

Biblical Archaeology

By: Josh Yonts



*Archaeology does not prove the Bible to be true, the Bible
proves archeology to be true.*

The Bible is not just a collection of good little moral bedtime stories for children. It is a grand, life-encompassing narrative of God's work of redemption in the world. However, for many, the Bible is often referred to as a book of "stories," stories that speak of moral precepts and platitudes but not a book to be taken seriously concerning history. Also, the Bible is often viewed as unreliable by people who do not study it. However, the Biblically uninformed are unaware of the archeological discoveries which confirm the historical accuracy of the Bible. Having the privilege to tour the Bible land in 2018 apart from the Sea of Galilee, the Biblical archeology sites was my favorite part of the pilgrimage.

"So, David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David."
2 Samuel 11:6 (ESV)

1. *The Hittites*: For several years some scholars doubted the existence of whether a people called the Hittites ever existed because the only known reference to them was in the Bible. The Bible mentions the Hittites in various places: (Genesis 15:20-21, 1 Kings 10:29, 2 Kings 7:6,)
 - In 1906 ancient Hittite capital of Hattusas in modern-day turkey was uncovered and they are now known to have been very well-educated people. The Hittite empire was founded around 1700 B.C. and from 1400 they became one of the great powers in diplomatic and trade contact with other Kings. Today no one questions the existence of the Hittites.
2. *The Moabite Stone*: The Moabite Stone discovered in 1868 in Jordan refers to King David.
 - On the Moabite Stone, the King of Moab boasts of his defeat of Israel and refers to the house of David. The Moabite Stone is dated around 840 B.C. is only 150 years after the death of King David.
3. *Hezekiah's Tunnel*: Today in Jerusalem one can walk through history! The very tunnel was cut by Hezekiah's engineers to ensure a safe supply of water against Sennacherib the Assyrian's siege. (2 Chronicles 32:30, 2 Kings 20:20)

- This piece of engineering was discovered in 1838. The underground tunnel was cut into the limestone rock and ran for 1,748 feet from the Gihon spring near the floor of the Kidron valley outside the eastern wall of the city.

4. *Pontius Pilate Governor of Judea:*

- Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Jerusalem who allowed the death of our Lord, Jesus Christ. His military HQ was at Caesarea Maritime. A small stone plaque was discovered there in the amphitheater in 1961 by Biblical archaeologists. Having been to Caesarea Maritime, I can verify the truth to this amazing discovery! It was broken and incomplete, but however the inscription has been deciphered to read, “THE TIBERIUM WHICH PONTIUS PILATE, THE PERFECT OF JUDEA DEDICATED.”

Due to this article space does not permit me to explain the many other archaeological discoveries such as...

- Archaeological Confirmation of the Old Testament
- The Global Flood
- The Tower of Babel
- The Patriarchs
- Sodom and Gomorrah
- The Dating of the Exodus
- The Assyrian Invasion
- The Captivity

Conclusion:

Albert Mohler states, *“One of the great problems with much evangelical preaching today, and one of the reasons saints are not growing to completeness in Jesus Christ, is that so many of our pulpits are filled with what you might call “wee little Zaccheus story sermons”, or put it bluntly wee little preaching.”*

Ministers of the Gospel must stop giving the people a diet of little morality therapeutic sermonettes of stories and entertainment and jokes, and instead obey the Bible which teaches that expositional preaching is the only option available to us. In so doing we will be conveying the historical accuracy of God’s inerrant, inspired Holy Word unleashing the full truth one verse at a time.