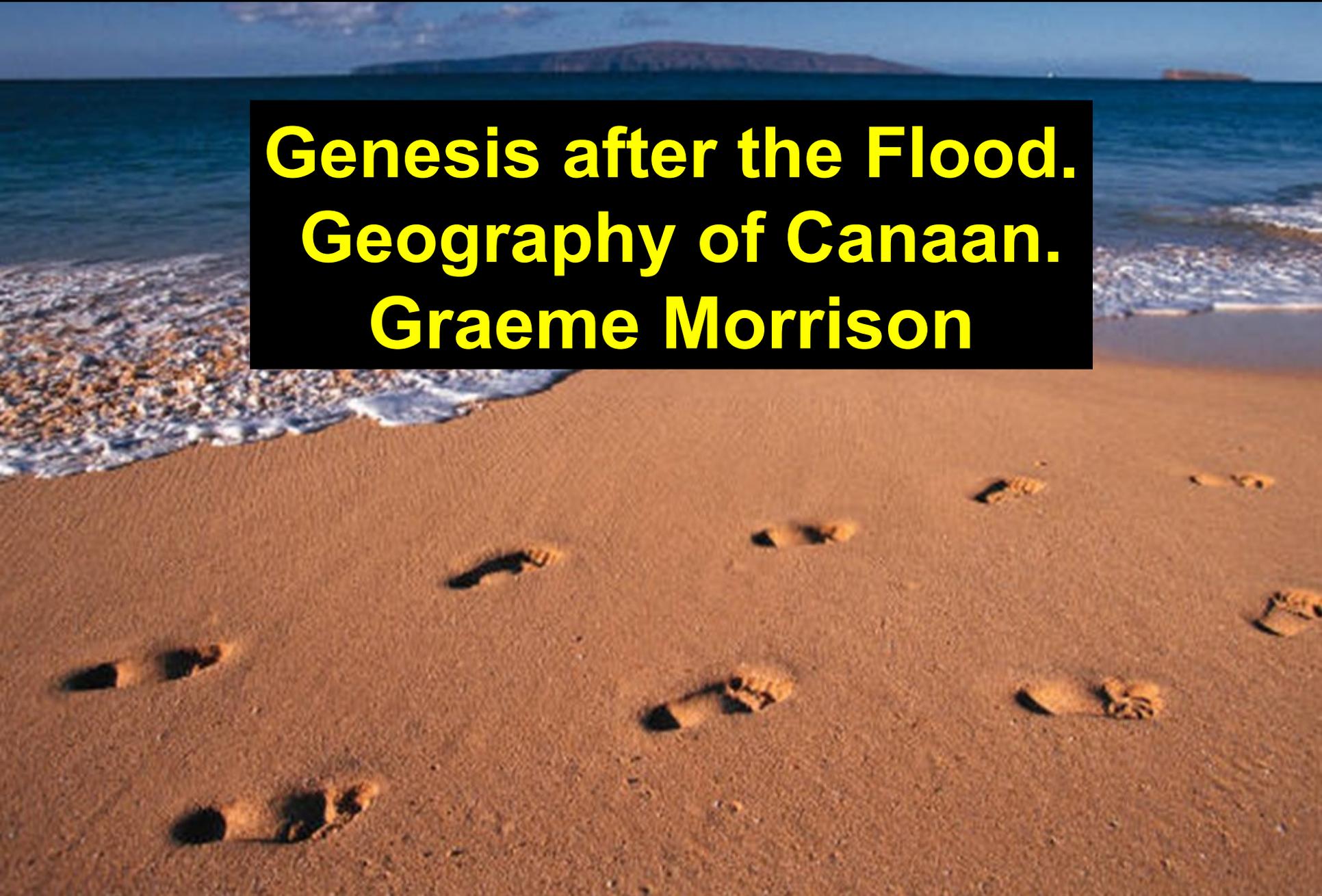
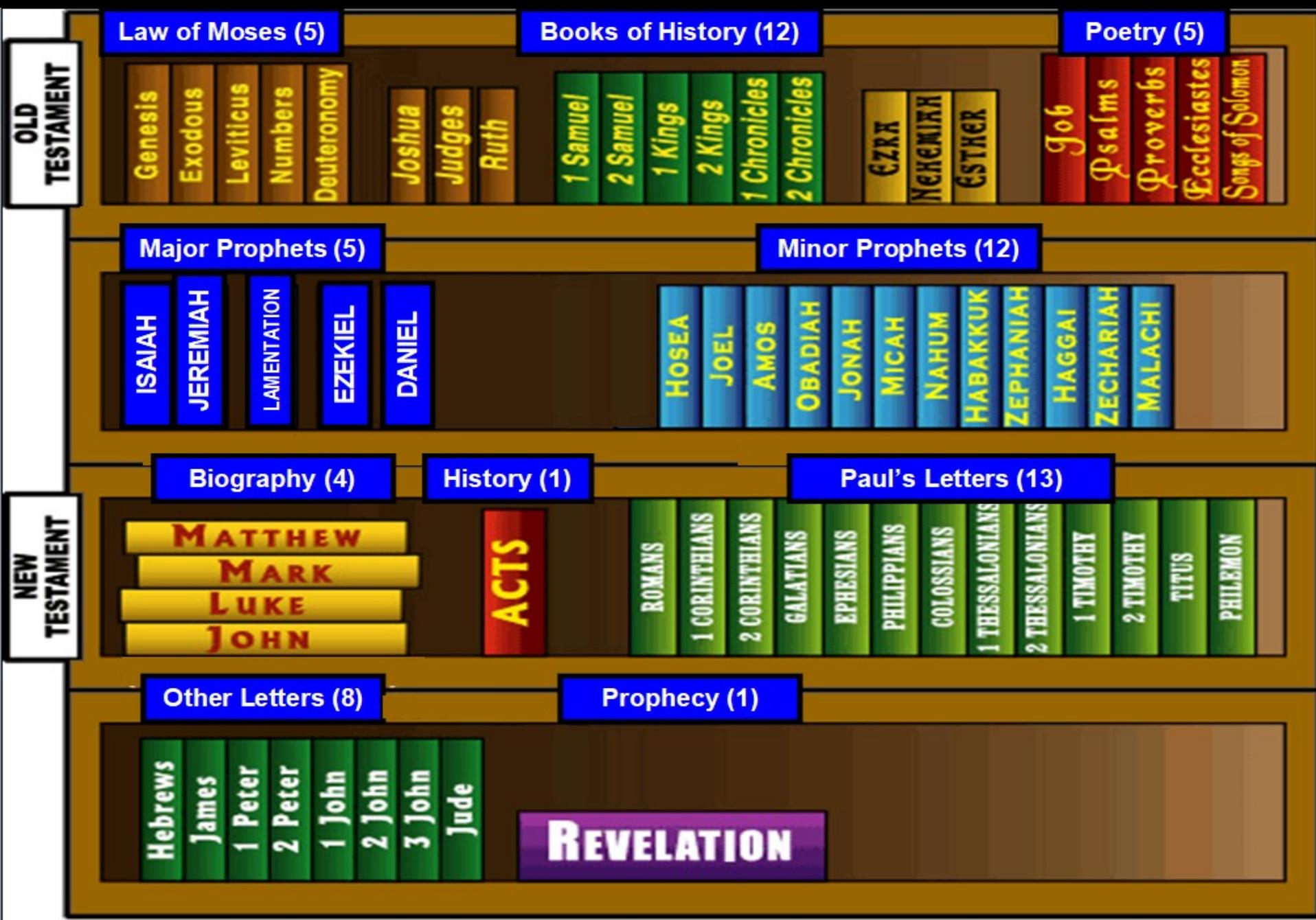


Patriarchal Age- Abraham.

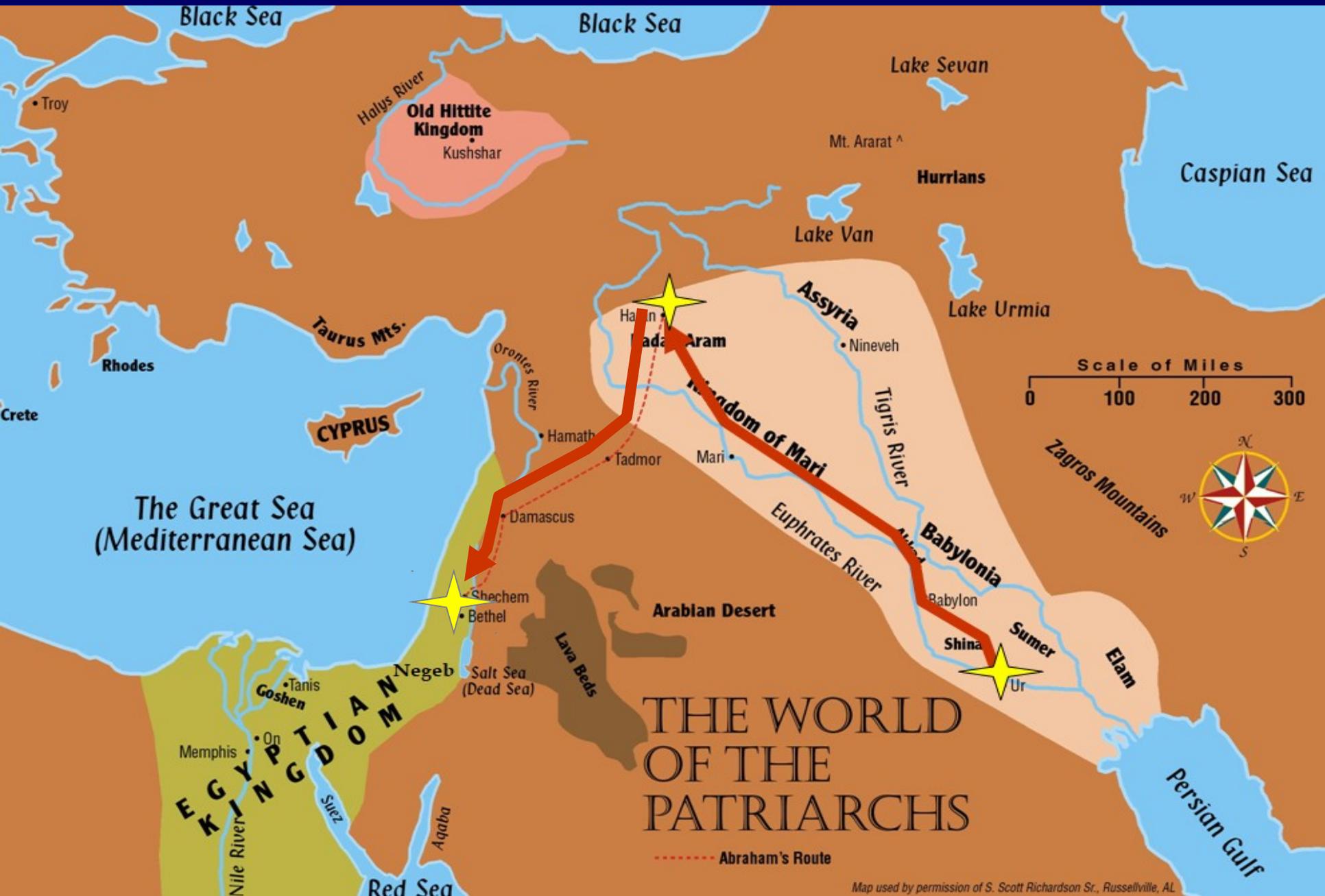
**Genesis after the Flood.
Geography of Canaan.
Graeme Morrison**



Remember The BIBLE is a LIBRARY of 66 Books.



From Haran To Canaan.



From Haran To Canaan.

Abram obeyed God. (12:4-8;)

He took Sarai & Lot and left Haran.

Abram was 75 when he left Haran.

He entered Canaan & came to Shechem.

God appeared to Abram.

Abram built an altar and worshipped God.

INTO THE LAND OF CANAAN:- (Genesis 12:4-5).

4 So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy five years old when he departed from Haran.

5 And Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his nephew, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the persons which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan;

thus they came to the land of Canaan.

From Haran To Canaan.

Abram responded to the call of God by leaving his home and extended family and departing for the land to which he had been directed.

From Haran, a traveller desiring to go down into Canaan can take **two different roads.**

The King's Highway.

This road ran down **through Damascus.** From there, its course ran **along the west bank of the Jordan River Valley**, past the cities of **Sodom and Gomorrah** and down into the Sinai Desert, which it reached **Ezion geber on the Gulf of Aqaba.**

From Haran To Canaan.

Or:- The Way of the Philistines.

This route ran along the Mediterranean Sea, past the Phoenician cities of Sidon and Byblos, along the Plains of Sharon and the cities of the Philistines, and then into Egypt.

CANAAN:- If Haran is the hub of the wheel, then Canaan is a major spoke of that wheel.

The land of Canaan acts as a narrow land bridge between Mesopotamia and the continent of Africa.

This is a relatively small area of land, no larger in area than Wales .

The name “Palestine” takes its name from the ancient name Peleset, meaning “land of the Philistines.”

That would be a later designation.

For now, it was known as the land of Canaan

Geography of Canaan.

The Topography of Canaan.

Canaan is one of the most diverse lands in the world. Within its small area, one can find snow capped mountains, fertile plains, steaming deserts and lush forests.

It is home both to sparkling waterways full of fish as well as the most desolate body of water in the world.

The Coastal Plain.

The **coastline of Canaan** is devoid of any natural harbours from Tyre all the way down to Egypt.

The plain itself is generally low, fertile and open.

It is broken only once where the **Mount Carmel Promontory** juts out into the Mediterranean.

Geography of Canaan.



1. Coastal Plain

2. Hill Country

3. Jordan Valley

4. Trans-Jordan Plateau

Canaan- Coastal Plain.

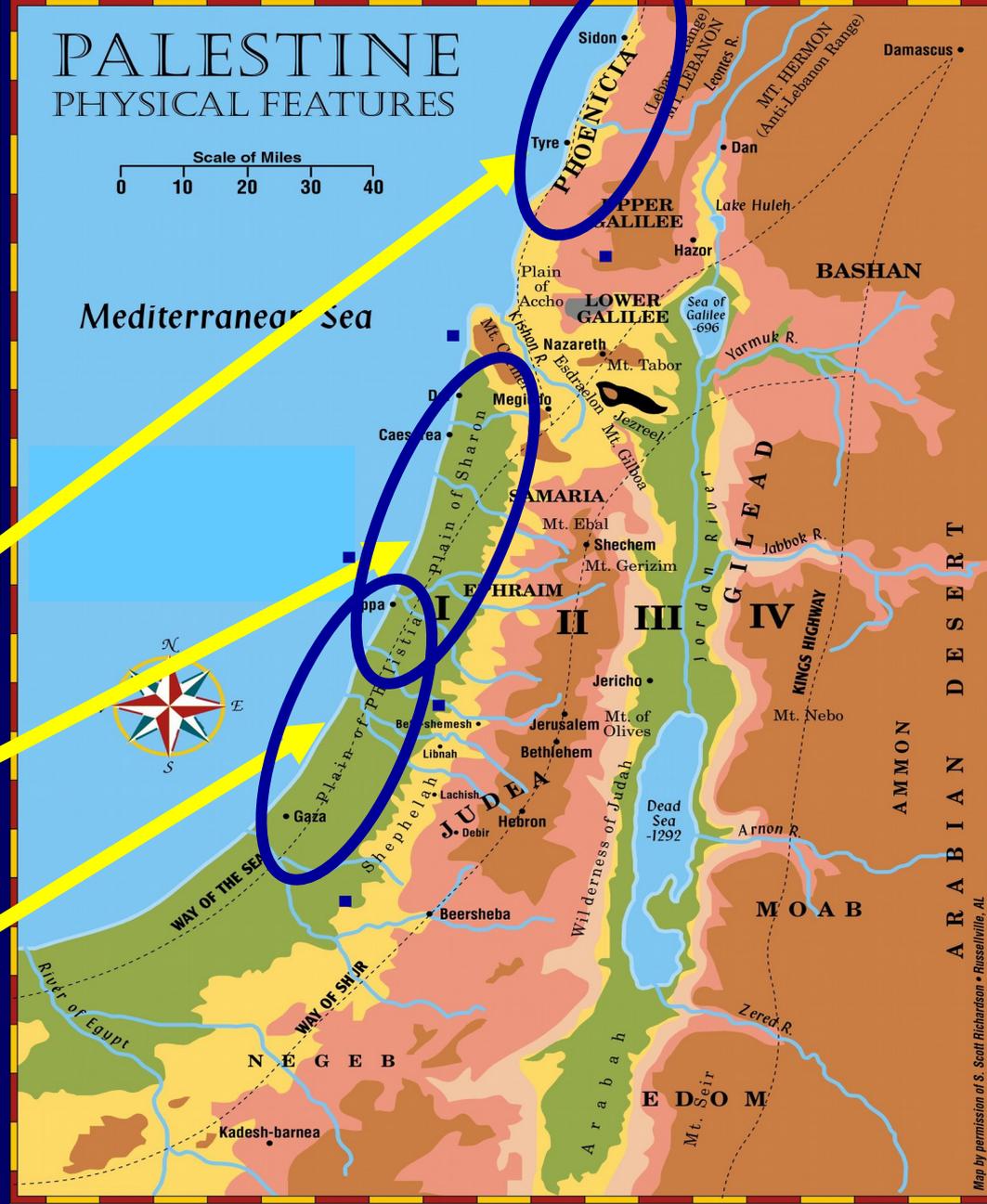
1. Coastal Plain
Varied in width from
6 miles in North
to 25 miles in South.

Consisted of wide valleys,
level plains, rolling hills
Well watered & fertile
Heavily cultivated.

Phoenicia

Sharon

Philistia



Canaan Sections of the Plain.

Phoenicia

Area was inhabited by a group of Canaanites called Phoenicians.

Land was too narrow to farm.

People turned to ship building, sailing, and trading.



Canaan Sections of the Plain.

Sharon

Area stretched
45 miles between
Mt. Carmel
and Joppa.

Wet, marshy
area of land.

This part of Canaan
plays very little part
in the O.T. story.



Canaan Sections of the Plain.

Philistia

**Area controlled
by Philistines.**

**Stretched 40 miles
from
Joppa to Gaza.**

**12 – 25 miles wide
One of richest
parts of land.**



Canaan Sections of the Plain.

Only interruption
in the plain
is Mt. Carmel.

The busiest
trade route of
the land ran along
the Coastal Plain.

The Route
Ran from Egypt
To Mt. Carmel
Into the
Valley of Jezreel.



Geography of Canaan.

2. Central Hill Country.

Contains 2 mountain ranges:-

Lebanon (Mt. Lebanon)

Anti-Lebanons (Mt. Hermon)

**North of Palestine the ranges divide
and the Jordan Valley lies between**

The Central Hill Country or Mountain Range.

**A long ridge of mountains runs parallel
to the Coastal Plain from the Mountains of Lebanon
all the way down to the tip of the Sinai Peninsula.**

**The lowest point of this ridge is 15 feet
and many of its segments rise to twice that height.**

Geography of Canaan.

The Central Hill Country or Mountain Range.

This Central Spine is a natural impediment to east west travel.

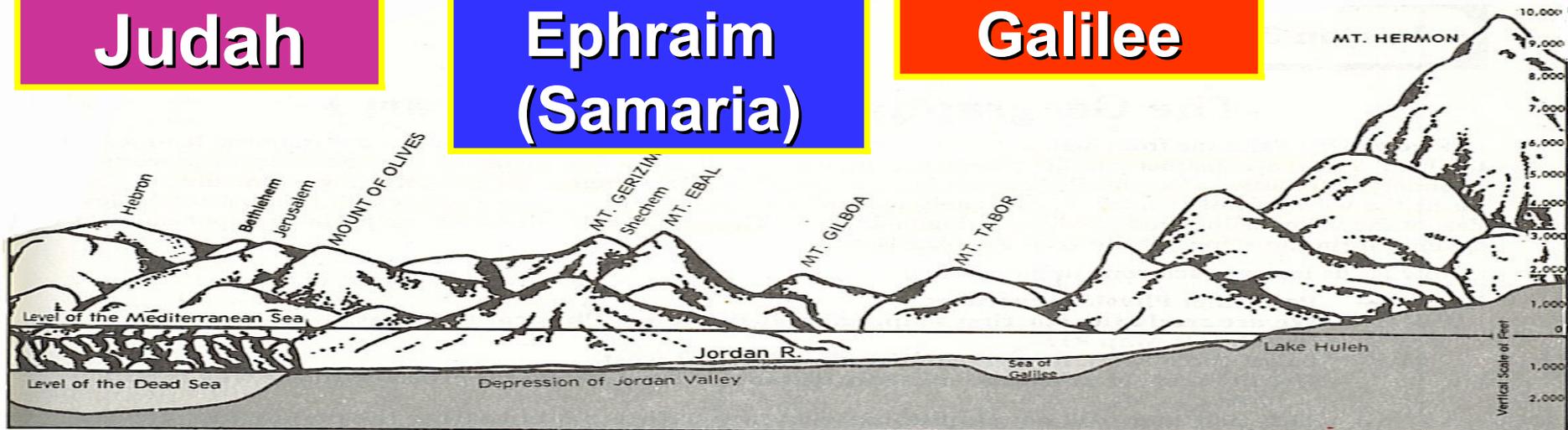
At some places it consists of up to five parallel ridges, each separated by deep valleys.

This Mountain Range is broken only once by the long Valley of Jezreel, also known by the more popular name of Armageddon.

Judah

**Ephraim
(Samaria)**

Galilee

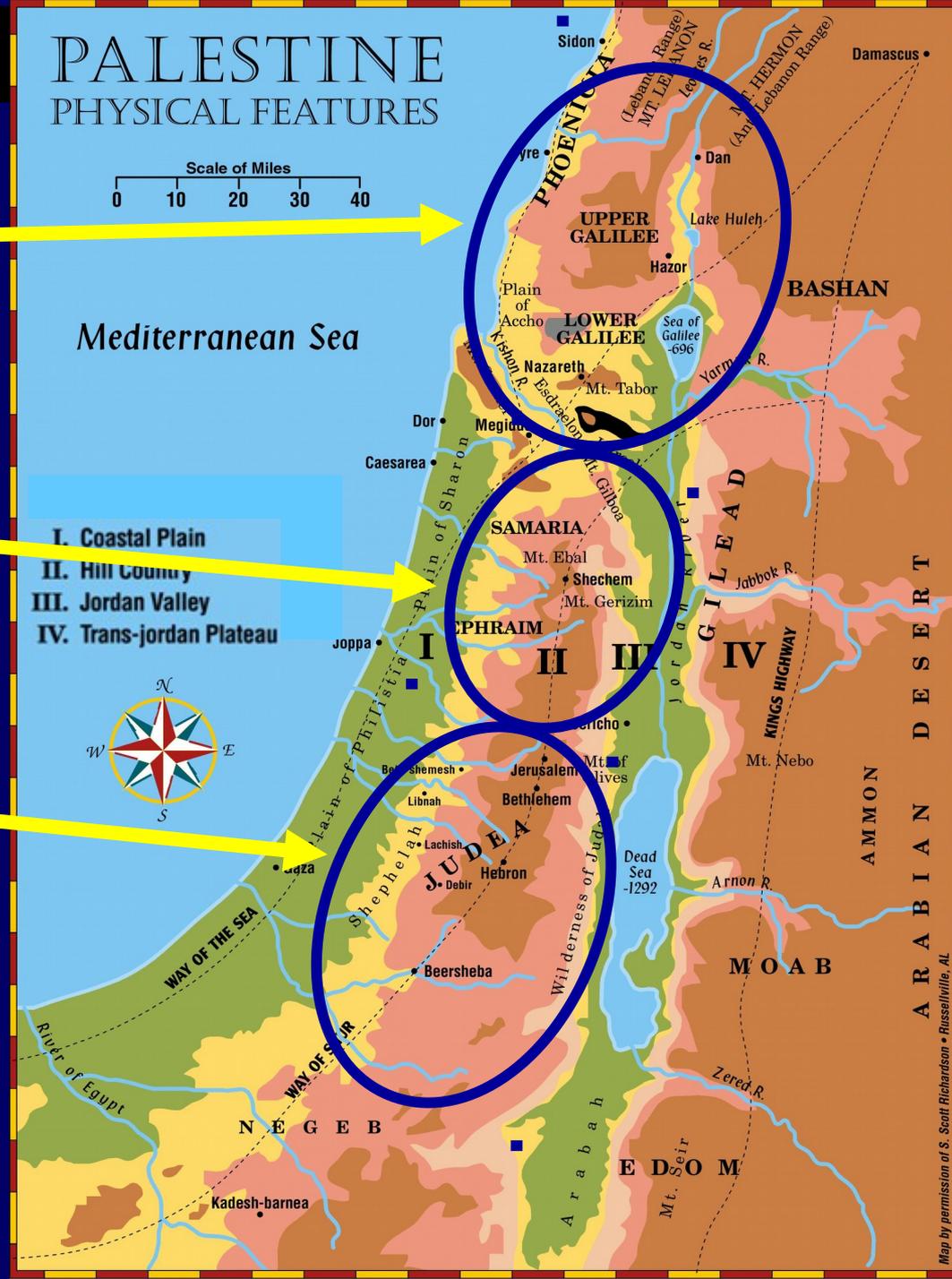


Central Hill Country.

Galilee

Ephraim (Samaria)

Judah



Central Hill Country.

Judah.

50 mile stretch of land.

Dome-like Mountains
Shallow valleys.

Jerusalem,
Bethlehem, Mt.
of Olives & Hebron
located here.



Central Hill Country.

Judah.

The Western Side
Is Called
the Shephelah
Fertile, well watered
foothills.

Formed
a defence line.

Fortress cities:-
Lachish, Debir,
Libnah,
Beth-shemesh.



Central Hill Country.

Judah.

Eastern Side
Called
the Wilderness
of Judah.

Rugged slopes
Barren wasteland
Drops to Valley of the
Dead Sea.

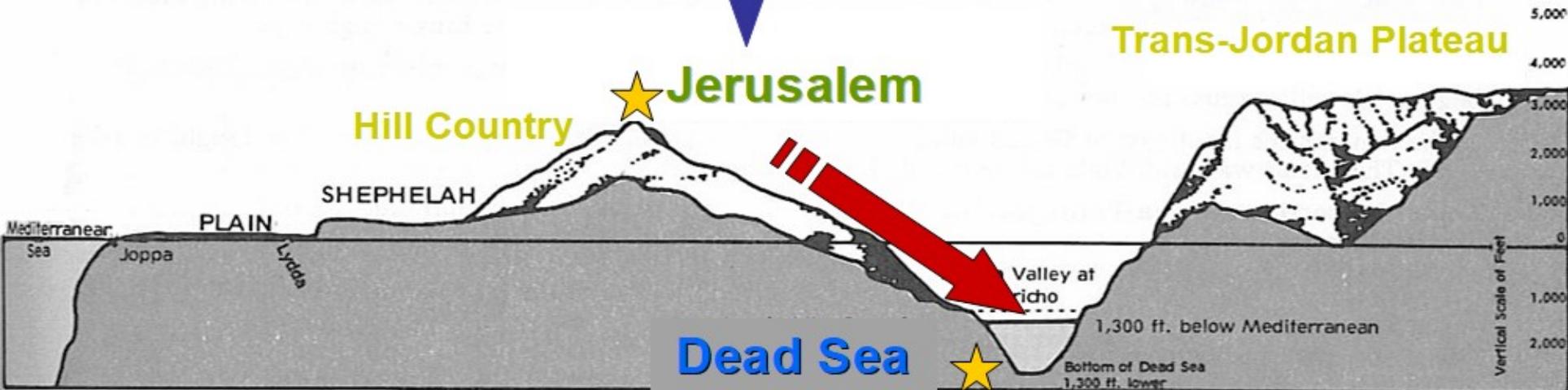
Drops from 2,680'
above to 1,292'
below sea level.



Geography of Canaan.

Wilderness of Judah

Drop from 2,680' above sea level to 1,292' below sea level



Geography of Canaan.

3. The Jordan Valley

Part of the **Great Rift Valley**

2 – 15 miles wide.

Towering cliffs on either side.

Lush tropical growth in valley.

River begins at foot of **Mt. Hermon**.



Geography of Canaan.

3. The Jordan Valley

This valley is a part of the **Afro Arabian Rift Valley**, one of the longest and the deepest fissures in the world, following a **geological fault line** from the **Amanus Mountains** of south eastern **Turkey** through **Syria**, **Lebanon** and **Israel**, down the **Gulf of Aqaba** and then running the entire length of the Red Sea to **Ethiopia** and then continuing Southward to become a part Of the **Great African Rift Valley**.



Jordan Valley

Lake Huleh

About 12 miles
from Mt. Hermon.

Dimensions roughly
4 ½ miles x 3 ½ miles.
Swamp land all around

Plays no
Significant part
in the Bible story.



Geography of Canaan:- The Jordan Valley.

The Jordan River finds its major source in the **melting snows of Mount Hermon** which towers 9,200 feet above sea level. Hundreds of small streams cascade down **flow into Lake Huleh.**

Since the formation of the nation of Israel in 1948, the lake has been drained for farmland.

This has created an ecological imbalance in the Sea of Galilee.

The swamp used to act as a **natural filter**, straining out any impurities from the waters which flowed southward **into the Sea of Galilee.**

Jordan Valley

Sea of Galilee

**About 11 miles
from Lake Huleh.**

**There is a 900' drop
in elevation – 80+ mls**

**Dimensions roughly
12 ½ miles x 7 ½ mls.**



Jordan Valley

Sea of Galilee

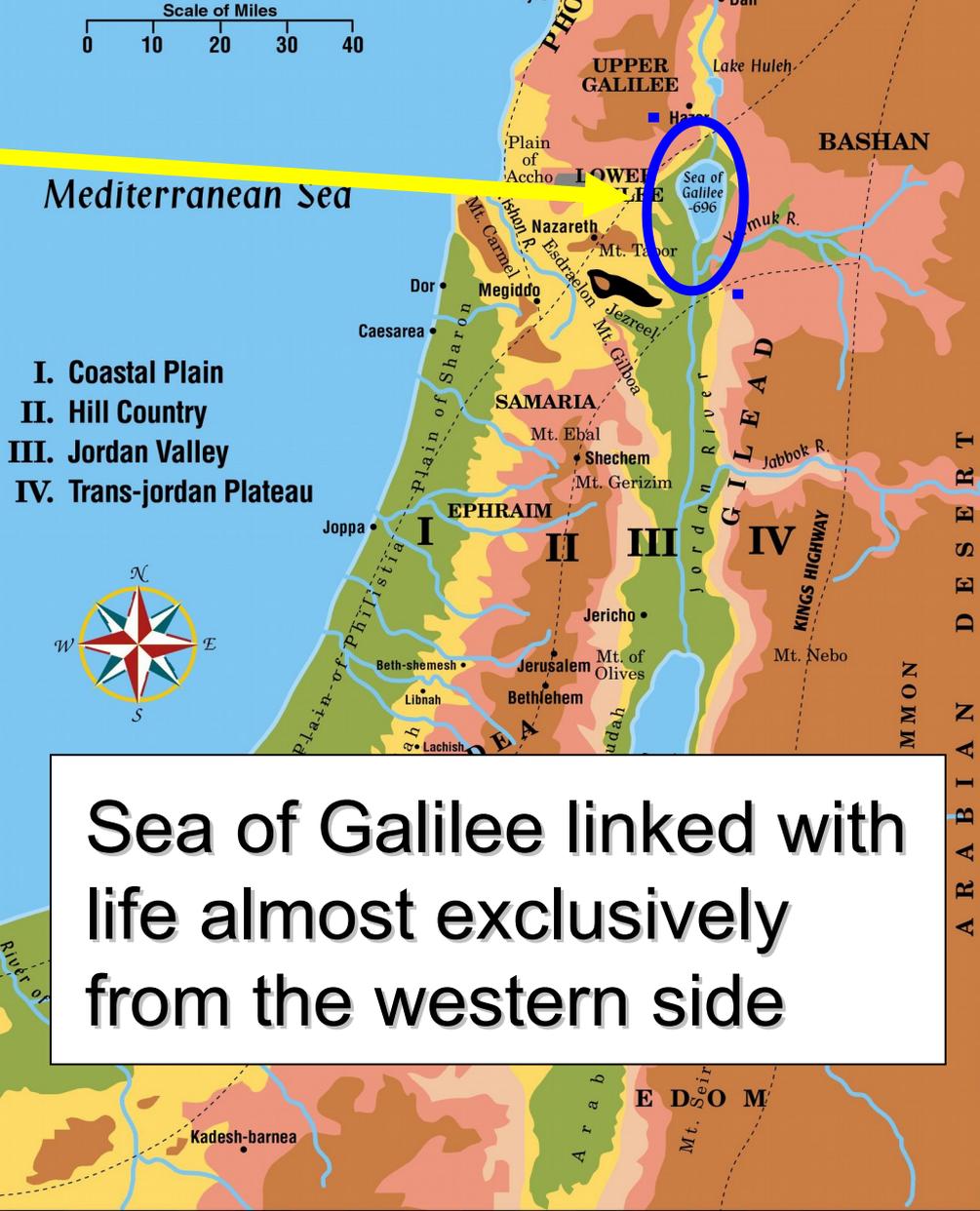
East Side

Hills rise sharply
High plateau
No easy access.

West Side

Valleys and plains
separate hills
Easy access.

PALESTINE PHYSICAL FEATURES



Sea of Galilee linked with life almost exclusively from the western side

Map by permission of S. Scott Richardson • Russellville, AL

Jordan Valley

Sea of Galilee

OT Names:-
Chinnereth.

NT Names:-
Galilee
Tiberias
Lake of Gennesaret.

Jesus spent
much time on
or near the sea.



Geography of Canaan:- The Jordan Valley.

The Sea of Galilee rests in the crater of an extinct volcano which, in ages past, spewed out its lava over **the Golan Heights** to the east.

The Sea is 660 feet below sea level and is surrounded on all sides by steep hills.

At 209 meters below sea level, **it is the lowest freshwater lake on Earth**, and the second lowest lake in the world after the Dead Sea, **a saltwater lake.**

It is not a real sea - it is called a sea because of tradition.

The lake is also known on modern maps as Lake Galilee or Lake Tiberias, in the region of Galilee.

From the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River runs south down the sunken rift.

This narrow valley used to be **a fertile forest** full of wildlife, including lions and boar.

Jordan Valley

Dead Sea

**65 miles from
and 600'
below Galilee.**

**Dimensions roughly
48 miles x 10 miles.**



Geography of Canaan:- The Jordan Valley.

The word “**Jordan**” derives from a verb meaning “**to descend.**”

It flows downhill in its long, meandering course **until it reached the Dead Sea.**

The shore of **the Dead Sea** is the **lowest point** on the **surface of the earth**, lying 1300 feet below sea level.

The Dead Sea is 304 m (997 ft) deep, the **deepest hypersaline lake** in the world. With a salinity of 342 g/kg, or 34.2%, (in 2011), it is 9.6 times as salty as the ocean and one of the world's saltiest bodies of water. As a result, **no fish can live in its waters.**

Geography of Canaan:- 4. The Trans-Jordan Plateau.

The **Anti-Lebanons** rise quickly
beyond the **Jordan Valley**
Plateau of Moab forms **3,000'** high wall.

Moses viewed Promised Land from **Mt. Nebo**
It was the land that **Reuben, Gad,**
Half of Manasseh occupied.

The Arabian Desert was not nearly
so impassable in antiquity as it is today.
Several trade routes dissected its breadth.

Rising up sharply from **the Jordan Valley**
is a high, **fertile tableland** between 30 to 80 miles
in width and stretching from
Damascus to the Gulf of Aqaba.

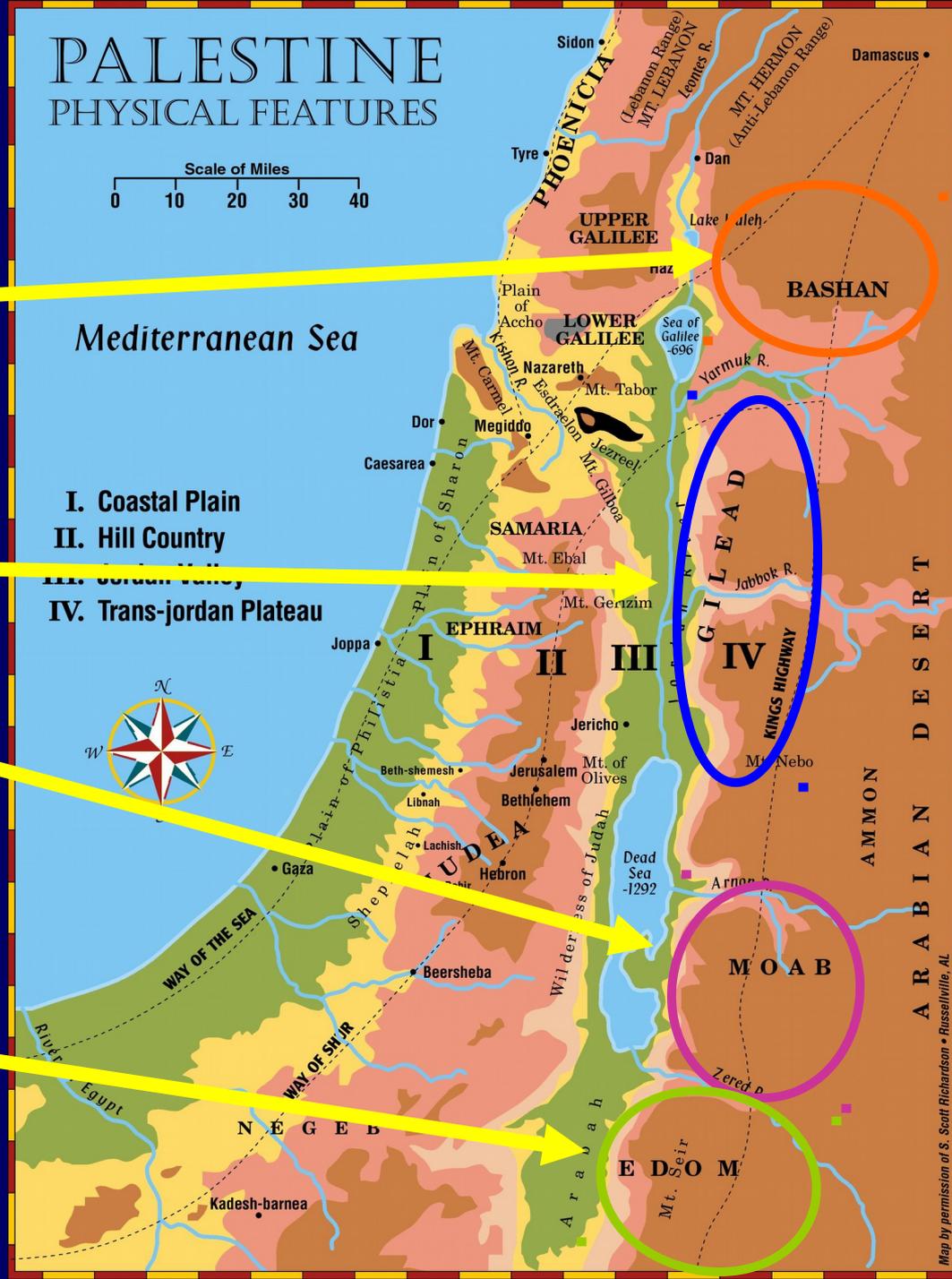
Trans-Jordan Plateau.

Bashan

Gilead

Moab

Edom



Trans-Jordan Plateau.

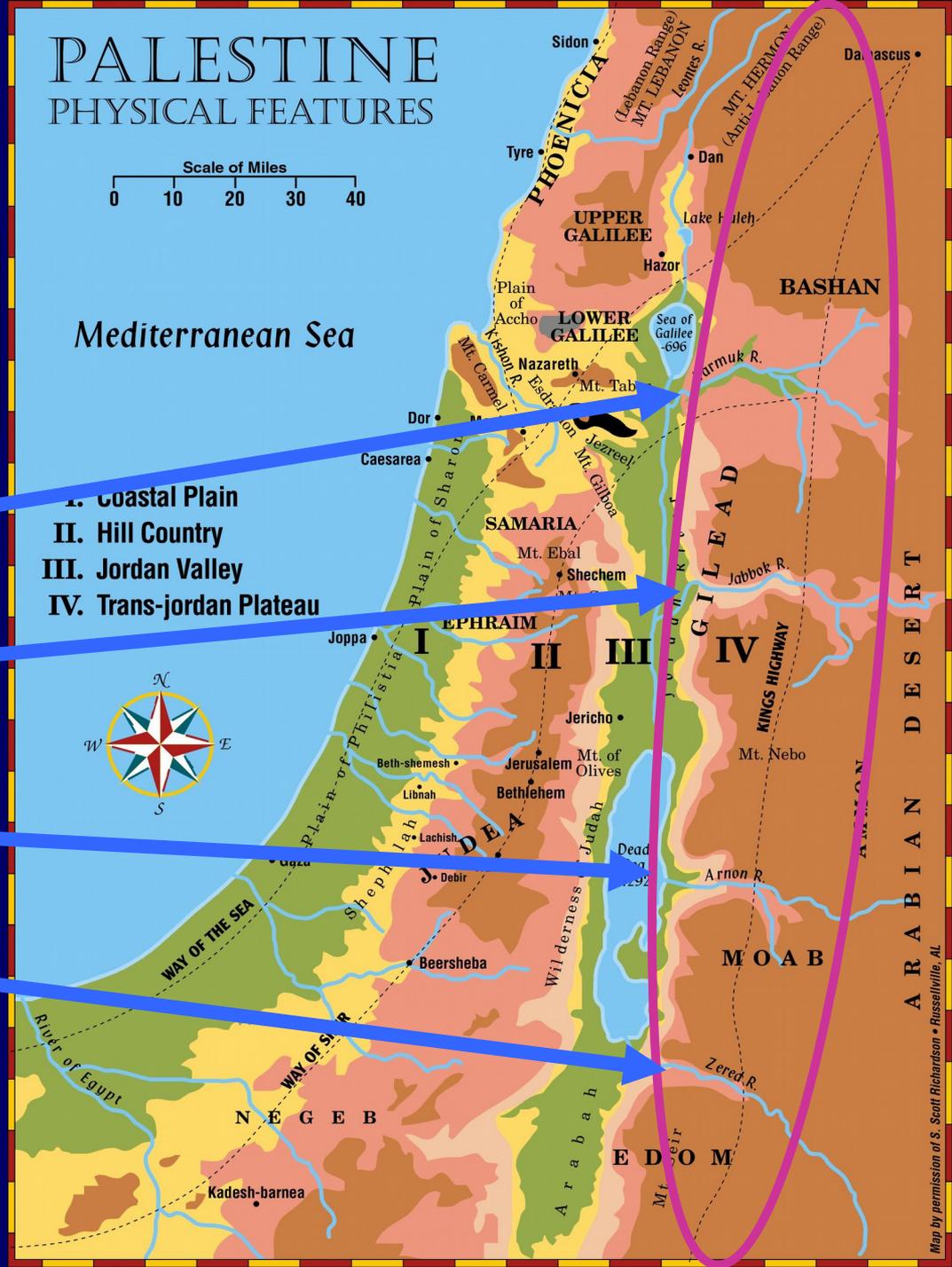
Contains
4 tributary Rivers:-

Yarmuk

Jabbok

Arnon

Zered



Trans-Jordan Plateau.

The King's Highway Trade route:-

Ran length of plateau
to Mesopotamia.
Taxes were collected
from travellers.

The northern regions
of this tableland
are well watered
and fertile.

It was often
fought over.



The Climate of Canaan.

In Egypt, the chief deities were the sun and the Nile River.

The most important deity of the Canaanites was Baal, the storm god of wind and rain and thunder.

It never needed to rain in Egypt or Mesopotamia, since their river systems were fed by mountains hundreds of miles away.

The Climate of Canaan.

Canaan, on the other hand, had no great rivers and depended heavily upon the regular rainfall to feed the small mountain streams which irrigated the land.

The “**Early Rains**” begin in October and the rainy season continues through until the “**Latter Rains**” of April and May.

The **heaviest rainfall** comes during **the winter months**. There is usually **not a drop of rain from June to September**.

The Climate of Canaan.

The topography of the country is broken enough to provide some **striking local variations in temperature.**

In **summer** along the **Coastal Plains**, the winds tend to **hold down temperatures** from reaching oppressive levels.

Further inland, where the wind has lost its affect, the temperatures can rise to **stifling degrees.**

The Climate of Canaan.

In the **winter** months along **the Coastal Plain** the climate is mild and **frost** is virtually unknown, due to the incoming wind of the **Mediterranean Sea**.

As one travels up into **the mountains**, temperatures decrease markedly with height.

The **winter months** in the mountain region produce a long lying **snow** cover.

The Inhabitants of Canaan.

- a. Hittites. b. Girgashites. c. Amorites.
- d. Canaanites. e. Perizzites. f. Hivites.
- g. Jebusites.

Inhabitants were not nations but rather tribes.

**Most descended from Canaan,
son of Ham, son of Noah**

**Canaanite and Amorite may be used
for both a collective and individual sense.**

The Inhabitants of Canaan.

Amorites:- were one of the **Strongest** of tribes,

They controlled much of **fertile crescent.**

They had a **Stronghold** in the east before the **defeat of Sihon and Og.**

They were found on **west side** also in smaller bands.

The Inhabitants of Canaan.

Hittites were strong in the **Central Hill Country**

Abraham bought the **Cave of Macpelah** from a **Hittite**

Hivites were a smaller less powerful tribe along with **Girgashites**, **Perizzites**, **Jebusites**

The **Gibeonites** were part of this tribe.

The Inhabitants of Canaan.

Jebusites controlled **Jerusalem** in days of **Joshua**.

Still maintained control in days of **David**.

Giants:- Called by different names:-

Sons of Anak, Anakim, Sons of Arba, Rephaim,
Emim. Zamzummim, Horites.
Goliath descendent of these.

Canaan.

This was the land to which Abram was called.

It was the land of promise.

Abram's response to this call was threefold:-

Abram Responded with Unquestioning Obedience:-

**“So Abram went forth as the LORD
had spoken to him.” (Genesis 12:4;)**

We do not read of any debate.

There is no argument.

**We are not told that Abram asked any questions
or that he set down any conditions.**

**God said, “Go!” and Abram
Went as he had been told.**

Canaan.

Abram Responded with Justifying Faith.

How do I know this? After all,

Abram's faith will not be mentioned until chapter 15.

We know that Abram responded with faith because we can read of his actions.

Paul and James will later use Abraham and his faith and actions to help us to see that true faith can only be seen in action not words

Faith without works is not really faith at all. Abram's obedience serves as a demonstration and confirmation of his faith

Canaan.

3. Abram Responded with Evangelistic Worship.

There are two references in this passage that suggest these elements.

The element of evangelism is seen in verse 6 where we read that the Canaanites were in the land.

The element of worship is seen two verses later when Abram built an altar and called upon the name of the Lord. (12:8;)

We are called to do the same thing.

We are to call upon the name of the Lord in the midst of a pagan society so that

they might hear us and see us

and be drawn to the One whom we worship.

**Genesis after the flood.
Geography of Canaan.
Graeme Morrison**

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**Next in the series:-
Genesis 12:5; to 14:24; Abraham and Lot.**