Digital Resources for Biblical Mapping

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Society of Biblical Literature 2008

Further Reference
scrollandscreen.com/biblicalmapping
Biblical Studies and Technological Tools Blog
This PowerPoint Mapping Programs Features Spreadsheet Links, Listings, and Further Information

Overview

1. Types of Maps
   ▪ What kind of map do I need?
2. Mapping Matters
   ▪ How will I use the map?
     What makes for a good map?
3. Digital Mapping Resources
   ▪ What resources can I use?
4. Conclusions / Recommendations

1: Types of Maps

A: Satellite and Orthophoto Maps
   ► Provide detail in true position
   ► BUT no satellite images from ancient times!
   ► Can be enhanced: layer tinting

Reference: www.maptown.com/referencemaptypes.html

www.creativereview.co.uk/crblog/the-bible-according-to-google-earth/
I: Types of Maps

B: Physical Maps
► Mainly used for landforms and bodies of water
► Provide helpful base terrain

C: Political Maps
► Used to show boundaries of political entities
► Highlight key historical shifts

D: Relief Maps: Shaded and Raised
► Provide sense of the land
1: Types of Maps

D: Relief Maps: Shaded and Raised

E: Road Maps
- Help explain historical developments
- Adjustable to period

F: Topographic Maps
- Use contour lines

G: Illustrations
- Provide help in visualizing events
2: Mapping Matters

A: Copyright and Fair Use Considerations

► Copyright and Fair Use (see web links)

► Section 107 of US Copyright Act contains a list of the various purposes for which the reproduction of a particular work may be considered “fair,” such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research. Four factors:

1. purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
2. nature of the copyrighted work;
3. amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
4. effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

http://www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html

B: Orientation

► East / West or North / South

C: Accuracy, Bias, etc.

► Accuracy

* Jericho (OT or NT?)
* Troy / Troas

► Archaeology

* Ai (?)
* Beersheba

► Tradition

* Mount of Beatitudes / Mount of Transfiguration
* Golgotha and Jesus’ Tomb (Holy Sepulchre, Garden Tomb, or Talpiot?!)
E: Edit-ability

► How much do you want to have maps ready-made, or do you want to be able to edit them?
► Programs with editable/manipulable maps
  - BibleWorks 7/8
  - Accordance Bible Atlas
  - BibleMapper
  - HolyLand 3D
  - GoogleEarth
  - Logos Bible Atlas ‘99

F: Quality

What makes a good map?
► Clarity
  - Sites appropriate to period or purpose (BW, Acc., BibleMpr)
  - Appropriate background
  - Display compliments purpose
F: Quality (or lack of)

What makes a good map?

► Interactivity

- Ideally, links between Bible text / Map(s) / Reference Works / Online resources
- Maximizing technology: 3D, animations, flyovers, links to pictures/videos

F: Quality

Sample from forthcoming Logos Map / Atlas
Thanks to Vince Setterholm

3D Holy Land

GoogleEarth

GoogleEarth
G: Using Maps

Overview and Perspective

Illustration
- Biblical Events
- History and Geography
  - Gerasa by Stephen Langfur

3: Digital Mapping Resources

- Maps > Cf. online site for links
- Mapping Programs

Accordance Bible Atlas

BibleWorks 7 (8) Map Module
Conclusions / Recommendations

*No single program does it all*

- **Overall: Integration and Features**
  - Accordance > HolyLand3D > BW7/8 > BibleAtlas.org

- **Map Creation**
  - BibleMapper > Accordance > BW7/8

- **Interactivity**
  - HolyLand3D / GoogleEarth > Accordance

- **Free Mapping Resources**
  - GoogleEarth, BibleAtlas.org, NET/neXt Bible

- **Maps: depends...**

**Conclusions / Recommendations**

- **The future...**

- **GoogleEarth**
  - High resolution with 3D data (but with a Terrain layer were available)
  - Navigation, flyovers, elevations
  - Use with overlays and KMZ files (OpenBible.info)
  - Use in conjunction with existing maps
  - Extensive ability to link across the Cloud: reference works, photos, layers
  - Free and able to be linked from Bible texts/software