

The Land of Christ.

I. LOCATION.	II. EXTENT.	III. SURFACE.	IV. WATERS.	V. CITIES.	VI. PROVINCES.
a Junction. b Latitude. c Centre of Commerce.	a Coast Line. b Jordan Line. c Area and Distances.	a Maritime Plain. b Mountain Ranges. c Jordan Valley.	a Gennesaret. b Dead Sea. c Jordan, etc.	a Capital Cities. b Commercial Cities. c Sacred Cities.	a Judea. b Galilee. c Samaria. d Perea.

I. LOCATION.

Palestine, the land of Christ, is in the southwestern part of Asia. It is at the junction of three continents—Asia, Europe, Africa.

It is semitropical in location. Jerusalem is about 32° north latitude, and 35° east longitude. It is nearly in the line east and west with Savannah, Ga.

Ancient Palestine, from its splendid commercial position, was the centre of ancient commerce.

II. EXTENT.

The coast line along the Mediterranean Sea, on the west, is about one hundred and eighty miles in length.

The Jordan line, on the east, in air line from Mount Hermon to southern end of the Dead Sea is about one hundred and fifty miles.

The area of Palestine proper (west of the Jordan) is nine thousand square miles; or, with Perea, about twelve thousand.

The distances east and west are: Across Judea, seventy-five miles; across Samaria, fifty miles; across Galilee, twenty-five to fifty miles.

III. SURFACE.

The surface ranges from the highest snow-covered mountains (like Hermon) to a valley thirteen hundred feet below sea level, furnishing every variety of fruit or cereal. There are three clearly defined divisions:

The maritime plain along the Mediterranean coast, ranging from two to twenty miles in width, and extremely fertile.

The mountain ranges, sweeping north and south through the centre of Palestine, broken here and there by transverse valleys, and rising in elevation toward the south until Hebron is reached.

The Jordan valley, running below the sea level, a huge canyon from two to eight miles wide. Beyond this, the high table lands of Perea.

IV. WATERS.

The waters of Palestine are of importance only from their historic connections. Along the western boundary

for four hundred miles is the "Great Sea," or Mediterranean, with two or three insecure seaports.

At the upper end of the Jordan is "Gennesaret," or the Sea of Galilee, eight miles by thirteen in size. In Christ's time it was covered with commerce and surrounded by a population of almost inconceivable density.

At the lower end of the Jordan, thirteen hundred feet below the sea, lay the "Dead Sea," forty-six miles long by ten miles wide, a scene of desolation then and now.

