

In the story of Joseph we do not have much of geographical interest in Palestine since most of the events of that story take place in Egypt. The first episodes in it, however, take place in Palestine. Jacob, probably still living in Hebron, called Joseph to him (Chapter 37) and asked him to go to see how his brothers are as they are tending the flock near S. Joseph goes north to S. a journey of perhaps 40 miles and here he is told that his brothers have already moved further north to D. It is about twenty miles? north of S., in the plain of A., which is south of Mount G. where Saul later fought his final battle with the Phillistines. Here the brothers of Joseph see him coming to them and decide to put him out of the way. As a result of Reuben's interpolation, they do not kill him at once but cast him into a pit. As they sat there eating their luncce, we read that they saw a company of Ishmaelites coming from G. We remember that the plain of A. is right on the cross roads between Babylonia and Egypt. Across this plain most of the great caravans had to go. That explains partly its strategic importance in history. To this caravan Joseph's brothers sold him and they carried him down into Egypt. We will pass over the remaining events of Joseph's life since they took place in Egypt rather than in Palestine. After the Israelites had been in Egypt for sometime and after a king had arisen who knew not Joseph, due doubtless to the expulsion of the H. kings who had befriended the Israelites, we have an account of Moses leading the Israelites up into Palestine. I suppose Dr. Allis has dealt at some length on the course of the exodus in his course. In this course, we must confine our studies to those events which happened in Palestine. After 40 years in the wilderness, the Israelites enter Palestine. They did not enter by the direct route through the Phillistine plain but came around through the desert region east of the Jordan. There, we have already seen them conquering S. king of the A. whose capital was in H. and Og, king of B., of whom it is recorded that he had an iron bedstead. He was king of the great region of B. a region of which we are told that it contained sixty walled cities.