Digital Resources for Biblical Mapping

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Society of Biblical Literature 2008

Further Reference

scrollandscreen.com/biblicalmapping

Biblical Studies and Technological Tools Blog
This PowerPoint
Mapping Programs Features Spreadsheet
Links, Listings, and Further Information

Overview

1. Types of Maps
   - What kind of map do I need?
2. Mapping Matters
   - How will I use the map?
     What makes for a good map?
3. Digital Mapping Resources
   - What resources can I use?
4. Conclusions / Recommendations

1: Types of Maps

A. Satellite and Orthophoto
B. Physical
C. Political
D. Relief: Shaded and Raised
E. Road
F. Topographic
G. Illustrations

Reference: www.maptown.com/referencemaptypes.html

A: Satellite and Orthophoto Maps

► Provide detail in true position
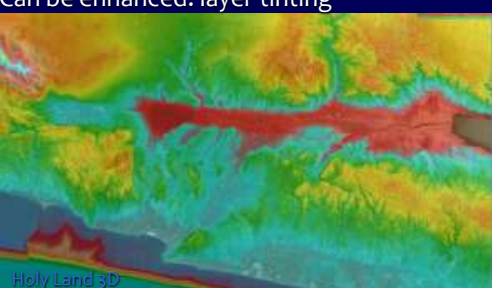► BUT no satellite images from ancient times!
► Can be enhanced: layer tinting

www.creativereview.co.uk/crblog/the-bible-according-to-google-earth/

A: Satellite and Orthophoto Maps

► Provide detail in true position
► BUT no satellite images from ancient times!
► Can be enhanced: layer tinting

Holy Land 3D

1

B: Physical Maps

► Mainly used for landforms and bodies of water

► Provide helpful base terrain

Bible Atlas Online by Access Foundation

C: Political Maps

► Used to show boundaries of political entities

► Highlight key historical shifts

BibleMapper

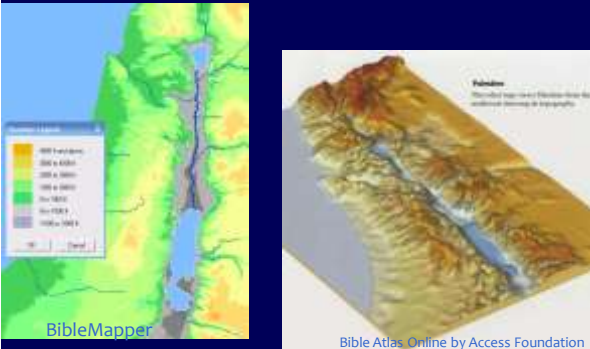Bible Atlas Online by Access Foundation

Logos Bible Atlas

D: Relief Maps : Shaded and Raised

► Provide sense of the land

BibleMapper

Bible Atlas Online by Access Foundation

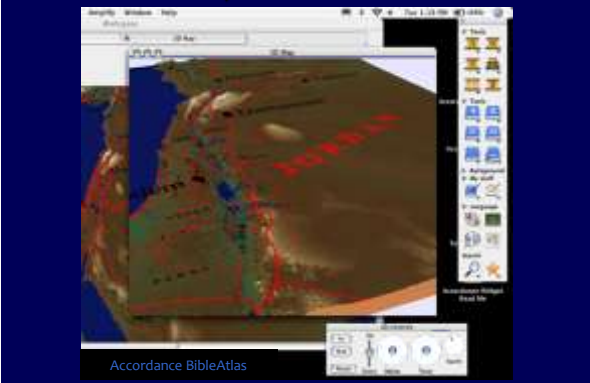# D: Relief Maps : Shaded and Raised

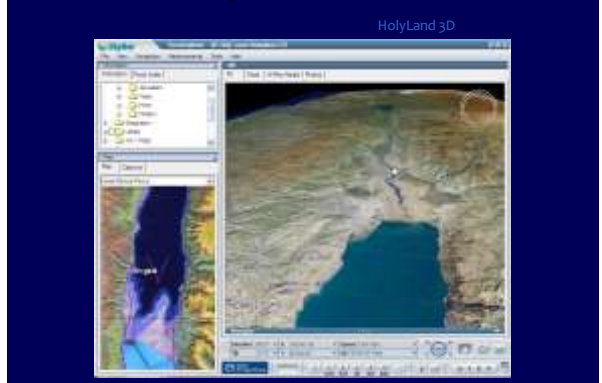BibleWorks Map Module – Elevation Overlay

D: Relief Maps : Shaded and Raised

Accordance BibleAtlas

D: Relief Maps : Shaded and Raised

HolyLand 3D

2

D: Relief Maps : Shaded and Raised

GoogleEarth

E: Road Maps
► Help explain historical developments
► Adjustable to period

Exodus and Judges

BibleMapper

Road Map of Ancient Palestine

THE GREAT SEA

Logos Deluxe Map Set

E: Road Maps

GoogleEarth

upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9c/Via_Egnatia-en.jpg
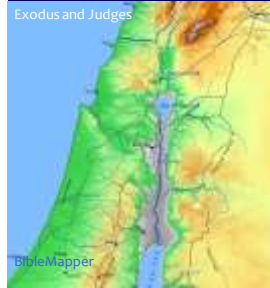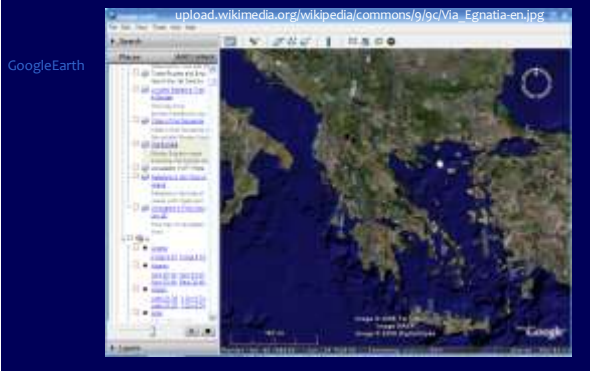
F: Topographic Maps
► Use contour lines

Logos Bible Atlas

Holy Land 3D

G: Illustrations
► Provide help in
visualizing events
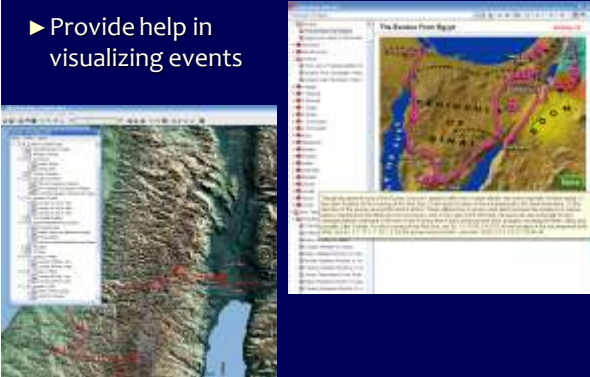
G: Illustrations

Accordance
Bible Atlas

BibleExplorer

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2: Mapping Matters

A. Copyright and Fair Use Considerations
B. Orientation: N/S or E/W
C. Accuracy, bias, coverage, appropriateness
D. Linked to modern locations
E. Edit-ability (i.e., mapping, not just maps)
F. Quality
G. Using Maps

A: Copyright and Fair Use Considerations

► Copyright and Fair Use (see web links)
► Section 107 of US Copyright Act contains a list of the various purposes for which the reproduction of a particular work may be considered "fair," such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research. Four factors:
  1. purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
  2. nature of the copyrighted work;
  3. amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
  4. effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.   http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html

A: Copyright and Fair Use Considerations

► Basically okay if:
  ▪ Used for education or non-profit
  ▪ Not selling or diminishing value to owner
  ▪ Not making a permanent copy

A: Copyright and Fair Use Considerations

► Programs and Permissions
  ▪ BibleMapper – no restrictions, even for commercial distribution, with credit given
  ▪ GoogleEarth – maps not for commercial distribution (?)
  ▪ World Wind – Open source earth viewer
  ▪ Creative Commons licenses (creativecommons.org)

B: Orientation

► East / West or North / South

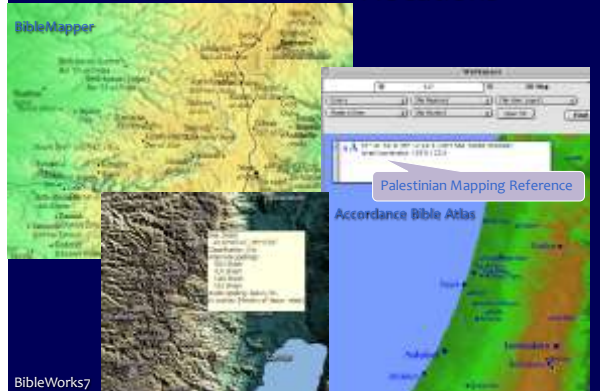## C: Accuracy, Bias, etc.

► Accuracy
  ▪ Jericho (OT or NT?)
  ▪ Troy / Troas
► Archaeology
  ▪ Ai (?)
  ▪ Beersheba
► Tradition
  ▪ Mount of Beatitudes / Mount of Transfiguration
  ▪ Golgotha and Jesus' Tomb (Holy Sepulchre, Garden Tomb, or Talpiot?!)
  ▪ Route of Exodus

D: Links to modern locations

BibleMapper

Palestinian Mapping Reference

Accordance Bible Atlas

BibleWorks7

E: Edit-ability

► How much do you want to have maps ready-made, or do you want to be able to edit them?

► Programs with editable/manipulable maps

  ▪ BibleWorks7/8

  ▪ Accordance Bible Atlas

  ▪ BibleMapper

  ▪ HolyLand 3D

  ▪ GoogleEarth

  ▪ Logos Bible Atlas '99

F: Quality

What makes a good map?

► Usage

  ▪ Handout, Projection, Website

  ▪ Consider colors, backgrounds, sizing, copyrights

F: Quality

BibleMapper

F: Quality

What makes a good map?

► Clarity

  ▪ Sites appropriate to period or purpose (BW, Acc., BibleMpr)

  ▪ Appropriate background

  ▪ Display compliments purpose

F: Quality (or lack of)

The Resurrection of Jesus and Subsequent Events

Note

Logos Deluxe Map Set

Israel's Last Campaign West of the Jordan

F: Quality

Sample from
forthcoming
Logos
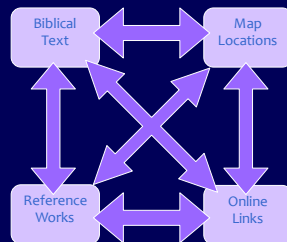Map / Atlas

*Thanks to Vince
Setterholm*

F: Quality

What makes a good map?

► Interactivity

- Ideally, links between Bible text / Map(s) / Reference Works / Online resources
- Maximizing technology: 3D, animations, flyovers, links to pictures/videos

Biblical Text — Map Locations — Reference Works — Online Links

3D Holy Land

Hazor

GoogleEarth

Hazor

GoogleEarth
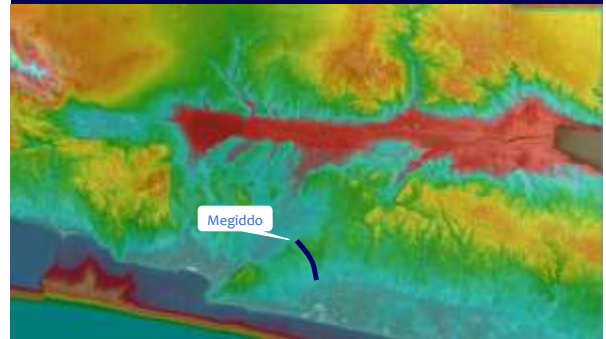

MS VirtualEarth view

GoogleEarth view

6

G: Using Maps

► Overview and Perspective

► Illustration

- Biblical Events
- History and Geography
    ► Gerasa by Stephen Langfur
      (www.netours.com/jrs/2003/Gerasa2-12.html)

G: Using Maps

Holy Land 3D

Megiddo

3: Digital Mapping Resources

► Maps > Cf. online site for links

► Mapping Programs

BibleMapper 3

Accordance Bible Atlas

BibleWorks 7 (8) Map Module
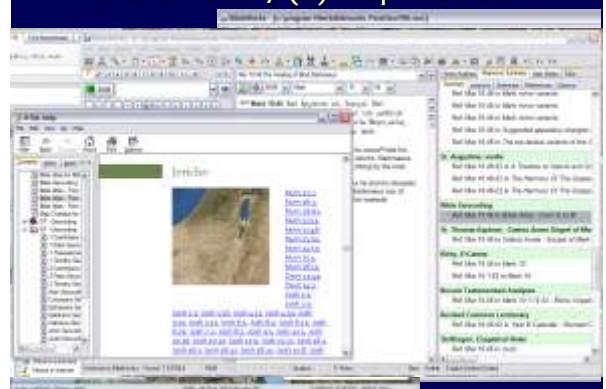
Logos 3

Parsons Bible Atlas in QuickVerse 2009
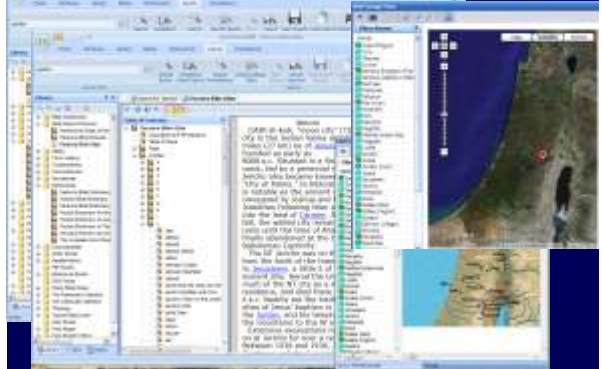
BibleMap.org

Interactive Satellite Map of the Holy Land

Manna Bible Maps

www.biblemaps.com/Software.html

Manna Bible Maps also used in

Laridian
PocketBible

e-Sword

NET / neXt Bible

BibleAtlas.org

Conclusions / Recommendations

No single program does it all

► Overall: Integration and Features
   ▪ Accordance > HolyLand3D > BW7/8 > BibleAtlas.org
► Map Creation
   ▪ BibleMapper > Accordance > BW7/8
► Interactivity
   ▪ HolyLand3D / GoogleEarth > Accordance
► Free Mapping Resources
   ▪ GoogleEarth, BibleAtlas.org, NET/neXt Bible
► Maps: *depends…*

Conclusions / Recommendations

► **The future…**
► **GoogleEarth**
   ▪ High resolution with 3D data (but with a Terrain layer were available)
   ▪ Navigation, flyovers, elevations
   ▪ Use with overlays and KMZ files (OpenBible.info)
   ▪ Use in conjunction with existing maps
   ▪ Extensive ability to link across the Cloud: reference works, photos, layers
   ▪ Free and able to be linked from Bible texts/software