

**Site:** Jordan River

**Scripture References:** Deuteronomy 30:18-20; Joshua 4:1-24; 2 Samuel 17:15-22; 2 Kings 2:8-12; 2 Kings 5:8-16; Psalms 133:3; Matthew 3:16-17; Mark 1:5; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 3:2-3

**Historical Significance:**

1. Joshua crossed the Jordan River when he lead the Israelites into Canaan.
2. Elijah and Elisha parted the Jordan River with Elijah's mantle.
3. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan River.
4. Forms border between Israel and Jordan.
5. Tributaries include the Baniyas, Dan and Hasbani Rivers
6. Naaman and Bartimaeus were healed in the Jordan River.

**Things to look for:**

1. In ancient times the Jordan River was over 100 feet wide and more than 10 feet deep. Today it is not as wide and is much shallower due to water being diverted.

**What does this site teach us about God?**

1. Many hymns use crossing the Jordan River as a metaphor for crossing over to heaven or freedom.
2. The Jordan River is also a metaphor for crossing over from death to life.

**Site:** Qumran

**Scripture References:** Isaiah 40:8

**Historical Significance:**

1. Location of the greatest archeological find of the 20th century (Dead Sea Scrolls)
2. From the 2nd century BC to 68 AD the Essenes studied and preserved the Hebrew texts.
3. In 1947 the first of the Dead Sea Scrolls was discovered in a cave. The Isaiah Scroll was found in Cave 1. So far 11 caves have been found, Cave 4 had more scrolls than any other caves. Over 122 Biblical fragments and over 15,000 fragments from over 200 books were found in Cave 4.
4. Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem holds a copy of the original Isaiah Scroll found in Cave 1.

**Things to look for:**

1. Benches and ink wells in the Scriptorium.
2. Dining hall
3. Ritual baths

**What does this site teach us about God?**

1. God's enduring Word offers us a strong anchor for the soul.
2. Obey God's Word even in the darkest of times.
3. God is always at work.