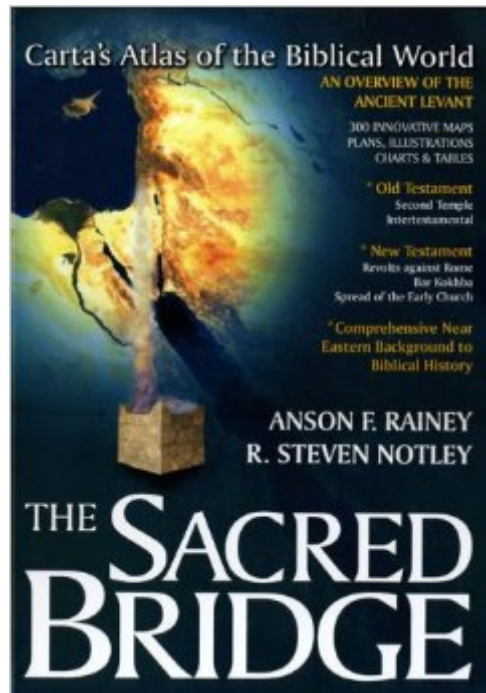


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# The Sacred Bridge: Carta's Atlas Of The Biblical World



## Synopsis

To meet the need for clear and accurate information, Professors Anson F. Rainey and R. Steven Notley have now come forward with an atlas that traces the course of Near Eastern history from the Chalcolithic Age (c. 3500 BCE) to the defeat of Bar Kochba's fighters and their retreat to the caves east of En-gedi. The product of close cooperation between two distinguished scholars of world renown and the knowledgeable and experienced staff of Carta, Jerusalem, this Atlas provides 300 state-of-the-art maps to show as far as possible in terms of modern knowledge the changes and historical processes that affected the lands of the Bible. Included are all historical and biblical episodes that can be depicted cartographically—migrations and settlements, battles and conquests, the location and detailed movement of individual historical and biblical characters. In addition, *The Sacred Bridge*—Carta's Atlas of the Biblical World draws on information from all known ancient sources—Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek, Roman and others—to reveal trade routes, economic determinants, and the development of international relations. Maps, many of them never before attempted, are presented chronologically, with extensive interpretive texts alongside. Finds, tools, artifacts, inscriptions and other documents from each period also appear in conjunction with the maps. The ultimate usefulness of any complex reference work depends on its index and its bibliography, and *The Sacred Bridge*—Carta's Atlas of the Biblical World provides everything that could be asked for in the way of organized assistance to the reader. Each person or site can be located. An invaluable chronological table correlates historical activity in the East (Mesopotamia and Anatolia), the southern Levant, Egypt, and the Greco-Roman West from 2800 BCE to the second century CE. The superb reference sections contain every article, book or document consulted. The extensive index contains every place name that has been mapped and, in addition, names that still defy exact location but can be shown in relation to specific biblical episodes. New Testament geography, especially that of the Gospels, is interpreted in the light of the new understanding resulting from such discoveries as the Dead Sea Scrolls (e.g., the wider use of Hebrew as a social and religious vehicle than heretofore acknowledged). These refreshing insights serve to define geographical terms used in the New Testament and trace their origin. Documents are presented in their original languages and transcribed or translated into English. A special feature of this atlas is the insertion of these texts and their meaning within the narrative proper.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you are looking for an atlas for helping in your study of the Bible - this is it. (If you are not looking you should think about it!) The maps are excellent, but they are only a part of the contents of this fine reference. There is a wealth of cultural and language information contained along side wonderful insight into Biblical history as revealed in the geography of the Scripture. The authors obviously have a passion for their subject matter and it shows in the outstanding quality of this work. The publisher has presented the work in a wonderful format and the book is as beautiful as it is thorough in scholarship. "The Sacred Bridge" is a must for the serious student of Scripture and even more so for the Bible teacher. It is expensive - I saved for it for a while - It is worth every penny and more. Robert Curtis Santa Rosa Beach, Florida

Receiving this book has been an extremely pleasant surprise for me. Knowing the quality of Carta atlases, I ordered it expecting a top-quality up to date biblical atlas. However, I found it a superb, well-documented treatise of the pre-biblical, biblical and post biblical world, through the Bar Kokhba revolt, illustrated with high quality maps and photos. Although these illustrations, by themselves, are highly instructive, they do not make this unique volume as valuable as it will be to any serious biblical scholar. The authors compiled tremendous amounts of historical and archeological information that would be hard to retrieve otherwise. Although experts may argue about details of the information presented on the interpretation of certain biblical passages, as these depend on the academic school they represent, this book provides an unprecedented wealth of up to date information; information that will allow interested biblical scholars to go to the sources and expand their horizons. Last but not least, this treatise documents in great detail the robust connection between the biblical text with the geography of the ancient Jewish homeland and with relevant

recent archeological findings. It is, therefore, also of substantial timely value when the veracity of biblical history is being questioned not by scholars but by biased political parties. Dr. Michael Anbar

Only someone with no other reading to do can handle the demands of reading this type of book. However, it is worth the fortune one must pay to get a copy of this work. Where else can one find the nuances of interpretation or vagaries of fact that emerge from slender information or from meager scraps of archaeological artifacts? No longer do such imponderables parade as established proof beyond a shadow of a doubt. In addition, there is no further need to look for a book for those locations that some text mentions but neglects to map; this is a one stop shopping mall for the ancient middle east and the bible.

It is the most detailed atlas I have-The Sacred Bridge by Rainey and Notley. I'll admit it's a luxury but it is the ultimate one available. The maps are small, but the text is detailed to almost every Bible event imaginable. It can be liberal in places, but if you want to find the archaeological site to match the Bible site in modern Israel, it is indispensable. Its comprehensiveness is unparalleled.

What an amazing resource for any student of the Bible. It brings places and events to life through extensive use of ancient sources, archaeological finds and detailed maps. It is a must have for any serious bible scholar!!

The book contains a sticker on the spine. Why is on the book at all. It is supposed to be new.

Good

excellent

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