Observe that this country is a very fertile plain, 35 miles long and of over 2,000 feet elevation, and is a meeting-place of important trade routes.

Relate. This power was a persistent rival of the Hebrews, warring with them continually from the days of Solomon until Damascus, its capital, was captured by the Assyrians in 732 B.C. To-day caravans fit out at this city for pilgrimages to Mecca, Arabia.

**EASTERN PALESTINE IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES.** The principal political divisions were three, the second of which overlapped the others:

**Gaulanitis and Trachonitis.** Maps vi, vii. In the former of these two districts Jesus taught (Mark 7:31—8:9, 22-27).

**The Decapolis.** Maps v, vii. Consisting of about 14 independent cities under Roman control, whose number varied from time to time. Most of them with Greek populations. Extending from Damascus in the north to Philadelphia in the south (the Rabbath-Ammon of the Old Testament). Locate 12 of these cities on Map vii, where they are indicated thus ○.

**Perea.** Maps vii, ix. Already referred to as the Gilead of the Old Testament. Settled in part by Greeks, the ruins of whose cities contain more extensive ancient Greek architecture than survives elsewhere, even at Athens.

**BENJAMIN.** Maps ix, x. Relate. This tribe was almost annihilated by the other Israelites in the period of the judges (Judges 20). It assisted the northern tribes in the campaigns for the possession of the Plain of Esdraelon. Saul, the first king of Israel, was a Benjamite. The tribe was eventually partitioned between the kingdoms of Israel and Judah.

**JUDAH.** Maps 2, 3, vii, viii, ix, x, xi. The territory of this tribe was of the greatest natural strength and military importance of all the divisions of Palestine. It possessed, however, but 15 by 40 miles of arable land, less than a dozen copious springs and only one perennial stream.

Relate. This tribe early absorbed Simeon. It became a center of political control second only to Ephraim. David, its first king, consolidated all the tribes of Israel into a nation. He warred successfully with Philistia, on the west, and subdued Ammon, south-east of Gilead, Moab, east of the Dead Sea, from whose people he was in part descended (Book of Ruth), and Edom, south of the Dead Sea, and defeated the Syrians of Damascus (II Samuel 8; 10; 12:26-31). After the secession of the northern tribes in 937 B.C. and a 60-year fitful sectional war, Judah became the vassal of Northern Israel, and so remained until that kingdom declined just before its collapse. As in the case of its sister kingdom most of its kings paid tribute to Assyria. It survived both Assyria and Northern Israel. It was overthrown by Babylon in 586 B.C. and many of its people were deported to the Euphrates. By 538 B.C. it became a Persian province. For 400 years the Jews were confined to an area about Jerusalem of less than 50 miles east and west and about 35 miles north and south, most of it the least desirable land of all Palestine. During this period their borders were pressed upon by Ammonites, Edomites, Philistines and Samaritans. By

332 B.C. they came under the Greek Empire. In 167 B.C. they revolted from the Greek kingdom of Syria centered at Antioch, and in a few years won their independence and defeated their old foes, the Ammonites, Edomites and Samaritans, and added Philistia to their territory. By 104 B.C., as we have seen above, they conquered Galilee. After that their power rapidly declined. Their king slew 6,000 of his subjects at one time in the temple courts and 50,000 Jews perished in a single civil war.

These 100 years of Jewish independence were the most warlike of Old Testament history. The Jewish kings degenerated into Oriental despots. The people were divided into factions, Pharisaic and Sadducean for the most part, with continual civil wars and bloody reprisals, resulting in one case in the crucifixion of 800 Pharisees, whose wives and children were first killed before their eyes.

The geography of Palestine defied political unity. It never was all under a single government within its own bounds for more than a generation or two at a time. It contained no center with sufficient physical resources to coerce its natural divisions into union by military force. It has been governed as one, only when ruled, either from Syria or else by a foreign power, such as Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, Persia, Greece, Rome, and the Mohammedan Empire. Its inhabitants have always been largely of desert origin, with an ingrained clannish spirit, which the geographical character of Palestine tended to foster. The Jews did not develop in Palestine the Roman and Anglo-Saxon ability of investing personal independence in a central government.

By 63 B.C. the bulk of the people of Jerusalem welcomed Pompey's army, which reduced their country to a Roman province. Finally in 68 A.D. they rebelled against Rome and two years later Titus destroyed Jerusalem at the end of a siege in which Josephus says that over 1,100,000 Jews perished. More were slain by rival factions within the city itself than by the Roman soldiers. With this disaster ended the political history of the Jews in Palestine. In the meantime, for more than 600 years, the Jews had been spreading gradually over the world from Babylon to Rome.

Thus Palestine was true to its history in never becoming more than a temporary home for its inhabitants.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to use the table of "THE TRIBES AND NEIGHBORS OF ISRAEL," on page 20 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands" as a key by which to find on Map 4 the general positions of the tribes and nations enumerated in the table.

For this purpose show the class how the table compares with Map ix.

THE TRIBES AND NEIGHBORS OF ISRAEL

COAST PLAIN	WESTERN TABLELAND	EASTERN TABLELAND
PHENICIA	Dan	DAMASCUS
	Asher	
	Naphtali	
	Zebulun	
	Issachar	Machir
	Manasseh	
	Ephraim	Gad
	Benjamin	AMMON
PHILISTIA	Judah	Reuben
	Simeon	MOAB
		EDOM

The names in capital letters indicate nations. The other names are of tribes of Israel.

**OPTIONAL HOME WORK.** The student may elect to develop Student Map 21, Political Palestine in the Time of Christ, and mount it on page 12 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands." Compare Map vii of the MANUAL, of which it is a larger copy with names of places in outline type.

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 27-44, 130-146, 150-172, 180, 182-193, 198, 199, 207-238.*

## CHAPTER VIII

### COAST PLAIN TOWNS OF PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, v, vi, vii, ix, x, xi, xiv, and Stereographs 10852, 10856, 3180.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps 2, 3, 5, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

**OPTIONAL MATERIAL.** Wall Map A. Towns of Palestine. Developed by the teacher in pencil, by marking the sites of towns so as to make the map correspond to Map 5.

Map 5, or Wall Map A, will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEY.** Maps 3, 5, iv, v, vii. Northward over the coast plain. The main road along the Mediterranean seaboard extends its entire length. In the south it skirts the eastern edge of sandy stretches on the shore about 2 miles wide. Branch roads reach the more easterly towns of the plain. Some of them are marked on Map 5.

**PHILISTIA.** Maps 5, v, ix, xiv. Remark that it is less important for the student to remember how to properly divide their events between the five principal towns of this country than it is to recognize them as Philistine cities whenever they may be named in biblical narrative (compare Amos 1: 6-8). Find the five towns on Maps 5 and ix:

**Gaza.** Now about 2 miles from the shore. Pass Stereographs 10852 and 10856 (looking N.W.). Here Samson carried away a city gate, was blinded and enslaved, and finally pulled down a building about his head and perished in the ruin. The city withstood a siege for five months against Alexander the Great.

**Road.** A distance of 12 miles northward brings us to

**Ashkelon.** On the shore. The birthplace of Herod the Great. Twice captured in the Maccabean war of independence in the second century B.C.

**Road.** Nearly 25 miles a little north of east leads us to

**Gath.** (If its site is properly identified.) Twenty miles from the coast and of 400 feet elevation. The ark of Israel was once carried here from Ashdod (see below) and evidently infected with plague. Hither David fled from Saul and later escaped from the Philistines.

**Road.** In 20 miles westward we reach

**Ashdod, the Azotus** of the New Testament. Nine miles north of Ashkelon and 3 miles from the coast. The ark of Israel, captured by the Philistines in the time of Eli, was first placed by them in a temple here. The place was twice taken in the Maccabean war. Philip the evangelist preached here.

**Road.** In 12 miles northeastward we reach

**Ekron.** Eight miles from the coast and of 200 feet elevation. Hither the ark of Israel was carried from Gath.

**Road.** In 14 miles northwestward we cross the Philistine frontier and reach

**JOPPA.** Maps 5, v, xiv. Pass Stereographs 10852, to locate the town, and 3180 (looking east), to observe that it rises in terraces to 150 feet elevation, and has no harbor, but that a ledge of rock near the beach affords a shelter for row boats.

**Relate.** The Jews captured the place from the Greeks of Antioch, Syria, in 141 B.C., after which it became a very Jewish town. It was the first port held by them on the Mediterranean coast in all their history. Here Peter had his vision of "unclean" beasts.

**Road.** In about 32 miles further north we reach

**CÆSAREA.** Maps 5, v, xi. **Relate.** This was a city and artificial harbor built by Herod the Great by 13 B.C. on the site of Strato's Tower (Map xi). It became the chief port and the capital of Palestine during the New Testament period. Here Paul was imprisoned for two years and appealed for trial at Rome.

**Road.** In about 55 miles, passing about the headland of Mt. Carmel on the way, we come to

**TYRE, Phœnicia.** Maps 2, 5, v, vi, vii. Pass Stereograph 10852.

**Relate.** It had the best natural harbor on the coast of Palestine and was the most famous port of the ancient world. The city stood on both the mainland and an island one by three-quarters of a mile in size, with north and south harbors, extended by breakwaters. The island was one-half a mile from shore and is now part of a peninsula formed by means of a mole built across the strait by Alexander the Great, when he captured the island city in 332 B.C. after a seven months' siege. It had been besieged hitherto without success, once by Assyria for 5 years and once by Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon for 13 years. Hiram, king of Tyre, supplied cedar, money and artisans for the building of Solomon's palace and temple. Jezebel a princess of Tyre married Ahab, king of Israel. About 800 B.C. Tyrians founded Carthage, in North Africa, which was afterwards destroyed by Rome. About 600 B.C. Tyrian sailors circumnavigated Africa, some 2,000 years before Vasco da Gama.

Jesus was once in its neighborhood. Paul touched at its port. It is now a Turkish village of 3,000 to 4,000 inhabitants, and steamers pass it by.

**Road.** Map x. In 22 miles north, passing on the way **ZAREPHATH** ("Zarepta"), a place visited by Elijah, we reach

**SIDON, Phœnicia.** Maps 2, 5, v, vi, vii. Pass Stereograph 10852.

**Relate.** This also was a great port in ancient times. Its harbor is formed by a half mile of reef near the shore. It was several times destroyed. Paul touched at it on a voyage. Its present population is 10,000.

**Road.** In 25 miles north we arrive at

**BEIRUT, Syria.** Maps 5, v. This was once a Phœnician town and is now the chief port of all Syria, and the seat of its government under Turkey. Its harbor is formed by an artificial breakwater. It is the site of an American Protestant college, and a press which prints the Bible in Arabic. The place does not figure in Bible history. It is important as the port of entry or departure for tourists who visit Palestine.

**RETURN JOURNEY.** Map 5. Retrace the route by which we came from Gaza and test the students by having them name the towns which we have visited, with only Map 5 before the class.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to mount Map 5 on page 10 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands."

He is to compare Map 5 with the table on page 21 of his Atlas and learn by name the sites of the coast plain towns designated on this map. He is to read also the Bible references attached to the names of these towns in the table.

## COAST PLAIN TOWNS OF PALESTINE

## MILES

- 0. GAZA. Judges 16: 1-3, 21-30.
- 12. ASHKELON. Matthew 2: 1-19.
- 25. GATH. I Samuel 5: 8, 9; 21: 10—22: 1.
- 20. ASHDOD (AZOTUS). I Samuel 5: 1-8. Acts 8: 40.
- 12. EKRON. I Samuel 5: 10-12.
- 14. JOPPA. II Chronicles 2: 16. Jonah 1: 3. Acts 9: 36—10: 23.
- 32. CÆSAREA. Acts 23: 23—26: 32.
- 55. TYRE. I Kings 5; 16: 30, 31. Mark 7: 24-30. Acts 21: 3-6.
- 22. SIDON. Acts 27: 3.
- 25. BEIRUT.

217. Air-line distance covered on the journey.

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 100, 140, 150, 151, 207, 208, 223, 233, 256, 265, 266, 277.*



CHAPTER IX  
TOWNS OF SOUTHERN PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, v, vi, vii, ix, x, xi, xii, xiii, xiv, and Stereographs 10852, 3219, 10907.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps 2, 3, 5, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

**OPTIONAL MATERIAL.** Wall Map A. Towns of Palestine (developed like Map 5).

Map 5, or Wall Map A, will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEY.** Maps 3, 5, iv, v. From Beersheba to Jerusalem and Jericho and places east of the Jordan and south of the Jabbok Rivers.

**BEERSHEBA, Judah.** Maps 5, v, vii, x. Locate it. Observe that it has an elevation of 800 feet and is an oasis on the edge of the desert.

Relate. This was the southernmost settlement of the Hebrews, "Dan to Beersheba" being a common Old Testament phrase. It was a residence of Abraham and Isaac, and a shrine over which Samuel appointed his two sons, who became unfaithful to the trust. Elijah stopped here on his flight from Jezebel on his way to Mt. Sinai.

**Road.** A journey of nearly 30 miles northeastward takes us to

**HEBRON, Judah.** Maps 5, v, ix, xiv. Pass Stereograph 10852. The ancient town stood on the hill northwest of the present situation (Stereograph 3219, looking N.W.), whose elevation is 3,040 feet. Observe in the picture the mosque in the town over the alleged tomb of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The place is supplied by the best springs and lies on the northern edge of the most fertile tract in Judah.

Relate that here David was made king of Judah and here Absalom also was crowned, in his rebellion against David, his father.

**Road.** In 13 miles northwestward we reach

**BETHLEHEM, Judah.** Maps 5, v, vii, x. Locate it by Stereograph 10852. Observe the elevation of 2,550 feet.

Relate. This was the birthplace of David and the scene of one of his battles against the Philistines. It is also the scene of the Book of Ruth and of the nativity stories of the Gospels.

**Road.** In 6 miles further northward we arrive at

**JERUSALEM, Judah.** Maps 2, 5, v, vi, ix, x, xi, xii, xiv. On the boundary line of Benjamin. Locate it by Stereograph 10852. Observe the elevation of 2,500 feet (compare Asheville, North Carolina, of 2,250 feet). Show that it is opposite the northern end of the Dead Sea, and lies about 20 miles from it and about 33 miles from the Mediterranean Sea.

Pass Stereograph 10907, looking S.W. and over the city from the hill Scopus, just north of the **MOUNT OF OLIVES**. The latter hill is part of the same ridge as Scopus and stands directly opposite the east wall of the city. It is 200 feet higher than the temple area, on which the picture shows the present Mosque of Omar.

Remark that the city is without springs within its walls, but that it has an intermittent spring just outside of the eastern wall, which is tapped by a tunnel cut in the rock in ancient times and leading within the city southward to the Pool of Siloam. This tunnel appears on Map xii. (Compare II Kings 20: 20. Isaiah 7: 3.) The city depended upon cisterns for rain water and in more recent times (we do not know exactly when) water was brought by aqueduct 8 miles from pools south of Bethlehem. Pipes replace the aqueduct to-day.

Relate. This was long the most important city of Palestine within the Hebrew domain. It was a fortress in ancient times and the strongest in Palestine. It is still a walled town. It is not well situated for trade and is without the natural resources to be a modern city of any importance were it not for its historical interest to travellers. First captured for the Hebrews by David, about 150 years after the Israelites entered Palestine, it became the capital of David and Solomon and of the kings of Judah, and the site of Solomon's temple. The city was destroyed in 586 B.C. by Babylon. Its temple was rebuilt by Haggai 520-516 B.C. and its walls by Nehemiah in 445 B.C. The temple was desecrated by the Greeks of Antioch, Syria, in 168 B.C., and was reconsecrated in 166 B.C. during the Maccabean war of independence. Jerusalem then became the capital of Jewish kings for 103 years. It was razed by the Romans in 70 A.D. and again in 136 A.D. And it has suffered many partial demolitions in its history both before and since it passed from the possession of the Jews.

Jerusalem is significant for Christians as the place where Jesus was crucified.

Observe (Map xii) that the city rested on four hills, surrounded by valleys 300 to 400 feet deep, and was cut north and south by a narrow gorge 100-150 feet deep. Remark. The southeastern hill, Ophel, was the original city captured by David, a citadel of but 15 or 16 acres, or one-fortieth of a square mile. The temple hill north of it is a level area of 1,000 by 1,000 feet, or about one-fifth of a mile square and 13 times the size of Ophel. The modern city has shifted northward since Nehemiah's day. It is four-fifths by three-quarters of a mile, or one-half a square mile (compare Central Park, New York City, which is two and one-half miles by one-half a mile, or one and one-quarter square miles). The Jerusalem of Nehemiah was about three-quarters as large as the present city. The Valley of Hinnom, south of the city, was used for refuse and was called "Gehenna" in Greek, which in the English Bible is translated "hell."

The present population of the city is over 50,000.

**Road.** Map 5. The main road over the tableland continues northward, while roads branch through narrow valleys, northwest, west and southwest to the coast plain, and southeast to the Dead Sea. Our road, passing in a curve over the southern ridge of the Mount of Olives, is that by which Jesus approached Jerusalem on his triumphant entry a few days before his death. It leads us in 2 miles to

**BETHANY.** Maps 5, vi. On the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives. The home of Martha and Mary at whose house Jesus was an intimate guest.

**Road.** In 14 miles northeastward we go through hills over the formerly sandy road (page 17), which was the scene of Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. We descend about 3,500 feet to

**JERICHO, Benjamin.** Maps 5, v, vi, vii, ix, x. Lying 820 feet below ocean-level. Locate it on Stereograph 10852. Remark that the Old Testament city stood on a low mound 5 or 6 miles from the Jordan River, with walls 25 to 35 feet high; that the New Testament city was 2 miles further west; and that the present village of a few huts is about one and one-half miles south of the oldest site.

**Relate.** The climate is tropical and enervating. It was a place of palm trees and gardens and of a large trade. It was captured and destroyed by Joshua. Here the left-handed Ehud slew Eglon, King of Moab, in the period of the judges. Later it was included within the territory of Northern Israel. Here was a guild of the prophets visited by Elijah on his way over the Jordan, where he was carried away by a whirlwind. Taken by Pompey in the first century B.C., the city was later presented to Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt. Soon after it was secured by Herod the Great, who built in it a palace, a theater and baths. In these baths he had two of his sons drowned. Herod was very fond of the place and died here.

At Jericho Jesus met the Galilean pilgrims on their way to the passover at Jerusalem. They had come south by the road on the east of the Jordan, while he had come secretly by the road along the west bank of the stream (Map vi and Mark 10: 1). In or near the city Jesus healed blind Bartimæus and lodged with Zacchæus the tax-collector.

**Road.** About 5 miles east of the Jordan River, or 10 miles a little north of east of Jericho, is

**BETH-NIMRAH.** Maps 5, v, vi, vii. Lying 730 feet below ocean-level. Conjectured to be the place where Jesus was baptized by John.

**Road.** Travelling by roads southward in 23 miles we reach

**MACHÆRUS.** Maps 5, v, vi, vii, ix. In what in Old Testament times was within either Reuben or Moab, a fortress second only to Jerusalem in strength, 3,070 feet above ocean-level and overlooking the Dead Sea nearly 4,400 feet below and less than five miles away.

**Relate.** It was rebuilt and strengthened by Herod the Great, who slew one of his sons here. It was used by his son Herod Antipas, the ruler of Perea and Galilee, who here probably imprisoned and beheaded John the Baptist. Dungeons are to be seen in the ruins of its palace and fortifications.

**Road.** Returning at first by the same road by which we approached Machærus, we pass Mt. Nebo, on whose range Moses died. Branching northeast on the way, in 33 miles altogether, we reach

**RABBATH-AMMON.** Maps 2, 5, v, vii, x, xiii. Of 2,750 feet elevation, near the head waters of the Jabbok River.

**Relate.** This was the capital of the Ammonites, which Joab was besieging when David took Bathsheba at Jerusalem, and where Uriah, her husband, was allowed to perish in an assault, and where David himself was soon afterwards present when the city was taken. By New Testament times the place was called Philadelphia and was one of the cities of the Decapolis. Compare the city of the same name in the province of "Asia" (Chapter XII and Maps 2 and xiii).

**RETURN JOURNEY.** Map 5. Returning by the same roads over which we have passed from Beersheba, have the students identify from memory the names of all of the towns which we have visited on the way. Do this with only Map 5 before the class.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to compare Map 5 and the table on page 21 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands" and learn by name the sites of the towns of Southern Palestine designated on this map. He is also to read the Bible references attached to the names of these towns in the table.

## TOWNS OF SOUTHERN PALESTINE

## MILES. WESTERN TABLELAND.

- 0. BEERSHEBA. Genesis 21:22-34; 22:19; 26:23-33. I Samuel 8:1-3. I Kings 19:1-3.
- 30. HEBRON. II Samuel 2:3, 4; 15:7-12.
- 13. BETHLEHEM. I Samuel 17:12. II Samuel 23:13-17. Matthew 2:1-18.
- 6. JERUSALEM. II Samuel 5:6-9. I Kings 7:51. II Kings 25:8-10. Haggai 1. Nehemiah 2:11-18; 6:15. I Maccabees 1:20-23; 4:36-48. Mark 15:22-26.
- 2. BETHANY. Luke 10:38-42. Mark 11:1-10.

## JORDAN VALLEY.

- 14. JERICHO. Joshua 6. Mark 10:46-52. Luke 19:1-10.
- 10. BETH-NIMRAH. Mark 1:9.

## EASTERN TABLELAND.

- 23. MACHÆRUS. Mark 6:16-28.
- 33. RABBATH-AMMON. II Samuel 11; 12.

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131. Air-line distance covered on the journey.

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 43, 64-70, 125-127, 147-149, 153, 154, 157-159, 199-206, 242-245, 258-264.*

## CHAPTER X

### TOWNS OF CENTRAL PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, v, vii, ix, x, xi, xiv, and Stereographs 10852, 10869, 3238, 3254, 10862, 3148.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps 2, 3, 5, for each of which appoint a "Chartman." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

**OPTIONAL MATERIAL.** Wall Map A. Towns of Palestine (developed like Map 5). Map 5, or Wall Map A, will be used most frequently.

**JOURNEY.** Maps 3, 5, iv, v, x. From Jerusalem to the Plain of Esdraelon.

**Road.** Maps 5, x. Show the main road northward over the western tableland and how in 5 miles from Jerusalem we cross the line dividing the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, and, in 5 miles more we reach

**BETHEL, Ephraim.** Maps 5, v, ix, x. Locate it by Stereograph 10852. Observe that its elevation is 2,900 feet.

Relate. Here Jacob dreamed of a ladder to heaven. This is one of the towns of Ephraim at which Samuel regularly offered sacrifices. Bethel means "House of God," and the city was one of the two principal sanctuaries of Northern Israel and received from Jeroboam I a golden bull for the worship of Jehovah (compare Dan in the next chapter). It was here that Amos challenged the practice of animal offerings.

**Road.** Maps 5, v, vii, x, xiv. By 20 miles further northward the road drops to an 1,000-2,000 foot elevation and forks west and northeast at **JACOB'S WELL** (Stereograph 10869, looking N.E.), where Jesus talked with the woman of **SYCHAR**, which lay on the slope just over the first rise in the picture beyond the village on the mountainside. It was on the plain to the right that Joseph appears to have first sought his brothers when sent from Hebron by his father to locate them (Genesis 37: 12, 17).

We take the turn westward between **MT. EBAL** (3,077 feet high) on the north, commanding the most extensive view of central Palestine, and **MT. GERIZIM** (2,450 feet high) on the south of the road, from which the picture which we have been examining was taken. On this mountain the Samaritans had their temple and here they have worshipped from the time of the Jewish exile to the present day. It is the mountain to which Jesus referred in John 4: 21. In one and one-half miles down the valley we reach

**SHECHEM, Ephraim.** Maps 5, v, ix, x, xiv. Of 1,900 feet elevation in a well-watered valley. Physically and politically the most central town in Palestine. Observe the city from Stereograph 3238 (looking west).

Relate. The place is not calculated to be a fortress, but it was the first capital of Northern Israel and is to-day the seat of the government of the district and the junction of telegraph lines running east and west of the Jordan River. Here the chiefs of the ten northern tribes refused allegiance to King Rehoboam, son of Solomon, and set up a rival kingdom under Jeroboam I.

**Road.** In 6 miles the road winds northwestward to

**SAMARIA, Ephraim.** Maps 2, 5, v, ix, x, xi, xiv. Of 1,450 feet elevation. Pass Stereographs 10852 and 3254 (looking north) to locate the city and identify its appearance and surroundings.

**Relate.** This city was built by Omri, sixth king of Northern Israel and father of Ahab, and became the capital of the kingdom. A fortress more than 300 feet above the valley. Surrounded by a rim of hills like Jerusalem, it was more beautifully situated than its southern rival. It had a view 8 miles down the valley and the sea was in sight. It is a small village to-day. And the ancient city is being excavated.

It was here that Elijah, the mountaineer of Gilead, rebuked Ahab for tolerating baal worship, and here somewhat later lived Elisha, the milder prophet, reared in the low-lying Jordan valley 20 miles northeast of this place. The city was destroyed in 721 B.C. by Sargon of Assyria and sustained a loss of 27,000 captives. It surrendered to Alexander the Great in 331 B.C. The Jews destroyed it in 120 B.C. Herod the Great rebuilt and embellished it a few years before the birth of Jesus. Here Herod married Mariamne, the beautiful and noble Maccabean princess of Jerusalem, and here he slew her and bitterly mourned her death.

Philip and Peter preached here and came upon Simon Magus.

**Road.** Ten miles further north is

**DOTHAN, Manasseh.** Maps 3, 5, v, ix. Of about 500 feet elevation in the valley leading to the broadest pass over Mt. Carmel into the Plain of Esdraelon. On the trade route from Damascus over the coast plain. Locate it with Stereograph 10852.

**Relate.** Here Joseph found his brothers and was sold by them to a caravan bound for Egypt. The town was once besieged by an army from Damascus while Elisha was within its walls.

**Road.** In 10 miles northeast we reach

**JEZREEL, Issachar.** Maps 5, v, vii, x, xiv. On a 200-foot hill on the Plain of Esdraelon, if the site be truly identified. Observe the situation with Stereograph 10862 looking N.W. from Mt. Gilboa.

**Relate.** Saul camped in the vicinity before the battle with the Philistines in which he and Jonathan lost their lives on the slopes of this hill. To this town Elijah ran from Mt. Carmel (seen at the left of the Stereograph) before the chariot of Ahab to escape the storm which broke a seven-year drought. It was here that Ahab seized Naboth's vineyard. Here Jehu, coming down from Ramoth-Gilead (see below) and driving "furiously" up the Valley of Jezreel from the southeast, slew Jehoram, King of Israel, Ahaziah, King of Judah and Jezebel the queen mother, and heaped the heads of seventy princes at the city gate.

**Road.** Nearly 4 miles northward is

**SHUNEM, Issachar.** Maps 5, v, ix. On the western slope of **LITTLE HERMON**, the ridge which is seen to divide the eastern part of the Plain of Esdraelon into two valleys which dip to the Jordan.

**Relate.** This was the home of the family which entertained Elisha, whence, when her son was sunstruck, the mother hastened to the prophet in Mt. Carmel, 10 or 12 miles away, for aid.

**Road.** Two miles north on Little Hermon is

**NAIN, Galilee.** Maps 5, v, vii, xiv. Of about 650 feet elevation. The scene of Luke's story of the widow's son. Pass Stereograph 3148 (looking N.E.), for the view of **MT. TABOR**, 1,840 feet, and 3 miles to the northeast, in whose forest Barak hid his troops for his attack upon the Canaanites on the Plain of Esdraelon (compare Chapter VII).

**WESTERN TABLELAND.** Maps 5, v, ix, x. In Gilead, between the Yarmuk and Jabbok Rivers, the principal tributaries of the Jordan River, are three towns, two of which we cannot visit, since their sites have not been identified (Stereograph 10852):

**Jabesh-Gilead.** Nearly 5 miles east of the Jordan and in the same latitude as Dothan. It was on account of Saul's rescue of this town in Gilead, that he was acclaimed king of Israel.

**Mahanaim** (unidentified). The capital of Ishbosheth, the son of Saul, while he contended with David for his father's throne, and where David later defeated Absalom and made his broken-hearted lament over his death at the gate of the city.

**Ramoth-Gilead** (unidentified). Conspicuous in the wars between Israel and Damascus, and, where Jehu, at the instigation of Elisha, left the army front to execute his bloody deeds at Jezreel and Samaria. It doubtless commanded an important highway of commerce.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to compare Map 5 and the table on page 21 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands" and learn by name the sites of the different towns of central Palestine designated on this map. He is to read also the Bible references attached to the names of these towns in the table.

#### TOWNS OF CENTRAL PALESTINE

##### MILES. WESTERN TABLELAND.

- 0. JERUSALEM.
- 10. BETHEL. Genesis 28: 10-19. I Kings 12: 28, 29. Amos 5: 21-27; 7: 10-17.
- 21. SHECHEM. Genesis 37: 12-17. I Kings 12: 1-20, 25.
- 6. SAMARIA. I Kings 16: 24, 29-32. II Kings 5: 3; 17: 1-6. Acts 8: 4-25.
- 10. DOTHAN. Genesis 37: 17-28. II Kings 6: 13-19.

##### PLAIN OF ESDRAELON.

- 10. JEZREEL. I Samuel 29: 1; 31: 1-6. I Kings 18: 41-46; 21: 1-22. II Kings 9: 1—10: 11.
- 4. SHUNEM. II Kings 4: 8-37.
- 2. NAIN. Luke 7: 11-15.

63. Air-line distance covered on the journey.

##### EASTERN TABLELAND.

- JABESH-GILEAD. I Samuel 11; 31: 8-13.
- MAHANAIM. II Samuel 2: 8, 9; 17: 24—18: 33 (site unidentified).
- RAMOTH-GILEAD. I Kings 22: 1-4. II Kings 8: 28—9: 16 (site unidentified).

*Optional Reference Reading.* *Biblical Geography and History, Kent.* Pages 36, 70-72, 143, 153, 161, 166, 167, 173-178, 226, 233, 265.

## CHAPTER XI

### TOWNS OF NORTHERN PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Maps iv, v, vi, vii, x, xiv, and Stereographs 10852, 3150, 3164, 10884, 3176.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps 2, 3, 5, for each of which appoint a "Chartman." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

**OPTIONAL MATERIAL.** Wall Map A. Towns of Palestine (developed like Map 5). Also Student Map 24, described under "Home Work."

Map 5, or Wall Map A, will be used most frequently.

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**JOURNEY.** Maps 3, 5, iv, v, vii. From Nain through Galilee to Damascus.

**Road.** Starting from where we completed the journey covered in the last chapter, and travelling 7 miles northwestward across the level Plain of Esdraelon and over the first ridge of the mountains beyond, we come upon

**NAZARETH, Galilee.** Maps 5, v, vii, xiv. The home of Jesus. Locate it by Stereograph 10852. Observe its present appearance from Stereograph 3150 (looking S.W.). Remark. Its situation is of great beauty. The elevation is 1,600 feet at the top of the hill, 140 feet down the southern slope of which the town lies. A single spring at the top of this steep hill supplies the town, whose population to-day is about 10,000. The village is less than one and one-half miles within the mountains north of the historic plain over which we have come and more than 1,000 feet higher. This Plain of Esdraelon has witnessed many of the decisive battles of Palestine from early Old Testament times to the 19th century, when Napoleon here defeated the Turks. The place is opposite the southern end of Lake Galilee (compare Jerusalem, as opposite the northern end of the Dead Sea). The lake is 16 miles away and lies hidden behind the mountains on its shore. The Mediterranean Sea is in sight, however, 18 miles northwestward, and on a clear day the very waves can be seen breaking on its shores. Snow-capped Mt. Hermon rises 9,166 feet above sea-level in plain view, 50 miles to the northeast. Nazareth is 65 miles from Jerusalem.

**Road.** It is 8 miles north to the more probable site of

**CANA, Galilee.** Maps 5, v, vii. Its site is in dispute between two places over 3 miles apart. It was the scene of the wedding described in the Fourth Gospel, and was the home of Nathanael.

**Road.** About 15 miles southeastward lies

**TIBERIAS, Galilee.** Maps 5, v, vii, xiv. On the western shore of Lake Galilee, whose surface is 682 feet below ocean-level. The place has a copious hot spring. Herod Antipas, the ruler of Galilee and Perea in the time of Christ, erected the city as his capital. Jesus did not visit it. Jews would not live there.



Stereograph 3164 (looking east) gives us a view 6 miles across the lake to Gerasa and shows the size of the fishing boats used on these waters. A climb of 3 miles northward, part way up the mountain, will give us a view of the **PLAIN OF GENNESARET**, in whose villages Jesus taught and healed (Stereograph 10884, looking north). This picture all but includes Capernaum, which lies on the lake shore just east of the view it presents. It looks down upon **MAGDALA**, the home of Mary Magdalene, whom Jesus relieved of insanity.

**Sail.** Walking back to Tiberias, we go northward by boat about 6 miles to reach **CAPERNAUM, Galilee**. Maps 5, v, vi, vii. On the northwestern shore of the lake. The exact site is in dispute between two mounds two and one-half miles apart. The town may have extended over both mounds, as the towns were continuous along most of the shore line of the lake.

**Relate.** Jesus moved to this town from Nazareth. More events of his life are located by the Gospels in this place than at any other town, e.g., his healing of Peter's mother-in-law, of a centurion's servant and of a paralytic in the synagogue, and his conversation with his disciples with a child in his arms. (See also Map vi.)

**Sail.** Crossing the lake is always at the peril of a severe storm, such as Jesus and his disciples barely weathered on more than one occasion. The suddenness and violence of these tempests are due to the funnel-like ravines which approach the lake, the sides of which rise in places 1,000 feet above the water, and to the great difference in temperature between the air in the lake basin and that on the ice-crowned Lebanon Mountains, which rise nearly 10,000 feet higher, only 25 miles away. So concentrated are these storms that boats will founder in one part of the lake while its waters are still calm elsewhere. A boat should bring us in about 7 miles southeastward to

**GERASA, Gaulanitis.** Maps 5, v, vi, vii. At the site of the present ruins of "Kersa." Where Jesus restored the reason of an insane man and a herd of swine stampeded into the lake.

**Road.** Map 5. A road leads around the northeastern shore of the lake, where are bays whose banks offer natural theaters for a speaker sitting in a boat off the beach (Matthew 13: 1-3). A walk of 6 miles and over will bring us to

**BETHSAIDA, Gaulanitis.** Maps 5, v, vi, vii. Perched at ocean-level one mile north of the lake and one-half mile east of the upper Jordan. Built by Herod Philip, son of Herod the Great and ruler of Gaulanitis and Trachonitis. Locate it on Stereograph 10852.

Relate that this was the home of Andrew, Peter and Philip, and where Jesus healed a blind man.

**Road.** Map 5. Crossing the Jordan we find a way northward, skirting the western shore of marshy Lake Merom and in about 25 miles reach

**DAN.** Maps 5, v, x. Of 500 feet elevation. On the upper waters of the Jordan, at the base of Mt. Hermon. Locate it with Stereograph 10852.

**Relate.** This was the northernmost town of Israel, and is referred to in the Old Testament phrase: "From Dan to Beersheba." It was occupied by the tribe of Dan on their abandoning their former seat on the border of northern Philistia. It was one of the

two principal sanctuaries of Northern Israel, with a golden bull, one of the pair placed in this city and Bethel by Jeroboam I.

**Road.** Between 2 and 3 miles east, and by some considered to be the site of Dan also, is

**CÆSAREA-PHILIPPI, Gaulanitis.** Maps 5, v, vi, vii. Of 1,080 feet elevation. Locate it on Stereograph 10852. Built by Herod Philip for the capital of the eastern districts of Palestine over which he ruled in the time of Christ.

**Relate.** Jesus taught in the neighboring villages. Near by, on a spur of Mt. Hermon, Peter affirmed his belief in the Christhood of Jesus. Hereabouts also Jesus healed an epileptic boy, whom his disciples had failed to relieve.

**Road.** A comparatively straight road of 40 miles in length leads northeastward to the famous city, which, from a hill where it first looms in view, appears like a "pearl set in an emerald."

**DAMASCUS, Syria.** Maps 2, 3, 5, v, vii, x, xiv. Of 2,350 feet elevation, 100 feet higher than Asheville, North Carolina (compare Jerusalem of 2,500 feet elevation). On the western edge of one of the few well-watered, rich and important plains of Palestine. Locate it on Stereograph 10852. Observe its present appearance from the base of the mountains on the northwest (Stereograph 3176, looking southeast).

**Relate.** This is one of the oldest cities of the world and the most important place in modern Syria. It is famous for its gardens and is a center of trade routes to Arabia, Egypt and Syria and the East. It is connected by railroad with Beirut. Its kings were in alliance with Israel and Judah against Assyria, sometimes with Israel against Judah or with Judah against Israel. The city was frequently at war with the Hebrews for over 100 years and all but conquered both Israel and Judah. Crushed by Assyria in 732 B.C., it came successively, with the rest of Palestine, under Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, Greek, Roman and Moslem control. From 661 to 750 A.D. it was itself the capital of the Mohammedan Empire. It is now under Turkey. Some 6,000 Christians were massacred here in 1860.

In Old Testament times Naaman, a soldier of Damascus, visited Elisha in Israel to be cured of leprosy. Hazael, one of its generals and afterwards king, consulted the same prophet on political matters. Paul on his way thither from Jerusalem, 140 miles away, was converted to Christianity. He found both Jews and Christians in the city, and from it he escaped from the Jews over the city wall.

**RETURN JOURNEY.** Map 5. Retrace the route over which, in the course of the last two chapters, we have come from Jerusalem, and, with only Map 5 before the class, have the students give from memory the names of the towns which we have visited on the outward journey.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to compare Map 5 and the table on page 21 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands," and learn by name the sites of the different towns of northern Palestine designated on this map. He is to read also the Bible references attached to the names of these towns in the table.

## TOWNS OF NORTHERN PALESTINE

## MILES. PLAIN OF ESDRAELON

0. NAIN.

## WESTERN TABLELAND.

7. NAZARETH. Luke 4:16-30.

8. CANA. John 2:1-10.

## WEST SHORE OF LAKE GALILEE.

15. TIBERIAS. John 6:23.

6. CAPERNAUM. Matthew 4:13. Mark 1:21-31; 2:1-12; 9:33-50. Luke 7:1-10.

## EAST SHORE OF LAKE GALILEE.

7. GERASA. Mark 5:1-20.

## UPPER JORDAN RIVER.

6. BETHSAIDA. John 1:44. Luke 9:10. Mark 8:22-26.

25. DAN. Judges 18; 20:1. I Kings 12:28, 29.

3. CÆSAREA-PHILIPPI. Mark 8:27-9:29.

## EASTERN TABLELAND.

40. DAMASCUS. I Kings 11:23-25; 15:17-20; 20:1-34; 22:1-4. II Kings 5; 8:7-15; 12:17, 18; 13:22-25; 14:28; 16:5-9. Acts 9:1-25.

117. Air-line distance covered on the journey.

**OPTIONAL HOME WORK.** The student may elect to develop Student Map 24, History Map of the Life of Christ, and mount it on page 14 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands." Compare Map vi of the MANUAL, of which it is a larger copy, with names of towns and events in outline type.

*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 237-242, 247-257.*

## CHAPTER XII

### NEW TESTAMENT TOWNS BEYOND PALESTINE

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** IN THE HANDS OF THE TEACHER. Map xiii and Stereographs 11079, 10982, 11082.

IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS. Maps C, 2, 3, for each of which appoint a "Chart-man." Appoint a fourth student, "Reader," for Bible references.

Map 3 will be used most frequently.

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**JOURNEY.** Map 3. Following the general route of Paul's progress westward from Syria to Italy, and visiting the towns in their geographical order on seas and highways.

**ANTIOCH, Syria.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Pass Stereograph 11079 (looking N.E.), and observe that the city lies about 25 miles from the northeastern tip of the Mediterranean Sea, on the south bank of the Orontes River, in a valley 5 to 6 miles wide and 16 miles from the sea, and having Seleucia for a port near the mouth of the river.

Relate. The city was founded by Seleucus Nicator in 300 B.C., after the breaking up of Alexander's empire, as the capital of the Greek kingdom of Syria. For 100 years this kingdom fought with the Greeks of Egypt for the possession of Palestine, securing it against Egypt without question by 198 B.C., only to lose it again by 166 B.C. through the Jewish war of independence, following an attempt to Hellenize the Jews by force. By 64 B.C. it became the Roman capital of Syria. In New Testament times it was the third city of the empire, second only to Rome and Alexandria. It is now a town of a few thousand people.

Here disciples of Jesus were first called "Christians." From here Paul started on his three missionary journeys described in the Book of Acts, and here he had his disputes with Barnabas and Peter (Galatians 2: 11-15. Acts 15: 36-40).

**Road.** Show that a journey of 150 miles north and west over mountains and a plain will bring us to

**TARSUS, Cilicia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Of 80 feet elevation. Shut in by the Taurus Mountains on the north and west, whose foothills approach within 2 miles of the city, its climate is hot and enervating. This was the capital of the province and a free city in Paul's day. It had a population of 500,000 people, including many Romans, Greeks and Jews. It stood on both banks of the Cydnus River, which was at that time navigable over the 12 miles to its mouth, where there was a good harbor.

Relate. This was the birthplace of Paul. It was celebrated for its schools, which rivalled those of Athens and Alexandria, and it has an American Protestant college to-day. Paul returned here after becoming a Christian at Damascus. From it he was brought by Barnabas to assist him at Antioch, Syria. And he passed through the city on some of his missionary journeys westward.

**Road.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Show how the road goes northward through a pass in the Taurus range, turns west and crosses into **GALATIA**. Remark that among its people in Paul's time were many Greeks, Romans and Jews, with some Gauls in the northern districts, and that, to the churches which he founded in the province, he sent the first book of the New Testament to be written.

Travelling altogether about 150 miles we reach

**DERBE, Galatia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Relate. Hither Paul fled from Lystra (see below), on his first visit to Galatia and established a church. This was the home of Gaius, a travelling companion of Paul.

**Road.** A journey of 35 miles northwestward conducts us to

**LYSTRA, Galatia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Relate. Here Barnabas and Paul were once taken for gods, and the latter was stoned by the Jews and left for dead. Yet they established a church. This was the home of Timothy, a companion of Paul, to whom the apostle wrote two known epistles.

**Road.** About 20 miles north is

**ICONIUM, Galatia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. On a fertile plain of 3,370 feet elevation. Relate that here Paul preached in a synagogue and organized a church.

**Road.** Turning northwest again in about 75 miles we reach

**ANTIOCH, Galatia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Pass Stereograph 10982 (looking N.W.). Relate. Like Antioch, Syria, it was built by Seleucus Nicator and named after his father. The mountain air (3,600 feet elevation) appears to have been sought by Paul, who arrived in Galatia ill, on his first missionary tour, when he came up from the malarious region of **PERGA**, Pamphilia, 100 miles to the south (Galatians 4: 13). He taught some time in a synagogue and here also organized a church.

**Road.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. A few miles westward we enter **ASIA**, the Roman province which embraced the western half of what we now call "Asia Minor." It is after this coast province that Europeans have named a vast continent. (Compare Palestine, named after Philistia, likewise a coast country). Our road passes 18 miles north of **COLOSSE**, a place never visited by Paul, but to whose church, founded by Epaphras, one of his disciples, he wrote an epistle from Rome, while to Philemon, who lived at Colosse, he also wrote an epistle preserved in the New Testament.

In 215 miles from Antioch we reach

**EPHESUS, Asia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. This was the chief port of the time on this shore of the Ægean Sea, the capital of the province, an old Ionian city, and essentially Greek. It was celebrated for its temple of Diana, which was counted one of the "seven wonders" of the ancient world. Its theater seated 25,000 persons.

Relate. In this city Paul taught for over two years, founded a church, to which he wrote the short epistle, now Romans 16, and to which among other churches, he sent the "Epistle to the Ephesians." Here also were written apparently the Fourth Gospel and the Epistles of John. The Ephesian church moreover was one of seven in the province addressed in the Book of Revelation. The other six, **SMYRNA**, **PERGAMOS**, **THYATIRA**, **SARDIS**, **PHILADELPHIA** and **LAODICEA**, can readily be found on Map xiii.

**Road.** Travelling along the coast northward brings us in 150 miles to

**TROAS, Asia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. Near the more ancient Troy of the Iliad. Relate that here Paul had his vision calling him to Macedonia, that he gathered a church in Troas and on one occasion preached here a whole night.

**Voyage.** Maps 3, xiii. From this place a sail of about 170 miles northwestward carries us to **NEAPOLIS**, a port 9 miles southeast of

**PHILIPPI, Macedonia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. In the mountains. A Roman imperial city. A place now without inhabitants. Near it, in 42 B.C., Octavian and Antony fought two battles with Brutus and Cassius.

Relate that here Paul taught at the home of Lydia, was imprisoned a night with Silas, established a church, and to it addressed his most affectionate New Testament epistle.

**Road.** A land journey westward brings us in 75 miles to

**THESSALONICA, Macedonia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. The capital of the province. Now called Salonika and having a population of 150,000 persons. Pass Stereograph 11082 (looking south). Compare "Macedonia" on page 3.

Relate that Paul found a synagogue in the city and established a church to which he addressed two epistles.

**Road.** About 50 miles southwest lies

**BEREA, Macedonia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. A city 24 miles from the coast. Relate that Paul found Jews in the town and a synagogue and established his third church in the province.

**Voyage.** We follow Paul again 200 miles to

**ATHENS, Achaia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. The capital of Greece, the most famous city in the world for art and letters, but already past its prime. Relate that here Paul succeeded in making only a few converts.

**Road.** Westward, a distance of 48 miles was

**CORINTH, Achaia.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. A port on the Gulf of Corinth, situated a little west of the present village. It was the capital of the Roman province.

Relate. This place was first built by the Phoenicians and passed to the Greeks. It was destroyed by the Romans in 146 B.C. and rebuilt by Julius Cæsar 100 years later. It was the emporium of a large trade and had a very mixed population, European and Oriental. It had many Jews and some synagogues. In it Paul established his most important church, which drew from him three epistles at least, two of them among his greatest and one not preserved (see I Corinthians 5: 9).

**Voyage.** Maps 3, xiii. A sail westward through the Gulf of Corinth and the Strait of Messina will carry us over 400 miles to the bay of Naples, upon whose northern shore stood **PUTEOLI**, where Paul landed after his shipwreck at Malta on his voyage to Rome. To-day we can take the railroad at Naples and in 120 miles northwestward arrive at

**ROME, Italy.** Maps 2, 3, xiii. On the Tiber, 15 miles from its mouth. The capital of Italy, the seat of the old Roman Empire, and the greatest city of Bible times.

Relate. Here Paul found a church of Christians and many Jews. To the former he had already written his Epistle to the Romans. Hither he came to prison, but was able to hire a house in the barracks. In Rome Paul wrote Philippians, Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon and II Timothy. Condemned by Nero on his appeal from Festus,

he was beheaded about 58 A.D. Peter also seems to have been martyred in the city a few years later.

**COMPARATIVE DISTANCES.** Map C. Show that if Jerusalem be placed at Savannah, Rome would lie as far away as Denver; Athens as far as Jefferson City, Missouri; Macedonia as far as Chicago; and Antioch, Syria, as far as central North Carolina.

Notice that Crete and Cyprus are each of them about the length of Lake Ontario.

**HOME WORK.** The student is to compare Map 3 and the table on page 22 of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands" and learn by name the sites of the different towns on the overland journey from Syria to Rome, which are designated on this map. He is to read also the Bible references furnished by the table.

#### NEW TESTAMENT TOWNS BEYOND PALESTINE

MILES. EAST TO WEST, ACCORDING TO ROADS.

- 0. ANTIOCH, Syria. Acts 11: 19-30; 12: 25—13: 13.
- 150. TARSUS, Cilicia. Acts 9: 26-30; 11: 25, 26.
- 150. DERBE, Galatia. Acts 14: 20, 21.
- 33. LYSTRA, Galatia. Acts 14: 6-20.
- 18. ICONIUM, Galatia. Acts 14: 1-6.
- 75. ANTIOCH, Galatia. Acts 13: 14-52.
- 215. EPHESUS, Asia. Acts 18: 19-21; 19: 1—20: 1.
- 150. TROAS, Asia. Acts 16: 6-10.
- 180. PHILIPPI, Macedonia. Acts 16: 11-40.
- 75. THESSALONICA, Macedonia. Acts 17: 1-9.
- 50. BEREAS, Macedonia. Acts 17: 10-14.
- 200. ATHENS, Greece. Acts 17: 15-34.
- 48. CORINTH, Greece. Acts 18: 1-18.
- 520. ROME, Italy. Acts 28: 11-31.

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1,864. Air-line distance covered on the journey.

**OPTIONAL HOME WORK.** The student may elect to mount prints of landscapes of Palestine on page 23, and the right-hand pages following, of his "Historical Atlas of Bible Lands." A list of six selected penny prints will be found on page 83.

*Optional Reference Reading.* *Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 266-278.*

## CHAPTER XIII

### REVIEW OF BIBLE TOWNS AND COUNTRIES

**CLASS-ROOM MATERIAL.** Maps C, 2, 3, 5. Hung before the class as occasion requires.

**REVIEW.** A memory test of the locations of Bible towns and countries and of events connected with them.

**MAP C. Countries.** Italy, Greece, Macedonia, Asia, Galatia, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Arabia, Persia, Susiana, Media, Babylonia, Assyria, Mesopotamia. **Islands.** Sicily, Malta, Crete, Patmos, Cyprus.

Have the student point out and name as many of these countries and islands as he knows, name them all as pointed out to him, and point them out himself as named to him. Have him name an event in the case of each of the islands, which is connected with it in Bible history.

**MAP 3. Towns.** Use the three-fold method suggested in the preceding paragraph in order to identify the towns on this map, including those whose sites are marked without names attached. Have the student name at the same time the country in which each town lies, and recall an event in the case of each town, which is connected with it in the biblical records.

**MAP 5. Towns of Palestine.** Use the same three-fold method to identify the towns on this map, and have the student name an event in the case of each of them, which is connected with it in the biblical records.

**BOUNDING COUNTRIES.** Have the student bound the five following countries, first with and then without a map in view:

**Map 5.** Palestine. **Map 2.** Susiana, Babylonia, Assyria, Mesopotamia. (The last two of these countries are bordered on the north by Armenia.)

### AN EXTENSION OF THE COURSE

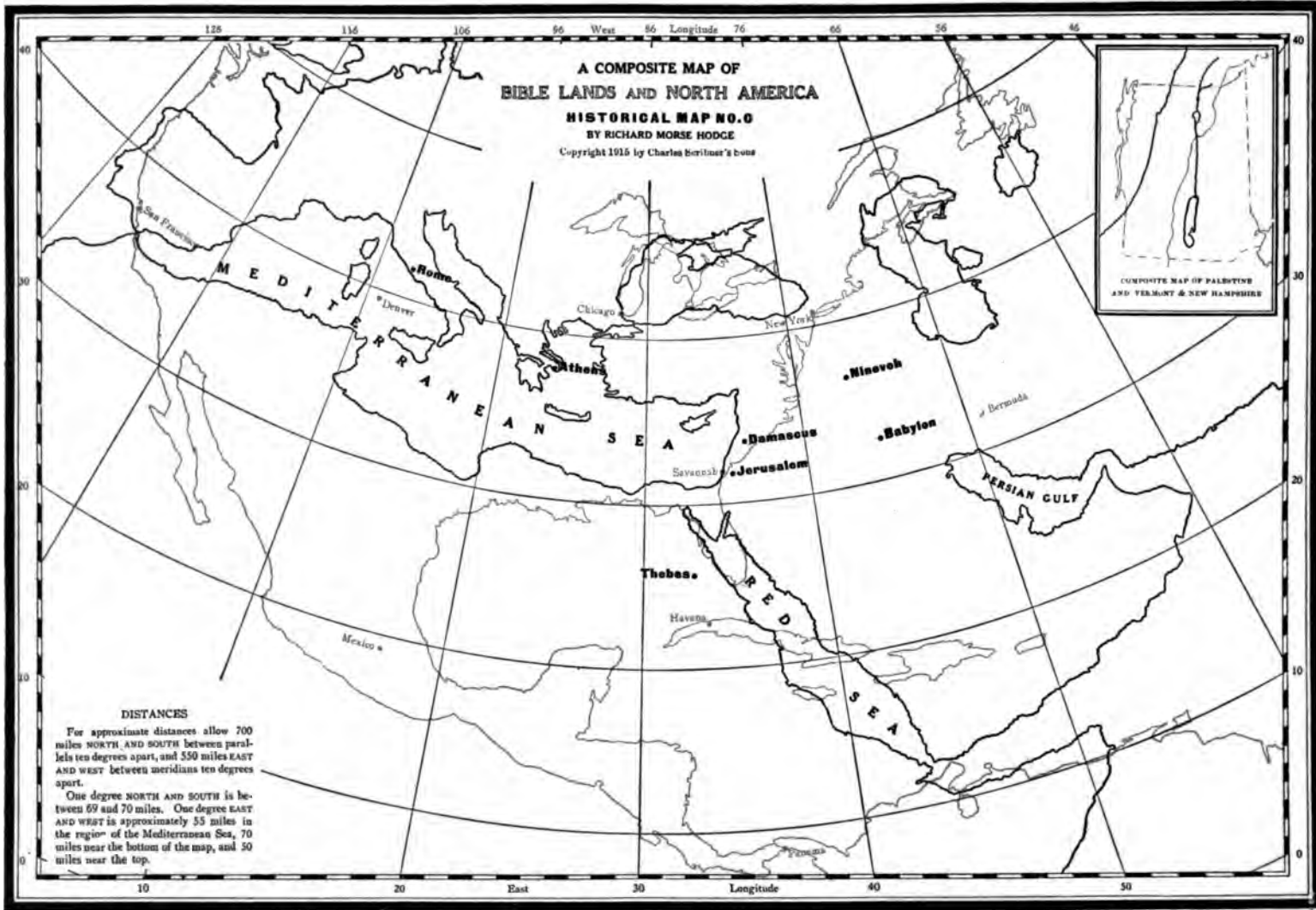
**REVIEW OF BIBLE HISTORY.** Map 3. When more than three months are spent on the course a few sessions of the class may be devoted in conclusion to a chronological review of Bible history.

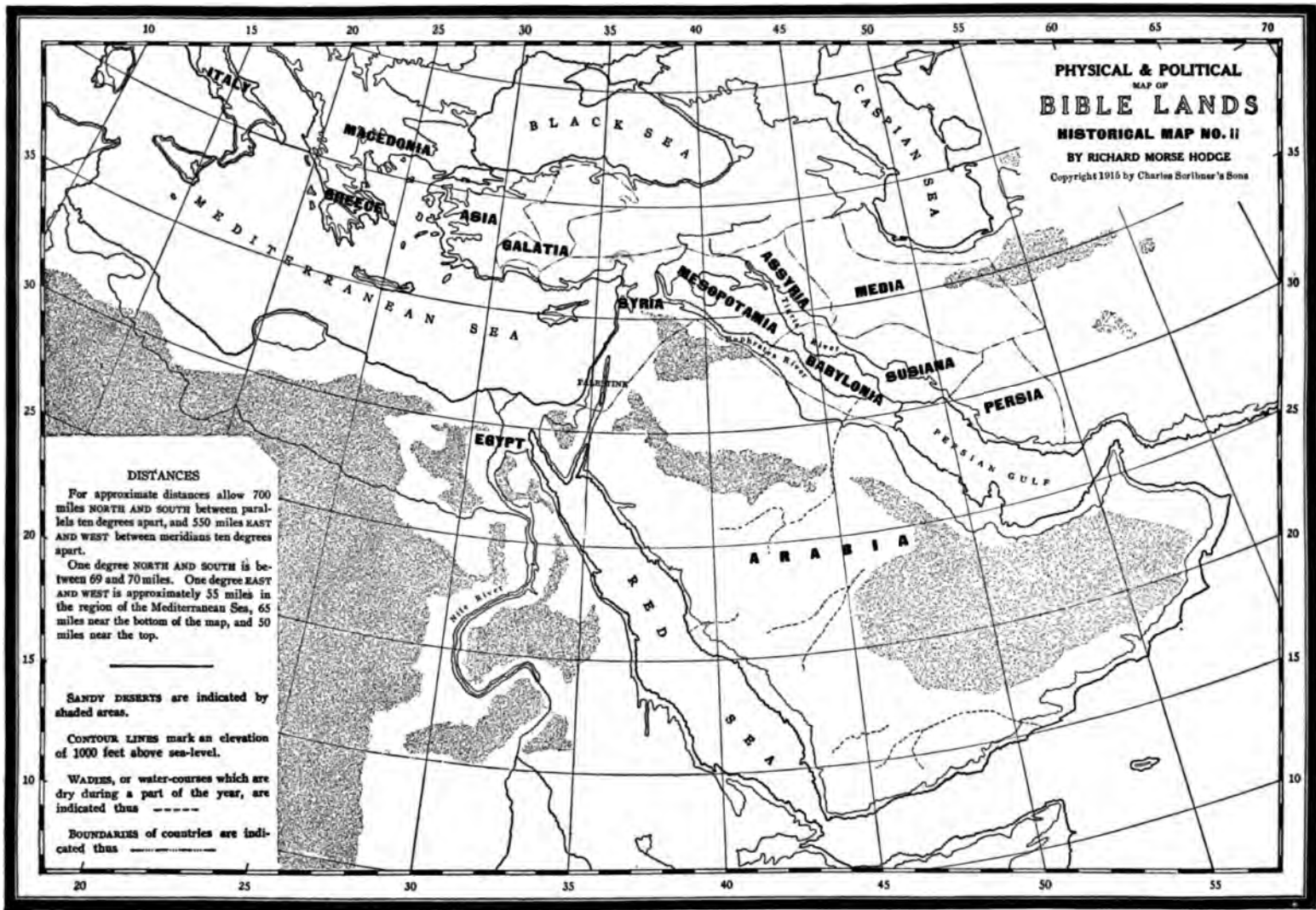
This may take the form of biographical sketches beginning with the patriarch Abraham and ending with the apostle Paul. Each student will read at home the biblical narratives bearing upon the character assigned to him, and will take his turn in class to make his biographical sketch and point out on the map at the same time where each of the different deeds which he describes took place.



## HISTORICAL MAPS

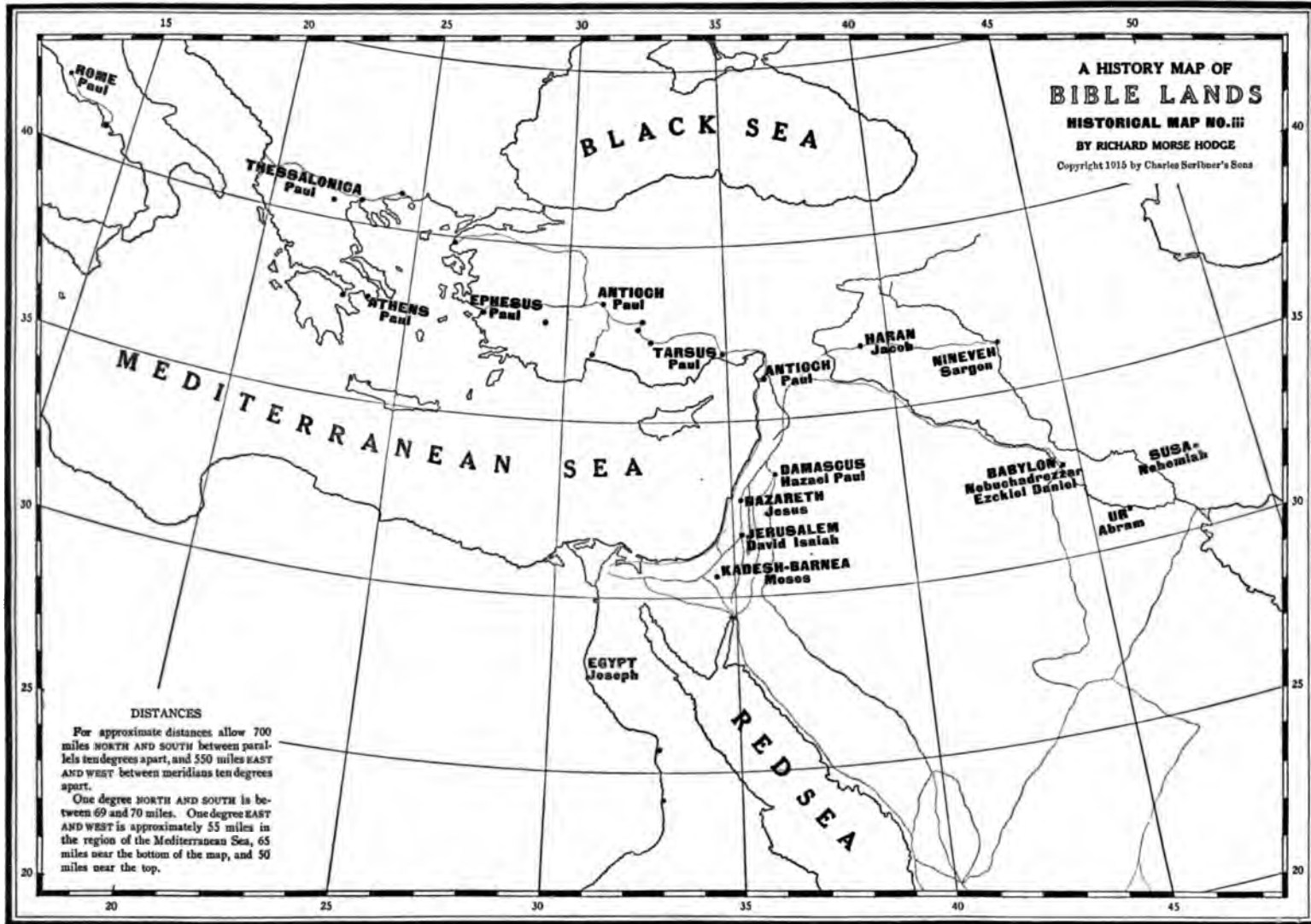
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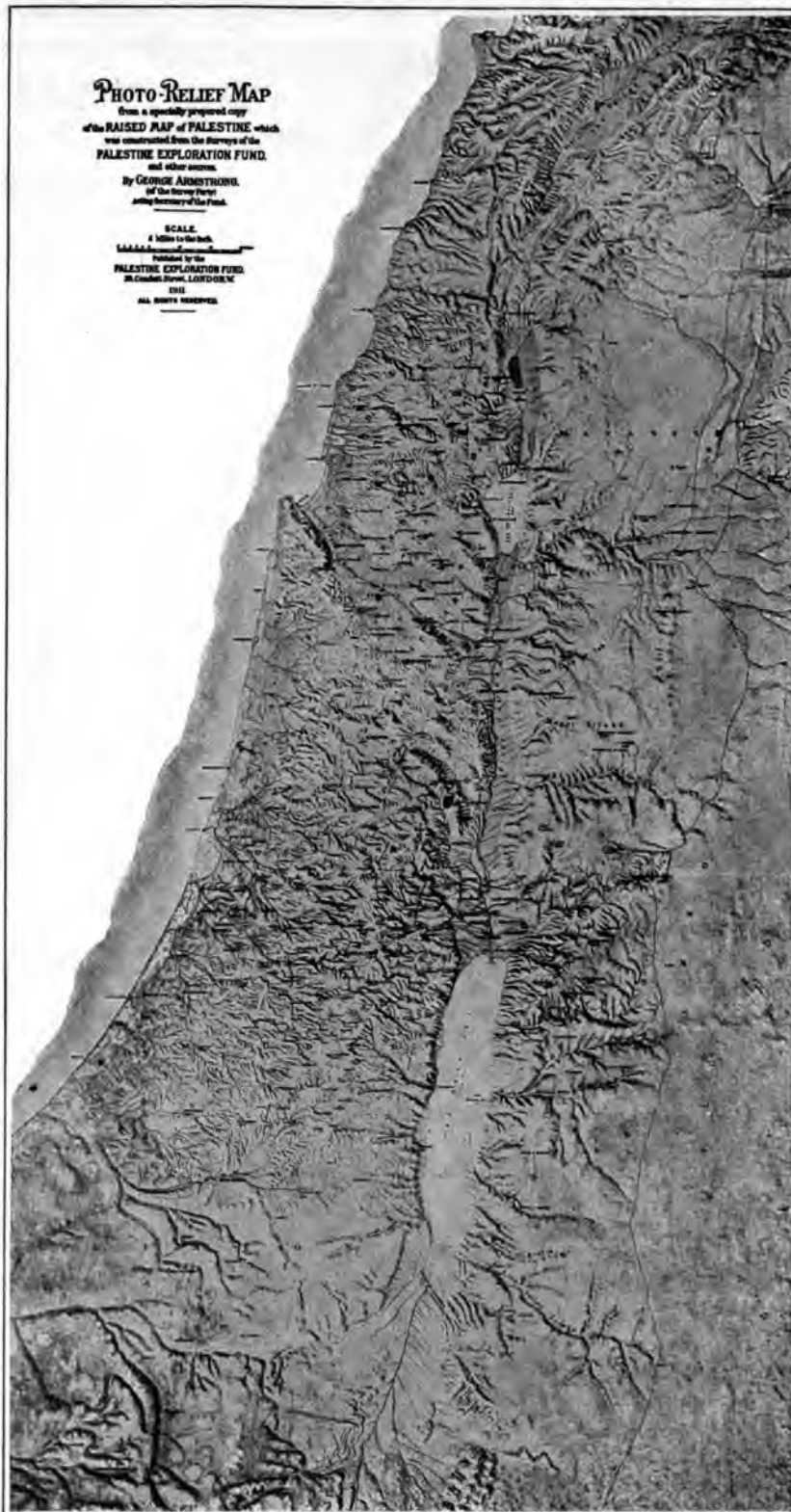


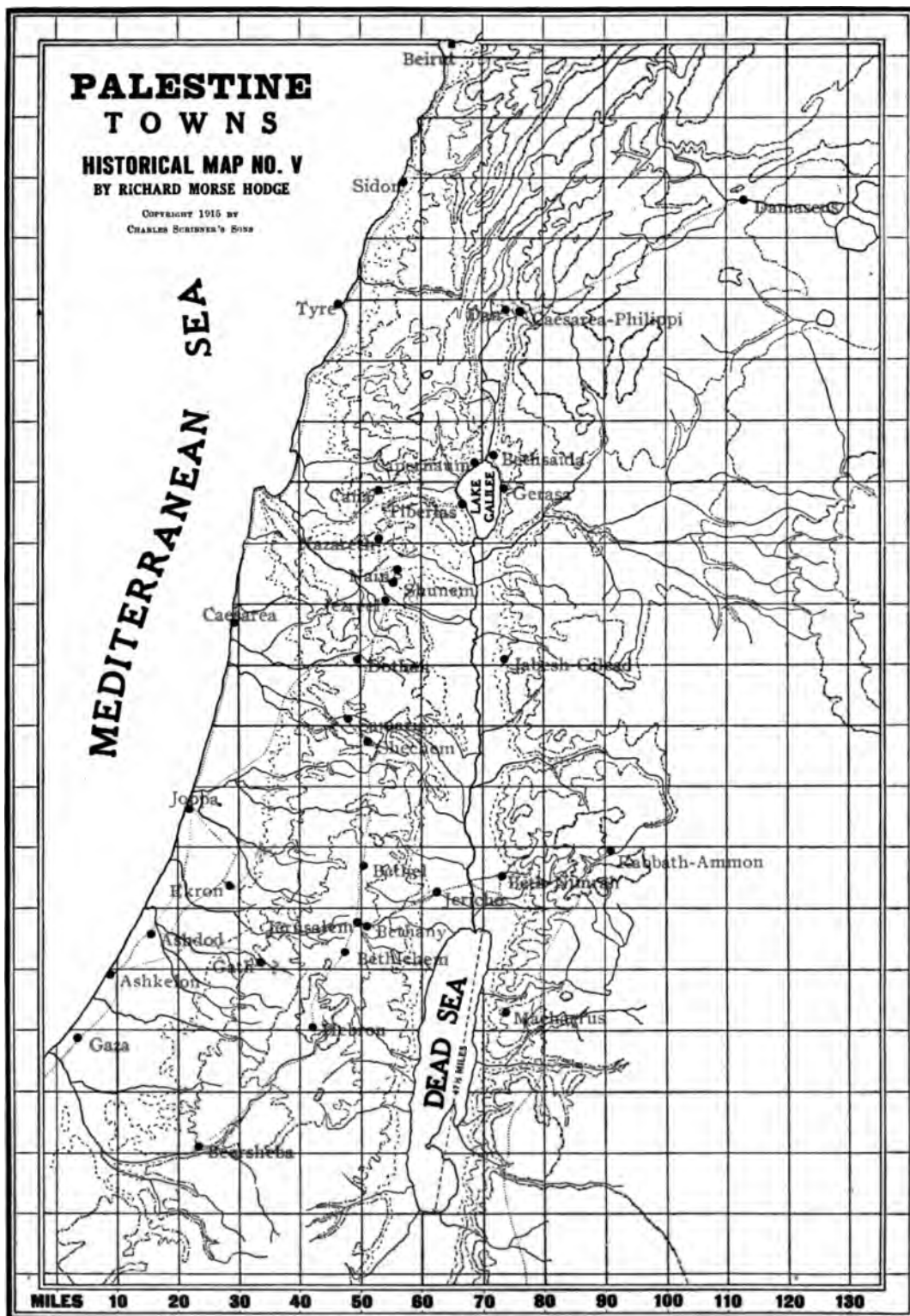
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11



Scale  
1:100,000





Figured contour line copyright by William Beverly Hartson

he was beheaded about 58 A.D. Peter also seems to have been martyred in the city a few years later.

**COMPARATIVE DISTANCES.** Map C. Show that if Jerusalem be placed at Savannah, Rome would lie as far away as Denver; Athens as far as Jefferson City, Missouri; Macedonia as far as Chicago; and Antioch, Syria, as far as central North Carolina.

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#### NEW TESTAMENT TOWNS BEYOND PALESTINE

**MILES. EAST TO WEST, ACCORDING TO ROADS.**

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- 150. DERBE, Galatia. Acts 14: 20, 21.
- 33. LYSTRA, Galatia. Acts 14: 6-20.
- 18. ICONIUM, Galatia. Acts 14: 1-6.
- 75. ANTIOCH, Galatia. Acts 13: 14-52.
- 215. EPHEBUS, Asia. Acts 18: 19-21; 19: 1—20: 1.
- 150. TROAS, Asia. Acts 16: 6-10.
- 180. PHILIPPI, Macedonia. Acts 16: 11-40.
- 75. THESSALONICA, Macedonia. Acts 17: 1-9.
- 50. BEREAS, Macedonia. Acts 17: 10-14.
- 200. ATHENS, Greece. Acts 17: 15-34.
- 48. CORINTH, Greece. Acts 18: 1-18.
- 520. ROME, Italy. Acts 28: 11-31.

1,864. Air-line distance covered on the journey.

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*Optional Reference Reading. Biblical Geography and History, Kent. Pages 266-278.*

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**MAP 5. Towns of Palestine.** Use the same three-fold method to identify the towns on this map, and have the student name an event in the case of each of them, which is connected with it in the biblical records.

**BOUNDING COUNTRIES.** Have the student bound the five following countries, first with and then without a map in view:

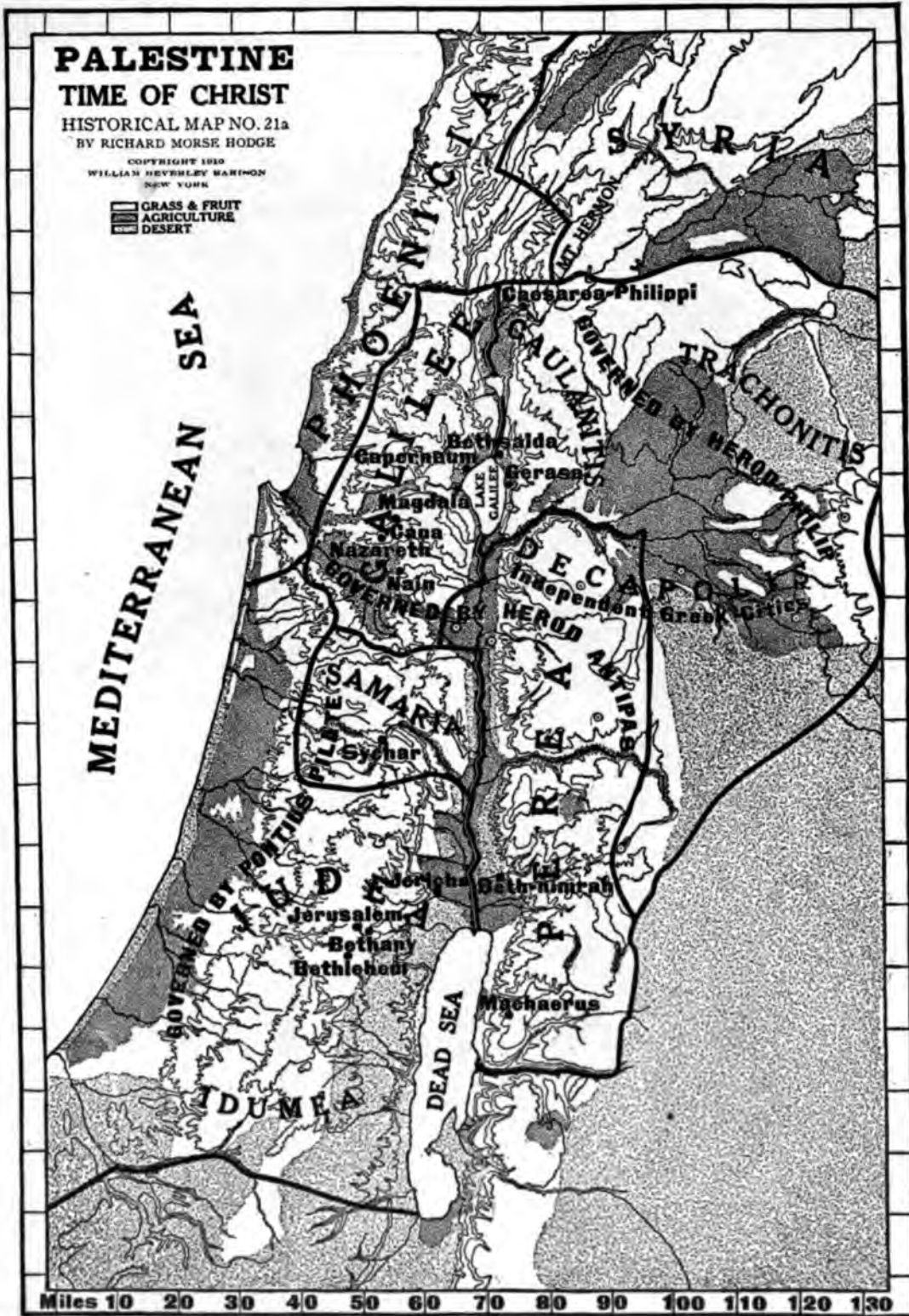
**Map 5.** Palestine. **Map 2.** Susiana, Babylonia, Assyria, Mesopotamia. (The last two of these countries are bordered on the north by Armenia.)

### AN EXTENSION OF THE COURSE

**REVIEW OF BIBLE HISTORY.** Map 3. When more than three months are spent on the course a few sessions of the class may be devoted in conclusion to a chronological review of Bible history.

This may take the form of biographical sketches beginning with the patriarch Abraham and ending with the apostle Paul. Each student will read at home the biblical narratives bearing upon the character assigned to him, and will take his turn in class to make his biographical sketch and point out on the map at the same time where each of the different deeds which he describes took place.





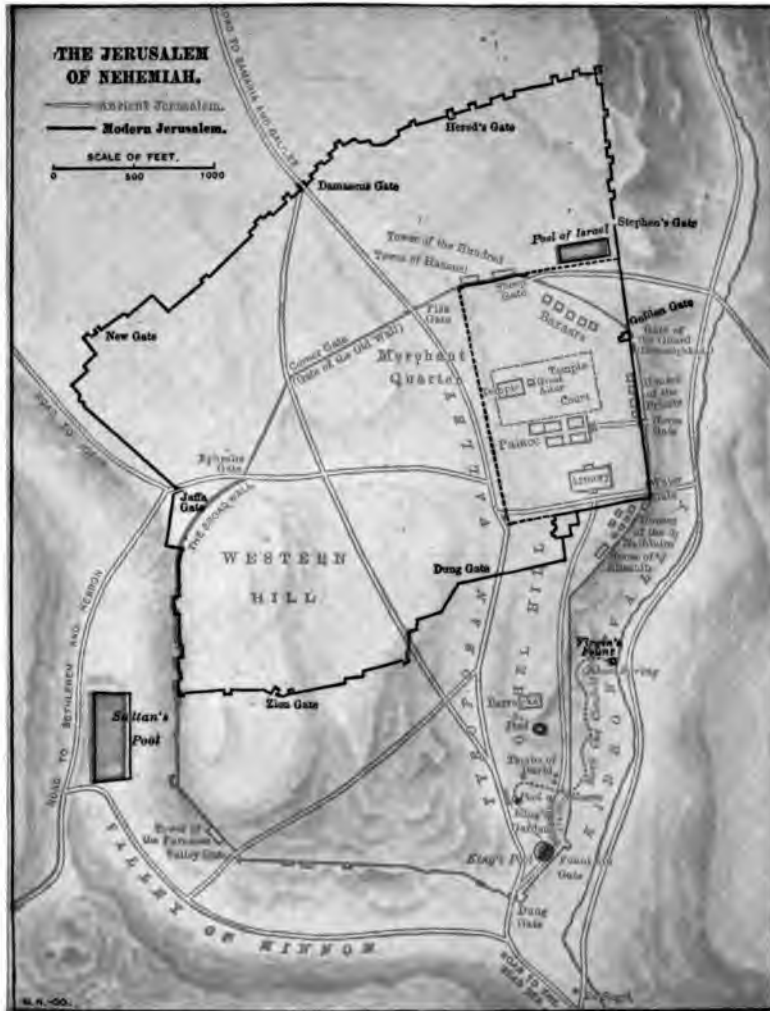


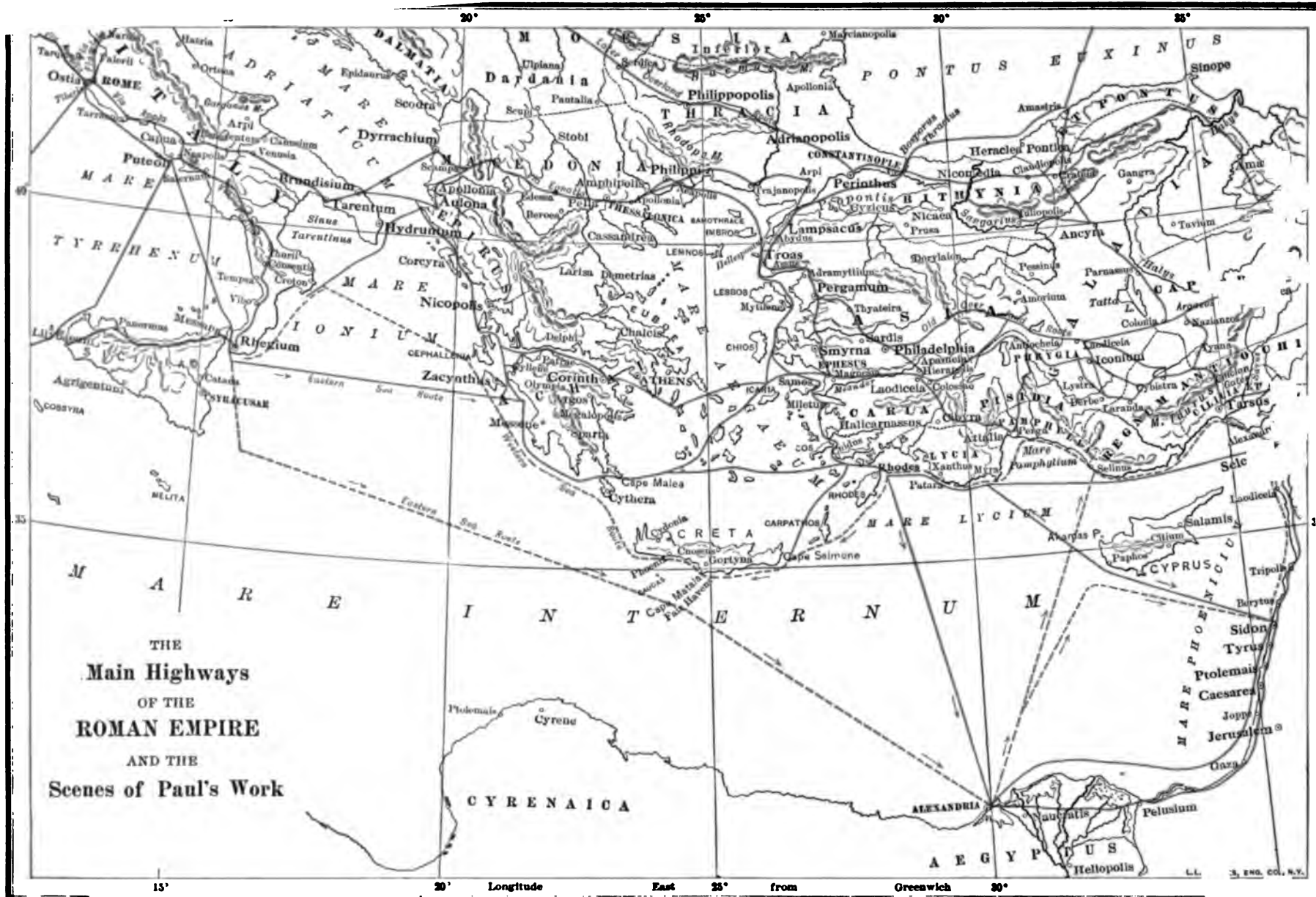
THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL.

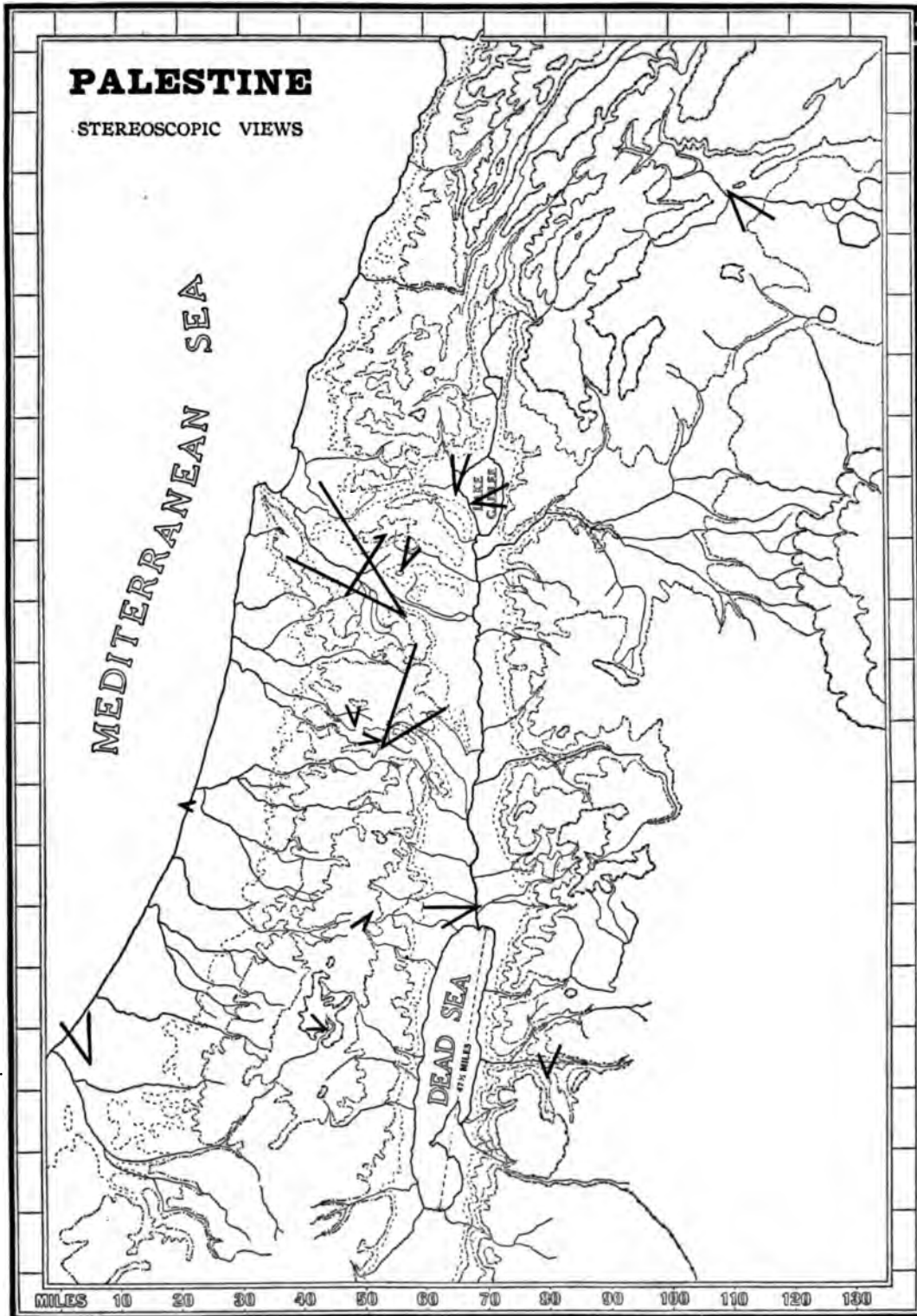


THE KINGDOMS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH.









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