

Chorazin was a Jewish town in Upper Galilee, about three miles from Capernaum, identified with Karaze. Chorazin must have had some association with the ministry of Jesus, for it figures in his curse, along with Capernaum and Bethsaida, for failure to repent (Matthew 11:20-24). However, we have almost no other literary references to the site. It has undergone excavation at least four times in this century, most recently by Ze'ev Yeivin on behalf of the Israel Department of Antiquities and Museums. Chorazin was a walled town, and today, as in this aerial view, one can see numerous remains. The columned synagogue stands at lower left. The intact central doorway (see Slide 97) was reached by climbing the steps at lower center. The remains of a public building stand beyond the synagogue (below the large tree). The large rectangular area at right contains two domestic complexes, with a cobblestone courtyard between them (the courtyard is in the very center of the slide). All were constructed of the black basalt of the region. Archaeological excavation has revealed occupation from the first century C.E. to the 12th or 13th century C.E.