

# ICL Old Testament Survey

An open book with a dark cover is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat on a dark surface. The pages are white and appear aged. The text 'THE INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN LEARNING' is overlaid in white, all-caps, sans-serif font across the center of the book's pages.

THE INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN LEARNING

Timothy R. Valentino

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בְּרֵאשִׁית בְּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ



# Genesis 1:1

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בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ

“In the beginning God created  
the heavens and the earth.”

(Genesis 1:1)

# Course Introduction

A Brief Look at the Syllabus, Canvas, and Zoom

# Syllabus

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**The Institute for Christian Learning  
Old Testament Survey  
Fall 2020**

**Instructor: Timothy R. Valentino  
tvalentino@evangelical.edu  
(484) 269-4313**

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*“Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.”  
Exodus 34:5-7*

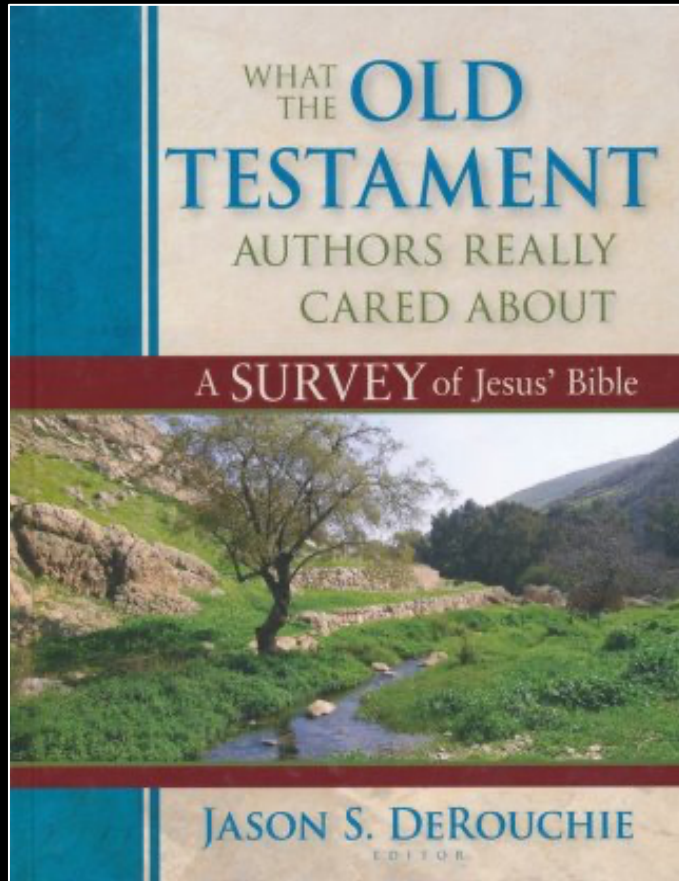
## **COURSE OVERVIEW**

The Old Testament is an amazing body of literature. As an expression of the religious life and thought of ancient Israel, it is a foundational document for Christianity and for Western civilization. More than a collection of stories and sayings, the Hebrew Scriptures are a spiritual compass. The events of those years, when interpreted correctly, give us an accurate understanding of the hour in which we currently live and the reality of the need for prophetic imagination in our own day. Moreover, for Christians, studying the Old Testament is a journey into the very heart of God, to the “roots” of faith, giving us inspiration and direction for today. Israel’s story, feelings, and learning

# Textbooks

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## Textbook 1

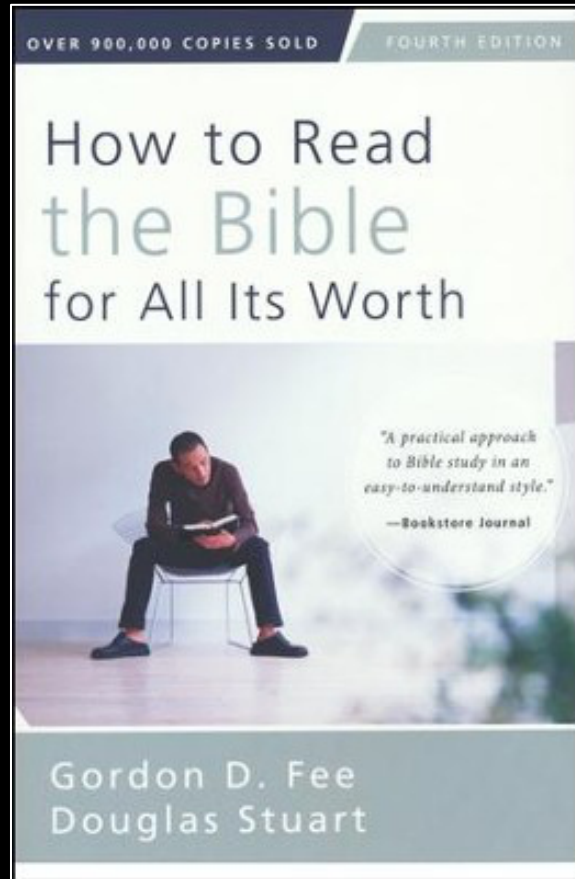
Assignments can be turned in online or on-ground.



# Textbooks

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## Textbook 2

Assignments can be turned in online or on-ground.

# Canvas

The screenshot displays the Canvas LMS interface for a course titled "EPH103: OT Survey". The browser address bar shows the URL "evangelical.instructure.com". The course is set for "Fall 2020".

**Course Status:** Published

**Course Modules:**

- ICL Old Testament Survey (Dr. Timothy R. Valentino)
  - ICL Old Testament Survey Syllabus.pdf
  - Meet Your Instructor: Dr. Timothy R. Valentino
  - The Parking Lot (A Place to Share Helpful Resources, Insights, and/or Questions)
  - Weekly Zoom Link for Synchronous Online Students (Please DO NOT click on link until session is about ready to begin.)

**Course Setup Checklist:**

- Import Existing Content
- Choose Home Page
- View Course Stream
- Course Setup Checklist
- New Announcement
- Student View
- View Course Analytics
- View Course Notifications

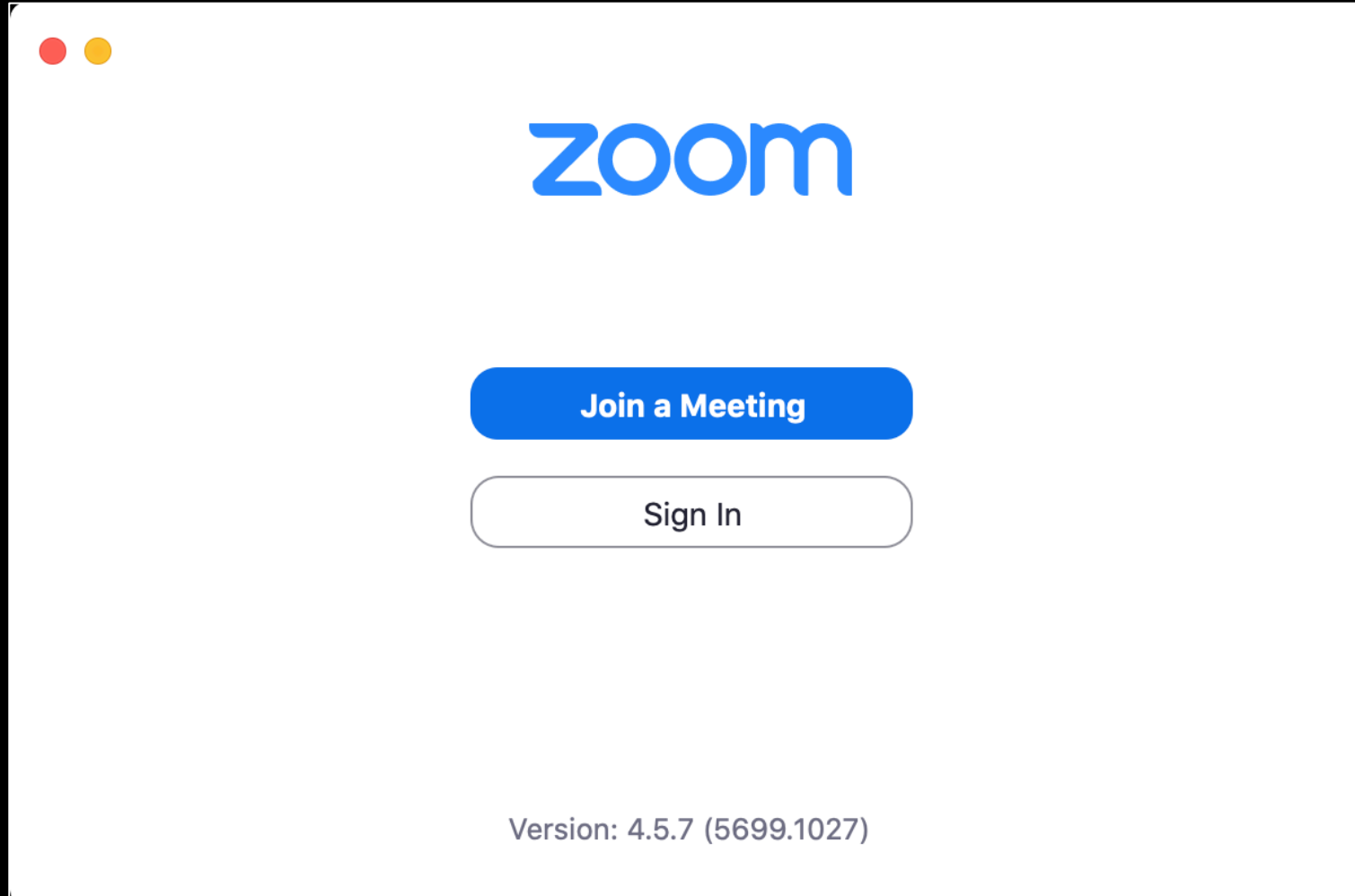
**Coming Up:** Nothing for the next week

The interface includes a left-hand navigation menu with options like Home, Modules, Discussions, Pages, Announcements, Assignments, Files, People, Grades, Syllabus, Outcomes, Rubrics, Quizzes, Conferences, Collaborations, and Settings. The bottom of the screen shows a macOS dock with various application icons.

# Zoom

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# Teaching Assistant

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**Sonya Valentino**

M.A. Ministry

B.A. Music Education



# Getting Started

Some Reminders from Our Hermeneutics Course

# What Is the Bible?

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# What Is the Bible?

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It is a library—a collection of sacred writings recognized by the people of God down through history.

# What Is the Bible?

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It is a library—a collection of sacred writings recognized by the people of God down through history. **But . . .**

- What is it really all about?
- What is its central message?
- Why did God give these writings to us?



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## My View:

At its most basic level, the Bible is a book about God and his ways.

# What Is the Bible?

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God is the center, the hero—who he is, what he's like, what he does, how he interacts with his creation.

The highest order of creation—humanity, who bears God's image.

But God's image bearers rebel against their maker. Now what?

# What Is the Bible?

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We are presented in Scripture with an overarching **story** of:

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- Restoration

And it begins with what we call the Old (or First) Testament.

# Assumptions

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1. The Bible is God's communication of himself and his will to us.



# Assumptions

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2. We do not create meaning; rather, we seek to discover the meaning that is already in the Bible.

# Assumptions

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1. The Bible is God's communication of himself and his will to us.
2. We do not create meaning; rather, we seek to discover the meaning that is already in the Bible.
3. Theological truths revealed in specific passages of the Bible are applicable to both the biblical audience and to Christians today.

# Why Do We Have to Interpret the Bible?

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# Why Do We Have to Interpret the Bible?

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There is a **river** of differences separating us from the biblical audience—culture, language, time, situation, and covenant.

# Why Do We Have to Interpret the Bible?

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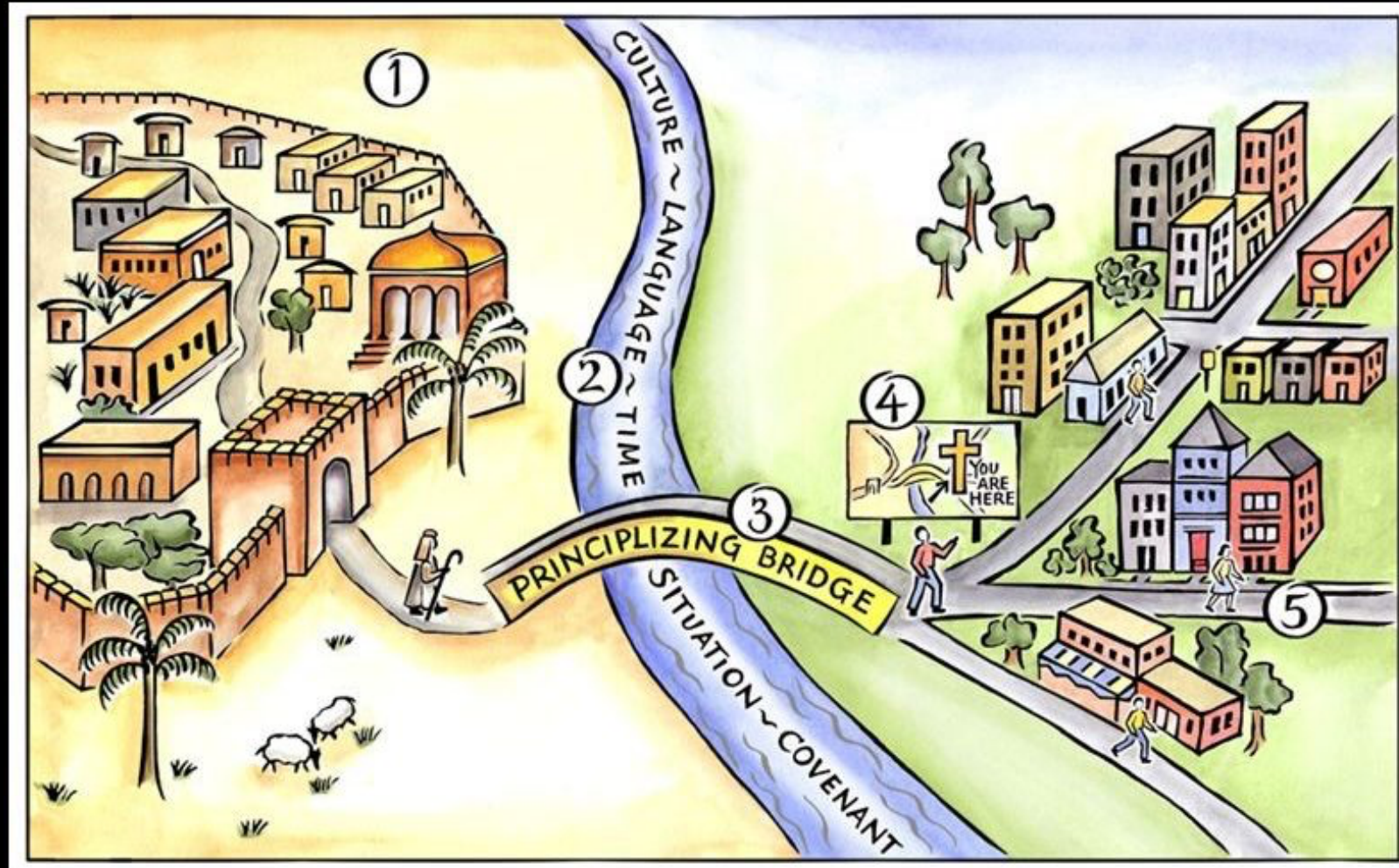


There is a **river** of differences separating us from the biblical audience—culture, language, time, situation, and covenant.

The process of interpreting and applying the Bible may be compared to taking a *journey*.



# The Interpretive Journey



# The Interpretive Journey

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## 1. Grasping the Text in Their Town

What did the text mean to the biblical audience?

# The Interpretive Journey

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What did the text mean to the biblical audience?

## 2. Measuring the Width of the River

What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?

# The Interpretive Journey

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What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?

## 3. Crossing the Principilizing Bridge

What is the theological principle in this text?

# The Interpretive Journey

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## 1. Grasping the Text in Their Town

What did the text mean to the biblical audience?

## 2. Measuring the Width of the River

What are the differences between the biblical audience and us?

## 3. Crossing the Principilizing Bridge

What is the theological principle in this text?

## 4. Grasping the Text in Our Town

How should individual Christians today apply the theological principle in their lives?

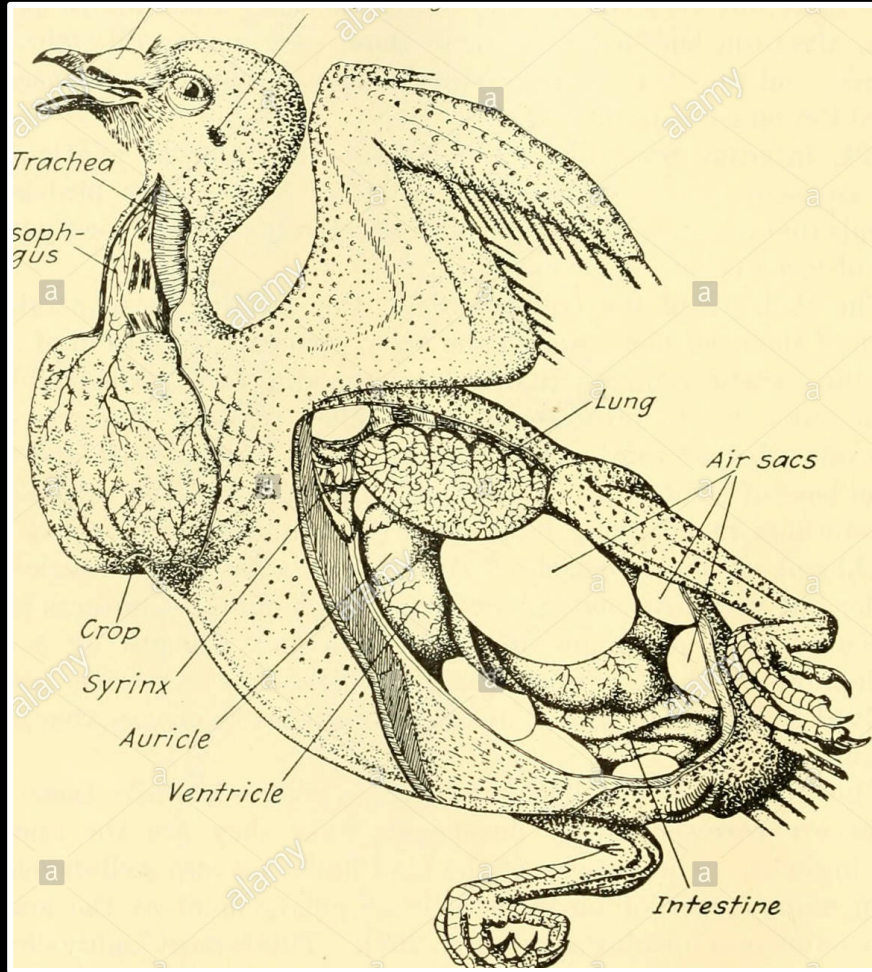


# A Similar Approach with a Slightly Different Spin

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# Bird in Dissecting Pan vs. Bird in Flight



# Getting to the Heart of Scripture

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Rather than looking for “principles” in Scripture, I would encourage us to **look for God**—his nature, his ways, his character, his likes, his dislikes, his teaching strategies, etc.

# Getting to the Heart of Scripture

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Rather than looking for “principles” in Scripture, I would encourage us to **look for God**—his nature, his ways, his character, his likes, his dislikes, his teaching strategies, etc.

Why? Because believers do not live by a long list of principles. We live by the Spirit of **God** in accordance with the Word of **God** in order to know **God** and enjoy **God** and walk with **God** and love **God** and share **God**.

# The Importance of Context

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# The Importance of Context

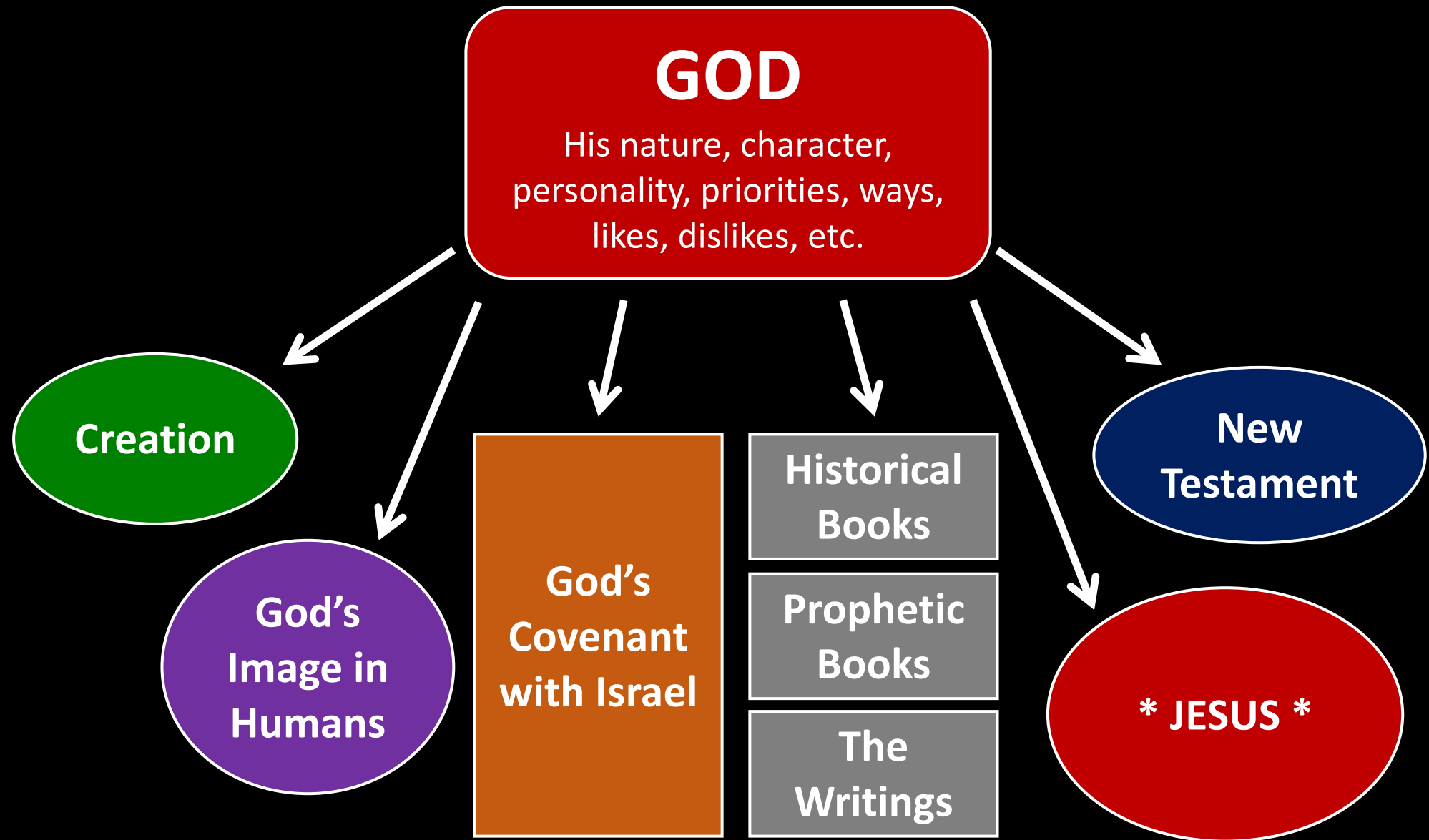
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Dear Mrs. Jones,

I wish to clarify that I am not now, nor have I ever been, an exotic dancer. I work at Home Depot and I told my daughter how hectic it was last week before the blizzard. I told her we sold out of every single shovel we had, and then I found one more in the back room, and that several people were fighting over who would get it. Her picture doesn't show me dancing around a pole. It's supposed to depict me selling the last snow shovel we had at Home Depot. From now on I will remember to check her homework more thoroughly before she turns it in.

Mrs. Smith

# Getting to the Heart of Scripture



# Getting to the Heart of Scripture

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*The character of God.*

# Getting to the Heart of Scripture

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# Getting to the Heart of Scripture

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# Getting to the Heart of Scripture

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Give God the  
Benefit of the  
Doubt!

# A Simple Approach to Interpreting the Bible—C.I.A.

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## Clarification

What did the biblical author mean? (Context!)

## Insight

What does this passage reveal about God and his ways?

## Application

In light of what I learn about God and his ways from this text, what changes should I make in my life?

# A Simple Approach to Interpreting the Bible—C.I.A.

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## Clarification

What did the biblical author mean? (Context!)

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# Simple Yet Profound

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- **Customs** change.
- **Cultures** change.
- **Covenants** change.

But **God** never changes.

Find out what God is like in his Word, and you will have a treasure trove of insights as to how to **live** your life and **love** your God.

# Proverbs 3:5-6

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## Clarification

What did the biblical author mean?

## Insight

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## Application

In light of what I learn about God and his ways from this text, what changes should I make in my life?



# Numbers 15:37-41

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## Clarification

What did the biblical author mean?

## Insight

What does this passage reveal about God and his ways?

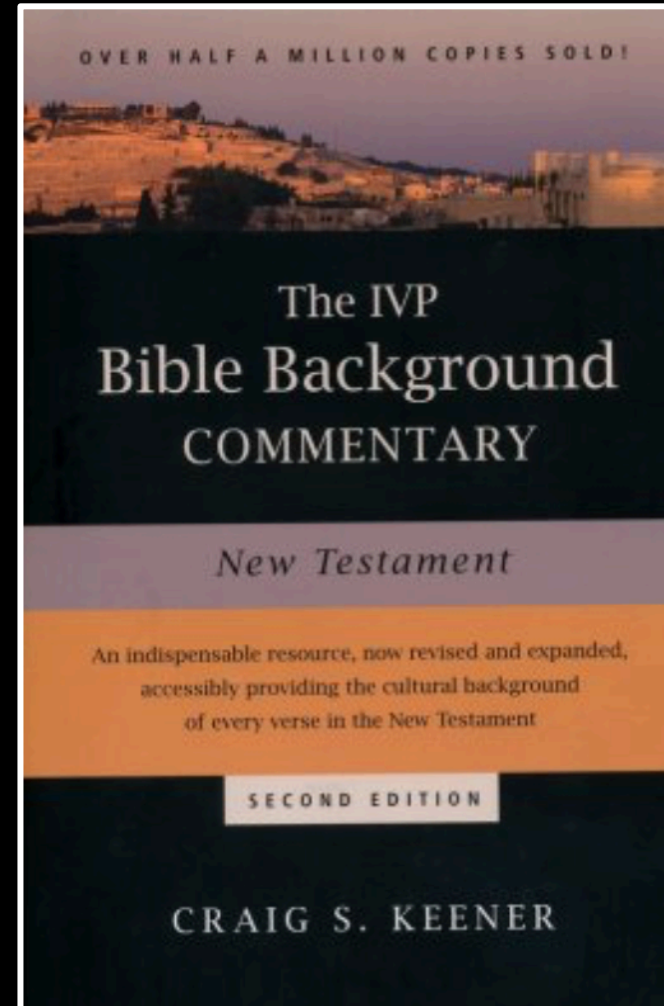
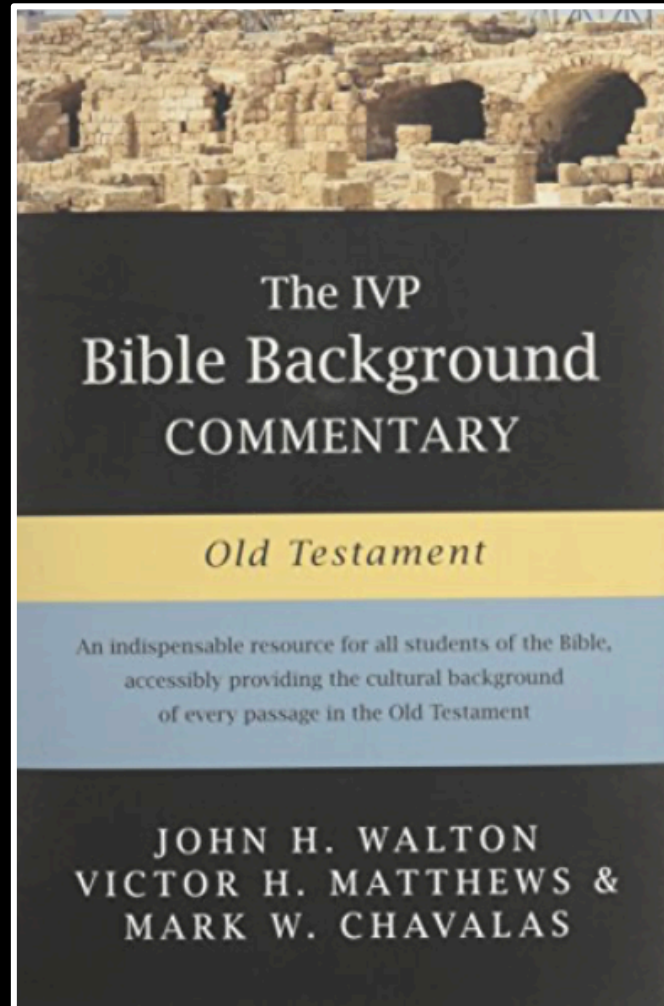
## Application

In light of what I learn about God and his ways from this text, what changes should I make in my life?

# Some Starter Resources

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# Getting Started

Approaching the Old Testament

# The Bible in a Sentence

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"God reigns, saves, and satisfies through covenant for his glory in Christ." - DeRouchie and Naselli

# The Bible in a Sentence

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“God reigns, saves, and satisfies through covenant for his glory in Christ.” - DeRouchie and Naselli

Aspects of the Sentence . . .

- The **Frame** – The Kingdom of God
- The **Form** – The ancient Near Eastern Covenant
- The **Focus** – The glory of God
- The **Fulcrum** – Jesus Christ



## Luke 24:27

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“And beginning with **Moses** and all the **Prophets**, he [Jesus] explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”



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Note: Not just occasional messianic prophecies, but the entirety of the Old Testament (cf. “**God with us.**”)

## Luke 24:27

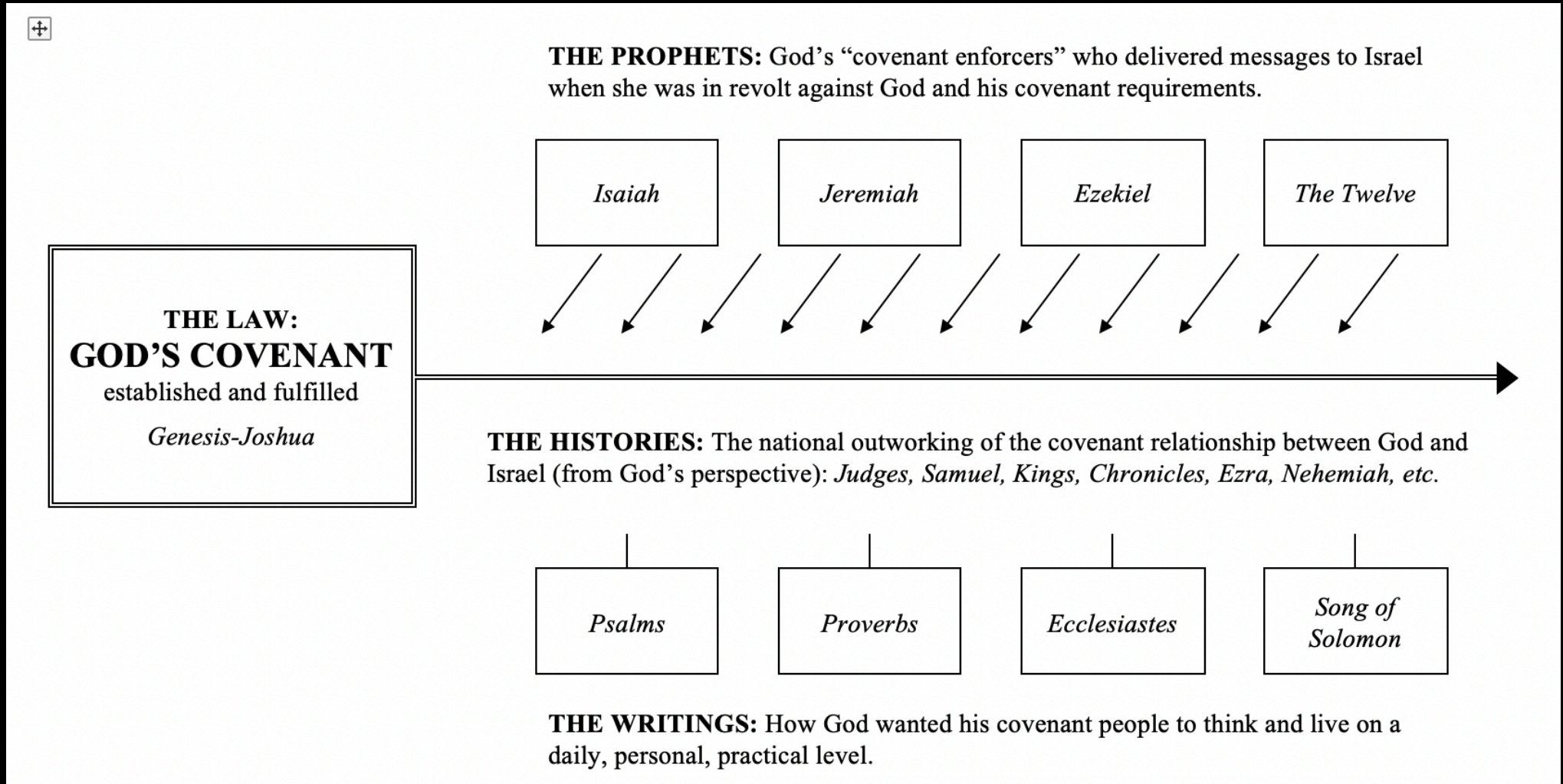
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“And beginning with **Moses** and all the **Prophets**, he [Jesus] explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”

**Note:** Not just occasional messianic prophecies, but the entirety of the Old Testament (cf. “**God with us.**”)

**Discuss:** Why do you think so many people avoid doing a deep dive into the Old Testament?

# Scope and Layout of the Old Testament



# Arrangement of the English and Hebrew Bibles

## ORGANIZATION OF THE ENGLISH AND HEBREW BIBLES

ENGLISH ARRANGEMENT AND CLASSIFICATION	APPROXIMATE DATES	HEBREW BOOK NAMES	HEBREW ARRANGEMENT AND CLASSIFICATION
Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy <b>LAW</b> (Pentateuch)	The Beginning to 1406 B.C.	In the beginning These are the names And he called In the wilderness These are the words	Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy <b>TORAH</b>
Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther <b>HISTORY</b>	1406-1380 B.C. 1380-1050 B.C. 1200-1150 B.C. 1100-1010 B.C. 1010-971 B.C. 971-853 B.C. 853-560 B.C. 1010-971 B.C. 971-539 B.C. 539-450 B.C. 445-410 B.C. 483-474 B.C.	Joshua Judges 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings Isaiah Jeremiah Ezekiel Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	Joshua Judges 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings Isaiah Jeremiah Ezekiel Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi <b>FORMER PROPHETS</b>
Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon <b>POETRY &amp; WISDOM</b>	No Specific Historical Period Covered	Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi <b>LATTER PROPHETS</b>
Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel <b>MAJOR PROPHETS</b>	739-700 B.C. 627-580 B.C. 586 B.C. 593-570 B.C. 605-530 B.C.	Praises Job Proverbs Ruth Song of Songs <del>Qohslet</del> How! Esther Daniel Ezra Nehemiah	Psalms Job Proverbs Ruth Song of Solomon Ecclesiastes Lamentations Esther Daniel Ezra Nehemiah
Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi <b>MINOR PROPHETS</b>	760-730 B.C. 500 B.C. 760 B.C. 500 B.C. 770 B.C. 737-690 B.C. 650 B.C. 630 B.C. 627 B.C. 520 B.C. 520-518 B.C. 433 B.C.	1 The Words of the Days 2 The Words of the Days	<b>THE WRITINGS</b> (Hagiographa) 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles

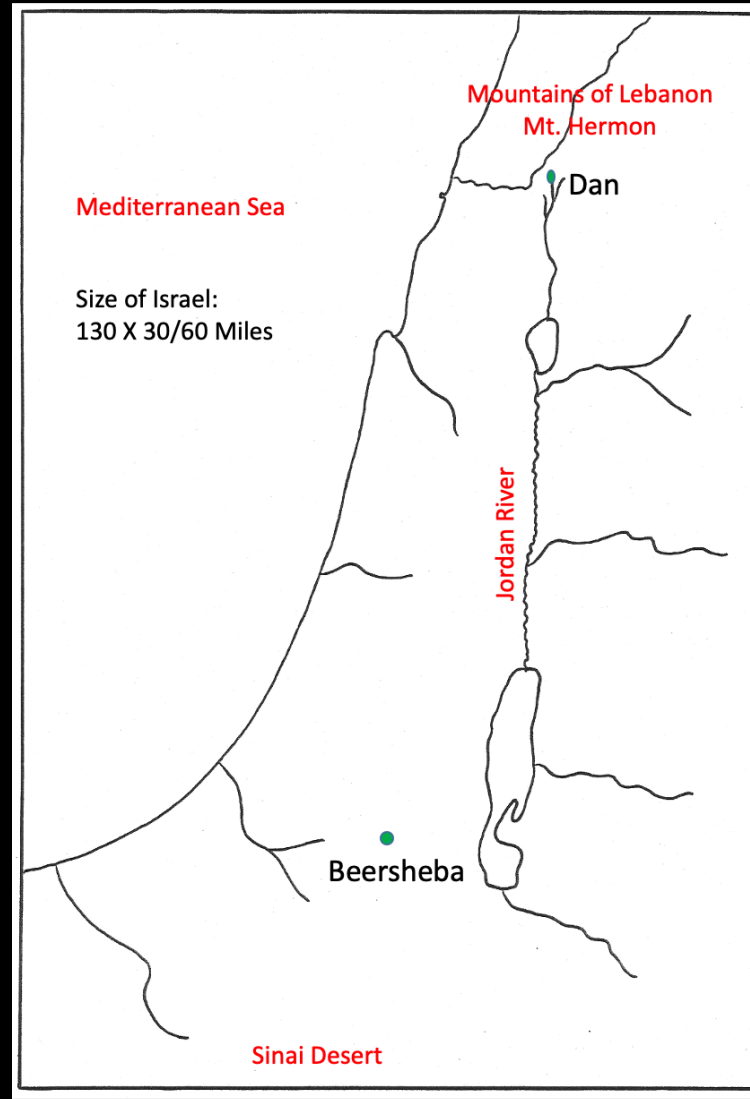


# The Land of the Bible



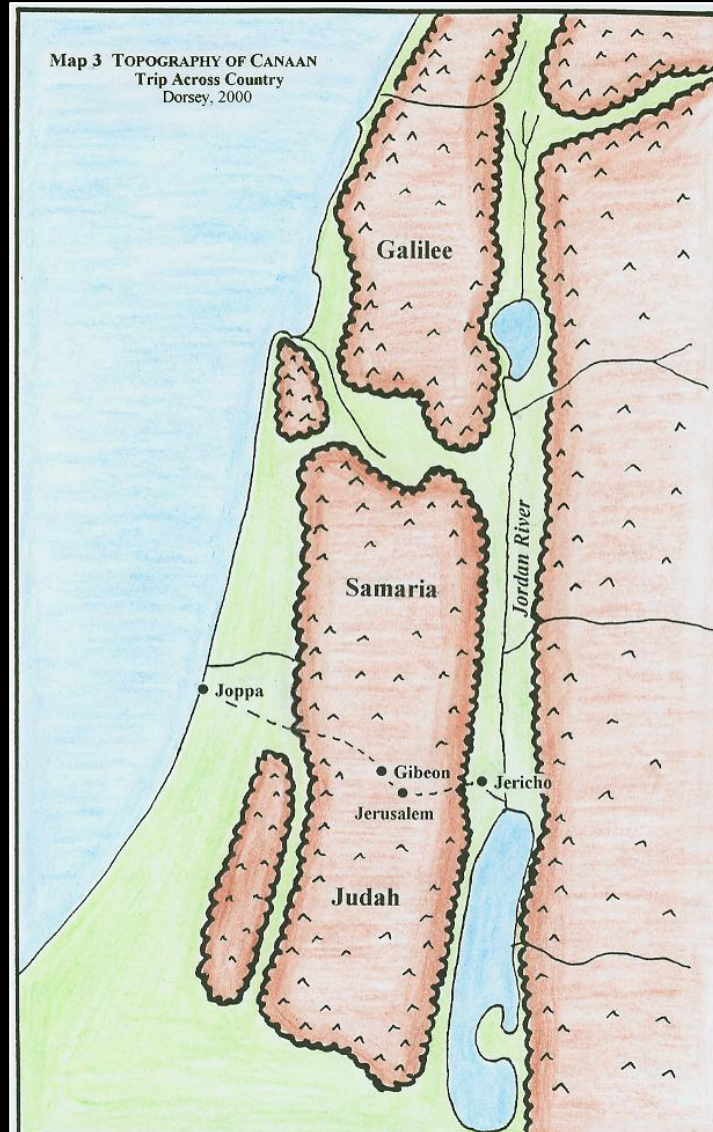
1. Canaan is a land bridge between Africa and Asia/Europe.
2. *Centrality* of the Land.
3. *Vulnerability* of the Land.

# The Land of the Bible





# The Land of the Bible



# The Land of the Bible

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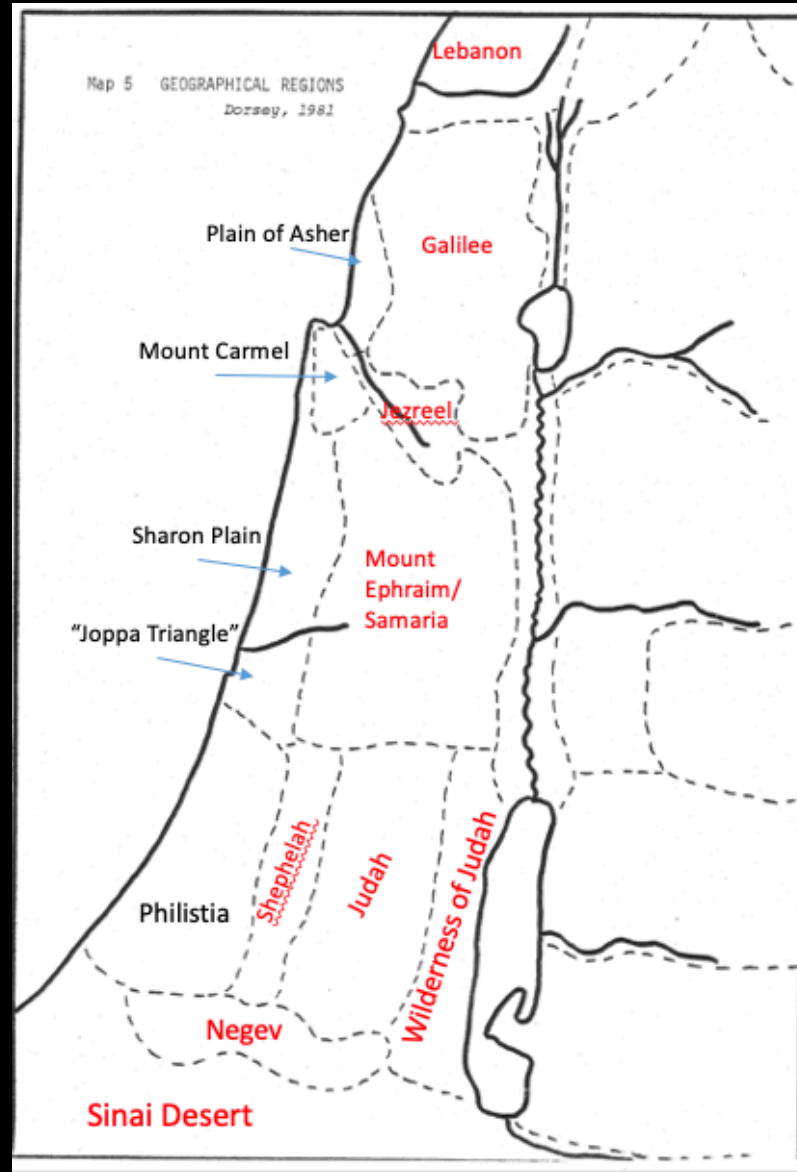


# The Land of the Bible

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# The Land of the Bible







































































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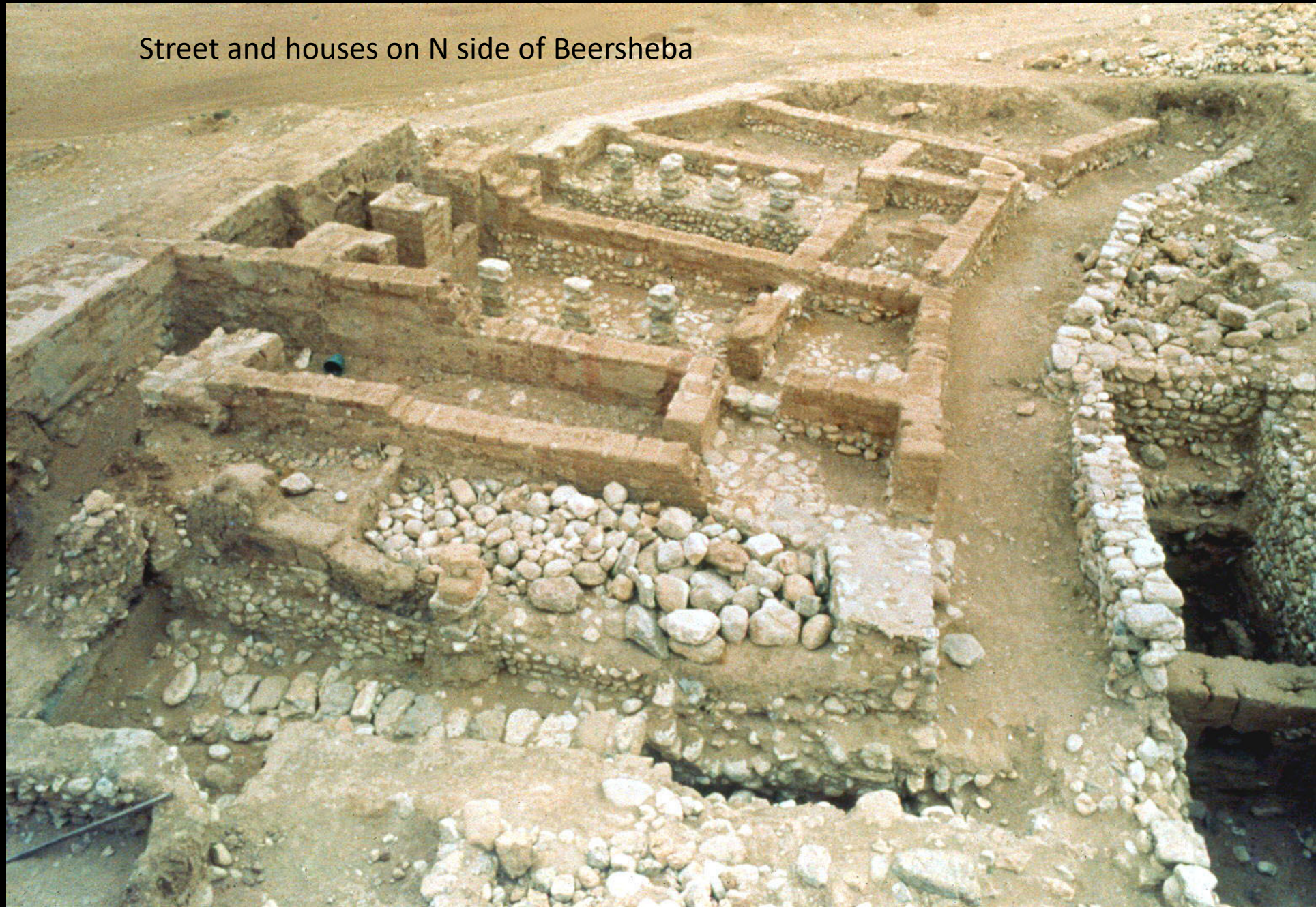




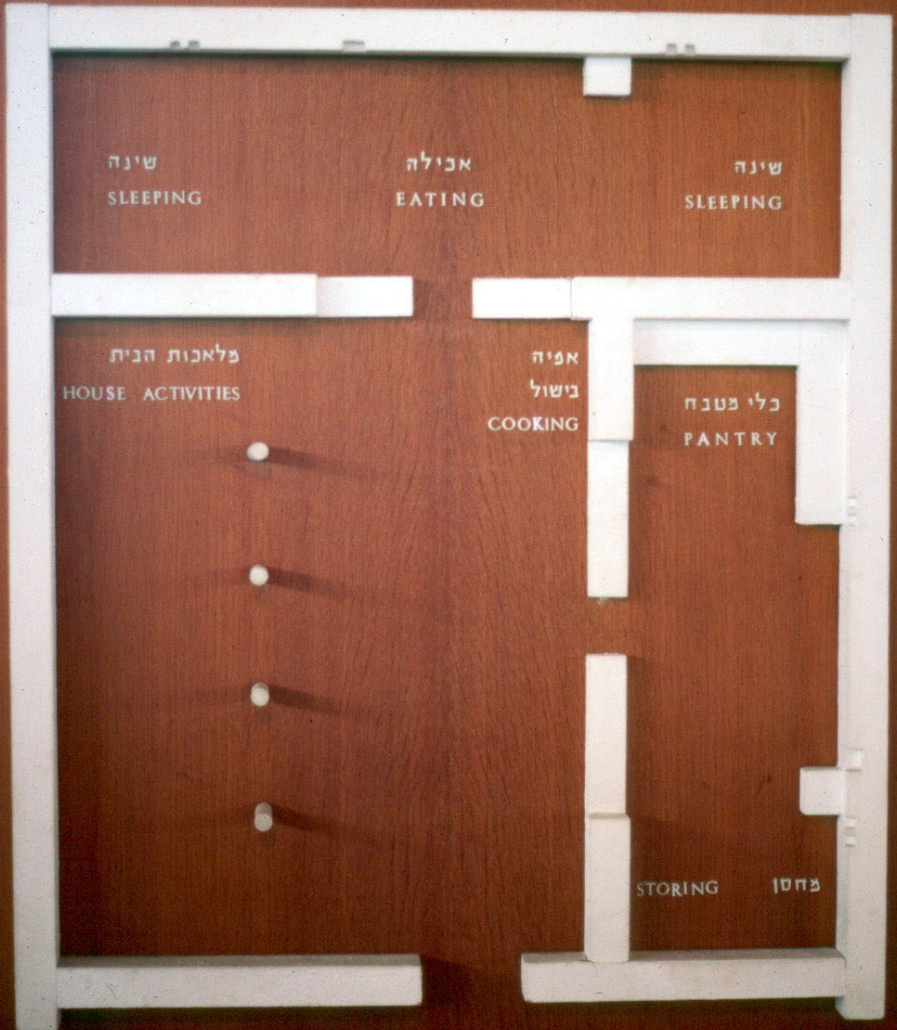




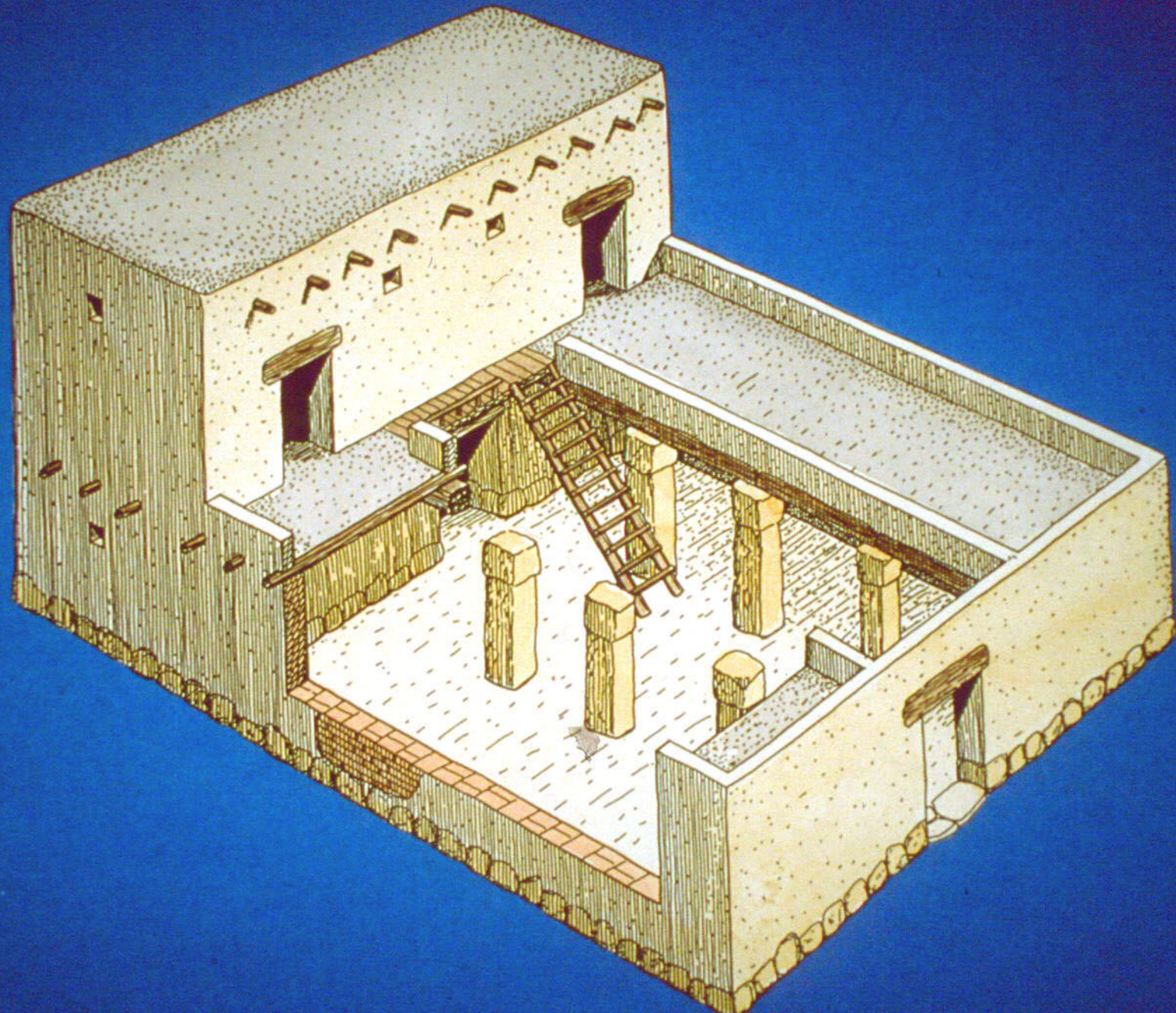
Street and houses on N side of Beersheba













# ICL Old Testament Survey

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