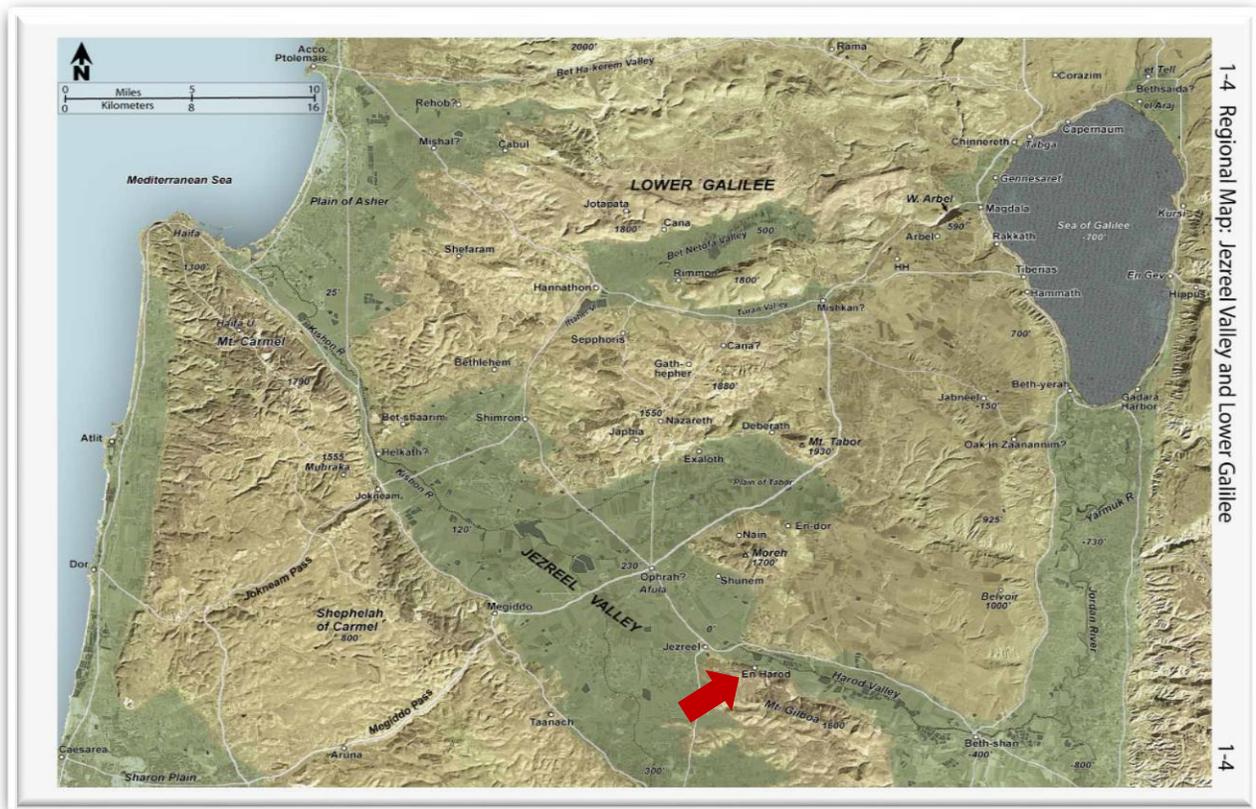




Ein Harod Fact Sheet

Location: Foot of Mount Gilboa, near where the Harod Valley meets the Jezreel Valley



Relief Map of Jezreel Valley

Meaning of Name: “spring of trembling”

Bible References: 2x

- *Judges 7:1-8* – Site where the Lord whittled Gideon’s army from 32,000 to 300 men
- *2 Sam 23:25* – Two of David’s mighty men from Harod

Past: This site has been the proving ground for many warriors and a turning point for at least two major wars. It is most famous for serving as the place where God, ever interested in His reputation (*Ex 32:12*) and ever mindful of His people’s pride (*Hos 5:5*), reduced the army of that mighty man of valour (*Judges 6:12*) Gideon from 32,000 to 300 men.



Another select group of Israelite warriors trained at Ein Harod over 3,000 years later. In 1941, during the British Mandate in Palestine, a special unit of warriors of the *Haganah* (early precursor to the Israeli Defense Force) formed under the direction of British General Orde Charles Wingate. They were called *Plamach* (“strike forces”); they specialized in pre-emptive strikes against their Arab oppressors. General Wingate in largely created with shaping many of the early leaders of the Israeli army, including Moshe Dayan. Wingate kept a Bible with him at all times, and defended the Jews so intensely that even the Zionists he was fighting with didn’t understand. Among the list of grievances his fellow British officers had against him:



Gideon's Cave, Ein Harod

"[H]is rebellious scorn, his arrogance, his paranoid touchiness, his reckless rudeness, his flouting of convention, his personal scruffiness, his leftish ideas, and (dare one suggest it?) his strange obsession with Zionism and the Jews."

Present: This spring is the westernmost of several large springs that flow from fault lines below the Gilboa range. The sweet water flows from Gideon’s Cave at a rate of 360 m³/hour.

Future: With its location in between the Jezreel Valley and Jordan River Valley, it would be no surprise if significant battles will be fought near this spring again during Armageddon.

Consider This:

- God brought a desperately inadequate army, led by a fearful man (Gideon) from the “spring of trembling” to cause the mighty Midianite army to run, cry and flee! (*Judges 7:21*)
- A few of the areas General Wingate is credited with influencing the Israeli army is night fighting and officers leading from the front; Gideon led the 300 men from the front (*Judges 7:17*) to attack the Midianites at night! (*Judges 7:19-20*)