

Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Week Nineteen - Joshua

Review

Literary Period Covered: 1406-5 B.C.E.

They are in the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho.

Lecture Segment

Joshua 1- 8

Joshua continues God's story: God builds his nation (Israel chosen as the people of promise). Joshua describes how God's kingdom triumphed at a time when nations were viewed as the creation of local deities and the proof of their power. The LORD's victories over the Canaanites demonstrated that Israel's God is the one true God. It looks forward to the climax of all human history when God will triumph over all the world's kingdoms through his anointed King.¹

As the story begins, the Israelites will cross into the promised land to begin the conquest. First taking Jericho and then Ai.



Toward the end of the Bronze Age

Archaeological excavations reveal that Jericho was violently destroyed sometime toward the end of the Bronze Age. The walls seem to have been thrown down by sudden force, as if by an earthquake. Charred wood shows that what was left of the city was burned. Excavators have also found food supplies buried in the destroyed city, which shows it was not captured by siege.

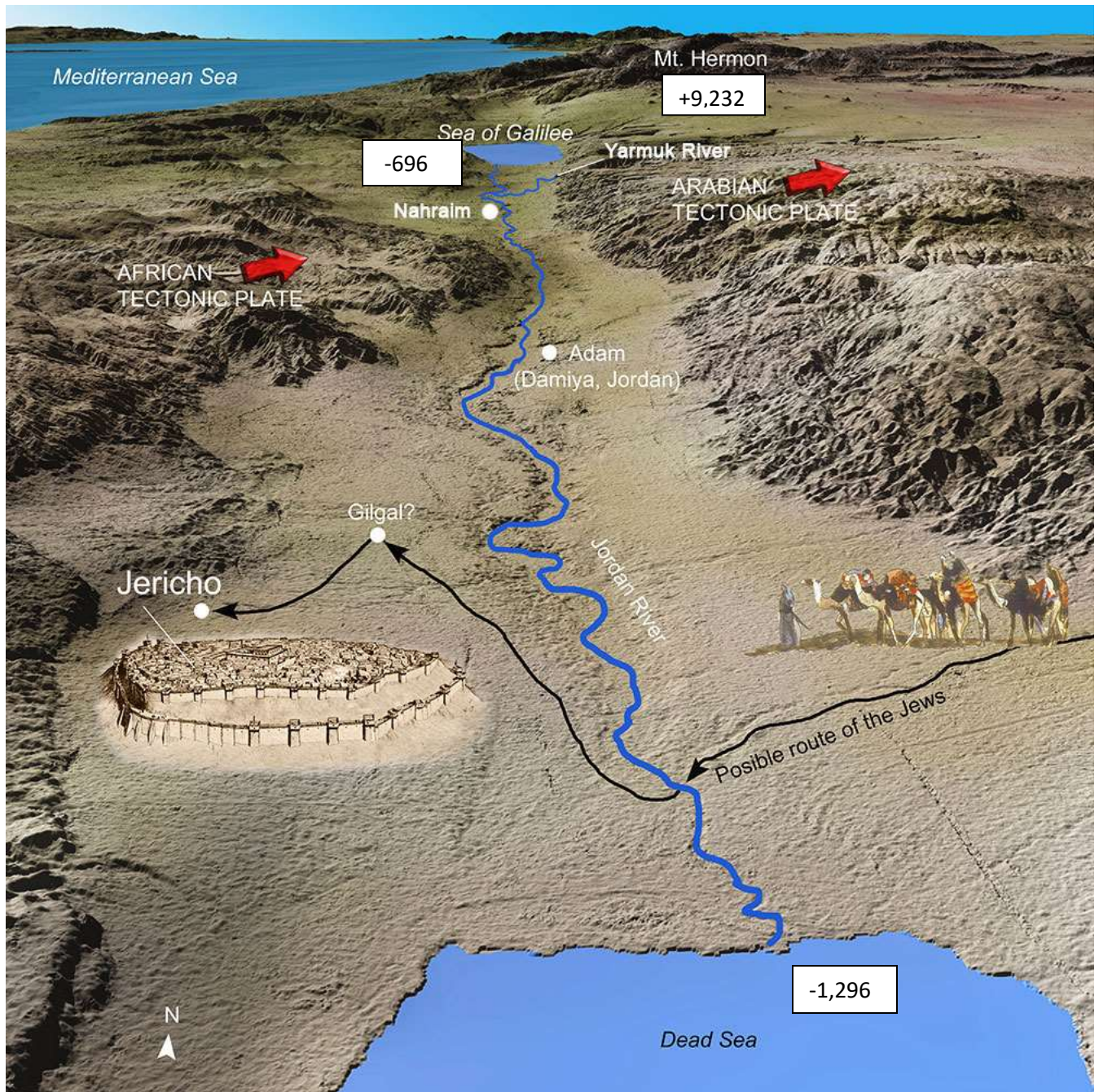


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¹ Easley, K. H. (2002). [Holman QuickSource guide to understanding the Bible](#) (p. 43). Holman Bible Publishers.

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Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. As you look at the map above think about how fat the water would be traveling down to the Dead Sea. In this are there would Class 4 rapids at the times.

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The southern portion MB II revetment wall at Old Testament Jericho. The red brick outer wall would have stood on top of this revetment wall. Photo Credit: Dr. Carl Rasmussen, <http://www.HolyLandPhotos.org>

Upon the revetment the walls would have been constructed of red bricks which have been discovered at the base. King Herod would later construct a palace near the former city. The pictures below show the use of red bricks.



Photo's Courtesy of Pastor Tom

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Section of the northern wall of Jericho which not collapse. Rahab's house was likely in this area of the city. Photo Credit: Tamar Hayardeni / Wikimedia Commons / CC BY 3.0

Around 8,000 BCE, the town also featured an 8.5-meter (28-foot) tall stone structure called the Tower of Jericho, which is considered to be the world's first stone building of this kind. Discovered by archaeologists in 1952, it's a cylindrical tower that has a top platform that's reached by 22 steps on the inside.

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