



Christian Apologetics


(Defending the Faith)

Bible Reliability and Archaeology

Level One

Catholicism
ON TAP

1 Peter 3:15



¹⁵ but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, ¹⁶ but do it with gentleness and reverence...,

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

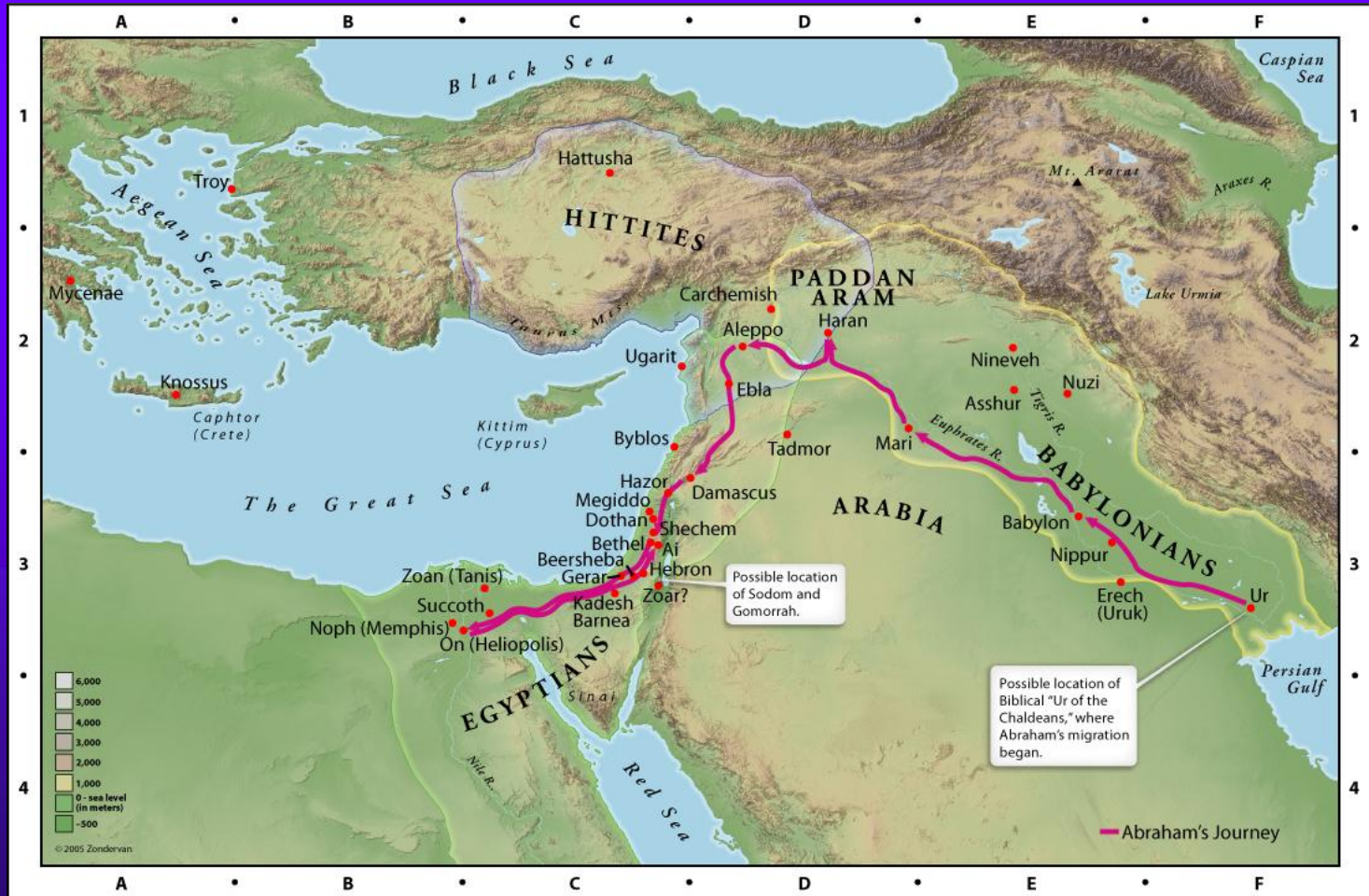
1 Corinthians 3:6

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but
God caused the growth.

New American Bible (Revised Edition)



Map of Fertile Crescent





Archaeology

The science of studying material evidence to find out about human cultures of the past.



Artifact

An object that was made, used, and/or transported by humans that provides information about human behavior in the past. Examples include things like pottery, stone tools, bones, coins, weapons, etc.



Site

An area designated for archaeological exploration by excavation and/or survey.



Digs

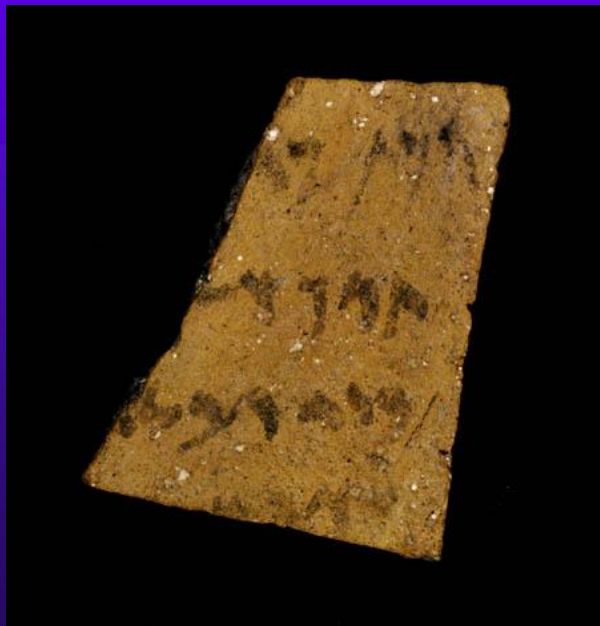
Archaeological sites with
on-going excavations.

Sherd

Or shard. A broken fragment of pottery.

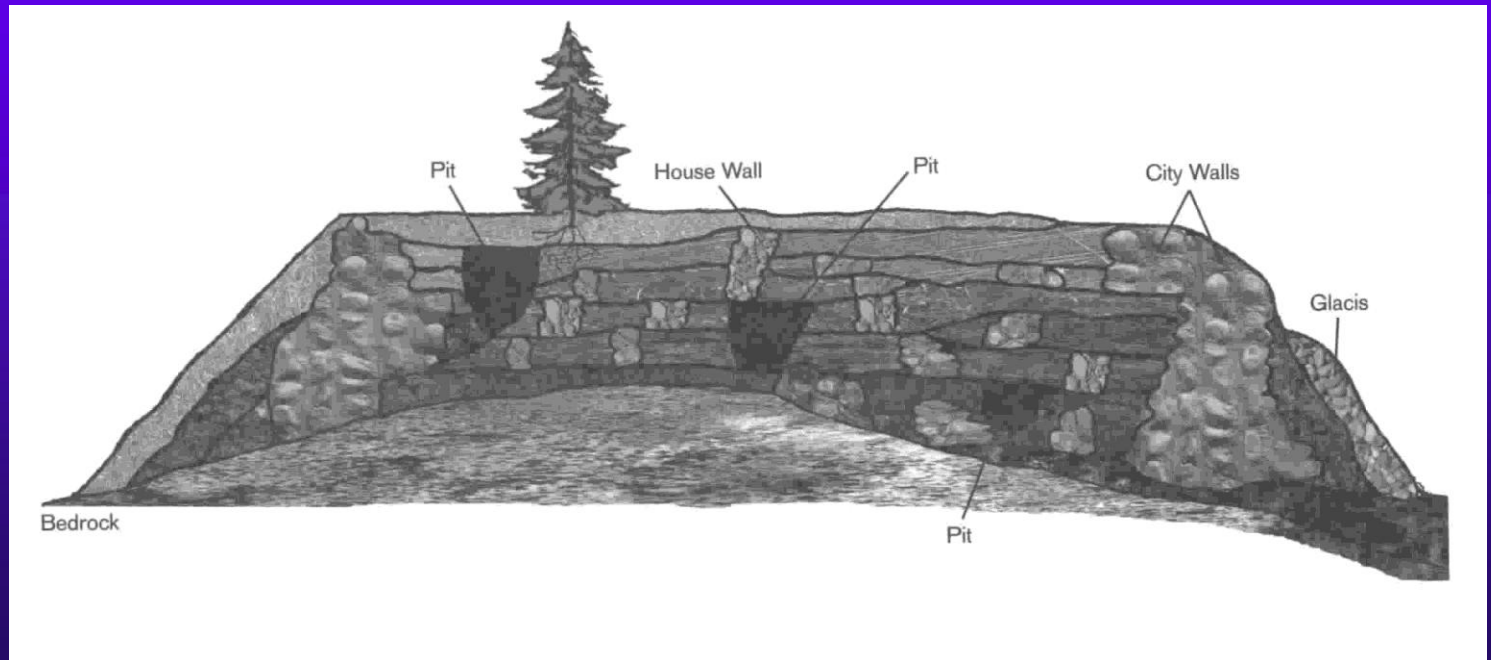


Ostraca



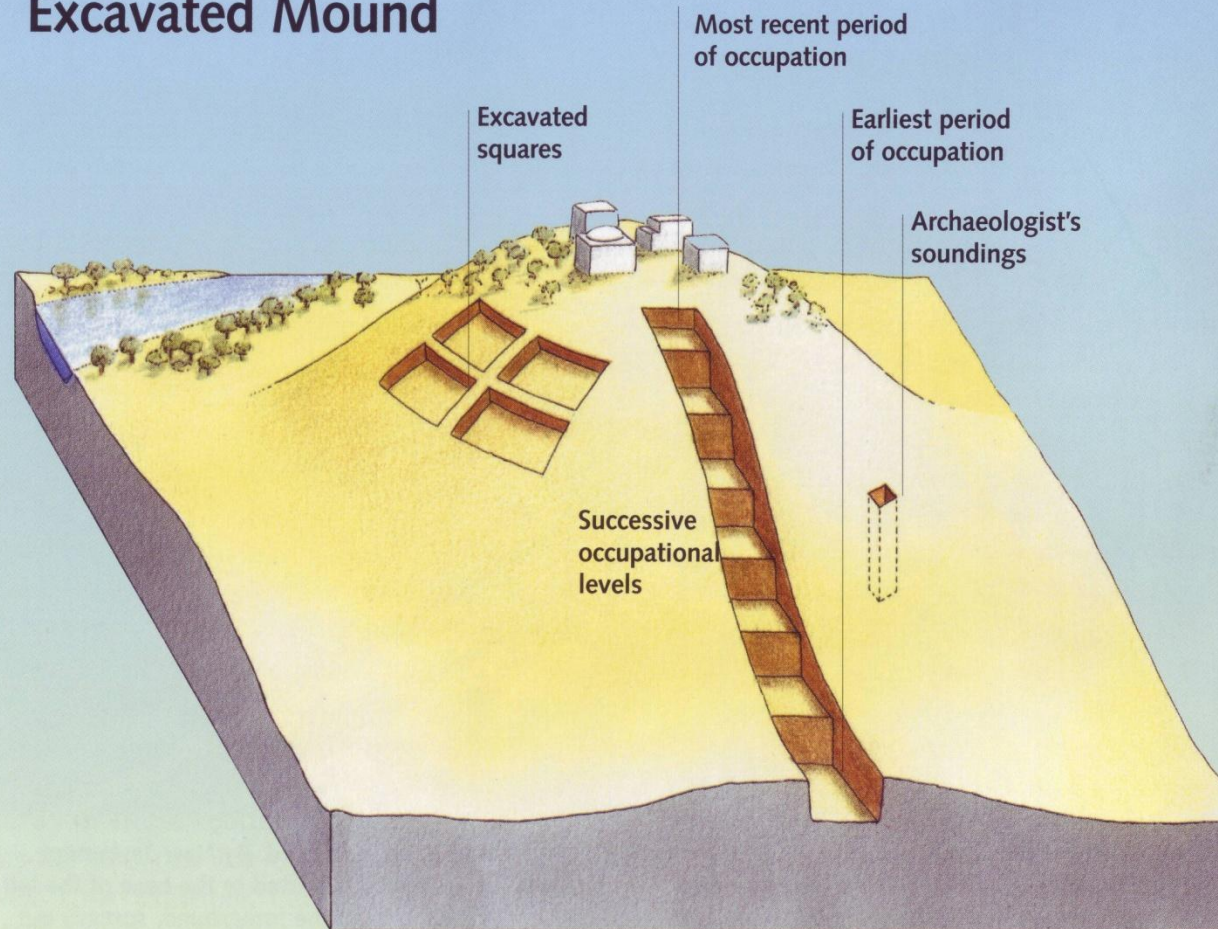
Stratum

One layer of earth.

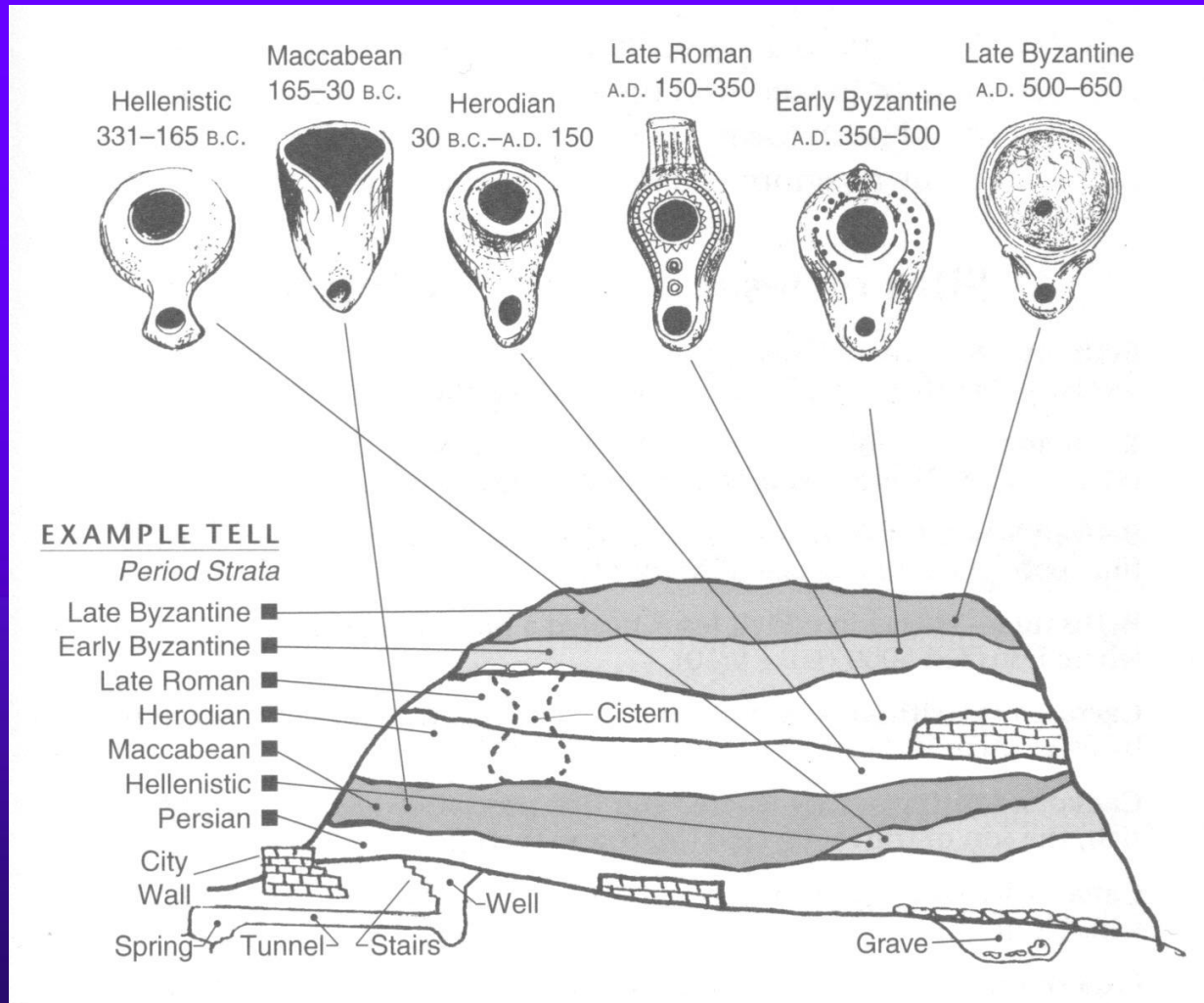


Excavation Methods

Excavated Mound



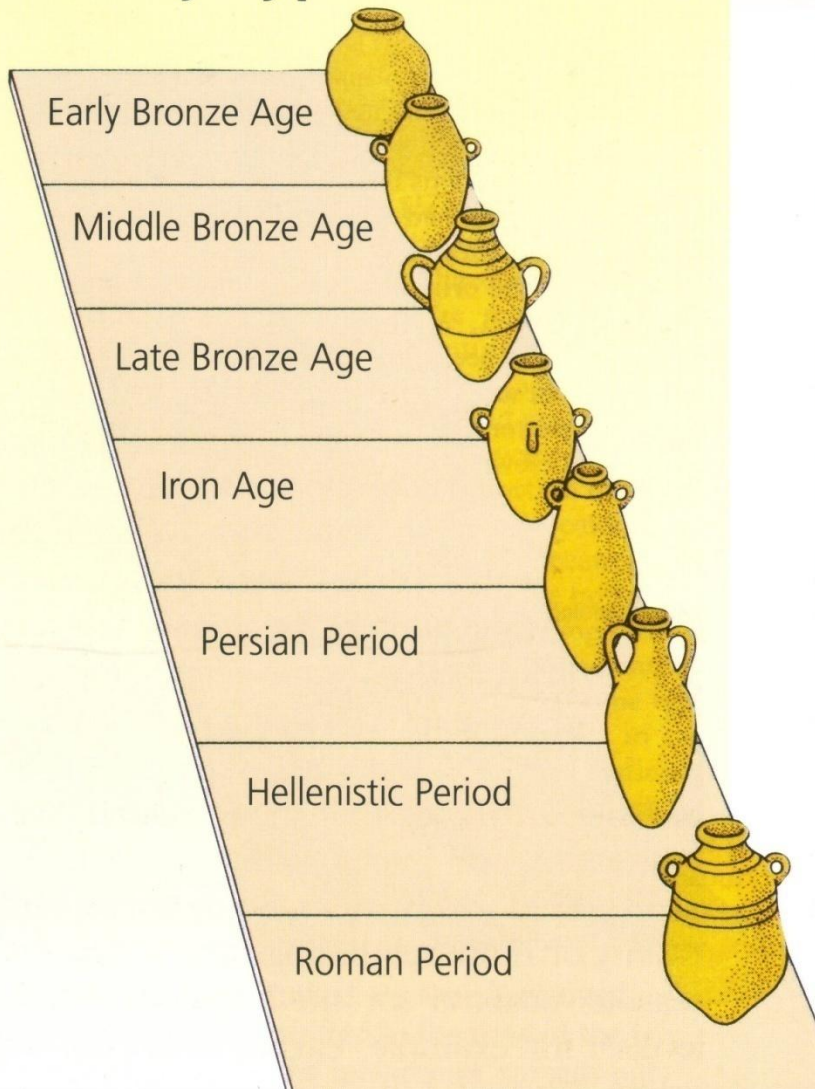
Pottery



Pottery



Pottery Types



Pottery Restoration



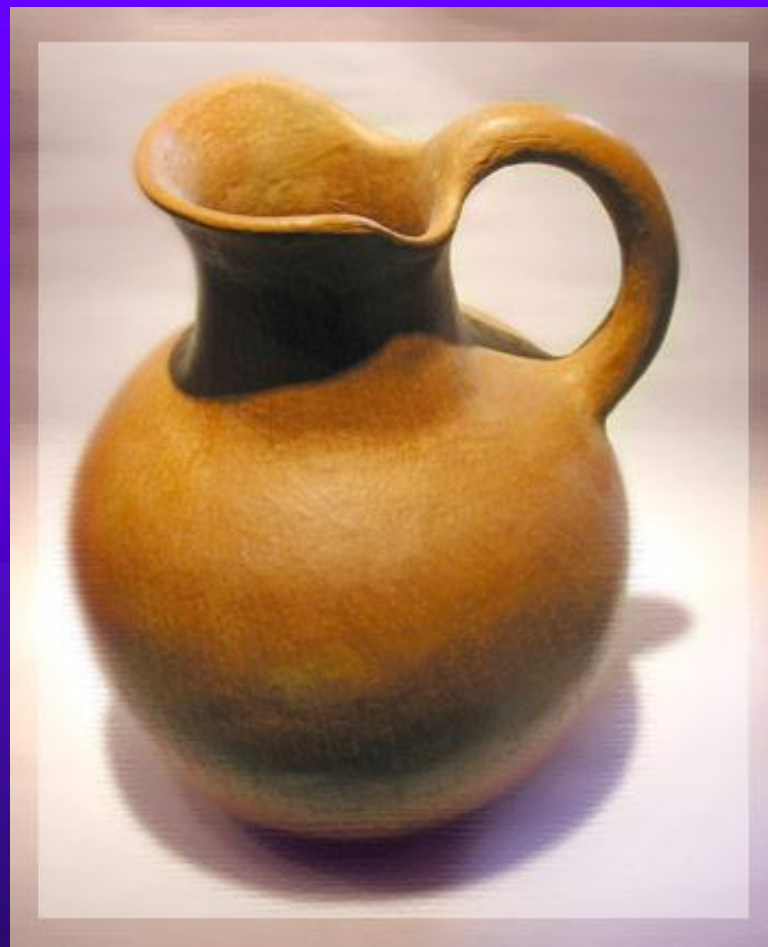
Philistine Pottery



Phoenician Pottery



Israeli Pottery



Coins



Caesar Augustus



Emperor Vespasian



Roman Titus



Roman Tiberius
Denarius



Half Shekel
(Temple tax)



Widow's Mite

Artifact Recording

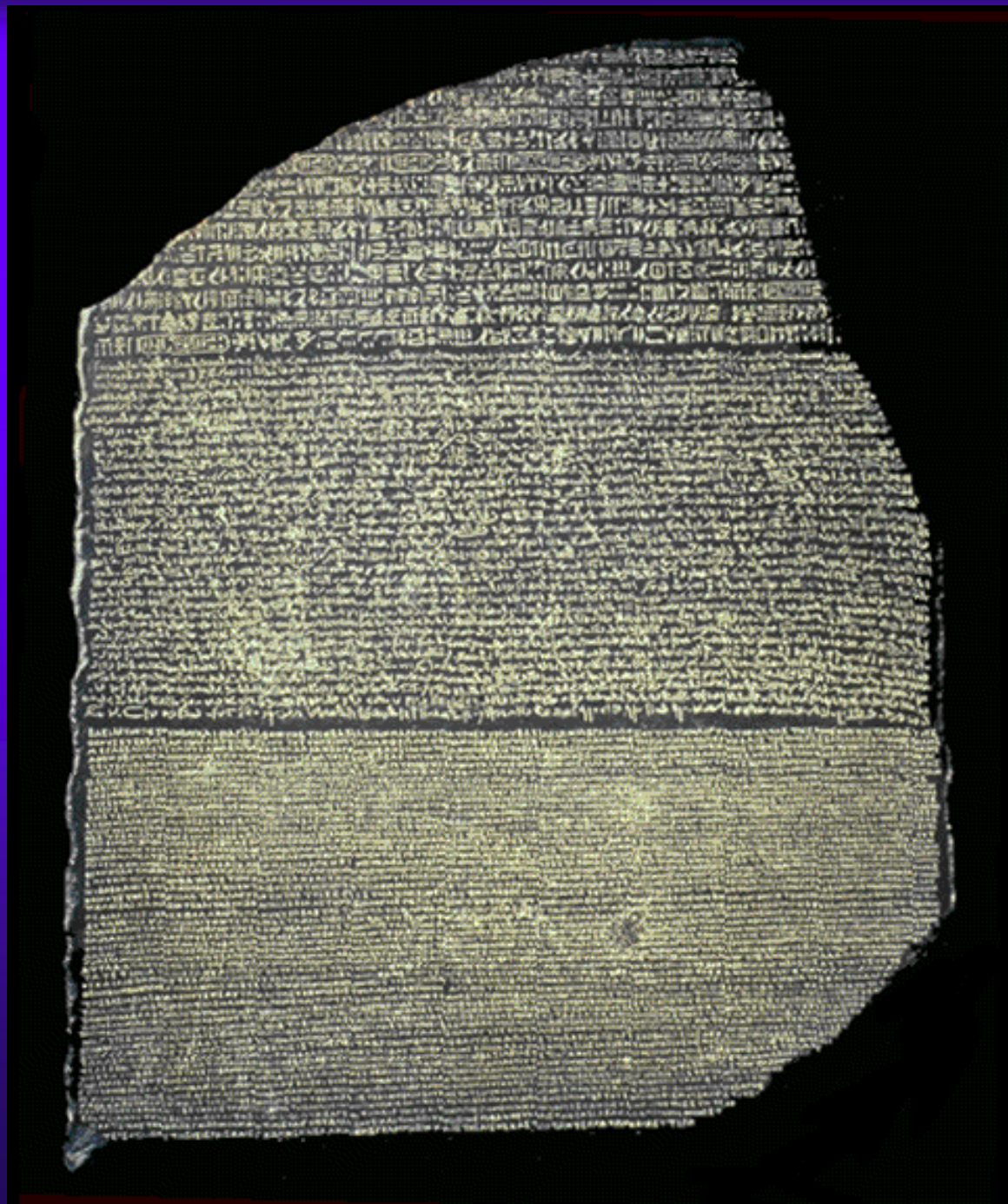


Artifact Reading






Rosetta Stone

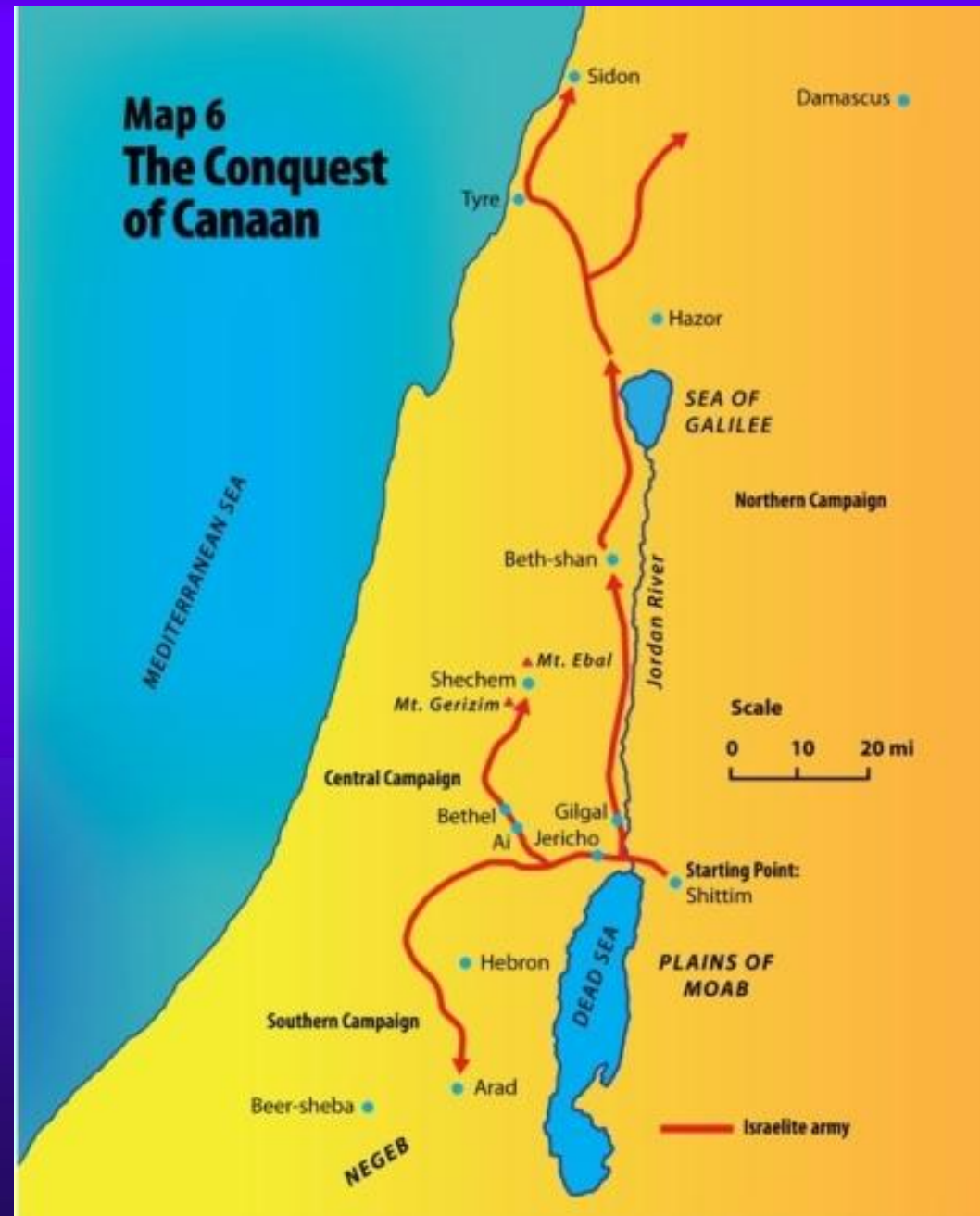


Egyptian Idol






Map of Joshua's Conquests



Joshua 6:20



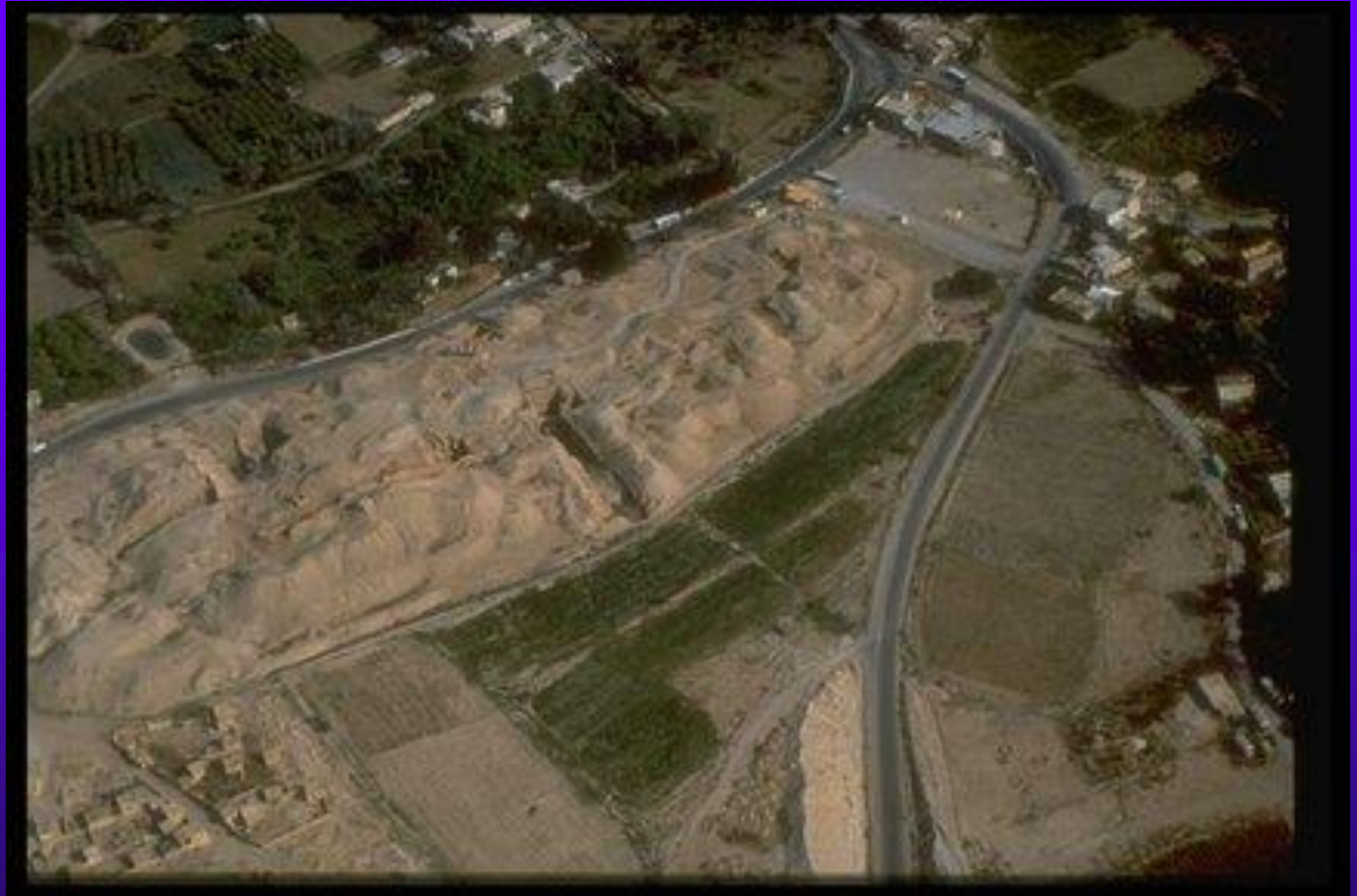
²⁰ As the horns blew, the people began to shout. When they heard the sound of the horn, they raised a tremendous shout. The wall collapsed, and the people attacked the city straight ahead and took it.

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Jericho Has Been Found



Jericho



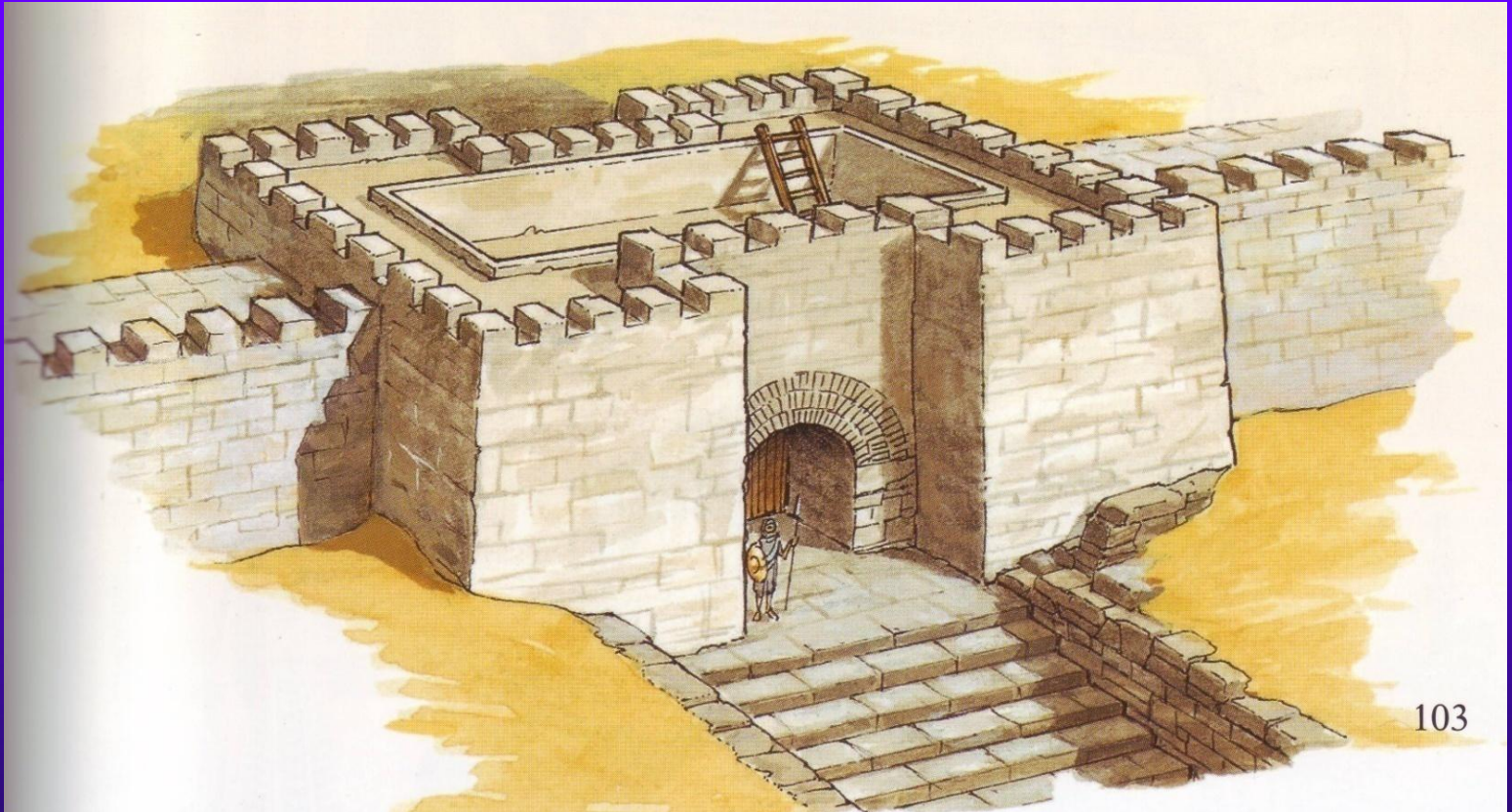
The City of Dan



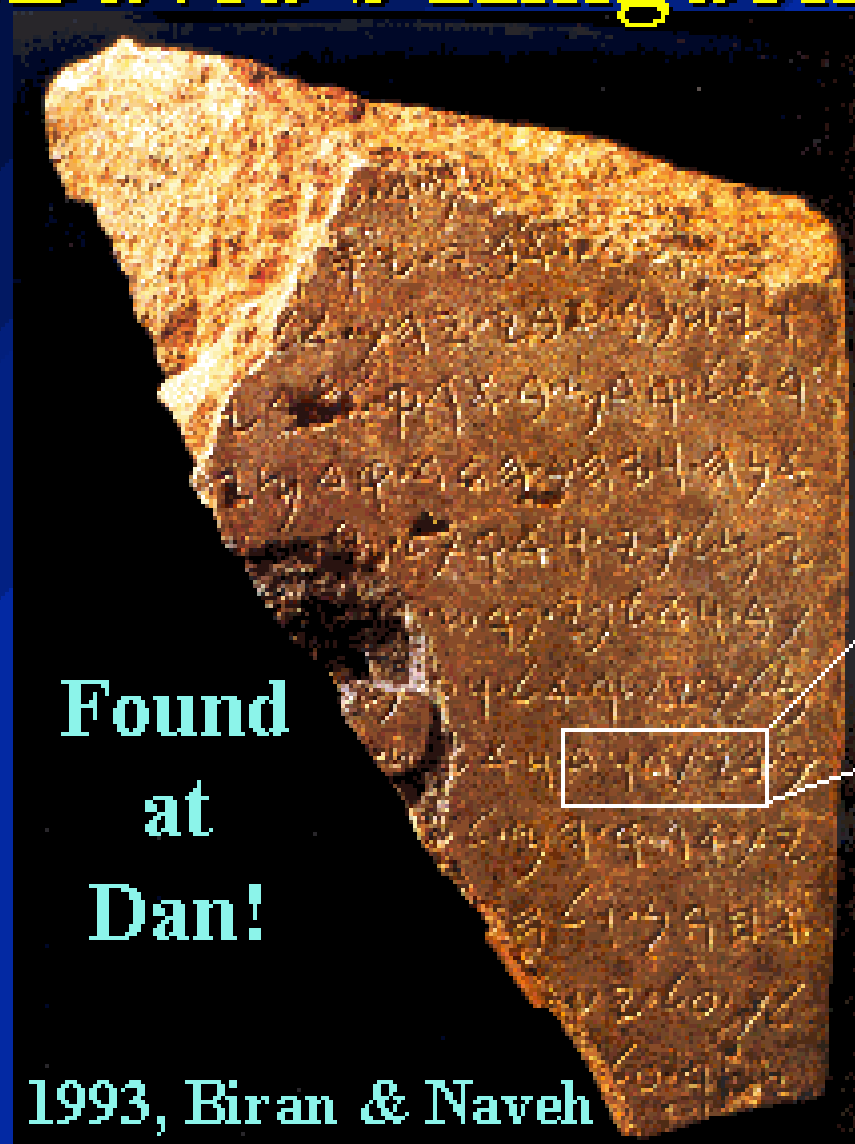
Gate at city of Dan



Drawing of City of Dan (gate)



David's Kingdom? - *Real !!!*



**Found
at
Dan!**

1993, Biran & Naveh

דָּוִד מְלִיכָא



DVDT EB

“House of David”

Kingdom!

Hazor



Tel Hazor



Joshua 11:13

13 However, Israel did not destroy by fire any of the cities built on their mounds, except Hazor, which Joshua burned.

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Burn Layer at Tel Hazor



Joshua 11:13



King Hezekiah's Seal

“Belonging to Hezekiah, (son of) Ahaz, King of Judah.”



Frank Cross, BAR 25:2, 99



Assyrian Attack of Hezekiah

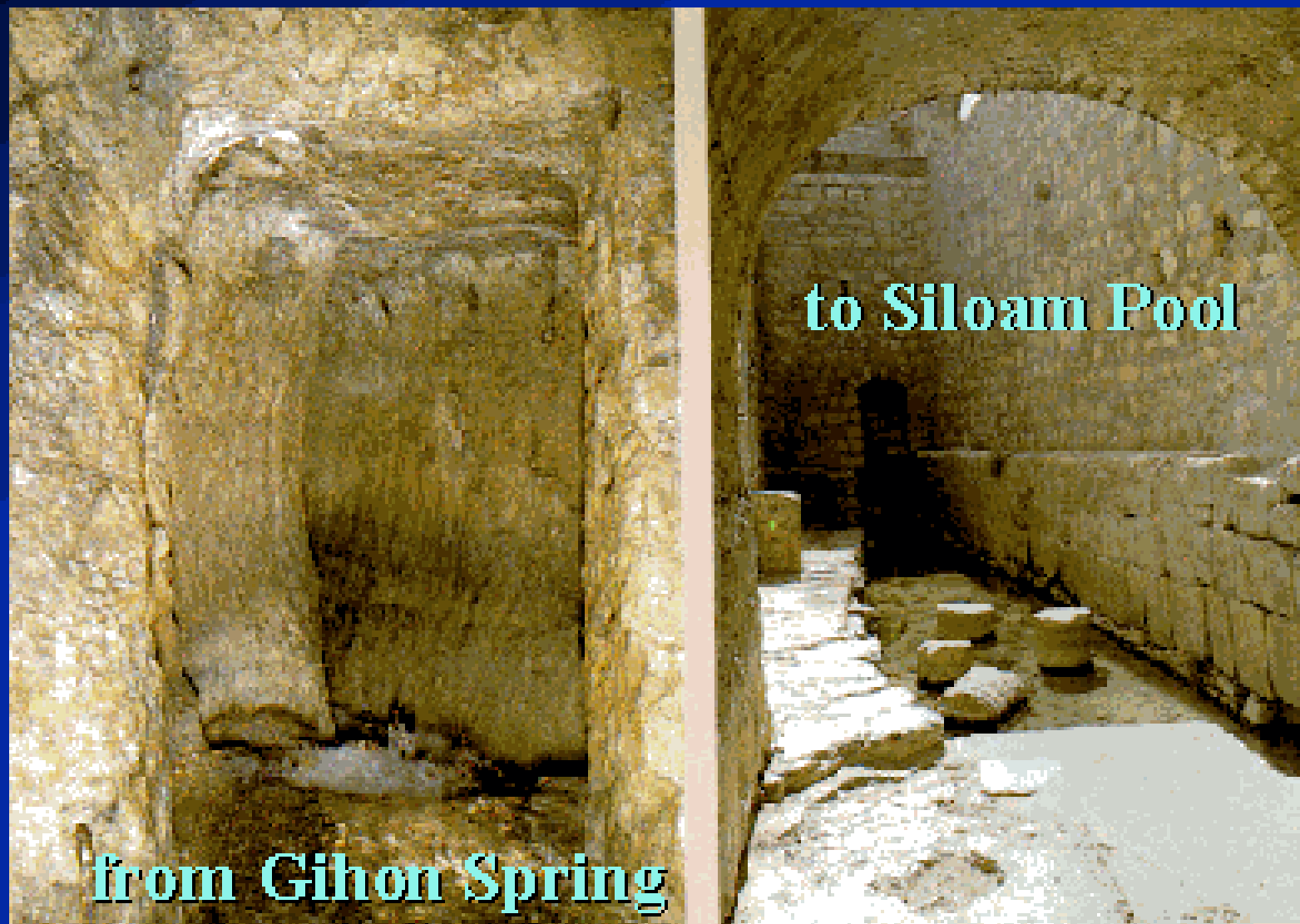


Bible History Online

“I Sennacherub... captured 46 towns and villages of Judah... shut up Hezekiah the Jew like a bird in a cage in Jerusalem, his royal city.” 701 B.C.

(2 Ki 18)

Hezekiah's Tunnel - *Real*



2 Chrn 32:3-4, 30 "...channeled the water..."

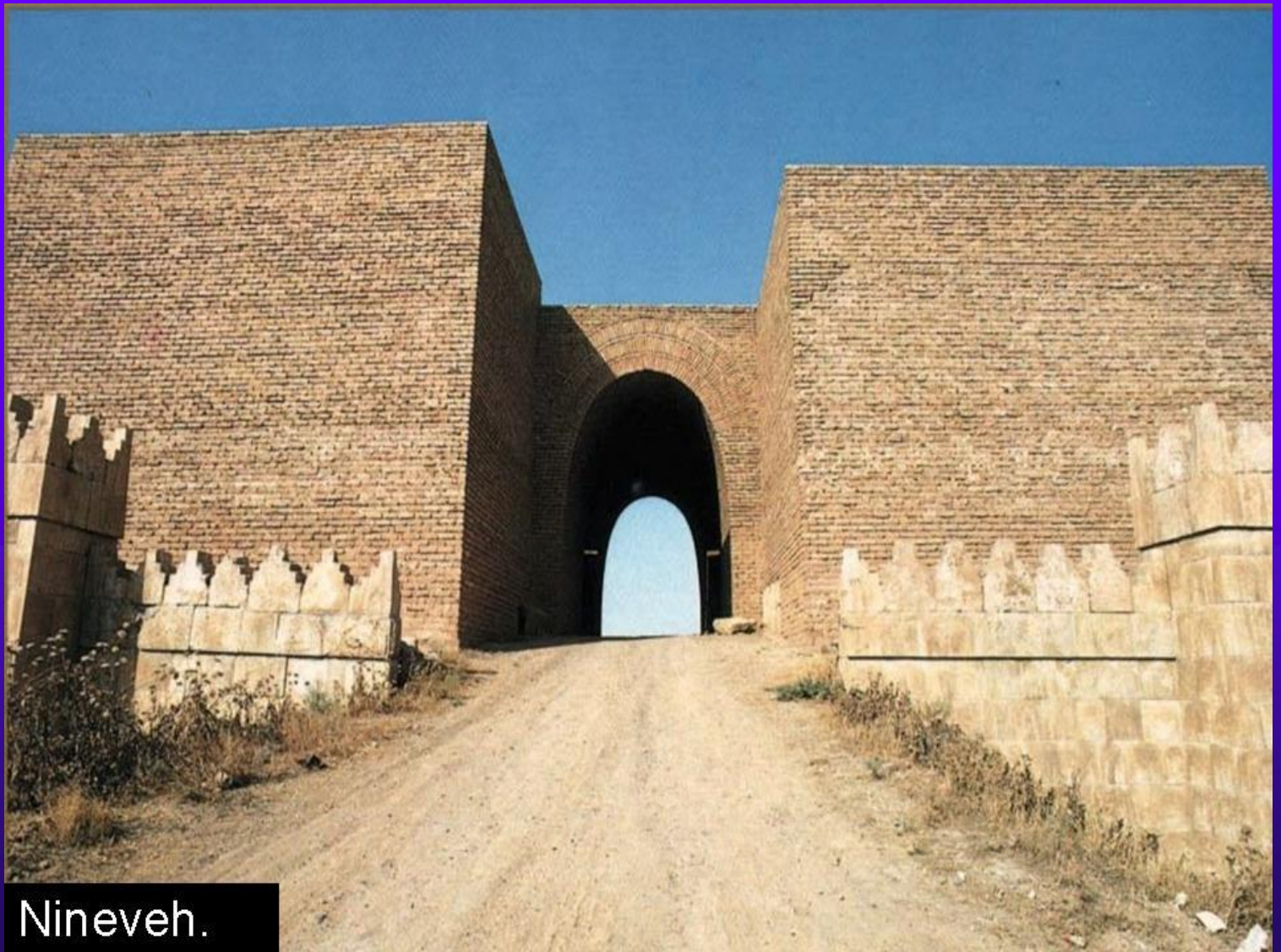


Nineveh – Jonah 1:2

² Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and preach against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.

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Nineveh



Nineveh.

Assyrian Pottery



Jeremiah 45:1

¹The word that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Baruch, son of Neriah, when he wrote on a scroll words from Jeremiah's own mouth in the fourth year of Jehoiakim... (NAB)




Bulla of Baruch



Scribe of
Jeremiah.
Jer 45:1-2



2 Chronicles 26:19



19 **Uzziah**, who was holding a censer for burning the incense, became angry. But, at the very moment he showed his anger to the priests... leprosy broke out on his forehead.

The Bones of Uzziah



*"The bones of Uzziah, King of
Judah, rest here ... Do not open!"*

2 Kings 15:32

32 In the second year of Pekah, son of Remaliah, king of Israel, Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, became king.

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Jotham (signet ring)



2 Kings 17:1

¹ In the twelfth year of Ahaz, King of Judah, Hoshea, son of Elah, became king in Samaria over Israel for nine years.

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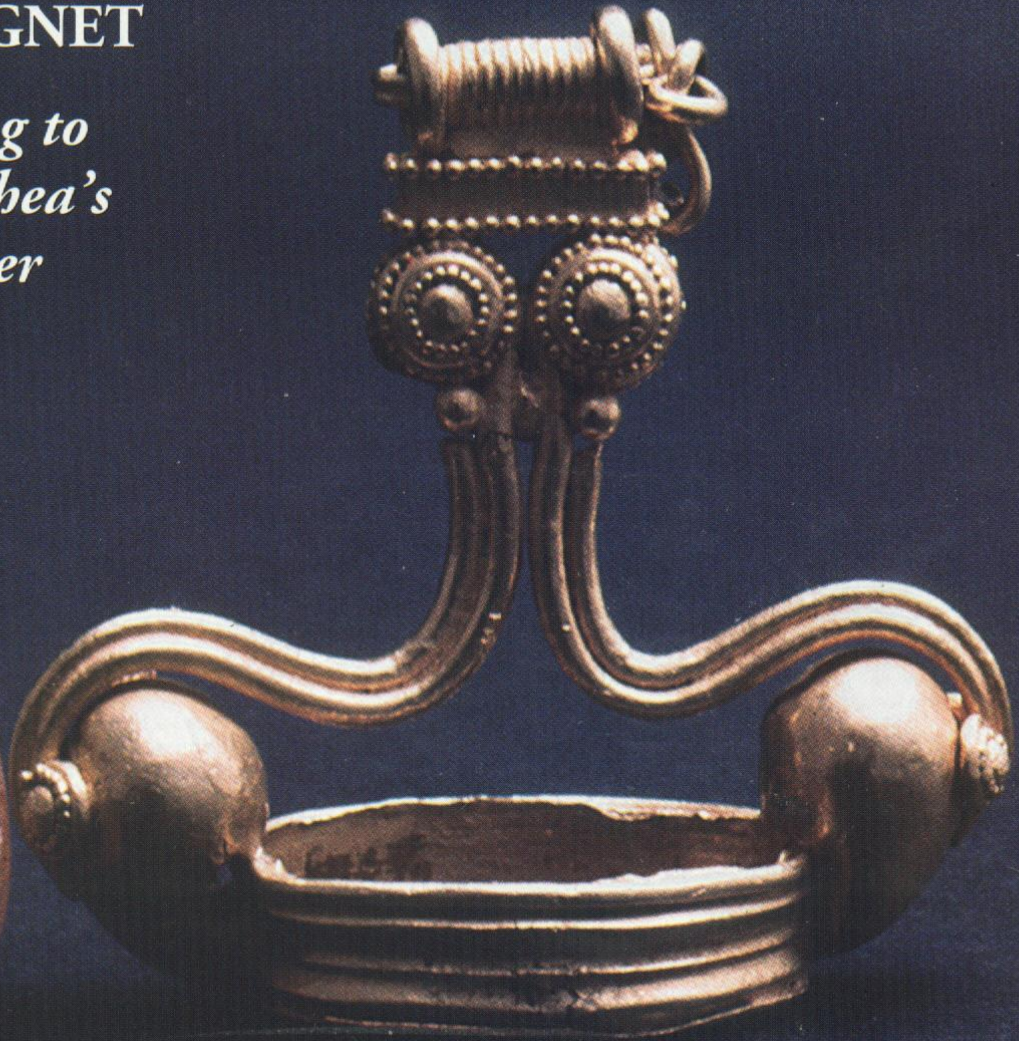


Hoshea



ROYAL SIGNET

*Belonging to
King Hoshea's
Minister*



Deuteronomy 20:17-18

17-18 You must put them all under the ban (Canaanites) just as the Lord, your God, has commanded you, so that they do not teach you to do all the abominations that they do for their gods, and you thus sin against the Lord, your God. (NAB),





Leviticus 18:21

21 You shall not offer any of your offspring for immolation to Molech, thus profaning the name of you God. I am the Lord.,

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Canaanite High Place (Megiddo)



Dead Sea Scrolls



Demonstrate that
Old Testament
text is *well*
preserved in our
Bibles



Isaiah scroll

Qumran Area



Ruins at Qumran




Scroll Jars



Isaiah Scroll

1QIs^a





Textual Criticism

Comparison of a particular text with related materials in order to establish authenticity.

Codex Sinaiticus





Biblical MSS (New Testament)

◆ Greek Copies 5,800 +

◆ Non-Greek Copies 19,200 +

◆ Total N.T. MSS 25,000 +



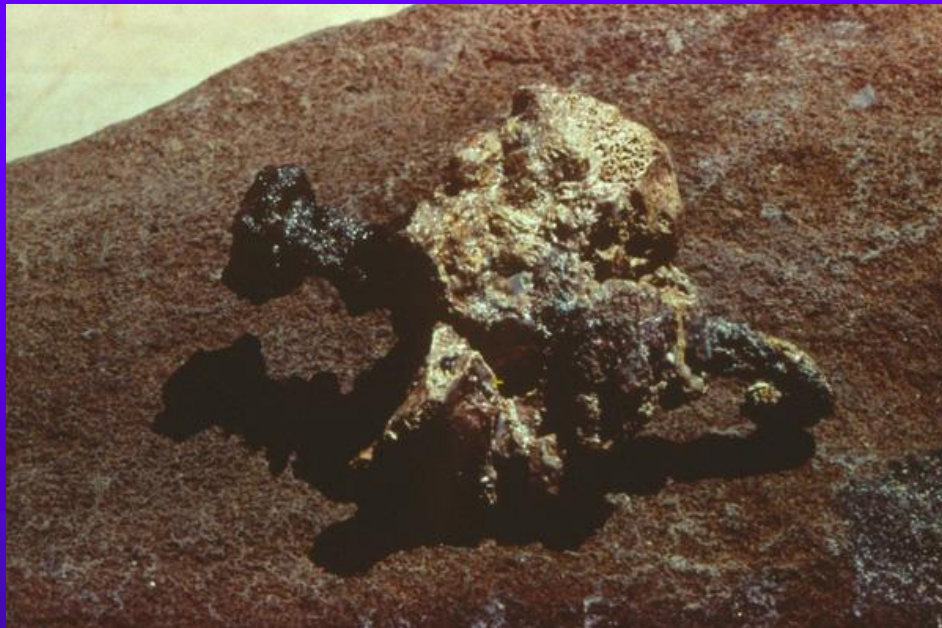
Secular Manuscripts (MSS)

<u>Author</u>	<u>Written</u>	<u>Time Span</u>	<u>Copies</u>
Homer	900 B.C.	500	643
Aristotle	350 B.C.	1400	49
Plato	400 B.C.	1200	7
Caesar	80 B.C.	1000	10
Herodotus	450 A.D.	1300	8
Tacitus	100 A.D.	1000	20
Suetonius	125 A.D.	800	8



Miscellaneous Section

Crucifixion Evidence



A Real Manger



Boat From Sea of Galilee



Corinth



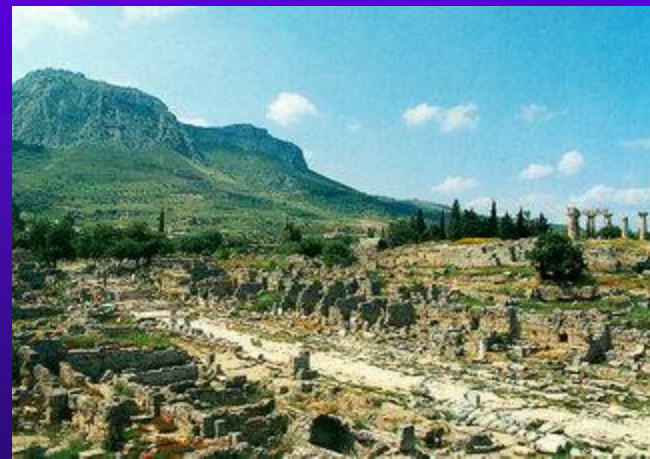
Bema Seat



Excavations at Corinth



Temple of Apollo



Ruins at Corinth



Romans 16:23

23 Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you.
Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus greet you.

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

Erastus Inscription



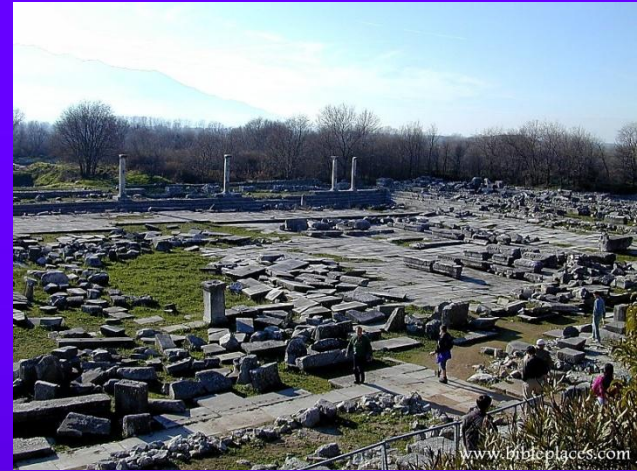
Ephesus



Philippi



Ruins



Forum



Philippian Prison (Paul)



Philippian Prison (Paul)

Pergamum



Serapeum

A temple to the ancient Egyptian god

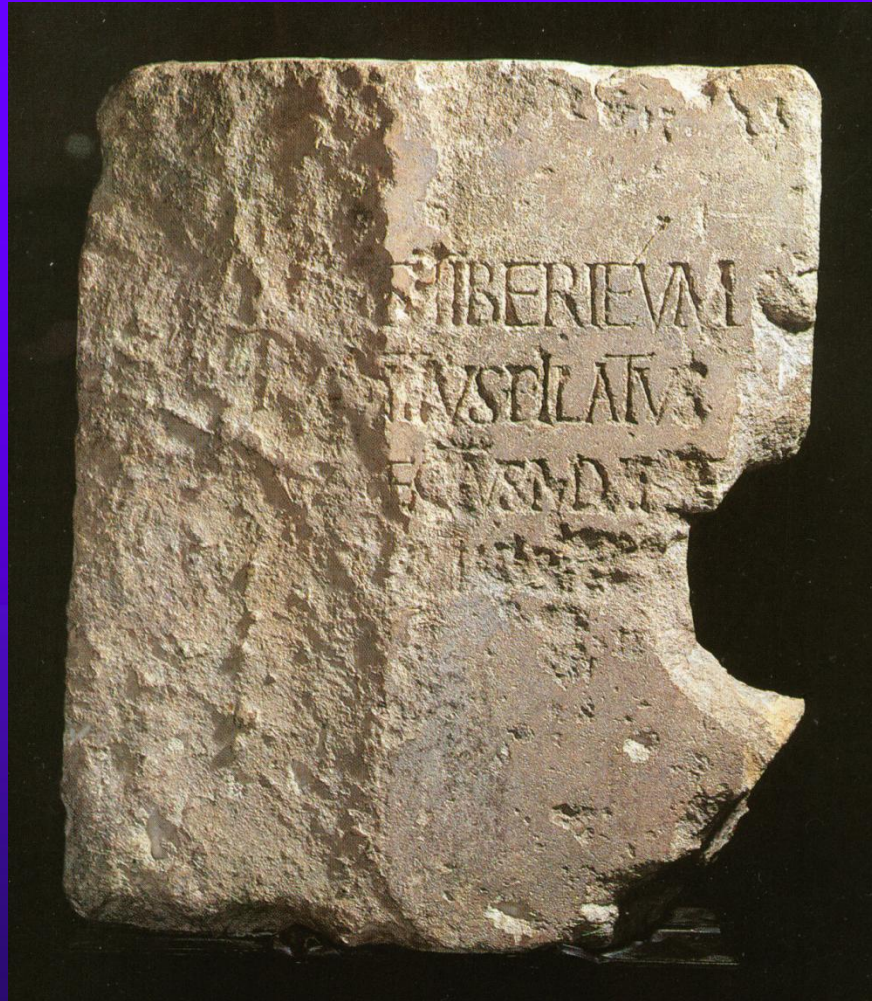


Theater - Capacity 10,000

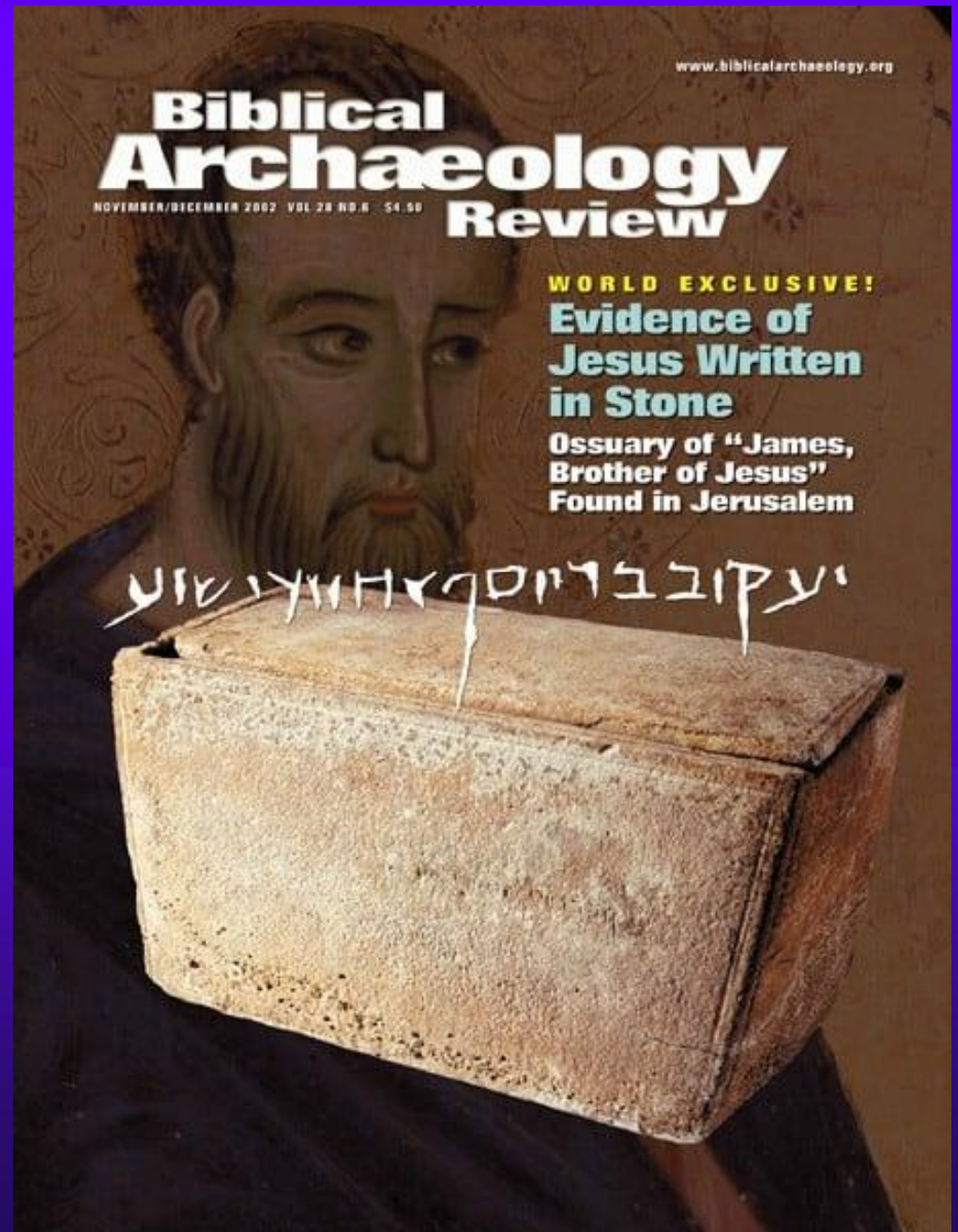
Ancient Tomb



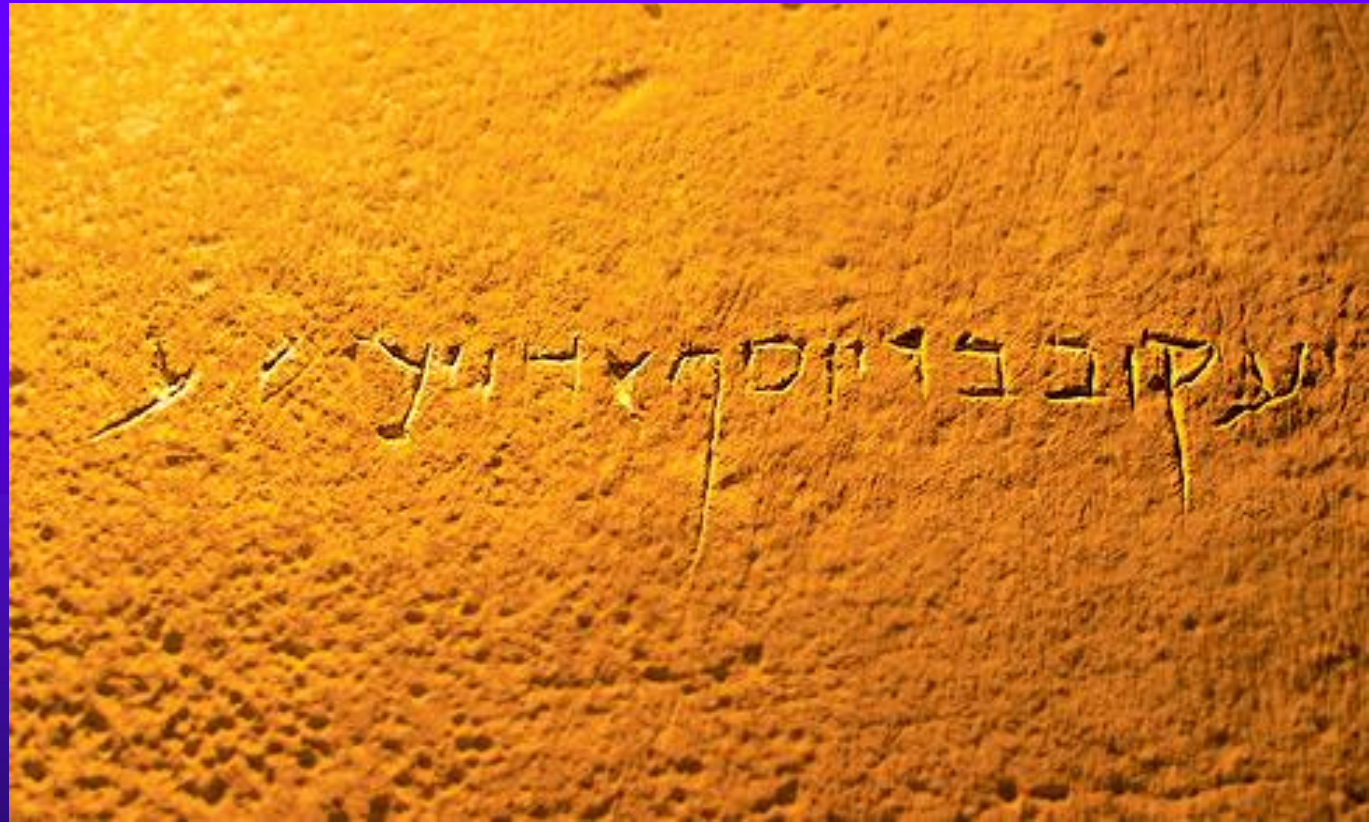
Pilate Inscription



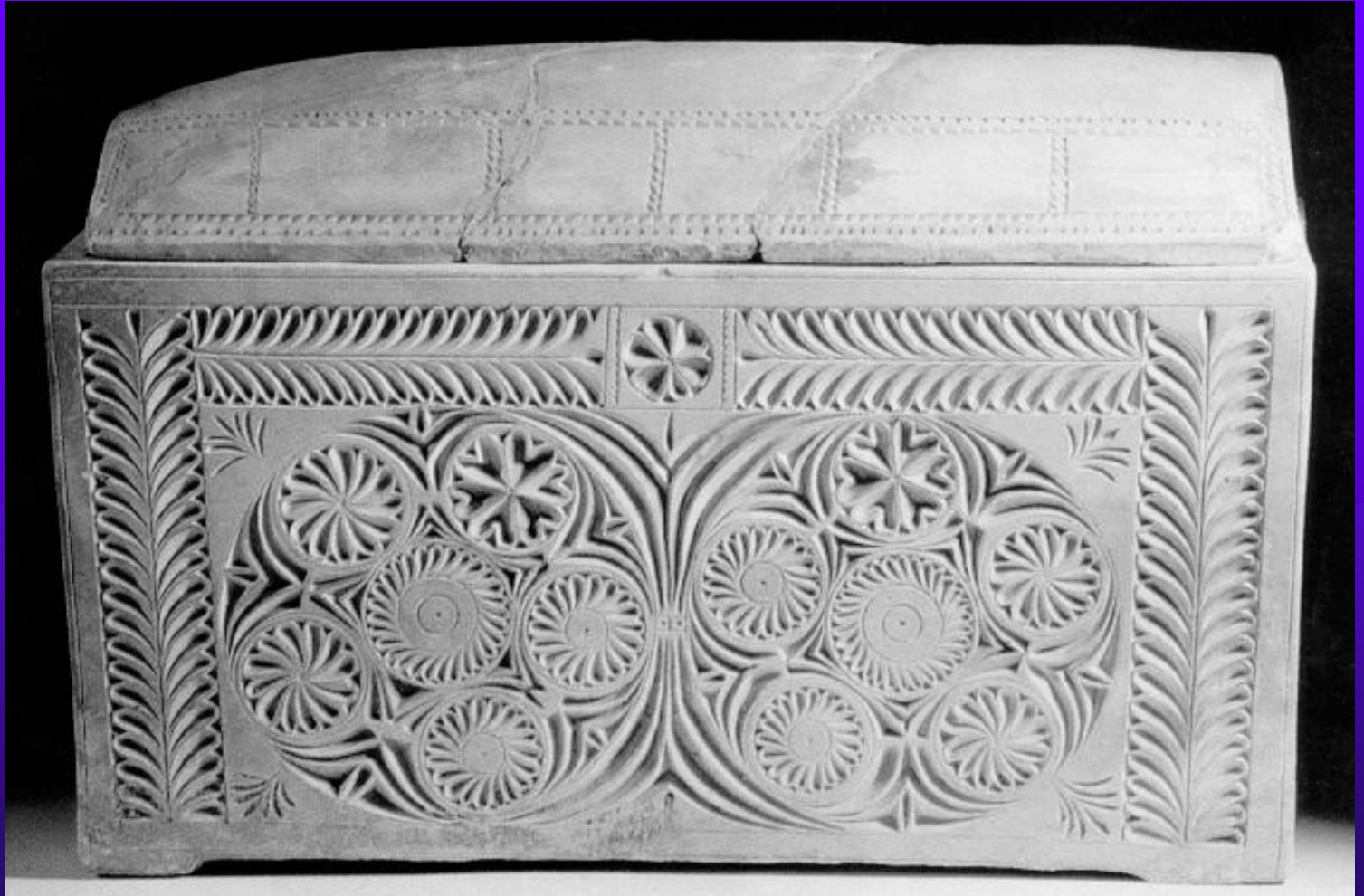
James Ossuary Inscription



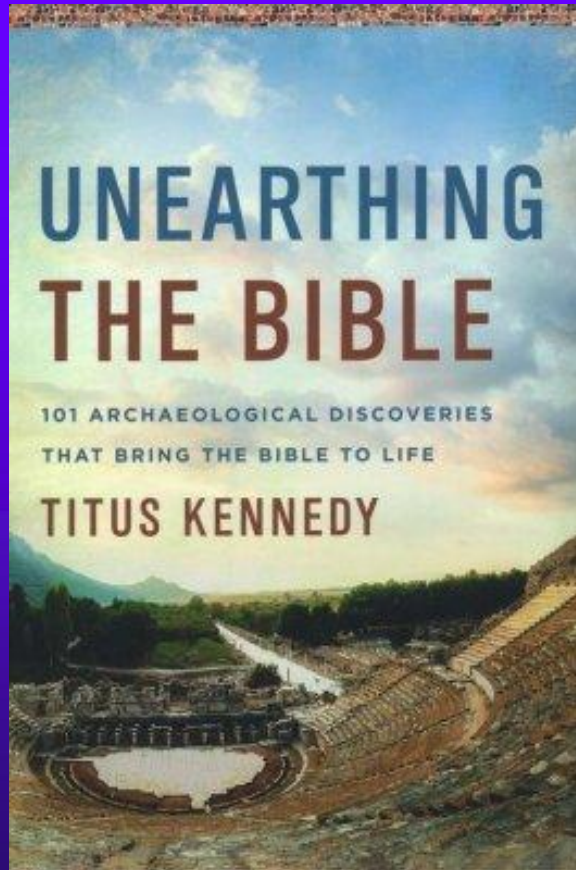
James Ossuary Inscription




Caiaphas Ossuary



Suggested Reading



***Unearthing the Bible:
Archaeological Discoveries
That Bring the Bible to Life
Amazon- \$14.98***



You may request a
complimentary copy of
tonight's PowerPoint at the
Catholicism on Tap
website.

Free PowerPoint viewers are
available online (ios or android).
Ask John S. for more information