



*Lessons From the...*  
**Holy Lands**













Introduction

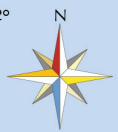
# Overview of Israel



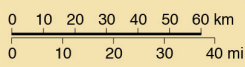
- ❧ Israel is about the same size as the state of New Jersey
- ❧ The total area of the Israel is approximately 8,020 sq. miles.
- ❧ 260 miles in length and about 71 miles across at the widest point.
  - ❧ "From Dan to Beersheba" is approximately 150 miles
- ❧ Today country is bordered by Lebanon to the north, Syria to the northeast, Jordan to the east, Egypt to the southwest and the Mediterranean Sea to the west.
- ❧ Highest point is Mount Meron (3,964 ft **above** sea level)
  - ❧ What about Mt. Hermon? (Peak is in Syria/ 9,232 ft **above** sea level)
  - ❧ Several higher points in the Golan Heights (Annexed by Israel in 1981)
- ❧ Lowest point is the Dead Sea (1,412 ft **below** sea level)

# 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



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שטח A  
הכניסה אסורה  
לישראלים  
منطقة A  
ممنوع دخول المواطنين  
الإسرائيليين  
Area "A"  
Entry Forbidden  
For Israeli Citizens

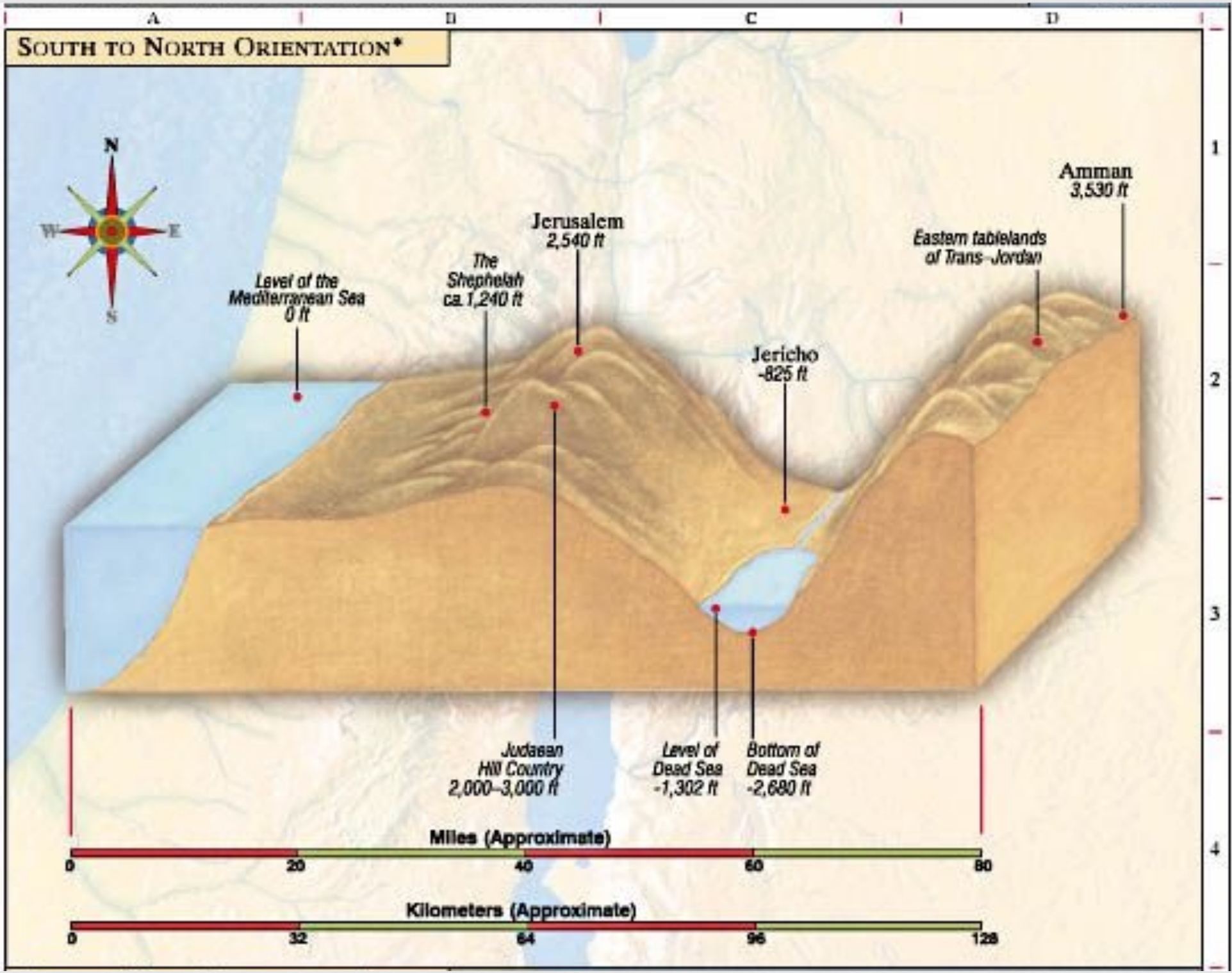




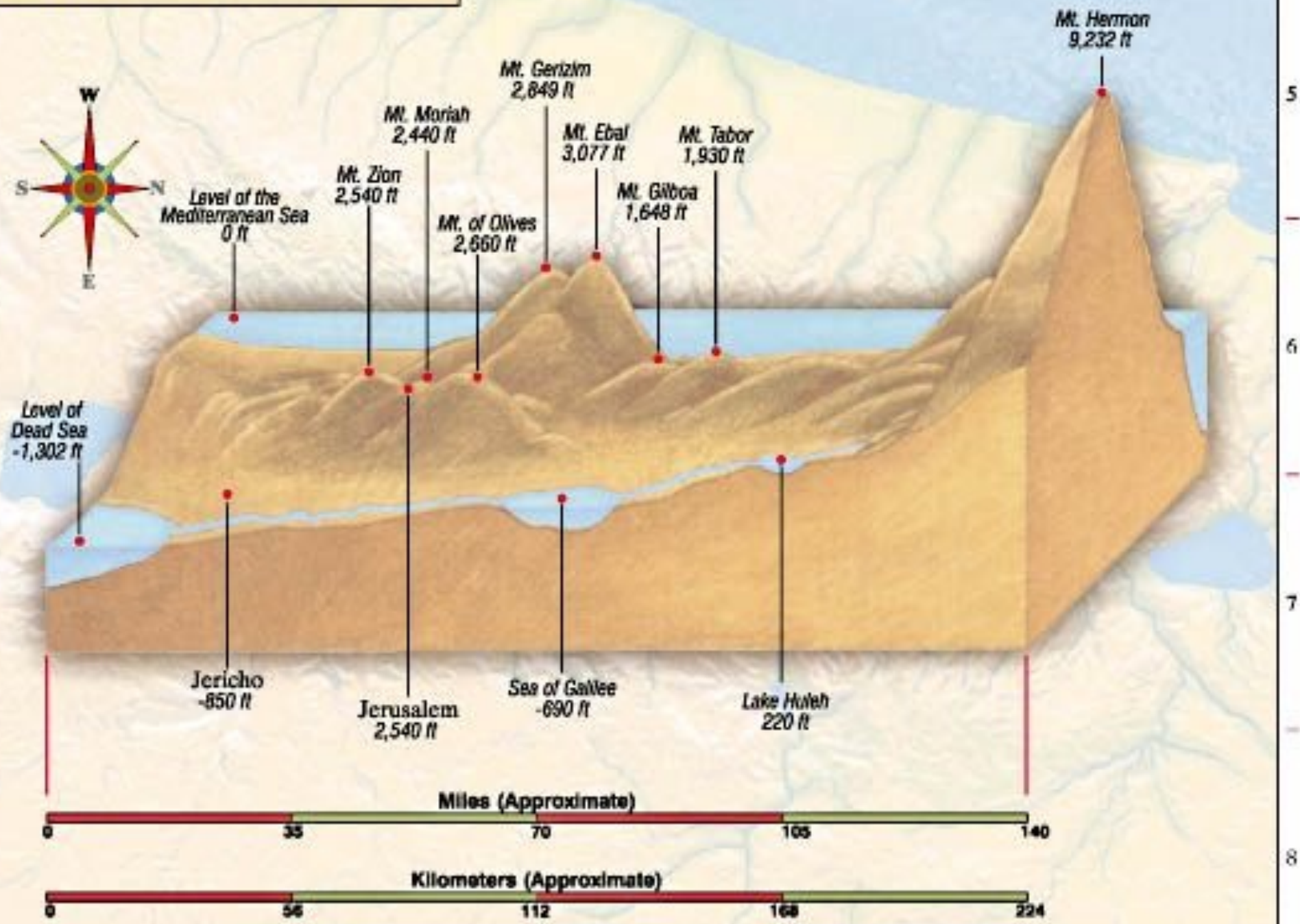




**SOUTH TO NORTH ORIENTATION\***



EAST TO WEST ORIENTATION\*



\*The topographical relief has been magnified to more clearly show differences in elevation.

# Climate in Israel



- ❧ Jerusalem is at the same latitude as El Paso, TX
- ❧ Israel has a wide variety of climatic conditions, caused mainly by the country's diverse topography.
- ❧ Israel has two distinct seasons
  - ❧ A cool, rainy winter (October–April)
  - ❧ A dry, hot summer (May–September)
- ❧ Precipitation is light in the south, amounting to about 1 inch per year south of the Dead Sea, while in the north it is relatively heavy, up to 44 inches a year in the Upper Galilee region.

# Geography of Israel

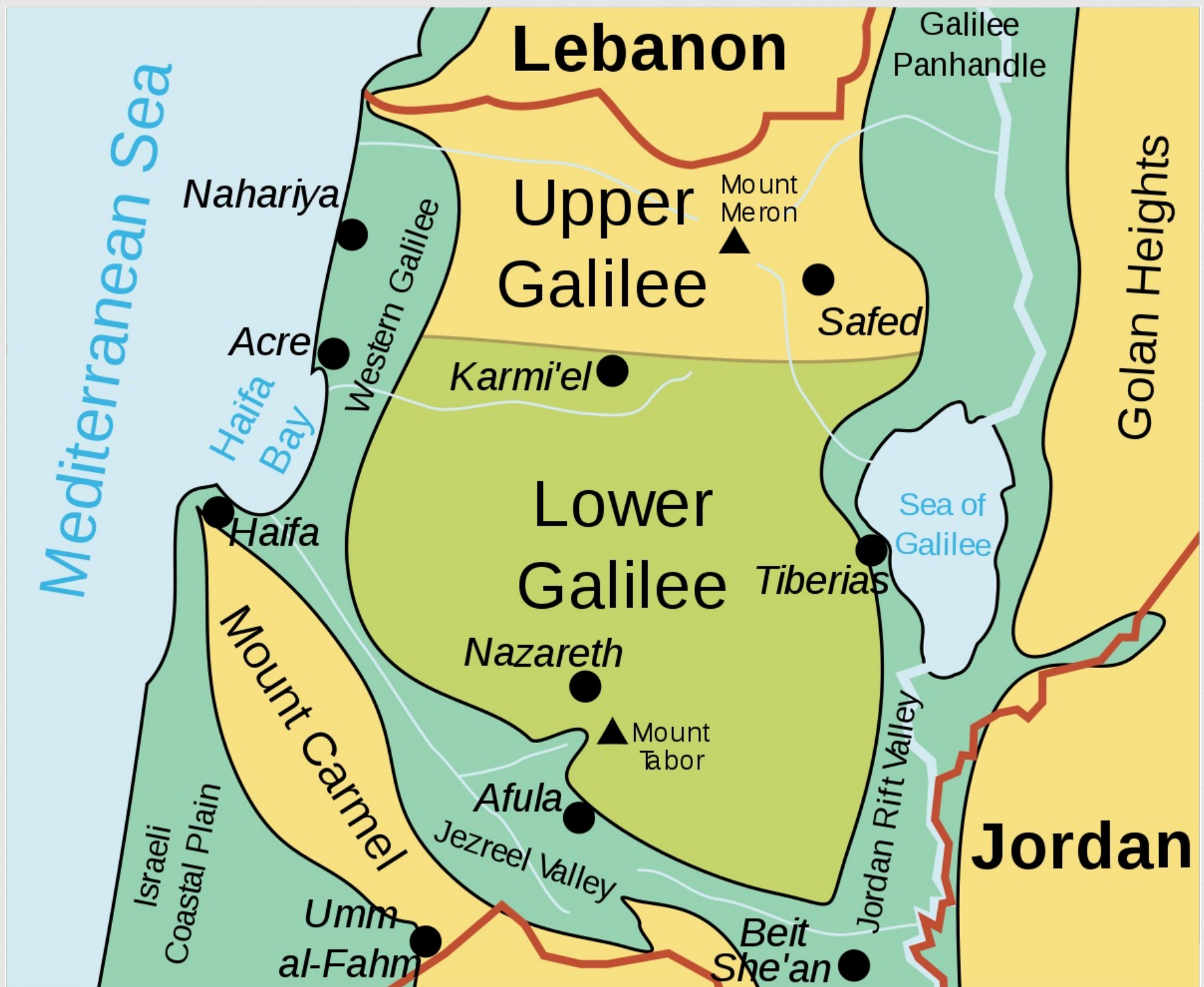


The geography of Israel is very diverse, with desert conditions in the south, and lush hills with snow-capped mountains in the north.

# North - Galilee / Jezreel Valley



- ❧ Galilee - Located in northern Israel and southern Lebanon. Divided into Upper Galilee, Lower Galilee, and the Galilean Peninsula.
- ❧ Jezreel Valley - a large fertile plain and inland valley in the Northern District of Israel.
- ❧ Prominent locations include:
  - ❧ Tel Megiddo - Jezreel Valley
  - ❧ Mount Tabor - Jezreel Valley / Lower Galilee
  - ❧ Nazareth - Lower Galilee
  - ❧ Sea of Galilee - Lower Galilee
  - ❧ Capernaum - Lower Galilee
  - ❧ Tel Dan - Upper Galilee / Galilean Peninsula
  - ❧ Tel Hazor - Upper Galilee





































# Jordan River Valley



- ❧ A 65-mile-long rift-valley or depression where the lower course of the Jordan River divides Israel (West Bank) from Jordan.
- ❧ This lower course begins where the Jordan River exits the Sea of Galilee and extends all the way to the Dead Sea.
- ❧ The geography changes dramatically along the course of the river
- ❧ John the Baptist baptized in the Jordan River / Jordan River Valley near the Judean Wilderness (Matt 3:1, Mark 1:4; Luke 3:2-3)



Hulah Valley

Syria

Israel

Sea of Galilee

Yarmouk River

Jordan River

West Bank

Jabbok River

Dead Sea

Jordan















# Judean Mountains



- ❧ The Judean Mountains is a mountain range in Israel and the West Bank where Jerusalem and several other biblical cities are located.
- ❧ The mountains reach a height of 1,026 meters (3,366 ft)
  
- ❧ Prominent locations in Judean Mountains include:
  - ❧ Jerusalem
  - ❧ Bethlehem









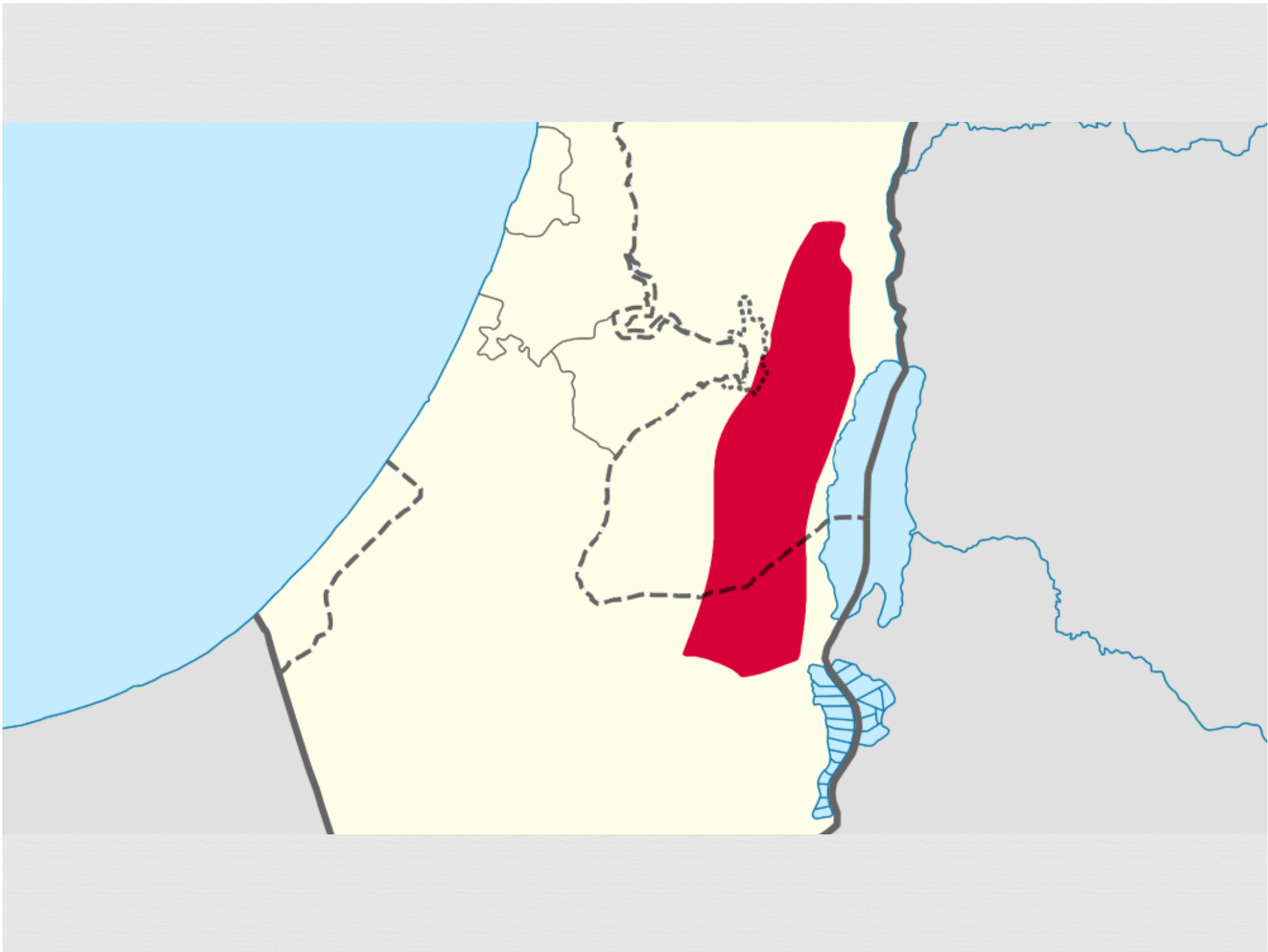




# Wilderness of Judea



- ❧ Also known as the **Judean Desert**, this area is a wilderness landscape spanning from the Judean Hills at 1,000m above sea level to the west all the way down to the Dead Sea at 400m below sea level in the east.
  
- ❧ Prominent locations in the Wilderness of Judea include:
  - ❧ Jericho (Mount of Temptation)
  - ❧ Qumran (Dead Sea Scrolls)
  - ❧ Ein Gedi
  - ❧ Masada
  
- ❧ Area where John the Baptist preached (Matt 3:1, Mark 1:4; Luke 3:2-3) and where Jesus was tempted (Matt 4:1; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1)

















# Negev Desert



- ❧ The Negev Desert comprises approximately 12,000 square kilometers (4,633 sq mi), more than half of Israel's total land area. Geographically it is an extension of the Sinai Desert, forming a rough triangle with its base in the north near Beersheba, the Dead Sea, and the southern Judean Mountains, and it has its apex in the southern tip of the country at Eilat. Topographically, it parallels the other regions of the country, with lowlands in the west, hills in the central portion, and the Arava valley as its eastern border
- ❧ The most prominent Biblical location in the Negev is Beersheba











# Tel (Tell) Archaeological Mound



A “Tel” is an artificial hill created by cities built one on top of the other. When a city was destroyed by earthquake or war, and a new city was built on top, this created layers or **strata**. Different strata can be from different eras or time-periods.

