

“The Archaeologist and the Bible”

Biblical Archaeology--a study based upon the excavation, decipherment and critical evaluation of the records of the past as they affect the Bible.

I. The Importance of Biblical Archaeology

A. It explains and illustrates the Scriptures.

Example:

Mark 10:46 "Then they came to Jericho. And as He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging."

Luke 18:35 "Then it happened, that as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging."

B. It confirms and authenticates the Scriptures.

Example: the Hittites

Genesis 23:17-18 "So the field of Ephron which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field and the cave which was in it, and all the trees that were in the field, which were within all the surrounding borders, were deeded to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the sons of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city."

C. It supplements the Scriptures.

Example:

Jeremiah 7:12-14 "But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I set My name at the first, and see what

I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel. "And now, because you have done all these works," says the Lord, "and I spoke to you, rising up early and speaking, but you did not hear, and I called you, but you did not answer, therefore I will do to this house which is called by My name, in which you trust, and to this place which I gave to you and your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh."

II. The Challenges of Biblical Archaeology

"The absence of evidence is not the evidence of absence."

A. Biblical archaeology is slow, tedious work.

B. Less than one percent of the available material on the tells of Israel have been excavated.

C. Vast amounts of excavated material have not yet been deciphered.

III. Examples of Old Testament Discoveries

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