

A Bibliography for Holy Land Pilgrimage Traveler

On-Line sources

- EO tours (eo.travelwithus.com – travel info/discover locations)
- World Factbook (cia.gov)
- Jordan Tourism Board (international.visitjordan.com)
- Lonely Planet (lonelyplanet.com)
- Israel Tourist Information website (info.goisrael.com)
- Wikipedia (on almost any topic)

Books – ****Recommended, not Mandatory**

****Of course, the Bible** is the primary source for both, preparation & as an “interesting read,” while you travel in the Holy Land!

*****(NIV) Archaeological Study Bible: An Illustrated Walk Through Biblical History and Culture Hardcover*** by Walter C. Kaiser Jr., Duane Garrett. *'Readers who desire a more intimate knowledge of the historical context of the Bible will appreciate the NIV Archaeological Study Bible. Full of informative articles and full-color photographs of places and objects from biblical times, this Bible examines the archaeological record surrounding God's Word and brings the biblical world to life. Readers' personal studies will be enriched as they become more informed about the empires, places, and peoples of the ancient world. Features include: * Four-color interior throughout * Bottom-of-page study notes exploring passages that speak on archaeological and cultural facts * Articles (520) covering five main categories: Archaeological Sites, Cultural and Historical Notes, Ancient Peoples and Lands, the Reliability of the Bible, and Ancient Texts and Artifacts * Approximately 500 4-color photographs interspersed throughout * Detailed book introductions that provide basic, at-a-glance information * Detailed charts on pertinent topics * In-text color maps assist the reader in placing the action.'* This Bible is available in everything from softcover to leather bound & as an ebook. While I found the ebook difficult to get around in at first, it does include everything. I found it helps to be familiar with the printed version to know what you are trying to find in the ebook. However, it is a large book to carry when traveling & it is very nice to have it in my iPod!

****The Gift of the Jews, How a Tribe of Desert Nomads Changed the Way Everyone Thinks and Feels**, Thomas Cahill, Anchor Books, 1998. *A scholarly yet very readable account of the Judaic root of Christianity & the whole western world. This book is part of an interesting series – The Hinges of History.)*

Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before and After Jesus, by Thomas Cahill, Anchor Books, 1999. (Part of the “Hinges of History” series that takes the story through Jesus’ earthly ministry and beyond.)

****Israel: A Chronology from Biblical to Modern Times**, by Adrian Wolff, printed in Israel, 2013. Adrian is a licensed Israel guide, who has led the past three Floris trips. This is an affordable one-volume reference guide to ancient and modern Israel, with many maps and pictures. (available in the U.S. through Barnes & Nobel.)

Israel, A History, Martin Gilbert, Morrow, 1998 (*This is not a faith-based account. Gilbert has authored many historical map books.*)

****Jerusalem: The Biography**, by Simon S. Montefiore, Knoph, 2011. *Comprehensive, readable “history” of the region through the city from before David to the modern era. The “Epilogue” is a good summary of the issues facing Israel and its neighbors in the early 21st Century (up to 2010)*

****Jerusalem & the Holy Land**, Dorling Kindersley Publishing, Inc. ***The DK travel guides*** are well written, including good historical and cultural information as well as specific site information.

****Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels**, by Dr. Kenneth Bailey. InterVarsity, 2008. *Jesus’ life and teaching as seen through the cultural lenses of the eyewitnesses. Taught by a prominent scholar in the languages and cultures of the Middle East.*

A Pilgrim’s Guide to the Holy Sepulchre and Golgotha in Jerusalem, Emily Tobler Cavins. *This booklet shows each phase of the Tomb of Christ and Golgotha from the First Century through the Crusader Era using illustrations by Valerie Woelfel that are drawn as though the viewer is standing in the courtyard of the current Church of the Holy Sepulchre looking at the entrance. Each chapter has a very brief synopsis of about the illustration followed by a fuller description of each of the following eras: The time of Christ, the time of Hadrian, the time of Constantine, the time of the Crusaders, followed by a numbered diagram of the current church with a key noting all of the main rooms, sites and chapels within the church as well as which Christian sect has jurisdiction of that spot.*

****Lonely Planet (Jordan) Travel Guide**, by Lonely Planet, 2018

****The Source**, James Michener, Random House, NYC, 1965. *An historical novel tracing the history of the Jews from ancient times through the Diaspora to modern Israel. While a very long book, Michener threads a family line & its story throughout. Often Israeli’s have recommended The Source saying it presents Israel & Israelis credibly, in a way that would give me better understanding.*

Supplemental Readings

Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths, Bruce Feiler, William Morrow, 2002. *By the author of Walking the Bible (see below,) this quest is 'to better understand our common patriarch' by traveling from war zones to caves to ancient shrines, 'sitting down with the world's religious minds.' As God's chosen partner, Abraham affects the faith of half of the world.*

Ancient Israel: A Short History from Abraham to the Roman Destruction of the Temple, edited by Hershel Shanks, Prentice-Hall. *Order through the Biblical Archeological Society (This is not a faith-based account.)*

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation, Jeff Cavins, Sarah Christmyer, & Dr. Tim Gray, Ascension Press, 2008. This timeline graphically provides Bible events correlated with the periods of Biblical history, books of the Bible, the location in the Holy Land, world powers & secular history. *Various timelines have been published. They can be helpful in understanding the various periods & settings covered when traveling in the Holy Land. Contact Bonnie Lane if interested in purchasing this one which is easy to interpret & of a convenient size.*

Blood Brothers, Elias Chacour, Chosen Books, 1984. *A biography of a Palestinian Christian & his struggles for reconciliation in the Middle East. The author, who has a deep love for Jews & Palestinians alike, combines the history of Christianity in the Middle East with a perspective on Bible prophecy & the Zionist movement. It presents a challenge to many black-&-white positions of support by the various "sides" in the struggle. These people have been Christians in the Land since the beginning of Christianity.*

The Body and the Blood: The Middle East's Vanishing Christians and the Possibility for Peace, Charles M. Sennott

The Closed Circle: An Interpretation of the Arabs, David Pryce-Jones

The Complete Works of Josephus, Josephus Flavius, available in various translations & editions. *You will hear many references to Josephus from your guide. He provided 1st century eye-witness accounts of events & places in what is today the Holy Land. Josephus' writings are relied on heavily by historians & archaeologists for research in the Holy Land, offering clues that have led them to important finds.*

Dream Palace of the Arabs: A Generation's Odyssey, Fouad Ajami

Essential Atlas of the Bible, Carl Rasmussen, Zondervan, 2013. *This is a compact atlas that includes maps, archaeological site pictures & other charts, adding dimension to the biblical texts which are correlated throughout. It is all in a 1/2 inch book!*

The Gold of Exodus, Howard Blum, 1998. *An adventurous account of a real journey into the Saudi Peninsula to explore Jabal Al Lawz, known by the locals as “Moses’ Mountain.” Could it be the true Mt. Sinai? Non-fiction, but an enticing read.*

God in Search of Man, Rabbi Abraham Joshua Herschel, Noonday, 1955. *(Anything by this author is highly recommended.)*

The Haj, Leon Uris, Corgi Biiks, London, 1984. *A novel set between 1922 & recent times, looking at the interactions of Arabs & Jews as they live & work together in Israel. It has been called “a crash course in Mid-East history” reflected in the lives of the characters. “Read ‘The Haj’ because this is real information presented in a novel format that you can no longer get from most university classes about the Middle East.”*

Hammond’s Atlas of the Bible, edited by Harry T. Frank, Hammond Inc., Maplewood, NJ, 1977

The Hope and The Glory, Herman Wouk, LB Books, NYC, 1993 & 1994. *This 2 novel series is set in the events that created the State of Israel from independence to the late 1900’s. It is a very readable way to get a perspective on Israel’s modern history.*

Inside Jihad: Understanding and Confronting Radical Islam, Tawfik Hamid (May 6, 2008) *Tawfik Hamid is an Egyptian who was part of the Muslim Brotherhood in his student days and is now trying to work for a “reformation” in Islam.*

Start-Up Nation: The Story of Israel's Economic Miracle, S. Singer & D. Senor

The Story of the Scrolls: The Miraculous Discovery and the True Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls, Geza Vermes **The Weekend that Changed the World**,

Then and Now Bible Maps: With Clear Plastic Overlays of Modern Day Cities and Countries (Spiral-bound Hardcover) Rose Publishing. *Easily see where the countries of today correspond to the lands of antiquity with the turn of a plastic overlay. Several maps of Israel in different periods in both Old and New Testament times.*

Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land Through the Five Books of Moses, Bruce Feiler, 2001. *An odyssey by foot, jeep, rowboat, & camel.... From crossing the Red Sea to climbing Mt. Sinai to touching the burning bush, Bruce Feiler’s inspiring journey will forever change your view of some of history’s most storied events.” This man’s personal discovery of meaning for his Jewish heritage gives insight into what we gain as Christians experiencing the Holy Land.*

What Christians Should Know About Jews and Judaism, Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, Word Publishing, 1984.