



# Archaeology and the Historical Nature of the Bible

See the **House Visual Study Bible** for  
more discussion of archaeology and the  
Bible. <http://hvsb.app>

# Contrast of Theology and History in the Biblical Text

# **Contrast of Theology and History in the Biblical Text**

## **Theological Nature of the Bible**

1. Who and what is God
2. Origin and nature of Humanity
3. Nature and means of Salvation

# Contrast of Theology and History in the Biblical Text

## Theological Nature of the Bible

Who and what is God

Origin and nature of Humanity

Nature and means of Salvation

## Historical Nature of the Bible

Persons – some verified

Places – identified

Events – recorded in inscriptions, documents, and  
archaeological sites

Customs explained

# **Historical Nature of the Bible**

Persons – some verified

# 31 HISTORICAL PERSONS IN NT CONT'D

- (1) Agrippa I----Acts 12
- (2) Agrippa II---Acts 25
- (3) Ananias-----Acts 23, 24
- (4) Annas-----Luke 3; Jn. 18; Acts 4
- (5) Aretas-----2Cor. 11
- (6) Bernice-----Acts 23
- (7) Augustus---Lk. 2
- (8) Caiaphas---Mt. 26; Lk. 3; Jn. 11, 18; Acts 4
- (9) Claudius----Acts 11, 18
- (10) Drusilla----Acts 24

# 31 HISTORICAL PERSONS IN NT CONT'D

- (11) Egyptian (false prophet) --Acts 21
- (12) Erastus----Acts 19
- (13) Felix-----Acts 23
- (14) Gallio-----Acts 18
- (15) Gamaliel---Acts 5
- (16) Herod Antipas-----Mt. 14: Mk. 6; Lk. 3, 23
- (17) Herod Archelaus--Mt. 2
- (18) Herod the Great-----Mt. 2: Lk. 1
- (19) Herod Philip I-----Mt. 14; Mk. 6
- (20) Herod Philip II-----Lk. 3

# 31 HISTORICAL PERSONS IN NT CONT'D

- (16) Herod Antipas-----Mt. 14; Mk. 6; Lk. 3, 23
- (17) Herod Archelaus--Mt. 2
- (18) Herod the Gt.-----Mt. 2; Lk. 1
- (19) Herod Philip I-----Mt. 14; Mk. 6
- (20) Herod Philip II-----Lk. 3
- (21) Herodias-----Mt. 14; Mk. 6
- (22) Salome-----Mt. 14; Mk. 6
- (23) James-----Acts 15; Gal. 1
- (24) John the Baptist--Mt. 3; Mk. 1; Lk. 3; Jn. 1
- (25) Judas of Galilea--Acts 5

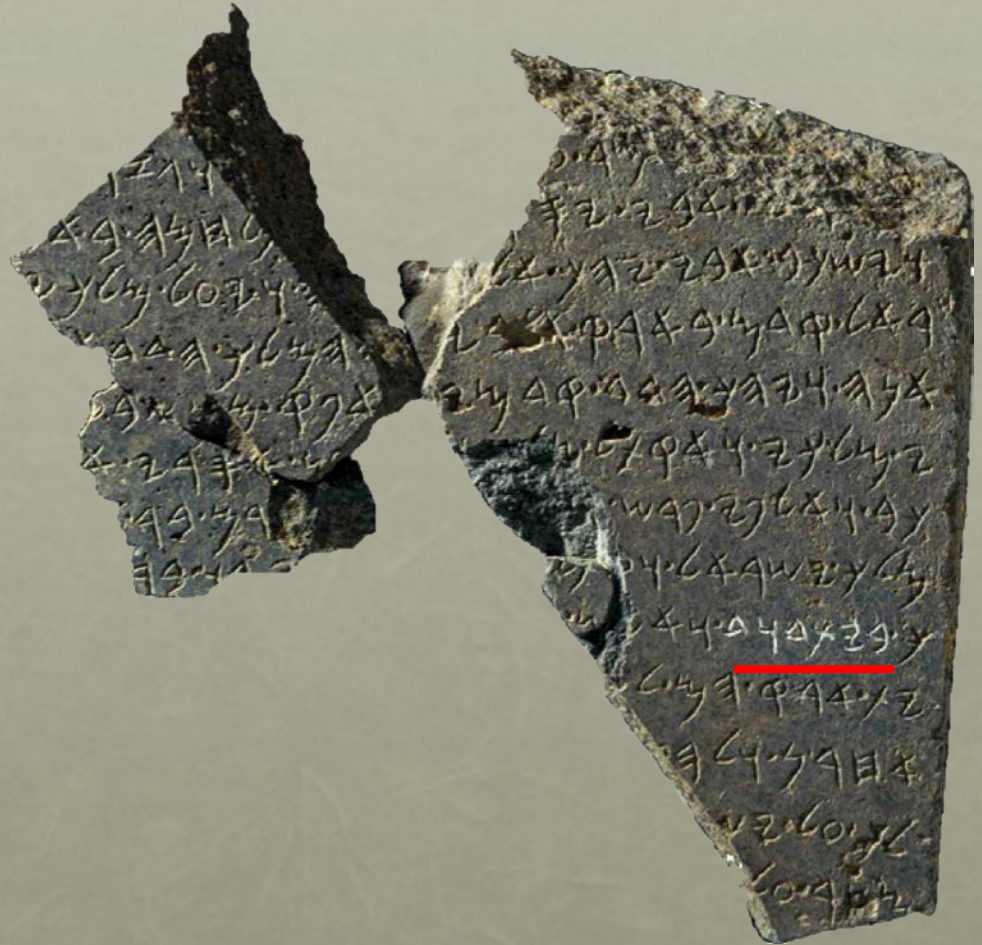


# 31 HISTORICAL PERSONS IN NT CONT'D

- (26) Lysanias-----Lk. 3
- (27) Pilate-----Mt. 27; Mk. 15; Lk. 23; Jn. 18
- (28) Quirinius-----Lk. 2
- (29) Porcius Festus---Acts 24-26
- (30) Sergius Paulus---Acts 13
- (31) Tiberius Caesar--Lk. 3

# HOUSE OF DAVID INSCRIPTION (TEL DAN)

- Found at Tel Dan by Avraham Biran in 1993-1994.



Me with House of David Inscription (Tel Dan)



# PONTIUS PILATE

- In 1961, Italian archaeologist **Antonio Frova** found a fragment of a plaque that was used as a section of steps leading to the Caesarea Theater
- It reads:
  - **TIBERIEUM**
  - **(PON)TIUS PILATUS**
  - **(PRAEF)ECTUS IUDA(EAE)**



# Caiaphas Ossuary

(BAR Sept/Oct 1992)

- Before this discovery there was no evidence for his existence outside the Bible

**FIT FOR A HIGH PRIEST.** The most intricately carved ossuary in the burial chamber (below and on front cover) lay undisturbed in niche IV (at left in the black-and-white photo at right). Decorated with two circles each containing five whorl rosettes surrounding a center rosette, the ossuary twice bears, with a slight variation in spelling, the name "Yehosef bar Qafa" (Joseph, son of Caiaphas; see photo and transcription in accompanying article). Inside the ossuary were the remains of six people: two infants, a child between the ages of two and five, a youth aged 13 to 18, an adult female and a man about 60 years old. Given the name inscribed on the ossuary, together with the extravagance of its decoration, the excavators wondered whether the remains of the 60-year-old man might well be those of the high priest described in the New Testament as interrogating Jesus and then delivering him to the Roman authorities.

The companion ossuary in niche IV bears the name Shalom, Salome in Greek and a variant of Shlomzion (see p. 44 in accompanying article).



A square stone tablet with a double-line border. The text is arranged in four lines, with the first three lines in Hebrew and the fourth in English. The Hebrew text is: 'הנה שוכן עצמות' (Here are the bones), 'מלך יהודה' (of the King of Judah), and 'אזיח' (Uzziah). The English text is 'Do not open!'.

Here lie the bones  
of Uzziah  
King of Judah  
Do not open!

# BULLA OF HEZEKIAH



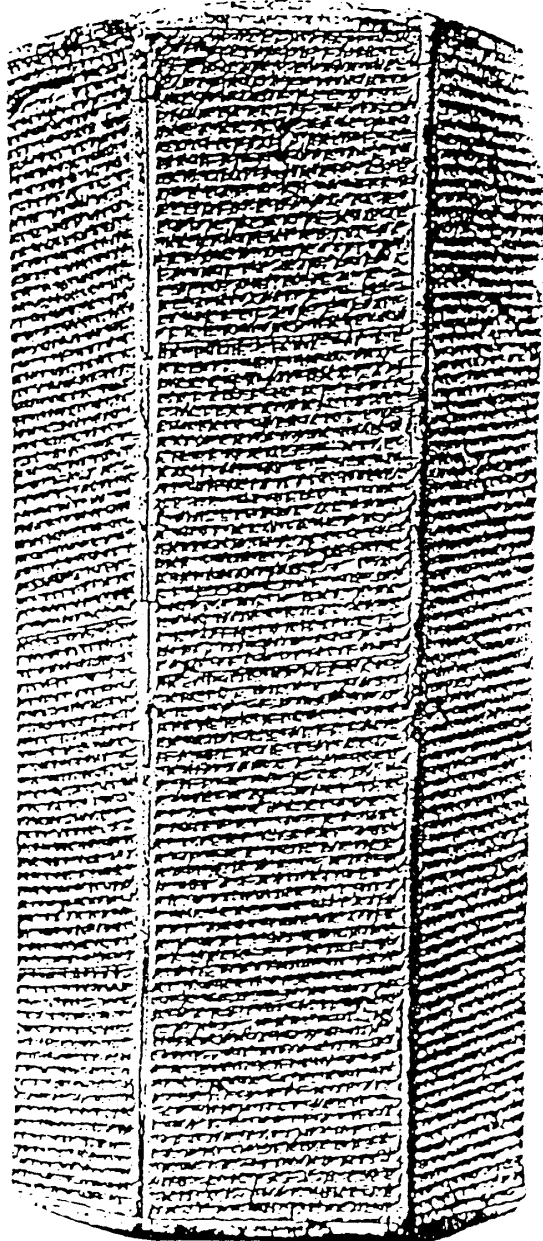
0 1cm

ELIAT HINSHI, PHOTO: GUYANA HINSHI



GETTY IMAGES

# SENNACHERIB'S PRISM



“...As to Hezekiah, the Jew, he did not submit to my yoke, I laid siege to 46 of his strong cities, walled forts and to the countless small villages in their vicinity, and conquered (them) by means of well-stamped (earth-) ramps, and battering-rams brought (thus ) near (to the walls) (combined with) the attack by food soldiers, (using) mines, breeches as well as sapper work. I drove out (of them) 200,150 people, young and old, male and female, horses, mules, donkeys, camels, big and small cattle beyond counting, and considered (them) booty. Himself I made a prisoner in Jerusalem, his royal residence, like a bird in a cage. I surrounded him with earthwork in order to molest those who were leaving his city’s gate....”



# Cyrus the Great

This clay brick (6<sup>th</sup> century BC) was discovered in the biblical city of Ur and was written in Babylonian cuneiform (Ezra 6:14). The inscription reads:



“Cyrus king of the world,  
king of Anshan ...  
the great gods delivered  
all the lands into my hands  
and I made this land dwell  
in peace”

# Cyrus Cylinder

Persian clay cylinder (6<sup>th</sup> century BC) written in Babylonian cuneiform describes King Cyrus' s victory over Babylon and his permission of free worship. The cylinder declares that:

- Cyrus allowed the **return** of foreign gods to their own land
- The **rebuilding** of destroyed cities and religious buildings (2 Chronicles 36:22-23; Isaiah 45:1-13; Ezra 1:1-3; 6:1-5)

“I returned to sacred cities on the other side of the Tigris, the sanctuaries of which have been in ruins for a long time, the images which to live therein and established for...

them permanent sanctuaries. I gathered all their inhabitants and returned them to their

~Cyrus

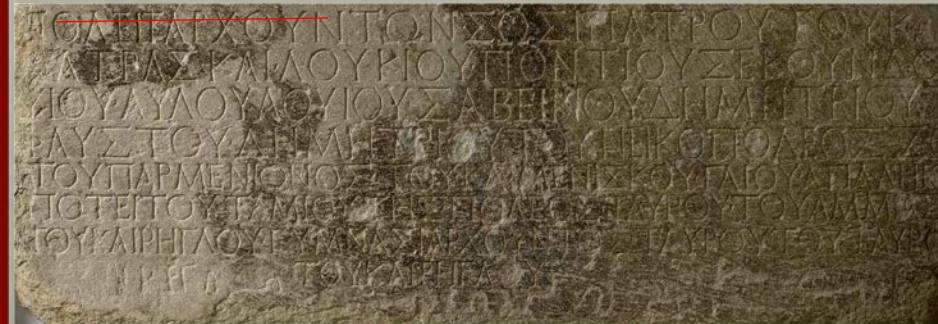


# ACCURACY OF ACTS

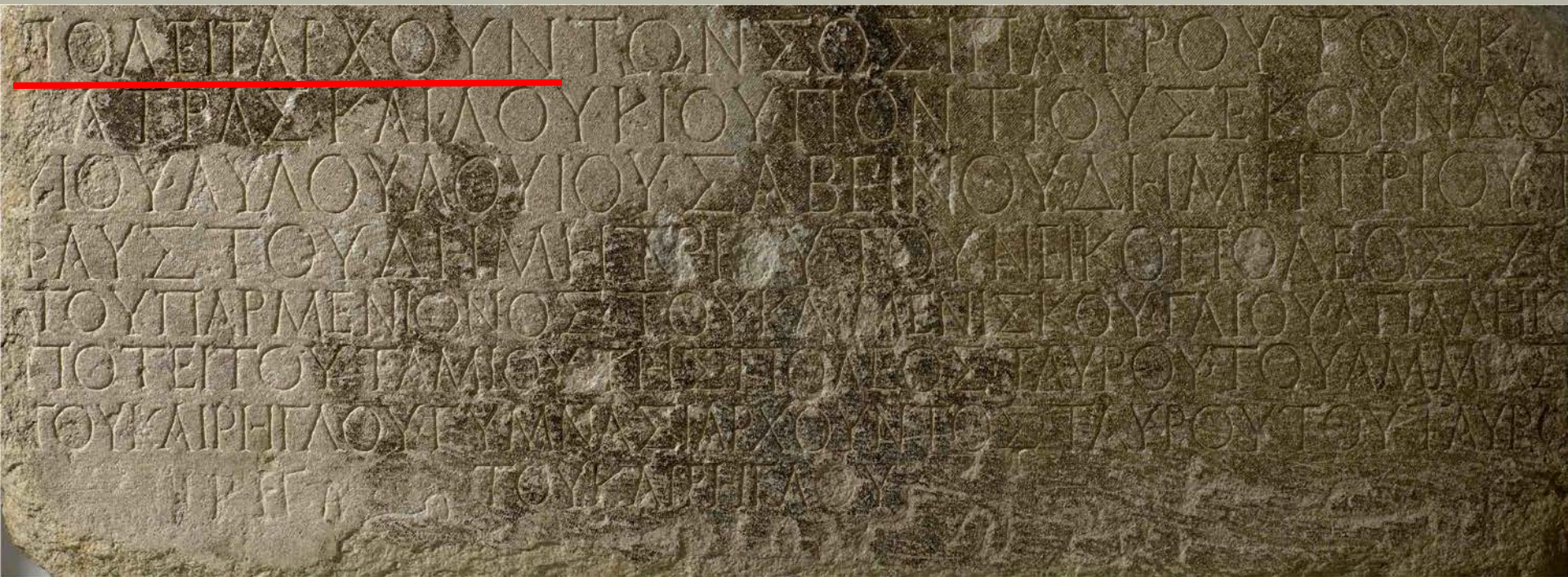
## WHOEVER HEARD OF "POLITARCHS"?

Ac 17:6 - CONCERNING THE  
TERM "RULERS OF THE  
CITY" (GREEK  
"POLITARCHS")...

Since the term is not found in the classical literature of the Greeks it was assumed that Luke was wrong to refer to such an office. **HOWEVER...** some 19 inscriptions have now been found that make use of this title; five of these are in reference to Thessalonica!



# POLITARCH INSCRIPTION (RULER OF THE CITY, THESSALONIKI)

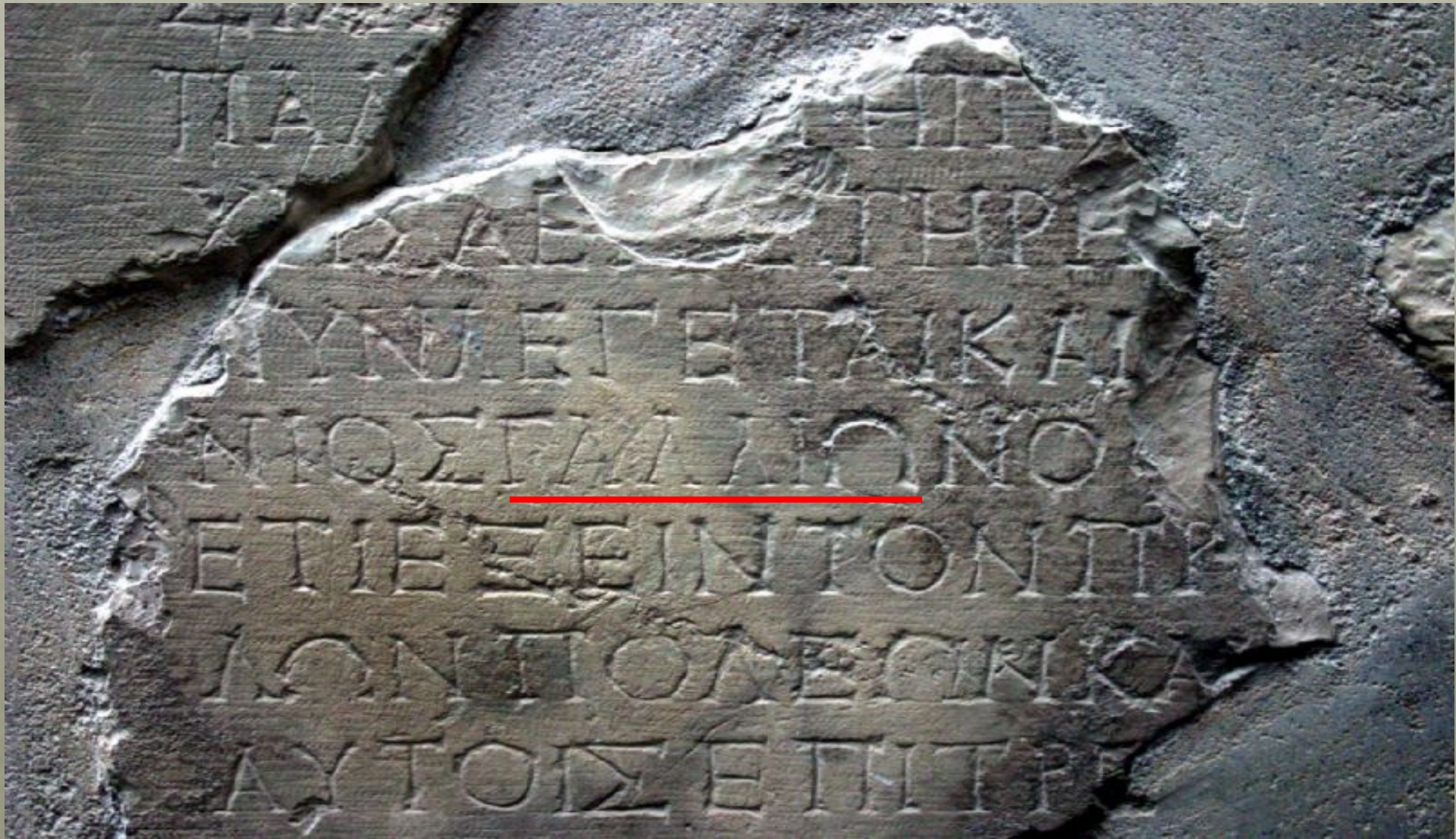


# ASIARCH INSCRIPTION (CHIEF PRIEST, MILETUS)

ΑΓΑΘΗ ΕΥΧΗ  
Μ ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟΝ ΑΠΟΛΟΛΩΡΟΝ  
ΤΟΝ ΑΣΙΑΡΧΗΝ

...ΑΣΙΝΕΥΕΥΘΕΤΗ  
...ΑΤΡΙΣ

# GALLIO INSCRIPTION



# GOD-FEARER INSCRIPTION



ΤΟ ΕΤΟΣ ΕΙΘΥΔΕΩΝ ΤΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΝΙΘΕΘΕΕΒΙΟ

# ERASTUS INSCRIPTION





# Historical Nature of the Bible

Persons – some verified

Places – many identified



## Mosaic Map

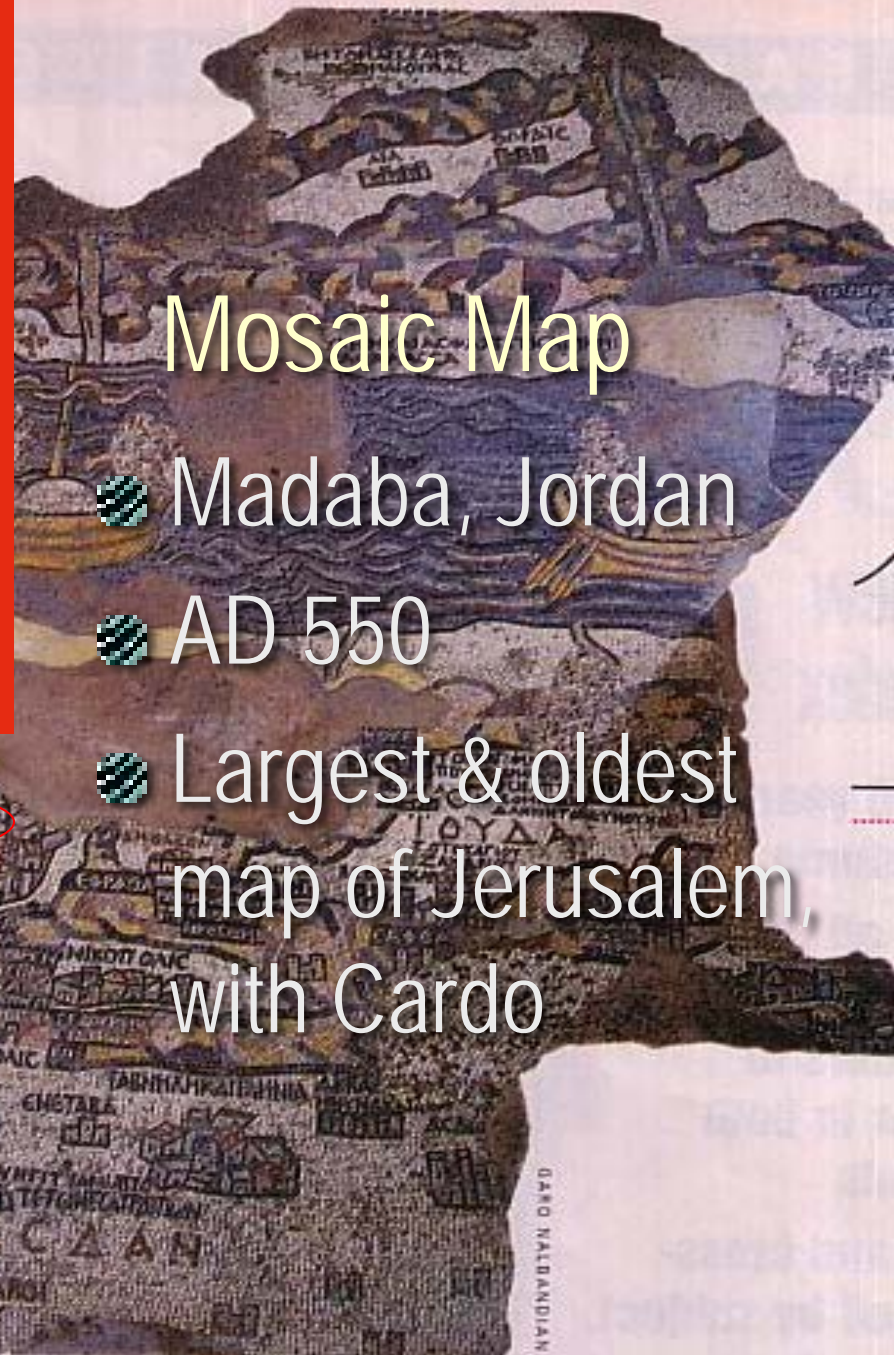
- Madaba, Jordan
- AD 550
- Largest & oldest map of Jerusalem, with Cardo

### MOSAIC MAP

Madaba, Jordan

6th century C.E.

stone and glass tiles, 297 square feet





ΤΟΤ ΗΑΓΙΟΙΣ ΙΑΝΝΟΙΣ  
ΤΡΕΑ Π ΤΙΣΜΑ  
ΤΟΣ

ΕΥΔΑΑΤΟΚΑΙ  
ΣΥΝΕΚΑΤΕΘΟΝ  
ΕΒΕΡ  
ΤΕΡΙΧΩ  
ΤΑΙΤΕ  
ΝΟΥ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΟΚΟΒΑΣΤΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΒΕΡΑ

ΗΑΓΙΑ ΠΟΛΙΣ ΙΕΡΟΥΣΑ  
ΚΑΗΡ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΟΚΟΒΑΣΤΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΒΕΡΑ  
ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΟΚΟΒΑΣΤΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΒΕΡΑ  
ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΟΚΟΒΑΣΤΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ  
ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ ΒΕΡΑ

ΒΕΝΙΣ ΜΙΝΙ  
ΚΡΙΑ ΖΕΙ  
ΒΕΣΣΙΝ

ΤΟΤΕΤΑΡ  
ΤΟΝ

ΤΟΕΝΝΑ

ΚΟΚΟΒΑΣΤΗΝΙΣ

ΜΙΝΙ

ΚΡΙΑ ΖΕΙ

ΒΕΣΣΙΝ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΟΚΟΒΑΣΤΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΑΒΡΑΧΙΤΙΣ

ΒΕΤΟΜΕΝΤΕ ΧΑΙΤΑ

ΖΙΣ

ΜΙΝΙ

ΚΡΙΑ ΖΕΙ

ΒΕΣΣΙΝ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΤΑΥΤΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΟΜΑΚΚΑΙΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΑΣΑΡΤΟΝ

ΕΝΗΜΕΝΙΑ

ΚΑΙ ΑΠΗΡΗΘΗΝΙΣ

ΕΝΕΜΕΝΙΑ

ΝΑΤΙ ΠΑΡΟΙ

# History Behind Lachish Relief

These reliefs depict the fall of the Judean fortress of Lachish to the Assyrians in 701 BC



Tel Lachish

# Lachish



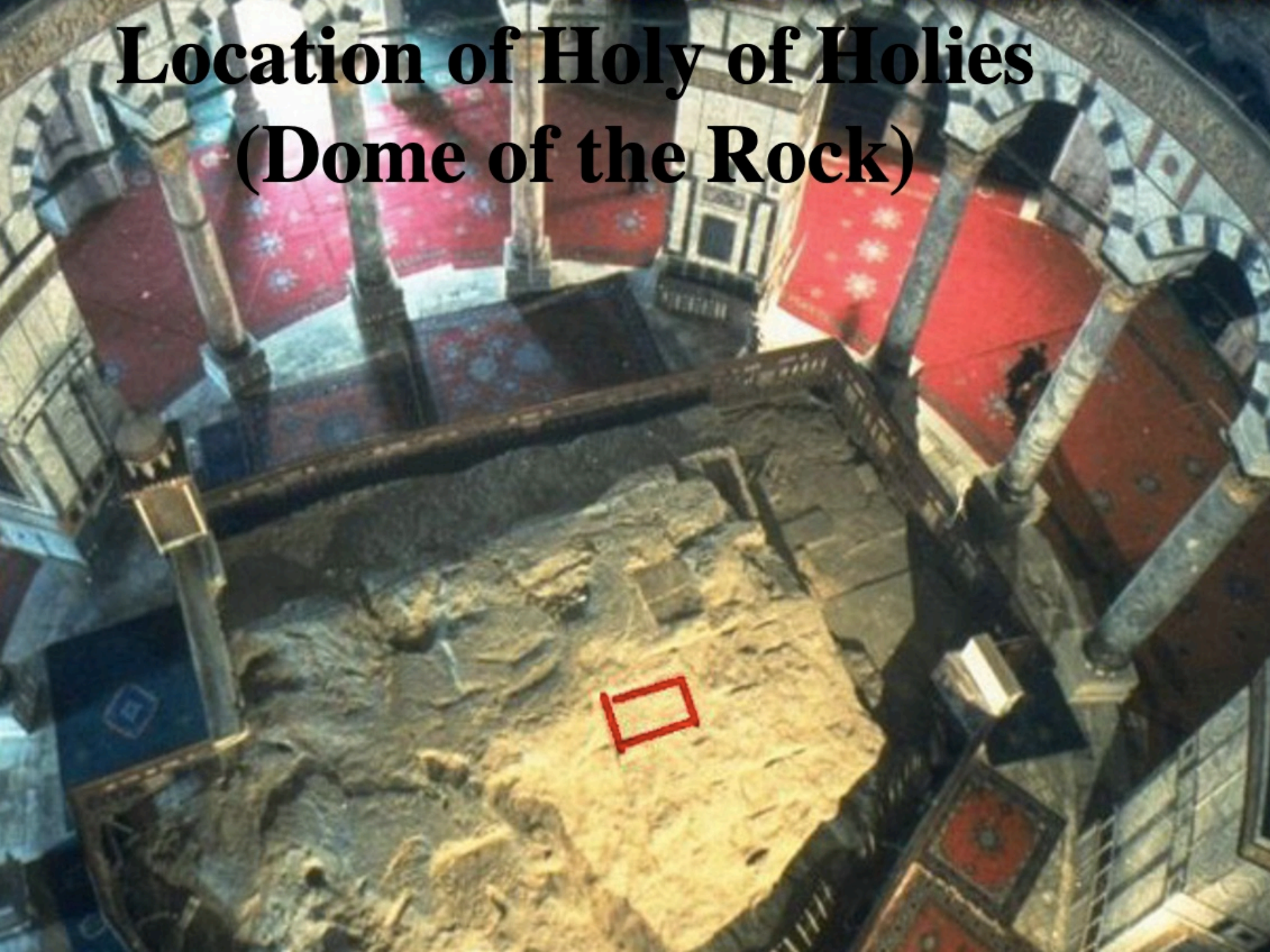
# Lachish



# Lachish Relief (Israel Museum)

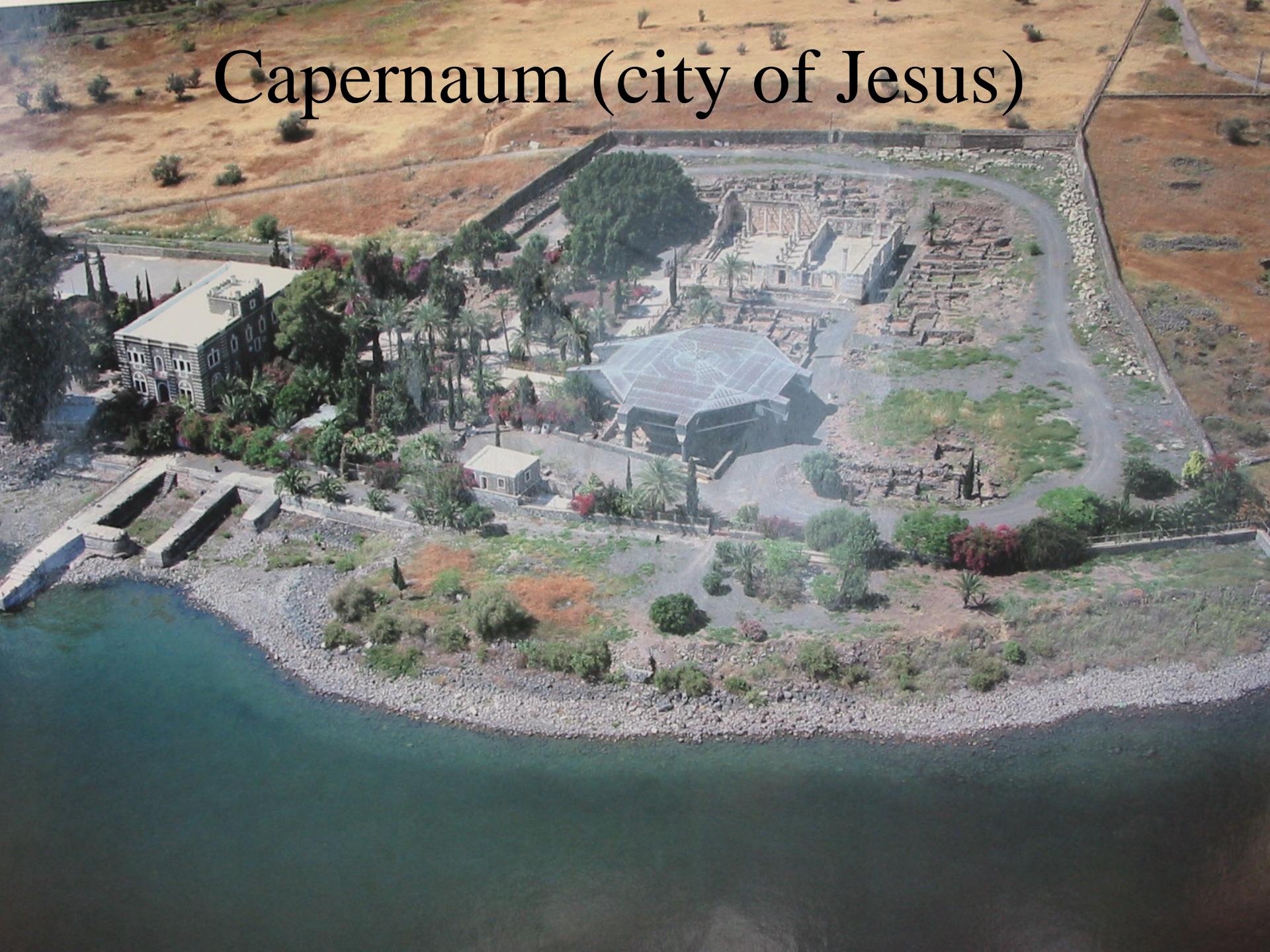


# Location of Holy of Holies (Dome of the Rock)





# Capernaum (city of Jesus)



# Synagogue at Capernaum



# Historical Nature of the Bible

Persons – some verified

Places – many identified

Events – recorded in inscriptions, documents, artifacts, and archaeological sites

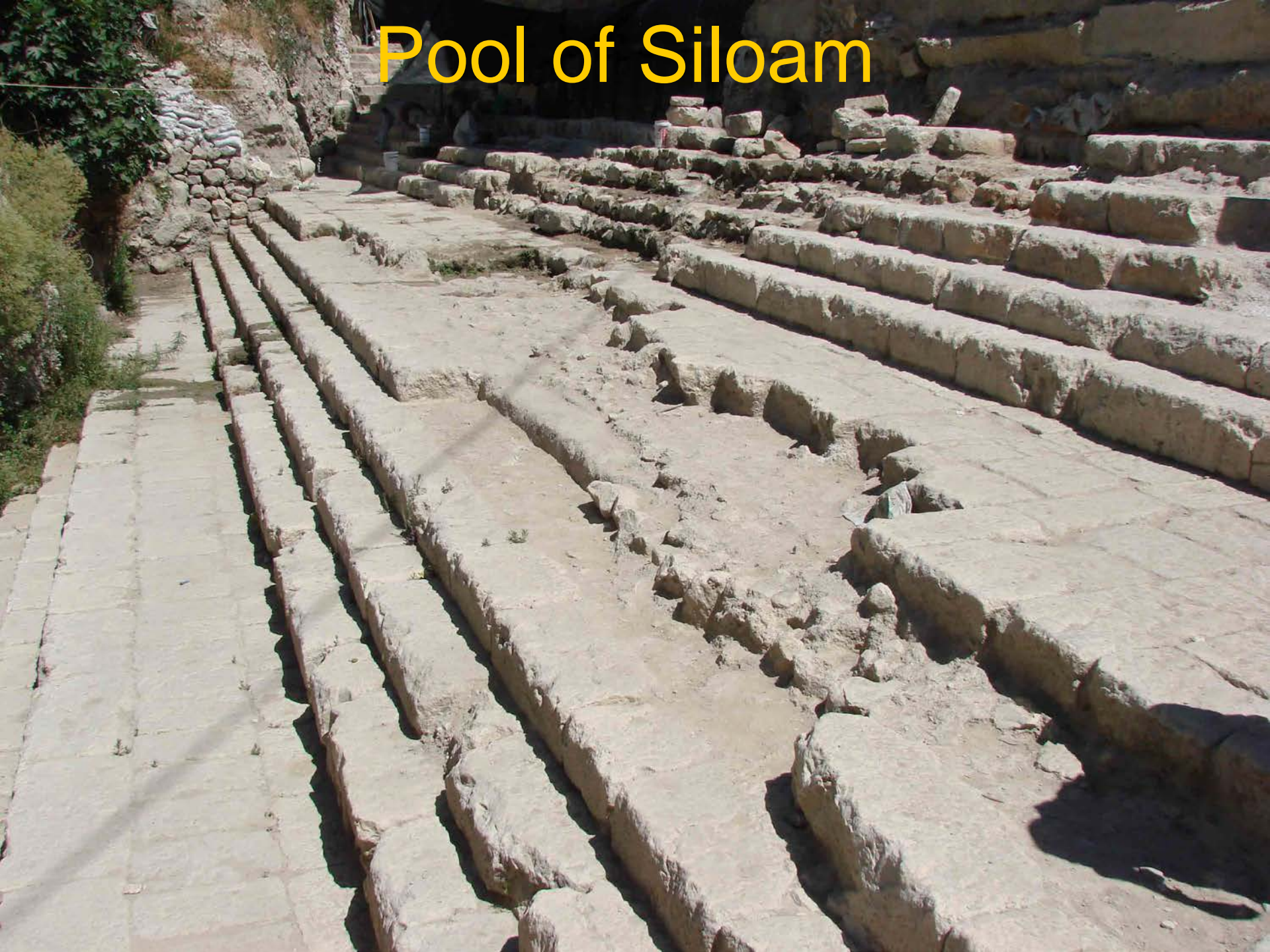
# Hezekiah's Tunnel



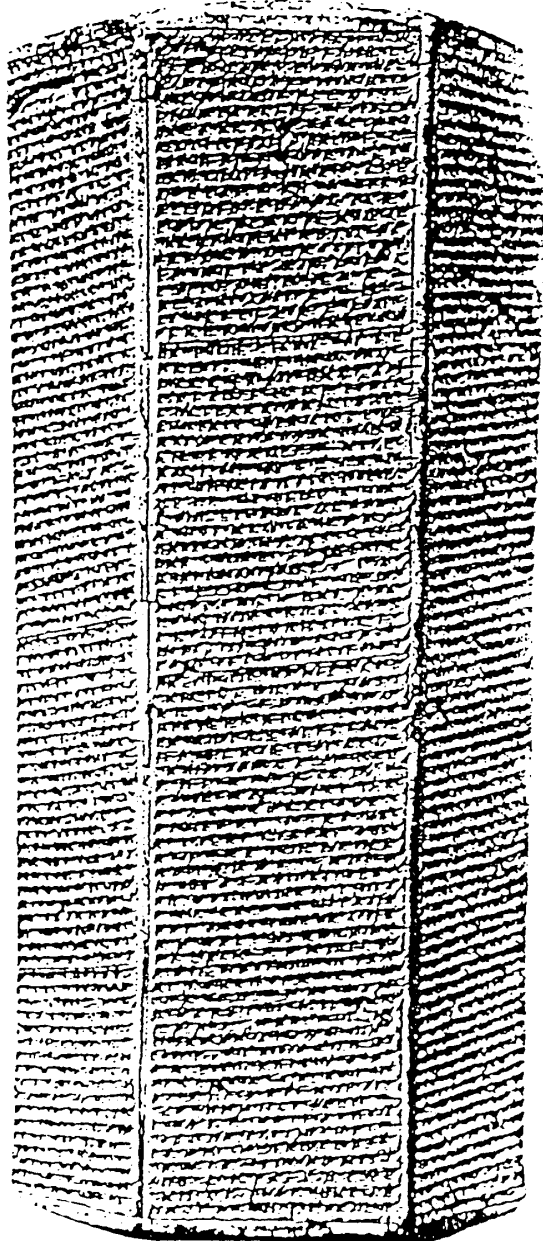
# Hezekiah's Tunnel



# Pool of Siloam



# SENNACHERIB'S PRISM



“...As to Hezekiah, the Jew, he did not submit to my yoke, I laid siege to 46 of his strong cities, walled forts and to the countless small villages in their vicinity, and conquered (them) by means of well-stamped (earth-) ramps, and battering-rams brought (thus ) near (to the walls) (combined with) the attack by food soldiers, (using) mines, breeches as well as sapper work. I drove out (of them) 200,150 people, young and old, male and female, horses, mules, donkeys, camels, big and small cattle beyond counting, and considered (them) booty. Himself I made a prisoner in Jerusalem, his royal residence, like a bird in a cage. I surrounded him with earthwork in order to molest those who were leaving his city’s gate....”

---

# Jerusalem in the days the prophet Isaiah and King Hezekiah

---



# Understanding the Historical Context

Hezekiah Built a Water Tunnel in Preparation for War with Sennacherib, king of Assyria-II Ki 20:20

# Understanding the Historical Context

Hezekiah Built a Water Tunnel in Preparation for War with Sennacherib, king of Assyria-II Ki 20:20

## II Kings 20:20

Now the rest of the acts of **Hezekiah** and all his might, and how he made the **pool** and the **conduit**, and **brought water into the city**, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

# II Chronicles

2Chr. 32:2 And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that his purpose was to make war against Jerusalem,

2Chr. 32:3 he consulted with his leaders and commanders to stop the water from the springs which were outside the city; and they helped him.

2Chr. 32:4 Thus many people gathered together who stopped all the springs and the brook that ran through the land, saying,

“Why should the kings of Assyria come and find much water?”

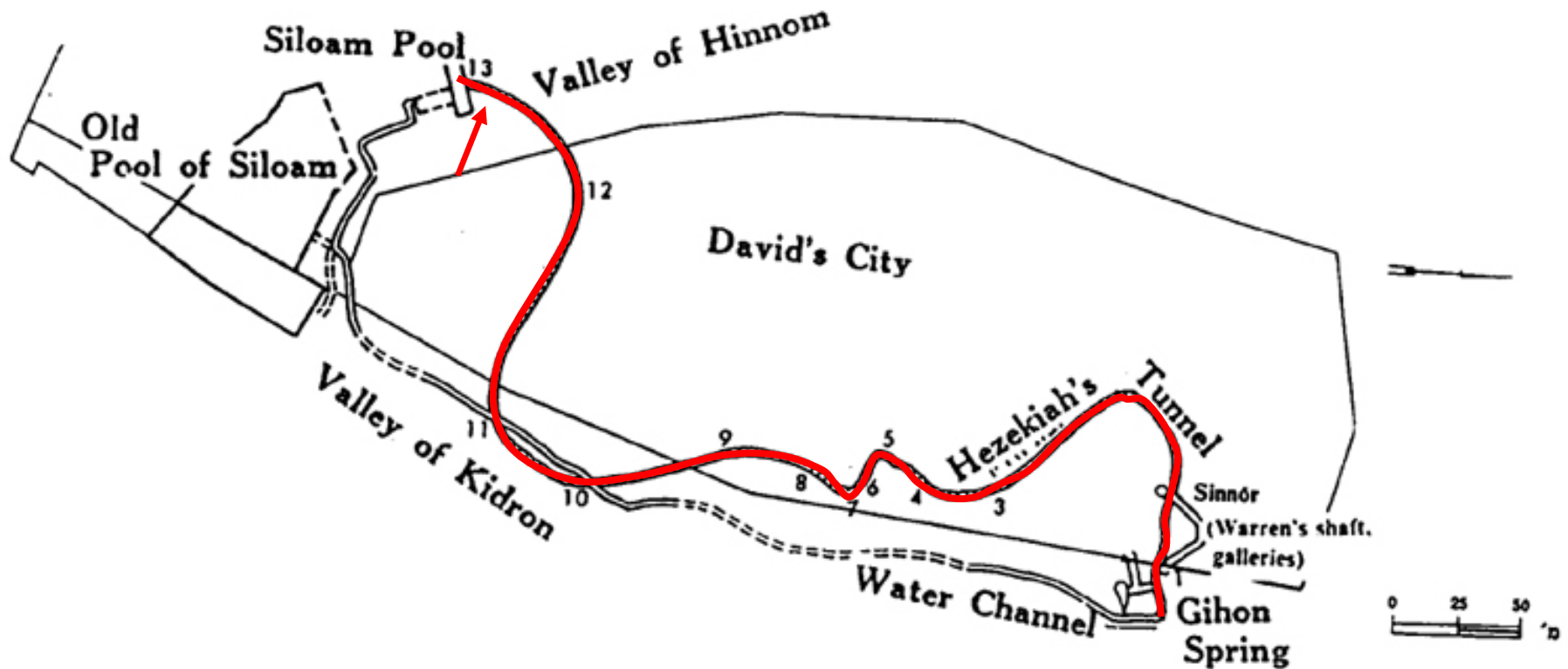
2Chr. 32:30 This same Hezekiah also stopped the water outlet of Upper Gihon, and brought the water by tunnel to the west side of the City of David. Hezekiah prospered in all his works.



Pool of Shiloach/Siloam

Gihon Spring

# Hezekiah's tunnel



# Hezekiah's Tunnel







# Hezekiah's Tunnel



# Hezekiah's Tunnel

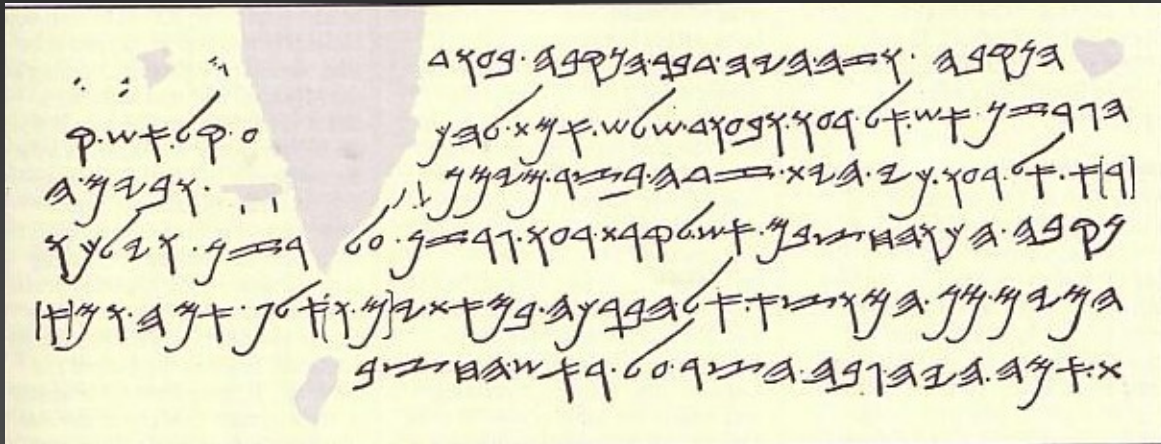




# Siloam Inscription



# Siloam Inscription



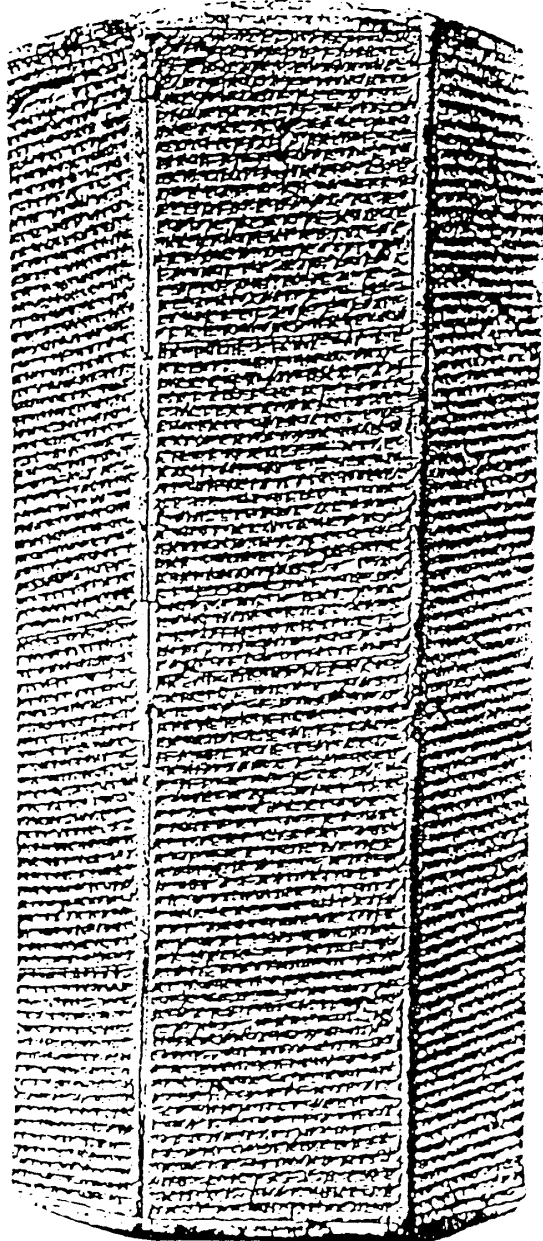
Siloam Inscription



# Siloam Inscription (Istanbul)

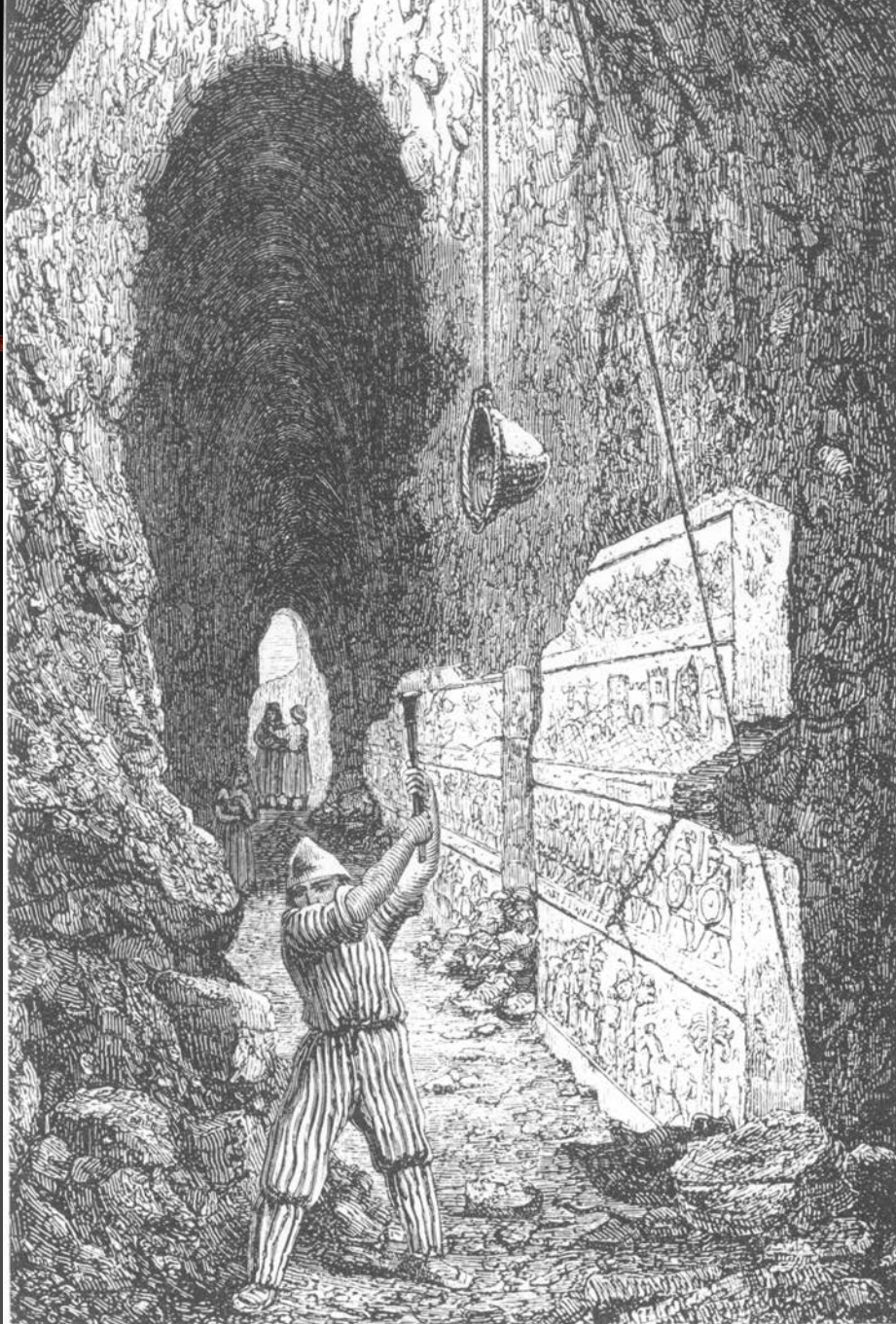
- "... the tunneling through. And this is the account of the tunneling through. While [the workmen raised] the pick each toward his fellow and while there [remained] to be tunneled [through, there was heard] the voice of a man calling to his fellow, for there was a split in the rock on the right hand and on [the left hand]. And on the day of the tunneling through the workmen stuck, each in the direction of his fellow, pick against pick. And the water started flowing from the source to the pool, twelve hundred cubits. And the height of the rock above the head of the workmen was a hundred cubits."

# SENNACHERIB'S PRISM

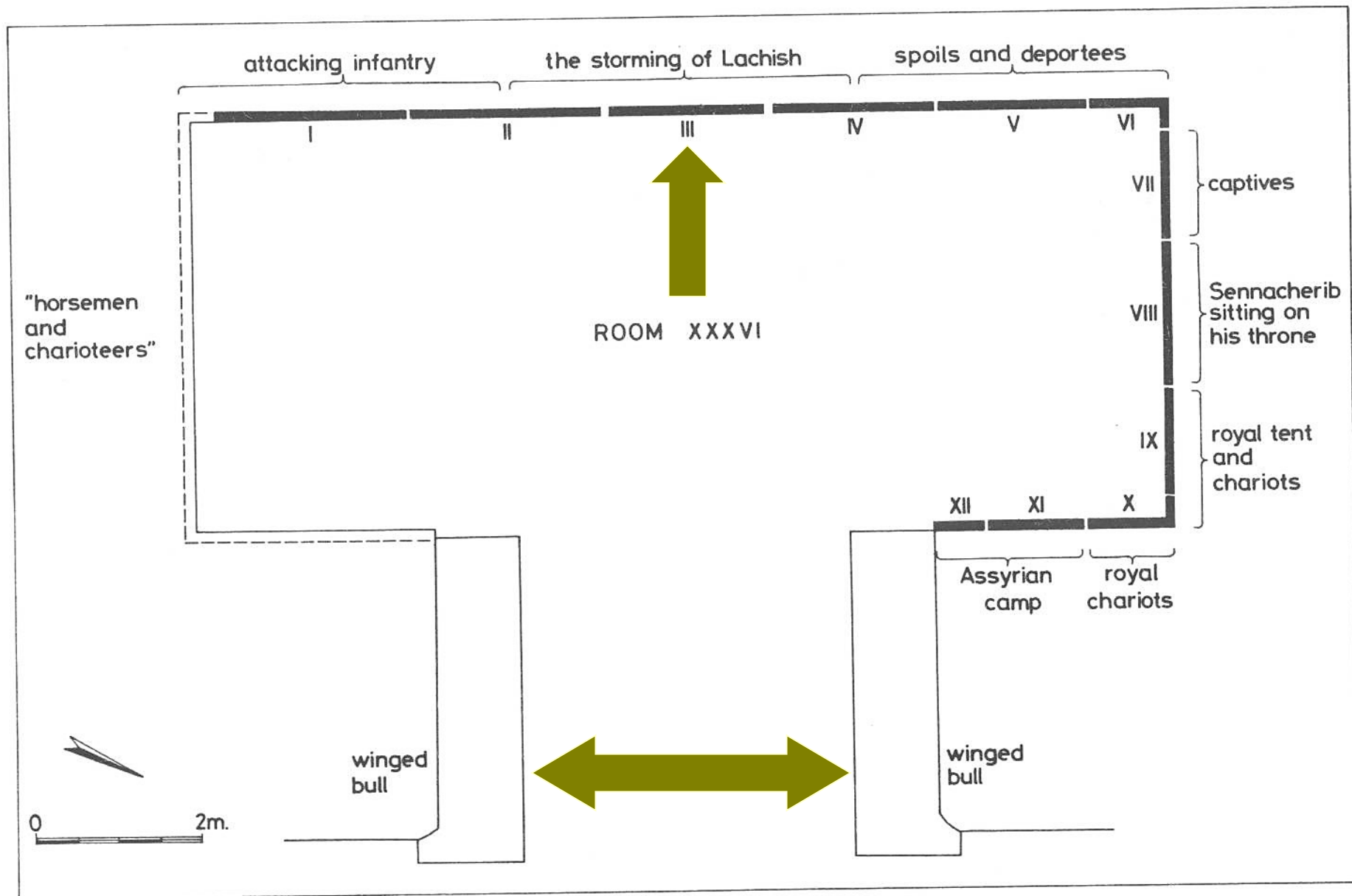


“...As to Hezekiah, the Jew, he did not submit to my yoke, I laid siege to 46 of his strong cities, walled forts and to the countless small villages in their vicinity, and conquered (them) by means of well-stamped (earth-) ramps, and battering-rams brought (thus ) near (to the walls) (combined with) the attack by food soldiers, (using) mines, breeches as well as sapper work. I drove out (of them) 200,150 people, young and old, male and female, horses, mules, donkeys, camels, big and small cattle beyond counting, and considered (them) booty. Himself I made a prisoner in Jerusalem, his royal residence, like a bird in a cage. I surrounded him with earthwork in order to molest those who were leaving his city’s gate....”

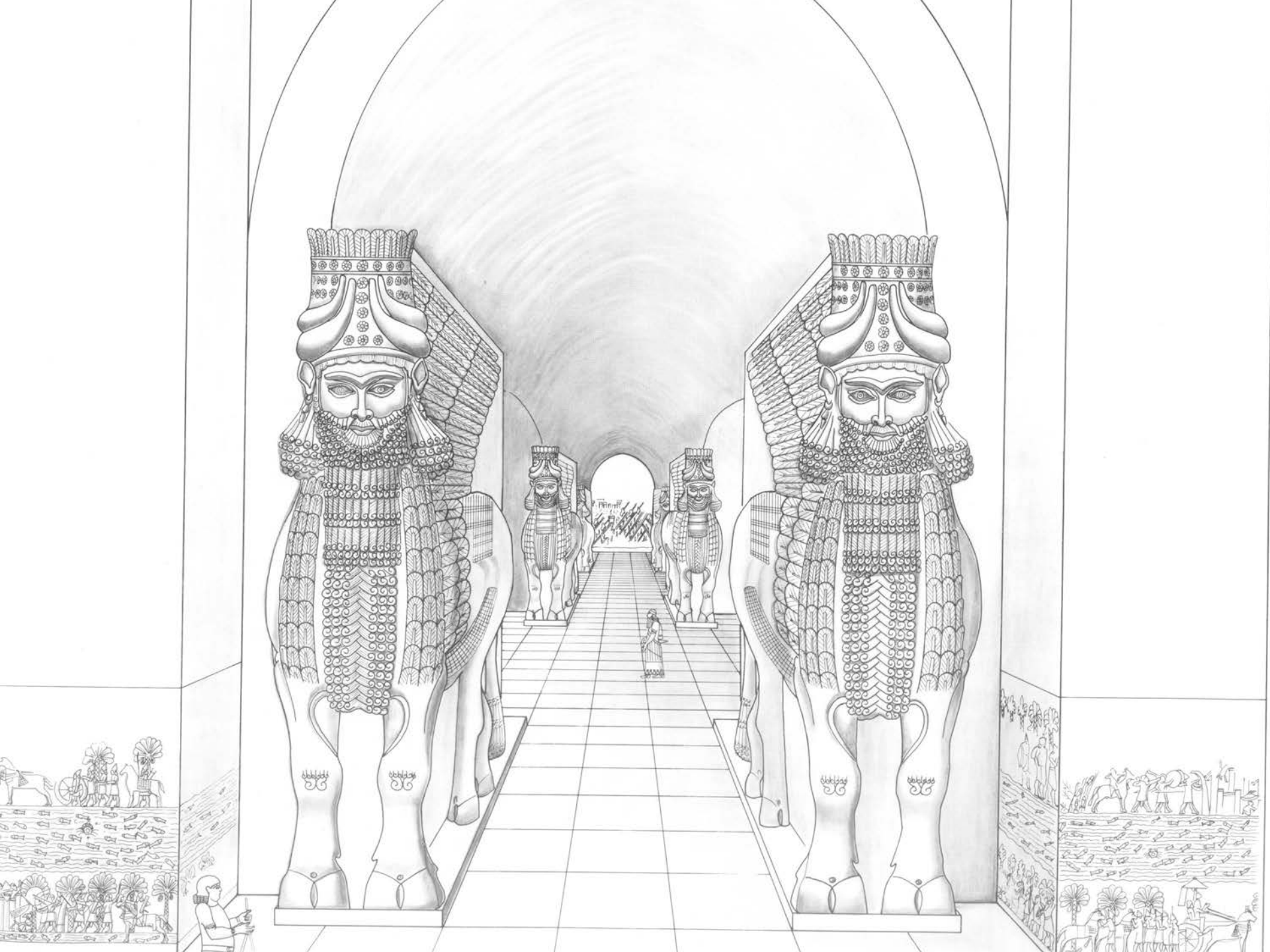


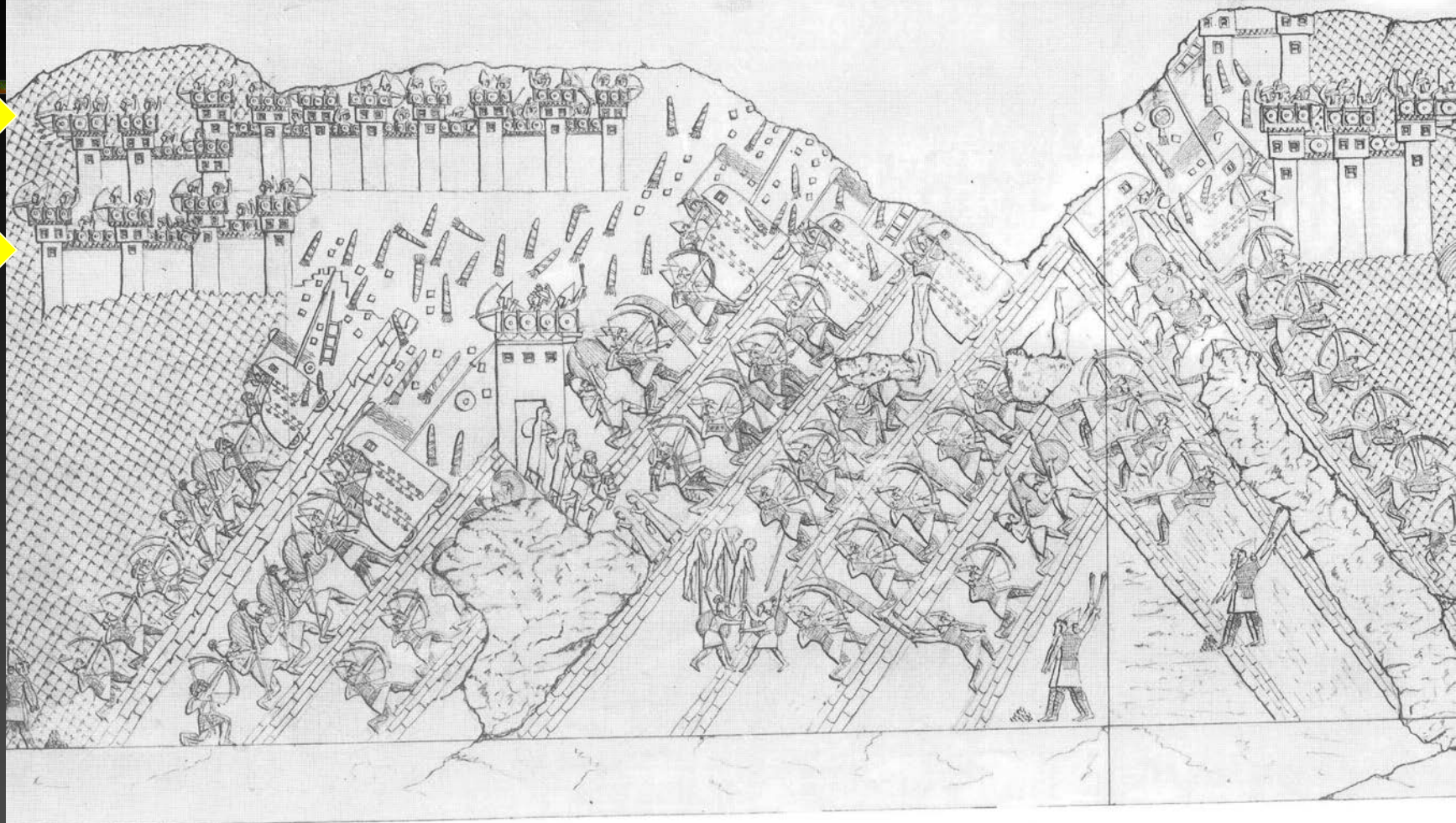


56. Excavation of Sennacherib's palace. Layard's method was to dig tunnels along the walls of sculptured slabs in order to avoid the work and expense involved in digging the en-



61. Plan of the Lachish Room (No. XXXVI) in the Southwest Palace.





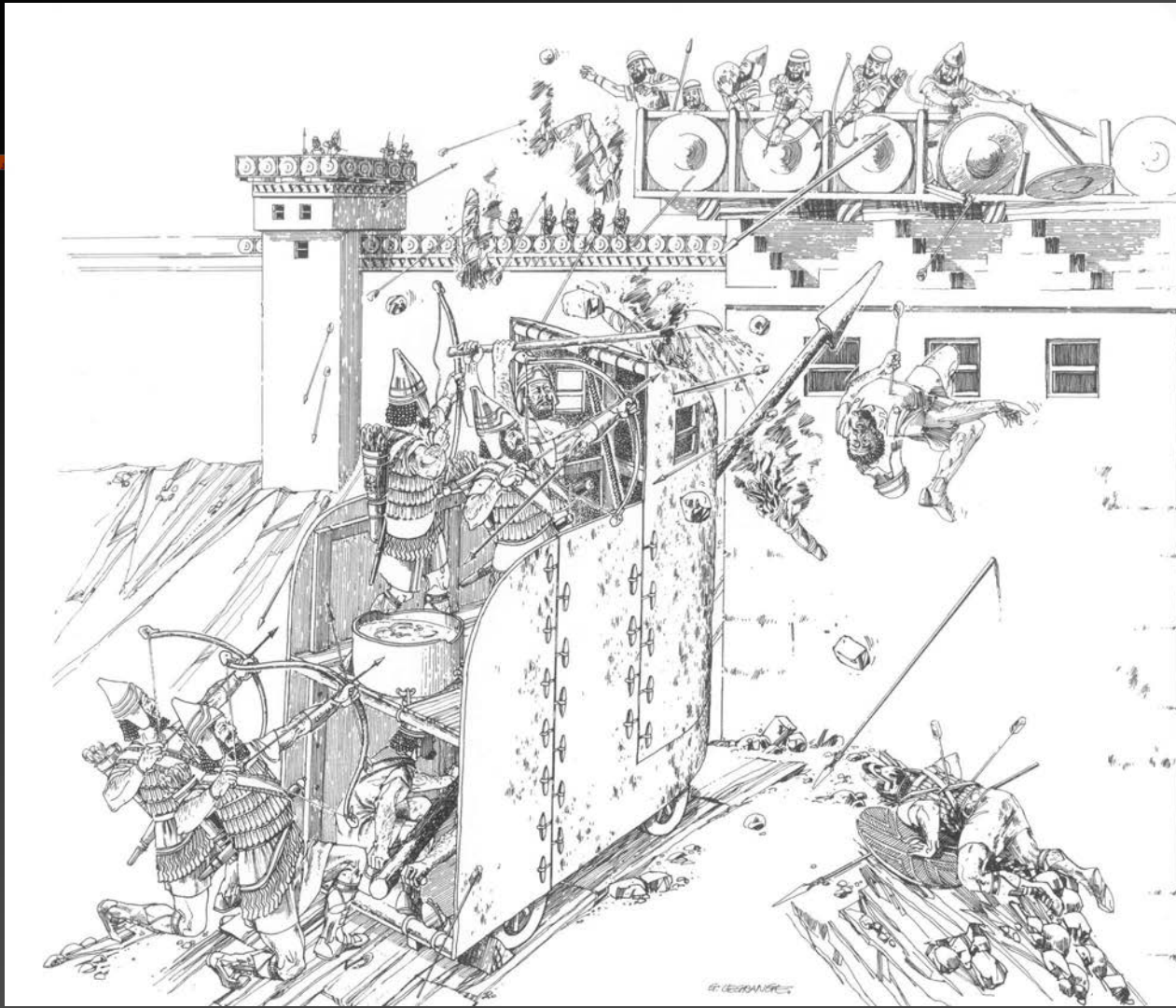
*The siege of the city of Lachish by Sennacherib. Vol. II. Plate 21*

63. Segment of the Lachish reliefs depicting the storming of the city, schematically drawn by Layard in Kuyuniik

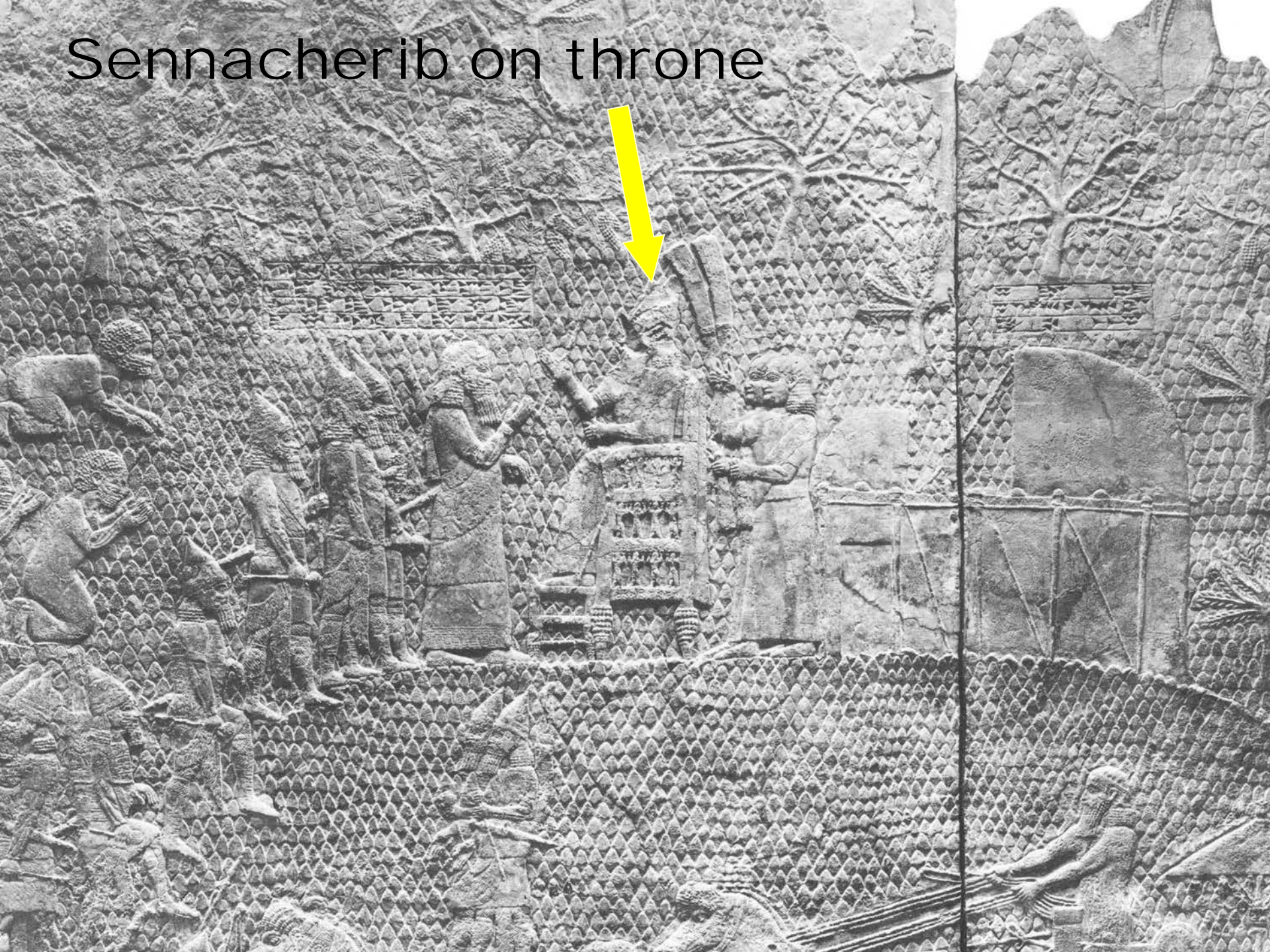
# Tel Lachish







Sennacherib on throne









# Historical Nature of the Bible

Persons – some verified

Places – many identified

Events – recorded in artifacts,, documents, artifacts,  
and archaeological sites

Customs

# Understanding the Culture and Customs of the Bible

# Inside 1<sup>st</sup> Temple Tomb (8<sup>th</sup> Cent. B.C.)



# Inside 1<sup>st</sup> Temple Tomb (8<sup>th</sup> Cent. B.C.)



Inside 1<sup>st</sup>  
Temple Tomb  
(8<sup>th</sup> Cent. B.C.)



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1<sup>st</sup> Cent A.D. near Megiddo)







**2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1st Cent A.D) Tomb of Herod's Daughters**

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb on Mt. Scopus





**2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1<sup>st</sup> Cent  
A.D) Church of Holy  
Sepulcher**

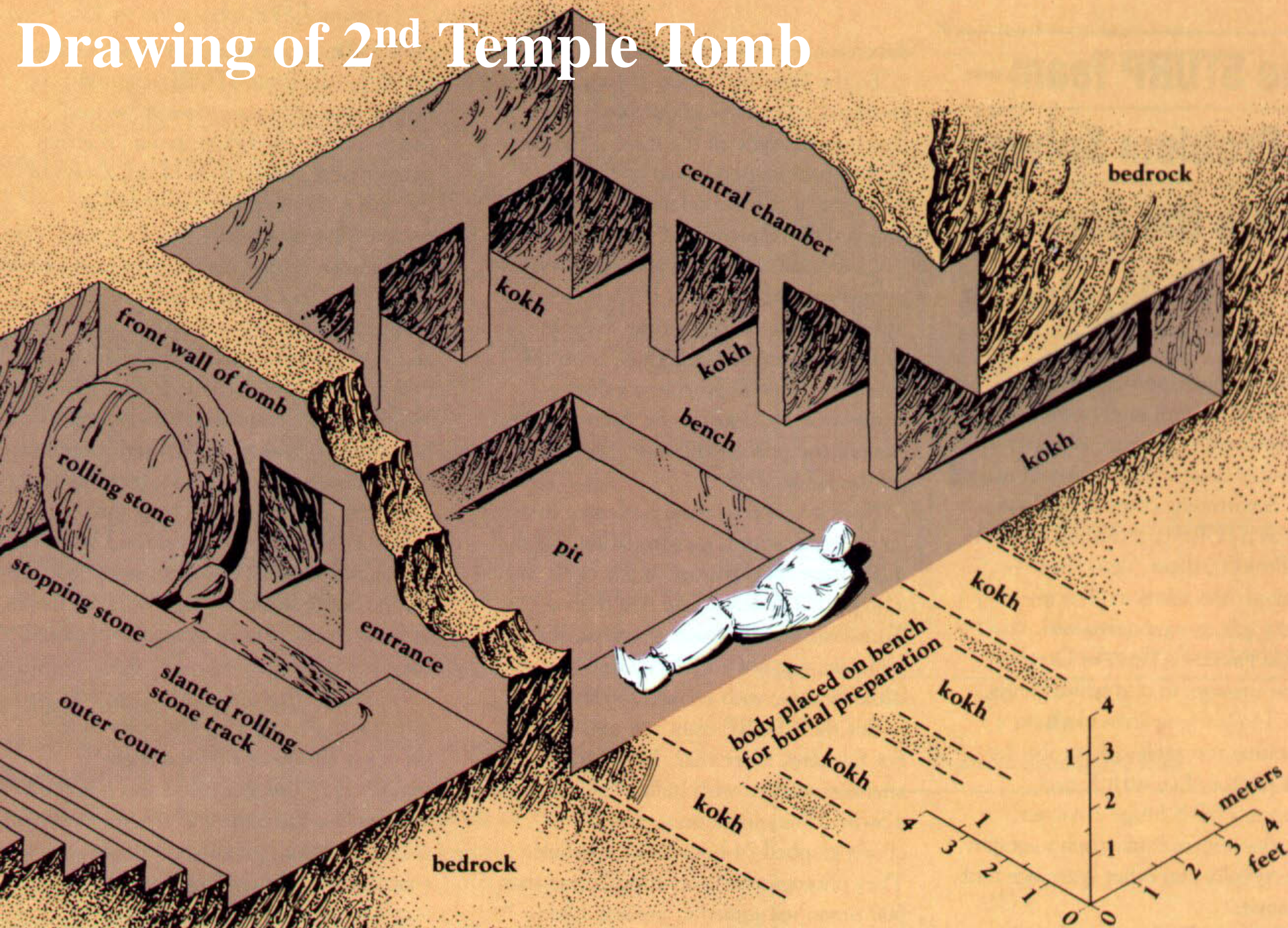
---





**2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1st Cent A.D) Church of Holy Sepulcher**

# Drawing of 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb





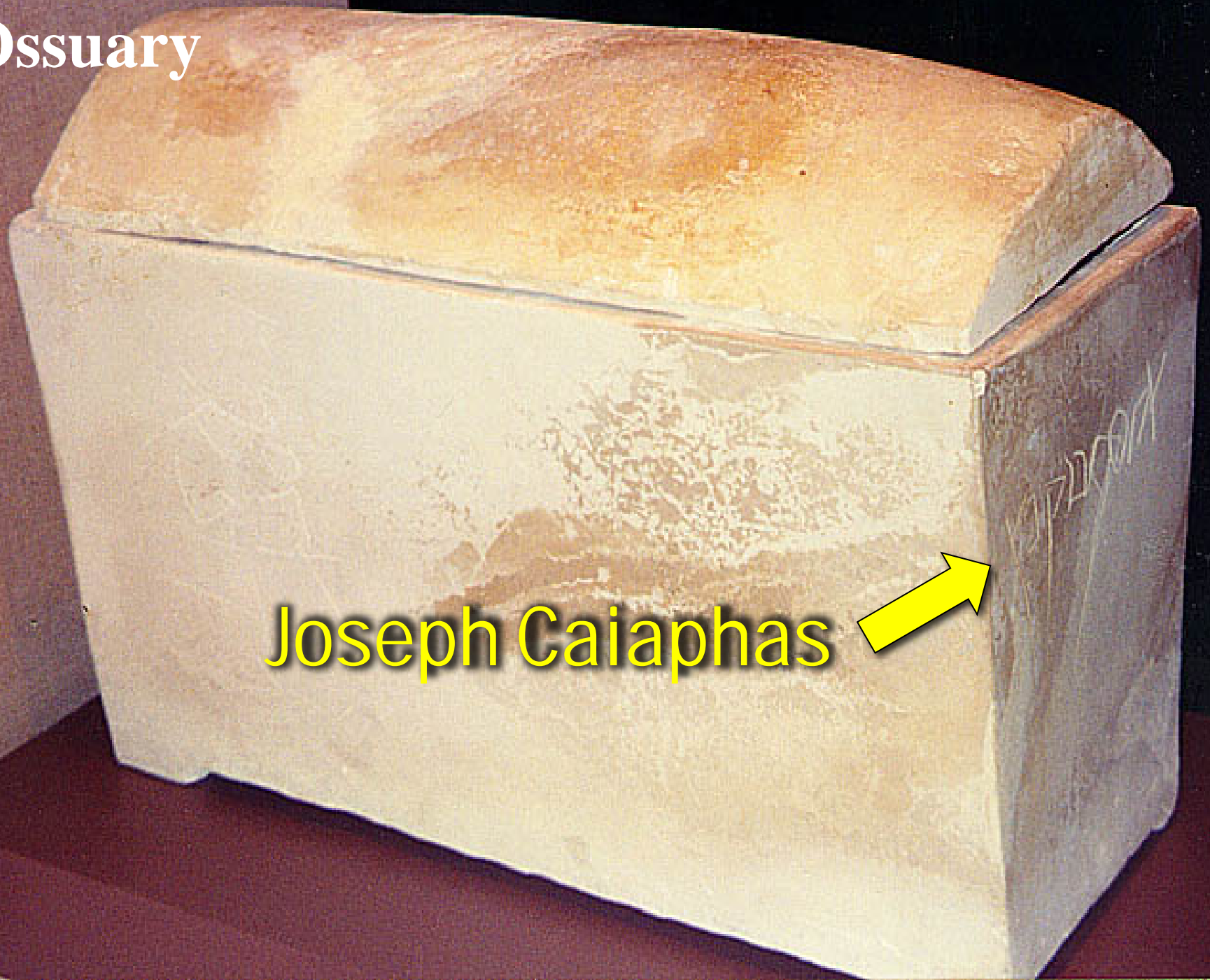
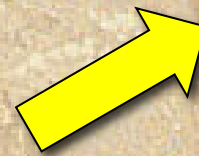
**2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1st Cent A.D) Ossuaries**

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1<sup>st</sup> Cent A.D) Famous Ossuaries : James Son of Joseph and Brother of Jesus**



# Ossuary

Joseph Caiaphas







**2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Tomb (1<sup>st</sup> Cent A.D) Famous Ossuaries : Caiaphas**

# Early Manger



# Understanding the Culture and Customs of the Bible

If you are  
on the  
roof,  
don't go  
down.



Roof of House (Nazareth Village, Nazareth)

# Understanding the Culture and Customs of the Bible

Two  
grinding  
at the  
mill

Luke 17:35

"There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken, and the other will be left.

# Understanding the Culture and Customs of the Bible

Two grinding at the mill

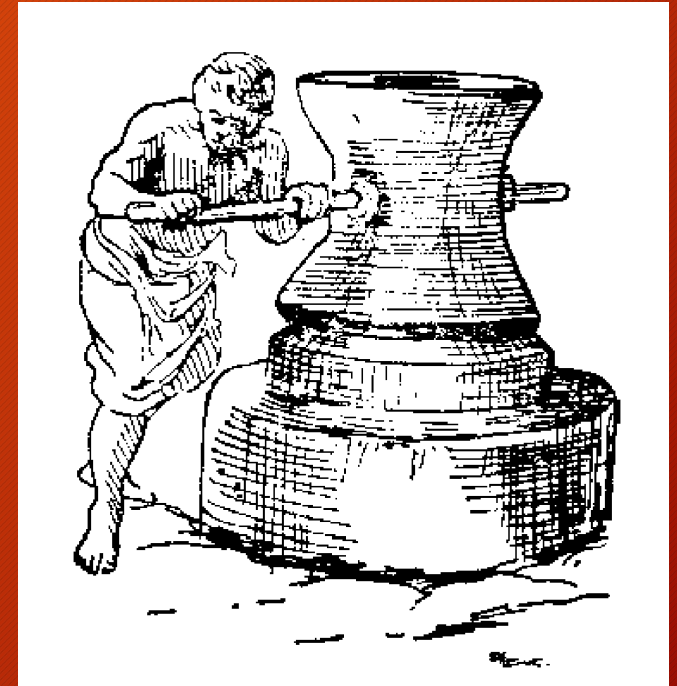


Grain



Flour

# Understanding the Culture and Customs of the Bible



# Historical Nature of the Bible

Persons – some verified

Places – many identified

Events – recorded in inscriptions, documents, artifacts, and archaeological sites

Customs

Religious context

# Understanding the Religious Context

Caesarea Philippi--You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God!

Choose Yahweh--Eli-yah's call back to covenant renewal



---

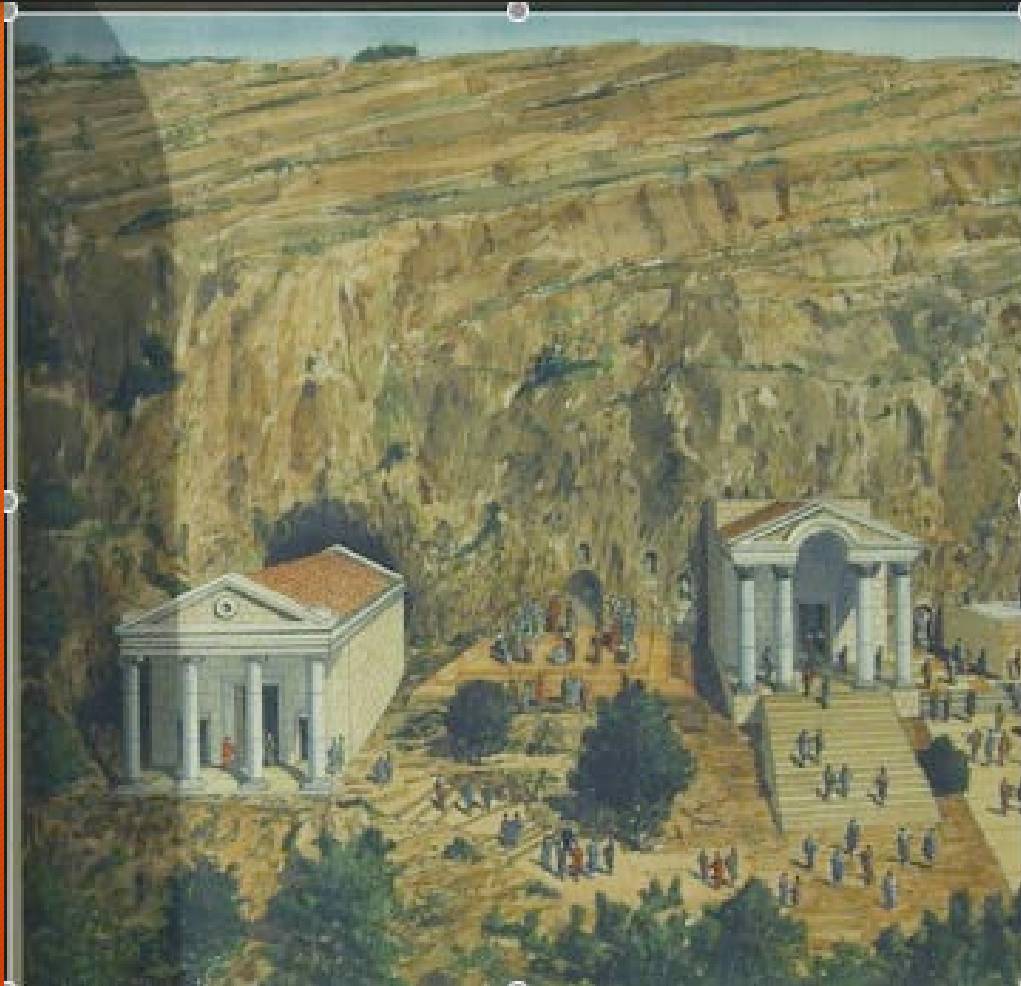
On the way to Caesarea Philippi:  
“You are the Messiah of God”

---

# Caesarea Philippi



# Artist Impression of Sanctuary of Pan



# Shrine at Caesarea Philippi





# Mt. Carmel



# Mt. Carmel-1 Ki 18

Mountains were the strongholds of the gods in ancient culture (cf Baalim in Num 22)

Eli-Yah= My God is Yahweh

People had turned to false gods Ba'al and Asherah, and from the covenant

He led the people back to the covenant through demonstration of who was a true God







SURREXIT ELIAS  
PROPHETA QUASI  
IGNIS ET VERBUM  
IPSIUS QUASI FACULA  
ARDEBAT

وَقَامَ إِلْيَاسُ النَّبِيُّ كَمَا  
كَانَ لَسْعَالٌ وَكَمَا  
كَانَ لَسْعَالٌ وَكَمَا

וְקָם אֵלִיָּהוּ תַבְיָא כַּאֲשֶׁר  
וּדְבָרוֹ כַּכְפִּיד בְּעֵר

(1 Kings 18:16)

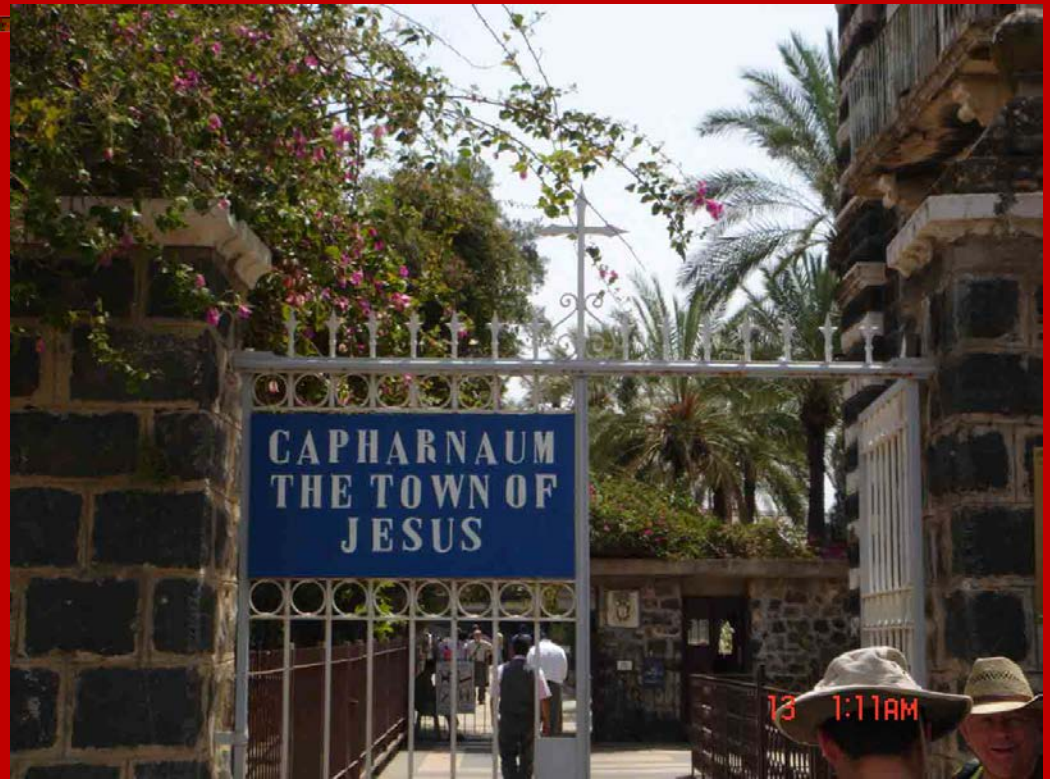




# Entrance to Capernaum

---

Entrance to Capernaum  
(Kefar nahum)



# The Synagogue at Capernaum

The centurion's servant is healed  
Jesus teaches in the synagogue  
Synagogue is near Peter's house



# The Centurion's Servant is Healed

- Luke 7:1 Now when He concluded all His sayings in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum.
- Luke 7:2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die.
- Luke 7:3 So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant.
- Luke 7:4 And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving,
- Luke 7:5 "for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue."
- Luke 7:6 Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof.

# The Centurion's Servant is Healed

- Luke 7:7 “Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.
- Luke 7:8 “For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”
- Luke 7:9 When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him, “I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!”
- Luke 7:10 And those who were sent, returning to the house, found the servant well who had been sick.





# THE SYNAGOGUE OF CAPHARNAUM



# Jesus Teaches in the Synagogue

- John 6:41 ¶ The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven."
- John 6:42 And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, 'I have come down from heaven'?"
- John 6:43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, "Do not murmur among yourselves.
- John 6:44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
- John 6:45 "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.



# Jesus Teaches in the Synagogue

- John 6:46 "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.
- John 6:47 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.
- John 6:48 "I am the bread of life.
- John 6:49 "Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead.
- John 6:50 "This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die.
- John 6:51 "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."

# Jesus Teaches in the Synagogue

- John 6:52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?"
- John 6:53 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.
- John 6:54 "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.
- John 6:55 "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed.
- John 6:56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.
- John 6:57 "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.
- John 6:58 "This is the bread which came down from heaven — not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."
- John 6:59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.



# Synagogue is Near Peter's House

- Mark 1:21 ¶ Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught.
- Mark 1:22 And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.
- Mark 1:23 Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out,
- Mark 1:24 saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are — the Holy One of God!"
- Mark 1:25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!"
- Mark 1:26 And when the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him.



# Synagogue is Near Peter's House

- Mark 1:27 Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."
- Mark 1:28 And immediately His fame spread throughout all the region around Galilee.
- Mark 1:29 ¶ Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
- Mark 1:30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once.
- Mark 1:31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.



# **Historical Nature of the Bible**

Persons – some verified

Places – many identified

Events – recorded in inscriptions, documents, artifacts, and archaeological sites

Customs

Religious context

Plants and Animals of the Bible

# Coney

- Lev. 11:5 And the coney, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.
- Deut. 14:7 Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; as the camel, and the hare, and the coney: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; therefore they are unclean unto you.
- Psa. 104:18 The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies.
- Prov. 30:26 The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks;





# Ibex (wild goats)

- Job 39:1 Knowest thou the time when the wild goats of the rock bring forth? or canst thou mark when the hinds do calve?
- Psa. 104:18 The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies.





# The Acacia Tree

Ex. 25:10 “ ¶ And they shall make an ark of **acacia** wood; two and a half cubits shall be its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height.

Is. 41:19 I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the **acacia** tree, The myrtle and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the cypress tree and the pine And the box tree together,



**STOP HERE**