

## **Geographical Sites mentioned in Deuteronomy chapters 1-4**

- 1) Ar (Dt 2:9, 19, 29): An important city and region in Moab (east side of the Jordan River).
- 2) Argob (Dt 3:4, 13-14): A region in Bashan in northern Transjordan with sixty fortified cities that were conquered by the Manassehite clan of Jair.
- 3) Arnon (Dt 2:24; 3:8, 12, 16): A river gorge that flows into the midpoint of the Dead Sea on the east of the Rift Valley. It marked the northern boundary of Moab and the southern boundary of the Amorite kingdom of Sihon.
- 4) Aroer (Dt 2:36): A fortress guarding the King's Highway, the trade route that crossed the Wadi Arnon nearby (Jer 48:19); also the nearby town in the Arnon valley. The river Arnon marked Moab's northern boundary with the Amorites (Dt 2:36).
- 5) Ashtaroth and Edrei (Dt 1:4; 3:1, 10): Probably Tel Ashterah, a site along the King's Highway, about 20 miles east of the Sea of Galilee in modern Syria. Edrei has been identified as Deraa, a town south of Ashtaroth near the Jordanian border with Syria. Both cities are mentioned in Ugaritic and Egyptian documents of the Late Bronze Age. King Og of Bashan reigned in both Ashtaroth and Edrei according to Josh 12:4; 13:12, 31.
- 6) Bashan (Dt 1:4; 3:1-29): The Amorite kingdom of Og; it was fertile region extending from east of the Sea of Galilee and north of the Yarmuk River to the range of the Hermon mountains and from the Golan Heights on the west to Leja and Hauran, the Druze mountains, on the east. In ancient times it had been the homeland of the Rephaim (Dt 3:13).
- 7) Beth-Peor (Dt 3:29; 4:46): In Hebrew "house" or "place" of Peor. A town near the site of the religious shrine of Baal-Peor on the east side of the Jordan River. This town had once belonged to Moab but was conquered by King Sihon of the Amorites (Num 23:28). After they defeated the Amorites, the Israelites camped nearby in the valley not far from the river (Josh 13:20). It was at Baal-Peor that the women of Moab and Midian seduced the Israelite men into the sins of sexual perverse and idolatry by participating in the cultic ceremonies of the fertility god Baal (25:1ff).
- 8) Bezer (Dt 4:43): A town "in the wilderness in the Tableland" of Moab, probably indicating the eastern region of the Plains of Moab and mentioned in the Mesha stela.
- 9) Chinnereth/Kinneret (Dt 3:17): Chinnereth is an ancient name for the region of the Sea Galilee (Num 34:11; Dt 3:17; Josh 13:27; 19:35), and it was known during the Roman occupation of the Holy Land as the Sea of Tiberias (Josh 12:3; 13:27; Jn 6:1, 23; 21:1).
- 10) Di-zahab (Dt 1:1): Probably located on the western shore of the Gulf of Aqaba.
- 11) Edom/Edom-Seir (Dt 1:2; 2:8): Edom was the southernmost of the Transjordan kingdoms. Edomite territory stretched south and east of the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Aqaba. The location of Edom on the main trade route of the King's Highway made it both economically and strategically important (Num 20:17). The Edomites were the descendants of Esau, the eldest son of Isaac, grandson of Abraham, and the twin brother of Jacob.