

# If You Had Lived in Jesus' Time

ANYONE magically transported back through time into the second or third decade of the Christian era would find countless similarities in the lives and affairs of the persons of that time and this. Men worried about war and chafed under taxes. They turned freely to entertainments for forgetfulness of their troubles—chariot and foot races, boxing, wrestling, jumping, hurling. Paul's epistles to the Corinthians contain comparisons

borrowed from popular sports. There were great feasts with music by orchestra and chorus. Various foods of that time are regularly eaten today. Farmers had the problems of pests, drought, floods or over-production with which to contend. Man still is plagued by diseases from which he suffered then. He might easily have disappeared from the earth, or slid back into barbarism. With Christianity he has survived and solved most of his problems.



Sowing and plowing, a farming scene from New Testament times in an Egyptian frieze. The ordinary bread of the Israelites was made of wheat. Wheat was sown in November, the harvest was April to June.



Treading out the grain, another farming scene by an Egyptian artist. The ass, or donkey, and oxen were common work animals.



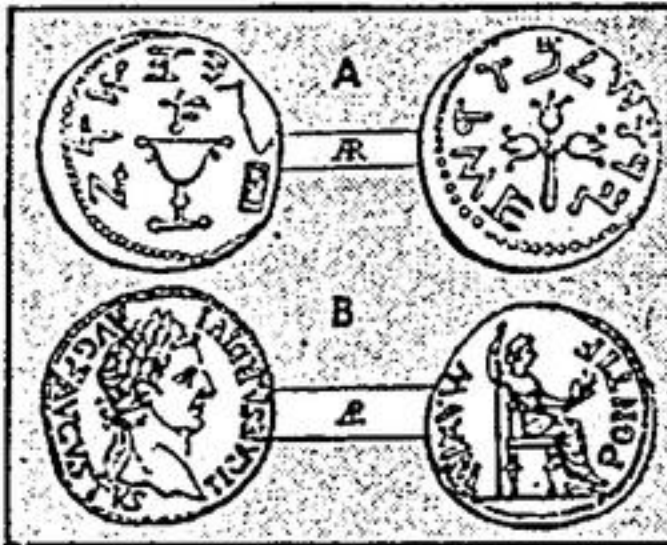
Plain folk in the land of Israel slept upon pallets unrolled upon the floor or beneath a tent. Some rich persons had bedsteads of iron or carved ivory in their houses.



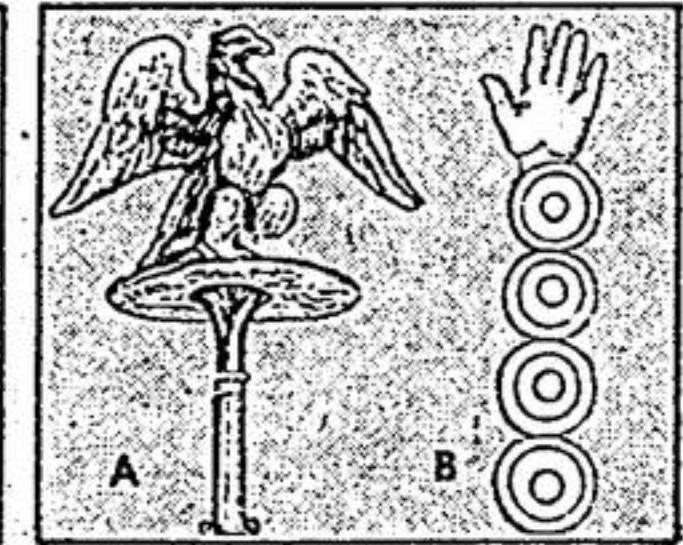
Tents were common habitations outside of towns. There were round and tapering tents, and flat, oblong tents similar to those to be seen in the camping grounds in our time.



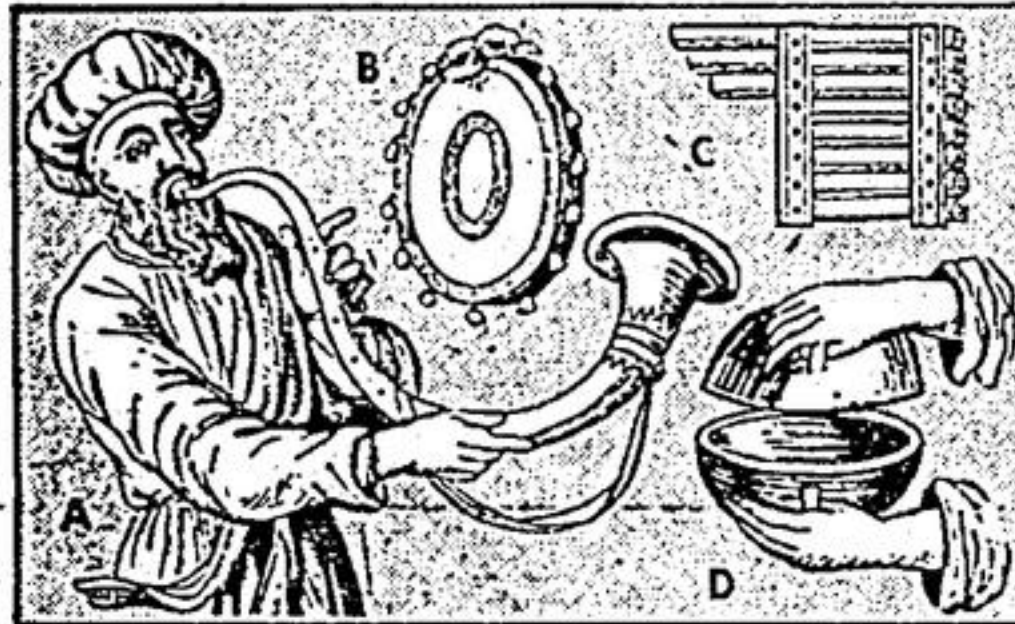
For lights, there were torches, stuffed with fabric soaked in oil.



Coins used then included (a) the half-shekel (silver) and (b) the Roman denarius (silver).



Soldiers bore standards instead of flags. These are standards of Roman legions.



There was a variety of musical instruments—*a*—trumpets; *b*—tambourines; *c*—pipes and futes; *d*—brass cymbals; stringed instruments such as harps and, of course, various drums.



A wine press. Light wine was a staple article of diet. Stronger drinks were made from barley, dates, lotus or honey. Immoderate use of them was forbidden.

## Masterpieces of Portraiture of the Young Jesus



THE CHILD JESUS AND THE SNAKE, by the Dutch master-painter, Anthony Van Dyck (1599-1641).



JESUS, ST. JOHN AND TWO OTHER CHILDREN, by the Flemish painter, Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640). The Bible names four children with whom Jesus grew up as James, Joses, Juda and Simon.



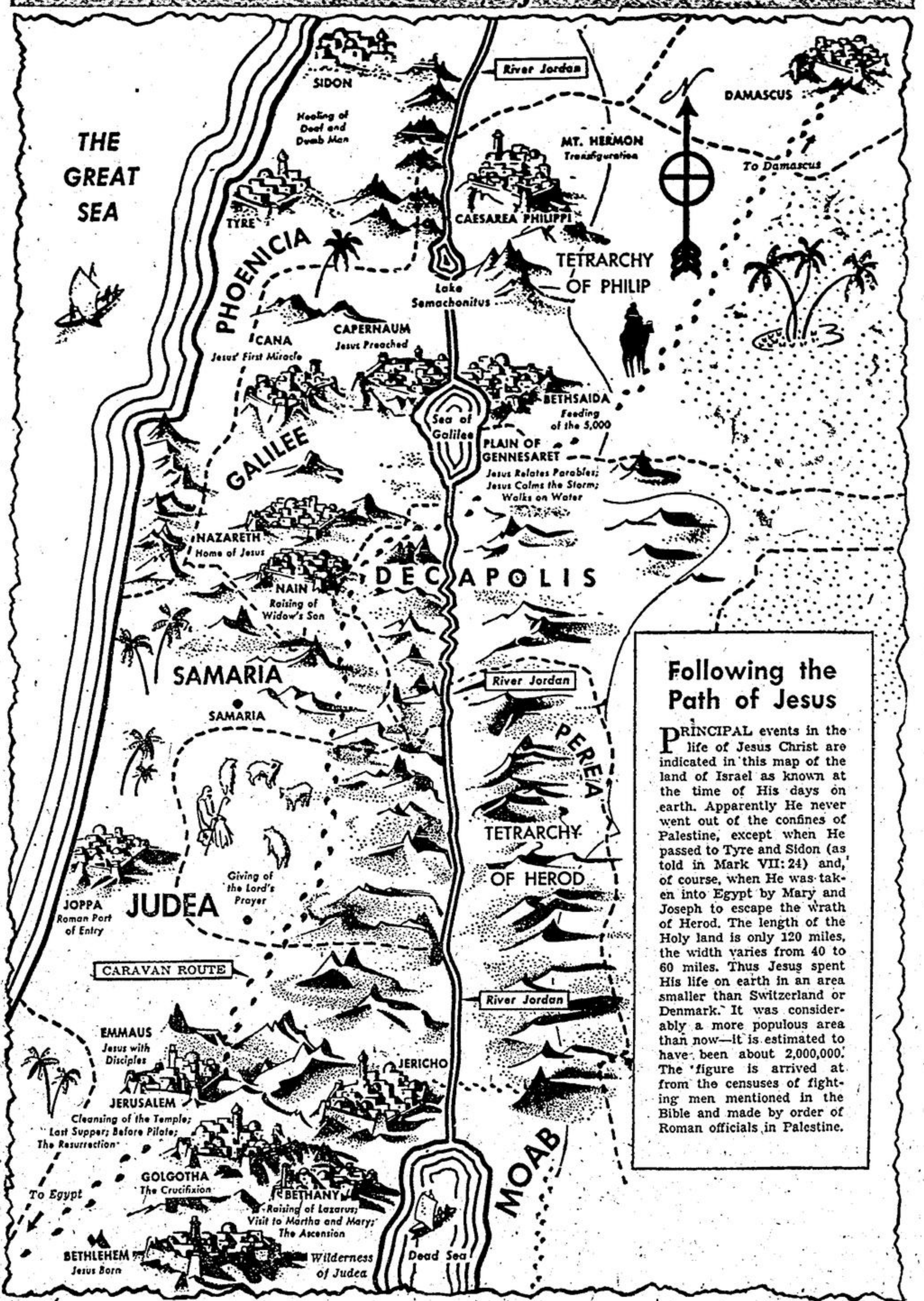
THE YOUTHFUL JESUS EMBRACING ST. JOHN, is by Guido Reni (1574-1642), a Bolognese master. He decorated the dome of the Quirinal Palace and other buildings in Rome.



THE YOUTHFUL CHRIST, by Bernardino Luini, (1475-1531 or 1532), the Lombard painter. He was influenced by Da Vinci.

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## THE ROAD TO JERUSALEM



### Following the Path of Jesus

PRINCIPAL events in the life of Jesus Christ are indicated in this map of the land of Israel as known at the time of His days on earth. Apparently He never went out of the confines of Palestine, except when He passed to Tyre and Sidon (as told in Mark VII: 24) and, of course, when He was taken into Egypt by Mary and Joseph to escape the wrath of Herod. The length of the Holy Land is only 120 miles, the width varies from 40 to 60 miles. Thus Jesus spent His life on earth in an area smaller than Switzerland or Denmark. It was considerably a more populous area than now—it is estimated to have been about 2,000,000. The figure is arrived at from the censuses of fighting men mentioned in the Bible and made by order of Roman officials in Palestine.

## Important Dates in Jesus' Life

(As deduced from the Gospels, the works of the Roman historian Josephus and other sources.)

END of 5 or beginning of 4 B.C. — Jesus born. [Originally His birth was believed to have occurred in the Roman year 754 and Christian chronology was calculated from that date. A recheck after several hundred years, when the Christian calendar was well established, indicated that Jesus was born in the Roman year 750, or 4 B.C.]

4 A.D. Death of Herod the Great; division of his kingdom among three sons

6 A.D. Archelaus deposed; Judea a Roman province

8 A.D. The child Jesus in the temple

14 (AUG. 19) Death of Augustus; Tiberius emperor of Rome

26 Pontius Pilate becomes procurator

26 (DEC.) Beginning of John the Baptist's ministry

27 (JAN.) John baptizes Jesus • The temptation in the desert

27 (MARCH) Jesus returns to the Jordan • John, Andrew and Simon are called • The wedding feast at Cana • Jesus goes up to Jerusalem for the Passover • Jesus expels the money changers from the temple

27 (APRIL) The episode of Nicodemus

28 (MAY) Jesus goes back to Nazareth by way of Samaria • Episode of the Samaritan woman • Jesus cures the son of a court official • John the Baptist is thrown into prison

Jesus begins His public ministry • He teaches in the synagogues • First stay at Capernaum • Cure of the man possessed by devils • Peter's mother-in-law cured • The miraculous draught of fishes • Cure of a paralytic

28 (JUNE) Cleansing of the leper • The disciples pick corn on the Sabbath • Levi (Matthew) is called • The man with a withered hand • The Apostles selected • The Sermon on the Mount

28 (JULY) The centurion at Capernaum • John the Baptist sends a message to Jesus

28 (SEPT.) Jesus raises the son of the widow

28 (NOV.) The parables concerning the Kingdom of God

28 (DEC.) The tempest calmed • Raising of Jairus' daughter • Cure of the woman with a hemorrhage • Jesus is asked to leave Nazareth

29 (FEB.) Mission of the Twelve Apostles

29 (MARCH) Death of John the Baptist

29 (APRIL) First miracle of the multiplication of the loaves • Jesus walks on the water

29 (JUNE) Jesus goes through Phoenicia and the Decapolis • Second miracle of the multiplication of the loaves

29 (JULY) Jesus at Caesarea Philippi • Peter's declaration of faith and Jesus' promise

29 (AUG.) The Transfiguration • First announcement of the Passion

29 (SEPT.) Jesus leaves Galilee for Judea

29 (OCT.) Feast of Tabernacles • The woman taken in adultery • Cure of the man born blind • The mission of the 70 • Parable of the Good Samaritan • With Martha and Mary at Bethany • Jesus gives the "Our Father"

29 (DEC.) Feast of the Dedication of the Temple

30 (JAN.) Jesus in Perea • Parables of the Good Shepherd and the Lost Drachma • Parable of the Prodigal Son

30 (FEB.) Cure of ten lepers • "Suffer little children to come unto me"

30 (MARCH) Raising of Lazarus • Jesus goes into Ephraim • Jesus in Jericho: Zaccheus the publican • Cure of the blind men • The supper at Bethany: Mary anoints Jesus

### HOLY WEEK

30 (APRIL 2) Palm Sunday: entry into Jerusalem

30 (APRIL 3) The fig tree cursed • Parable of the servants in the vineyard

30 (APRIL 4) Jesus prophesies the fall of Jerusalem and the Last Judgment

30 (APRIL 5) Judas bargains for Jesus' betrayal

30 (APRIL 6) The Last Supper

30 (APRIL 7) Trial, Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus

30 (APRIL 9) The Resurrection