

The Old Testament Holy Lands

Culture, Geography & Archaeology

www.markhenze.com/class-notes

Egypt in 16th to 17th Dynasty



Egypt in 16th to 17th Dynasty

Kemoses Stele:

Kemose was the last Pharaoh of the 17th Dynasty that eventually attacked and overcame the Hyksos, allowing the Thebian rulers to return to Northern Egypt.

Located at the Temple of Karnak, Egypt

“The Mighty Ruler in Thebes, Kamose the Strong, protector of Egypt. I sailed north in my might to repel the Asiatics through the command of Amun...”



Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Tomb of Ahmose

Located in Karnak, Egypt

Shows the Egyptian final success in regaining Northern Kingdom where the right hand of the Hyksos warriors was cut off and non-egyptian population turned into slaves.

Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Burial ground near Avaris where numerous bodies showed right hands cut off

EGYPTIAN MINISTRY OF STATE OF ANTIQUITIES

Moses to Captivity

2. Israel's Exodus from Egypt and Entry into Canaan



Moses to Captivity

Saint Catherine's Monastery is the oldest continuously inhabited monastery in the world.

Founded by Emperor Justinian I in 530 AD, it contains a bush that has existed and thrived since before the monastery was built and is "claimed" to be the "burning bush".

The monastery is situated at the base of what is also believed to be Mount Sinai.



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

2. Israel's Exodus from Egypt and Entry into Canaan



Questions:

- a) So how much physical evidence is there for any particular event that arose during these time periods?
- b) How much support is needed to believe a written text (Old Testament) that does such a good job matching what we have found?
- c) When does oral tradition that is eventually put down in accurate historical writing achieve some acceptability as evidence?
- d) How many other cultures from that time even bothered to put their oral traditions down in detailed writings?
- e) How many cultures honestly wrote about their failures as well as their successes and conquests?

Moses to Captivity

“The whole subject of the Exodus is embarrassing to archaeologists. The Exodus is so fundamental to us and our Jewish sources that it is embarrassing that there is no evidence outside of the Bible to support it.”

Apparently, archaeologists dislike questions about the Exodus because, “there is nothing in the Egyptian records to support it. Nothing on the slavery of the Israelites, nothing on the plagues that persuaded Pharaoh to let them go, nothing on the miraculous crossing of the Red Sea, nothing.”

Stephen Rosenberg - 2014 - Jerusalem Post

Moses to Captivity

But we do have some written historical support...

Numbers 11:5 & 6 – “

We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost – also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. But, which states that the Israelite slaves were fed leeks and onions. But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!

Interestingly, Fifth-century B.C.E. historian Herodotus wrote specifically of viewing an ancient pyramid inscription on his tours of Egypt that detailed a menu of cucumbers, melons, leeks and onions for the workmen & slaves.

Moses to Captivity

Manetho - an Egyptian historian and priest active during the third century BC wrote “Aegyptiaca” – the History of Egypt.

Manetho recorded that, following the defeat of the Hyksos, years later some 240,000 were driven out of the land into Sinai and that a later group was chased all the way into the Levant, where they “built a city in that country which is now called Judea ... and called it Jerusalem.”

Moses to Captivity



The Ipuwer Papyrus (c. Between 1500 and 1300 BCE), on display at the Dutch National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden.

The **Ipuwer Papyrus** was written by a royal Egyptian scribe of the same name. He tells a lengthy story of absolute calamity befalling Egypt. Many references throughout the papyrus are strikingly similar to the biblical account of the 10 plagues—possible allusion can be found to at least six of the biblical plagues—as well as other elements of the Exodus account.

Moses to Captivity



Ipuwer Papyrus (Admonitions of Ipuwer)
generally dated to 1500 to 1300 BCE.

Traditional dates of the Exodus: 1450 BCE to 1300 BCE

IPUWER 2:5-6

Plague is throughout the land. Blood is everywhere.

2:10 The river is blood.

2:10 Men shrink from tasting – human beings, and thirst after water

3:10-13 That is our water! That is our happiness! What shall we do in respect thereof? All is ruin.

IPUWER 4:3 (5:6) Forsooth, the children of princes are dashed against the walls.

6:12 Forsooth, the children of princes are cast out in the streets.

6:3 The prison is ruined.

2:13 He who places his brother in the ground is everywhere.

3:14 It is groaning throughout the land, mingled with lamentations

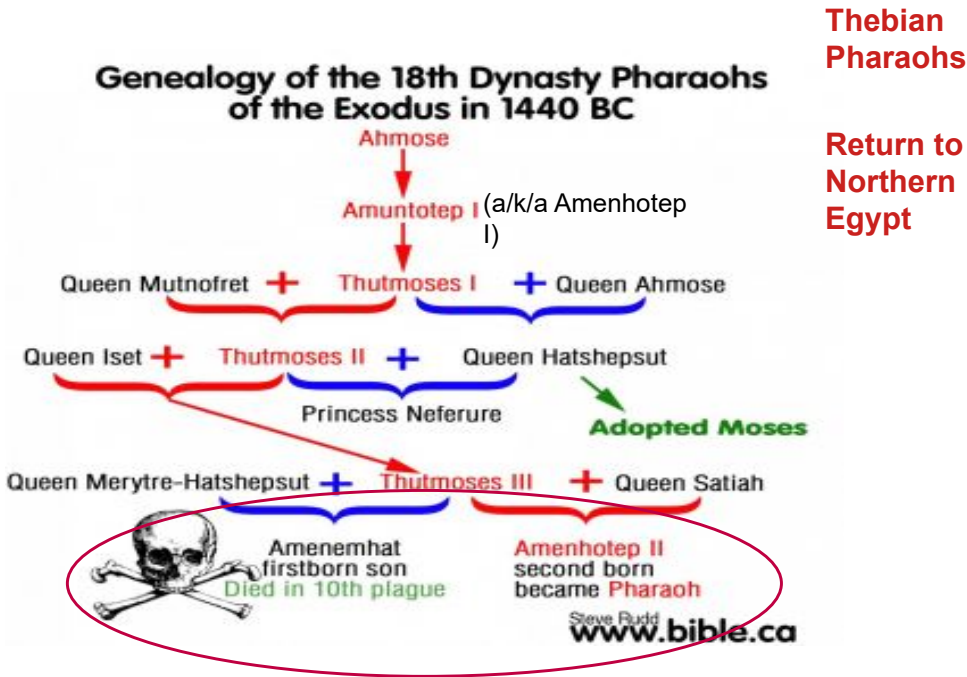
IPUWER 9:11 - The land is without light.

Moses to Captivity



A wall painting in the tomb of Rekhmire shows Semitic slaves making bricks. Rekhmire served under Amenhotep II.

Egypt in 17th to 18th Dynasty



Moses to Captivity

Yet ... How about this from D.M. Murdoch, an alleged "scholar of comparative religion and mythology" that never taught on a college level and who wrote under the pen name "Acharya S."

Wrote a best selling book "***The Christ Conspiracy: The Greatest Story Ever Sold***"

Moses to Captivity

““Argh. Here we go again, as millions of children worldwide are programmed with a bunch of hooey, although Dreamwork's "Prince of Egypt" is being presented as an adult cartoon. No matter, as both children and adults will be brainwashed into believing that, unlike the "Lion King," the "Little Mermaid" and other Disney fare, "Prince of Egypt" is a true story about God's "chosen people" and their escape under the marvelous Moses from those evil, nasty Egyptians! Obviously, this is yet more mindless propaganda designed to empower a certain group of people. Yet, the brainwashing is profound, as interviewers breathlessly question producers about how they felt in creating such an epic, which many might consider to border on "blasphemy," and the illustrators themselves giddily admit that this cartoon was more difficult than others "because it really happened.”

Horseshit. The Moses story did not "really happen." Like the vast majority of biblical tales, it is a myth based on older tales, changed to revolve around characters of a certain ethnicity or cultural programming, if you will. The Moses tale is, in fact, a plagiarism taken from Egypt and its satellite, Canaan, among others. Moses, then, is not the "Prince of Egypt" but a "Theft from Egypt." Since the ancient Egyptians obviously cannot address this calumny against them for millennia, I will do it for them.”

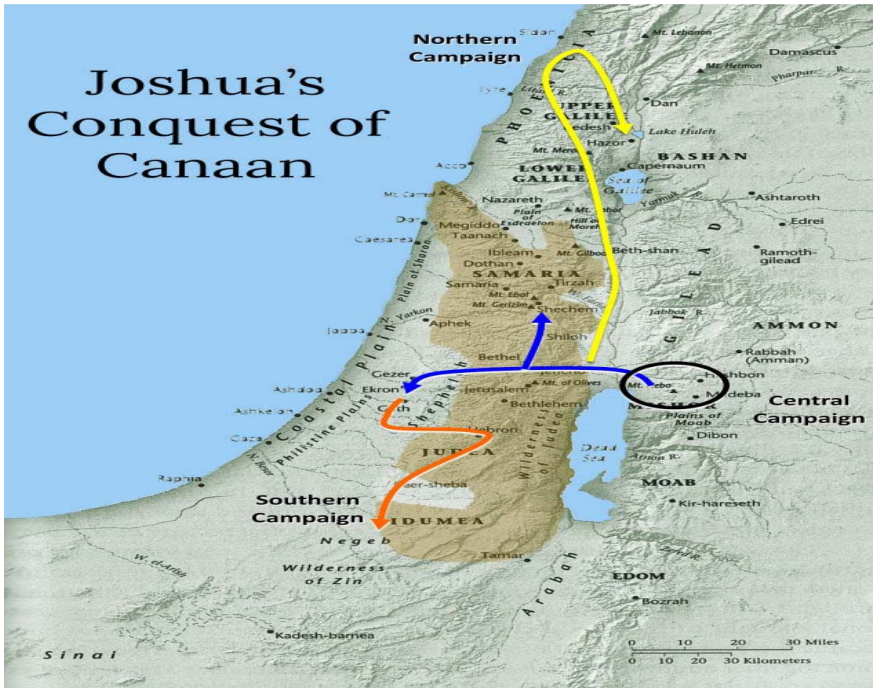
Moses to Captivity

This wouldn't be so bad if the article weren't reprinted on numerous college websites (such as this taken from the University of Missouri St. Louis). This University makes her book "***The Christ Conspiracy: The Greatest Story Ever Sold***" as required reading in their **Intro to Religion** class and refers to it as the answer to an online FAQ regarding "passover." This passage has also been quoted in side blocks in several general and greatly used collegiate Ancient History textbooks.

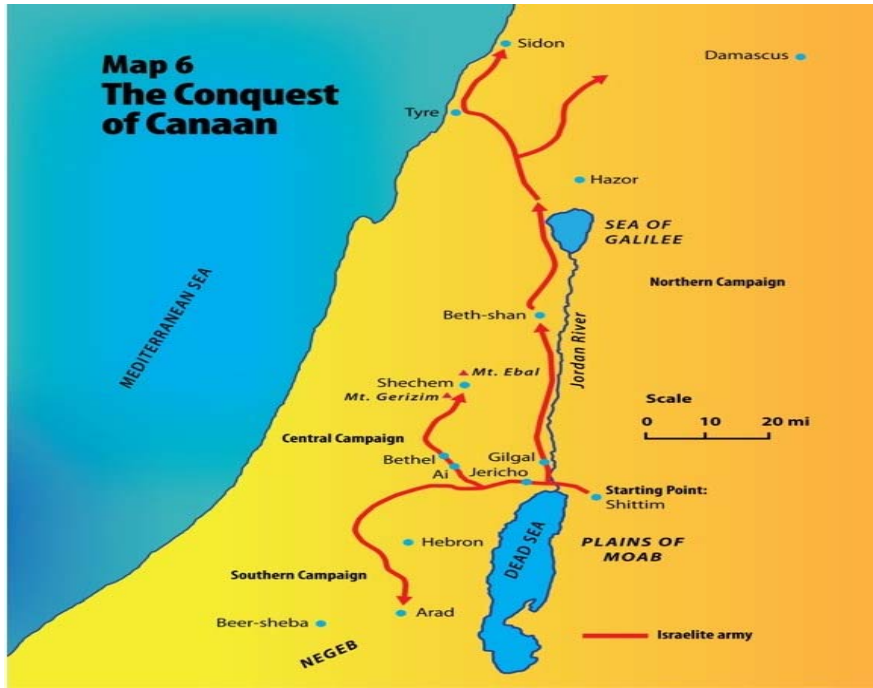
Moses to Captivity



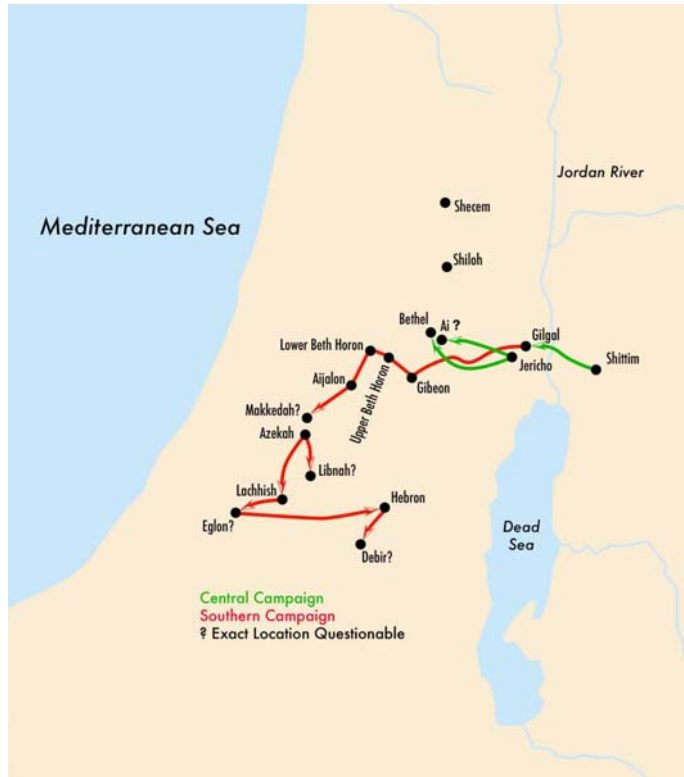
Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity



Southern Campaign

Jericho
 Ai (?)
 Bethel
 Gilgal
 Gibeon
 Lower Beth Horon
 Aigadon
 Maakedah (?)
 Azekah
 Libnah (?)
 Lachhish
 Eglon (?)
 Hebron
 Debir (?)

Moses to Captivity



Northern Campaign

Beth Shan
 Chinnereth
 Merom
 Hazor
 Kedesh
 Tyre
 Sidon
 (Possibly)

Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

Jericho

Joshua 6



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity



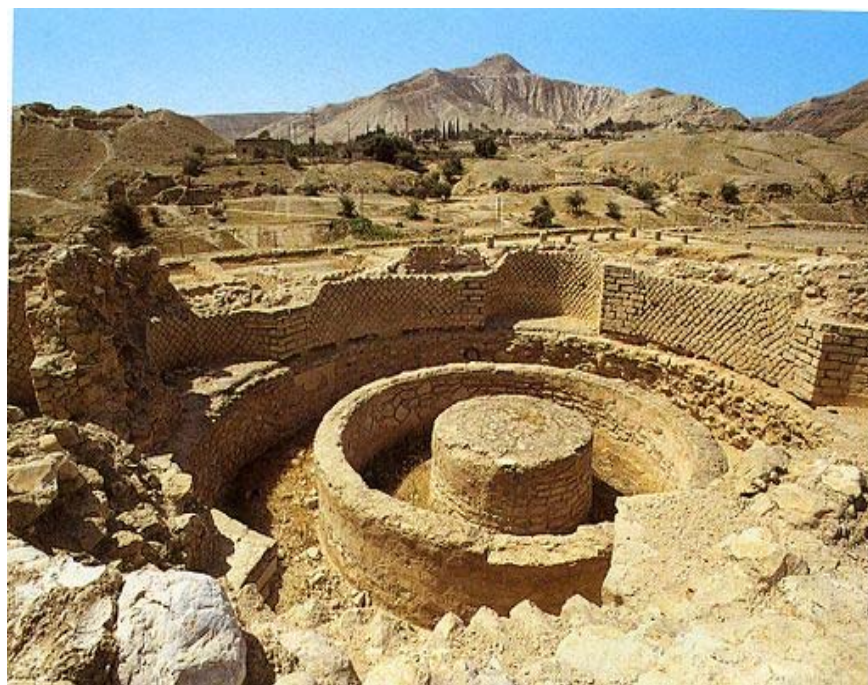
Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

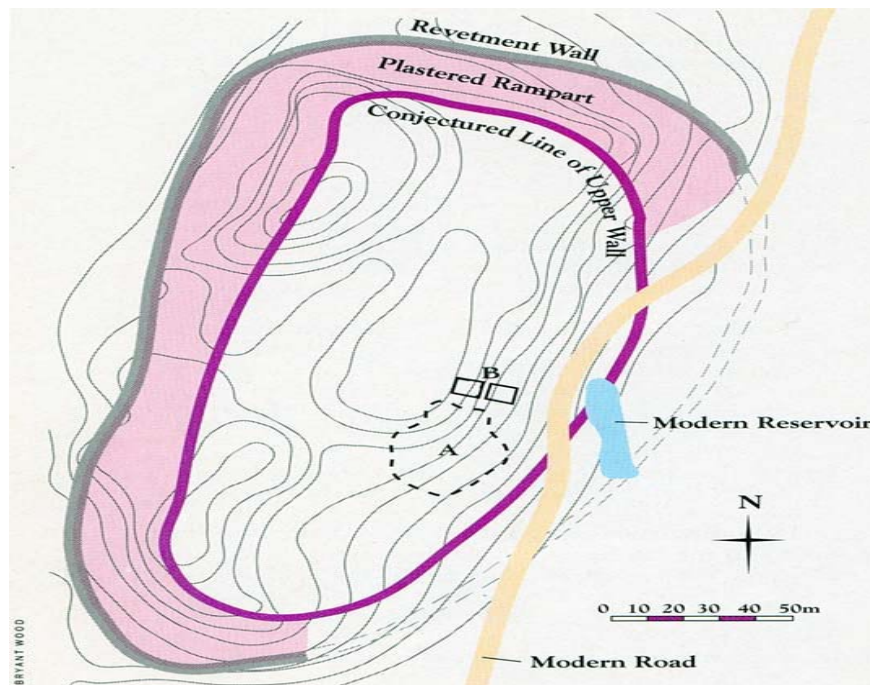


Moses to Captivity

Reconstruction of Jericho (



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

“The Sea Peoples”



Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

“The Sea People”



Located on the North Wall of the Tomb of Ramses III

Moses to Captivity

“The Sea People”

Map of Philistine Cities and Conquests,



Found in King Sargon's palace
Currently found at the Louvre,
Paris

Judges 4, 10, 11 & 13

Moses to Captivity

David – Conquest of Jeru-Salem or Jebus (*Hebrew: יבוֹס, Yəbūs, meaning 'threshing-floor'*).

2 Samuel 5:7-8



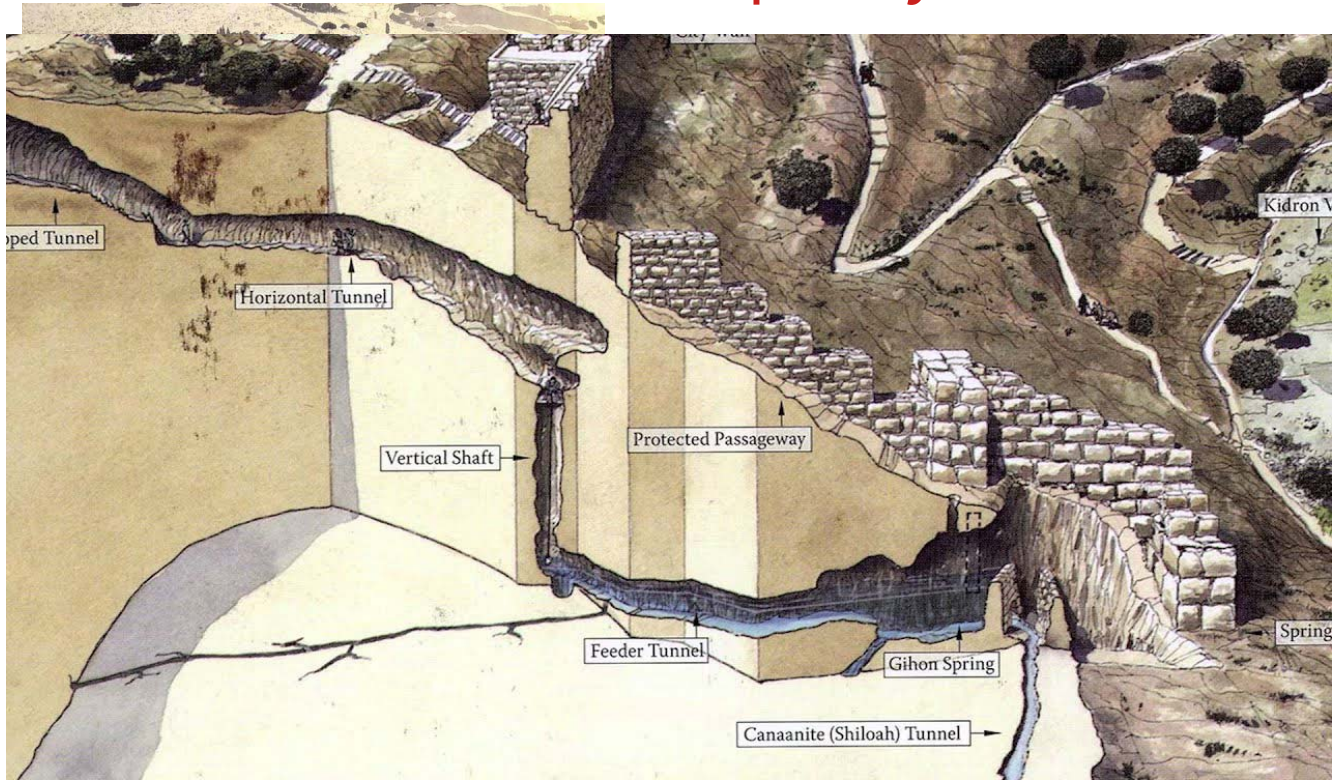
Moses to Captivity



Warren's Shaft

Discovered by British archeologist Charles Warren in the 1860's that connects the Gihon Spring to the upper parts of the City of David and Jerusalem.

Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

Hazor

Joshua 11: 1-12

One of the best preserved sites of a Joshua battle site mentioned in the Bible.

Discovered by Israeli archeologist Yagael Jadin, the Late Bronze Age city was destroyed sometime during the 12th or 13th century BCE in a fire so intense that it cracked the basalt architectural elements of the palace, the gate shrine, and other structures and left a layer of ash up to three feet deep in places. Yadin attributed this destruction layer to the Israelite campaigns led by Joshua and dated it to 1230 BCE. Although Yadin's dating for the final destruction of Canaanite Hazor has been challenged, few challenge Yadin's attribution of the destruction to invading Israelites.



Moses to Captivity

Hazo

r



Solomon's
Gate

Moses to Captivity

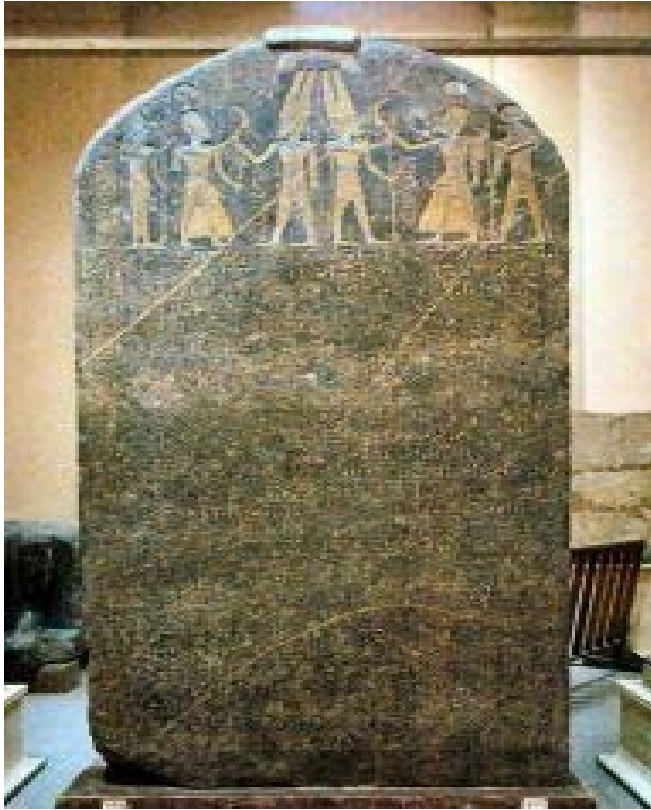
Hazo

r



Main
Site

Moses to Captivity



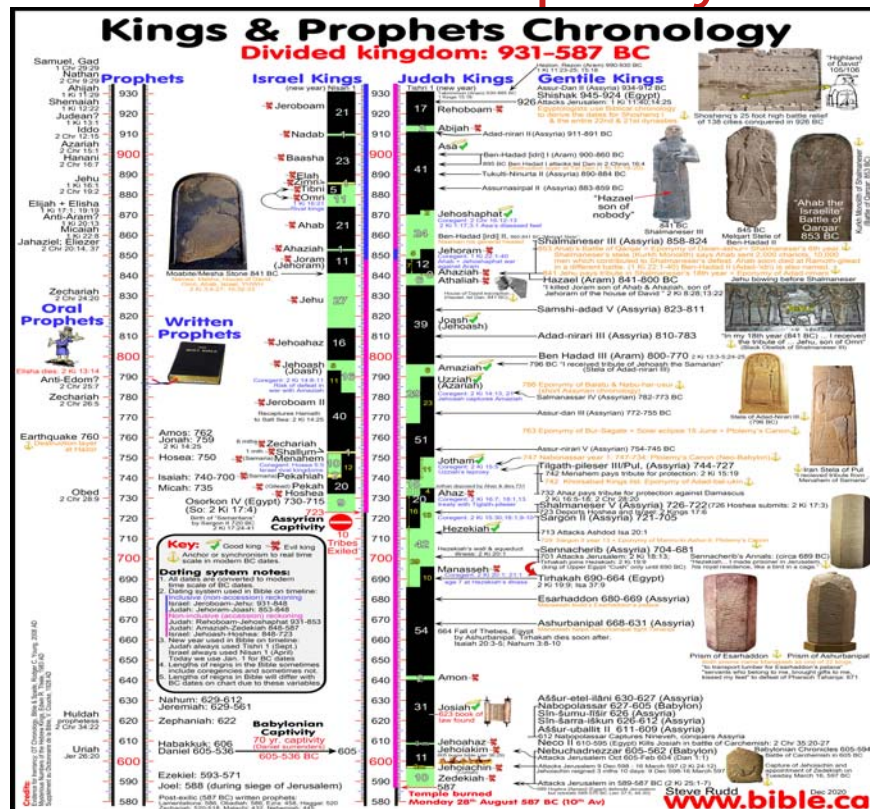
Egyptian Museum – Cairo.

The Merneptah (Shishak) stele is the earliest known extra-biblical reference to ancient Israel in ancient history and is widely considered to be authentic and accurate in the historical information provided on it.

Dated to 1200 BCE, and mentions Israel and the Israeli people by name. It is also provides evidence that the later date of the Exodus (supported at one time by many) is no longer accepted.

See 2 Chronicles 12

Moses to Captivity



Moses to Captivity

Kings of Israel (North)	Kings of Judah (South)
Jeroboam I: Led secession of Israel	Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; first king
Nadab: Son of Jeroboam I	Abijah (Abijam; Abia): Son of Rehoboam
Baasha: Overthrew Nadab	Asa: Probably son of Abijah
Elah: Son of Baasha	Jehoshaphat: Son of Asa
Zimri: Overthrew Elah	Jehoram (Joram): Son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah
Omri: Overthrew Zimri	Ahaziah: Son of Jehoram and Athaliah
Ahab: Son of Omri; husband of Jezebel	Athaliah: Daughter of King Ahab of Israel and Jezebel; wife of Jehoram; only queen to rule over Judah
Ahaziah: Son of Ahab	Joash (Jehoash): Son of Ahaziah
Jehoram (Joram): Son of Ahab	Amaziah: Son of Joash
Jehu: Overthrew Jehoram	Uzziah (Azariah): Son of Amaziah
Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Jehu	Jotham: Regent, later King; son of Uzziah
Jehoash (Joash): Son of Jehoahaz	Ahaz: Son of Jotham
Jeroboam II: Son of Jehoash	Hezekiah: Son of Ahaz; husband of Hephzi-Bah
Zechariah: Son of Jeroboam II	Manasseh: Son of Hezekiah and Hephzi-Bah
Shallum: Overthrew Zechariah	Amon: Son of Manasseh
Menahem: Overthrew Shallum	Josiah (Josias): Son of Amon
Pekahiah: Son of Menahem	Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Josiah
Pekah: Overthrew Pekahiah	Jehoiakim: Son of Josiah
Hoshea: Overthrew Pekah; kingdom overthrown by Assyrians under Sargon II	Jehoiachin: Son of Jehoiakim
Good Bad Mixture of good & bad	Zedekiah: Son of Josiah; kingdom overthrown by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar

ConformingToJesus.com

Moses to Captivity



The inscription describes two aspects of how Mesha lead Moab into victory against ancient Israel years after the original conquering by King Omri.

One inscription:

“Now as for Omri, King of Israel, he oppressed Moab for many days because Kemosh was angry with his land and people.”

Discovered in Dhiban, Jordan and was later smashed into pieces by the Bani Hamida tribe, however copies had been made previously by the missionary who found it (Frederick Klein). It has been repaired as best possible and is currently in the Louvre in Paris.

Moses to Captivity

1 Kings
16: 21



Kings of Israel (North)	Kings of Judah (South)
Jeroboam I: Led secession of Israel	Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; first king
Nadab: Son of Jeroboam I	Abijah (Abijam; Abia): Son of Rehoboam
Baasha: Overthrew Nadab	Asa: Probably son of Abijah
Elah: Son of Baasha	Jehoshaphat: Son of Asa
Zimri: Overthrew Elah	Jehoram (Joram): Son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah
Omri: Overthrew Zimri	Ahaziah: Son of Jehoram and Athaliah
Ahab: Son of Omri; husband of Jezebel	Athaliah: Daughter of King Ahab of Israel and Jezebel; wife of Jehoram; only queen to rule over Judah
Ahaziah: Son of Ahab	Joash (Jehoash): Son of Ahaziah
Jehoram (Joram): Son of Ahab	Amaziah: Son of Joash
Jehu: Overthrew Jehoram	Uzziah (Azariah): Son of Amaziah
Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Jehu	Jotham: Regent, later King; son of Uzziah
Jehoash (Joash): Son of Jehoahaz	Ahaz: Son of Jotham
Jeroboam II: Son of Jehoash	Hezekiah: Son of Ahaz; husband of Hephzi-Bah
Zechariah: Son of Jeroboam II	Manasseh: Son of Hezekiah and Hephzi-Bah
Shallum: Overthrew Zechariah	Amon: Son of Manasseh
Menahem: Overthrew Shallum	Josiah (Josias): Son of Amon
Pekahiah: Son of Menahem	Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Josiah
Pekah: Overthrew Pekahiah	Jehoiakim: Son of Josiah
Hoshea: Overthrew Pekah; kingdom overthrown by Assyrians under Sargon II	Jehoiachin: Son of Jehoiakim
Good Bad Mixture of good & bad	Zedekiah: Son of Josiah; kingdom overthrown by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar

ConformingToJesus.com

Moses to Captivity

Tel

Located at the headwaters of the Jordan



Moses to Captivity

Tel Dan Stele

Found in upper Galilee and dated to about 800 BCE

Uses Phoenician alphabet

Located in the Israel Museum

Refers to battles with “**King Joram, son of Ahab, King of Israel and King Ahaziah, son of Joram of the House of David**”

Ahab – King after Omri and married Jezebel

Ahaziah – King after Ahab (8th King of Israel). Son of Joram (5th King of Judah).



1 Kings
16 - 22



2 Kings
8: 25 - 28

Kings of Israel (North)	Kings of Judah (South)
Jeroboam I: Led secession of Israel	Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; first king
Nadab: Son of Jeroboam I	Abijah (Abijam; Abia): Son of Rehoboam
Baasha: Overthrew Nadab	Asa: Probably son of Abijah
Elah: Son of Baasha	Jehoshaphat: Son of Asa
Zimri: Overthrew Elah	Jehoram (Joram): Son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah
Omri: Overthrew Zimri	Ahaziah: Son of Jehoram and Athaliah
Ahab: Son of Omri; husband of Jezebel	Athaliah: Daughter of King Ahab of Israel and Jezebel; wife of Jehoram; only queen to rule over Judah
Ahaziah: Son of Ahab	Joash (Jehoash): Son of Ahaziah
Jehoram (Joram): Son of Ahab	Amaziah: Son of Joash
Jehu: Overthrew Jehoram	Uzziah (Azariah): Son of Amaziah
Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Jehu	Jotham: Regent, later King; son of Uzziah
Jehoash (Joash): Son of Jehoahaz	Ahaz: Son of Jotham
Jeroboam II: Son of Jehoash	Hezekiah: Son of Ahaz; husband of Hephzi-Bah
Zechariah: Son of Jeroboam II	Manasseh: Son of Hezekiah and Hephzi-Bah
Shallum: Overthrew Zechariah	Amon: Son of Manasseh
Menahem: Overthrew Shallum	Josiah (Josias): Son of Amon
Pekahiah: Son of Menahem	Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Josiah
Pekah: Overthrew Pekahiah	Jehoiakim: Son of Josiah
Hoshea: Overthrew Pekah; kingdom overthrown by Assyrians under Sargon II	Jehoiachin: Son of Jehoiakim
Good Bad Mixture of good & bad	Zedekiah: Son of Josiah; kingdom overthrown by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar



2 Kings
8: 26

Moses to Captivity



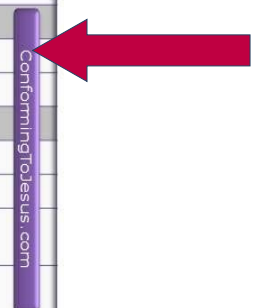
The Esarhaddon Prism is a narration of military conquests and lists the vassal kings paying tribute. Among these vassal kings mentioned is Manasseh the son of Hezekiah. Although he was the longest reigning king of either kingdoms of Israel, Manasseh, the king of Judah, was an evil king (2 Ki 21:1-18; 2 Chron 33:1-20), and in the Bible's record, the unnamed Assyrian king that defeated Manasseh was Esarhaddon (2 Chron 33:11). Manasseh would be Judah's most evil king (2 Ki 21:9) and reestablished pagan worship practices that his father previously destroyed.

British Museum

Moses to Captivity

Kings of Israel (North)	Kings of Judah (South)
Jeroboam I: Led secession of Israel	Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; first king
Nadab: Son of Jeroboam I	Abijah (Abijam; Abia): Son of Rehoboam
Baasha: Overthrew Nadab	Asa: Probably son of Abijah
Elah: Son of Baasha	Jehoshaphat: Son of Asa
Zimri: Overthrew Elah	Jehoram (Joram): Son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah
Omri: Overthrew Zimri	Ahaziah: Son of Jehoram and Athaliah
Ahab: Son of Omri; husband of Jezebel	Athaliah: Daughter of King Ahab of Israel and Jezebel; wife of Jehoram; only queen to rule over Judah
Ahaziah: Son of Ahab	Joash (Jehoash): Son of Ahaziah
Jehoram (Joram): Son of Ahab	Amaziah: Son of Joash
Jehu: Overthrew Jehoram	Uzziah (Azariah): Son of Amaziah
Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Jehu	Jotham: Regent, later King; son of Uzziah
Jehoash (Joash): Son of Jehoahaz	Ahaz: Son of Jotham
Jeroboam II: Son of Jehoash	Hezekiah: Son of Ahaz; husband of Hephzi-Bah
Zechariah: Son of Jeroboam II	Manasseh: Son of Hezekiah and Hephzi-Bah
Shallum: Overthrew Zechariah	Amon: Son of Manasseh
Menahem: Overthrew Shallum	Josiah (Josias): Son of Amon
Pekahiah: Son of Menahem	Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Josiah
Pekah: Overthrew Pekahiah	Jehoiakim: Son of Josiah
Hoshea: Overthrew Pekah; kingdom overthrown by Assyrians under Sargon II	Jehoiachin: Son of Jehoiakim
Good Bad Mixture of good & bad	Zedekiah: Son of Josiah; kingdom overthrown by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar

2 Chronicles:
23



Moses to Captivity



Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III

Discovered in Nimrud, in northern Iraq, and commemorates the deeds of King Shalmaneser III. (British Museum)

It is decorated with cuneiform inscriptions and reliefs recording military campaigns and other triumphs, including payment of tribute by **King Jehu** of Israel

Moses to Captivity

Kings of Israel (North)	Kings of Judah (South)
Jeroboam I: Led secession of Israel	Rehoboam: Son of Solomon; first king
Nadab: Son of Jeroboam I	Abijah (Abijam; Abia): Son of Rehoboam
Baasha: Overthrew Nadab	Asa: Probably son of Abijah
Elah: Son of Baasha	Jehoshaphat: Son of Asa
Zimri: Overthrew Elah	Jehoram (Joram): Son of Jehoshaphat; husband of Athaliah
Omri: Overthrew Zimri	Ahaziah: Son of Jehoram and Athaliah
Ahab: Son of Omri; husband of Jezebel	Athaliah: Daughter of King Ahab of Israel and Jezebel; wife of Jehoram; only queen to rule over Judah
Ahaziah: Son of Ahab	Joash (Jehoash): Son of Ahaziah
Jehoram (Joram): Son of Ahab	Amaziah: Son of Joash
Jehu: Overthrew Jehoram	Uzziah (Azariah): Son of Amaziah
Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Jehu	Jotham: Regent, later King; son of Uzziah
Jehoash (Joash): Son of Jehoahaz	Ahaz: Son of Jotham
Jeroboam II: Son of Jehoash	Hezekiah: Son of Ahaz; husband of Hephzi-Bah
Zechariah: Son of Jeroboam II	Manasseh: Son of Hezekiah and Hephzi-Bah
Shallum: Overthrew Zechariah	Amon: Son of Manasseh
Menahem: Overthrew Shallum	Josiah (Josias): Son of Amon
Pekahiah: Son of Menahem	Jehoahaz (Joahaz): Son of Josiah
Pekah: Overthrew Pekahiah	Jehoiakim: Son of Josiah
Hoshea: Overthrew Pekah; kingdom overthrown by Assyrians under Sargon II	Jehoiachin: Son of Jehoiakim
Good Bad Mixture of good & bad	Zedekiah: Son of Josiah; kingdom overthrown by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar

2 Kings 9



Moses to Captivity



Prisms of Sennacherib:

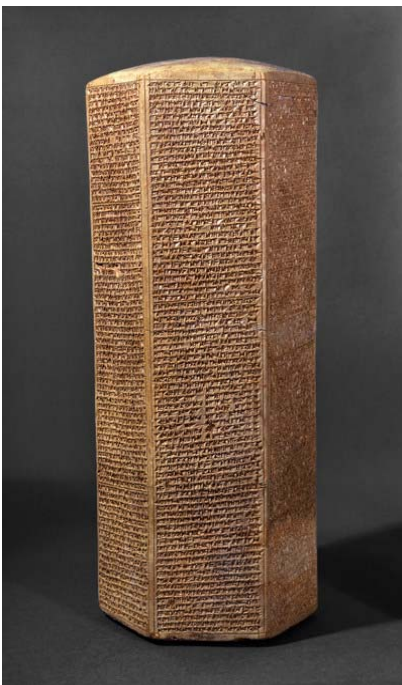
Taylor Prism: (British Museum)

Oriental Institute Prism:

Jerusalem Prism: Israel Museum – Jerusalem

Deals with Sennacherib's conquest of various lands and of his construction projects in Ninevah & Babylon. The Prisms are nearly identical and once indicates that it was written (carved) six months from the other at Sennacherib's direction.

Moses to Captivity



Part of Inscription:

“As for the king of Judah, Hezekiah, who had not submitted to my authority, I besieged and captured 46 of his fortified cities, along with many smaller towns, taken in battle with my battering rams ... I took as plunder 200,150 people, both small and great, male and female, along with a great number of animals including horses, mules, donkeys, camels, oxen and sheep.”

Later:

“Fear of my greatness terrified Hezekiah. He sent to me tribute: 30 talents of gold, 800 talents of silver, precious stones, ivory and all sorts of gifts, including women from his palace.”

Compare to 2 Kings 18:13 on

So how about D.M. Murdoch's claims in

"The Christ Conspiracy: The Greatest Story Ever Sold"????

Questions:

- a) So how much physical evidence is there for **any** particular event that arose during these time periods?
- b) How much support is needed to believe a written text (Old Testament) that does such a good job matching what we have found?
- c) When does oral tradition that is eventually put down in accurate historical writing achieve some acceptability as evidence?
- d) How many other cultures from that time even bothered to put their oral traditions down in detailed writings?
- e) How many cultures honestly wrote about their failures as well as their successes and conquests?

The Old Testament Holy Lands

Still to come:

Return to Jerusalem (Rebuilding the Temple)
Maccabean / Hasmonean Era
Jesus thru Temple Destruction
Dead Sea Scrolls