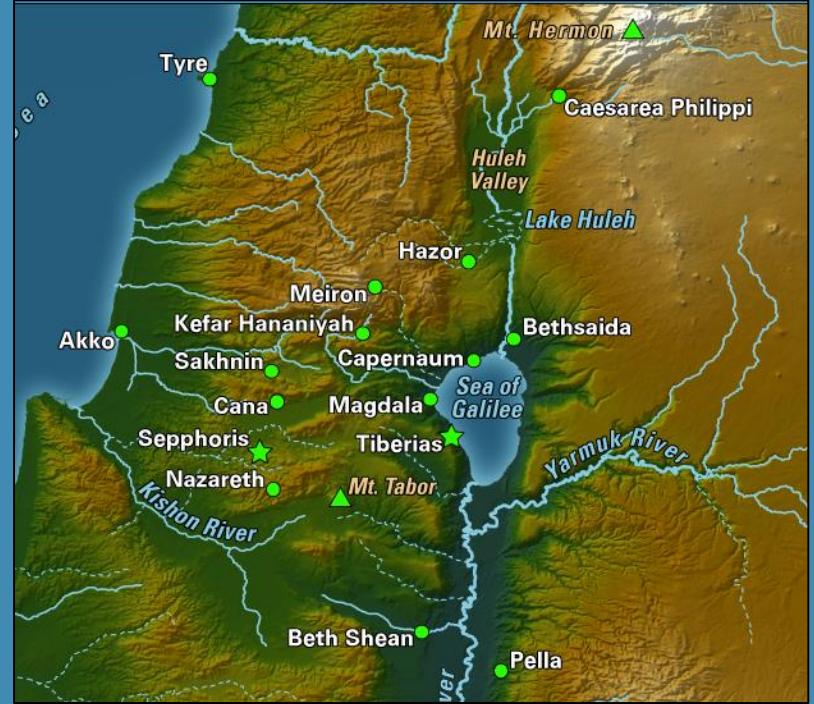


THE JEWISH FOUNDATIONS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



Class II – The Land & the Bible (Part B)

January 21, 2017



An Introductory Reading

Joseph and Aseneth 12.3 – 6, 8 – 10 (1st c. BCE)

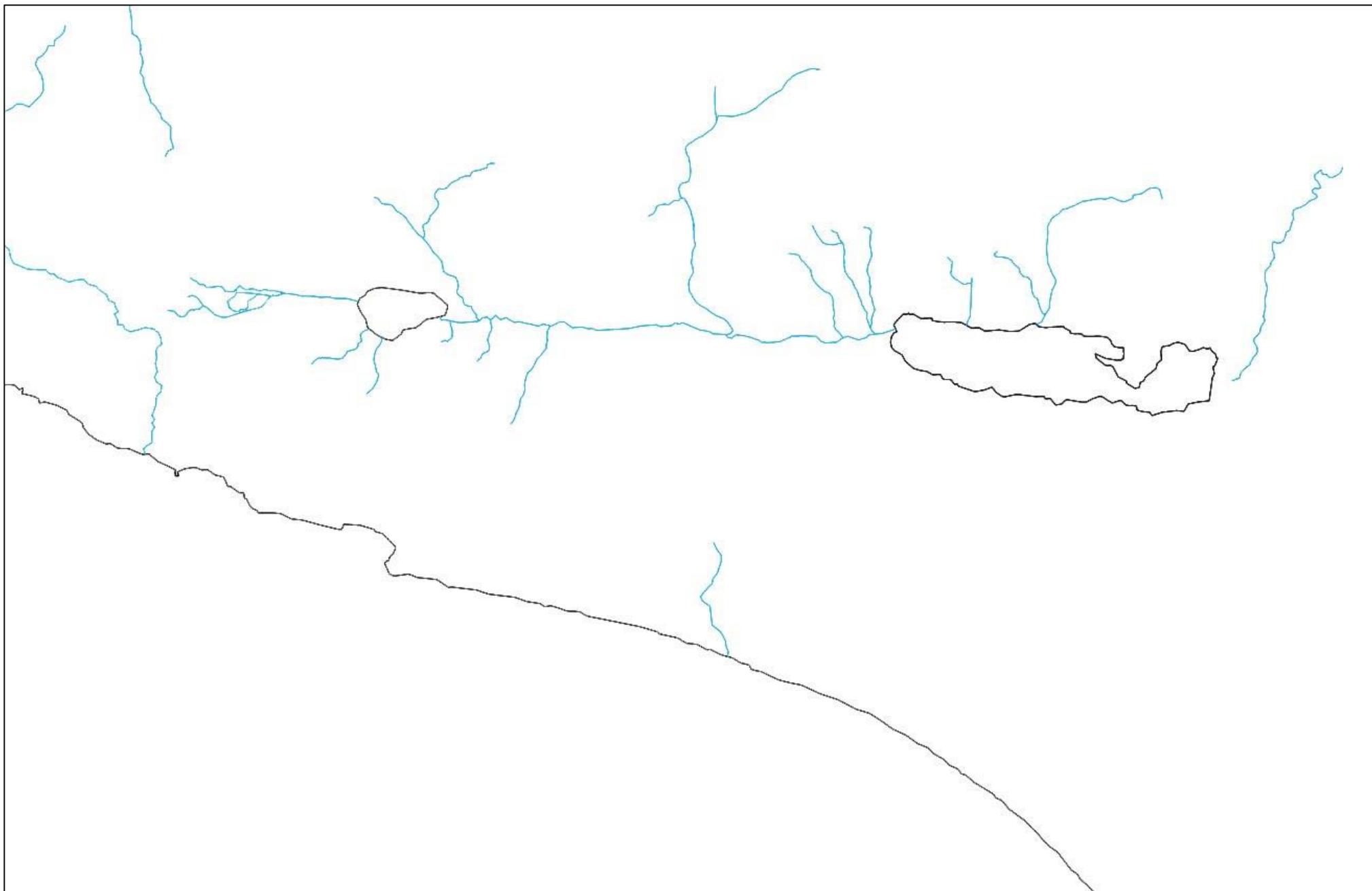
“With you I take refuge, Lord,
and to you I will shout, Lord,
to you I will pour out my supplication,
to you **I will confess my sins**,
and to you I will reveal my lawless deeds.
Spare me, Lord,
Because I have sinned much before you,
I have committed **lawlessness** and
irreverence,
and have said wicked and unspeakable things
before you.
My mouth is **defiled** from the **sacrifices of the
idols** and from **the tables** of the Egyptians.

I have sinned, Lord,
before you I have sinned in much
ignorance, and have worshipped dead
and dumb idols....
With you **I take refuge**, Lord,
and to you I bring my supplication,
And to you I will shout.
For just as **a little child** who is afraid
flees to **his father**, and the father,
stretching out his arms, snatches him off
the ground and puts his arms around
him...
likewise you too, Lord, **stretch out your
hands** upon me as **a child-loving father**,
and **snatch me off the earth**.”

Introduction

- Why are we studying the Jewish background of the New Testament?
 - Context – meaning is grounded in the original audience
 - Submission to the Word – danger of reading our own anachronisms into Scripture
 - Worship of God - called to worship with our whole being, including the mind

We want to grow a deeper relationship with God through encountering the Bible!



Mt. Hermon



9,232' High

Springtime

Mt. Hermon



Summer

Caesarea Philippi



1st c. CE Roman
City

Caesarea Philippi

Grotto of Pan
(cave leads to the
Underworld)



Caesarea Philippi

Grotto of Pan



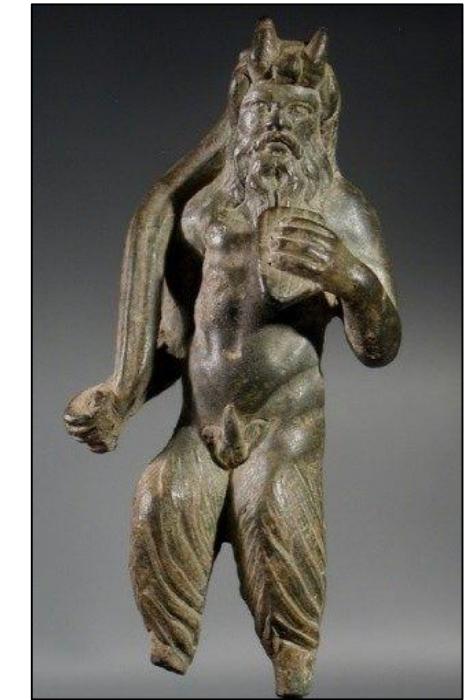
Location of
temple and
worship niches
with statues of
Pan

Caesarea Philippi



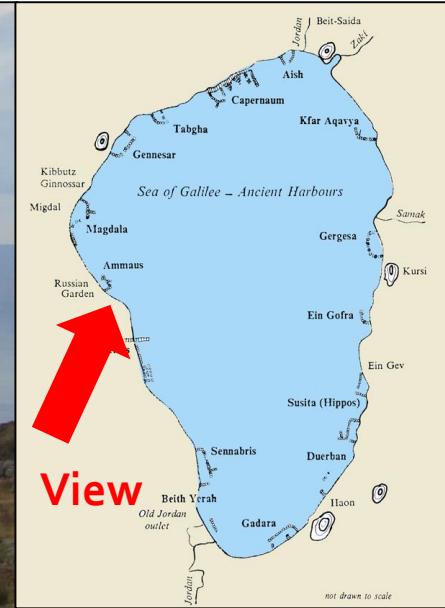
Exploretraveler.com

Worship niches
with statues of
Pan



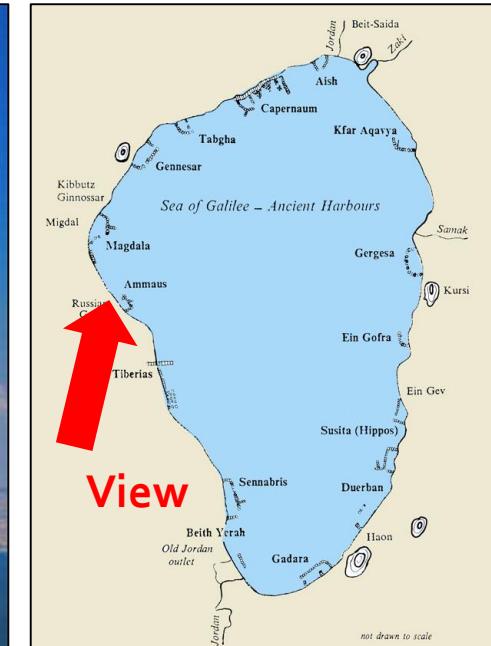
Pan – half goat, half
man, symbol of fertility

Sea of Galilee



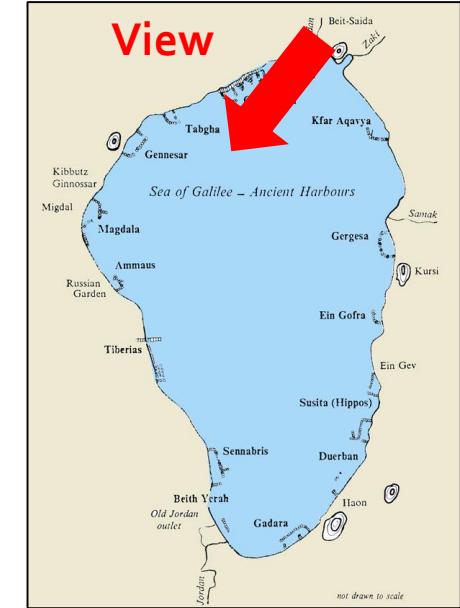
View

Sea of Galilee

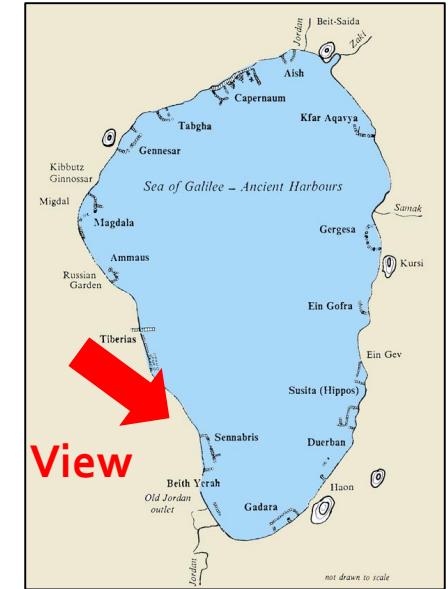


igoogled
Israel

Sea of Galilee



Sea of Galilee



Study Passage: Mark 5:1 - 20

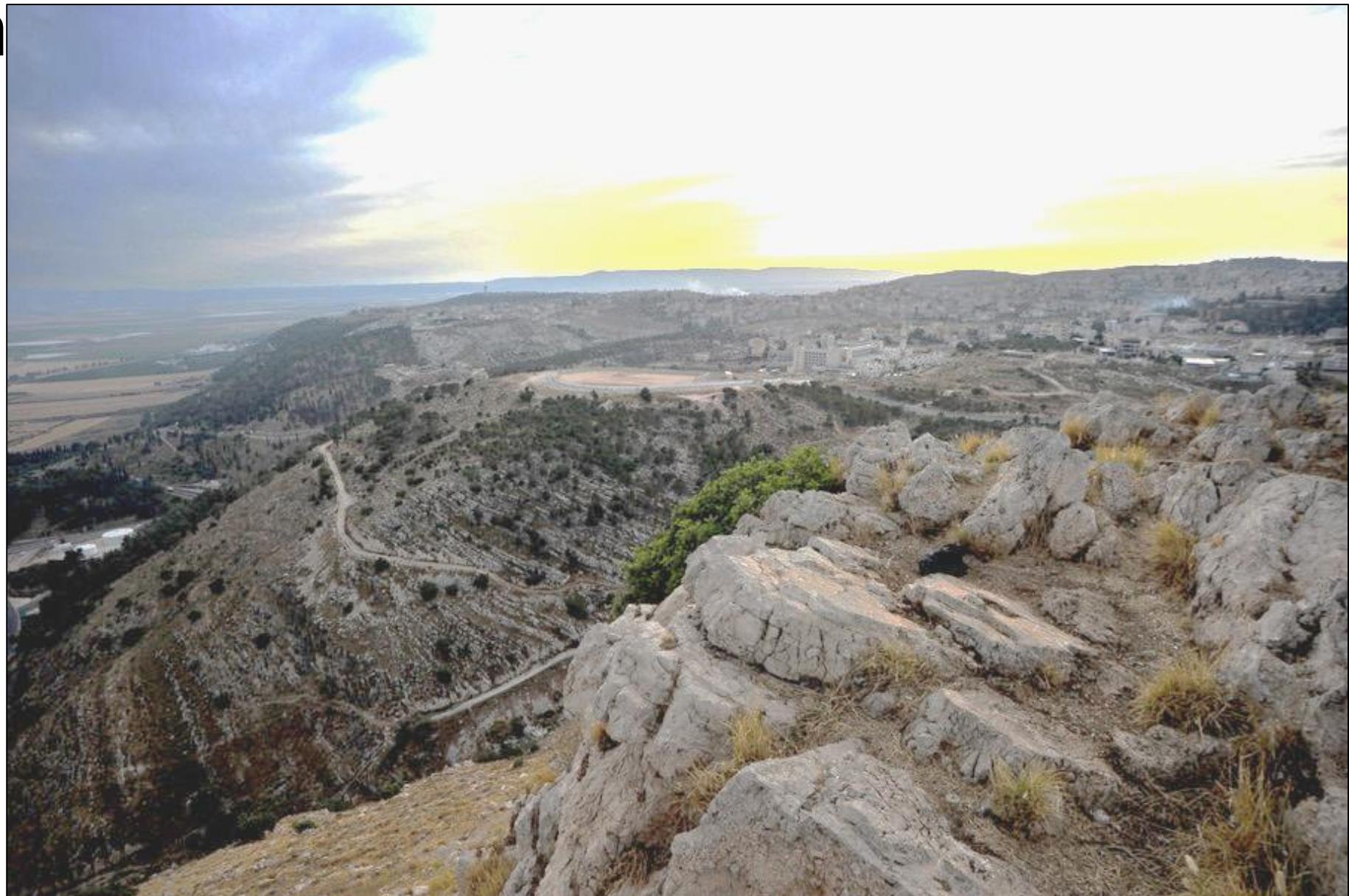
- Where did the passage take place?
- Who are the characters in the passage (don't forget the non-human characters!)?
- What information can you gather about the region based on the story?
- What was the response of the inhabitants to Jesus when he did the miracle? Why?



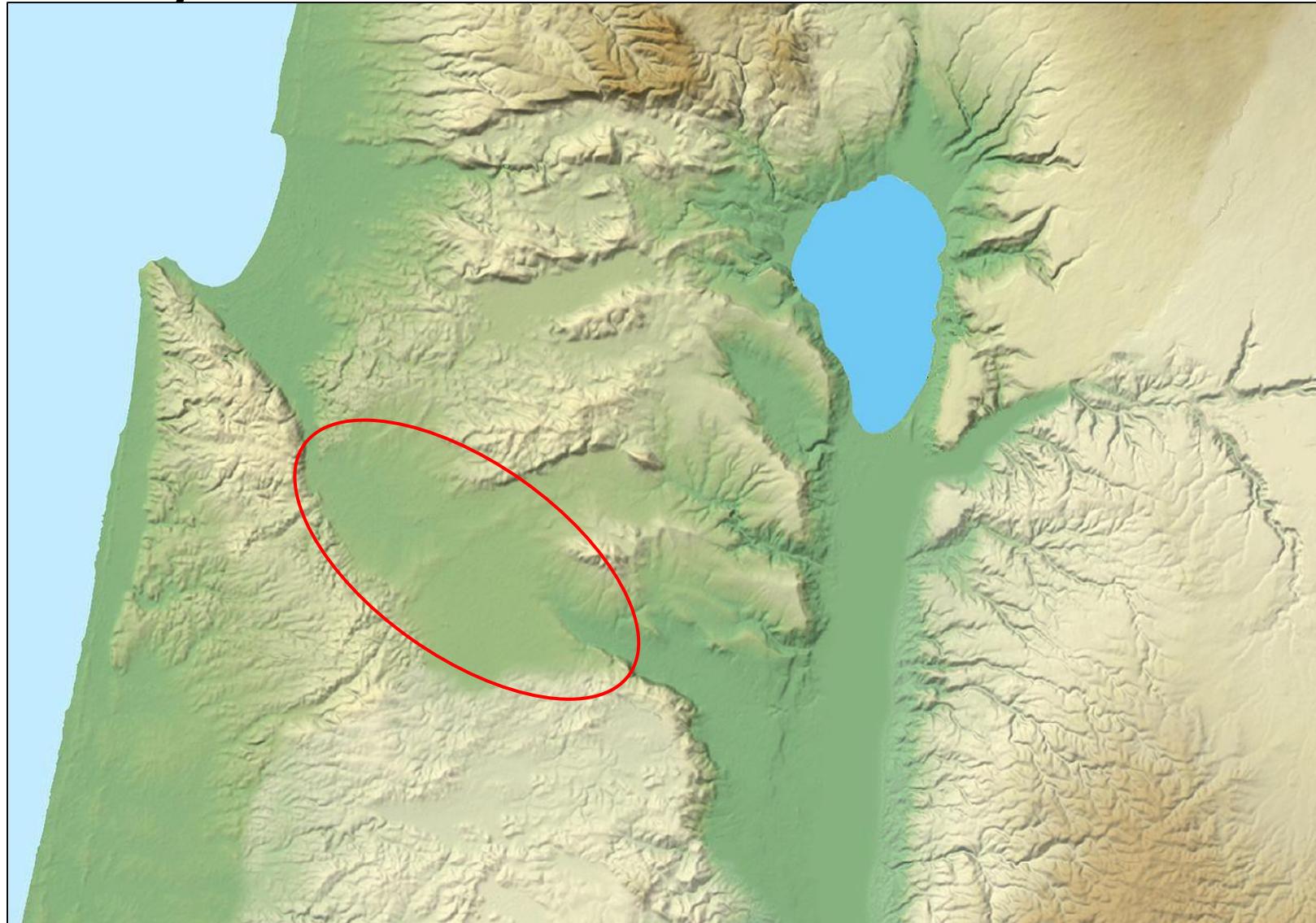
Nazareth



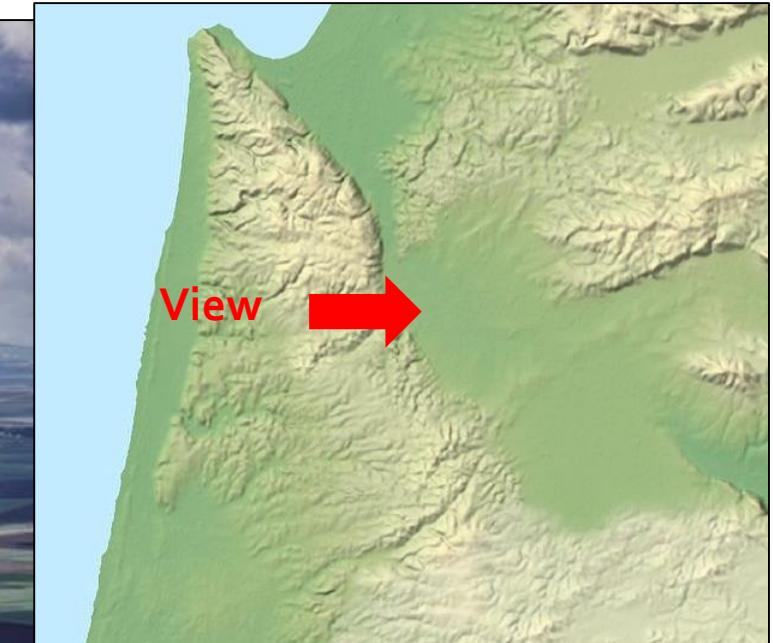
Nazareth



Jezreel Valley



Jezreel Valley



Central Plateau



Central Plateau



Central Plateau



Small Group Discussion: Psalm 22

- What major image is presented to describe God?
- What does this image bring to your mind?
- What is the reality of being a shepherd in this area like?
- What does the passage's contrast with reality say about how they see God?



Small Group Discussion: Psalm 22



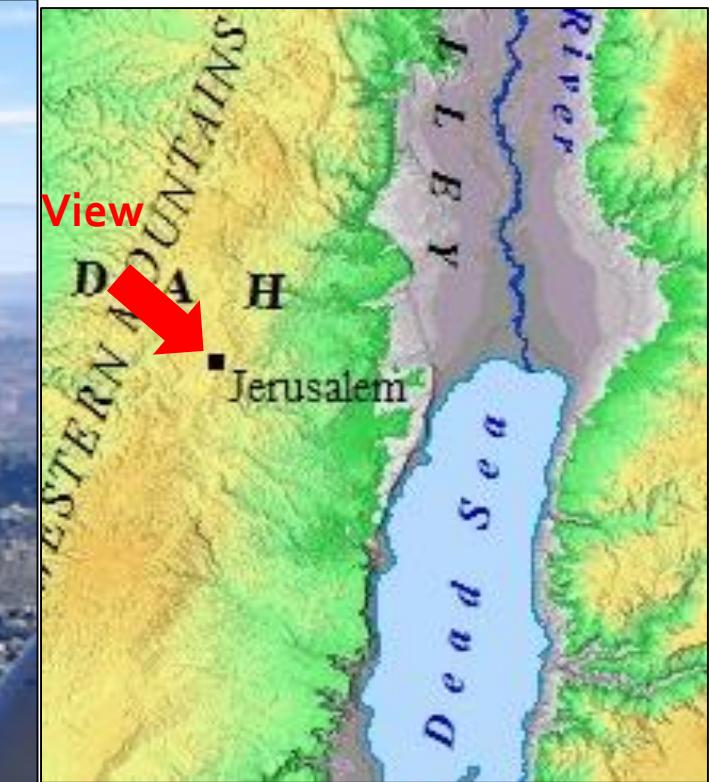
Judean Wilderness



Judean Wilderness



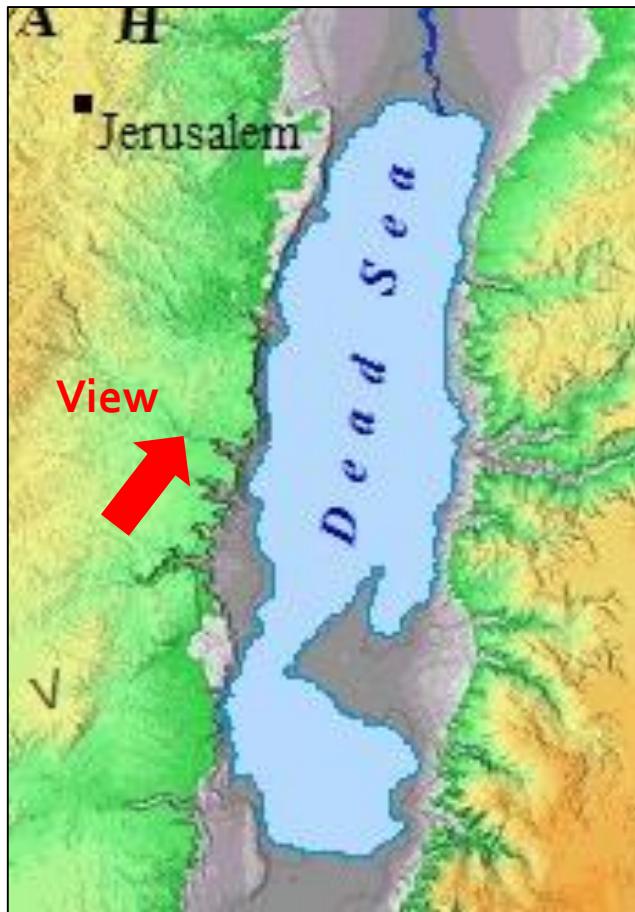
Judean Wilderness



Dead Sea



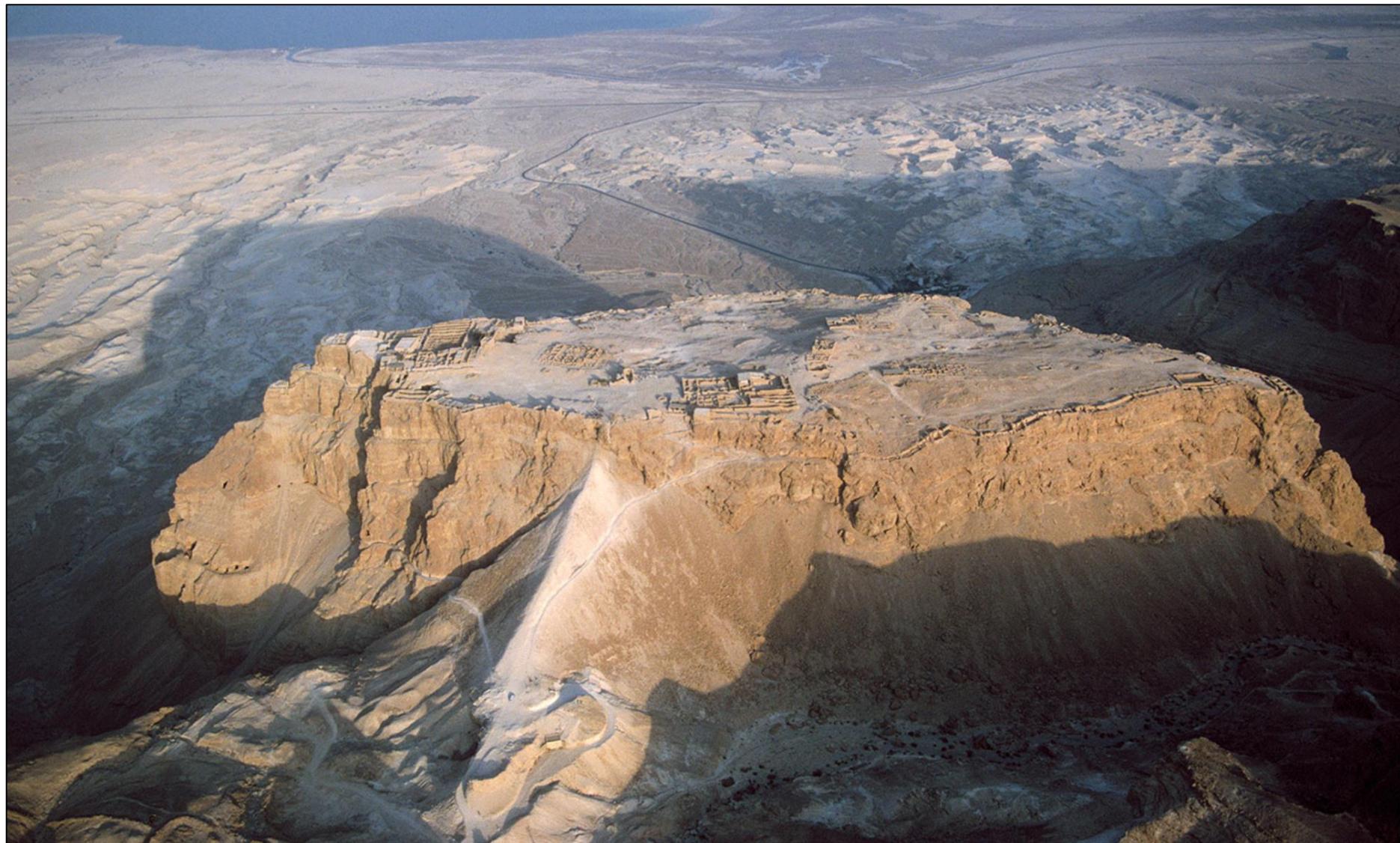
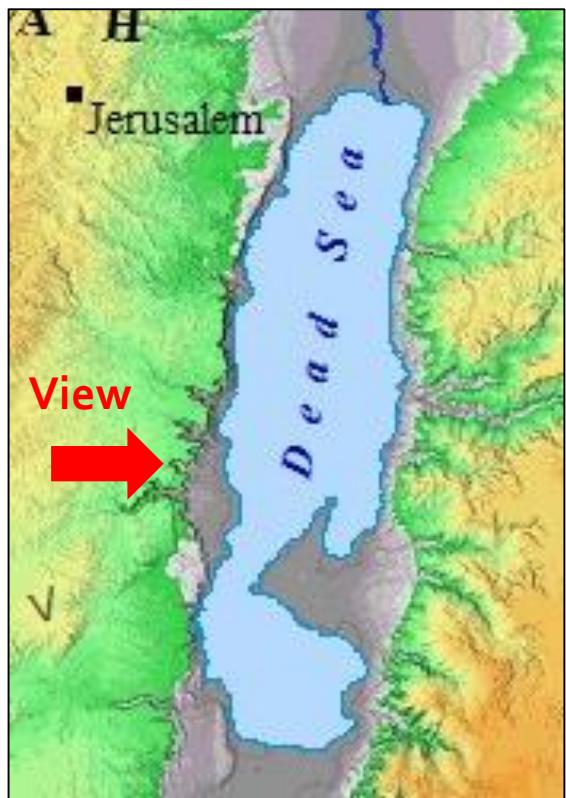
Dead Sea



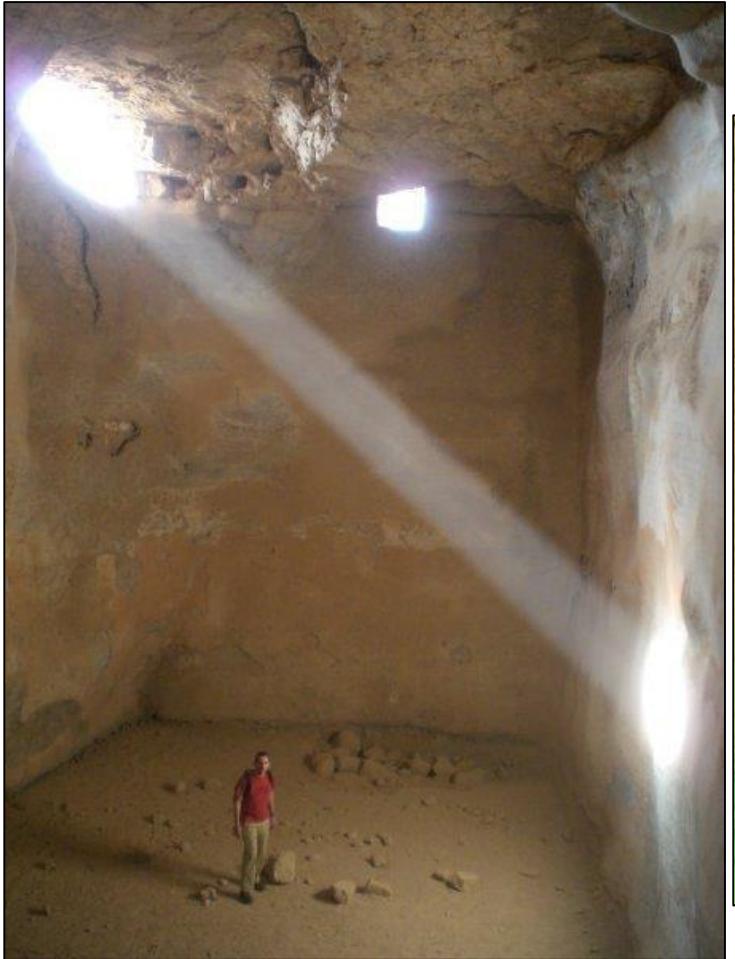
Dead Sea



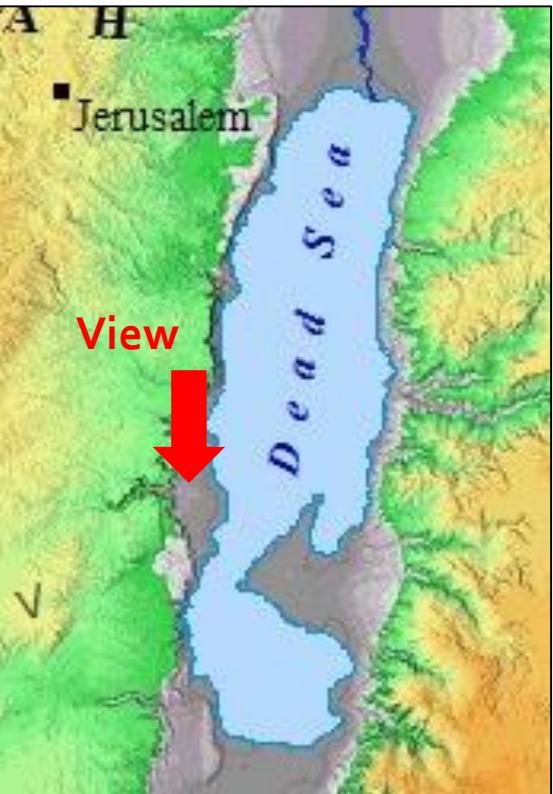
Dead Sea



Dead Sea



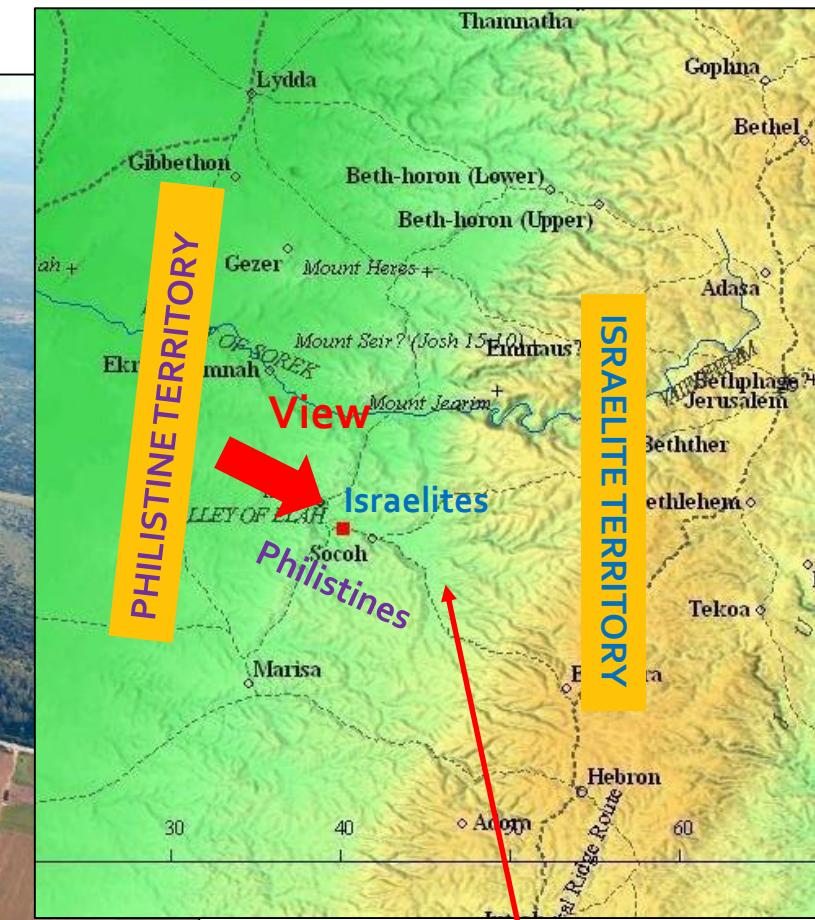
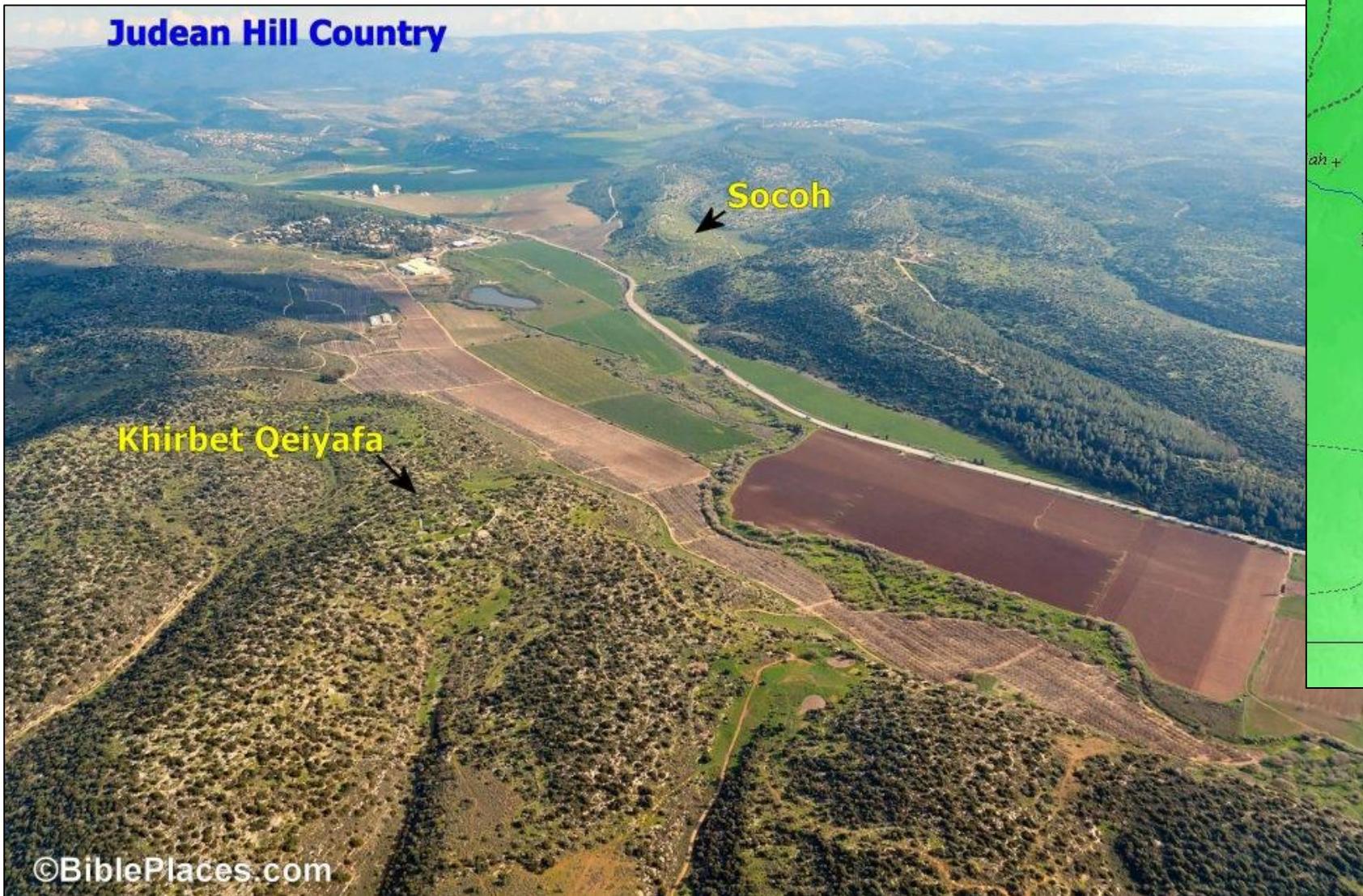
One of several water cisterns on
Masada – carved out of mountain and
lined w/ waterproof plaster



Hill Country / Shephelah

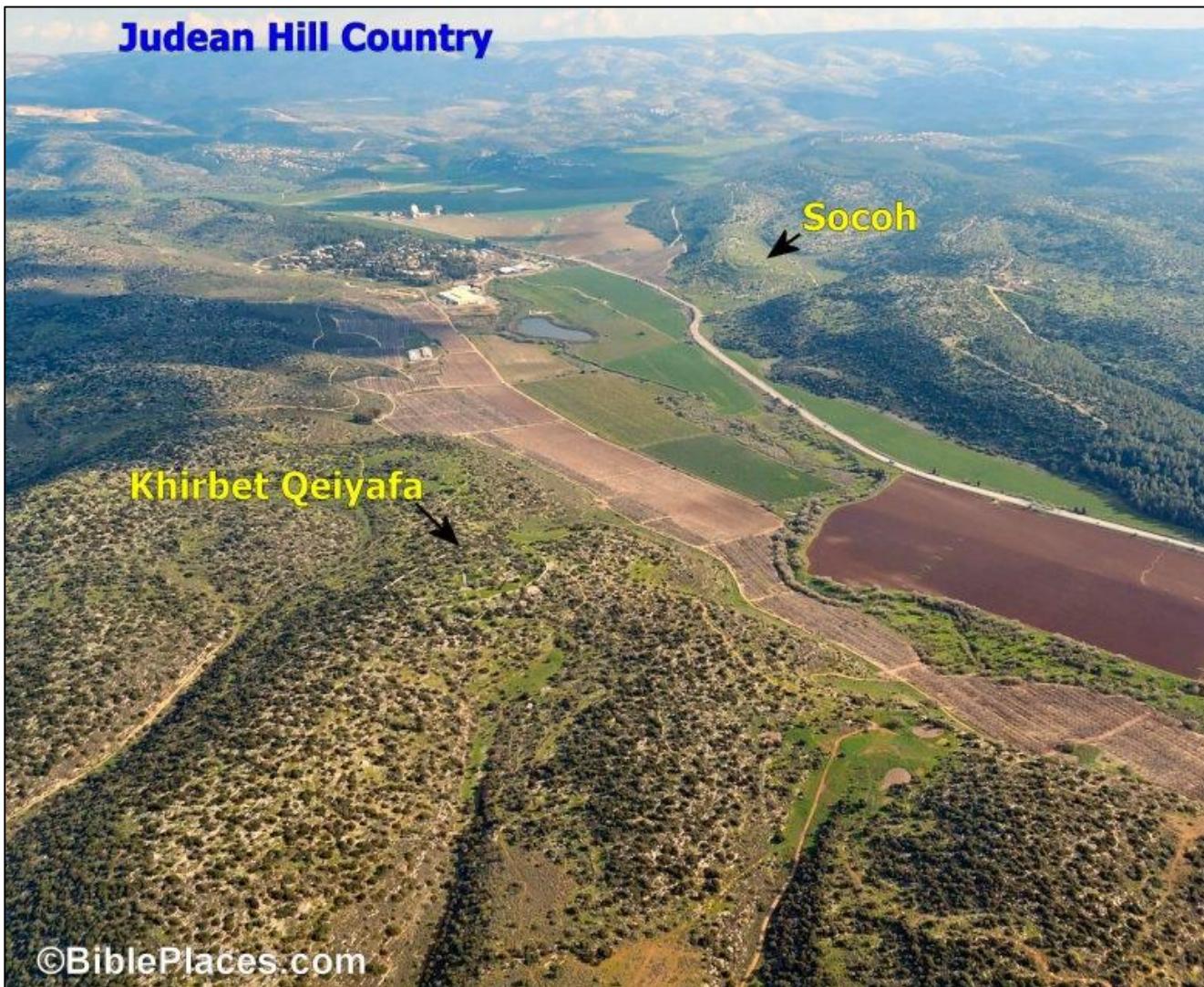


Hill Country / Shephelah

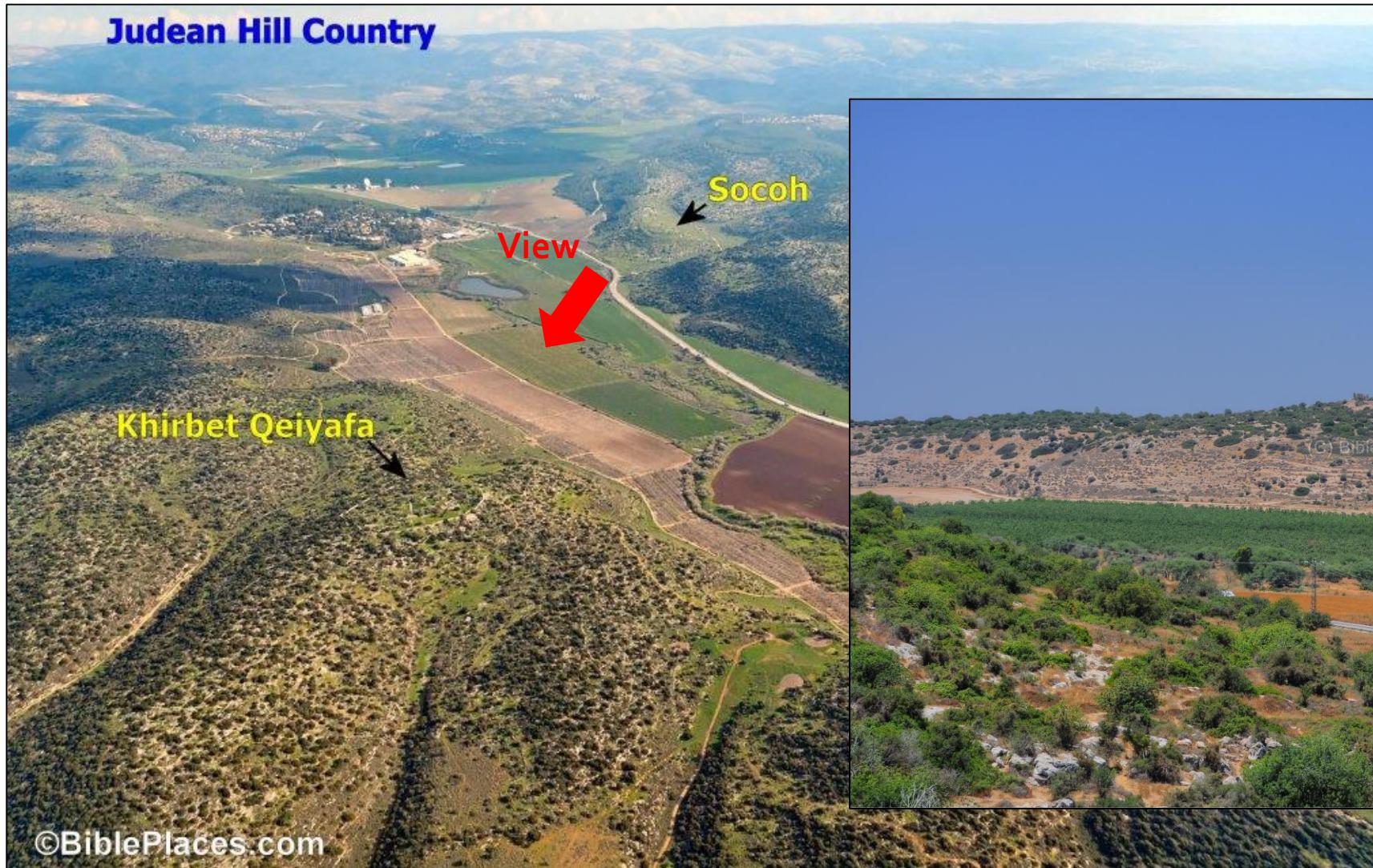


Valley of Elah is natural moat / defense

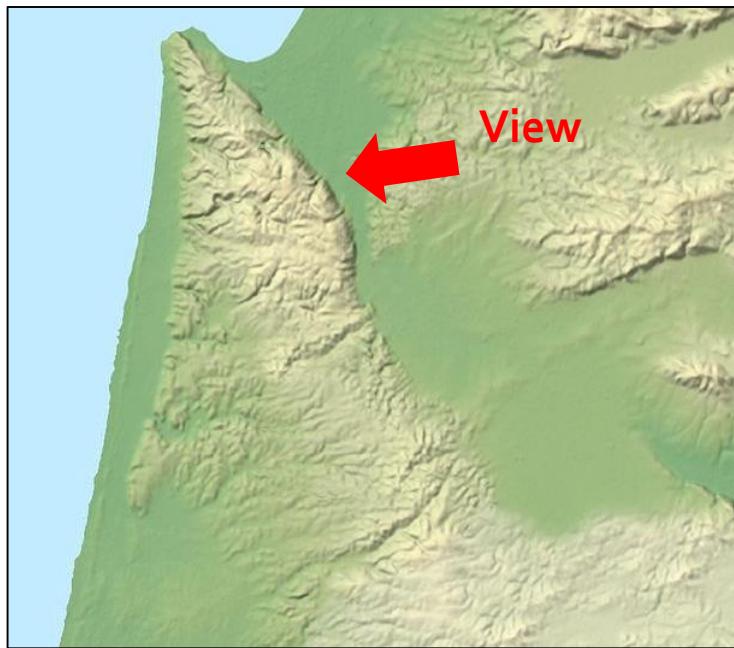
Hill Country / Shephelah



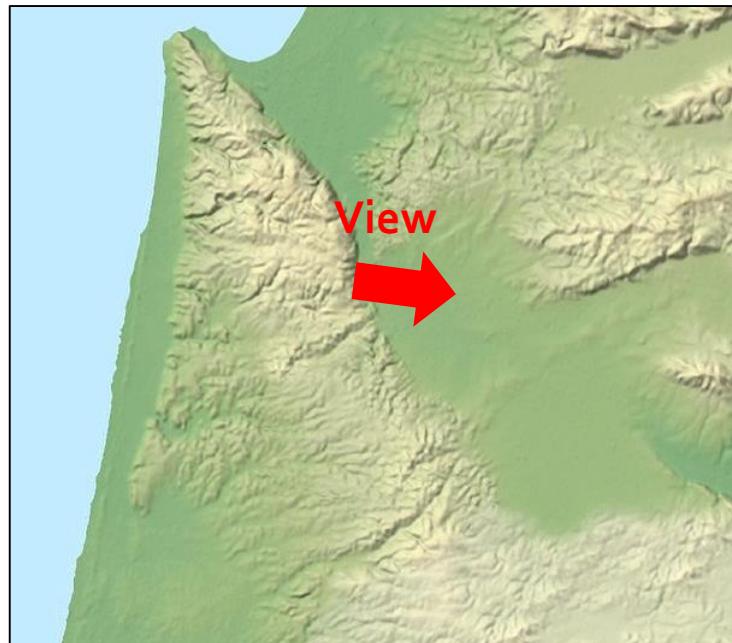
Hill Country / Shephelah



Mt. Carmel

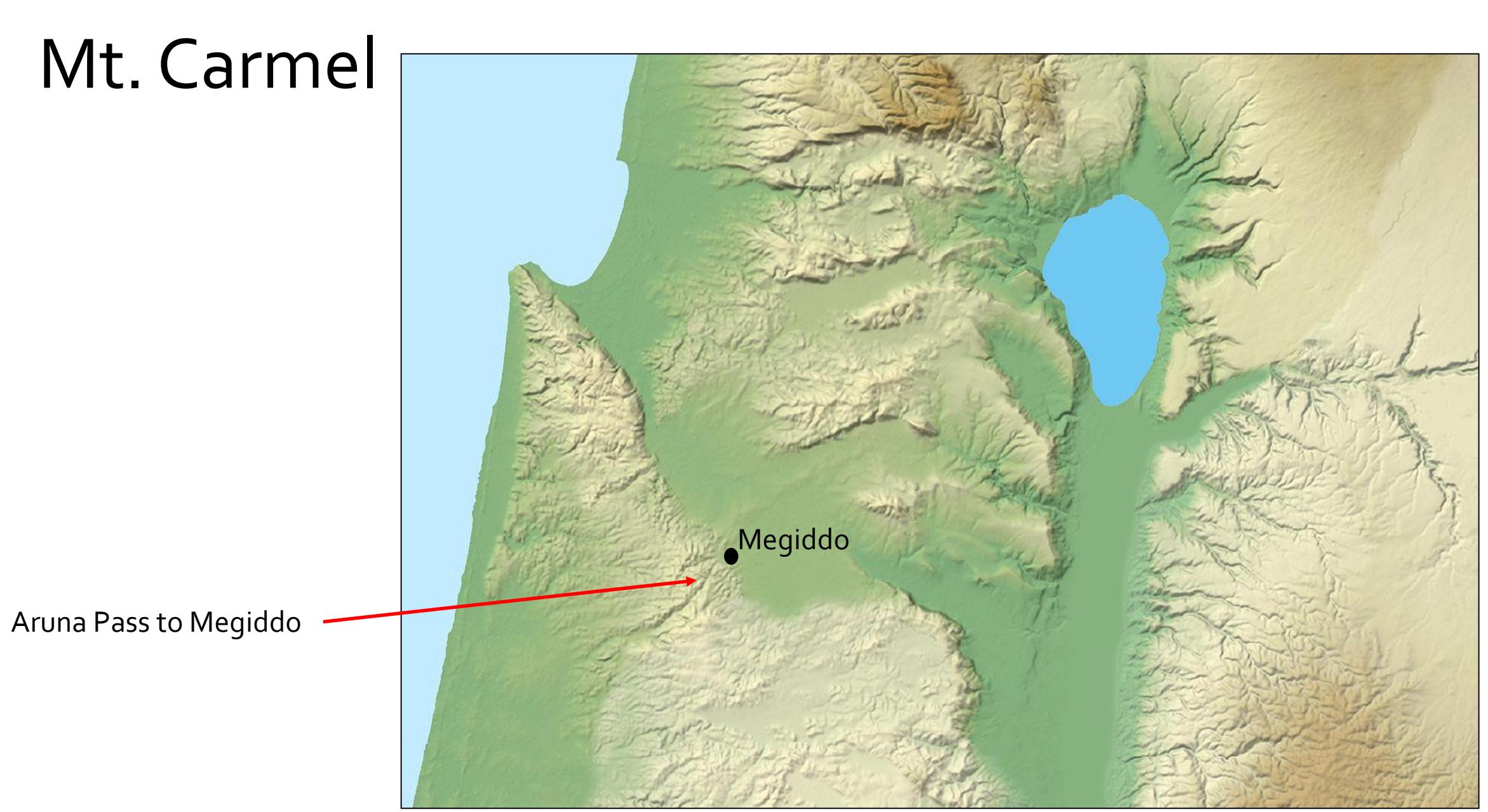


Mt. Carmel

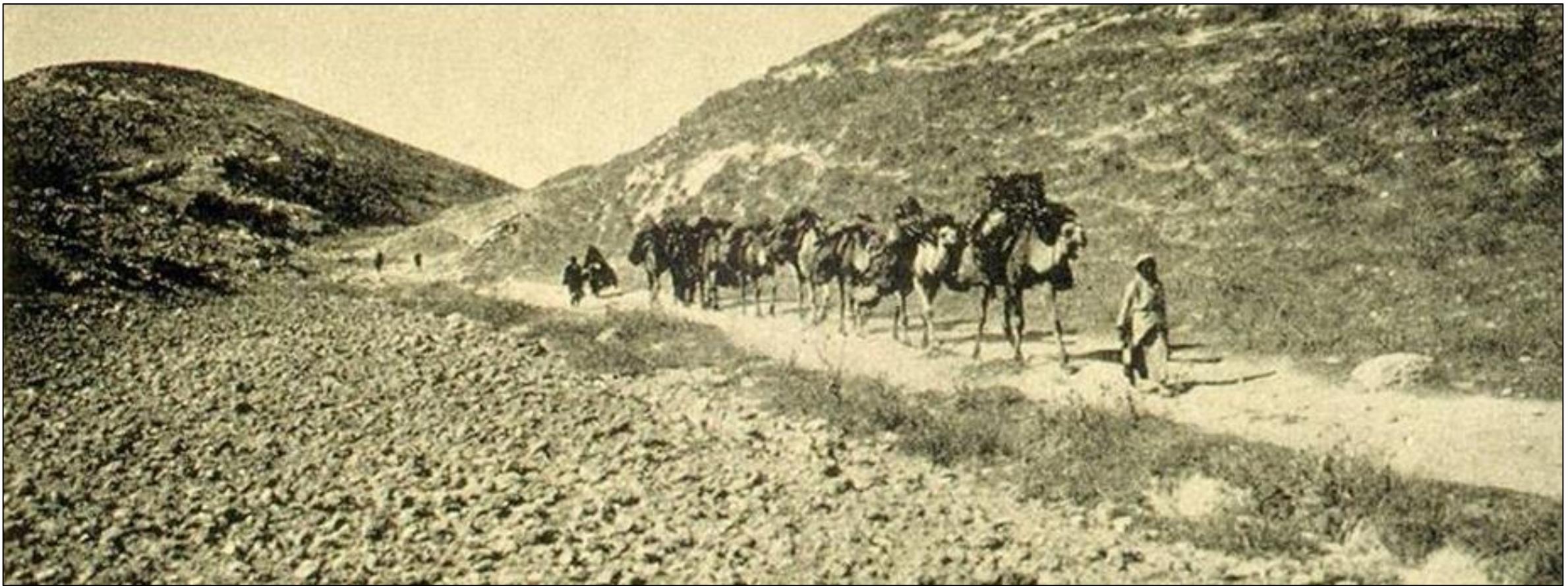


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Mt. Carmel



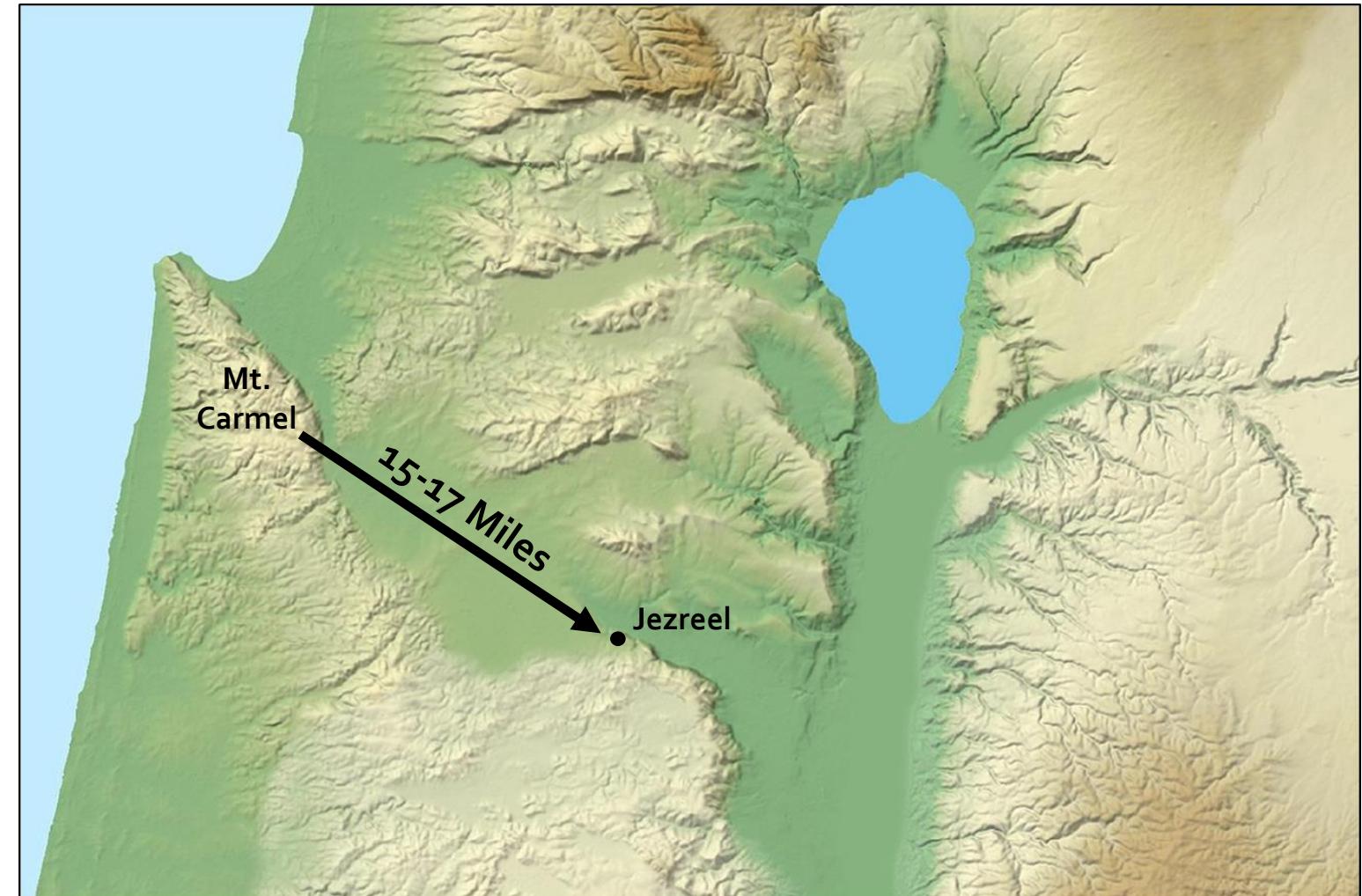
Mt. Carmel



Aruna Pass (late 19th, early 20th century) – imagine putting an army of 10,000 soldiers plus chariots through this one-lane goat path!

Small Group Discussion: 1 Kings 18:41-46

- How were Ahab and Elijah traveling?
- What were the weather conditions?
- What route did Elijah take to Jezreel? Ahab?
- How does this fact affect Elijah's "supernatural speed?"



Today's Takeaways

- The land has a big influence on the narrative of the Bible
- While the land itself is small, it has huge differences in geology/geography
- In order to properly understand some stories, we need to understand the location and the cultural assumptions of the place
- Three ways the land influences the Bible:
 - Ethnic or political boundaries
 - Cultural themes
 - Helps ground our interpretation

Next Week's Homework

- Read 2 Chronicles 30:1 – 31:1
- What does this passage tell us about the worship of *YHWH* in Israel & Judah at the time?

Seal of King Hezekiah – notice Egyptian symbols



0 1cm