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Jericho (Original Color!)

Stock#: 96576
Map Maker: Schedel
Date: 1493
Place: Nuremberg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 9 x 15 inches
Price: \$ 650.00



Description:

Hiericho, engraved by Hartmann Schedel and published in Nuremberg in 1493, provides an illustrative representation of the Biblical City of Jericho. The depiction, from a German edition of the famed *Nuremberg Chronicle*, portrays the iconic walls of Jericho, accompanied by an extensive textual description elucidating its scriptural history. Moreover, this page features a depiction of Elijah's celestial ascent in a chariot, with additional portraits embellishing the verso of the map.

The late 15th century witnessed the burgeoning of the Renaissance in Europe, a period characterized by its profound revitalization of art, science, and culture. Within this context, biblical cities such as Jericho held immense significance both spiritually and historically, their stories providing a moral and historical



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compass for the society of the time. The *Nuremberg Chronicle*, in particular, stood as a seminal work, melding the realms of history, theology, and cartography.

Schedel's representation of Jericho serves as more than a mere geographic delineation; it is a testament to the intertwining of cartography and religious interpretation. Through the detailed visual portrayal, the map embodies the biblical narrative of Jericho's impregnable walls, linking historical record with spiritual teachings. The addition of Elijah's ascension further reinforces the map's theological overtones, underscoring the melding of the earthly and the divine.

The verso portraits, while not directly related to the Jericho narrative, offer insight into the broader context of religious and historical figures of importance during the era. These illustrations, interspersed with the central depiction, further enhance the map's significance, making it a rich tapestry of religious tales, historical recounting, and artistic prowess typical of the period's printed works.

The German text translates as follows:

Elijah was with his disciple Elisha when they came to the Jordan River. He struck the water with Elijah's cloak, and a path was formed, allowing them to walk through the middle. When this happened, Elijah said to Elisha that he should ask for whatever he desired before he (Elijah) would be taken away from him. Elisha asked for a double portion of his spirit, meaning the power to perform miracles and prophesy. Elijah replied that he would receive it if he witnessed him being taken away. As they spoke, a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire. Elijah ascended to heaven on it, that is, to the earthly paradise. There he remains alive with Enoch until the time of the Antichrist, against whom he will descend to preach. Elisha cried out, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" In the name of the cloak that Elijah had dropped for him, he returned to the Jordan, touched it with the cloak a second time, and the waters parted. He then went to Jericho and, at the request of its inhabitants, he purified the bad waters of that place with a new earthenware and a vessel with salt put inside, fresh and good. And when he later ascended towards Bethel and the children mocked him, they said, 'Ascend, baldhead!' He cursed them, and two bears tore apart forty-two of those children. This Elijah, the greatest of all prophets of his time, was taken away from people at this time. No person witnessed his end. While he lived, he performed many miracles. And as he was ablaze like a burning fire, so too were his words like a blazing torch. In the end, in the sight of Elisha, he was carried into heaven by a whirlwind, leaving behind in his place Elisha, the prophet.



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Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Scattered toning.