Prepared by: Tabatha Lesmeister

Biblical/Historic Name	Arabic or Other Names	Description	Significance or Events	Scriptures	Supplemental Notes/Scriptures
	Tall el- Hammam	Excavated & scientifically studied Tel	Could likely have been one of the "five cities of the plain" from Genesis 19, possibly Sodom. Study of Tel concluded the town had unusual abrupt ending.	Gen 18-19: Abraham's encounter with three men (the two angels and the god/man/angel Jesus), and the destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah.	
Callirhoe		Herodian palace & harbor b/c of famous hot springs	According to Josephus, Herod brought here shortly before his death.		
Lot's Cave/Monastery	Deir Ain Abata	6 th Century AD church honoring Lot, built over Middle Bronze Age cave		Gen. 19:30-38	
Arnon Gorge	Wadi Mujib	One of the four major river valleys (or gorge/canyons) that cut the Transjordan from east/west. Opposite En Gedi (across Dead Sea).	Border of Moab (south) & the contested Madaba Plateau (north). At the time of Exodus, it was border of Moab & Amorites (King Sihon). Southern boundary of territory of Israel beyond the Jordan (tribe of Reuben).	Num. 21:12-15, Deut. 3:8 "from the Wadi Arnon to Mount Hermon"	
Punon	Feynan, Feinan, Khirbet en- Nahas	Extensive ancient copper mines, located where Wadi Dana enters Arabah	 Punon was an Israelite Exodus stop; Bronze serpent incident likely occurred nearby. Might Moses have used this copper for snake? Likely area that Elisha prophesied to dig ditches and God will fill them, and they beat Moab 	• Num. 33:41-43 & 21:4-10 • 2 Kings 3:4-27*	• 2 Kings 18:4 Hezekiah removed the snake, Nehushtan— "merely a brazen thing" (useless, good for nothing). Had served a purpose, but now had become an idol. • John 3:14-16
Elath & Ezion Geber	Aqaba	Edge of Red Sea	Stop along wilderness travels Detour around Edom Ancient port city (Solomon, Jehoshaphat, Uzziah)	 Num. 33:35 Deut. 2:8, Num. 21:4 1 Kgs. 9:26-28, 1 Kgs. 22:48, 2 Kgs. 14:22 	

Biblical/Historic	Biblical/Historic Arabic or Supplemental Supplemental						
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	Wadi Yatim	Ancient pass going north from Aqaba to King's Hwy	Israelites would have gone through this pass when headed north from Elath/Ezion Geber				
	Wadi Rum		Nabatean & ancient caravan route to Arabia passed through here				
Humayma		Nabatean pool/water reservoir caravan stop between Aqaba & Petra, built by Nabatean King Aretas III	Along King's Hwy, a possible stop on Paul's journey to Arabia. Aretas IV's power extended up to Damascus, where he tried to get Paul captured. Might Paul have been sharing gospel with Nabateans?	• Gal. 1:15-18 • 2 Cor. 11:32-33			
Petra		Nabatean city & caravan stop on King's Hwy. Rediscovered in 1812. Near Wadi Musa & Mt. Hor.	View of Mt. Hor from top of hill of the Monastery. Paul likely stopped here on his way to Arabia (perhaps to Sinai).	Numbers 20:22-29, Aaron dies on Mt. Hor	Wadi Musa possible location of Kadesh-Barnea, where Moses hit rock at waters of Meribah (Numbers 20:1,10-13)		
Zered River	Wadi al-Hesa	Southernmost of four major rivers/gorges that cut the Transjordan from east to west. Ends at southern end of the Dead Sea.	Boundary between Edom to the south and Moab to the north	 Numbers 21:12, camped along the Exodus route Deut. 2:13-14, the 38 year mark 	Possible area that Elisha prophesied to dig ditches, they beat Moab up to Kirhareseth—or was it Dana?* 2 Kings 3:4-27		
Bozrah	Buseira, Basira	Tel only approachable from south	Edomite capital city (only non-military Edomite city)	• Genesis 36:6-8, Esau moved to Mt. Seir • Deut. 23:1-9 • Prophecies against Bozrah/Edom: Jer. 49:13, Isaiah 34:6, Amos 1:11-12, Obadiah (Teman: a city of Edom) • Might Jesus come from Sinai & the desert to Jerusalem (through Edom)? Isaiah 63:1-6	• Some scholars ponder if Job might have been Jobab of Bozrah, 2nd king of Edom. (Gen. 36:33) Job was probably not Israelite b/c he was from Uz (Job 1:1, Lam. 4:21). But he was a monotheist, who had prelaw principles of righteousness. And his friend		

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				Deut. 33:2 (Seir=Edomite Mtns) Judges 5:4-5 Psalm 68:5,8-9 Habakkuk 3:3-6 Zech. 14:1-8 Rev. 19:11-15 Isaiah 35, 40:1-11, 42:11-13	Eliphaz was a Temanite. (Job 2:11) Job 6:14-20 Ezek 14:14— mentions Job's righteousness Teman/Edom had been known for wise men (Obadiah 1:8, Jer. 49:7)
Sela Fortress	Joktheel, Sela castle	Edomite mountain fortress	Amaziah King of Judah defeated Edomites, came here & threw down 10k more men	 2 Kgs. 14:7, 2 Chr. 25:11-12 Isaiah 16:1 ("Send lambs from Sela in the desert to Zion") Isaiah 42:11 	In 6 th century BC Babylonian King Nabonidus made inscription here in the side of a cliff, after he conquered the site and the area
Kir-Haraseth	Kerak Castle, al-Karak	Tel is underneath the Crusader castle. Major earthquake in 749 AD destroyed Mesha's castle.	Moabite capital city along King's Hwy. (Moab and Edom didn't have many cities because they moved around as herdsmen.)	 2 Kings 3:25-27 Mesha was a sheep breeder, vassal king paying tribute to Israel Amos 2:1-3 	Afterwards, Mesha moved to Dibon (aka. Mesha)
Heshbon Heshbon cont.	Tall Hisban, biblical Bezer, Esbus (Roman name)	Excavated tel along King's Hwy between Madaba and Amman. To the south are the plains of the Madaba plateau, to the north hills of Gilead.	Capital city of Amorite King Sihon, who had previously taken the area down to the Arnon, from the Moabites. Heshbon was a site of the Israelite victory over Sihon, before they move up and defeat	• Isaiah 16 • Numbers 21: 21-35 • Deut. 4:43 • Song of Sol. 7:4 (refers to magnificent fish pools of Heshbon) • Deut. 2:4-5,9,19 God had given land territory to sons of Lot and Esau that Israelites were not to take. But the Amorite's territory was for Israel. • Gen. 15:16: God told Abraham the sin of Amorites would yet reach its fullness before his descendants would take Canaan	• Apparently Moab had once possessed this area and king Balak wanted the area again. That's why he summons Balaam to curse Israel. Balaam can't curse but offers advice to provide opportunity for sexual immorality. (Num. 22-25, 31:16, Rev. 2:14) (It's like the nomadic Midianites were kind of following Israel along)

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Machaerus	Mukhawir	Originally built by Hasmoneans, but rebuilt by Herod the Great. Remains of triclinium & palace.	John the Baptist was imprisoned and killed here by Herod Antipas (Herod the Great's son, also "Herod tetrarch"), who ruled Perea and Galilee after his father's death. (Machaerus is in the south of Perea)	Mark 6:12-29, Matt. 11:1-19, Matt. 4:12 (vs 11-18 tell the events before/after), Matt. 14:1-13	Biblical city of Bezer was 1 of 3 cities of refuge in Transjordan John preparing the way: Luke 1:13-17, Malachi 3:1, Isaiah 40:3-5, John 1:23, Isaiah 57: 14-15, Matt. 11:7-11 John, the "Elijah to come": Luke 1:17, Matt. 17:1- 13, Malachi 3:23- 24, 4:5-6, Isaiah 57:1-2, When the righteous die they enter into shalom When Jerusalem fell to Romans in 70 AD, three strongholds remained in Jewish hands: Herodium fell first (71 AD), then Machaerus (72 AD), finally Masada (73/74 AD)
Mt. Nebo	Pisgah (Num. 21:20)	Beautiful Franciscan property with church, museum, etc.	After his address to Israel (book of Deuteronomy) down in the plains of Moab, Moses went to top of Pisgah peak and viewed Canaan. Then he died and the Lord buried him in the valley below.	• Deut. 32:49-50, Deut. 34 • Jude 9 (archangel Michael disputed the devil over Moses' body)	Balak took Balaam to three spots to overlook Israel camped below: Bamoth- baal, Pisgah, Peor (unknown), so Balaam blessed them from three sides (Num. 22-24) In area Moses gives to Reuben and Gad in Num. 32 Might the Lord have given Moses supernatural vision? (Deut. 34:1-4)

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Ataroth*	Khirbet Attarus	Tel with 12 layers of settlement, on the historically contested Madaba plateau, nearby Dibon	One of the towns in the "territory of Jazer and Gilead", taken from Amorites, and built up by tribe of Gad. (The Amorites had previously taken the area from the Moabites)	• Num. 32:34	Mesha stone mentions conquest of Israelites at Ataroth. Moabite temple excavations here affirm biblical account.
Dibon*	Tall Dhiban, Dibongad	Along King's Hwy, on northern banks of the Arnon	Israelites camped here, later allotted to Gad & Reuben Mesha Stele found here, written by the Moabite king, which affirms biblical account and sheds some light on the history of the area. Oldest extra-biblical reference/artifact that mentions Israel's God, Yahweh.	• Num. 32:34, Joshua 13:9 • Later taken by Moab, mentioned in prophecies about Moab in Jeremiah 48:18-24, Isaiah 15	The basalt stone monument was found in Dibon by an Anglican missionary in 1868, destroyed but pieced together again, now is in Louvre in Paris. Dates back to 840 BC. Replica at archeology museum at Amman Citadel.
Madaba Map	Medeba	In the Church of St. George in modern Madaba	A mosaic tile floor map from a Byzantine church discovered when constructing the church. It is the oldest surviving map of the Holy Land. Jerusalem is the focus of the map.		Madaba is known as the city of mosaics. Five other Byzantine churches with mosaics have been found in the city. Built during reign of emperor Justinian (527-565 AD).
Elijah's Hill	Tel of Elijah	Tel with remains of churches in Byzantine & Muslim periods. Close to Bethany Beyond, the Jordan River (to the west) & plains of Moab (to the east)	 Area where Elijah ascended to heaven (2nd & 3rd parting of the Jordan river, same area as 1st parting) Area of John's ministry 	• 2 Kings 2:1-14	• John the Baptist & Elijah are linked, John (Luke 1:17, Matt. 17:1-13, Malachi 3:23-24, 4:5-6) • Note the sound of reeds in nearby water at site Matt. 11:7-11
Bethany Beyond the Jordan	Al-Maghtas	Eastern bank of Jordan River, near Jericho. Same area as Elijah's Hill.	Could likely be where Jesus was baptized, where John was doing his ministry. The area is also the lowest place on earth. Jesus went from here	 Matt. 3, Mark 1:1- 13, Luke 3:1-22 John 10:40-42 Joshua 3:1, 14-17 	Jesus was immersed on Tisha B'Av, a historic day of calamity for the Jewish people, including the day when the spies

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			into the wilderness for 40 days. • Area that Israelites crossed the Jordan (1st parting of Jordan R.)		came w/ the bad report & Israelites then penalized to wander for 40 years. (Num. 14:20-24) He was immersed on Tisha B'Av to "fulfill all righteousness", followed by 40 days in the wilderness, redeeming the spies 40-day sin, thus Israel's 40-year wilderness wandering. He redeems Israel and all of us from the penalties of our sin!
Tel Adam	Tall adh- Damiyah	18 miles north of Jericho, bridge not in operation, military area. Remains of ancient Mameluke bridge (1266 AD)	 Ancient Jordan river crossing, on the route that Abraham and Jacob would have taken, going up toward Shechem. Waters backed up here when Israel crossed the Jordan. 	• Joshua 3:14-17 • Genesis 12:5-6, (Abraham comes to Shechem) • 33:17-18 (Jacob goes from Succoth to Shechem)	Crossing of ancient trade route that connects Wadi Farah/Nahal Tirzah to the west with Jabbok/Zarqa river to the east. Israel crossed across from Jericho (around site of John's later ministry and Bethany Beyond). The waters backed up "very far away" at Adam.
Jabbok River	Zarqa River	One of the four major river valleys (or gorge/canyons) that cut the Transjordan from east/west. About halfway between Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee.	Border between Sihon (to south) & Og (to north), Amorite kings Border between Gad & half tribe of Manasseh Mahanaim, Penuel, Succoth nearby	 Deut. 3:16, Josh. 12:1-6 Judges 11:12-28, Jephthah gives Ammonites a history lesson 	at Audill.

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Mahanaim	Tulul adh- Dhahab		Angels welcome Jacob at Mahanaim (means "a place of	• Genesis 32-33 (Mahanaim 32:1, Penuel 32:30-31)	Mahanaim has many references in OT. Ish-Bosheth brought here by Abner, later assassinated (2 Sam. 2 & 4). It was
Penuel	Tall Ahsas	Two tels beside one another, possibly Mahanaim & Penuel. Jabbock runs between the two. Mahanaim is the bigger, eastern one.	refuge"), as if they are encouraging him, a broken man facing fear. • Jacob camps at Penuel (means "face of God") where he wrestles the angel and his name is changed to Israel. • Somewhere from here down the Jabbock valley to Succoth, is where Jacob and Esau meet (Esau had come up the King's Hwy from Seir)	 Genesis 32 says he wrestled a man, and Jacob said he had seen God face to face. Hosea 12:3-4 says he wrestled an angel. This god-man angel of the Lord, we believe to be Jesus. 2 Sam. 17-18, David flees to Mahanaim during Absalom's rebellion, dispatches army & grieves death of his son at the city gate 	an administrative center of Upper Gilead (1 Kgs. 4:14) • What is our worst fear? Jacob's was facing Esau. May our limp, our testimony, tell of God's goodness to us. • When Kingdom split, Jeroboam set up golden calves first at Shechem and then at Penuel, his new capital, to keep people from going to Jerusalem (1 Kgs. 12:25)

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Succoth	Tall Dayr'Alla	High mound/Tel where the Jabbock comes into the Jordan R. valley.	After nearby reunion with Esau, Jacob comes here and builds house & booths before travelling on to Shechem Gideon comes thru while pursuing Midianites, Succoth and Penuel reject his request for food for his men. Afterwards he comes back and "teaches them a lesson" with thorns & briers	• Gen. 33:17 • Judges 8:4-17 • Psalm 108:7 (Psalm demonstrates David's understanding that the knowledge of God would spread to all nations, same as ps. 60:6)	• Scholars are not 100% clear about which of three tels is which (Mahanaim, Penuel, Succoth). Some contest this tel is Penuel. Wayne presents what he sees as most sensible w/scripture. • Plaster was early source of written material (eg. Deut. 27:2-3). Plaster dated to 700 BC was found here, mentions Balaam.
Mar Elias	Tishbe	Tel in the north of Jordan (historical region of Gilead). Byzantine church ruins commemorated Elijah's life, and the hill overlooks the unexcavated Tishbe ruins of tel below.	Tishbe was Elijah's hometown in Gilead (1 Kgs. 17:1)	• Elijah comes on scene and announces to Ahab a drought (1 Kg. 17), later Mt. Carmel incident (1 Kg. 18), after Caramel he flees Jezebel all the way to Mt. Sinai/Horeb (1 Kg. 19:1), God speaks to do three things (1 Kg. 19:11-19, he does 3 rd thing first (anoints Elisha) and Elisha completes other two tasks after Elijah goes to heaven (2 Kg. 8:7-15 anoints Hazael of Damascus & 2 Kg. 9:1-2 sends prophet to anoint Jehu of Israel)	 Metathesis (transposition of letters/sounds within a word) of TSB (Hebrew) to STB (Arabic), so Tishbe shifted to Listib. Drought was 3.5 yrs according to Jesus in Lk. 4:25 & James 5:17 When Elijah bottoms out and runs from Jezebel he seems burnt out (Deut. 19:4-8) and very insecure (Ps. Robert notes he was "rehearsing his speech" in Deut. 19:10, 14). His ministry was only a few years—maybe he started later in life? He must have told Elisha to do the other two tasks. Later he appears on the Mt. of

Biblical/Historic	Arabic or	Fiepareu b	y: Tabatha Lesmeister		Supplemental
Name	Other Names	Description	Significance or Events	Scriptures	Notes/Scriptures
1000					no coo, companie
					Transfiguration
					(Mt. 17:1-13)
				• Matt. 8:28-34;	Mark 5:1-20 &
				• Watt. 6.26-54,	Luke 8:26-39
			One of the Decapolis	• Luke 15:11-31	(country of
		1 st Century Roman	Cities, extensive bath	(parable of prodigal	Gerasenes) parallel
Gadara	Umm Qeis	ruins, beautiful view of Sea of	complex with spa &	son, set in a "far	stories of demons into pigs. Setting
Gauara	Offilit Qeis	Galilee and Yarmuk	medicinal purposes,	country" where they	for this event may
		River valley	cultural city with	raised pigs, so	be more probably
		,e. rame,	poets, plays, arts.	parable's younger	as Hippus to the
				son likely "came" to	north, another
				this area)	Decapolis city.
		One of the four			Going south from
		major river valleys	Largest tributary of		the Yarmouk, the
		(or gorge/canyons)	the Jordan River.		five main areas of
Yarmouk River		that cut the Transjordan from	Border of Gilead to		Jordan are: 1. Gilead
farmouk River		east/west. Flows	south and		2. Ammon
		into the Jordan	Bashan/Golan to the		3. Madaba Plateau
		River, south of the	north.		4. Moab
		Sea of Galilee.			5. Edom
				Area became	Pottery found
				unstable b/c of	here from the 10
		Strategically sits on		Arameans from the	century BC
		main Transjordan		north. Ahab of Israel	Ramot is in Lower Gilead
		Hwy (north of	Levitical city and one	(and Jehoshaphat of	which is in the
		Rabbah Ammon	of three cities of	Judah) went to	north, where most
		the King's Hwy	refuge east of the	recapture the city,	of Decapolis cities
		changes name to the Road to	Jordan set by Moses	and Ahab died (1 Kgs 22:1-40)	were. Upper
Ramot Gilead	Tall at-	Bashan), would	(also Hesbon &	• Control regained	Gilead is to the
	Rumeith	have controlled	Bashan, Deut. 4:41-	by Israel in following	south, is higher in
		north/south trade	43), and was an administrative center	years, b/c Elisha	elevation and a bit
		as well as	in time of Solomon (1	sends prophet there	more flat, making transportation
		east/west trade,	Kgs 4:7, 13).	to anoint Jehu king	easier
		being at a point of	, ,	over Israel, who	S. of Solomon
		entry to Jordan Valley.		then goes and kills Joram son of Ahab,	6:5, "hair like a
		valicy.		Jezebel, etc. (2 Kgs	flock of goats
				9)	descending from
		Unexcavated Tel		• Judges 21: After	Gilead"
		with an olive grove	Connected to Saul and	events of Judges 19-	Another future
		on it, in Wadi al-	David's battles with	20, Israel gets 400	Saul (aka. Paul)
		Rayan in the	the Ammonites and	wives for the 600	was from the tribe
Jabesh Gilead	Tall al-Maqlub	middle of Gilead	Philistines, and	men left of Benjamin	of Benjamin, with
		region. Site is best	specifically three key	from J-G. Soon Saul	ancestral roots
		candidate for	passages connected to	is born to tribe of	going back to
		Jabesh based on	Saul	Benjamin, giving a	Jabesh Gilead
		Eusibias.		2/3 chance his	

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				mother was from	
				here	
				• 1 Sam. 11: King	
				Nahash of Ammon	
				encamps around J-G,	
				they send	
				messengers to newly	
				anointed King Saul	
				whose anger is	
				greatly aroused and	
				he comes to help	
				• 2 Sam. 31: Men of	
				J-G bravely retrieve	
				bodies of Saul and	
				Jonathan that	
				Philistines put on	
				wall of Beit Shan, to	
				honor Saul who had	
			Decemblic situated -	rescued them	During the a 1st
		Everypted site in	Decapolis city and a		During the 1st
		Excavated site in northern Jordan,	city of refuge for early Jewish believers in		century Pella was in the
		almost	Jesus, who fled there		
Pella*	Tabaqat Fahel	continuously	from Jerusalem before		northernmost part of an area called
		occupied since	its destruction in 70		Perea, a province
		ancient times	AD in what is known		name under Herod
		ancient unies	as the "flight to Pella"		the Great

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Abel Karanim (possible)	Tall al-Umayri	Partially excavated Tel 10 KM south of Amman, with the only water source (a spring) between Ammon and Madaba	Excavation found distinctly Israelite-style homes & pottery, dating to time of Judges, making it one of the oldest Israelite cities to be found. Tel has 21 layers and is a good example of the complex history of the region & how many different people occupied this area	• Judg. 11:33 mentions Abel Karanim • Excavation also found a household shrine & idols, such as the tribe of Dan took from Micah in Ephriam, along with his personal Levite priest (Jdgs. 17- 18) • 80 clay bullae (seals) found here, some mention Baalis king of Ammon (Jer. 40:14)	Nearby spring flowed until the 1930s Occupied before Abraham (unknown people), then Ammonites, then Amorites, then tribe of Gad (or Reuben), later taken back by Ammonites, signs of violent destruction were found
Ammonite Tower	Rujm al- Malfouf	Circular Ammonite tower now in modern Amman	One of the largest and best preserved Ammonite towers dating back to 1000-500 BC, quite possibly standing since the time of David & Solomon		Uncertain, but some scholars think this could be the biblical city of Jazer
Rabbah Ammon	Amman Citadel (ruins & museum)	10 acres in David's day, later Philadelphia up to 40 acres in Roman period. Steep wadis around, very difficult to breach. Nearby springs are headwaters of the Jabbuk River.	Decapolis city. Both the King's Hwy and Desert Hwy come through the city. The Lord distinctly told Moses He had given this land as inheritance to Lot's descendants, not to harass them (Deut. 2:19)	 Uriah the Hittite (a Canaanite with faith in the God of Israel) died in the valley around the wall of Rabbah (2 Sam. 11) David is in Rabbah after Joab besieged it (after Ammonites attacked Israel, must have take some time). David puts the crown on his head, about 75 lbs (2 Sam 12:26-31 David gives an Ammonite princess to his son Solomon to marry, their son is Rehoboam (1 Kgs. 14:21) Ezekiel 25 prophesied about Amman being taken over by nomadic tribes and bandits, who were 	 Philadelphia remains are seen in valley below: the theater, Nymphaeum (water) Previously, Jephtah lead Israel in defending against Ammonites, after giving their king a history lesson in Judges 11. Immediately after is the Sibboleth/Shibboleth incident that happens as the Ephriamites are trying to get back home from Gilead. Jephtah sticking to his rash vow shows that he didn't fully understand the character of God, and at that time in

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				encroaching on	Judges everyone was
				Ammon from the	doing what seemed
				East (the caravan	right in his own eyes.
				routes). This did	
				come to pass after	
				Babylonians	
				decimated Rabbah	
				in the 580s, around	
				the same time that	
				Ezekiel prophesied	