Judean Wilderness

Extends from N. of Jerusalem to S. end of Dead Sea and is 60 miles long, 10-20 miles wide between the Hill Country and the Rift Valley. In this 10-20 mile distance the land drops 3,700 feet to the lowest point on earth. Some places 4,300 4,300 ft. in 10 miles. Average rainfall is 8 in/yr, or 4 in/yr. near the Dead Sea. Made up of Senonian rock chalk, marl and flint which hardens when wet and water runs off into the Sea.



In the Bible Jos.7:24, Achan stoned in Valley of Achor; Jos.10:7, Joshua marches through Judean Wilderness at night from Gilgal to Gibeon; Jos.15:61, allotted to Judah; Jud.20:47, 600 Benjamites fled to the rock of Rimmon in wilderness: 1Sm. 23:15, David hid in Desert of Ziph; 1Sm.24:1, David spared Saul's life in Desert of En Gedi; 1Sm.25:1, In Desert of Maon, Nabal refused to help David: **1Sm.26:1**. In Desert of Ziph David spared Saul; 2Sm.16:5, Shimei cursed David; Song of So.3:6, daughters of Jerusalem watch Solomon coming from desert for his wedding; 2Chr.20:1, Jehoshaphat led people into the Desert of Tekoa to face invaders; Is.40:1, Isaiah foretold of a time when a voice of one crying in the wilderness would announce the Messiah; Hosea 2:14, Hosea predicted a time when God would bring Israel into the desert for a second exodus and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope; Jer.17:5, those who trust men are like a bush in the wasteland: Jer.39:4, Zedekiah fled from Jerusalem through the Judean Wilderness to the Jordan Valley and was captured; Ez.47:8, Ezekiel saw a time when living water would flow here. Mt.3:1;Mk.1:4;Lk.3:2, John begins his ministry in the Desert of Judea; Mt.4:1; Mk.1:12; Lk.4:1, Jesus tempted in this wilderness; Lk.10:25, parable of good Samaritan set here; Jn.11:54, Jesus withdrew to the desert to village called Ephraim.



The Judean Wilderness



Galyn in the Judean Wilderness