

Chapter 1 : Archaeology and the Bible – theinnatdunvilla.com

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An archaeological dig site in Corinth, Greece. The Bible describes people, places and events spanning thousands of years. It claims to be the inerrant Word of God, true in every detail. Does archaeological evidence confirm biblical accounts, or does the Bible fail to hold up to historical scrutiny? The Bible and archaeology Archaeology is the scientific study of peoples and cultures from the past. It is based on the analysis of artifacts, inscriptions and other remains from previous societies. Biblical archaeology is more narrowly focused on the civilizations and events described in the Bible. As one might expect, the field of biblical archaeology can often be controversial. After all, many biblical passages describe things so incredible that some people view them as better suited for a work of science fiction than as a target of scientific inquiry. Consider just a few of the amazing events in the Bible: A great flood destroyed all human life on the earth with the exception of eight people—Noah and his family, who were entrusted with the care of a variety of animals. These survivors waited for the flood to subside while living in a giant ark. A group of slaves—the Israelites—were in harsh bondage to Egypt, a powerful nation. The God of the Israelites freed them from slavery by inflicting a series of devastating plagues on the Egyptians. The Israelites were then trapped by the Red Sea, only to have the waters miraculously parted so that they could walk through, after which the waters closed back on the Egyptians, drowning them. Jesus Christ, a divine member of the God family, willingly gave up His glory and came to this earth as a human being, where He was born of a virgin. As God in the flesh, Christ sacrificed Himself to pay the penalty for the sins of all humanity, before being resurrected three days and three nights later. Examples such as the above lead some people to assume that the Bible is merely a collection of fanciful tales, with no historical accuracy. However, contrary to that misconception, archaeology has repeatedly verified many of the biblical accounts. For example, the story of the Exodus describes so many miraculous events that scholars often dismiss it as myth without giving it serious consideration. These discoveries often overturn widespread beliefs that certain biblical people or events were fictional. Here are just a few of the discoveries: Assyria was described as a powerful empire in the Old Testament, and yet by the time of Jesus Christ, all physical evidence of its existence had seemingly vanished. As the centuries progressed, the Bible contained the only record of the Assyrian Empire and of Nineveh, one of its capitals. Avigad also found four arrowheads at the site; for one of the arrowheads he was able to narrow down the date ranges during which it would have been used, leading to the conclusion that it came from the Babylonian siege in the 6th century B. This supports the biblical account of the destruction of Jerusalem. The pool of Siloam was the location to which Jesus Christ sent a blind man to wash himself John 9: Steps leading to the pool were uncovered during an excavation in, and the discovery of the pool was formally announced in Time and time again, archaeological finds have confirmed many biblical accounts. There have been a number of cases where the Bible has provided seemingly insignificant details of people, places or societies that were later found to accurately reflect the time and environment in which the particular verses were written. Contrary to the mistaken idea that the Bible is merely a collection of myths and deserves no archaeological credibility, biblical history has proven to be so reliable that some archaeologists devote themselves to the task of studying and excavating locations in the Middle East—with the purpose of comparing their findings to the Bible. Why is biblical archaeology important? So what should all of this mean to you? Although many biblical accounts have been confirmed, there are also many miraculous events described in the Bible that have little or no archaeological verification. Does a failure to definitively corroborate events such as the Exodus negate any value provided by biblical archaeology? First, we should ensure that we understand the limits of biblical archaeology. For example, the Bible shows that Jesus Christ existed eternally as a divine member of the God family before coming down to this earth as a human being. Currently, the archaeological evidence that Christ was God in the flesh can be found in eyewitness accounts from those with whom He interacted and to whom

He demonstrated His power. Similarly, there are many different stories of the Flood that have been uncovered—not only the biblical description, but also versions from other cultures and religions. Although the widespread abundance of these stories indicates that the event actually did happen, people often dismiss them all as mere myths. When it comes to miraculous occurrences, archaeology has its limits in terms of convincing the skeptics. One of the key proofs of the Bible is fulfilled prophecy: God uses His human servants to announce events in advance; and then those events actually take place at some point in the future. As mentioned earlier, many biblical passages contain seemingly insignificant details that would typically only be known by people who were living at that particular time—details that only come to light centuries or millennia later due to the work of archaeologists. When it comes to the writings of biblical prophets, archaeological verification of these details can help to confirm that the prophets actually wrote before the corresponding events occurred. Archaeology and the scientific knowledge in the Bible Similarly, archaeology can draw a sharp contrast between the advanced scientific knowledge demonstrated in the Bible, and the knowledge of the other nations that existed during the time of various biblical events. For example, ancient Egypt was a powerful nation that held the Israelites in slavery, and yet the Ebers Papyrus—an Egyptian medical text from around B. Remedies prescribed by the Egyptians included beetle shells, pig eyes and dog toes. There is a huge difference between these practices and the laws of quarantine and sanitation that God gave to the Israelites—laws that are still valid in principle today. Archaeology can demonstrate that the Bible contains scientific knowledge that was far ahead of its time—which would be expected from the Word of God, who created this physical universe and all things in it. Our personal responsibility Although archaeological evidence can potentially be used to verify various aspects of the Bible to those who are skeptical, the truth of the matter is that biblical archaeology is often held to a much higher standard than other more widely accepted areas of scientific inquiry. Biblical critics contend that there is a lack of archaeological evidence for many of the prominent people, places and events in the Bible. However, a similar criticism can be leveled against the gaps in the fossil record—which demonstrate a lack of evidence in support of the theory of evolution—and yet evolution is still viewed by many as a scientific fact. Similarly, biblical critics argue that many of the miraculous events described in the Bible seem impossible. However, many scientists accept as fact that life on this earth originated from something that was not living, and that the nonliving matter simply appeared from somewhere—a combination of events that seem impossible. Ultimately, some people will remain skeptical of the truth of the Bible regardless of what archaeologists discover. The question that we each should answer is this: How much physical proof do I need before I become willing to believe that the Bible is not simply a collection of stories, but rather the inspired Word of God? There has been ample archaeological evidence that has already corroborated many of the biblical accounts, and work in this area continues to progress. But although biblical archaeology is a valuable tool in verifying the truth of the Scriptures, the real key to creating a meaningful and lasting history of our own is to accept that truth—and to develop a living faith in God, the Author of the Bible.

Chapter 2 : Associates for Biblical Research

Saving the Aramaic of Jesus and the Jews. Yona Sabar. Once spoken across most of the ancient Near East, Aramaic was most likely the mother tongue of Jesus.

List of biblical figures identified in extra-biblical sources
Objects with unknown or disproved biblical origins[edit]
Biblical archaeology has also been the target of several celebrated forgeries, which have been perpetrated for a variety of reasons. One of the most celebrated is that of the James Ossuary , when information came to light in regarding the discovery of an ossuary , with an inscription that said " Jacob , son of Joseph and brother of Jesus ". In reality the artifact had been discovered twenty years before, after which it had exchanged hands a number of times and the inscription had been added. This was discovered because it did not correspond to the pattern of the epoch from which it dated. Their authenticity is highly controversial and in some cases they have been proved to be fakes. The Ark of the Covenant: Local tradition claims that it was brought to Ethiopia by Menelik I with divine assistance, while a forgery was left in the Temple in Jerusalem. Objects originating from the "antiques" dealer Oded Golan. As described above, the Israeli police accused Golan and his accomplices of falsifying the James Ossuary in , they were also accused of falsifying a number of other objects: The Jehoash Inscription , which describes repairs to the temple in Jerusalem. It is suspected that the inscription has been falsified onto authentic ancient stones. Various ostracas mentioning the temple or biblical names. A stone candelabra with seven arms, decorated with a menorah from the temple. A stone seal with gold borders that was attributed to King Manasseh of Judah. A quartz plate with an inscription in the ancient Egyptian language stating that King Shishak had captured the ancient city of Megiddo. An ivory pomegranate with the inscription "property of the priests of the Temple" carved on an authentic piece of antique ivory. Numerous bullas, including some that mention biblical figures such as the scribe Baruch ben Neriah and the prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel. Many scholars consider that these findings belong to pseudoarcheology. Photos of the site can be seen at the Narkas website. However, geologists at the government institute concluded that the samples were volcanic rock and not petrified wood. Critics insist that the linen cloth contains a painting of Jesus made in the Middle Ages. Others maintain that the image was formed by an energetic process that darkened the fibres of the shroud at the moment of resurrection. A cloth with the face of a man, said to be Jesus by believers, imprinted on it. There are at least six images in existence that bear a marked resemblance to each other and which all claim to be the original Veil. Biblical archaeology and the Catholic Church[edit] The majority of excavations and investigations carried out in the area where the biblical narratives are set mainly have the objective of casting light on the historical, cultural, economic and religious background to the texts, therefore their main objective is not usually proving the veracity of these stories. However, there are some groups that take a more fundamentalist approach and which organize archaeological campaigns with the intention of finding proof that the Bible is factual and that its narratives should be understood as historical events. This is not the position of the official Catholic Church. In certain cases these investigations can find the place where these narratives took place. In other cases they can confirm the veracity of the stories. However, in other matters they can question events that have been taken as historical fact, providing arguments that show that certain stories are not historical narratives but belong to a different narrative genre. In , Pope Pius XII recommended that interpretations of the Scripture take archaeological findings into account in order to discern the literary genres that the Scriptures used. Expert commentaries[edit] [Eakins in a essay published in Benchmarks in Time and Culture and quoted in his essay "Archaeology and the Bible, An Introduction". In this article he reiterates his perceptions of the negative effects of the close relationship that has existed between Syro-Palestinian archaeology and biblical archaeology, which has caused the archaeologists working in this field, particularly the American archaeologists, to resist adoption of the new methods of " processual archaeology ". In addition he considers that: Most people really think that archaeology is out there to prove the Bible. No archaeologist thinks so. And for a long time it was thought to work. William Albright , the great father of our discipline, often spoke of the "archaeological revolution. Archaeology as it is practiced today must be able to challenge, as well as confirm,

the Bible stories. Some things described there really did happen, but others did not. I am in fact not even a theist. This is what archaeologists have learned from their excavations in the Land of Israel: Perhaps even harder to swallow is that the united monarchy of David and Solomon, which is described by the Bible as a regional power, was at most a small tribal kingdom. And it will come as an unpleasant shock to many that the God of Israel, YHWH, had a female consort and that the early Israelite religion adopted monotheism only in the waning period of the monarchy and not at Mount Sinai. On the alleged Temple of Solomon, Finkelstein said that there is no archaeological evidence to prove it really existed. This is my career as an archaeologist. I should tell them the truth. If the people are upset, that is not my problem. In his book *The Old Testament Documents: Are They Reliable and Relevant?* Evangelical Old Testament scholar Walter C. With increasing clarity, the setting of the Bible appears more vividly within the framework of general history. On the other hand, archaeology has also given rise to some real problems with regard to its findings. Thus, its work is an ongoing one that cannot be foreclosed too quickly or used merely as a confirming device. This is not to say that archaeology is a cure-all for all the challenges brought to the text--it is not! There are some monstrous problems that remain--some created by the archaeological data itself. But since we have seen so many specific challenges over the years yield to such specific data in favor of the text, a presumption tends to build that we should go with the text until definite contrary information is available. This methodology that says that the text is innocent until proven guilty is not only recommended as a good procedure for American jurisprudence, but it is recommended in the area of examining the claims of the Scripture as well.

Chapter 3 : What are some exciting discoveries in biblical archaeology?

Biblical archaeology is the discipline occupied with the scientific investigation and recovery of the material remains of past cultures that can illuminate the times and descriptions of the Bible, a broad swathe of time between BC and AD.

Linkedin This article first appeared in the Christian Research Journal, volume 27, number 2 For further information or to subscribe to the Christian Research Journal go to: There are many more, however, that corroborate biblical evidence, and the following list provides only the most significant discoveries: A Common Flood Story. Not just the Hebrews Gen. A Sumerian king list from c. A later Greek counterpart, the story of Deucalion and Phyrria, tells of a couple who survived a great flood sent by an angry Zeus. The Code of Hammurabi. This seven-foot black diorite stele, discovered at Susa and presently located in the Louvre museum, contains engraved laws of Babylonian King Hammurabi fl. The some 20, cuneiform clay tablets discovered at the ruins of Nuzi, east of the Tigris River and datable to c. These tablets include treaties, marriage arrangements, rules regarding inheritance, adoption, and the like. The Existence of Hittites. A century ago the Hittites were unknown outside of the Old Testament, and critics claimed that they were a figment of biblical imagination. In , however, archaeologists digging east of Ankara, Turkey, discovered the ruins of Hattusas, the ancient Hittite capital at what is today called Boghazkoy, as well as its vast collection of Hittite historical records, which showed an empire flourishing in the mid-second millennium BC. This critical challenge, among many others, was immediately proved worthless “ a pattern that would often be repeated in the decades to come. Biblical Cities Attested Archaeologically. Among the most dangerous of these were the Philistines, the people after whom Palestine itself would be named. The Pentapolis five cities they established “ namely Ashkelon, Ashdod, Gaza, Gath, and Ekron “ have all been excavated, at least in part, and some remain cities to this day. Such precise urban evidence measures favorably when compared with the geographical sites claimed in the holy books of other religious systems, which often have no basis whatever in reality. This victory is also commemorated in hieroglyphic wall carvings on the Temple of Amon at Thebes. Second Kings 3 reports that Mesha, the king of Moab, rebelled against the king of Israel following the death of Ahab. That the growing power of Assyria was already encroaching on the northern kings prior to their ultimate conquest in BC is demonstrated by a six-and-a-half-foot black obelisk discovered in the ruins of the palace at Nimrud in On it, Jehu is shown kneeling before Shalmaneser III and offering tribute to the Assyrian king, the only relief we have to date of a Hebrew monarch. Burial Plaque of King Uzziah. Like Solomon, he began well and ended badly. In 2 Chronicles 26 his sin is recorded, which resulted in his being struck with leprosy later in life. King Hezekiah of Judah ruled from to BC. At the Siloam end of the tunnel, an inscription, presently in the archaeological museum at Istanbul, Turkey, celebrates this remarkable accomplishment. The tunnel is probably the only biblical site that has not changed its appearance in 2, years. After having conquered the 10 northern tribes of Israel, the Assyrians moved southward to do the same to Judah 2 Kings 18“ Assyrian records virtually confirm this. The Assyrians, in fact, bypassed Jerusalem on their way to Egypt, and the city would not fall until the time of Nebuchadnezzar and the Neo-Babylonians in BC. Sennacherib himself returned to Nineveh where his own sons murdered him. The Cylinder of Cyrus the Great. Isaiah had even prophesied this Isa. This list of correlations between Old Testament texts and the hard evidence of Near Eastern archaeology could easily be tripled in length. When it comes to the intertestamental and New Testament eras, as we might expect, the needle on the gauge of positive correlations simply goes off the scale. A cartoon in that article, showing the Bible being eaten away with vast corridors cut through its text, is an appropriately false caricature that goes with the rest of the article. An extraordinary archaeological discovery that confirms the biblical record barely receives any notice in the press, as witness the bones of the first biblical personality ever discovered in November, Generally, only one in a hundred know that the remains of Joseph Caiaphas, the high priest who indicted Jesus before Pontius Pilate on Good Friday, were found at that time in an ossuary in the Peace Forest of Jerusalem south of the Temple area. Let sensation-seeking writers claim, however, that the patriarchs were mythical, that David was a petty hilltop chieftain if he existed at all, that Jesus married Mary Magdalene, or that God predicted the assassination of Israeli premier Itzhaak Rabin

through some arcane Bible code yet did nothing about it , and the press covers it sympathetically and in full. In no way is this fair, ethical, or even logical. Nor is the press alone in this deception. Radical revisionist biblical scholars and pseudoscholars, like members of the notorious Jesus Seminar, are well aware of this sad sensationalizing formula for success and exploit it regularly. In this connection, sadly, secular historians of the ancient world often have a much higher opinion of the reliability of biblical sources than some biblical scholars themselves! Lest this critique be written off as the meaningless chatter of some conservative curmudgeon, however, I must point out that, in fact, it represents the majority view in biblical scholarship today. Ever since scientific archaeology started a century and a half ago, the consistent pattern has been this: The Bible has nothing to fear from the spade. The Free Press, A considerable, and growing, body of literature exists on the Hebrews in Egypt, the role of Joseph, the pharaoh who befriended him, the Hyksos, the pharaoh of the Oppression, the pharaoh of the Exodus, and the Exodus itself. See recent issues of Bible and Spade, especially no. Free and Howard F. Zondervan Publishing House, , 69â€” is also helpful, as is Alfred J. Baker Book House, Kenyon, Digging up Jericho London: Ernest Benn, ; Excavations at Jericho, vol. British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, For example, in The Book of Mormon, proper names of places and people have no substantiation from outside sources. Christian Research Institute Our Mission: To provide Christians worldwide with carefully researched information and well-reasoned answers that encourage them in their faith and equip them to intelligently represent it to people influenced by ideas and teachings that assault or undermine orthodox, biblical Christianity. Do you like what you are seeing? Your partnership is essential.

Chapter 4 : Biblical Archaeology - Life, Hope & Truth

Biblical Archaeology - Ancient civilizations, law and culture. Evidence that reveals early Israel. Dramatic support for Old Testament scripture. The most recent discoveries.

Biblical Archaeology Biblical Archaeology: Ancient Civilization Biblical archaeology really begins with the Sumerian civilization of about BC. To date, numerous sites and artifacts have been uncovered that reveal a great deal about the ancient Mesopotamian culture. This collection of clay tablets and prisms is most exciting because it divides the Sumerian kings into two categories; those who reigned before the "great flood" and those who reigned after it. The lists are also dramatic because they include the ages of the kings before and after the "great flood," which show the same phenomenal life span changes mentioned in the Bible. Actually, records of a global flood are found throughout most ancient cultures. For instance, the Epic of Gilgamesh from the ancient Babylonians contains an extensive flood story. Discovered on clay tablets in locations such as Ninevah and Megiddo, the Epic even includes a hero who built a great ship, filled it with animals, and used birds to see if the water had receded see Genesis Dated to about BC, the Law Code contains many civil laws that are similar to those found in the first five books of the Bible. Another find at the ancient city of Nuzi near the Tigris River uncovered approximately 20, clay tablets. Dated between and BC, these cuneiform texts explain the culture and customs of the time, many of which are similar to those found in the early books of the Bible. Ancient Israel Biblical archaeology then turns to the evidence for the early Israelites. The Merneptah Stele also known as the Israel Stele is an upright stone slab measuring over seven feet tall that contains carved hieroglyphic text dating to approximately BC. The Egyptian stele describes the military victories of Pharaoh Merneptah and includes the earliest mention of "Israel" outside the Bible. Although the specific battles covered by the stele are not included in the Bible, the stele establishes extra-biblical evidence that the Israelites were already living as a people in ancient Canaan by BC. In addition to the Stele, a large wall picture was discovered in the great Karnak Temple of Luxor ancient Thebes , which shows battle scenes between the Egyptians and Israelites. These scenes have also been attributed to Pharaoh Merneptah and date to approximately BC. This is the exact event mentioned in 1 Kings 14 and 2 Chronicles Outside Egypt, we also discover a wealth of evidence for the early Israelites. According to Genesis 19, the Moabites were neighbors of the Israelites. God , the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus , the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried , and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior , declaring, " Jesus is Lord ," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven. What is your response?

Chapter 5 : Biblical Archaeology (Bible History Online)

Find interesting Bible archeology news as it comes in The headlines are re-written to understand more about the articles that contain the Biblical archaeological significance.

What are some exciting discoveries in biblical archaeology? Biblical archaeology is the science of investigating and recovering remains of past cultures that can validate, or at least shed new light on, the biblical narrative. Biblical archaeology involves the study of architecture, language, literature, art, tools, pottery and many other items that have survived the ravages of time. For almost two hundred years, those who study biblical archaeology have been working in the Middle East in their quest to recover the past. There have been thousands of archaeological finds that have advanced the study greatly, but some are more significant than others. One of the most important finds of in the field of biblical archaeology is the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in in the Qumran area on the northwest shore of the Dead Sea. There are approximately documents and fragments that comprise the find. The scrolls predate A. The significance of the find is the age of the documents and the astonishing lack of variants to documents that have been most trustworthy such as the Masoretic Text , Codex Vaticanus and the Codex Sinaiticus. The vast majority of the variants about 99 percent are punctuation or spelling errors. Incredibly, none of the variants changed the meaning of the text, nor did they contain any significant theological differences. This gives us the assurance that the text we have today in our Bible is the same as the early church had two thousand years ago. No other secular manuscripts can make the same claim. This stone tablet contains an inscription that is the first reference to the Davidic dynasty outside of the Bible. It was erected by Hazael, king of Aram, which is present-day Syria. The inscription makes reference to a military victory and corresponds to the biblical account in 2 Chronicles This inscription dates to the 9th century B. This is the only extra-biblical reference to the House of David that has been discovered to date. An ossuary is a stone or pottery box in which the remains of a deceased person are buried an ancient casket. Yeosef Joseph was the son of Caiaphas. This verifies that there was a high priest at the time of Jesus and his name was Caiaphas. Caiaphas was the priest that presided over the false trial of Jesus Matthew This is the remains of a full skeleton of a man crucified in the first century. The foot bone contains a bent crucifixion nail. These remains verify that crucifixion was being done and that the crucifixion of Jesus was done exactly as outlined in the biblical narrative. In , two silver scrolls that were worn as amulets were found in a tomb at Ketef Hinnom, overlooking the Hinnom Valley, where they had been placed around the 7th century B. The delicate process of unrolling the scrolls while developing a method that would prevent them from disintegrating took three years. Brief as they are, the amulets rank as the oldest surviving texts from the Hebrew Bible. Upon unrolling the amulets, biblical archeologists found two inscriptions of significance. One is a temple priest blessing from the book of Numbers: The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. House of God Ostracon: Ostracaâ€™writings on potteryâ€™are common finds in archeological digs. Over pieces of ostraca were found and have been dated to the early part of the 6th Century BC. Of significance are the references to the temple in Jerusalem and to names of people that are recorded in Scripture. This not only helps to date the temple, but it verifies the existence of people listed in the biblical text. This stone tablet was found in Caesarea on the Mediterranean coast. The tablet was found in the theater of Caesarea and bears an inscription mentioning the name of Pontius Pilate the procurator of Judea, and the Tiberium, which was an edifice built in honor of the Emperor Tiberius by Pilate. There has been much written to discredit the biblical narrative in regard to the existence of Pilate; this tablet clearly says that it was from "Pontius Pilate, Prefect of Judea" and verifies that he was a person that lived during the time of Jesus, exactly as written in the biblical narrative. These finds are interesting from an educational point of view and do validate the historical accuracy of the Bible. But for the believer, finds like these should add nothing to our understanding of the importance or credibility of the Bible. The Bible is the written Word of God, inerrant and infallible and was God-breathed to human writers and is useful for edifying and teaching believers in the ways of God: The Bible needs no corroborative evidence to verify its truth, but it is interesting to note that no scientific or archeological find has ever disproven a single word of Scripture, and many, many findings have

attested to its historical and scientific accuracy.

Chapter 6 : NOVA - Official Website | Biblical Archeology

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Did Noah need oxygen above the mountains? Answer If mountain climbers need oxygen tanks to climb Mount Everest, how were Noah, his family, and the animals able to breathe on the Ark when they were above the mountains? Answer Gopher wood is only mentioned once in the Bible in connection with the construction of the Ark Genesis 6: Tower of Babelâ€”Is there any reference to the confusion of languages in early Mesopotamian literature? Answer Tower of Babelâ€”Is there archaeological evidence for it? Answer Also discusses the reasons, methods, and culture surrounding the building of the Tower of Babel, plus research into the building of other ziggurats. Old Testament Israel Slings and stones in the Bible. Scripture indicates these were important and deadly military weapons. Has modern archaeology shed light on this part of the ancient arsenal? Answer site of conquests, triumphs, sin, defeat and major earthquake Dead Sea Scrollsâ€”What is their importance? Answer Learn what led to the magnificent story-book discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, read a description of the Scrolls, and understand the doctrine of the Scrolls. What can teeth tell archaeologists about ancient Israelites? Answer Learn the amazing tale of ancient people buried in a tomb eight miles north of Jerusalem. Ark of the Covenant, lost or found? Where could it be now? Ark of the Covenantâ€”Where has it been? Answer The Lost Ark is still lostâ€”but now we know where it has been! Find out what some scholars believe has been the path of the Ark of the Covenant. Sodom and Gomorrahâ€”Is there any evidence to suggest that the Biblical story of the destruction by fire and brimstone sulfur actually took place? Answer The Sons of Jacobâ€”Is there archaeological evidence for these tribal leaders? Dan, Gad, Asher, and Judah. Israelites in Egyptâ€”What evidence is there? Answer A look at the archaeological findings around the land of Rameses, including the Israelites residence and possible find of the home and burial site of Joseph. Josephâ€”Is there evidence that he really existed just as the Bible said? Answer Interesting new discoveries give insight to the Biblical account of Joseph, the Hebrew ruler of Egypt. Egyptian king, Shishakâ€”What evidence has been discovered? Answer Shishak is the first Egyptian king to be mentioned by name in the Bible and the first foreign king in the Bible for whom we have extra-Biblical evidence. See how archaeology continues to strengthen our faith in the accuracies of the Scriptures. Balaam, the Prophetâ€”Is there evidence to prove his existence? Answer A discovery supports the existence of Balaam, Son of Beor and prophet who was sent to curse the Israelites. Moabite Stoneâ€”What does it reveal about the revolt of Mesha? Answer What does the record from Mesha known as the Mesha Inscription or Moabite Stone reveal about the events surrounding the revolt of Mesha as recorded in 2 Kings 3? Jerichoâ€”Is the Bible accurate concerning the destruction of its walls? Has the biblical city and story of Jericho been verified? Did the walls of Jericho really fall? Answer Samson and the Philistinesâ€”Did it really happen? Answer In the story of Samson it says he pulled down an entire temple. Have archaeologists uncovered any information about the validity of this? King David, real or a myth? Have archaeologists confirmed its existence? What amazing things did Jesus do here? Find the answers and enjoy the discoveries! When did the Luke 2 census occur? Answer An astonishing archaeological find reveals a boat similar to those described during the times of Jesus. Could this be one of the boats where Jesus sat? The Crossâ€”On what kind of a cross was Jesus crucified? Answer There were three different kinds of Roman crosses used during the days of Jesus. What type was used to crucify Jesus? The Crossâ€”Why do all four Gospels contain different versions of the inscription? Answer Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John: But how can the supposed differences in the inscriptions about the head of Jesus at His crucifixion be explained? INRIâ€”What do these letters appearing on the crucifix mean? Answer Have archaeologists discovered evidence of James, the brother of Jesus? Answer What are some of the cities that Paul and Barnabas travelled to Acts What did they see along the way during the routes that they used? Answer Much interest was focused upon Jerusalem during the violent riots in September of What can we believe from the news media?

Chapter 7 : Travel/Study Events Â· Biblical Archaeology Society

Archaeology brings the pages of the Bible to life as it both confirms the Bible's account of history and expands our understanding of the world of the Bible.

Bible Archaeology Bible Archaeology: Cities of Ancient Empires Bible Archaeology includes the capital cities of the major ancient empires. For instance, the Hittite civilization is mentioned throughout the Old Testament as ruling the area of present-day Turkey, Syria and Lebanon, yet nothing was known of these people outside of the Bible. About years ago, ancient Boghazkoy was discovered east of Ankara, Turkey, which revealed itself as the expansive capital city of the Hittite Empire. Since then, archaeologists have uncovered a wealth of information about the history, language and culture of a people considered "imaginary" to many scholars prior to that time. Babylon , the ancient capital of the Babylonian Empire, covers nearly 3, acres about 55 miles south of current-day Baghdad in Iraq. The ruins include the famous ziggurat structures ex. The Philistines were known as one of the "Sea Peoples" that constantly warred against the Israelites for control of early Canaan. Mentioned over times in the Old Testament, the Philistines had a major fortified seaport at Ashkelon on the Mediterranean Sea, which was discovered just north of present-day Gaza. Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Ashkelon in BC, as predicted by Jeremiah and other prophets. Cities of Ancient Israel Bible archaeology finds its ultimate significance in the cities of ancient Israel. Mentioned more than 50 times in the Bible, Jericho was the initial entry point into the Promised Land for the Israelite people Joshua 6. Archaeology has now confirmed the location of this fortified city of walls and towers that guarded entry to the land of Canaan from the east. Shechem was an important city throughout the Old Testament. In fact, Jeroboam made it the capital of the northern kingdom of Israel in the 10th century BC 1 Kings Excavations have uncovered huge walls and a fortified gate system containing such important finds as the temple of Baal from the story of Abimelech Judges 9: Excavations in the north have also revealed the city of Dan , which was a Canaanite stronghold conquered by Israel specifically, the tribe of Dan around BC Judges The rebuilt city, which became the northern boundary of Israel, has delivered a wealth of artifacts with biblical importance. The southern boundary of Israel was Beersheba, which became a fortified city during the period of King Solomon 1 Kings 4: Excavations between and have revealed massive walls, gates, wells and storehouses consistent with biblical accounts. The ancient ruins of Gibeah were discovered about three miles north of Jerusalem. God , the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus , the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried , and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior , declaring, " Jesus is Lord ," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven. What is your response?

Chapter 8 : Biblical archaeology - Wikipedia

A Christian apologetics ministry dedicated to demonstrating the historical reliability of the Bible through archaeological and biblical research.

The name refers to a special focus of archaeology within a certain location at a certain point in time. The aim of Biblical Archaeology is to find physical evidence that would shed light on people, places, events, and customs described in the Bible. Why does Biblical Archaeology matter? Biblical Archaeology brings to life the people, places, events, and customs described in the Bible. Through scientific process, trained professionals seek out and carefully uncover sites which might help to further explain portions of Scripture, or events and customs described in Scripture which may seem unclear. The discipline matters because these professionals thoroughly and seriously approach the Bible, and answer questions that other academics refuse to look into. In what ways does Biblical Archaeology support the authenticity of the Bible? Archaeology provides material evidence for biblical stories, characters, and locations. The authenticity of the Bible is typically addressed on smaller levels rather than tackling the entire book. For example, complete sites such as Qumran a scribal community of conservative Jews at the Dead Sea have helped clarify how Scripture was written down and copied. Biblical characters such as King David have been mentioned on non-biblical tablet fragments like the Tel Dan Stele. Some excavations have uncovered texts that line up with cultural ideas presented in the Bible. The Amarna Letters, Ebla Tablets, and Lachish Letters tell about law codes, international correspondence, and the political climate in the lands of the Bible and surrounding Israel at many points of time. Other sites have uncovered temples, shrines, and high places, and cultic artifacts dedicated YHWH and other deities. Because the biblical characters were active in the world around them, and because the Bible itself mentions outside cultural influence on the Israelites, excavations and artifacts from nearby regions and similar time periods also help to shed light on the world the Bible took place in. Have any graves of people from the Bible ever been found? Determining who a grave belongs to can be a complicated and lengthy process. People in the ancient world did not label burials the same way we do today. To be able to say with absolute certainty that a grave belonged to a biblical character, it would need extensive testing, especially DNA--which of course there is no master or descendant sample with which to match it. What can be said for sure is that types of burials common to the ancient world have been found. Depending on the time frame and area, we can then match up which type would have likely been used by biblical characters, and then search for evidence of those people. For example, there are many traditions and claims about the tomb Jesus was buried in. While the exact tomb of Jesus is still being debated, archaeologists have discovered many tombs from the 1st century CE in Israel that also have a stone that should be rolled in front to seal it. Have archaeologists ever found any buildings or structures mentioned in Scripture? Yes, there have been many structures and locations mentioned in scripture which have been excavated. The more Biblical archaeologists work, more is uncovered, restored, and available for everyone to see. What is the most important discovery in the history of Biblical Archaeology? Many discoveries have been labeled as the most important find in the exploration of biblical history. Others would propose that the Amarna Letters or the Ebla Texts would be at the top of the list, as they document correspondence by major powers in the ancient world with and about biblical cities, in addition to including descriptions of culture in Israel. Each discovery teaches us more about the biblical world and every piece of evidence plays an important role in unfolding the complexities of Scripture. Today the focus has changed, and scholars now view the strong similarities between the flood stories of the Sumerians, Egyptians, Babylonians, Israelites, etc as indicators that there was likely a real flood, instead of one shared flood story. Is the Shroud of Turin actually the burial cloth of Jesus? The mysterious Shroud of Turin has attracted and confounded scientists, historians, and religious leaders alike. Scripture says that Jesus was wrapped in a linen cloth and buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Three days later, the Bible says he was resurrected and the burial cloth was discarded in the tomb. Archaeologists and historians located the earliest records of the Shroud in the 16th century CE. Traditions surrounding the cloth talk of churches and secret groups dedicated to preserving and protecting the holy relic throughout centuries. The Shroud was first rigorously examined in

the s by a group of American scientists, and at that time they found no signs of forgery--it was declared a mystery. In , samples of the Shroud were subjected to radiocarbon testing and were dated to the Middle Ages. Some scholars support these findings, and others protest that the samples used were not representative of the entire cloth as some of the Shroud was burned and damaged which effects the dating results.

Chapter 9 : Bible Archaeology

Archaeological finds that contradict the contentions of biblical minimalists and other revisionists have been listed above. There are many more, however, that corroborate biblical evidence, and the following list provides only the most significant discoveries.