















Lessons From the...
Holy Lands

Lesson 6

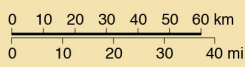
En-Gedi, Masada, the Dead Sea

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



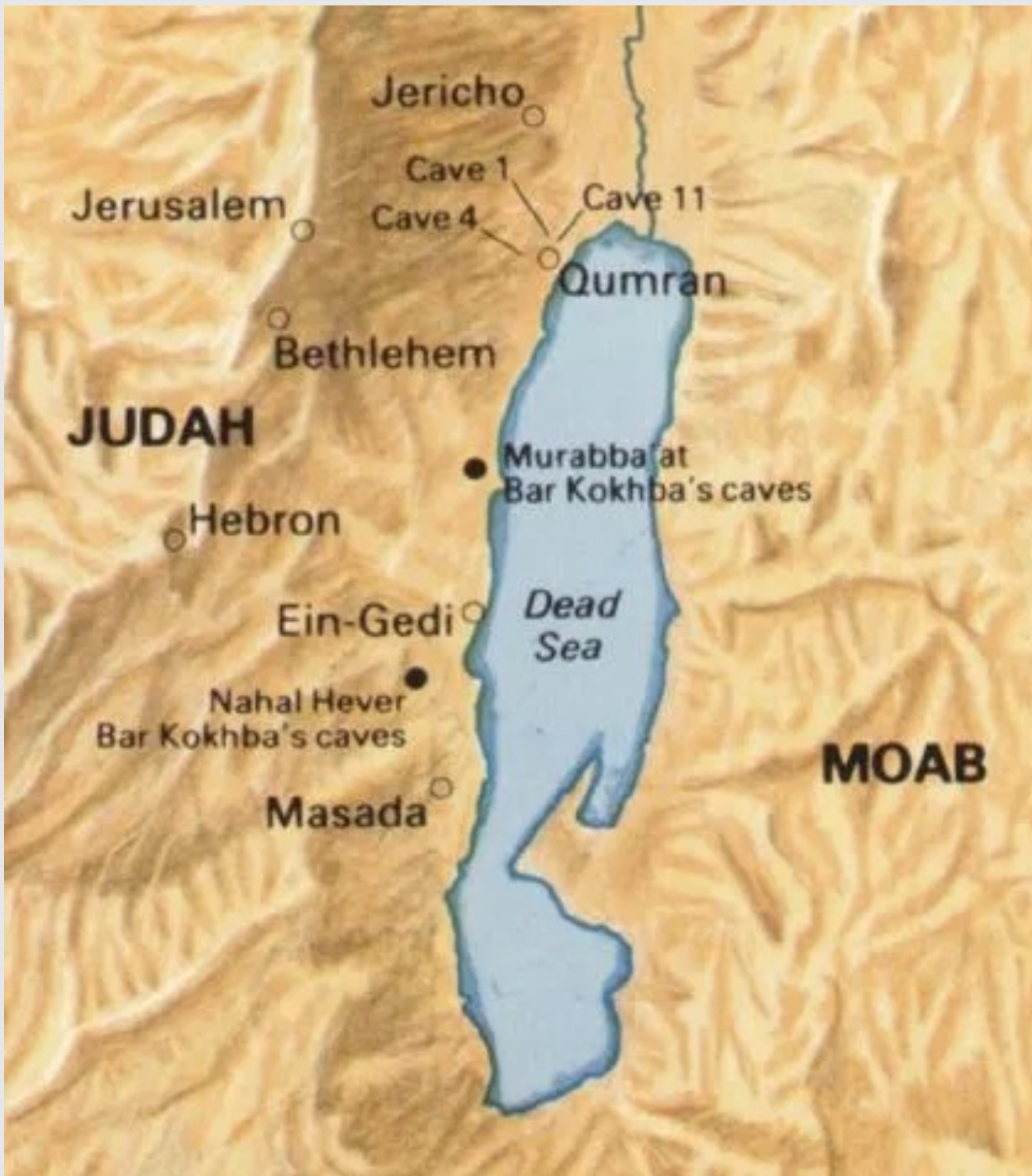
- Districts of Israel**
- 1 Northern District
 - 2 Haifa District
 - 3 Central District
 - 4 Tel Aviv District
 - 5 Jerusalem District
 - 6 Southern District



En-Gedi



1 Sam 23:29; 24; 2 Samuel 22; Song of Solomon 1:14; 2
Chronicles 20:1-2; Ezekiel 47:10 Ezekiel 47:10



En-Gedi



- ❧ En-Gedi means “spring of the goat” or “spring of the kid.”
- ❧ It gets this name from the freshwater spring located there and from the many wild goats (Ibex) which live in the area.
- ❧ En-Gedi is mentioned numerous times in the Old Testament:
 - ❧ Joshua 15:62 first mentions En-Gedi in the tribal allotment given to Judah.
 - ❧ When fleeing from Saul, David left his refuge in the wilderness for the strongholds of En Gedi (1 Sam 23:29).
 - ❧ In one of the caves there, David cut off the corner of Saul’s robe when he had entered to “relieve himself” (1 Samuel 24).

En-Gedi (Cont.)



- ✧ In 2 Samuel 22, David sings a song of praise to God for delivering him from Saul and in verse 2 calls God his rock, stronghold, and deliverer.
- ✧ The Song of Solomon (Song 1:14) describes En-Gedi as a vineyard (“fruitful of oasis”) when talking about his beloved.
- ✧ 2 Chronicles 20:1–2 says that in the reign of Jehoshaphat (800 BC) during the Divided Monarchy, an army of Moabites and Ammonites camped at En-Gedi in preparation to invade Israel.
- ✧ Ezekiel prophesies a time when fresh waters will flow from the Temple in Jerusalem down to the Dead Sea and make the Dead Sea fresh: “From Engedi to Eneglaim it will be a place for the spreading of nets” (Ezekiel 47:10).























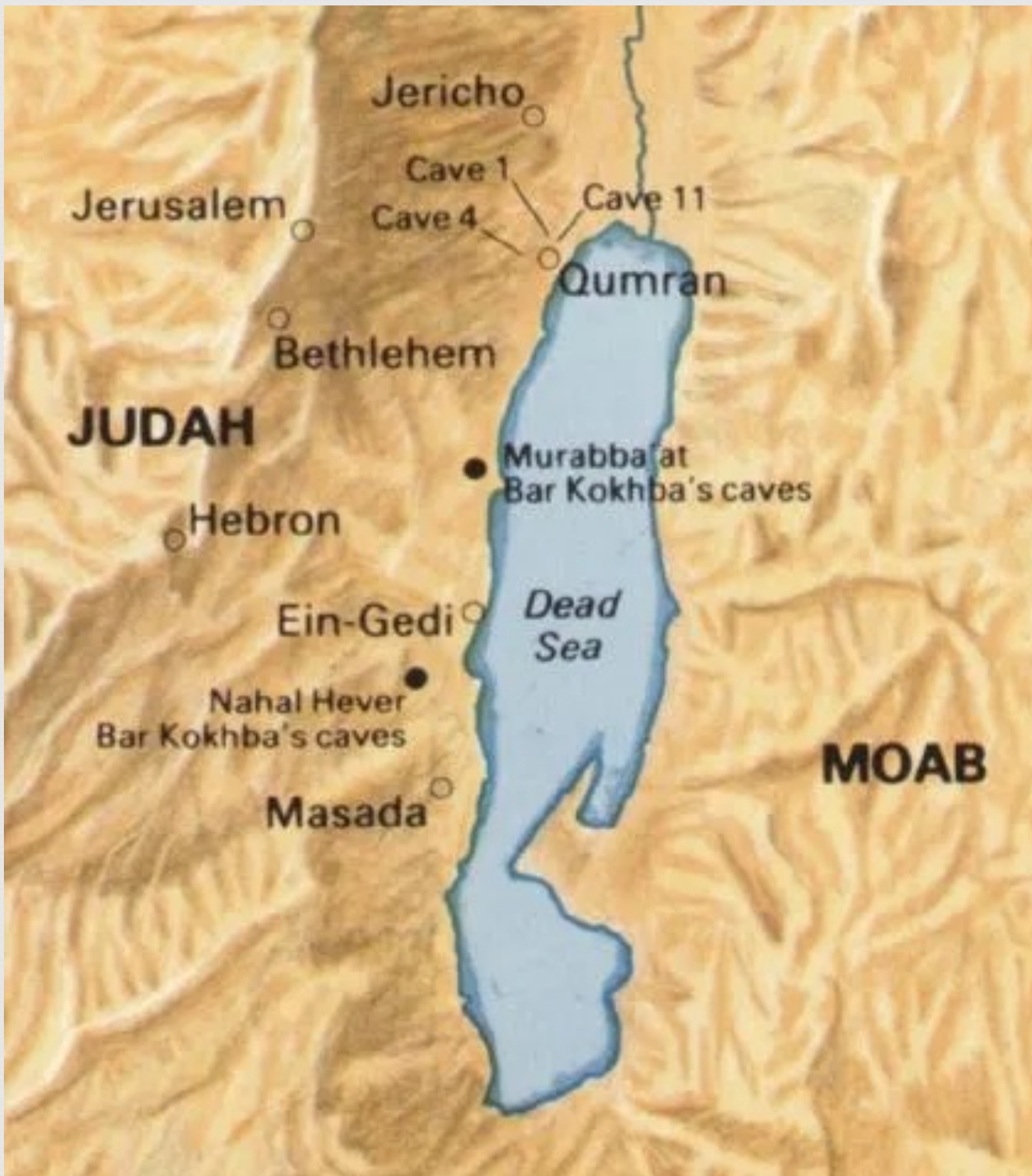






Masada





Masada



- ❧ The name Masada means “fortress.”
- ❧ Masada is a mountain (mesa) that rises almost 1,500ft above the Dead Sea, but this is still just barely above sea level.
- ❧ Everything we know about Masada comes from Josephus and archaeological excavations.
- ❧ Herod the Great built two palaces on the mountain and fortified Masada between 37 and 31 BC.

Masada



- ❧ The palaces of Herod the Great were essentially abandoned by his sons after his death in 4 BC.
- ❧ The site was taken over by the Jewish zealots (the Sicarii: knife-wielding zealots) and became the last stronghold of the Great Jewish Revolt (66 to 73 AD). The Romans brought 8,000 troops to Masada in 73 AD and defeated the Jews.
- ❧ According to Josephus, the siege of Masada by Roman troops from 73 to 74 AD, at the end of the First Jewish–Roman War, ended in the mass suicide of the 960 Sicarii rebels who were hiding there. However, the archaeological evidence relevant to this event is ambiguous at best.







































בור מים
Cistern









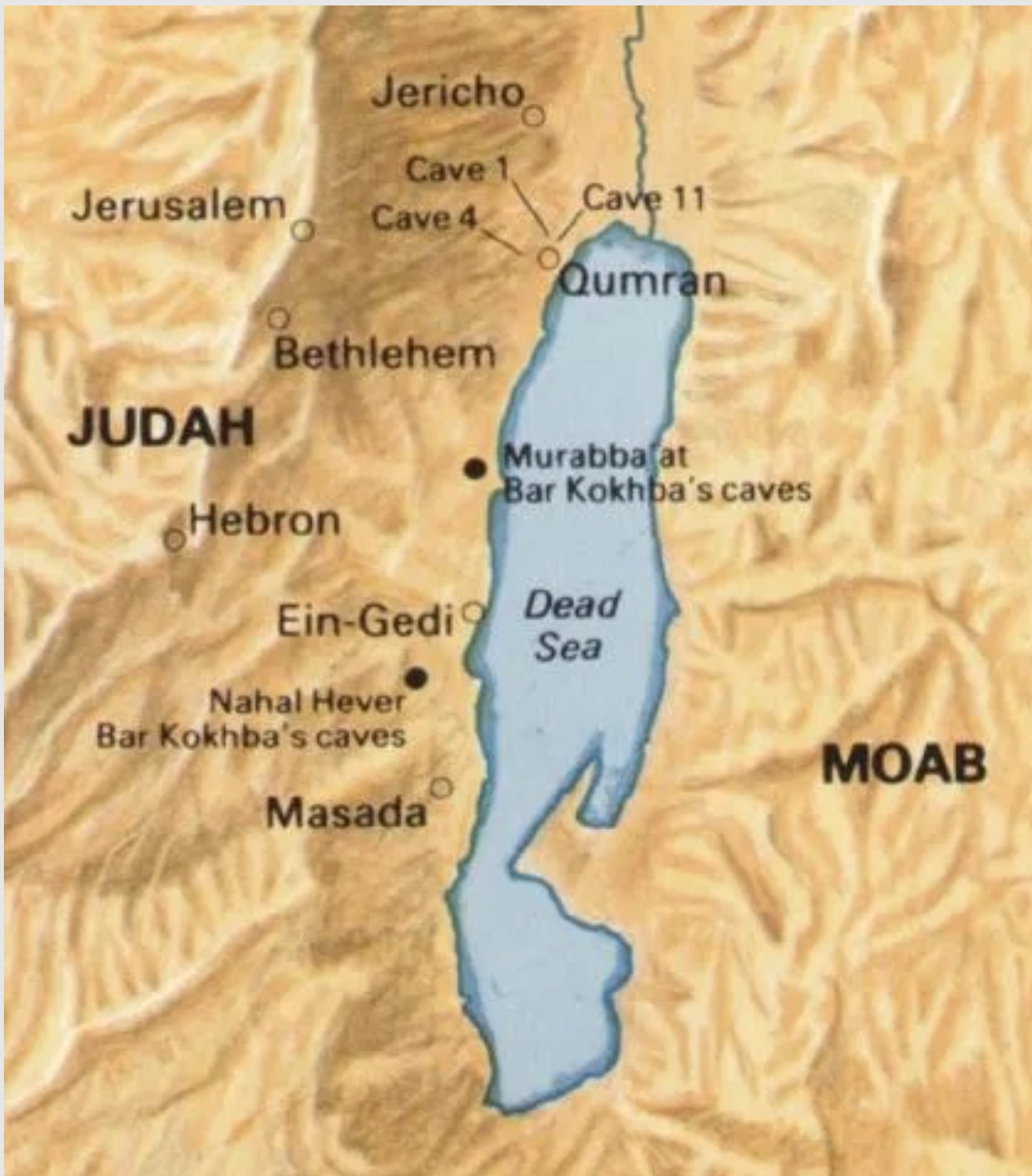


The Dead Sea



Gen 14:3; Num 34:3, 12; Deut 3:17; 4:49;
Josh. 3:16, 12:3, 15:2, 5, 18:19;
2 Kgs 14:25; Ezek 47:18; Zech 14:8





The Dead Sea



- ❧ The Dead Sea is the lowest place in the world at 1,412 ft (430m) below sea level.
- ❧ The water in the Dead Sea is 36% salt, 8 times more than any ocean. Needless to say, nothing can grow in this lake. It is 50 km long, 18 km wide, and 300 m deep at its lowest point.
- ❧ The Dead Sea used to be much larger, but that since the flow of the Jordan River is now being controlled by a dam, the water in the Dead Sea is receding 1.5 meters every year.

The Dead Sea (Cont.)



- ❧ Scripture contains 16 references to the Dead Sea.
- ❧ It is referred to by the names “Salt Sea” (Gen 14:3; Num 34:3, 12; Deut 3:17; Josh. 3:16, 12:3, 15:2, 5, 18:19), “Sea of the Arabah” (Deut 3:17, 4:49; Josh 3:16, 12:3; 2 Kgs 14:25) and the “Eastern Sea” (Ezek 47:18; Zech 14:8).
- ❧ The names are used once each to communicate direction (*toward the*).
- ❧ Only once is the Dead Sea designated as a location (Gen 14:3).
- ❧ The remaining 12 references to the Dead Sea are used in the context of describing the borders of the promised land.





















