

SIX: GEOGRAPHICAL

Locating the various cities and places visited by Jesus and subsequent activities occurring there.

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GREAT TRUTHS FROM GOD'S WORD

BETHABARA

A few miles north of Jericho, on the eastern bank of the Jordan River where John baptized Jesus (Jn. 1:28; Mt. 3:13-17).

BETHANY

Fifteen furlongs, or one and three-fourths miles from Jerusalem on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives. It is on the road to Jericho. Bethany was the Judean headquarters of Jesus, as Capernaum was his Galilean headquarters.

- Here He raised Lazarus from the dead (Jn. 11).
- Mary and Martha entertained Christ here (Lk. 10:38-42).
- Mary anointed His feet here (Jn. 12:1-11).
- It was also the home of Simon the leper (Mk. 14:3).
- Here Christ blessed His disciples just prior to His ascension from the Mount of Olives (Lk. 24:50).

BETHLEHEM

Five miles south of Jerusalem

- It was the birthplace of both Mary and Joseph (Lk. 2:1-4).
- It was here Christ was born (Micah 5:2; Jn. 7:42; Lk. 2).

BETHPHAGE

On the slopes of Mount Olivet between Bethany and Jerusalem. Here the triumphal entry began (Mt. 21:1-11; Mk. 11:1-11; Lk. 19:29-40).

BETHSAIDA

Located at the place where the Jordan River enters the Sea of Galilee. It means "the place of catching."

- It was the home of Philip, Andrew, and Peter (Jn. 1:44).
- Jesus upbraided this city, along with others, for its unbelief (Lk. 10:11-14; Mt. 11:21).
- Here He also healed a blind man (Mk. 8:22-26).

BIREH

Located fifteen miles north of Jerusalem and the first stopping place for caravans going from Jerusalem to Galilee, Bireh is thought to be the place where Jesus was found to be missing during His visit to the Temple at age 12 (Lk. 2:41-45).

CAESAREA PHILIPPI

Situated at the base of Mount Hermon, northeast of the Galilean Sea. This was doubtless the farthest point north traveled by our Lord. Here He heard Simon Peter's great confession (Mt. 16:13-16).

CANA

Four miles northeast of Nazareth, on the road to Tiberias.

- It was the hometown of Nathanael (Jn. 21:2).
- Here Jesus performed His first miracle, that of turning water into wine (Jn. 2:1-11).
- Here He also worked His second miracle, the healing of the nobleman's son (Jn. 4:46-54).

CAPERNAUM

Located along the northwest shore of Galilee, two-and-a-half miles from where the Jordan River enters the lake.

- This became the Galilean headquarters of His earthly ministry (Mt. 4:13; 9:1).
- Here He chose Matthew (Mt. 9:9).
- Here He delivered His great Bread of Life sermon (Jn. 6:24-71).
- Here he performed nine of His recorded miracles:
 1. Healing of the centurion's servant (Mt. 8:5-13)
 2. Healing of Peter's mother-in-law (Mt. 8:14-15)
 3. Healing of a demoniac (Mk. 1:21-27)
 4. Healing of the palsied man who was lowered from the roof (Mk. 2:1-5)
 5. Healing of the woman with a bloody issue (Mt. 9:22)
 6. Healing of Jairus' daughter (Mt. 9:25)
 7. Healing of two blind men (Mt. 9:29)
 8. Healing of a dumb demoniac (Mt. 9:33)
 9. The miracle of the tribute money (Mt. 17:24-27)

CHORAZIN

Two miles north of Capernaum. Christ pronounced judgment upon this city for its unbelief (Mt. 11:21-23).

EMMAUS

About seven and a half miles west of Jerusalem. Here Christ appeared to two disciples after His resurrection and revealed Himself to them at the supper table (Lk. 24:13-31).

GERGESA

Located on the northeastern shore of Galilee, where Jesus healed the demon-filled maniac of Gadara (Mk. 5:1-21).

GETHSEMANE

Located across the Kidron Valley from the golden gate of Jerusalem. It was the garden place where He prayed just prior to His betrayal and arrest (Mt. 26:36-56; Jn. 18:1-14).

JENIN

Twenty-four miles north of Samaria, where some believe Jesus healed the ten lepers (Lk. 17:11-19).

JERICHO

Located seventeen miles northwest of Jerusalem near the Jordan River.

- Here Jesus healed a blind man named Bartimaeus (Lk. 18:35)
- Here Zacchaeus met Christ (Lk. 19:1-10)
- Jesus used this city to help illustrate His Good Samaritan parable (Lk. 10:30-37)

JERUSALEM

The capital of God's world. It is situated on a rocky prominence about 2,500 feet above the Mediterranean and 3,800 feet above the Dead Sea. It is thirty-three miles east of the Mediterranean Sea and fourteen miles west of the Dead Sea.

- Jesus was dedicated here (Lk. 2:1-38)
- He attended the Passover at age twelve (Lk. 2:41-50)
- He cleansed the Temple (Jn. 2:13-17)
- He spoke to Nicodemus (Jn. 3:1-16)
- He healed a thirty-eight year old invalid (Jn. 5:8)
- He preached on the Holy Spirit during the feast of the tabernacles (Jn. 7:10-39)
- He forgave an adulterous woman (Jn. 8:1-11)
- He preached on the devil and his children (Jn. 8:33-59)
- He healed a man born blind (Jn. 9:7)
- He preached a sermon on the Good Shepherd (Jn. 10:1-18)
- He made His triumphal entry (Jn. 12:12-15)
- He cursed the fig tree (Mt. 21:19)
- He utterly condemned the wicked Pharisees (Mt. 23:1-36)
- He preached the Mt. Olivet discourse (Mt. 24-25)
- He wept over Jerusalem (Lk. 19:41; Mt. 23:37-39)
- He conducted the service in the Upper Room (Jn. 13-14)
- He preached on the vine and branches (Jn. 15-16)
- He prayed His great high priestly prayer (Jn. 17)
- He was arrested in Gethsemane (Mt. 26:47-56)
- He restored a severed ear (Lk. 22:51)
- He was condemned to death (Mt. 27:26)
- He was crucified (Mt. 27:27-50)
- He was buried (Mt. 27:57-60)
- He rose from the dead (Mt. 28:1-10)
- He visited the Upper Room for the first time after His resurrection (Lk. 24:36-43; Jn. 20:19-23)
- He visited the Upper Room for the third and final time (Mk. 16:14-18; Lk. 24:44-49)
- He ascended into heaven (Acts 1:4-11)

JORDAN RIVER

It begins at the base of Mount Hermon, about 1,700 feet above sea level. From there it goes to the waters of Merom, some twelve miles down course. From there it flows the five miles to the Sea of Galilee, some 682 feet below sea level. Finally, it proceeds the sixty-five miles to the Dead Sea, 1,300 feet below sea level. Thus, during its eighty-two mile course, the Jordan River drops 3,000 feet. It was in the Jordan River that our Lord was baptized (Mt. 3:13-17).

KIDRON

A valley, about two and three-fourths miles long, located immediately east of the wall of Jerusalem between the city and the Mount of Olives. Jesus crossed this valley en route to Gethsemane (Jn. 18:1).

MAGDALA

Located three miles north of Tiberias on the western shore of the Galilean Sea (Mt. 15:39). This was the home of Mary Magdalene (Lk. 8:2; Mk. 16:9).

MOUNT HERMON

Located some seventeen miles north of the Galilean Sea. It is by far the highest mountain in all Palestine, reaching 9,101 feet. Many believe this to be the "high mountain" of Matt. 17:1 where Christ was transfigured.

MOUNT OF OLIVES

Located due east of Jerusalem, across from the Kidron Valley. Its height is 2,641 feet.

- Here Christ wept over Jerusalem (Lk. 19:41-44).
- Here He delivered His great sermon on prophecy (Mt. 25:24-25).
- Here He walked after the Passover in the Upper Room (Mt. 26:30; Mk. 14:26; Lk. 22:39).
- From here He ascended into heaven (Lk. 24:50-51; Acts 1:6-12).

MOUNT TABOR

Located five and a half miles southeast of Nazareth. Its height is 1,843 feet above sea level. Some believe this was the mount of transfiguration instead of Mount Hermon. However, the text prefers the latter.

MOUNT ZION

The height which rises close to the southwest corner of the old walled city. Here was located the Upper Room (Mk. 14:12-16; Lk. 22:7-13; Jn. 13-14).

NAIN

A city some ten miles southeast of Nazareth, where Jesus raised the dead son of a sorrowing widow (Lk. 7:11).

NAZARETH

Located about midway between the Sea of Galilee and the Mediterranean Sea.

- Both Joseph and Mary received the news from Gabriel concerning the virgin birth here (Lk. 1:26; Mt. 1:18-25).
- Here Jesus grew into manhood (Lk. 2:39-40, 51-52).
- Here He preached two sermons:
 1. After the first, on Isaiah 61, they attempted to kill Him (Lk. 4:16-30).
 2. After the second, He was totally rejected by the citizens (Mt. 13:53-58; Mk. 6:1-6).

SEA OF GALILEE

This inland sea lake is thirteen miles long, seven and a half miles wide, and thirty-two miles in circumference. It is 700 feet below sea level, and its greatest depth is 200 feet.

- Beside this body of water, Jesus fed the 5,000 (Jn. 6:1-14).
- On the Mount of Beatitudes, He gave the Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7).
- Here He calmed the wild stormy sea waters (Mt. 8:23-27).
- Here He walked on the water (Jn. 6:15-21).
- Here 2,000 hogs were drowned after He healed a maniac (Mk. 5:1-21).
- Here He performed His last miracle (Mk. 14:28; 16:7; Jn. 21).

SYCHAR

Located some twenty-five miles due north of Jerusalem in Samaria. Here Jesus met the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well (Jn. 4).

TYRE

A city located on the Mediterranean Sea, some twenty miles due west of Caesarea Philippi. Jesus healed the Syro-phoenician woman's daughter in this area (Mk. 3:8; Lk. 6:17).

WILDERNESS OF TEMPTATION

The exact spot is unknown. However, some feel it may have been southeast of Jerusalem in the Dead Sea area (Mt. 4:1).