

CULTURE - GEOGRAPHY - HISTORY

Cultural Tools: "Easton's Bible Dictionary", "The New International Standard Bible Dictionary", "Manners & Customs of the Bible". (Additional suggested tools: Lockyers, "All the Trades & Occupations of the Bible", Lockyers "All the Holy Days and Holidays of the Bible".)

Geographical Tools: "The Bible Atlas". See Bible Dictionaries under cultural tools.

Historical Tools: "Handbook of Life in Bible Times"

We will define each of the tools and give simple instructions on how they are used. Then you will practice using the tool to answer specific questions related to the Bible.

USING A BIBLE DICTIONARY

This Bible dictionary is among the FIRST tools referred to when studying any Bible Subject. This will give an initial and "over-all" view of a particular study. For this class the use of Easton's Bible Dictionary or Eerdmans Dictionary of The Bible are suggested for first referral. But the ISBE and Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary are also beneficial.

Instructions: Answer each of the four questions using a Bible Dictionary.

1. **AN OBJECT** - Crown Refer to 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 - What kinds of crowns are referred to in the Bible?

 - What is the crown figurative of?

 - What light does this information shed on the meaning of 1 Corinthians 9:25?

2. **A PERSON** - Stephen. Refer to Acts 6,7.
 - Who was Stephen?

 - Why was he arrested?

 - What was unusual about his martyrdom?

3. **A PLACE** - Bethel. Refer to Amos 5:5
- How was Bethel associated with worship?

- What does the name mean?

4. **A DOCTRINE** - Forgiveness.
- Write a brief summary of the Biblical teaching concerning forgiveness.

USING MANNERS & CUTOMS

This book addresses the cultural gap between the Oriental and Western Mind. The book by J. Freeman is filled with **893** articles. The articles are arranged in the order they appear in the scripture and not in alphabetical order. The actual book has a scriptural index and a topical index that is useful in locating customs addressed by a passage you are studying. It will give you the article number endnote the page # by which you can locate the article related to the verse you are studying. If a verse is not found in that index then it is not located the book.

Tools needed: Your KJV or NKJV Bible, The Manners & Customs of The Bible by J. Freeman.

Instructions: Answer the questions below, Using the articles from Manners & Customs and your Bible.

1. Read Luke 18:25 and refer to Article 681.
- Summarize the insight that you gain from your research.

2. Read Matthew 23:5 and refer to Article 652 & 697.
- Summarize the insight that you gain from your research.

3. Read Genesis 37:24 and refer to Article 68
 - Summarize the insight that you gain from your research.

USING THE OXFORD BIBLE ATLAS

This along with the Moody Bible Atlas and other scholarly Bible Atlas' may be used to provide needed information about the places and climate related to Biblical narratives. Context for a narrative and meaning to specific geological symbols used in the Bible are obtained through the study of the Bible Atlas.

Instructions: Look at the Maps provided and your Bible to answer the questions:

1. The Mountains of Palestine

- What is that tallest mountain in the region?
- What is its elevation?
- How much taller is it than other mountains?

Now that you have answered these three questions read Psalms 133:3 & Song of Solomon 4:8. Share the insight you gain from your research?

2. The Vegetation of Palestine

- Is there more forest or desert in Palestine?

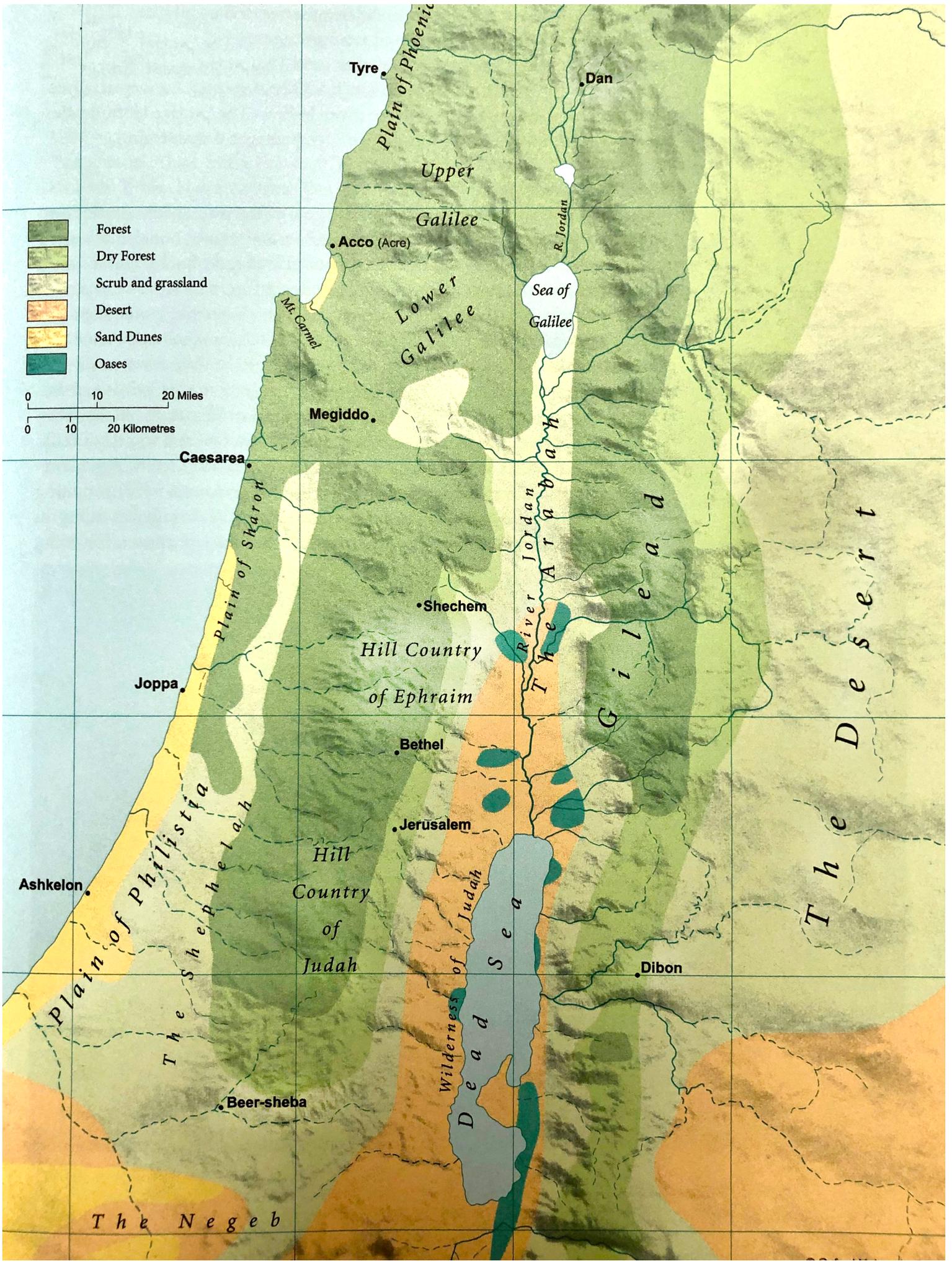
Question: How does this affect your understanding of "under every green tree" in 2 Kings 17:9-12?

- What is the predominant type of vegetation in the Hill Country of Ephraim?

Question: How does this affect your understanding of 2 Samuel 18:6-9?

- ▲ Mountain peak
- Main drainage divide (surface)
- = Fords of Jordan
- Surface streams drain into Mediterranean Sea
- Surface streams drain into Dead Sea





- Forest
- Dry Forest
- Scrub and grassland
- Desert
- Sand Dunes
- Oases

0 10 20 Miles
0 10 20 Kilometres

Ashkelon

Joppa

Caesarea

Megiddo

Acco (Acre)

Tyre

Dan

Upper Galilee

Lower Galilee

Hill Country of Ephraim

Bethel

Jerusalem

Hill Country of Judah

Beer-sheba

Dibon

The Negeb

The Desert

Wilderness of Judah

Dead Sea

River Jordan

The Arabah

Gilead

Plain of Phoenicia

Mt. Carmel

Plain of Sharon

Plain of Philistia

The Shephelah

Sea of Galilee

R. Jordan