

COURSE SYLLABUS

Holy Land II

Course Lecturer: John A. Beck, PhD

Course Description

In this course, Dr. Jack Beck takes you across Israel to explore new locations and bring new understanding to some of your favorite Bible stories. You'll start in the barren Judean Wilderness, where you'll see how God provided for and protected David, Jesus, and others in Scripture in the physical wilderness, and how He provides for you today in your times of need. Then you'll journey outward to the scenic Coastal Plain where you'll discover the beauty of the seaside and better understand God's plan of bringing the gospel to the whole world through the story of Peter in Jaffa. Then you'll move on to the Shephelah where God enabled important victories—including the well-known showdown between David and Goliath—and allowed His gospel message to continue to spread.

Gear up for adventure as Dr. Jack Beck leads the way, showing you how God guided and guarded the lives of His people in Bible times and how He does the same for you today.

Course Objectives

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

- Describe the nature of the Judean Wilderness and understand how the difficulties faced there would have shaped people like David and Jesus.
- Describe the geographical characteristics of places like Ein Gedi, the Coastal Plain, Jaffa, and the Shephelah, and as a result, have a better understanding of the Bible.
- Explain why the Coastal Plain is relevant to the biblical narrative.
- Explore Peter's experience at Jaffa as a turning point for the church.
- Explain the bigger picture behind the stories of David's battle with Goliath and Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch.
- Apply the lessons learned from these stories and their geographical locations to your faith and walk with the Lord.

Course Lecturer



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

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

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the following for each lesson:
 - **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-minute lessons (approximately) that can be viewed as many times as needed.
2. Responding to the discussion questions for each lesson.
3. Earning a 70% or higher score on each lesson Quiz and the Final Exam.
Quizzes and the Final Exam will cover the material presented in the lectures.