



The Holy Land

The Land of Milk and Honey

Then the LORD said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites . . .

–Exodus 3:7-8

Left Stage



Right Stage

Right Stage: The Land of Milk



Right Stage

- Life is unpredictable





Right Stage

- Life is unpredictable
- Life is silent and lonely
- Life is exhausting





“City”

- **Multiple kinship groups**
- **A shared, common government**
- **The presence of at least some specialists**
- **Surplus food**



**Left Stage:
The Land of Honey**

And they told him, “We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.”

–Numbers 13:27

“For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey . . .”

–Deuteronomy 8:7-8

As soon as the command was spread abroad, the people of Israel gave in abundance the firstfruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field. And they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything.

-2 Chronicles 31:5

Left Stage

- Life is predictable
- Life is noisy and busy
- Life is easy



Left Stage

- **Elijah tells his servant to run before the rain stops him**
- **Ahab desires Naboth's vineyard**
- **Jesus tells parables of the soils and rich fool who builds bigger barns**
- **Israel and Philistines fight for farmland**
- **Joshua tells one tribe to clear the forest so they can build houses**
- **Samuel warns that the king will take away vineyards and fields**

Right Stage

- **Ehud slays King Eglon of Moab**
- **Samson and David hide**
- **John the Baptist is a voice crying "in the wilderness"**
- **Jesus casts demons into a herd of swine**
- **Jesus feeds 5000 in a "desolate place" (Mk 6:20)**
- **Jesus spends forty days "in the wilderness"**