



Old Testament Survey



Lesson One *Overview and Geography*

Books of the Bible and Key Word(s)

	<i>New</i>
Genesis	_____
Exodus	_____
Leviticus	_____
Numbers	_____
Deuteronomy	_____

Books of the Old Testaments

Genesis	2 Chronicles	Daniel
Exodus	Ezra	Hosea
Leviticus	Nehemiah	Joel
Numbers	Esther	Amos
Deuteronomy	Job	Obadiah
Joshua	Psalms	Jonah
Judges	Proverbs	Micah
Ruth	Ecclesiastes	Nahum
1 Samuel	Song of Solomon	Habakkuk
2 Samuel	Isaiah	Zephaniah
1 Kings	Jeremiah	Haggai
2 Kings	Lamentations	Zechariah
1 Chronicles	Ezekiel	Malachi

Literature of the Old Testament

In the Old Testament:

- ...the first seventeen books are historical,
- ...the next five books are poetical, and
- ...the next seventeen books are prophetical!



Three Kinds of Books in the Old Testament

Historical

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

Poetical

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

Prophetical

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

Time Line of the Old Testament

Poetical Books

							Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon				
Job						Psalms					

Historical Books

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11

Prophetical Books

								To Israel: Hosea Amos To Judah: Habakkuk Isaiah Jeremiah Joel Micah Zephaniah Lamentations To Assyria: Jonah Nahum To Edom: Obadiah	Ezekiel Daniel	Haggai Zechariah	Malachi
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Geography of the Old Testament

Bodies of Water

The primary anchor points for mastering the geography of the Bible are the bodies of water.

1. *The _____ Sea*

The land of the Old Testament lies east of this beautiful blue body of water.

2. *The Sea of _____*

To call this body of water a sea seems to be an overstatement. It is a fresh water lake which is seven miles wide, and fourteen miles long. It lies inland from the Mediterranean about thirty-six miles.

3. *The _____ River*

Flowing south out of the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River travels for sixty-five miles, as the crow flies, to empty into the Dead Sea. Many are surprised at how much history has revolved around such a small river.

4. *The _____ Sea*

Shaped like a giant hot dog with a bite out of the lower third, the Dead Sea lies at the bottom of the world. It is the lowest point on earth, almost three thousand feet below sea level at its lowest point, so that water flows into it, but no water flows out of it. As a result, the water has developed very high mineral deposits and does not support normal plant or animal life. Hence the name "Dead Sea."

5. _____ *River*

Perhaps the most famous river in the world, the Nile flows through the heart of Egypt, spreads out like so many fingers, and empties into the waiting arms of the Mediterranean.

6. _____ *and (7) _____*

These twin rivers flow for almost a thousand miles each before they join hands and deposit their treasure into the Persian Gulf.

8. _____ *Gulf*

These last three bodies of water, the Tigris, the Euphrates, and the Persian Gulf, form the eastern-most boundary for the lands of the Old Testament. The Tigris and Euphrates flow through present day Iraq, while the Persian Gulf separates Iran from Saudi Arabia.



Locations

With the geographical framework offered by the bodies of water, we can establish the locations that are relevant to the Old Testament.

A. *The Garden of* _____

The exact location of the Garden of Eden, where everything began, is impossible to pinpoint. However, it was near the convergence of four rivers, two of which were the Tigris and Euphrates.

B. _____ /Israel/Palestine

This smallish piece of real estate that lies between the Mediterranean coast and the Sea of Galilee-Jordan River-Dead Sea, changes names throughout the Old Testament. In Genesis it is called Canaan. After the Hebrew people establish themselves in the land on the book of Joshua, it becomes known as Israel. Eight hundred years later, at the beginning of the New Testament, it is called Palestine.

C. _____

Located just off the northwestern shoulder of the Dead Sea, this city, nestled in the central mountains of Israel, is so central to the story of the Old Testament that it must be singled out and identified. It is the capital the nation of Israel.

D. _____

The grande dame of ancient civilization, Egypt plays a central role in the history of the Old Testament.

E. _____

Located at the headwaters of the Tigris and Euphrates, this great world power is notable in the Old Testament for conquering the Northern Kingdom of Israel and dispersing her people to the four winds.

F. _____

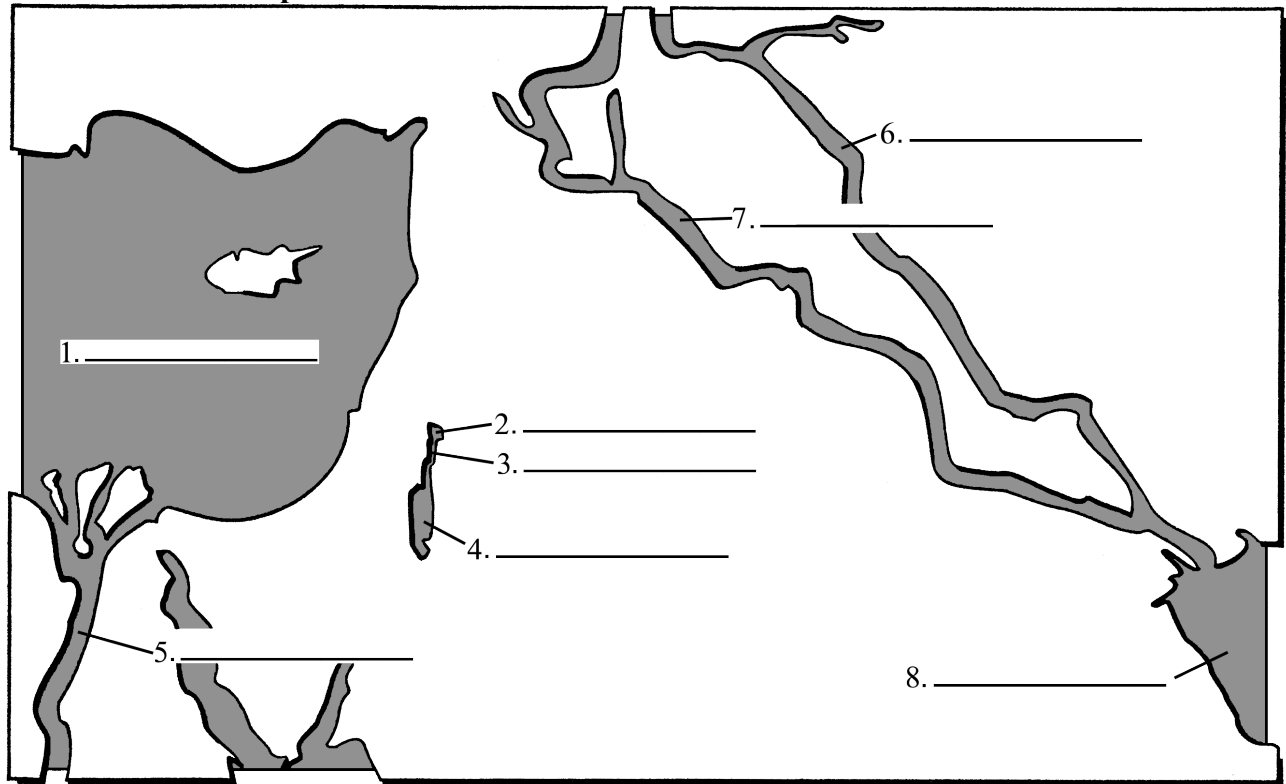
Another gigantic historical world power, this fabulous, albeit short-lived, nation conquered Assyria. It also conquered the Southern Kingdom of Judah one hundred and fifty years after Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom of Israel. It is found in Mesopotamia, between the Tigris and Euphrates. (Mesopotamia means “in the middle of” [meso] – “rivers” [potamus].)

G. _____

The final historical superpower of the Old Testament is located at the north bank of the Persian Gulf. Persia comes into play by conquering Babylonia and by allowing the Hebrews to return from captivity in Babylonia to rebuild the city of Jerusalem and reinstate temple worship.



Bodies of Water Map



Locations Map

