

Bible Study Tools – Bible Maps

Bible Study Tools activities are designed to give students practice in basic Bible study skills: the use of Bible maps, cross-reference systems, concordances and lexicons.

Bible Maps

Most Bibles come with a set of maps, but how often are they used? They are tucked away, usually at the back of the Bible where they are easily missed. Yet Bible maps are full of things waiting to be discovered. This activity is designed to help students discover how maps can enrich their understanding of the Bible.

Bible Study Tools – Bible Maps
Bible Details Come to Life

Luke 10:30 – *"A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho."*

- 1 – Label Jerusalem and Jericho on the contour map (next page). Label the Dead Sea and the Jordan River.
- 2 – The contour lines on the map are labeled at 200-meter intervals (i.e., about 660 feet of elevation change between lines). Study the map and determine:
 - the approximate elevation of Jerusalem –
 - the approximate elevation of Jericho –
- 3 – How much does the elevation drop as a traveler goes down from Jerusalem to Jericho?
- 4 – How far is it from Jerusalem to Jericho in miles? In kilometers? (Use a Bible map with a distance scale to get this information.)
- 5 – If you are walking from Jerusalem to Jericho, does the land drop quickly or slowly?
(If you like math, use the answers to questions 3 and 4 to calculate how much the land drops for every kilometer that you walk.)



Key:

Contour lines are at 200-meter intervals, starting from the Dead Sea at ≈ -400 meters (below Sea Level).

John 2:13 – "The Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem."

6 – Why does the Bible consistently speak of going *up* to Jerusalem? What geographical fact is reflected in this expression?

7 – Use a concordance or search device and find other Bible passages that speak of going *up* to Jerusalem. List a few.

8 – What spiritual lessons can be drawn from the idea of going *up* to Jerusalem?

The Satellite Bible Atlas – Learning Bible Geography Online

The Satellite Bible Atlas site offers a menu of thirteen teaching videos about the land of Israel that run from five to 18-minutes in length. Watch them online. They make valuable connections with the Bible.

After answering questions 1 to 5 above, go to <http://www.bibleplaces.com/satellite-bible-atlas-schlegel/>. Scroll down to Teaching Videos and watch the 11-minute video entitled "The Road from Jericho to Jerusalem." You will travel the Jericho Road with a group of young people, and Bible details will come to life.