



## DECAPOLIS AREA

The Decapolis was founded by Alexander the Great and was strengthened by the Roman emperor Pompey in 63 BC. Comprising 10 (or more at times) city-states, the Decapolis was largely Gentile, Hellenistic, and pagan. Religious Jews would have resented its theaters, stadiums, statues, and temples. Directly across the sea is the hump-shaped hill where the Decapolis city of Susita was located. It is likely that the man from whom Jesus drove out the legion of demons returned to this city (or at least to this area) to tell others of the miracle (Mark 5:18—20). Some believe that the strong Christian community in Susita during the ancient times was due to his witness.