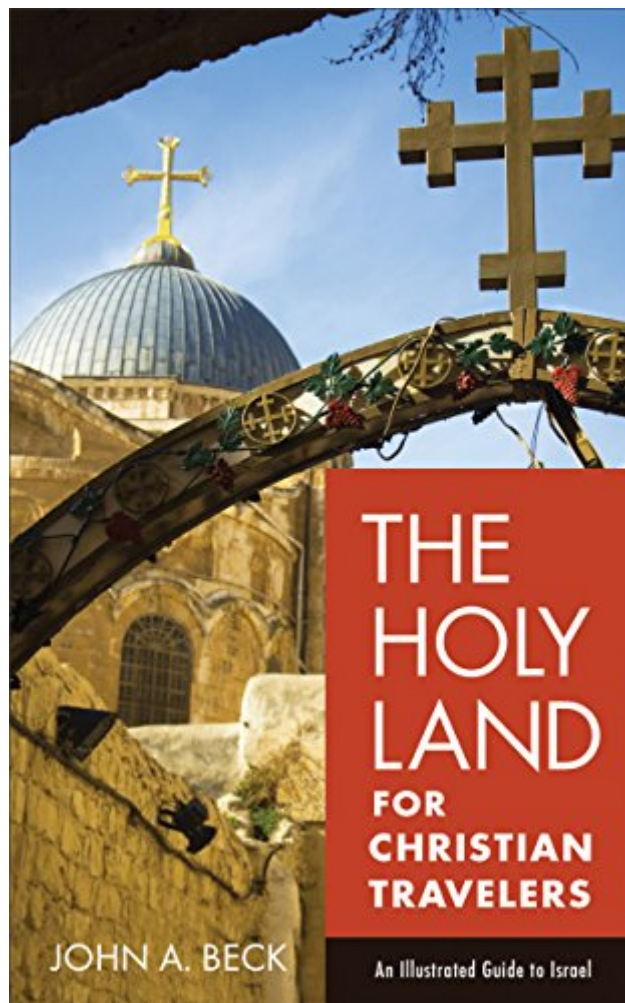




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# The Holy Land For Christian Travelers: An Illustrated Guide To Israel



## Synopsis

A trip to the Holy Land is on the bucket list of many Christians. But planning a meaningful trip in a place so filled with significant sites is an imposing task. Most travel guides are not prepared to link the Bible and land in an accurate and meaningful way because they are written for people of all faiths. So how can a Christian traveler prepare a trip that will illuminate God's Word and reveal the Lord's presence? In *The Holy Land for Christian Travelers*, John A. Beck provides a guide to the Holy Land for Christians with explanations of the biblical significance of important sites. The entries provide key Scripture references for reflection and a guide to the land that will encourage communion with God and a genuine spiritual experience for travelers as they walk in the footsteps of Jesus. A trip to the Holy Land can be a worship-filled, once-in-a-lifetime spiritual journey. This book puts a biblical scholar and experienced Holy Land guide at the reader's side.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The Holy Land For Christian Travelers" is a great read for anyone wanting to travel to or learn more

about the Holy Land. The book centers around 3 different tours:- Jerusalem (3 days)- Jerusalem and Judea (5 days)- Throughout Israel (12 days) Each tour contains suggested itineraries, cost (if any), what to wear, location, what are the must see sites, and other pertinent information. There is a lot to like about this book:- Very readable - excellent writing style that grabs the reader's interest.- Many colorful maps helps the reader see where sites are located.- Helpful charts of various topics.- Description of the different geographic areas (Coastal Plains, Central Mountains, Jordan Rift Valley, Transjordan Plateau) - such info as: climate, ease of travel, elevation, etc.- Description of historical periods leading up to today.- Biblical importance (Old and New Testament) of the mentioned sites.- Book is good size (not too small print and not too big to carry around). If I am able to visit the Holy Land someday, this book will definitely go with me! In the meantime, I will often use this as a reference for discipleship classes or sermons to help attendees better understand biblical sites. Will also refer to the title to prepare me for a trip someday to the Holy Land, Lord willing. Highly recommended title. I was given a review copy by Baker Books in exchange for a fair review.

I really branched out with my book reading this week! John A. Beck has just released a book called *The Holy Land for Christian Travelers*. Even though I am not personally planning a trip to Israel, I though this book looked intriguing, because I wanted to see what I could learn about the geography and customs of that area! First, I thought the book was very easy to understand, and I appreciated that. It wasn't so academic that it ran over my head. Anytime he did explain something complex, he did so quite thoroughly. There are full-color photos throughout the book, and there are also many maps that help you get a better sense of distance and location. John said something in the introduction to the book that really set the tone, I thought: "As you explore this land, you will quickly see that the Bible is at home here. And you will become more at home in your Bible as you travel the promised land." (p. 13). Even though I may never get to see this land in person, it does help me have a better sense of the area as I read and study Scripture on my own! At the beginning of the book, the author explains that if you are traveling to Israel, the number of places you will get to see are (obviously) subject to the length of time you plan to stay. He offers three potential itineraries: three, five, and twelve days in length, to help you space out what you should see in the amount of time you have. He provides addresses, hints on whether or not a particular site has fees associated with it, and a warning about dress code if you need to be careful what you wear to make sure you are respectful to the reverence of a particular area. Also, for travelers, he varies the amount of information he shares about each site depending on whether or not it's a "must-see" location or not, and how much on-site information is shared for visitors to read while there. He then divides the book

geographically, offering a section to Jerusalem itself, Jerusalem and beyond, the coastal plain, and the central mountains (divided by south, central, and north). This division choice helps you quickly find a location if you're there and needing to see more about your surroundings. But even if you aren't there, this book is very helpful in tying in events from the Bible (he gives Scripture references to back everything) to modern day locations. He explains which locations are likely the actual place something happened in Bible times and which ones are just traditional celebrations of a Bible event, even if we don't know where it actually happened. While much of the writing is factual and explanatory, he does tie in some teaching, by urging you to reflect on certain portions of Scripture and what each place means to it. I learned about locations that I hadn't even realized were significant, and I learned more about locations that I knew about, but maybe didn't fully know about. I'm keeping this book on my shelf for study reference, and if I ever happen to make it to Israel, it would definitely be a guide to take with me! \*\* Baker books provided a copy of this book to me at no charge. All opinions are my own. \*\*

This is a lovely guide book. It is heavy and the pages are glossy. Several color maps are included, and each entry is divided into areas: Jerusalem: Walkable Sites in and near the Old City Jerusalem and Beyond: Drivable Sites outside the Old City Coastal Plain Central Mountains South Central Mountains Center Central Mountains North These divisions allow you to plan your stops according to the different areas you want to see and how long you have to spend in the Holy Land. They are also marked to indicate which stops are especially recommended to visit. And not only does this book tell you where a place is, it also tells you whether it requires payment or modest dress, and sometimes what time of day is better to visit. Even if you don't plan to visit the Holy Land, you can use this book simply to learn the significance of different places. It is neat to read through and really catch the importance of biblical landmarks. It's quite the informative book. I received a copy of this book from BAKER BOOKS per their blogger program, and was only asked to write an honest review.

The Holy Land for Christian Travelers by John A. Beck is a Holy Land travel guide specifically geared for Christians. The book is divided into six sections: 1) Jerusalem: Walkable Sites in and near the Old City, 2) Jerusalem and Beyond: Drivable Sites outside the Old City, 3) Coastal Plain, 4) Central Mountains South, 5) Central Mountains Center, and 6) Central Mountains North. I enjoyed reading about a brief history of the Holy Land, its geography, and the many things that travelers can see and do while in the Holy Land. The author even includes a 12-day itinerary to make the most of your Holy Land trip. The book nicely includes a good amount of background information for each

place highlighted in the book. Even for someone not planning a trip to the Holy Land, it's a very educational book; some of the places I learned about were Jerusalem Archaeological Park, Beit Guvrin National Park, and Karazim National Park, just to name a few.\*I received this book for review\*

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