

# The Geography of Jesus' Biblical World: Then and Now

## Out of Egypt I Called My Son™

Biblical names are shown first; modern names and locations appear in parentheses or after commas.

### MAP KEY

- Major Locations in Jesus' Life
- Other Key Locations
- Regions
- - - Travel Route (Ancient Pathways)
- - - Rivers / Waterways

### THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT

After the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, Joseph, Mary, and the child fled to Egypt to escape King Herod's order to kill all boys two years old and under (Matthew 2:13-15).

### NOTE ABOUT EGYPT

The Bible does not specify where in Egypt Joseph, Mary, and Jesus stayed.



EGYPT  
(North Africa)



### APPROXIMATE TRAVEL BY ANCIENT METHODS

- On Foot: 15-20 miles per day
- By Donkey: 20-30 miles per day
- Travel was slower over mountains, valleys, and desert areas.

### CARAVAN (GROUP TRAVEL) ANCIENT PATHWAYS

- 10-20 miles per day was common.

### THEN AND NOW: BIBLICAL PLACES AND MODERN LOCATIONS

| BIBLICAL PLACE (THEN)            | MODERN NAME / LOCATION (NOW)          | APPROXIMATE DISTANCE*                         | APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME* |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| ● Nazareth                       | Nazareth, Israel                      | Approx. 65-90 miles (104-145 km) to Jerusalem | 3-4 days                 |
| ● Cana (Kefar Kanna)             | Kefar Kanna, Israel                   | Approx. 65-85 miles (105-137 km) to Jerusalem | 3-4 days                 |
| ● Capernaum (Tel Hum)            | Tel Hum, Israel                       | Approx. 60-80 miles (97-129 km) to Jerusalem  | 3-4 days                 |
| ● Sea of Galilee (Lake Kinneret) | Sea of Galilee (Lake Kinneret)        | Approx. 65-85 miles (105-137 km) to Jerusalem | 3-4 days                 |
| ● Sychar (Samaria)               | Nablus Area, West Bank                | Approx. 35-50 miles (56-80 km) to Jerusalem   | 1-2 days                 |
| ● Jerusalem                      | Jerusalem, Israel                     | —   | —                        |
| ● Bethlehem                      | Bethlehem, West Bank                  | Approx. 5 miles (8 km) to Jerusalem           | 1-2 hours                |
| ● Jericho                        | Jericho, West Bank                    | Approx. 17 miles (27 km) to Jerusalem         | 1 day                    |
| ● Egypt (Border Area)            | Egypt (North Africa)                  | Approx. 40-60 miles (64-97 km) from Bethlehem | 1-2 days                 |
| ● Egypt to Jerusalem             | From Egypt (Border Area) to Jerusalem | Approx. 45-65 miles (72-105 km)               | 2-3 days                 |
| ● Alexandria, Egypt to Jerusalem | From Alexandria, Egypt to Jerusalem   | Approx. 300+ miles (480+ km)                  | 10+ days                 |

\*Distances and travel times are approximate based on ancient measurements and travel methods.

### DISTANCES AND TRAVEL ROUTES

- - - Dashed brown lines on the map show possible ancient travel routes connecting key locations in Jesus' life, ministry, travels, and refuge.
- - - The red dashed line shows the probable route of the Flight Into Egypt.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Jesus' world was well connected by roads and footpaths.
- ✓ Journeys that seem long today were made regularly in the first century.
- ✓ From Galilee to Jerusalem could take 3-4 days on foot.
- ✓ Bethlehem is only a few hours from Jerusalem.
- ✓ Egypt's nearby border offered safety for Joseph, Mary, and the child Jesus within a matter of days.
- ✓ These routes show how connected the places of Jesus' life truly were.
- ✓ This map highlights biblical places and their modern locations, helping readers visualize the geographic context of the land.

### TRAVEL BY ANCIENT METHODS\*

- On Foot: 15-20 miles per day was common.
- By Donkey: 20-30 miles per day was common.
- Caravan (Group Travel): 10-20 miles per day was common.
- Travel was slower over mountains, valleys, and desert terrain.

Out of Egypt I Called My Son™  
An Introduction to the Geography of Jesus' Biblical World

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