

BIBLE ATLAS

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Editor

Chapter 2

Natural Regions of Palestine

NATURAL REGIONS OF ANCIENT PALESTINE

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak



MEDITERRANEAN SEA



0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles
 0 10 20 30 40 50 Kilometers

Palestine
Physical geography

Palestine may be divided into four zones from west to east.

The Coastal Zone is narrow in the north, widening into the Plain of Acco, and south of the Carmel Range it broadens into the Coastal Plain.

The Central Mountain Range continues the Lebanon and Galilean mountains into the central mountains south of the Valley of Jezreel (the Plain of Esdraelon) which are broken by broad open valleys, and further south in the more forbidding mountains of Judea by narrower valleys, finally melding into the steppes of the Negeb.

The Jordan Valley, a part of the Great Rift Valley which extends from Turkey to Central Africa, is dominated by the Upper Jordan River which rises in the foothills of Mount Hermon to flow through Lake Huleh to the Sea of Galilee, and continues as the Lower Jordan River to the Dead Sea. South of the Dead Sea it becomes the Arabah Valley, which extends to the Gulf of Aqaba.

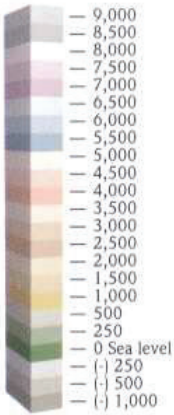
The Transjordan Plateau is called Hauran in the north, the Central Highlands south of the Yarmuk River, and Southern Highlands south of the Dead Sea. To the east of the mountains lies the Syrian desert.

Finally, a striking characteristic of the land is the series of transverse valleys from the Central Mountain Range to the Mediterranean and to the Jordan River from both the Central Mountain Range and the Transjordan Plateau.



CROSS SECTIONAL VIEWS OF LONGITUDINAL ZONES

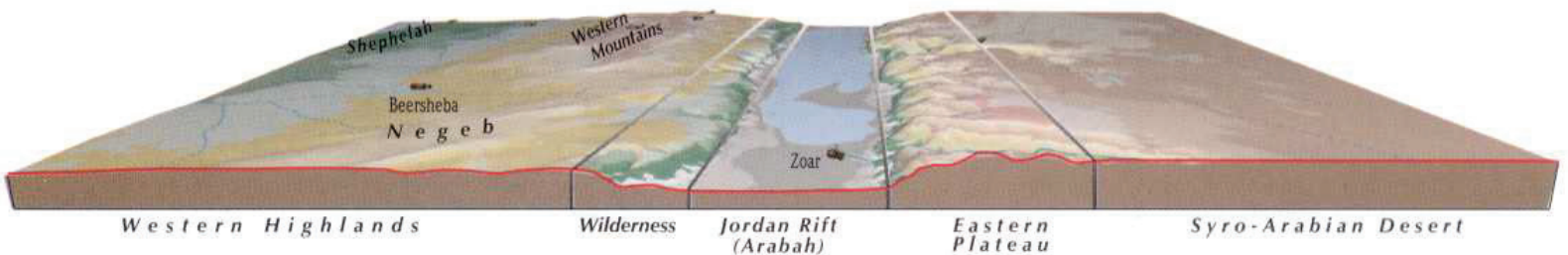
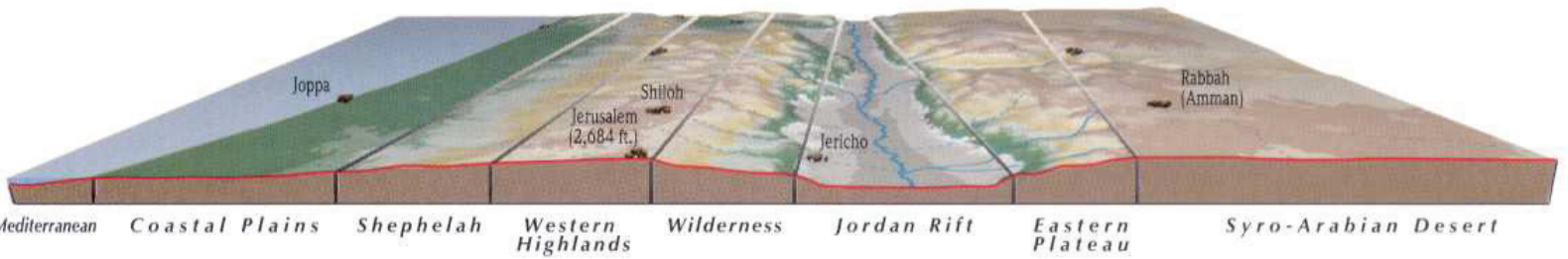
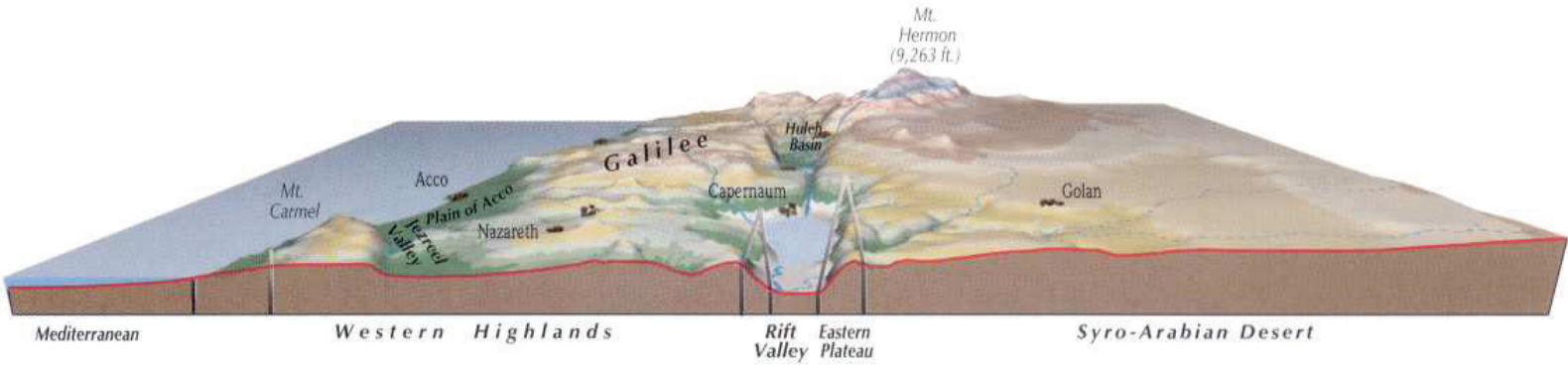
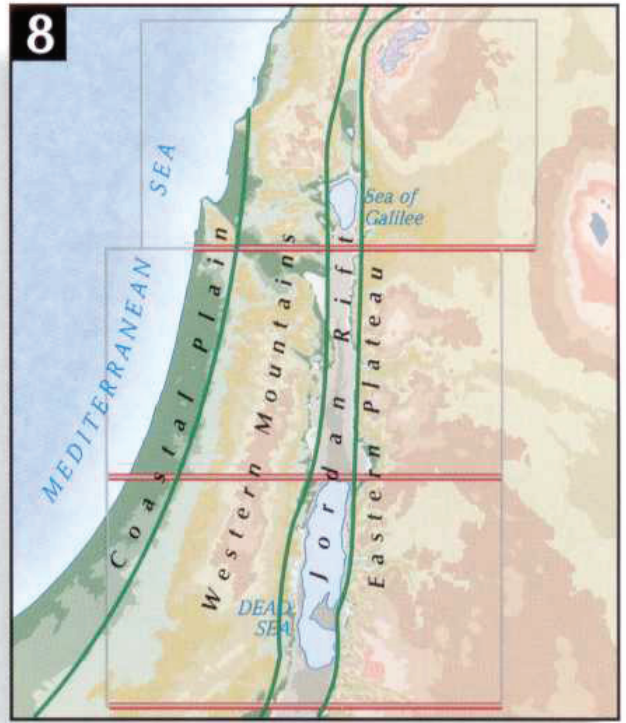
ELEVATION:



— Area of cross-section

— Approximate boundary of longitudinal zones

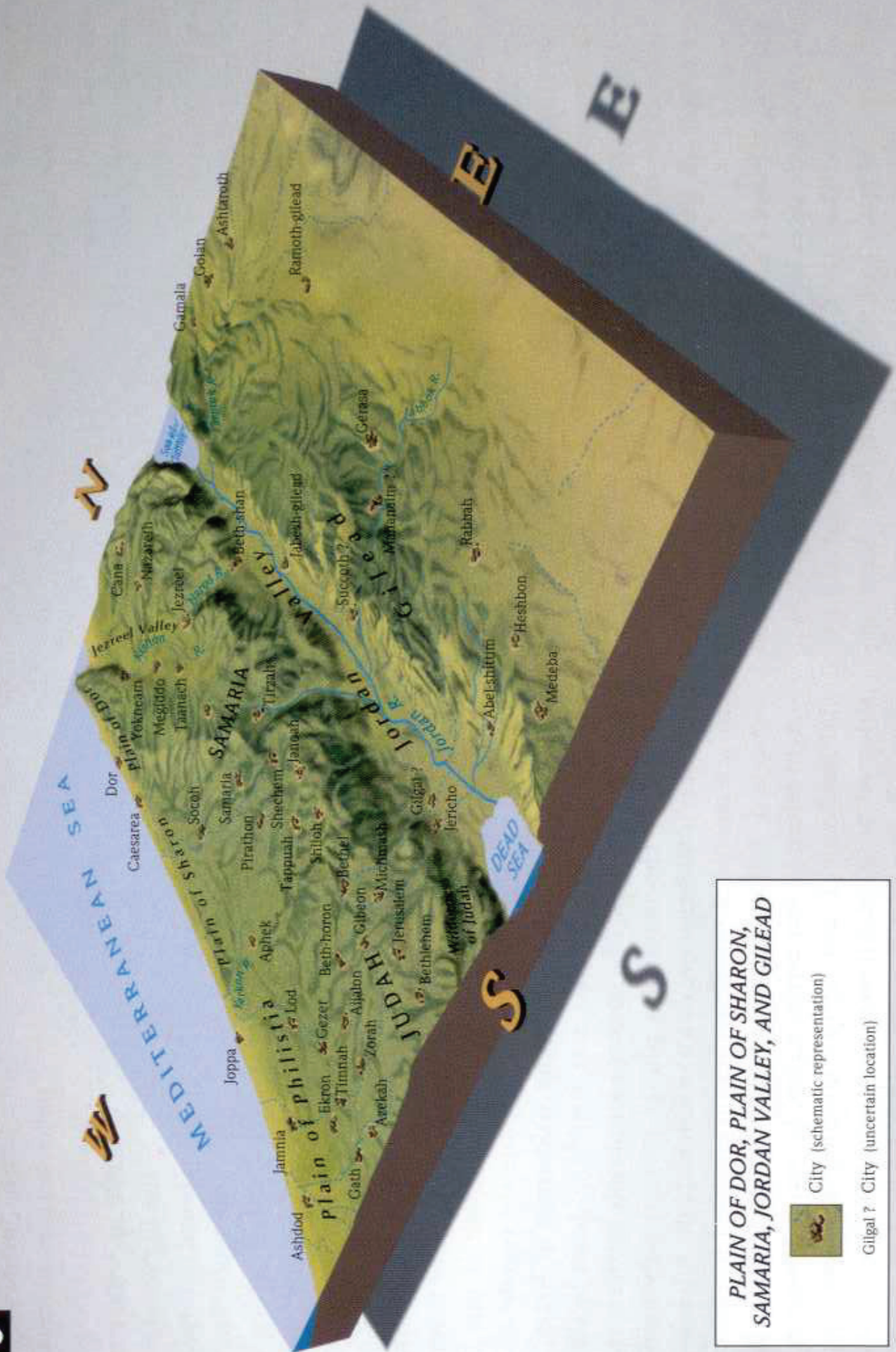
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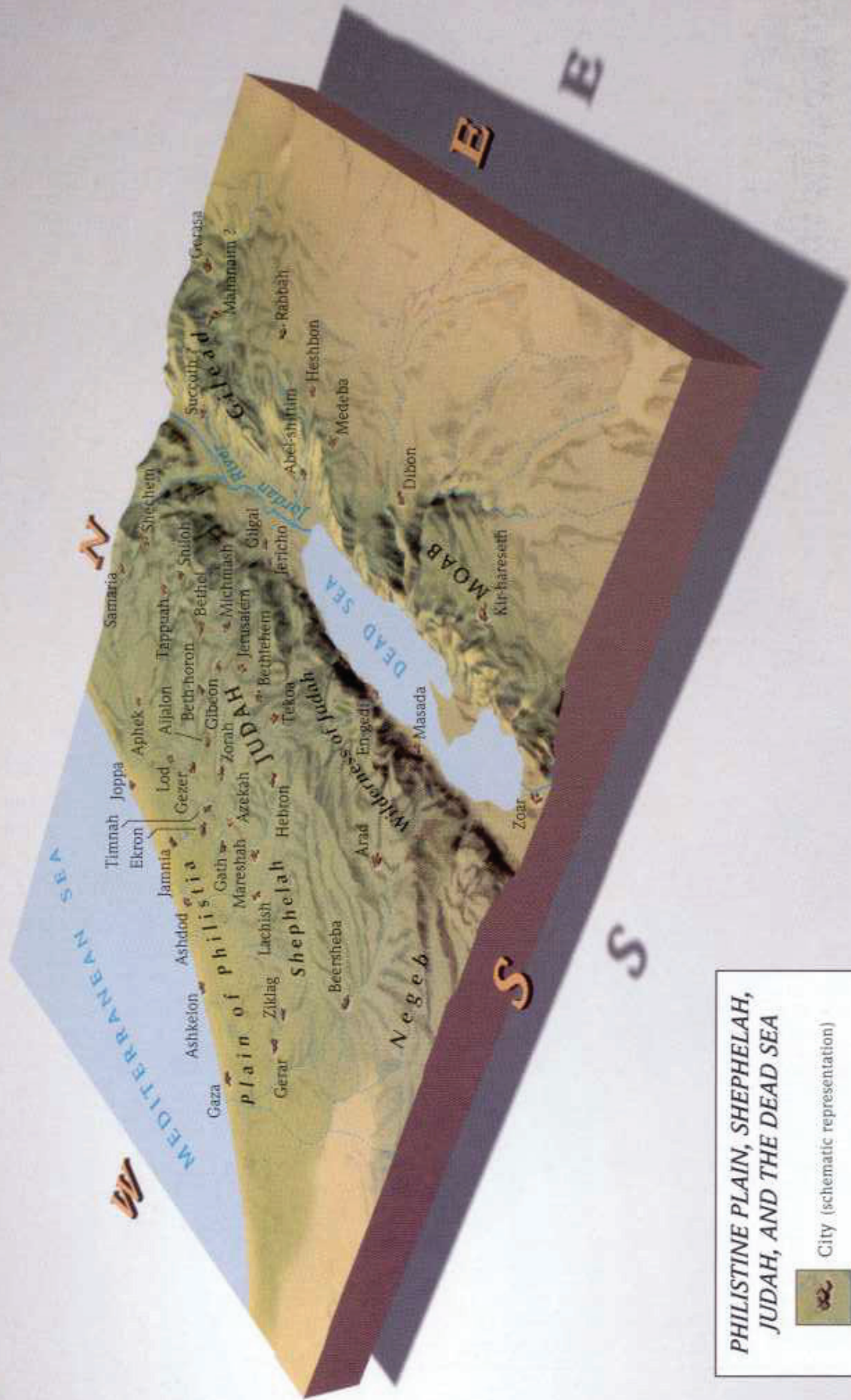
**NORTHERN COASTAL PLAINS,
JEZREEL VALLEY, GALILEE, AND
BASHAN**

 City (schematic representation)





PLAIN OF DOR, PLAIN OF SHARON, SAMARIA, JORDAN VALLEY, AND GILEAD

 City (schematic representation)
 Gilegal ? City (uncertain location)

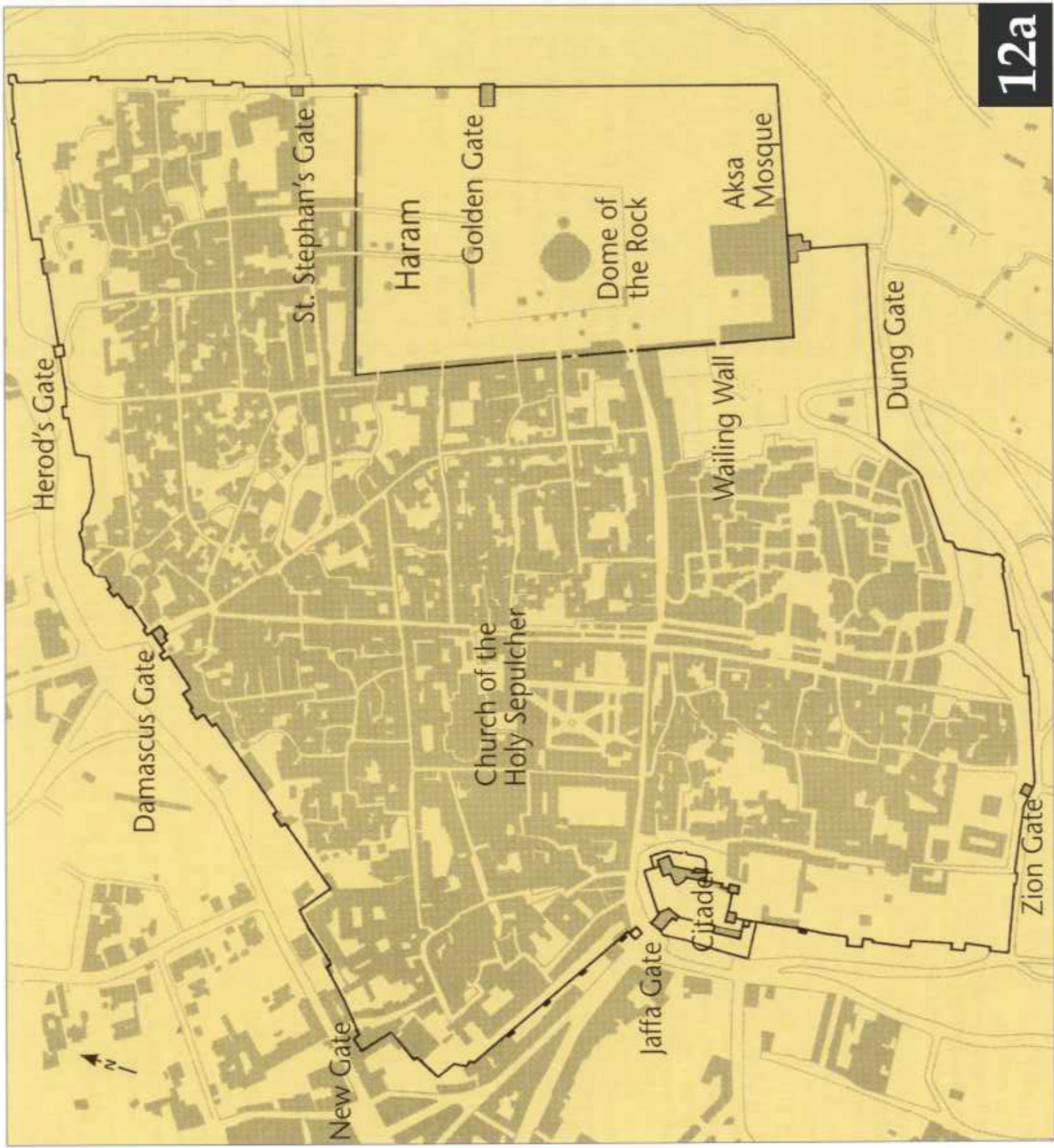


**PHILISTINE PLAIN, SHEPHELAH,
JUDAH, AND THE DEAD SEA**

 City (schematic representation)

 City (uncertain location)





MODERN POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF ANCIENT PALESTINE

- City
- City (modern name)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Present-day international boundaries
- - - Disputed boundaries

