

An aerial photograph of Jerusalem, showing the Old City walls and a large cemetery in the foreground. The city is densely packed with buildings, and a prominent dome is visible in the center. The foreground is filled with numerous stone tombs, some with Hebrew inscriptions. The title text is overlaid on the image.

Lessons From the...
Holy Lands

Lesson 3













Nazareth Village, Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi

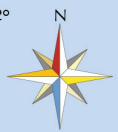
teamagee.com/newsletter



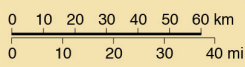
For information on future trips to Israel...
Currently in the early planning stages for
spring / summer 2024

ISRAEL • יִשְׂרָאֵל

-  National capital
-  District (mehoz) centre
-  City, town
-  Airport
-  International boundary
-  Boundary of former Palestine Mandate
-  Armistice Demarcation Line
-  District (mehoz) boundary
-  Main road
-  Secondary road
-  Railroad
-  Oil pipeline



- Districts of Israel**
- 1 Northern District
 - 2 Haifa District
 - 3 Central District
 - 4 Tel Aviv District
 - 5 Jerusalem District
 - 6 Southern District



Nazareth Village



Matt 2:23; 26:71; Mark 1:24; 10:47; 14:67; 16:6;
Luke 4:34; 18:37; 24:19; John 18:7; 19:19;
Acts 2:22; 3:6; 4:10; 6:14; 22:8; 26:9

Map of Ancient Galilee



SYRO-PHOENICIA

GALILEE

Mediterranean Sea

Sea of Galilee (Lake Tiberias)

SAMARIA

DECAPOLIS

Mt. Carmel

Mt. Tabor

Mt. Gilboa

Mt. Hermon

Plain of Esdraelon
Carmel Range

Jezreel Valley

Jordan River

Tyre

Dan

Caesarea Philippi

Ptolemais

Chorazin

Bethsaida

Capernaum

Magdala

Tiberias

Cana

Nazareth

Megiddo

Dor

Caesarea

Nazareth Village



- ✧ Today Nazareth is an Arab city and is the largest in lower Galilee with a population of approximately 100,000 people. Of this population about 70% identify as Muslim and 30% as Christian.
- ✧ There is not a ton to see archaeologically in modern Nazareth, but the city is built on the same location as ancient Nazareth, though it is much, much larger.
- ✧ From a Biblical perspective, Nazareth is known because it was the hometown of Jesus. He is frequently identified as a Nazarene in passages such as Matt 2:23; 26:71; Mark 1:24; 10:47; 14:67; 16:6; Luke 4:34; 18:37; 24:19; John 18:7; 19:19; Acts 2:22; 3:6; 4:10; 6:14; 22:8; 26:9.
- ✧ “Nazareth Village” is operated by the YMCA. It is part archaeological site and part recreated village and farm to show what life would have been like in Nazareth during the time of Jesus.











Isaiah 5:1-2



Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

Matthew 21:33



“Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country...





Tel Dan



Gen 14:14; Josh 19:40–48; Judg 18:27, 29;
1 Kgs 12:26–33, 15:20, 20:34, 42; 2 Chr 16:4;

“From Dan to Beersheba” - Judges 20:1; 1 Samuel 3:20; 2 Samuel 3:10,
17:11, 24:2, 15; 1 Kings 4:25; 1 Chronicles 21:2; 2 Chronicles 30:5

Map of Ancient Galilee



Tel Dan



- ❧ Dan is located at the foot of Mount Hermon
- ❧ In 1993 an inscription was found at Tel Dan that reads “King of Israel, King of the House of David.” This was the first time a reference to David was found outside of scripture.
- ❧ Dan is first mentioned in the Bible in Genesis 14. Abraham is pursuing Chedorlaomer king of Elam, who had abducted his nephew Lot, when they looted Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham caught up with Chedorlaomer at Dan (Genesis 14:14).
- ❧ According to Judges 18:29, Dan was called Laish (or Leshem) prior to Israel’s conquest of Canaan, so the use of the place-name “Dan” in Genesis 14 likely reflects a later updating of the text to use the Israelite name instead of the Canaanite name for the site.

Tel Dan (Cont.)



- ✧ The tribe of Dan was originally given territory on the southern coast, but they migrated when they could not defeat Philistine coastal inhabitants (Joshua 19:40–48). A group of Danites went north to Laish and destroyed it (Judges 18:27). They renamed it “Dan” after their patriarch.
- ✧ Dan was also the location of a large religious complex, built by Jeroboam during the Divided Kingdom (1 Kings 12:26–33). He built a large altar and temple complex at Dan (and at Bethel; see 1 Kings 12:29) to stop Israelites from going to Jerusalem to worship. He set up a golden calf in the shrine and proclaimed, “Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt” (1 Kings 12:28).

Tel Dan (Cont.)



- ❧ During the 8th century BC, Dan traded hands several times between the Israelites and the Arameans. Dan was briefly captured by Ben-Hadad I – king of the Arameans of Damascus in the end of the 9th century BC – he was bribed by Judah to break his alliance with Israel (1 Kings 15:20; 2 Chr 16:4).
- ❧ By the reign of Ahab (ca. 874–850), Dan was once again under Israelite control. Ahab defeated Ben-Hadad (possibly his son Ben-Hadad II) and Ben-Hadad offered to give back “the cities which my father took from your father” (1 Kings 20:34). This included Dan and was an offer Ahab agreed to. Ahab was condemned for accepting this concession instead of killing Ben-Hadad, as the Lord had ordered him to do (1 Kings 20:42).

Tel Dan (Cont.)



- ❧ Dan was recaptured by the Arameans under Hazael in the late ninth or early eighth century, but the Syrians would only control it for a short time. When Syria was threatened by Assyria on its eastern border during the early seventh century, the Israelites under Jeroboam II took the opportunity to recapture Dan.
- ❧ “From Dan to Beersheba” is a biblical phrase used nine times to refer to the settled areas of the Tribes of Israel between Dan in the North and Beersheba in the South (Judges 20:1; 1 Samuel 3:20; 2 Samuel 3:10, 17:11, 24:2, 15; 1 Kings 4:25; 1 Chronicles 21:2; 2 Chronicles 30:5).











1 Kings 12:26-33



²⁶ And Jeroboam said in his heart, “Now the kingdom will turn back to the house of David. ²⁷ If this people go up to offer sacrifices in the temple of the LORD at Jerusalem, then the heart of this people will turn again to their lord, to Rehoboam king of Judah, and they will kill me and return to Rehoboam king of Judah.” ²⁸ So the king took counsel and made two calves of gold. And he said to the people, “You have gone up to Jerusalem long enough. Behold your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.” ²⁹ And he set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. ³⁰ Then this thing became a sin, for the people went as far as Dan to be before one. ³¹ He also made temples on high places and appointed priests from among all the people, who were not of the Levites. ³² And Jeroboam appointed a feast on the fifteenth day of the eighth month like the feast that was in Judah, and he offered sacrifices on the altar. So he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he made. And he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places that he had made. ³³ He went up to the altar that he had made in Bethel on the fifteenth day in the eighth month, in the month that he had devised from his own heart. And he instituted a feast for the people of Israel and went up to the altar to make offerings.









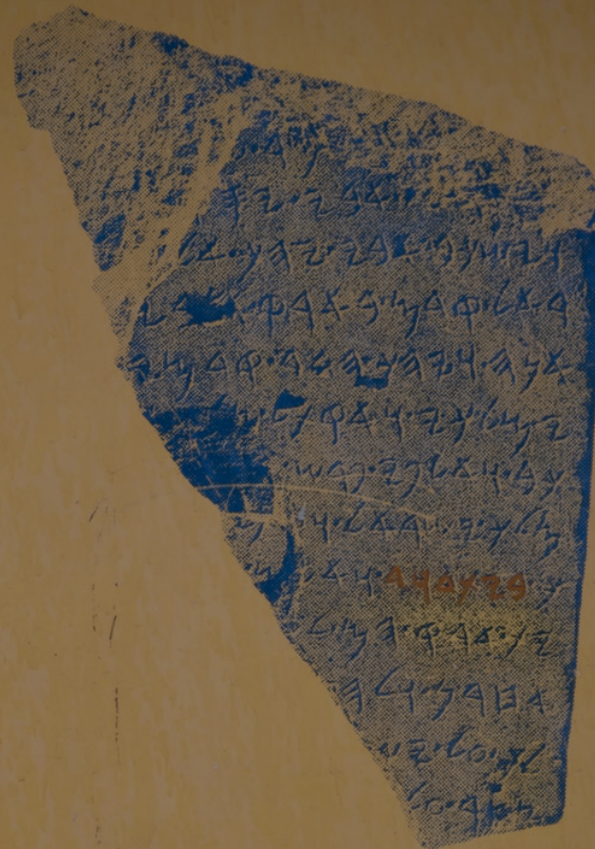








and when she an used the ... was taken ... the ... and ...



כתובת בארמית על מצבת ניצחון בה נזכר
לראשונה "בית דוד"

An Aramaic inscription on a victory stele,
mentioning for the first time the
"House of David"



Caesarea Philippi



Matt 16:13–20; Mark 8:27–30

Map of Ancient Galilee



Caesarea Philippi



- ❧ The city was originally built by Herod Philip, the second son of Herod the Great at the southwestern base of Mount Hermon.
- ❧ It was adjacent to a spring, grotto, and related shrines dedicated to the Greek god Pan. Pan had the face and upper torso of a human and the horns, beard, and lower body of goat. He was the god of forests.
- ❧ Caesarea Philippi is mentioned in both Matthew and Mark as the setting for a conversation in which Jesus asks His disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” – to which Peter replies, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt 16:13–20; Mark 8:27–30). Luke records a similar conversation but does not mention Caesarea Philippi (Luke 9:18–22).
- ❧ Jesus’ comment about the “rock” could possibly have been inspired by the giant rock mountain face at the temple of Pan.

Caesarea Philippi (Cont.)



- ☞ Caesarea Philippi is the home to the recently uncovered remains of the palace of Herod Agrippa II.
- ☞ Agrippa II was the last Herod to also be called king.
- ☞ Herod Agrippa II tried Paul in Caesarea Maritima in Acts 25 and 26.
- ☞ In 61 AD, King Agrippa II renamed the administrative capital as **Neronias** in honor of Roman Emperor Nero.

























מבט לארמון אגריפס השני

A View of the Palace of Agrippa II

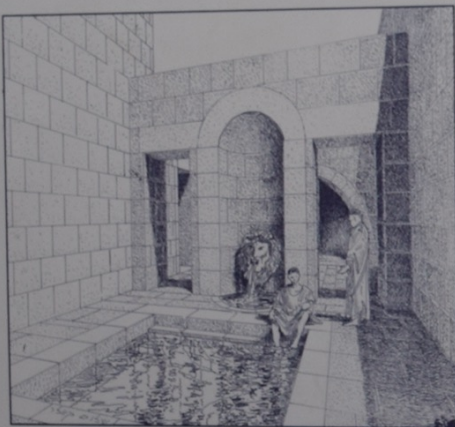
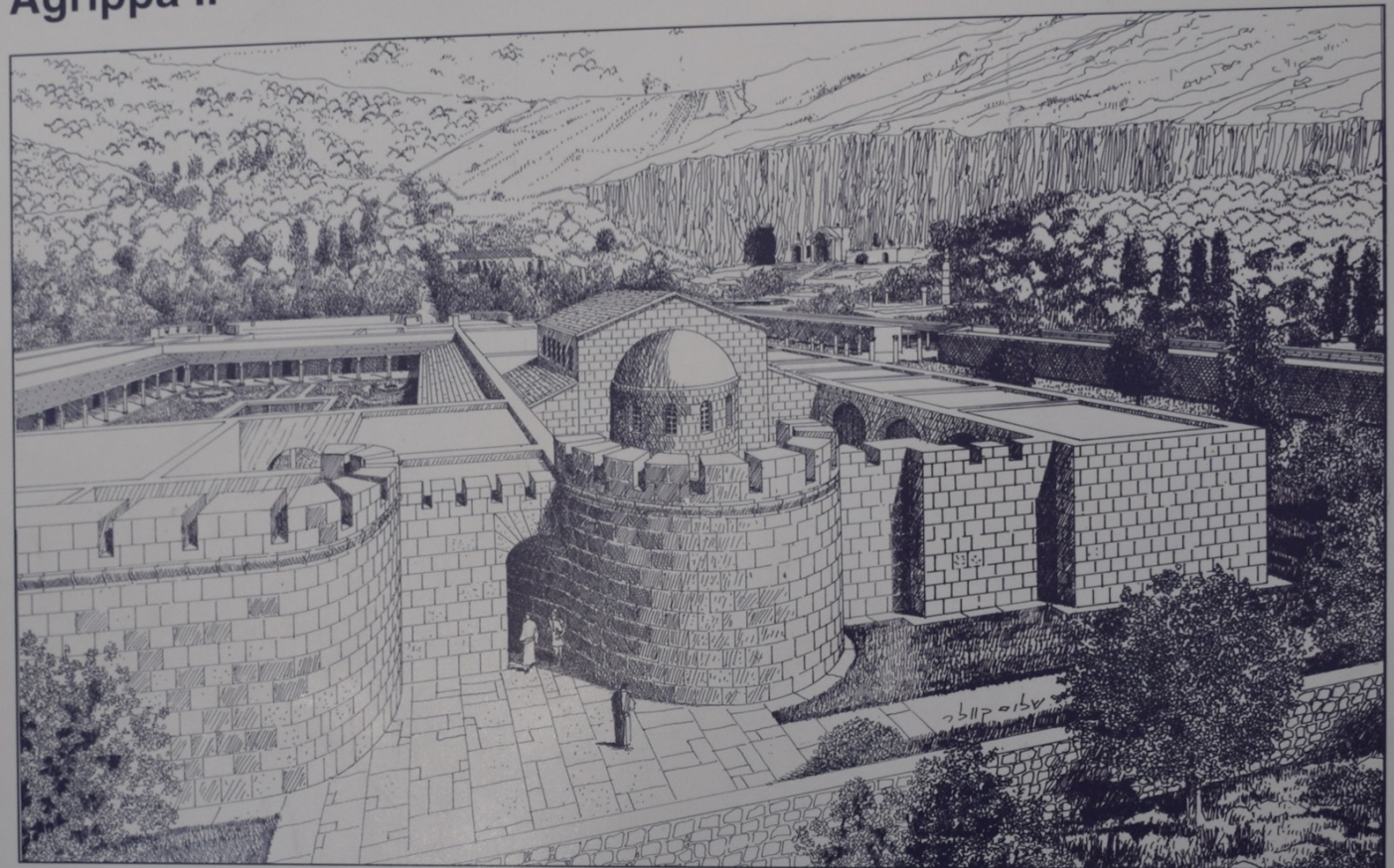


פאן מחלל בחליל Pan playing flute

מטבעות העיר פניאס Panias city coins



מקדש פאן Temple of Pan



מזרקה ובריכה שנמצאו בחצר האחורית של הארמון.

Pool and fountain found in the rear courtyard of the palace.

During the second half of the first century CE, Agrippa II expanded the city limits and enhanced it with beautiful statues and magnificent buildings (according to the descriptions of Josephus Flavius). In front of you is one of these buildings, which served as a palace and seat of government. You can see a row of vaults used as warehouses, internal courtyards, a large rectangular hall (basilica), that was probably the throne room, and other rooms and halls. A winding system of passageways and water-carrier was built beneath the building.

במחצית השנייה של המאה הראשונה לסה"נ, הרחיב אגריפס השני את תחומי העיר ופיאר אותה בפסלים נאים ובמבנים מרשימים (לפי תיאוריו של יוסף בן מתתיהו). כך הבניין שלפנינו, אשר שימש כנראה כארמון וכמרכז מנהלי. ניתן לראות: שורה של קמרונות ששימשו כמחסנים וכחצרות פנימיות; אולם מלבני גדול (בזיליקה) שהיה כנראה חדר הכס המלכותי; חדרים ואולמות. מתחת לבניין נבנתה מערכת מעברים ותעלות מים.



A View of the Palace of Agrippa II

לארמון פס השני



Part of the first century CE, Agrippa II built and enhanced it with beautiful statues and fountains. In front of you is one of these buildings, the palace and seat of government. You can see the courtyards, internal courtyards, a palace, and a warehouse. (The palace, the palace, that was probably the throne room and halls. A winding system of stairs was built beneath the building.

החשיפה של המאה הראשונה לסה"ס. גורפים חשיף את תחומי העיר ומישר אותה באים ובמבנים מרשימים ולפי תיאורו של מתתיהו. כך הובנין שלמניו, אשר שימש כארמון וכמרכז מנהלי. ניתן לראות: שורה ארוכה של חדרים במחציתו ובחצרות ממוזיק, לבני גדול (בזיליקה) שהיה כנראה חדר הכנסה; חדרים ואולמות. מתחת לבניין נבנתה מעברית והעלת מים.







