


# JORDAN RIVER VALLEY - LIVING IN THE VALLEY

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## DO PEOPLE LIVE IN THE JORDAN VALLEY?



For a long time men did not live in the Jordan River Valley. There are a number of reasons why they did not live there. It is unbearably hot. The swamps and river have many mosquitoes that carry malaria. There was no way a man could farm or work to care for his family. It was difficult to be protected from any enemy. People chose to live on higher ground.

Today there are people living in the broad part of the Jordan River Valley around the Dead Sea. Even though it is very dry, this land is very good for growing crops. Men have learned to bring water from some of the smaller rivers that run into the Jordan River from the east side. This water is used to irrigate the land. There are farms of citrus groves and gardens. There is good pasture land. Men have made work and homes for themselves in this part of the Jordan Valley. There are palm trees and tropical fruit. Flowers bloom even in January and birds sing in the warm sun.

The part of the Jordan Valley around Lake Huleh also has people and farmlands.