

of Jerusalem the narrow contain the towns of Bethlehem and  
 bren. About fifteen miles south of Hebron it slopes to the Negeb and the  
 nern desert. We mentioned a few of the details of this most important section  
 ur last meeting, later we will give a great deal of attention to the various  
 tions of this important region. Just now we are interested in giving a clear  
 ture of the outstanding features of Palestine and their relation to one another.

We now turn our attention to the third great region- the area which has been  
 regarded as the most unique on the surface of the globe, this is the great rift which separates  
 the central mountain range from the high plateau to the east. It begins at the  
 dividing line between the Lebanon range and Mt. Hermon, and constantly drops until  
 it reaches the Dead Sea the lowest point of dry land to be found anywhere in the world.

Then there is a rise  
 to the gulf of Akaba. We notice the great depth of this section at its deepest point-  
 How leaving Jerusalem we descended very steeply for a half a mile of altitude and  
 reached and then have still half as much farther to drop before the level of the  
 Jordan Valley is reached at Jericho. Here the plain is fourteen miles wide, a short  
 distance southwards a further two hundred feet is dropped before the surface of the Dead  
 Sea is reached.

We shall now begin at the northern part of this great chasm and briefly sketch  
 some of its principal features. We noticed last week that the Jordan has three  
 principle sources. Of these the one at Banias is regarded by the Jews as its  
 starting point. It is the historical source of the Jordan. Here the water constantly  
 comes gushing out of the ground, within a short distance of what was a dry valley  
 has become the scene of a large and gushing river. Probably here Ezekial received the  
 material background of his having water to the ankles? (water to the knees, water to  
 the hips and water over the head). By this stream Herod the Great erected a temple  
 in honor of Caesar Augustus, Philip the Tetrarch engaged it and called it Caesarea  
 Philippi in honor of himself and of the emperor. It is most likely that it was in this  
 region that Christ received the great confession of Peter. If that is the case, the  
 transfiguration which followed immediately could possibly have been carried out