ALL THE PLACES OF THE BIBLE

This article identifies all of the places named in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books. The place names are arranged alphabetically as they appear in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The suggested meaning of the names is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various places bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this **[1]** ; **[2]**; and so on. Then follows a description of each place, with several Bible references to it.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These place names are ancient, many are pre-Israelite, and their history is obscure and uncertain.

Often a Hebrew name refers to both a place and a person. In such cases, you will find the same name in "All the People of the Bible."

Different names were used to refer to certain sites in different periods of history (e.g., Accho and Ptolemais). We have grouped these names under the most familiar biblical name, cross-referencing the other names to it. Modern place names are given under most of the biblical names.

J

Jaazer [Jazer] ("God helps"), a city east of the Jordan River, in or near the region of Gilead (Num. 21 :32; 32: 1).

Jabbok ("flowing"), an eastern tributary of the Jordan River, which served as the western border of Ammon (Gen. 32:22; Deut. 2:37).

Jabesh-gilead ("dry"), a city of Gilead (Judg. 21:8; 1 Sam. 11:1). It may have been located at a site now called Wadi Yabis, about 23 km. (20 mi.) south of the Sea of Galilee.

Jabez ("sorrow"), a dwelling place of scribes, probably in Judah (1 Chron, 2:55). *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

Jabneel [Jabneh] ("building of God"). **[1]** A city marking the northern border of Judah (Josh. 15: 11); modern Yebnah, about 6 km. (4 mi.) inland from the Mediterranean Sea and 14.5 km. (9 mi.) north-northeast of Ashdod. **[2]** A border town of the tribe of Naphtali (Josh. 19:33); probably modern Khirbet Yemman, 11 km. (7 mi.) southwest of Tiberias.

Jabneh. *See* Jabneel.

Jachin ("God establishes"), the right hand pillar of Solomon's porch on the temple of Jerusalem (1 Kings 7:21). *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

Jagur ("husbandman"), a town in extreme southern Judah (Josh. 15:21); probably modern Tell Ghurr.

Jahaz [Jahaza, Jahazah] ("dispute"), a battlefield on the wastelands of Moab (Num. 21:23); its exact location is unknown.

Janoah [Janohah] ("resting"). **[1]** A city of the tribe of Naphtali, north of Galilee (2 Kings 15:29); possibly modern Yanuh, 10.5 km. (6.5 mi.) southeast of Tyre. **[2]** A town on Ephraim's border (Josh. 16:6); possibly modern Yanun, 11 km. (7 mi.) southeast of Shechem.

Janum ("sleeping"), a town in the mountains of Judah, west-southwest of Hebron (Josh. 15:53).

Japhia ("enlarging"), a boundary town of Zebulun, 3 km. (2 mi.) southwest of Nazareth (Josh. 19: 12).

Japhleti ("to shine"), a landmark on the southern boundary of Ephraim, near Bethhoron (Josh. 16:3).

Japho ("beauty"), a Palestinian city on the Mediterranean coast 56 km. (34 mi.) west of Jerusalem (Josh. 19:46). It was later called Joppa (q.v.).

Jarmuth ("height"). **[1]** A city in the lowlands of Judah (Josh. 10:3); modern Khirbet Yarmuk. **[2]** A city of the tribe of Issachar assigned to the Levites (Josh. 21:29); the same as Ramoth [3].

Jattir ("preeminence"), a town in the mountains of Judah, assigned to the Levites (Josh. 15:48; 21: 14); possibly modern Khirbet 'Atti, 21 km. (13 mi.) south-southwest of Hebron.

Javan ("Ionians"), a trading post in southern Arabia (Ezek. 27: 13). *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

Jearim ("woods"), mountains marking the boundary of Judah about 13km. (8 mi.) northeast of Beth-shemesh (Josh. 15:10).

Jebus ("manager"), another name for Jerusalem (Judg. 19:10-11).

Jegar-sahadutha [Galeed] ("heap of witness"), a pile of stones erected by Laban to memorialize his pact with Jacob; near Mount Gilead north of the Jabbok River (Gen. 31:47). Galeed is Hebrew and Jegar-sahadutha is Aramaic; both mean the same thing.

Jehoshaphat ("judged of God"), the valley where the Last Judgment will take place (Joel 3:2); tradition identifies it as the Kidron Valley (q. v.). *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

Jehovah-jireh ("the Lord will provide"), the place where Abraham attempted to offer Isaac as a sacrifice (Gen. 22: 14); its exact location is unknown.

Jehovah-nissi ("the Lord my banner"), the altar that Moses built at Rephidim in honor of Israel's victory over Amalek (Exod. 17:15).

Jehovah-shalom ("the Lord send peace"), an altar that Gideon built at Ophrah [2] (Judg. 6:24).

Jehud ("praising"), a town of the tribe of Dan located between Baalath and Bene-berak (Josh. 19:45); probably modern el-Yehudiyeh.

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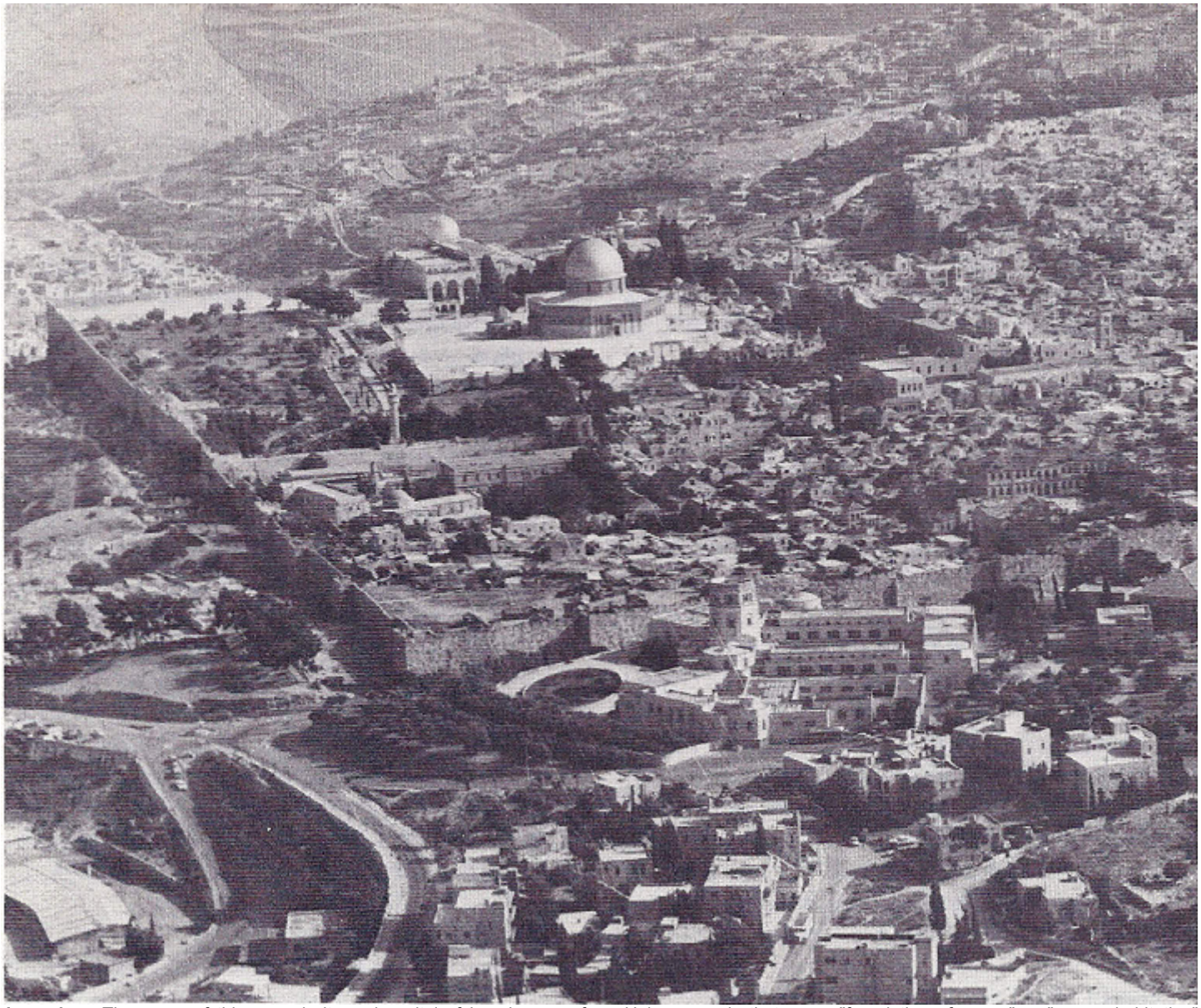

Jerusalem. The name of this sacred city and capital of Israel comes from Hebrew words that mean "foundation of peace" or "secure habitation" Jerusalem is located at one of the highest points on the central ridge of Palestine. This aerial view shows the site where Solomon's temple stood. The site is now covered by the Dome of the Rock, an Islamic mosque.

Jekabzeel ("congregation of God"), a city in extreme southern Judah (Neh. 11:25); probably modern Khirbet Hora. The city was also known as Kabzeel (q.v.).

Jericho ("his sweet smell"), a fortified city of Canaan located about 8 km. (5 mi.) from the north end of the Dead Sea and 27 km. (17 mi.) west of the Jordan River (Num. 22: 1; Deut. 32:49). Today it is the oldest continually inhabited city in the world.

Jeruel ("vision of God"), a wilderness area in Judah near the cliff of Ziz and En-gedi (2 Chron. 20: 16).

Jerusalem ("possession of peace"), capital of the southern kingdom of Judah, located 48 km. (30 mi.) from the Mediterranean Sea and 29 km. (18 mi.) west of the Jordan River (Josh. 10:1; 2 Sam. 5:5).

Jeshanah ("old"), a city in the hill country of Ephraim (2 Chron. 13: 19); variously identified as modern 'Ain Sinya, 6 km. (4 mi.) north of Bethel, or Burj el-Isanah, about 10 km. (6 mi.) north of Bethel.

Jeshimon ("solitude"). **[1]** A wilderness area lying west of the Dead Sea a few kilometers south of Hebron (1 Sam. 23: 19; 26: 1, 3). **[2]** A wilderness on the northeast end of the Dead Sea, near Pisgah and Peor (Num. 21: 20).

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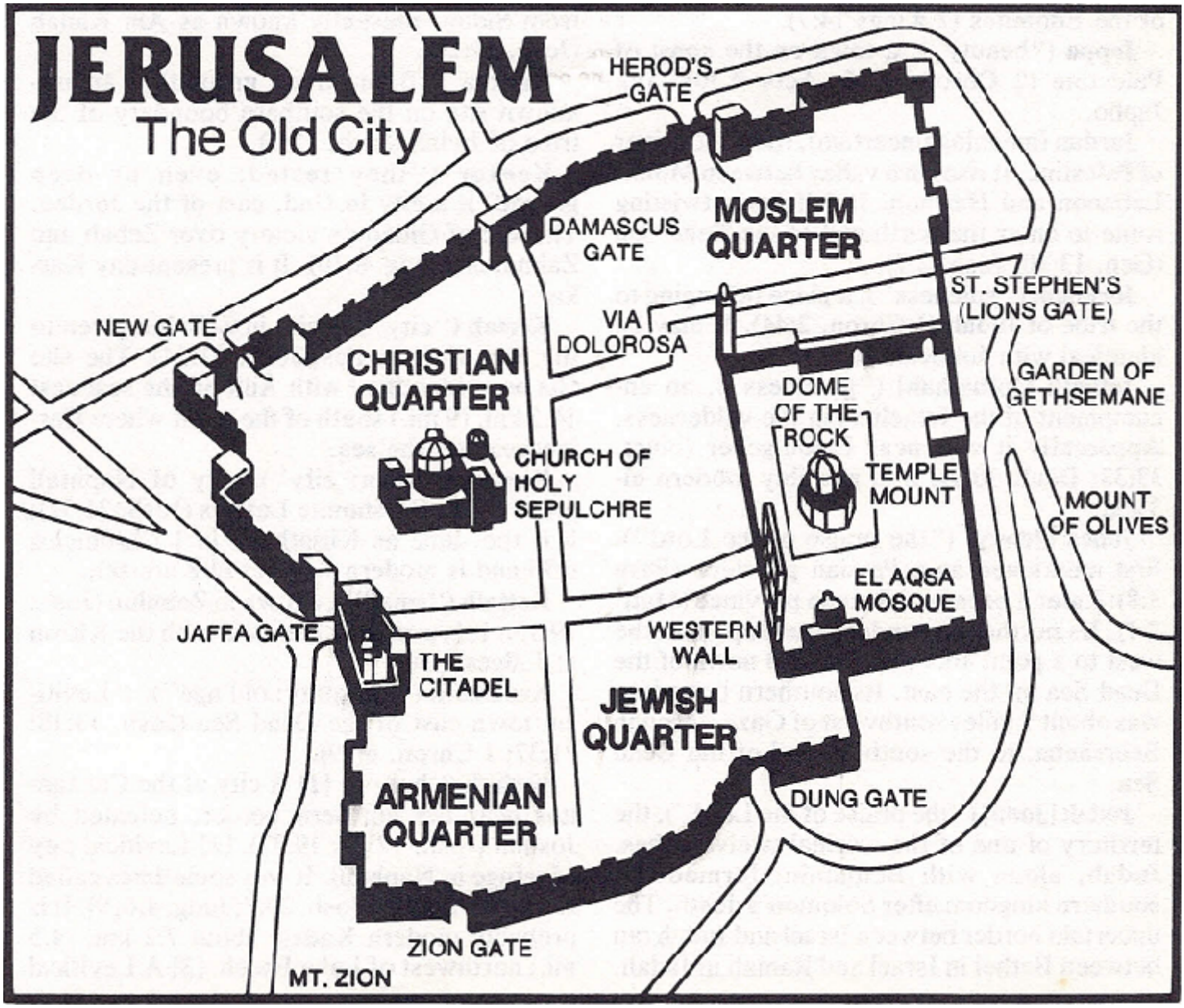

Jeshua ("a savior"), a town in southern Judah that was repopulated by Jews returning from the Babylonian Captivity (Neh. 11:26); probably modern Tell es-Sa'roeh, about 18 km. (11 mi.) east-northeast of Beersheba.

Jeshurun [Jesurun] ("blessed"), a symbolic name for Israel (Deut. 32:15; Isa. 44:2).

Jezreel ("seed of God"). **[1]** A city on the Plain of Jezreel between Mount Gilboa and Mount Carmel (Josh. 19: 18; 1 Kings 21: 1). **[2]** A town in Judah's hill country (Josh. 15:56); probably modern Khirbet Terrama on the Plain of Dibleh. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

Jiphtah ("breaking through"), a city in Judah near Ashnah and Nezib (Josh. 15:43).

Jiphthah-el ("God opens"), a valley that served as the boundary between the territories of Zebulun and Asher (Josh. 19:14,27).

Jogbehah ("high"), a city east of the Jordan River, inhabited by the tribe of Gad (Num. 32:35); present-day Jubeihat, located 10 km. (6 mi.) northwest of Rabbath-ammon.

Jokdeam (" anger of the people"), a city in the mountains of Judah south of Hebron (Josh. 15:56).

Jokmeam ("revenge of the people"), a city of the tribe of Ephraim, given to the Levites. It stood nearly opposite the mouth of the Jabbok River (1 Chron. 6:68); probably the same as Kibzaim (g.v.).

Jokneam ("building up of the people"), a city in Zebulun allotted to the Levites (Josh. 21:34). It stood on or near Mount Carmel probably Tell Kaimun, about 11.3 km. (7 mi.) northwest of Megiddo .

Joktheel ("subdued by God"). **[1]** A city located in the lowlands of Judah (Josh. 15:38). **[2]** The name given to Sela [now Petra], capital of the Edomites (2 Kings 14:7).

Joppa ("beauty"), a town on the coast of Palestine (2 Chron. 2: 16; Acts 9:36). *See* Japho.

Jordan (meaning uncertain), the major river of Palestine. It rises in a valley between Mount Lebanon and Hermon. It follows a twisting route to enter the north end of the Dead Sea (Gen. 13:10; Josh. 2:7).

Jorkoam ("paleness "), a place belonging to the tribe of Judah (1 Chron. 2:44). It may be identical with Jokdeam (q.v.).

Jotbath [Jotbathah] ("goodness"), an encampment of the Israelites in the wilderness. Apparently it was near Ezion-geber (Num. 33:33; Deut. 10:7); it is possibly modern el-Taba.

Judea [Jewry] ("the praise of the Lord"), first mentioned as a Persian province (Ezra 3:8). Later it became a Roman province (Matt. 2:1). Its northern boundary was Joppa on the west to a point 16.1 km. (10 mi.) north of the Dead Sea on the east. Its southern boundary was about 7 miles southwest of Gaza, through Beersheba, to the southern end of the Dead Sea.

Judah [Joda] ("the praise of the Lord"), the territory of one of the original twelve tribes. Judah, along with Benjamin, formed the southern kingdom after Solomon's death. The uncertain border between Israel and Judah ran between Bethel in Israel and Ramah in Jadah. Jerusalem was its capital (2 Chron. 13:18; 15:8). *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

Juttah ("turning away"), a city in the mountains of Judah. It is near Maon, Carmel, and Ziph (now Yatta), 8.8 km. (5.5 mi.) southwest of Hebron (Josh. 15:55; 21:16).

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