Korazin (Korazim, Chorazin)

Jesus condemned this city along with Bethsaida and Capernaum. According to Mt.11:20-24, Jesus visited here and performed miracles here. It is known for producing good wheat. The city is 2 miles NW of Capernaum and was divided into five quarters. The central quarter held a synagogue, the remains of 3 large buildings and a paved square.



The ground that the city is built on is basalt and so the building stones are also made of the hard black basalt stone. Excavation began in the early 1900's and the Hebrew University continued work in the 1920's. Since then excavation and restoration activities took place in 1962, '65, '80 and '83. The excavation res revealed buildings from the 100-300 AD, but very little from the time of Jesus. It appears that the earliest settlers were from Jesus day in the first century. It was clearly a Jewish community during those years (100-300 AD), but was destroyed by 314 AD according to Eusebius the bishop of Caesarea in Palestine. It is mentioned in the Babylonian Talmud written in 500 AD when much of the city was restored and the original buildings and synagogues were repaired.

<u>In the Bible</u>: Matthew 11:20-24, "Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. 'Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago...No, you will go down to the depths.'



This synagogue is from 100-200 AD. It was excavated in 1926 by J. Ory.



"Seat of Moses" found in 1920s with an Aramaic inscription (Mt.23:2-3)