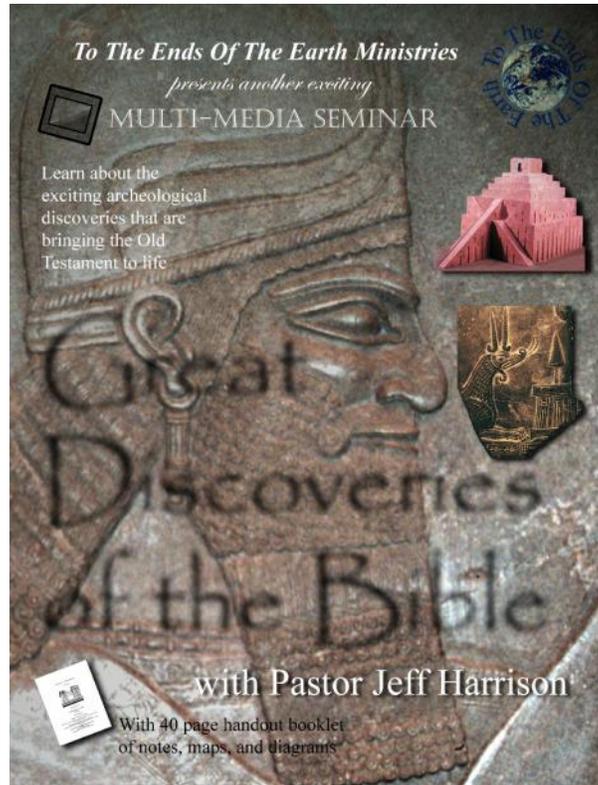


# To The Ends of the Earth Ministries

— presents —



## *Study Notes for* **Great Discoveries of the Bible** **Lecture #5**

Copyright © 2003, 2016 by Jeffrey J. Harrison

Many Scripture verses have been translated or modified by the author to bring out details of the original Greek or Hebrew text. Otherwise:

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®,  
©Copyright the Lockman Foundation 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995  
Used by permission.

**For more information on Landmarks of Faith Seminars, contact:**

Jeff Harrison  
To The Ends Of The Earth Ministries  
Jeff@totheends.com  
[www.totheends.com](http://www.totheends.com)

## GREAT DISCOVERIES OF THE BIBLE

### Lecture #5: David, Solomon, and the Kings

#### THE PEOPLE DEMAND A KING

- 1 Sam. 7:4: *"So the sons of Israel removed the Baals and the Asherahs and served the LORD alone"*  
 1 Sam. 8:19,20: *"There should be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations..."*  
 1 Sam. 8:7: *"They have rejected me from being king over them"*

#### SAUL

- 1 Sam. 9:11: *"As they went up the slope to the city, they found young women going out to draw water..."*  
 1 Sam. 9:14: *"As they came into the city, behold, Samuel was coming out toward them to go up to the high place"*  
 1 Sam. 9:22: *"Then Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the hall..."*  
 1 Sam. 10:1: *"Then Samuel took the flask of oil, poured it on his head, kissed him, and said, 'Has not the LORD anointed you a ruler over his inheritance?'"*

#### WAR WITH THE PHILISTINES

- 1 Sam. 10:5: *"You will come to the Geba of God where the Philistine garrison is..."* (see ① on the map below).  
 1 Sam. 13:19,20: *"Now no blacksmith could be found in all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, 'Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears.' So all Israel went down to the Philistines, each to sharpen his plowshare, his mattock, his axe, and his hoe"*  
 1 Sam. 13:22: *"Neither sword nor spear was found in the hands of any of the people...but they were found with Saul and his son Jonathan"*

#### DAVID AND GOLIATH

**Elah Valley:** Site of the confrontation of David and Goliath (see ② on the map below).

- 1 Sam. 17:3: *"The Philistines took their stand on the mountain on one side while Israel took its stand on the mountain on the other side, with the valley between them"*



**Representative warfare:** Individuals or small groups fighting instead of the whole army.

- 1 Sam. 17:5-7: *"And he had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was clothed with scale-armor.... He also had bronze greaves on his legs and a bronze javelin slung between his shoulders.... And the head of his spear weighed 600 shekels of iron"*  
 1 Sam. 17:45,47: *"You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel....for the battle is the LORD's."*

#### DAVID'S JERUSALEM

**Tel Dan Stele:** Found at Dan, its Aramaic inscription mentions the "house of David" as the ruling dynasty of Judah (9th cent. BC, found in 1993; Avraham Biran).

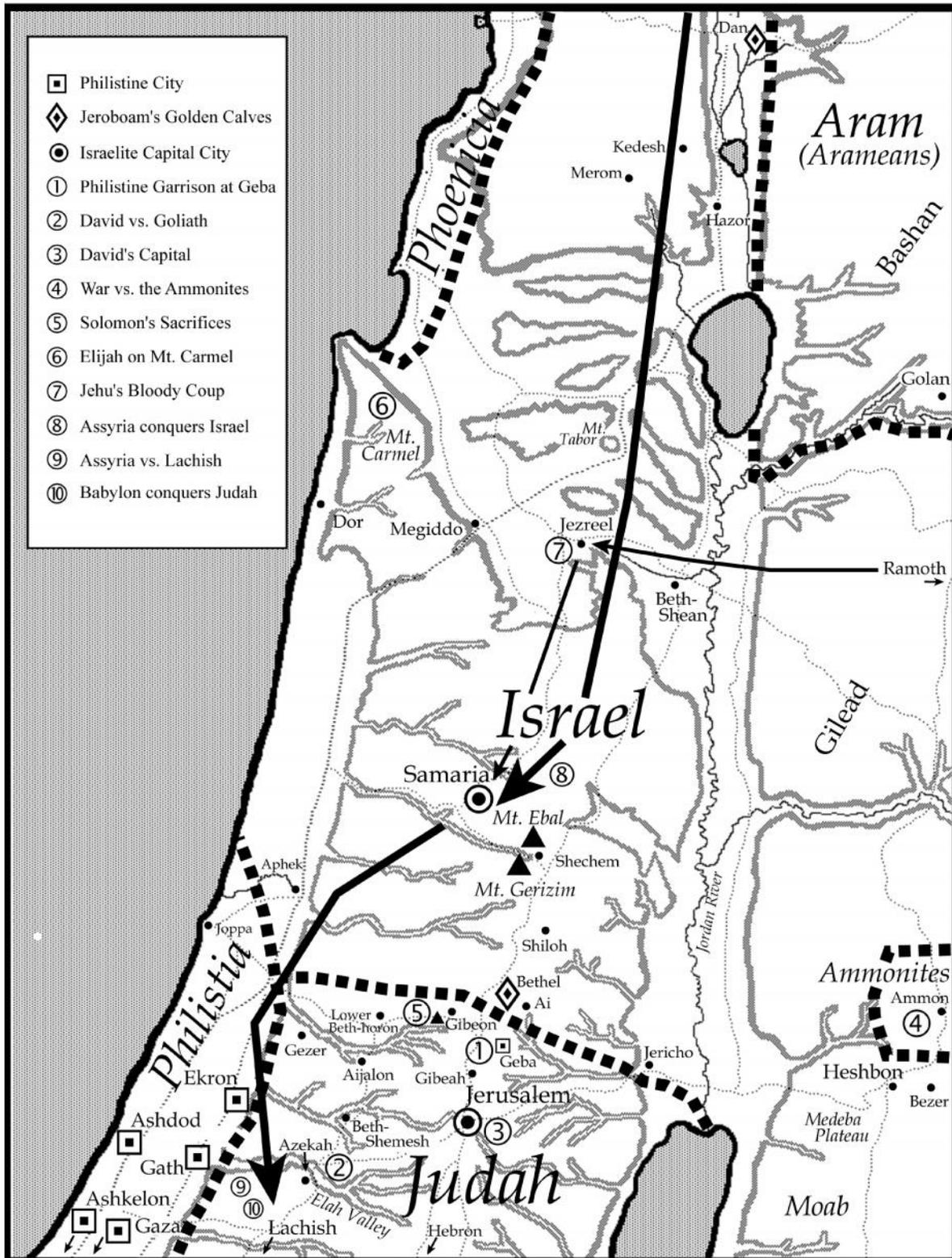
**Stele:** An upright stone with writing on it.

**Moabite Stone:** Also known as the Mesha Stele. The victory stele of the Moabite king Mesha over Israel. Found in Jordan in the 1800's. It, too, mentions the "house of David."

**Egyptian Inscription:** A geographical list of the victories of Pharaoh Shishak, carved in the wall of the Temple of Amun in Karnak, mentions the "highland (heights) of David." Carved within 50 years of the time of David.

**Gihon Spring:** The only natural water source for the city of Jerusalem.

# David and the Kings



# Old Testament Jerusalem



**Stepped Stone Structure:** A stepped ramp up near the top of the city on the north side, preserved to a height of 15 meters (50 feet; 13th-12th cent. BC). It was probably intended to stop erosion from the top of the hill and to widen the space available there for the fortifications on the north side of the city, including the Lower Palace.

2 Sam. 5:9: *"And David built all around from the Millo and inward"*

**Jerusalem:** The name may mean "Jebusite Salem. It's also found written in ancient records as **Urushalim**, which may mean "Foundation of peace." (See ③ on the map above.)

**Tzinnor:** An obscure Hebrew word that means something like a drainage ditch or water tunnel.

#### DAVID AND BATHSHEBA

**Ammonites:** Descendants of Lot, the nephew of Abraham. The tell of their ancient capital city of **Ammon** can be seen in the center of modern Amman, the capital of the modern nation of Jordan (see ④ on the map above)

**Molech** (or **Milcom**): The bloodthirsty god of the Ammonites, worshipped with human sacrifice.

*Discovery: An Ammonite temple with the bones of young children offered up as burnt sacrifices. Found near the modern Amman airport.*

Jer. 32:35: *"...to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire (i.e. in death) to Molech..."*

**Topheth:** An Israelite worship place to Molech located in the Gehinnom valley, right next to Jerusalem.

**Uriah the Hittite:** A foreigner, a Hittite, who had joined himself to Israel. Uriah means "light of Yahweh."

Ruth 1:16: *"Your people will be my people, and your God, my God."*

#### TOMBS OF DAVID

1 Kings 2:10: *"Then David slept with his fathers and was buried in the City of David"*

**Raymond Weill:** Uncovered several large rock-cut chambers, in the southern City of David that he identified as the royal tombs of the house of David (early 20th cent.). His expedition was funded by **Lord Baron de Rothschild**.

#### THE HIGH PLACE OF GIBEON (see ⑤ on the map above)

2 Chron. 1:3: *"Then Solomon...went to the high place that was at Gibeon, for God's Tent of Meeting (the Tabernacle) was there, which Moses...had made in the desert"*

#### SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon extended the city of Jerusalem to the north of David's original city (the City of David). This included the northern part of Mt. Moriah where he built the Temple (see the Jerusalem map above).

*Discovery: A small ivory pomegranate with the inscription: "Belonging to the Temple of YHWH, holy to the priests."*

*Discovery: A plaque of King Joash mentioning repairs that were done in the Temple. (The authenticity of this plaque has been challenged but not yet disproven.)*

**Western Wall excavations:** Archeological excavations along the outer base of the western wall of the Temple Mount.

2 Sam. 24:18,24: *"Go up, build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.... So David bought the threshing floor..."*

**Es-Sakhra:** Name of the large piece of bedrock under the Dome of the Rock. It stands a total of 6' above floor level, 9' above the surrounding bedrock surface. It is known to Jewish legend as the "Foundation Stone," the first piece of dry land to appear during the Creation.



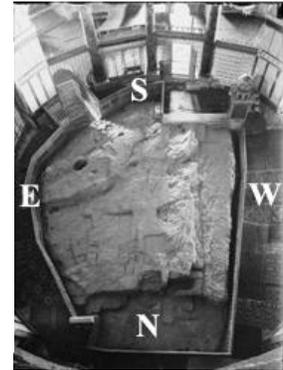
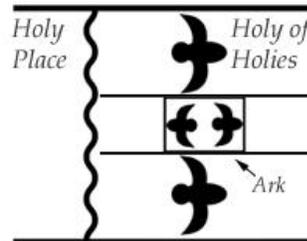
**Scarp:** A vertical rock cliff. There is a natural scarp (not man-made) on the N and W sides of es-Sakhra.

**Foundation trench:** A place where the underlying bedrock has been smoothed out to lay a wall on top of it. There is a foundation trench on the S side of es-Sakhra.

1 Kings 6:20: *"And the inner sanctuary (the Holy of Holies) was 20 cubits in length, 20 cubits in width, and 20 cubits in height"*

1 Kings 8:6: *"Then the priests brought the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD to its place..."* Also 1 Kings 8:20-21.

1 Kings 8:8: *"But the poles were so long that the ends of the poles could be seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary"*



Ez. 28:14: *"You were the anointed covering cherub..."* (often understood as a reference to Satan).

1 Chron. 28:18: *"...and gold for the model of the chariot, the cherubs that spread out their wings and covered the Ark of the Covenant"*

Psa. 18:6,9,10: *"I called on the LORD, and cried to my God for help; he heard my voice out of his Temple...he bowed the heavens...and came down.... He rode on a cherub and flew..."*

Psa. 99:1: *"The LORD reigns, let the peoples tremble; he sits on the cherubs, let the earth shake!"*

Eze. 1:26: *"The likeness of a throne; and on the likeness of the throne, a likeness with the appearance of a man on it above."* This throne appears in the storm-cloud of God (Eze. 1:4) with its strange wheels (Eze. 1:15-21), traditionally understood to be the chariot of God.

Rev. 4:6: *"And in the center before the throne and around the throne were four living beings covered with eyes, front and back."*

#### SOLOMON'S TRADE

1 Kings 10:22,27: *"For the king had at sea the ships of Tarshish...bringing gold and silver, ivory and apes and peacocks.... And the king made silver as common as stones in Jerusalem..."*

**Queen of Sheba:** Sheba included parts of modern Yemen on the north side of the Red Sea and parts of Ethiopia on the south side of the Red Sea.

**Haile Selassie:** The last well-known king of Ethiopia (1930-1974). He and his predecessors claimed descent from a son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba (though this is not mentioned in the Bible).

(5b)

**Etzion-Geber:** Solomon's port city on the Red Sea (1 Kings 9:26). Now identified by archeologists with **Pharaoh's Island** (also known as the Isle of Graye).

#### SOLOMON'S FALL

1 Kings 11:3: *"And he had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines, and his wives turned his heart away."*

1 Kings 11:7: *"Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable idol of Moab on the mountain which is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the detestable idol of the sons of Ammon. And he did the same for all his foreign wives..."*

**Hill of Evil Counsel:** Modern name for the section of the Mt. of Olives directly east of the City of David (see map of Jerusalem above).

**Marriage Treaty:** International alliances were sealed with a marriage between one contracting king and the daughter of the other.

Because of his sin, Solomon's kingdom was split between the **Kingdom of Israel** in the north (the Ten Tribes) and the **Kingdom of Judah** in the south (Judah and Benjamin).

#### JEROBOAM'S CALVES

**Jeroboam:** Former official of Solomon who became king of the northern kingdom of Israel.

**Rehoboam:** Son of Solomon who alienated the northern ten tribes. As a result, he ruled only the southern kingdom of Judah.

1 Kings 12:28,29: *"So the king (Jeroboam) took counsel, and made two golden calves.... And he set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan"* (see the diamond shaped symbols on the map above).

Judg. 18:30: *"And the sons of Dan set up for themselves the graven image; and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Moses (Manasseh in some versions), he and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land."*

*Discovery: The worship platform at Dan built originally for one of the golden calves. In front of it was an altar that did not conform to the instructions in the Bible.*

**Yahweh and his Asherah:** Mentioned in a storage jar inscription from the 9th cent. (Kuntillet Ajrud) that says, "I bless you by Yahweh of Samaria and by his Asherah." Another inscription found at the same site says, "I bless you by Yahweh of Teiman and by his Asherah." At Khirbet el-Kom, on the wall of a tomb, was found: "Blessed be Uryahu [a man's name] by Yahweh and by his Asherah."

**Yahwistic paganism:** The worship of Yahweh, but in a pagan way.

#### ARAD

**Sherd:** Name for a broken piece of pottery. These provided a handy writing surface at a time when paper had not yet been invented. A sherd with writing on it is known as an **ostraca**.

*Discovery: A piece of pottery at Arad with writing on it that said, "to the priest of the house of Yahweh in Jerusalem from the priest of the house of Yahweh in Arad."*

1 Kings 14:23: *"They built for themselves high places and standing stones and Asherahs on every high hill and beneath every luxuriant tree."*

Hosea 10:1-2: *"Israel is a luxuriant vine; he produces fruit for himself. The more his fruit, the more altars he made; the richer his land, the better he made the standing stones (mazzeboth).... The LORD will break down their altars and destroy their standing stones."*

Micah 5:10-13: *"And it will be in that day, declares the LORD, that I will...cut off your carved images and your standing stones from among you, so that you will no longer bow down to the work of your hands."*



AHAB AND JEZEBEL VS. ELIJAH (see ⑥ on the map above)

1 Kings 17:1: *"As the LORD, the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, surely there will be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word."*

1 Kings 18:21: *"How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, follow him."*

1 Kings 18:28: *"So they cried with a loud voice and cut themselves according to their custom with swords and lances until the blood gushed out on them."* (An attempt at sympathetic magic.)

1 Kings 19:10: *"And he said, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the sons of Israel have forsaken your covenant, pulled down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.'"*

1 Kings 19:17,18: *"And it shall come about, the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall put to death. Yet I will leave 7,000 in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him."*

JEHU (see ⑦ on the map above)

2 Kings 9:20: *"...like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi, for he drives furiously"*

2 Kings 9:22: *"Is it peace, Jehu?" And he answered, "What peace, so long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?"*

*Discovery: The walled enclosure of the ancient Israelite capital at Jezreel.*

**Jezreel:** The winter capital of the kings of Israel (the northern kingdom).

**Samaria:** The main capital of the northern kingdom of Israel, where Jehu completed his bloody purge of the worshippers of Baal.

**Black Obelisk:** Found in 1846 in Iraq, it shows Jehu bowing before the Assyrian king Shalmaneser III, to bring tribute. On the obelisk, Jehu is called a "son of Omri." (Omri was the father of Ahab.)

## THE ASSYRIANS

**Shalmaneser III**, an early Assyrian ruler, boasted of one of his victories: "In the moat of the town I piled them up, I covered the wide plain with the corpses of their fighting men, I dyed the mountains with their blood like red wool. I took away from him many chariots and horses broken to the yoke. I erected pillars of skulls in front of his town, destroyed his towns, tore down their walls and burnt them down" (ANET p. 277).

**Jonah:** Prophet to the Assyrians in the early 8<sup>th</sup> cent. BC. His message of repentance in Nineveh was accepted.

**Sargon:** Assyrian ruler that conquered the northern kingdom of Israel after a three-year siege of Samaria, its capital city (721 BC; see ⑧ on the map above). Many of the people were deported; and so came to be known as the ten lost tribes of Israel.

## HEZEKIAH'S PREPARATIONS

**Hezekiah's Tunnel:** Brought water from the Gihon Spring into the city of Jerusalem.

**Western Hill:** A large addition to the city of Jerusalem that was walled by Hezekiah in preparation for an Assyrian attack (see Jerusalem map above).

*Discovery: A 96 foot section of the wall built by Hezekiah to enclose the Western Hill.*

Isaiah 22:10-11: *"Then you counted the houses of Jerusalem, and you tore down houses to fortify the wall. And you made a reservoir between the two walls [at the end of Hezekiah's tunnel] for the waters of the old pool. But you did not depend on him who made it, nor did you take into consideration him who planned it long ago."*

*Discovery: Jar handles impressed with Hezekiah's royal seal. These jars were probably used to store supplies in preparation for an Assyrian siege.*

LACHISH (see ⑨ on the map above)

**Conquest of Lachish:** Sennacherib's relief illustrating his victory over Lachish was hung in the most important room of his palace at Ninevah (discovered in the early 1850's, is now in the British Museum in London).

2 Kings 18:28: *"Then Rabshakeh stood and cried out with a loud voice in Judean..."*

2 Kings 19:32,33: *"He shall not come to this city or shoot an arrow there; neither shall he come before it with a shield, nor throw up a mound (a siege ramp) against it. By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and he shall not come to this city."*



MANASSEH

2 Kings 2:21: *"For he (Manasseh) rebuilt the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he erected altars for Baal and made and Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshipped all the host of heaven and served them.... For he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the House (the Temple) of the LORD"*

INVASION OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR (see #10 on the map above)

**Lachish ostrakon:** "Let my lord know that we are watching over the beacon of Lachish, according to the signals that my lord gave, for Azekah is not to be seen."

Jer. 34: 6,7: *"Then Jeremiah the prophet spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem when the army of the king of Babylon was fighting against Jerusalem and against all the remaining cities of Judah, that is, Lachish and Azekah, for they alone remained as fortified cities among the cities of Judah"*

*Discovery: A layer of ash from the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem. It contained three iron (Israelite) arrowheads, and one bronze (Babylonian) arrowhead.*

Lamentations 1:1; 2:2,4,5,15: *"How lonely sits the city that was full of people. She has become like a widow who was once great among the nations.... The Lord has swallowed up, he has not spared all the habitations of Jacob. In his wrath he has thrown down the strongholds of the daughter of Judah; he has brought them down to the ground.... The Lord has become like an enemy. He has swallowed up Israel; he has swallowed up all its palaces; he has destroyed its strongholds and multiplied in the daughter of Judah mourning and moaning.... All who pass along the way clap their hands in derision at you; they hiss and shake their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem..."*

**Seals:** Found in the ruins of the city (City of David, Area G) were impressions of seals belonging to the scribe of Jeremiah, Baruch son of Neriah, and Gemariyahu, the son of Shaphan mentioned in Jer. 36:10.

**Toilet Seat:** The dirt underneath provided evidence that during the siege of Jerusalem, pinworm and tapeworm increased dramatically among the people of the city. A diet of agricultural produce was replaced with weed grass growing in the streets and squares. (City of David, Area G).

2 Kings 25:3: *"The famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people..."*

After the return of the exiles from Babylon, archeologists have not found a single idol in any of the areas Jews were living, and not a single Jewish high place (except the Temple in Jerusalem).