Discover the story of the Holy Land -- its geography, history, and the ancient civilizations of its peoples. Here is an original and exciting look at the fascinating history of the Bible Lands. Stunning real-life photographs of everything from swords to statues and ships to seals offer a unique eyewitness view of the history of the lands of the Bible and the people who lived there until the time of Christ. See what Solomon's temple looked like, the earliest human statues ever found, armor from ancient Assyria, the treasure of the kings of Ur, and the plants, trees, and fruits of the Holy Land. Learn how the Phoenicians dyed their clothes, how the people of Abraham lived, what people ate in the Old Testament times, the story of Jericho, and how Canaanite women put on their makeup. Discover who the Israelites were, how the people of the Holy Land defended their cities, how bread and wine were made in Old Testament times, how the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, and much, much more.

My Personal Review:
D.K.'s The Bible Land is a high quality "must have" reference book for home, church, school, libraries. The carefully chosen exquisite artifacts throughout the book are a "must see" for every ancient civilization buff, those who study religion, and on hand as a BIBLE companion. All of which is simply explained in the language of the "common man."
Here are a few outstanding highlights:

Page six photographs of The Holy land encompasses wonderful explanations of the geographical area. It would have been more advantageous if a different color for the names of countries mentioned, had been utilized so a child would not have to refer elsewhere to note the countries, cities, rivers. (i.e. page 52 for The Indus River; The Jordan River, Page 56. Furthermore, the caption on page 54 states: "Where the Roman Writ ran", which the modern child would not understand.) An excellent photograph of an ostuary may be found on page 9, but one must dig deeper into the book (page 55 "Roman Burials"-- though,
"decaying process" might upset a young reader) to find more information regarding their usage. If one did not know anything about ostuaries to begin with, the wording beneath the caption would have one wonder how a body would fit into the small container!!!

The trek of Abraham (Ur) brings life to the story with a map depicting "Patriarch's path", found on page ten. A number of librarians with whom I work, never heard of a ziggurat and when I was explaining it to them I used Google Images, but on page 10 of this book, one will find an excellent illustration of a ziggurat. On page eleven, one will find an interesting artifact, a "yogurt maker!" Page twelve recognizes the question of slave labor or devotion in the construction of Ramses II's great building projects. The page following indicates "slipper-shaped coffins with lids "grotesquely modeled human features" of the Philistines (which I wish the word "grotesquely" was eliminated, as it is not nice to indicate this cultural difference in this light.) At this point in the text, it indicates the ongoing "battle": "Parting of the waters-- Although archeology cannot confirm the story of the Hebrew exodus through the waters of the Red Sea, it is not unlikely that a group of "hapiru' left Egypt during the reign of Ramses II and found their way to the Judean hill country." There is an excellent cross-section of a "tell" and the explanation of "What does it tell us?... complicated sequences of occupational phases." The term of "glacis" is introduced within. The chapter "The Israelites" explains the "split" in simple terms, which is excellent; and on the following page is a very good illustration debating "Sphinxes or Cherubim?" The crafting of glassblowing stated: "Shaping up-- Glassblowing had not been invented in Phoenician times, so vessels like this were made by molding the glass paste around a clay core"; "Brittle but beautiful...A paste of finely ground sand mixed with soda was used, and various pigments were used." The later part I was aware of, but is a good explanation for those who are not aware of: "When fired at a high temperature the mixture fused to form colored glass" , all of which was quite revealing to say the least. In the section "Gods and goddesses", this is an excellent compendium of "who's who!" "Food and crops" includes two species of wheat: emmer and einkorn, as well as barley, and cereals native of the Eastern Mediterranean region. There are photographs of "winnowing" (and a discussion of the "threshing process"); and a Iron Age mortar and pestle. The Fishing information includes "man made lakes or 'vivaria'". "Plates to eat above-- Circular flaps of unleavened bread were made, as they still are today, by slapping the dough against the inside wall of a simple cylindrical oven, called a tannur. Such bread flaps could be used as edible platters," may be found on page 31, and we think it novel in today's restaurants to order the edible taco bowl platter! Page 33 is helpful because every so often I (am a librarian) asked the difference between "one humped and two humped camels", and this suffices. --- The Shroud of Turin has through scholarship and modern dating methodologies has been deemed a hoax, and probably not once and for all, lest it changes, on page 56 it is indicated it is in question. Wherever Herod was mentioned I was waiting for equal thought with regard to "the slaughter of the innocents."... sure enough, there it was "MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS... In reality the story is a myth."
Chocked with good information on agriculture.
... one gets the general idea of the content of this reference companion.

It might be helpful for a child or novice to have had a glossary.
All-in-all, I feel the author(s) did a note-worthy job of a mass-undertaking!

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Eyewitness: Bible Lands by Jonathan Tubb - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!