

TREES IN THE BIBLE

any hills in Israel that are bare today were covered with woods in Bible times. Trees were important for building and making furniture. Some trees were important as a source of food, especially fruit trees. When you capture a city... do not cut

down its fruit trees,' said the laws given by Moses to the Israelites.

Adam and Eve's first clothes were made from the large leaves of a fig tree. Dried figs were a source of iron in soldiers' rations.



SYCAMORE

(This is a type of fig tree, different to our sycamore tree.) The sycamore was the tree that Zacchaeus climbed to see Jesus. Its branches grew low down, so It was easy to climb.



This was often used as a symbol for victory. People waved palm leaves when Jesus rode into Jerusalem as their

king. Palm trees produced dates; an important food.



The country of Lebanon was famous for its forests of giant cedar trees. The people of Israel thought that this beautiful evergreen tree was the greatest of all trees The long-lasting. sweet-scented red wood of the cedar was prized for making furniture. carved panelling and important buildings. The sedar did not grow in Israel, so it had to e imported from Lebanon.



In Old Testament times, many peoples thought that oak trees were holy. Arabs today still prefer to bury their dead under oak trees.

This was a common tree. In Jesus' story of the prodigal son, pigs were fed on the sweet bean pods of the carob tree.



The Ark of

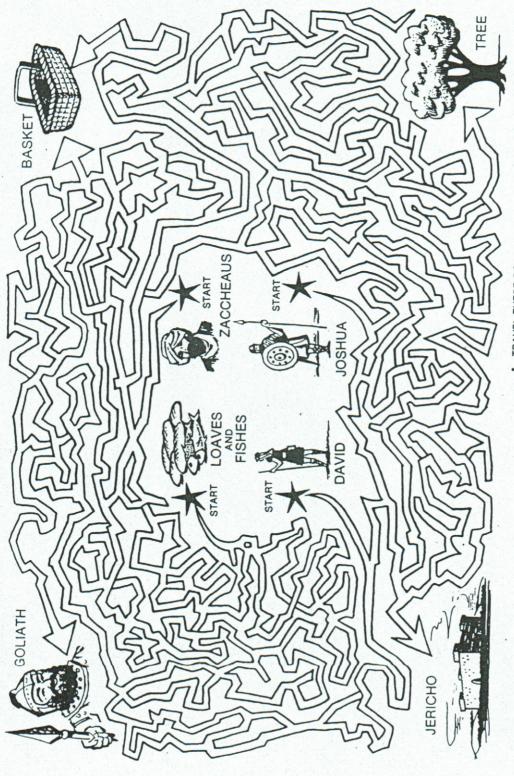
The acacia was one of the few trees that grew in the desert. Its wood was light and hard-wearing. Acacia was used to make the frame of God's desert worship tent (the Tabernacle) and the Ark of the Covenant.

The Israelites were taken to Babylonia as prisoners. They were too sad to sing in this new place. They hung up their harps on poplar trees, and sat crying by the riverside.



I Why did Zacchiebs choose to climb a sycamore tree to see Jesus? 2 Which trees were used as a source of food?

- · Fruit trees: Deuteronomy 20:19
- · Dried figs: I Samuel 25:18
- Palms for victory: John 12-13
- · A sad song Babylon: Psalm 137:2



BIBLE STORY PUZZLE

TRAVEL THESE ROADS WITH YOUR PENCIL TO GET THE FISH AND LOAVES TO THE BASKET: JOSHUA TO JERICHO: ZACCHAEUS TO THE TREE AND DAVID TO GOLIATH. KEEP ON THE ROAD — DO NOT CROSS OVER ANY SOLID LINE. IF YOUR ROAD ENDS WITH A SOLID LINE, BACK UP AND TRY ANOTHER ROAD.



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