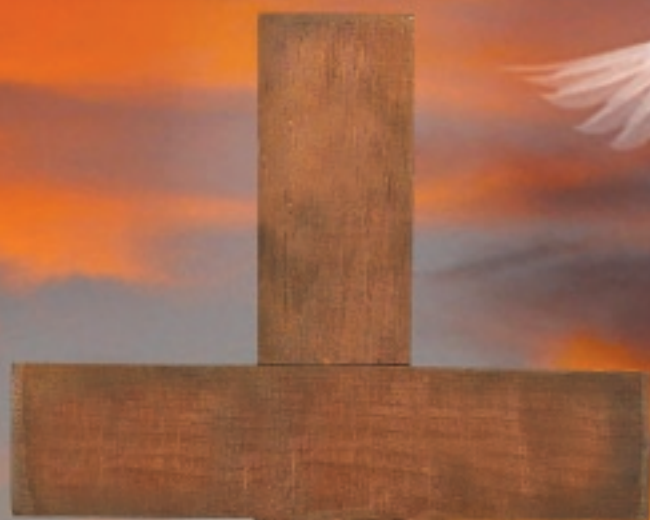




LIFE·PAC®

Bible



Alpha Omega Publications

# BIBLE 407

## GEOGRAPHY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

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# GEOGRAPHY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

As you study this LIFEPAC®, you will learn about the geography of the lands that are part of Bible events. The geography of the Holy Land was an important part of God's plan for His people. God planned for these Bible people to live in areas with unusual kinds of land surfaces and climates.

God began educating His people in the deserts. Life was simple there. They had time to think of the one true God as they moved about locating places for their flocks to graze.

God's purpose was not for the people to remain in the desert. He eventually placed them in towns and

agricultural regions. When men settled down in one area, they built houses and towns. God's people did not roam as they had in the desert. Growing crops, they became dependent upon rain and weather.

God is in control of our climate. The kind of weather He gave His people was a part of His purposes for their lives.

God also has a purpose for putting you where you are. God wants you to know the lessons that are taught in His word. One lesson He made clear to us in the Bible was that He is Master of all His creation.

## OBJECTIVES

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC.

When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

1. Identify on a map the important areas of the Bible lands and the Holy Land.
2. Name the important geographical features of both the Bible lands and the Holy Land.
3. Tell how geography affects humans, plants, and animals.
4. Explain some happenings and sayings in terms of their geographical settings.

## VOCABULARY

**Study these new words.** Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFE PAC.

**affect** (u fekt'). To produce a result on; influence.

**agriculture** (ag' ru kul' chur). Farming.

**altar** (ôl' tur). A table, stand, or similar raised structure at which people worship or sacrifice.

**arctic** (ärk' tik). An extremely cold place at the north part of the earth.

**caravan** (kar' u van). A group of people traveling together.

**civilization** (siv' u lu zä' shun). The state or condition of people or nations that have developed their culture, government, art, and science to a high level.

**climate** (klī' mit). The kind of weather a place has over a long period of time.

**coastal plain** (kō' stul plān). The flat land that stretches along the ocean.

**crescent** (kres' unt). The moon in its first quarter; looks something like the shape of a quarter section of a ball.

**domestication** (du mes' ti kā' shun). The training of animals to live under the care of man.

**empire** (em' pīr). A group of countries under the same ruler.

**exodus** (ek' su dus). A going out of a large number of people.

**famine** (fam' un). A lack of food in a place.

**fertile** (fer' tul). Bearing or producing a large number of crops and growth.

**geography** (jē og' ru fē). The study of the earth's surface, climate, continents, countries, peoples, industries, and products.

**invention** (in ven' shun). A making of something new.

**nomad** (nō' mad). A member of a tribe that moves from place to place to find food for its members and its animals.

**papyrus** (pu pī' rus). A tall water plant from which the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans made a kind of paper to write on.

**peninsula** (pu nin' su lu). A piece of land almost surrounded by water.

**profile** (prō' fīl). A side view.

**sea level** (sē' lev' ul). The surface of the sea; height of land is measured above or below sea level.

**shrub**. (shrub). A woody plant smaller than a tree.

**terrace** (ter´ is). A flat, raised level of land with sloping sides that often look like steps.

**terrain** (te rān´). The particular land surface of an area or region.

**yogurt** (yō´ gert). A thickened liquid food made from milk.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fär; let, ēqual, tèrm; it, ĩce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## I. BIBLE LANDS

Studying Bible **geography** is important because it will help us to understand the way the people of Bible lands lived. The geography of the Bible is important because the land was important land. Studying Bible **geography** is important because it will help us to understand the way the people of Bible lands lived. The geography of the Bible is important because the land was important land. The Holy Land of the Bible was at the center of surrounding nations that developed early **civilization**. Much of what we know about government, language, law, farming, and religion came to us from that area of the world.

### SECTION OBJECTIVES

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Identify on a map the important areas of the Bible lands and the Holy Land.
2. Name the important geographical features of both the Bible lands and the Holy Land.

**Restudy these words.**

|              |               |           |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| affect       | coastal plain | invention |
| agriculture  | crescent      | profile   |
| arctic       | domestication | sea level |
| caravan      | empire        | terrace   |
| civilization | fertile       | terrain   |
| climate      | geography     |           |



## PURPOSE FOR STUDYING BIBLE GEOGRAPHY

The *customs* of a people are the ways they do things—the ways they live. The way people live is often decided by where they live. Their land, **climate** and water all help to decide how people live. The reasons for studying Bible **geography** in this LIFEPAK are to understand the Bible land customs and to learn the setting of the events written about in the Bible.

**Customs.** Have you ever thought that the Bible is too difficult to understand? Have you thought that the people who lived in Bible times lived too far away or too much in the past to mean anything to you? Even the names of people and places may seem difficult to say. You can learn them. These names and places can be interesting when you learn what



**Bible-time Clothes**

they mean. Some of their customs, or ways of living, seem strange. Their food and clothing were certainly different. So were their houses and churches different.



**Making Butter in Mesopotamia**

The way these people lived was (and still is) **affected** by the geography of the area. Knowing something of the geography helps you to have a better understanding of people's ways of living.

Think about the area in which you live; the climate, the type of land, the things people make, and what they grow there. You will see that the way of life in your community is affected by geography.

**Settings.** Many of the happenings of the Bible can be understood better if you have some idea of the setting, or where they took place. This study of the geography of Bible lands will help you have a clearer picture of those settings.