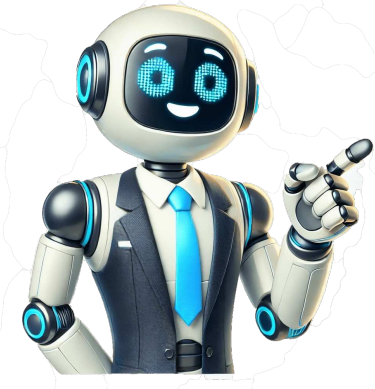


I'm not a bot

































[illegible]



would seem to imply that the land was wetter and more suitable for agriculture in the past, not requiring the significant irrigation prevalent in the Middle East now. For example, And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar (Genesis 13:10) And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey (Exodus 3:7,8).The Bible also describes Solomons use of prodigious quantities lumbeerto build the Temple and many other buildings in around 1000 BC.Land-use studies throughout the Mediterranean, North Africa, and the Mid-East show the prevalence of crops and forests, which were suited to cooler, wetter climates in the period before 1000 B.C.In Jesus time though, just like today, the hilly, mountainous topography (with the deep rift in the earth near the Dead Sea), strongly affected the microclimate from mile to mile.Lower Galilee (at left), where Jesus lived most of his life, was Israels lushest region, known for its sunny, temperate climate and its spring-watered lands. Each spring the valleys and slopes became an ocean of wildflowers and blossoming trees. Beginning in March, the area was covered by a vast blanket of green. The fertile land was a texture of vineyards and fruit orchards. Grapes, figs, olives, pomegranates, oranges, and other fruits flourished in its pleasant, subtropical climate.First century Jewish historian Flavius Josephus, who knew the area well, wrote this about it:Its nature is wonderful as well as its beauty; its soil is so fruitful that all sorts of trees can grow upon it, and the inhabitants accordingly plant all sorts of trees there; for the temper of the air is so well mixed, that it agrees very well with those several sorts, particularly walnuts, which require the coldest air, flourish there in vast plenty; there are palm trees also, which grow best in hot air; fig trees also and olives grow near them, which yet require an air that is more temperate. One may call this place the ambition of nature, where it forces those plants that are naturally enemies to one another to agree together; it is a happy contention of the seasons, as if every one of them laid claim to this country; for it not only nourishes different sorts of autumnal fruit beyond mens expectation, but preserves them a great while; it supplies men with the principal fruits, with grapes and figs continually, during ten months of the year and the rest of the fruits as they become ripe together through the whole year (The Jewish War, Book 3, Chapter 10:8).Around the Sea of Galilee,crops were plentiful and fish were abundant. The Sea of Galilee is a fresh water lake that is about 13 miles long and 8 miles wide. The typical crops grown in the region were grain, olives, and grapes. The area to the east of the Sea of Galilee was drier and had less vegetation.An area to the south between Galilee and Samaria is called the Valley of Jezreel (at right), and many regions here featured rich soil and moderate rainfall. Judea, south of Samaria, has a gradual change in landscape. The most distinct change is the decreased rainfall.Since Jesus time the overall area of the Holy Land has undergone gradual desertification. Desertification is described as a process by which a region is turned into desert either by natural processes or as a result of poor use of the land. Desertification has become especially noticeable during the last several centuries, though this process has been going on since even before Jesus time.Desertification such as this leads to less water,less arable land,warmr days,and cooler nights.The chief human contributions to this have been war and poor land management. Deforestation became a big issue during the war with the Romans (67-70 AD). But in the past2000 yearsthere have been many other wars and struggles that have caused environmental damage as well.So it is a reasonable conclusion that in the time of Jesus, the climate would have been noticeably more moderate and wet than it is today. However, there still are many beautiful regions, especially in Galilee in the north. So we ought not overestimate the difference in climate. It would be noticeable to people of Jesus time were they to visit us today, but it would not astonish them. They would likely notice that it seemed a bit warmer and drier than they were used to and that there were fewer trees.Note that Israel currently has a program underway thatis attempting to reverse the desertification by planting trees (cedarsthe same type used by Solomon!)This program that has received huge amounts of private financial support. They are in effect attempting to partially reforest Israel. The expected result will be that the land will hold more water, so more water will be available for farming, andthus more land can be farmed.Then, as now, the area to the east of Jerusalem and Bethany over the Mount of Olives drops into a deep rift valley, well over 1000feet below sea level. The area is deep desert. Jericho, in the region of the Judean Desert, is an oasis, but the area is otherwise one where almost nothing can grow. It is mountainous and extremely dry.Disclaimer: I am writing a series of reflections to prepare for a Bible Study of Life at the Time of Jesus. I am sharing some of these here. Please do NOT consider this article as associated in any waywith the currently raging climate change debate. If there are differences in the climate today compared to 2000 years ago, they are minor. Climate is always changing on this planet in both macroscopic and microscopic ways. To what degree man is involved in this I cannot say. This is not a science blog and I do not wish to engage ina discussion of that issue here.I put this video together to celebrate the beautiful gardens of God throughout the world: Did it ever snow in the Bible? This is a fascinating question that has created heated debates among Biblical scholars and religious thinkers for centuries. It is widely accepted that the Bible does not directly mention snow, yet modern interpretations of certain passages may indicate snow occurrences in the ancient texts. This article delves into the various interpretations of the Bible and its mentioning of snow and how modern climate change has further complicated the issue. The Bible does not explicitly refer to snow in any of its passages. In the Old Testament, the closest thing is the occurrence of hoarfrost, or white frost as one verse states in Job 37:10. This unexpected cataclysmic event is described in such vivid detail that it appears to refer to a sudden raging snowstorm. Hoarfrost, or ice, also appears in other passages, such as Psalms 148:8 and Proverbs 25:13. However, no explicit reference to snow can be found in the Bible. Biblical Interpretation of SnowDespite the lack of direct references to snow in the Bible, some experts believe the sacred texts should be interpreted in a broader sense. According to modern scholars, certain mentions of white dust and frost may be re-interpreted as snow, thus opening up new possibilities. Similarly, the passages in Job 37:10-13 describing a raging storm and temperatures that remain below freezing can also be interpreted as snow-related. Additionally, some religious experts believe that snow was a metaphor for divine judgment, a symbol of Gods wrath unto mankind. Climate Change In modern times, the question of whether or not snow occurred in the Bible is complicated by issues such as climate change. Looking at the Bibles references to hoarfrost and white dust, some environmentally conscious scholars believe the ancient texts may have referred to uncommon weather occurrences that are now much rarer due to global warming. Such occurrences may have included large snowstorms and blizzards, or even extensive iceberg formations, which could easily be interpreted as hoarfrost. Regional ConsiderationsYou might likeWhat was taken out of the bible?Traditional interpretations of the Bible argue that the lack of direct references of snow in the text points to regions such as the Middle East and other nearby lands, where snowflakes are a rarity. Ancient tribes such as those mentioned in the Bible were not as familiar with snow as their northern neighbors, and thus fewer records of the white powdery precipitation exist within the Bible.Myths and LegendsBelievers of Biblical tales have often recorded myths and legends existing among Biblical cultures associated with snow in the ancient texts. Common examples include a popular myth of the Israelites crossing on a river of snow during the Exodus, retold in works such as (The Urantia Book,) and other such narratives recounting the tales of ancient civilizations living around snow-covered climates, such as a collection of African stories surrounding a village under an eternal snow-capture in (Ghoul Tales) by Harari. Symbolic MeaningsDespite its rarity, snow most likely did occur in the Bible in some form. While it may not have been as common as much of our modern societies, its symbolic meaning within Biblical texts is still as relevant as ever. Snow is often referenced in Biblical tales as a representation of purity, cleanliness and the ultimate forgiveness of God, placing the occurrence of snow within a much higher echelon of lifes miraculous moments.Original SourcesWhile many interpretations of the Bible portray snow-like occurrences, the original source of much of these passages remain disputed and differently understood by various cultures. From the ancient Hebrews to the more modern interpretations of the early Christians and later Gnostics, the original sources of certain snow-related tales remain impossible to definitively determine.Modern RelevanceYou might likeHow did humans live so long in the bible?The debate of snow in the Bible continues to cause much controversy, yet the importance of snow in our current climate debates is just as significant. While scholars may continue discussing the presence of snow in the sacred texts, the real focus should be on preserving natures spectrum of snow in our modern-day societies, before the occurrence of such phenomena becomes a relic of our ancient past. Tolerance and AcceptanceIn todays world, tolerance and acceptance are key components of religious understanding. Snow in the Bible should be seen as both a physical and spiritual concept to avoid any discord between those with different cultural and religious backgrounds. After all, snow is likely a representation of Gods love and mercy, something believers can come to appreciate no matter their differences. Audience EngagementFrom a creative standpoint, snow has also allowed church leaders to engage their congregations in ways never seen before. Snow activities such as sermons, snowplay events and parables have become popular tools for establishing a deeper connection between God and humanity. Pastors and clergy have also used snow-themed activities to help youth appreciate their faith and grow closer to God.

**Is snow ever mentioned in the bible. How many times is the word snow mentioned in the bible. How many times does the bible mention the word snow. How many times is snow mentioned in the bible. How many times does the bible say snow. Does the bible ever mention snow. How many times does the bible mention snow.**