

# ALL THE PLACES OF THE BIBLE

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This article identifies all of the places named in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books. The place names are arranged alphabetically as they appear in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The suggested meaning of the names is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various places bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this [1] ; [2]; and so on. Then follows a description of each place, with several Bible references to it.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These place names are ancient, many are pre-Israelite, and their history is obscure and uncertain.

Often a Hebrew name refers to both a place and a person. In such cases, you will find the same name in "All the People of the Bible."

Different names were used to refer to certain sites in different periods of history (e.g., Accho and Ptolemais). We have grouped these names under the most familiar biblical name, cross-referencing the other names to it. Modern place names are given under most of the biblical names.

## O

**Oboth** ("desires"), an encampment of the Israelites east of Moab (Num. 21: 10; 33:43). It is probably modern 'Ain el-Weiba.

**Olives, Mount of [Mount of Corruption; Olivet]**, a ridge east of Jerusalem and separated from Jerusalem by the Kidron Valley (2 Sam. 15:30; Mark 11: 1; Acts 1: 12). It is called the Mount of Corruption in 2 Kings 23: 13.

**On** ("strength") an ancient city of Lower Egypt situated on the Nile Delta (Gen. 41:45, 50). It is identical with Beth-Shemesh [4], 30.6 km. (19 mi.) north of Memphis.

**Ono** ("grief of him"), a city of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8: 12; Ezra 2:33). It is probably modern Kafr 'Ana 11.3 km. (7 mi.) southeast of Joppa.

**Ophel** ("small white cloud"), a hill in southeastern Jerusalem (2 Chron. 27:3; Neh. 3:26; 11:21). It was near the Water Gate, Horse Gate, Pool of Siloam, the east court of the temple, and the Kidron Valley.

**Ophir** ("fruitful region"), a region where Solomon mined gold (1 Kings 9:28; 1 Chron. 29:4). The location is highly uncertain. Josephus thought it was India, but the African coast in modern Somaliland is more probable.

**Ophni** ("wearisomeness"), a city of Benjamin (Josh. 18:24). It was 4.8 km. (3 mi.) north-northwest of Bethel.

**Ophrah** ("a fawn"). [1] A city of Benjamin (Josh. 18:23; 1 Sam. 13:17). It is probably modern el Taiyibeh, about 6.4 km. (4 mi.) east-northeast of Bethel. [2] A city in Manasseh (Judg. 6: 11, 24; 9:5). It is now called Arrabeh. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Oreb** ("a raven"), the rock east of Jordan near Bethbareh where the Midianite chieftain Oreb died (Judg. 7:25; Isa. 10:26). It is now called Ash-el-Ghorab. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

## End of the O's.

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## P

**Padan-aram [ Padan]** ("plain [tableland] of Aram"), the plain region of Mesopotamia from the Lebanon Mountains to beyond the Euphrates, and from the Taurus Mountains on the north to beyond Damascus on the south (Gen. 25:20; 28:2; 5:7). It is called simply Padan in Genesis. 48:7.

**Pai [Pav]** ("howling"), the capital of Hadar, King of Edom (Gen. 36:39; 1 Chron. 1:50). Its location is unknown.

**Palestine [Palestina]** ("which is covered"), an ill-defined region between the Jordan River and the Dead Sea on the east and the Mediterranean on the west (Exod. 15: 14; Joel 3:4; Gen. 15: 18). Its northern border is roughly the Lebanon Mountain range. It stretches in a southwesterly triangle to the Gulf of Aqaba on the Red Sea.

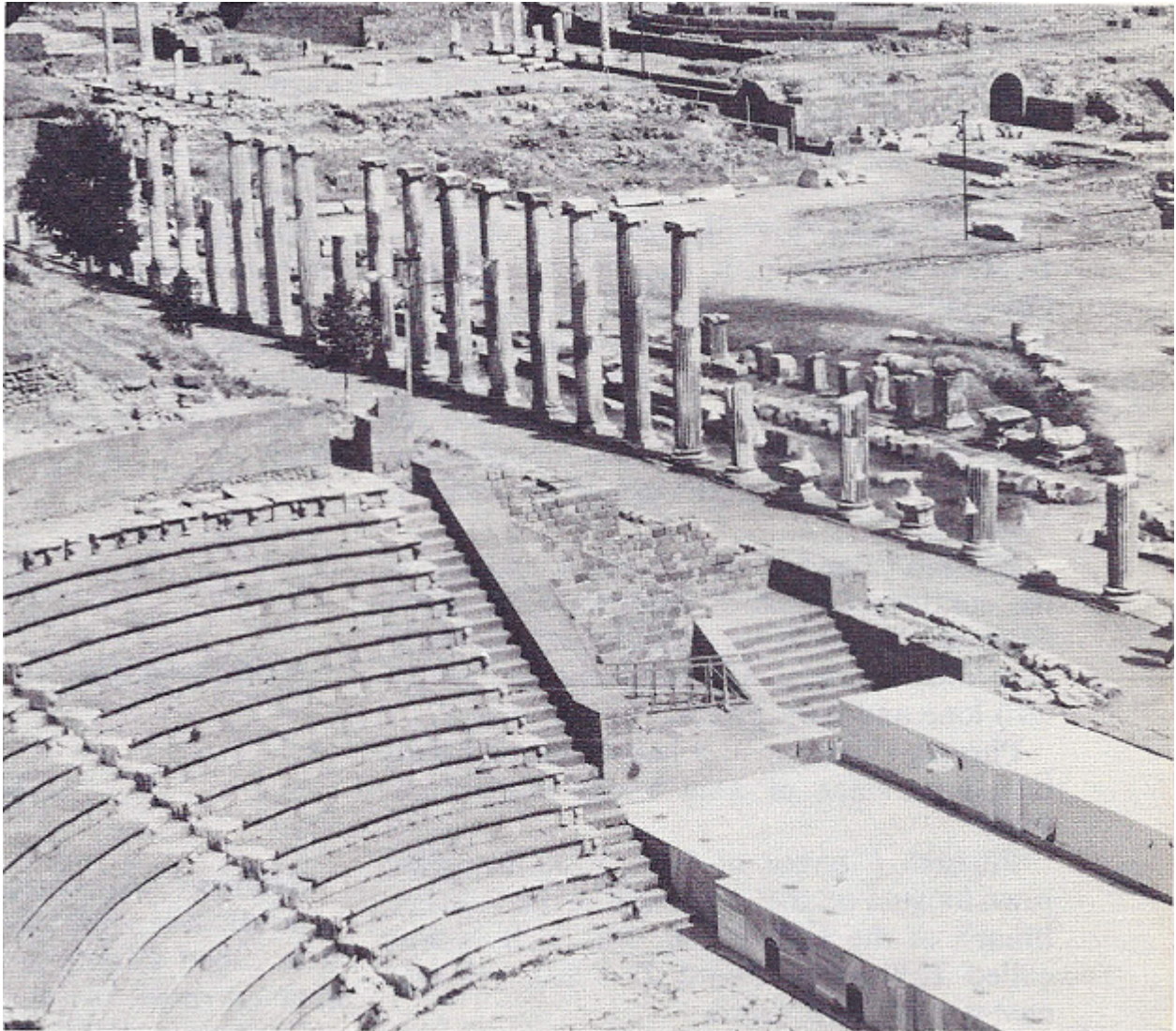
**Pamphylia** ("a nation made up of every tribe"), a southern coastal area in Asia Minor; its main city is Perga (Acts 13: 13; 14:24; 27:5).

**Paphos** ("that which boils"), a town on the southwest extremity of Cyprus; it was visited by Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13:6-13). It is modern Baffa.

**Paradise** ("pleasure ground; park"), figurative name for the place where God dwells (2 Cor. 12:3) and the abode of the righteous (Luke 23:43; Rev. 2:7).

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**Amphitheater In Pergamum.** The citizens of Pergamum (KJV. Pergamos) were the first to establish the worship of the Roman emperor, Augustus Caesar; John referred to the city as the "seat of Satan" (Rev. 2:13). It is located 80 km. (50 mi.) north of Smyrna in present-day Turkey. In the heart of the city the Greeks built this magnificent amphitheater with 78 rows of seats. Behind the row of columns was the Asclepieum, where the people of Pergamum worshiped the god of healing, Asclepias.

**Parah** ("increasing"), a town of Benjamin (Josh. 18:23). It is probably modern Wadi el-Farah 5.5 miles northeast of Jerusalem.

**Paran** ("beauty"), a wilderness seven days' march from Mount Sinai (Gen. 21:21; Num. 10:12; 1 Sam. 25:1). It is located east of the wilderness of Beersheba and Shurj, and it merges with the Wilderness of Sin with no clearly marked boundary. The area borders on Edom and Midian; it is sometimes called Mount Paran (Hab. 3:3) and El-Paran ("oak of Paran"; Gen. 14:6).

**Parbar** ("a suburb"), an area on the west side of the temple containing officials' chambers and cattle stalls (1 Chron. 26:18).

**Parvaim** ("eastern"), a place where gold was obtained for the decoration of Solomon's temple (2 Chron. 3:6). It may be modern Sak el-Farwain in southern Arabia.

**Pas-dammim.** See Ephes-dammim.

**Patara** ("trodden under foot"), a seacoast city of southwest Lycia in Asia Minor (Acts 21:1).

**Pathros** ("persuasion of ruin"), the country of Upper Egypt inhabited by the Pathrusim (Isa. 11:11; Jer. 44:1-12), one of the seven peoples coming out of Egypt.

**Patmos** ("mortal"), a barren island to which John was banished (Rev. 1:9). It is in the Greek archipelago and is now called Patino.

**Pav.** See Pai.

**Peniel.** See Pen vel.

**Penvel [Peniel]** ("face of God"), an encampment of the Hebrews east of Jordan (Gen. 32:30-31; Judg. 8:8, 17). It derived its name from the fact that Jacob had seen God face-to-face there.

**Peor** ("opening"), a mountain peak near Pisgah in Moab (Num. 23:28). It stood across the Jordan River from Jericho.

**Perazim.** See Baal-perazim.

**Perga** ("very earthy"), the capital of Pamphylia in Asia Minor during the Roman period (Acts 13:13).

**Pergamos** ("elevation"), a city of Mysia in northwest Asia Minor and the site of one of the seven churches of Asia (Rev. 2: 12-17).

**Persia** ("cuts or divides"), a great empire including all of western Asia and parts of Europe and Africa (Ezek. 38:5; Ezra 1:8). Persia proper corresponded to what is now the province of Fars in Iran.

**Pethor** ("soothsayer"), the residence of Balaam (Num. 22:5; Deut. 23:4). The town was near the Euphrates River and the mountains of Aram. It was a few kilometers south of Carchemish.

**Pharpar** ("that produces fruit"), one of the two rivers of Damascus (2 Kings 5: 12). It is probably the modern Nahr el-'A'waj.

**Phenice** ("land of palm trees"). [1] A harbor in southern Crete (Acts 27:12). [2] See Phenicia.

**Philippi.** Alexander the Great named this city after his father, Philip II. It was located near rich gold and silver mines, and was a staging point for the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C. During the apostle Paul's visit to Philippi in about A.D. 52, the Philippian jailer and a woman named Lydia were converted to the gospel of Christ (Acts 16:12-14)



**Phenicia [Phenice]** ("land of palm trees"), a thin strip of territory between the Mediterranean Sea on the west and on the east the mountains of Lebanon (Acts 21:2; 11:19; 15:3). It included the hills running south from those mountains.

**Philadelphia** ("love of a brother"), a town of Lydia in Asia Minor. It was the site of one of the seven churches of Asia (Rev. 1:11; 3:7-13). It was 45.5 km. (28.3 mi.) southeast of Sardis.

**Philippi** ("the same"), a city of Macedonia founded by Philip the Great and named for him (Acts 16:12; 20:3-6). It lies inland about 16.1 km. (10 mi.) northwest of its seaport, Neapolis.

**Philistia** ("land of sojourners"), an area on the southwest coast of Palestine (Psa. 60:8; 87:4; 108:9). This land, which was the home of traditional enemies of Israel, was 80 km. (50 mi.) long and only 24 km. (15 mi.) wide.

**Phrygia** ("barren"), a large and important inland province of Asia Minor (Acts 2: 10; 16:6).

**Pibeseth** ("house of Bast"), an Egyptian town located on the west bank of the Pelusiac branch of the Nile (Ezek. 30: 17). It is now called Tell Basta, about 72.4 km. (45 mi.) east-northeast of Cairo.

**Pi-hahiroth** ("the mouth"), the location of the final Israelite encampment prior to crossing the Red Sea (Exod. 14:2,9; Num. 33:7-8). The site is uncertain, but it may be the swamps of Jeneffel at the edge of the pass between Baal-zephon and the Great Bitter Lake.

**Pirathon** ("princely"), the town where Abdon the judge was buried (Judg. 12:15). It is now called Ferata and is 12 km. (7.5 mi.) southwest of Shechem.

**Pisgah** ("fortress"), the mountain ranges from which Moses viewed the Promised Land (Num. 21:20; Deut. 3:27). This part of the Abarim Range is near the northeast end of the Dead Sea.

**Pisidia** ("pitch"), an island district of Asia Minor with Antioch as its capital (Acts 13:14).

**Pison** ("changing"), a river of Eden (Gen. 2: 11). It has traditionally been identified with the Phasis (modern Rion) or the Kur, a tributary of the Araxes. The Palla Copas canal has been suggested also.

**Pithom** ("their mouthful"), an Egyptian store-city built by the Israelites (Exod. 1:11). It was located in the valley connecting the Nile and Lake Timsah. The ruins are at Tell el-Maskhutah.

**Pontus** ("the sea"), a district in northeastern Asia Minor on the Pontus Euxinus (Acts 2:9; 1 Pet. 1:1).

**Potter's Field.** See Aceldama.

**Ptolemais.** See Accho.

**Pul** ("Lord"), a country of undetermined location (Isa. 66: 19), sometimes considered to be Libya.

**Punon** ("precious stone"), an Israelite encampment during the last portion of the wilderness wandering (Num. 33:42). It is probably modern Feeinan on the east side of the Arannah.

**Puteoli** ("sulphurous wells"), a seaport on the northern shore of the Bay of Naples (Acts 28: 13). The modern city of Pozzuoli stands there.

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Q

**Quicksands, the.** *See* Syrtis.

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