

# THE WORLD OF JESUS AND THE PEOPLE OF JESUS

THE HOLY LAND IN NEW TESTAMENT TIMES

MAP 11



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- 1. Tyre and Sidon** Jesus compared Chorazin and Bethsaida to Tyre and Sidon ([Matt. 11:20-22](#)). He healed the daughter of a Gentile woman ([Matt. 15:21-28](#)).
- 2. Mount of Transfiguration** Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John ([Matt. 17:1-13](#)).
- 3. Caesarea Philippi** Peter testified that Jesus is the Christ and was promised the keys of the kingdom ([Matt. 16:13-20](#)). Jesus foretold his own death and Resurrection ([Matt. 16:21-28](#)).
- 4. Region of Galilee** Jesus spent most of his life and ministry in Galilee ([Matt. 4:23-25](#)). Here he gave the Sermon on the Mount ([Matt. 5-7](#)); healed a leper ([Matt. 8:1-4](#)); and chose the Twelve Apostles, of whom only Judas Iscariot was apparently not Galilean ([Mark 3:13-19](#)). In Galilee the risen Christ appeared to the Apostles ([Matt. 28:16-20](#)).
- 5. Sea of Galilee, later called Sea of Tiberias** Jesus taught from Peter's boat ([Luke 5:1-3](#)) and called Peter, Andrew, James, and John to be fishers of men ([Matt. 4:18-22](#); [Luke 5:1-11](#)). He also stilled the tempest ([Luke 8:22-25](#)), taught parables from a boat ([Matt. 13](#)), walked on the sea ([Matt. 14:22-32](#)), and appeared to his disciples after his Resurrection ([John 21](#)).
- 6. Bethsaida** Peter, Andrew, and Philip were born in Bethsaida ([John 1:44](#)). Jesus went away privately with the Apostles near Bethsaida. The multitudes followed him, and he fed the 5,000 ([Luke 9:10-17](#); [John 6:1-14](#)). Here Jesus healed a blind man ([Mark 8:22-26](#)).
- 7. Capernaum** This was Peter's home ([Matt. 8:5, 14](#)). In **Capernaum**, which Matthew called Jesus' "own city," Jesus healed a paralytic ([Matt. 9:1-7](#); [Mark 2:1-12](#)), cured a centurion's servant, healed the mother of Peter's wife ([Matt. 8:5-15](#)), called Matthew to be one of his Apostles ([Matt. 9:9](#)), opened blind eyes, cast out a devil ([Matt. 9:18-33](#)), healed a man's withered hand on the Sabbath ([Matt. 12:9-13](#)), gave the bread-of-life discourse ([John 6:22-65](#)), and agreed to pay taxes, telling Peter to get the money from a fish's mouth ([Matt. 17:24-27](#)).
- 8. Magdala, Magadan** This was the home of Mary Magdalene ([Mark 16:9](#)). Soon after Jesus came here after feeding the 4,000 ([Matt. 15:38-39](#)), the Pharisees and Sadducees requested that he show them a sign from heaven ([Matt. 16:1-4](#)).

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- 9. Cana** Jesus turned water into wine ([John 2:1-11](#)) and healed a nobleman's son who was at **Capernaum** ([John 4:46-54](#)). Cana was also the home of Nathanael ([John 21:2](#)).
- 10. Nazareth** The annunciations to Mary and Joseph took place in Nazareth ([Matt. 1:18-25](#); [Luke 1:26-38](#); [2:4-5](#)). After returning from Egypt, Jesus spent his childhood and youth here ([Matt. 2:19-23](#); [Luke 2:51-52](#)), announced his divine Sonship, and was rejected by his own ([Luke 4:14-32](#)).
- 11. Jericho** Jesus gave sight to a blind man ([Luke 18:35-43](#)). He also dined with Zacchaeus, "chief among the publicans" ([Luke 19:1-10](#)).
- 12. Bethabara** John the Baptist testified that he was "the voice of one crying in the wilderness" ([John 1:19-28](#)). John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River and testified that Jesus is the Lamb of God ([John 1:28-34](#)).
- 13. Wilderness of Judaea** John the Baptist preached in this wilderness ([Matt. 3:1-4](#)) where Jesus fasted 40 days and was tempted ([Matt. 4:1-11](#)).
- 14. Emmaus** The risen Christ walked on the road to Emmaus with two of his disciples ([Luke 24:13-32](#)).
- 15. Bethphage** Two disciples brought Jesus a colt on which he began his triumphal entry into Jerusalem ([Matt. 21:1-11](#)).
- 16. Bethany** This was the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus ([John 11:1](#)). Mary heard Jesus' words, and Jesus spoke to Martha of choosing the "good part" ([Luke 10:38-42](#)); Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead ([John 11:1-44](#)); and Mary anointed Jesus' feet ([Matt. 26:6-13](#); [John 12:1-8](#)).
- 17. Bethlehem** Jesus was born and was laid in a manger ([Luke 2:1-7](#)); angels heralded to the shepherds the birth of Jesus ([Luke 2:8-20](#)); wise men were directed by a star to Jesus ([Matt. 2:1-12](#)); and Herod slew the children ([Matt. 2:16-18](#)).

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## The Land

- About 150 miles long
- 60 miles wide at its broadest point
- A mix of mountains, deserts, valleys, fertile land, and rocky land
- Divided by the Jordan River
- Bodies of water include Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea
- Jerusalem: capital city
- Shepherds and Farmers – agrarian and nomadic
- Ruled by the Roman Empire
- Relied on oral communication



# THE WORLD OF JESUS AND THE PEOPLE OF JESUS

## The Politics

- For centuries, endured waves of invasions from the East
- During Jesus' time, occupied by the Roman Empire – taxation
- Tetrarchs (Herod Antipas), kings (Herod the Great), procurators (Pontius Pilate)
- Political and religious parties:
  - Sadducees – priestly class tried to get along with Rome
  - Pharisees – moderates who focused on living the Law
  - Essenes – withdrew from society (Qumran – Dead Sea Scrolls)
- Military occupation



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## The Religion

- **Sadducees** – priestly class, very rigid and conservative religiously; ran the Temple
- **Pharisees** – lay people (not priests) seeking reform, devoted to the Law, ran the synagogues
- **Scribes** – Pharisees who copied the Law by hand
- **Sanhedrin** – Jewish ruling council made up of Pharisees and Sadducees
- **Essenes** – withdrew from society (John the Baptist?) to seek holiness
- **Zealots** – sought Jewish independence
- **Gentiles** – non-Jews
- **Samaritans** – Jews who had intermarried during the time of Exile

Jesus preaching to the Scribes and Pharisees



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## Jesus and His Disciples

- Disciple means “learner” or “follower.”
- Jesus’ disciples are almost a constant presence in the Gospels
- Gathering (calling) disciples was one of the first things that Jesus did in his public ministry. (it was common practice for rabbis to gather disciples).
- Jesus called disciples into relationship that never ceases (usually, disciples moved on after a period of time)
- Jesus’ disciples are called to share in his ministry.
- Jesus sent out 72 disciples (Luke 10) to spread his message.
- We are all called to be disciples of Jesus



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## Jesus' Apostles

- Apostle means “one who is sent.”
- Peter emerges as the leader among the disciples
- The Apostles are not portrayed as heroes but as normal people with flaws.
- In the end, the disciples fail Jesus and flee when he needs them most.
- The Risen Christ reconciles with his disciples, “Peace be with you.”
- Peter, James, and John seem to be the closest to Jesus (they are with him at the Transfiguration, at the raising of Jairus' daughter, and in the Garden of Gethsemane)

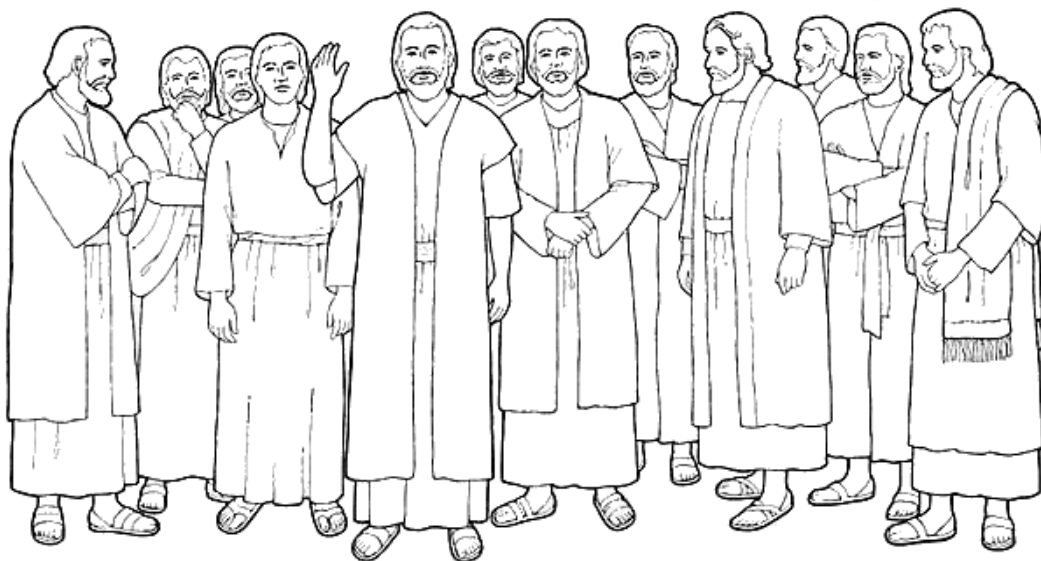




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## The Twelve

- **Simon** (who is called Peter);
- **Andrew** (Simon Peter's brother);
- **James**, son of Zebedee; (James the Greater)
- **John** (brother of James);
- **Philip**;
- **Bartholomew** (Nathaniel);
- **Thomas**;
- **Matthew**, the tax collector (Levi);
- **James**, son of Alphaeus (James the Less),
- **Thaddaeus** (Jude, son of James);
- **Simon** the Zealot;
- **Judas Iscariot**, who betrayed Jesus



# THE WORLD OF JESUS AND THE PEOPLE OF JESUS

## Jesus and the Outcasts

- Jesus freely associated with those who were the outcasts of society:
  - the poor
  - known sinners
  - tax collectors and prostitutes
  - Samaritans
  - lepers
  - Gentiles (non-Jews)



# THE WORLD OF JESUS AND THE PEOPLE OF JESUS

## Jesus and Women

- In Jesus' time, women were restricted to domestic circles, considered property of men, and seen as inferior to men. In contrast, Jesus' dealings with women show respect and dignity:

- Mary, Mother of Jesus
- Jesus heals many women
- Martha and Mary (sisters of Lazarus)
- The Samaritan woman
- Women accompanied the disciples and supported the mission
- Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna
- Women are present at the Crucifixion and at the tomb on Easter morning
- The Risen Christ appears to Mary Magdalene



Jesus and the woman of Samaria.