

Geography (Gen 2:10-14; 15:18; Rev 21:10-16)

1. A river went out from Eden to water the garden. From there it divided and became the source of four rivers. The name of the first is Pishon, which flows through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. Gold from that land is pure; bdellium and onyx are also there. The name of the second river is Gihon, which flows through the entire land of Cush. The name of the third river is **Tigris**, which runs east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the **Euphrates**. (Gen 2:10-14, CSB)

Where would you guess Eden to be? Circle the area of your guess!



2. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, from the **river of Egypt** as far as the great river, the **river Euphrates**." (Gen 15:18, NASB)

Can you figure out and circle the area of the Promised Land? Hint: there is only one big river in Egypt.



3. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall. The city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, **fifteen hundred miles**; its length and width and height are equal. (Rev 21:10-16, NASB)

When you measure out a square of 1500 miles, what do you observe?

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Teacher Notes

This lesson introduces geography and the importance of understanding this aspect when reading the Bible. Here it might be helpful to use a globe to show the relationship of the Middle East to the United States.

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The map on the right is provided so that you can explain to the students the geographical context of the map of the Euphrates River.



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Ask the student: When you measure out a square of 1500 miles, what do you observe?

Using the scale on the map (400 km / 250 miles), help the students draw a horizontal and vertical line of 1500 miles as part of a square. It's perfectly fine to go outside of the map's margins.

The key observation is to notice that Revelation's New Jerusalem encompasses the Garden of Eden and the Promised Land.

Encourage the students to let the observable data drive their understanding.