PHOTOS

OF
NEW TESTAMENT SITES:
Volume 1

by

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Covenant Bible Studies
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INTRODUCTION

This book is a companion to several other books I have written. Those books were running commentaries of the New Testament. I called the first one, *The Messengers*, which is a guide to the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. In the second book I brought the Book of Acts and the Book of Revelation together, and I named it, *An Explosion of Faith*. My last book contains all of the letters, and I called it, *The First E-Mails*.

I inserted very few pictures in the above three books. The few that I did include were not printed in color. Having traveled through Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Greece, the Islands, and Rome, I selected 186 photos that illustrate many of the Biblical sites of the New Testament. I have many more pictures than I have included in this book, but I decided to limit myself to 30 pages of pictures in two volumes. Every picture has a title, but I purposely did not give the details about the picture. If one would like to know more about the site, the Internet is an excellent tool to dig deeper.

All of these pictures are on my web site, and I give permission to anyone who wants to use them in Biblical studies. I am an advocate of Biblical literacy, and if any of these photos can contribute to that cause, I will be grateful. It is also my hope that these pictures will motivate people to visit these sites in person.

My favorite picture is one I took of the Nativity in a small church in Cairo, Egypt. It is pictured above. On all of my trips, I tried to find a church in which to worship, whether I understood the language or not. I figured that I could stand up when everyone else stood up, and I could sit down when everyone else sat down. I'll never forget one experience I had in Egypt. I couldn't understand a word, but the pastor made me comfortable as we tried to communicate with one another. A young woman from Syria sat down next to me and offered to translate for me. When it came time to serve the communion, the pastor invited me to assist. I said that I felt honored to participate, but I wanted this young Syrian woman to stand next to me and help me understand what was going on. It was a worship service that I will never forget.

My books and pictures can be purchased through Amazon.com. They can also be downloaded from my web site:

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Photos taken by Jim and Barbara Reuteler

Upper Israel

Lower Israel

1. Sepphoris: Mary's Hometown

2. Mary's Well: Nazareth

3. Birthplace of John the Baptist

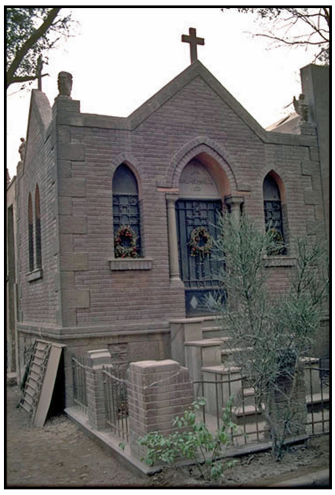
4. Shepherd's Field: Bethlehem

5. Church of the Nativity: Bethlehem

6. Birthplace of Jesus: Bethlehem

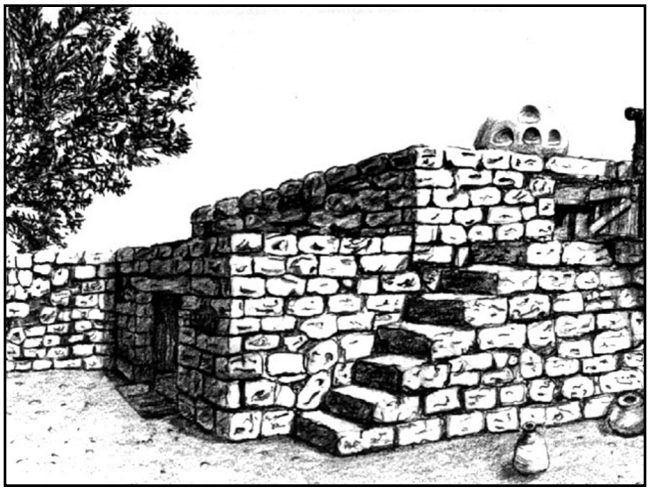
7. Manger: Megiddo

8. The Nativity: Cairo Church



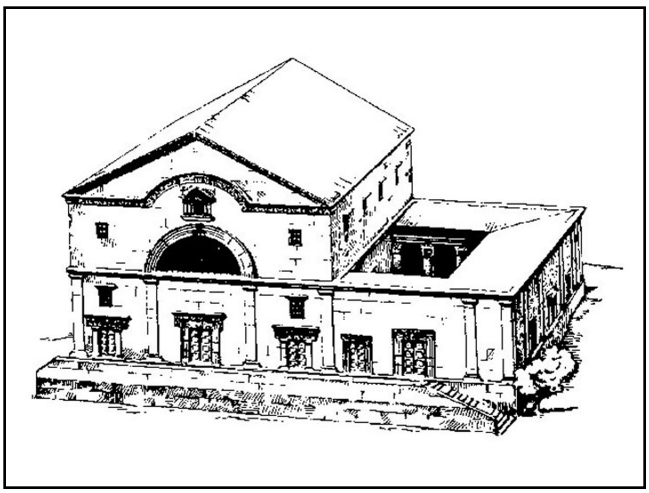
9. Church: Cairo

10. Peter's House: Capernaum

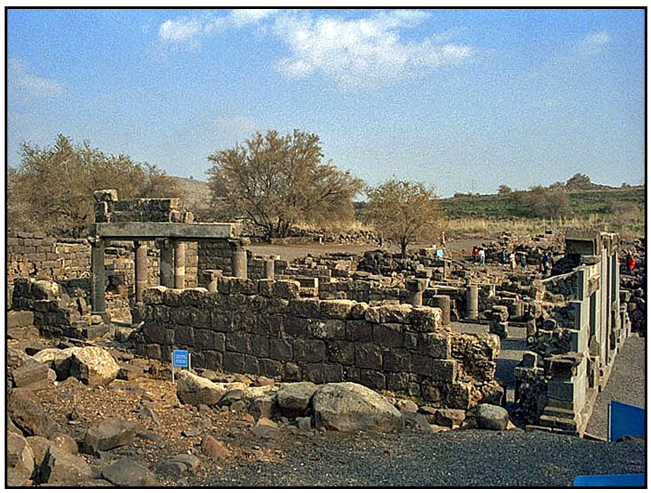


11. Peter's House: Capernaum

12. Synagogue: Capernaum



13. Synagogue: Capernaum



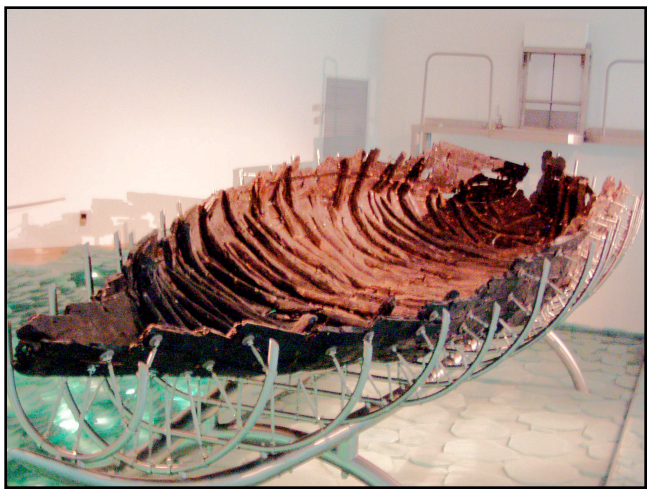
14. Synagogue: Korazin

15. Jordan River

16. Jordan River

17. Mount of Temptation: Jericho

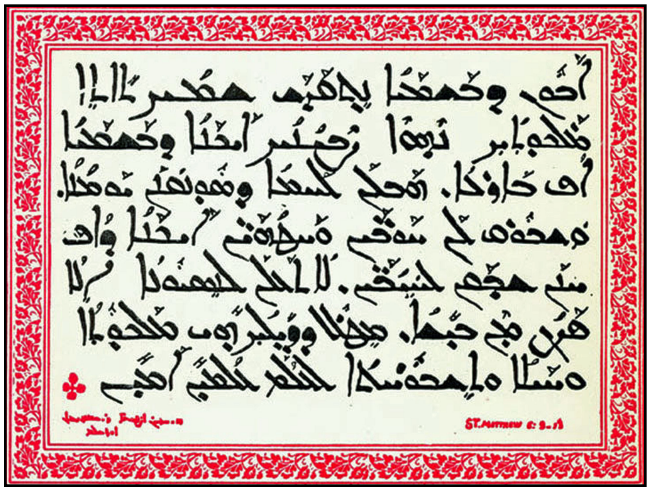
18. Fishing on the Sea of Galilee



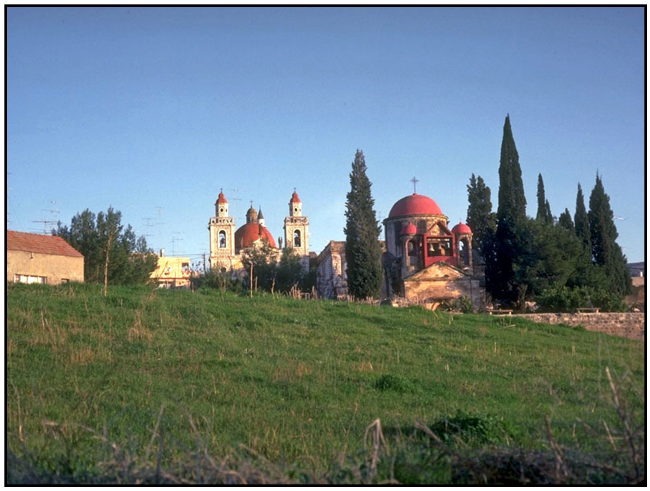
19. First Century Boat: Galilee

20. Site of Sermon on the Mount: Galilee

21. Church of the Beatitudes: Galilee



22. Lord's Prayer in Aramaic



23. Church: Cana of Galilee

24.Water Jars: Cana of Galilee

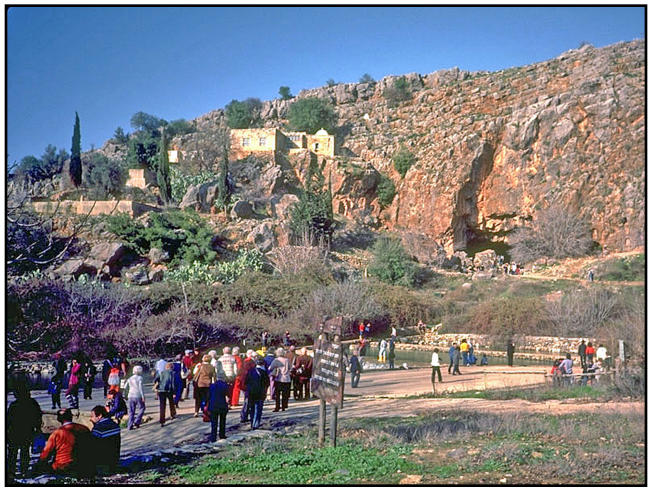
25. St. George's Monastery

26. Good Samaritan Inn

27. Pool of Siloam: Jerusalem

28. Pool of Bethesda: Jerusalem

29. Jacob's Well: Samaria



30. Caesarea Philippi: Golan Heights

31. PLO Huts: Jericho

32. Modern Jericho

33. Sycamore Tree: Jericho

34. Entering Bethany

35. Martha and Mary's Home: Bethany

36. Lazarus' Tomb: Bethany

37. Inside Lazarus' Tomb: Bethany

38. Jerusalem

39. Sheep Gate: Jerusalem

40. Golden Gate: Jerusalem

41. Golden Gate Bridge: Jerusalem

42. Southern Temple Steps: Jerusalem

43. The Upper Room: Jerusalem

44. Gethsemane: Jerusalem

45. Church of All Nations: Jerusalem

46. Road to Caiaphas' House: Jerusalem

47. Road to Chaiaphas' House: Jerusalem

48. Caiaphas' House: Jerusalem

49. Entrance to the Prison: Jerusalem

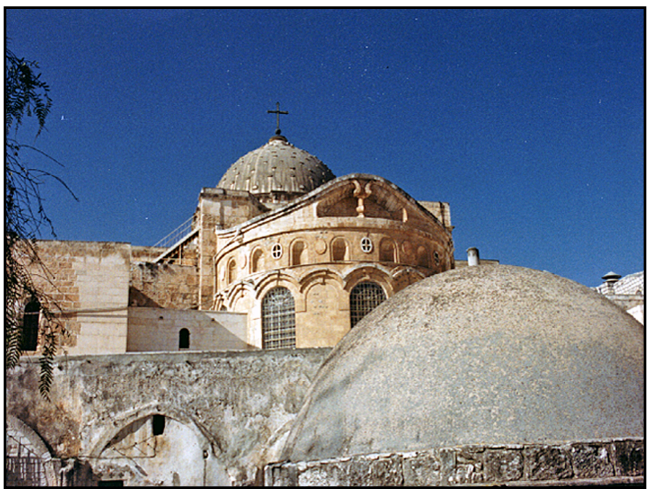
50. Prison: Jerusalem

51. Calvary from the Praetorium: Jerusalem

52. Floor of the Praetorium: Jerusalem

53. Game on Praetorium Floor: Jerusalem

54. Stone with Pilate's Name: Caesarea



55. Church of the Holy Sepulchure: Jerusalem

56. Place of the Anointing: Jerusalem

57. Calvary: Jerusalem

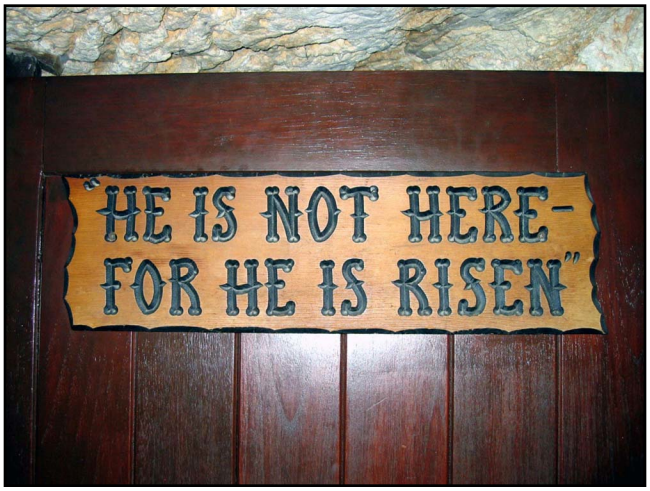
58. Calvary: Jerusalem

59. Jim touching Calvary: Jerusalem

60. Golgotha: Jerusalem

61. The Garden Tomb: Jerusalem

62. Inside The Garden Tomb: Jerusalem



63. Inside The Garden Tomb: Jerusalem

64. Chapel of The Resurrection: Jerusalem

65. Mount of Olives: Jerusalem

66. Chapel of the Ascension: Jerusalem

Antioch, Tarsus, and the Cities of Galatia

67. Place of the Ascension: Jerusalem

68. Inside The Upper Room: Jerusalem

69. Caesarea by the Sea

70. Theater: Caesarea

71. Paul's Home: Tarsus

72. Paul's Well: Tarsus

73. St. Paul's Church: Tarsus

74. Antioch: Syria (Turkey)

75. Mountainside Graves: Antioch

76. Church of St. Peter: Antioch

77. Church of St. Peter: Antioch

78. Inside the Church of St. Peter

79. Inside the Church of St. Peter

80. The Escape Route

81. The Escape Hole

82. The Port of Seleucia

83. The Taurus Mountains: Perga

84. Church of St. John: Antioch of Pisidia

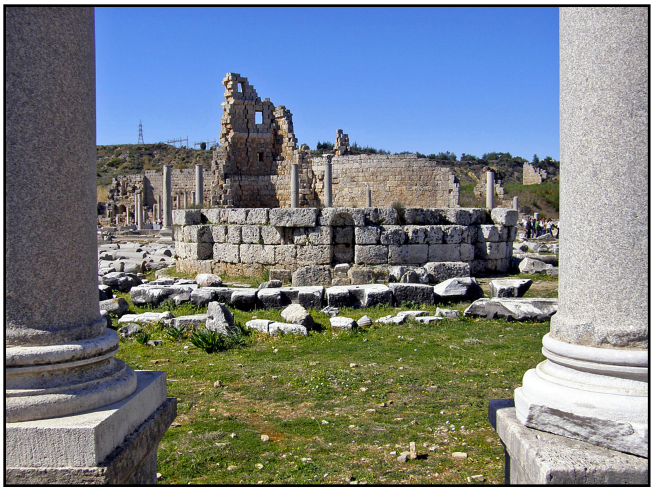
85. Ruins: Antioch of Pisidia

86. Whirling Dervishes: Iconium

87. Tell (Ruins): Lystra

88. Tell (Ruins): Derbe

89. Modern Village: Derbe



90. Slave Market: Perge or Perga

LIFE IN BIBLICAL TIMES

The photos I have taken are of the ruins left over from Biblical times. Only in Ephesus, did I see a portrayal of what life might have been like in the Roman Empire. William Barclay indicates that there were some 60,000,000 slaves in the Roman Empire. Below is his description of what life might have been like for the poor as well as for the wealthy. This quote can be found in William Barclay, *The Revelation of John, Volume 2* (The St. Andrew Press: Edinburgh, 1962), pp. 210-211.

> It is almost impossible for us to understand how much Roman civilisation was based on slavery. There were some 60,000,000 slaves in the empire. It was no unusual thing for a man to have four hundred slaves, and more. Almost every action and every craft and every art had its slaves. "Use your slaves like the limbs of your body," says a Roman writer, "each for its own end." There were, of course, slaves to do the menial work; there was an extraordinary subdivision of labour among the slaves. Each particular service and action had its slave. We read of torch-bearers, lantern-bearers, sedan-chair carriers, street attendants, keepers of the outdoor garments. There were slaves who were secretaries and shorthand writers, there were slaves to read aloud, and even slaves to do the necessary research for a man who was writing a book or a treatise. The slaves even did a man's thinking for him. There were slaves called *nomenclatores* whose duty it was to remind a man of the names of his clients and dependents! "We remember by means of others," says a Roman writer. There were even slaves to remind a man to eat and to go to bed! "Men were too weary even to know that they were hungry." There were slaves to go in front of their master, and to return the greetings of friends, which the master was too tired or too disdainful to return himself. A certain ignorant man, unable to learn and unable to remember anything, got himself a set of slaves. One memorised Homer, one Hesiod, others the lyric poets. Their duty was to stand behind him as he dined and to prompt him with suitable quotations. He paid £1,000 for each of them. Some slaves were beautiful youths, "the flower of Asia," who simply stood around the room at banquets to delight the eye. Some of them were cup-bearers.

Some of them were Alexandrians, who were trained and encouraged in pert and other obscene repartee. The guests often chose to wipe their soiled hands on the hair of the slaves. Such beautiful boy slaves cost at least £1,000 or £2,000. Some slaves were freaks—dwarfs, giants, cretins, hermaphrodites. There was actually a market in freaks—"men without shanks, with short arms, with three eyes, with pointed heads." Sometimes dwarfs were artificially produced for sale.

It is a grim picture of men being used body and soul for the service and the entertainment of others.

This was the world for which the merchants were grieving, the lost markets and the lost money which they were bewailing. This was the Rome whose end John was threatening—and he was right—for a society built on luxury, on wantonness, on pride, on callousness to human life and personality was necessarily doomed, even from the human point of view.