

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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# Biblical Geography Basics

Course Lecturer: John A. Beck, PhD

## Course Description

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Although the Bible is not a geography book, it is a book filled with geography—geography that shaped the way the writers of the Bible thought and communicated. Therefore, to the degree that we miss or misunderstand the geography in our Bibles, we may miss or misunderstand a part of what the Lord wants to share with us. This course, led by Jack Beck, is designed to explore the absolutely vital relationship between what the Almighty has to say and the place from which He says it.

## Course Objectives

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Upon completion of this course, you should be able to . . .

- Understand that geography is used frequently and widely throughout all portions of the Bible to communicate God's thoughts to us.
- Know that geography plays a significant role in delivering the message of the Bible, especially God's plan of salvation.
- Understand the importance of organizing the Bible geographically to see the relationships between portions of the Bible that are linked to one another by location.
- Understand the basic geographical features of the Fertile Crescent and the Promised Land and their impact on travel, water acquisition, weather, and culture.
- Understand how the geography of the Promised Land influenced the biblical writers' lives, language, and cultural context.

## Course Lecturer

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*John A. Beck, PhD*

**Education:**

- Trinity International University, PhD

**Teaching Career:**

- Permanent adjunct faculty member, Jerusalem University College in Israel where he regularly conducts field study courses which link geography and Bible communication

- Teacher of courses in Hebrew and Old Testament at various colleges and universities for more than 20 years

## Course Methods

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Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage you in understanding, processing and applying the information learned in this course to your life. These methods include the following:

- **Video-based teaching**  
The primary teaching session in each lesson is provided in video format. If you do not have the bandwidth required to view the video, we provide the option of listening to the lesson or reading the lesson from a transcript.
- **Additional Resources**  
Lessons may be accompanied by additional readings, images, etc. that you can use to supplement your learning.

## Course Requirements

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Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the Class Time lectures for each lesson, which include:
  - **Lesson Overview:** A brief outline of what the lecturer will cover in the lesson.
  - **Lesson Objectives:** Objectives describe the learning outcomes you should achieve by the end of the lesson.
  - **Lectures:** 10-20 minute lessons that can be viewed as many times as needed.
2. Taking each lesson Quiz and the Final Exam.

Quizzes and the Final Exam will cover the material presented in the Class Time lectures.

**Note:** Quizzes and the Final Exam are automatically graded and your course grade is weighted as follows:

Quizzes	40% of Course Grade
Final Exam	60% of Course Grade

In order to obtain a Certificate of Completion your overall score in the course must be 70% or higher.