

Mediterranean Sea

Mediterranean is the Latin word *mediterraneus* and means “in the middle of earth” (*medius* = “middle, between” and *terra*=“land, earth.” Greek is *Mesogeios* from μέσος “middle” and γη “land, earth”. It was an important route for traders and travelers in Bible times. Many products and much culture was exchanged between eastern and western people over the Mediterranean Sea.



In the Bible: Num. 34:6,7; Josh. 1:4, 9:1, 15:47; Ezek. 47:10,15,20, known as the Great Sea; 1 Kings 5:9, the Sea; Deut. 11:24; Joel 2:20, the “hinder Sea” translated as Western Sea”; Exod. 23:31, the “Sea of the Philistines. **Jonah 1**, the story of the ship wreck and the fish occurs on the Mediterranean Sea.



The Mediterranean Sea as viewed from ancient Ashkelon of the Philistines.