

31. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF WHERE JESUS CAST DEMONS OUT OF THE POSSESSED MEN

Kursi, Galilee, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 32°49'22.00"N, 35°39'9.94"E

And when He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass through that way. And suddenly they shouted out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time? Now a long distance away from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And, suddenly the entire herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the water. Matthew 8:30-32 (KJV 2016)

In 1970, road works accidentally revealed the walls of a Byzantine monastery. Further excavation by Dr. Vassilios Tzaferis, a Greek-born Israeli archaeologist, revealed the largest monastery in Israel, which was built to commemorate the place where Jesus cast demons out of the demon-possessed men. There are tombs built into the hill as described in the gospels, and the lake floor plunges off abruptly, leading to the death of 2,000 pigs as recorded in Matthew's gospel.



Ruins of 5th Century Monastery at Kursi, the largest Byzantine monastery in Israel

The Discovery of the 5th C. Monastery at Kursi



Dr. Vassilios Tzaferis
1936 - 2015



Greek
Archaeologist

Education:

He became an ordained deacon in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. Then he received a BA in Archaeology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Then he received his Ph.D in Archaeology in 1970.

Organization/Place of Work

He worked for many years for the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

Bible Evidence:

Dr. Tzaferis made excavations at Kursi, discovering the largest byzantine monastery in Israel from 1970-1973, then again in 2001-2002.

Bible Passage:

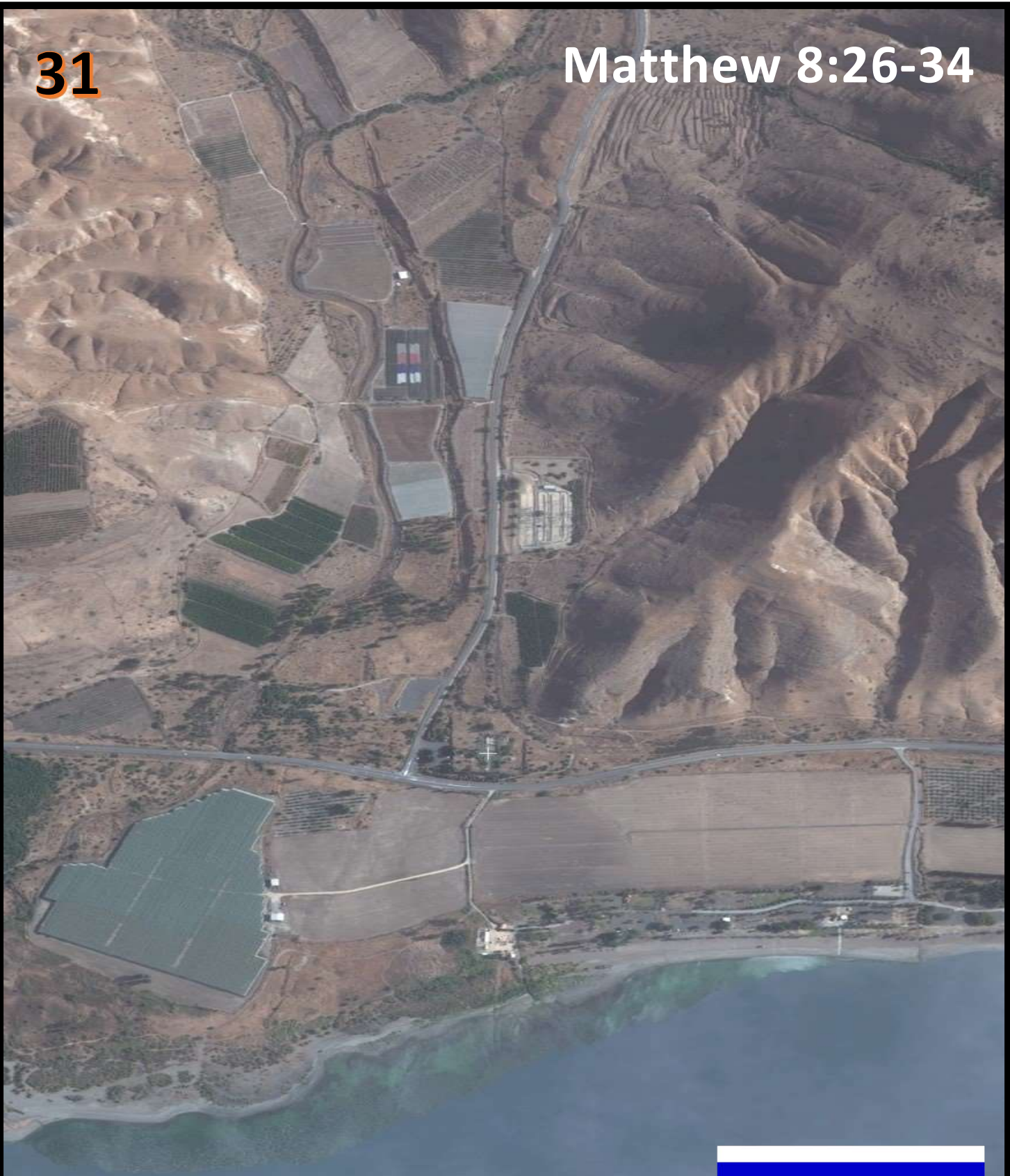
Matthew 8:28-34



Google Earth Coordinates: 32°49'22.00"N, 35°39'9.94"E

31

Matthew 8:26-34



Where Jesus cast demons into pigs
Kursi, Galilee, Israel



32. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF WHERE JESUS WAS TRANSFIGURED

Mount Tabor Galilee, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 32°41'13.61"N, 35°23'25.38"E

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them, so His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them there, talking with Him. Then Peter responded and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you want to, let us make three tabernacles here; one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he still spoke, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, except Jesus only. Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen again from the dead." Matthew 17:1-9 (KJV 2016)

The Prophet Micah foretold that the Lord would tread upon the high places of the earth. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy when He was transfigured on the holy mountain. During Byzantine times a church and monastery were built on Mount Tabor. This location was also identified by Origen in the 3rd century. In total, 4,300 steps were built up to the top in the 4th century, and it became an important pilgrimage site. By the 8th century there were four churches and a monastery on the summit. According to tradition, this is the place where Jesus revealed Himself to Peter, James and John as much more than a man, but as God and man, according to Matthew 17:1-9. Now the Church of the Transfiguration stands on the summit of Mount Tabor.



Church of the Transfiguration, Mount Tabor



View from Mount Tabor

32

Matthew 17:1-9

Mount of the Transfiguration
Mount Tabor, Galilee, Israel



33. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF JACOB'S WELL IN SYCHAR, SAMARIA

St. Photini Orthodox Church, Nablus, West Bank. Google Earth Coordinates: 32°12'42.74"N, 35°16'39.71"E

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus on the well. Now it was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came there to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." Because His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" Because Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." John 4:5-10 (KJV 2016)

This is the place where Jesus met with the woman from Samaria and asked her for a drink of water in John 4:1-26. During Byzantine times the site was identified as Jacob's well and was used for baptisms. American Biblical scholar Edward Robinson visited the site in the mid-1800s and said that Jacob's well was a "shapeless mass of ruins". Then the Greek Orthodox church obtained the site in 1860 and built the beautiful Church of St. Photini, (the Samaritan woman's name by tradition), around the well, which has a depth of 41 m (135 feet). Sadly, in 1979 Israeli extremists brutally killed the custodian of the well, Archimandrite Philoumenos, as they wanted the area to be a Jewish holy site only. In 2009, thirty years after the custodian's martyrdom, he was declared St. Philoumenos.



Jacob's Well is located in Basement of St. Photini Orthodox Church, Nablus, West Bank



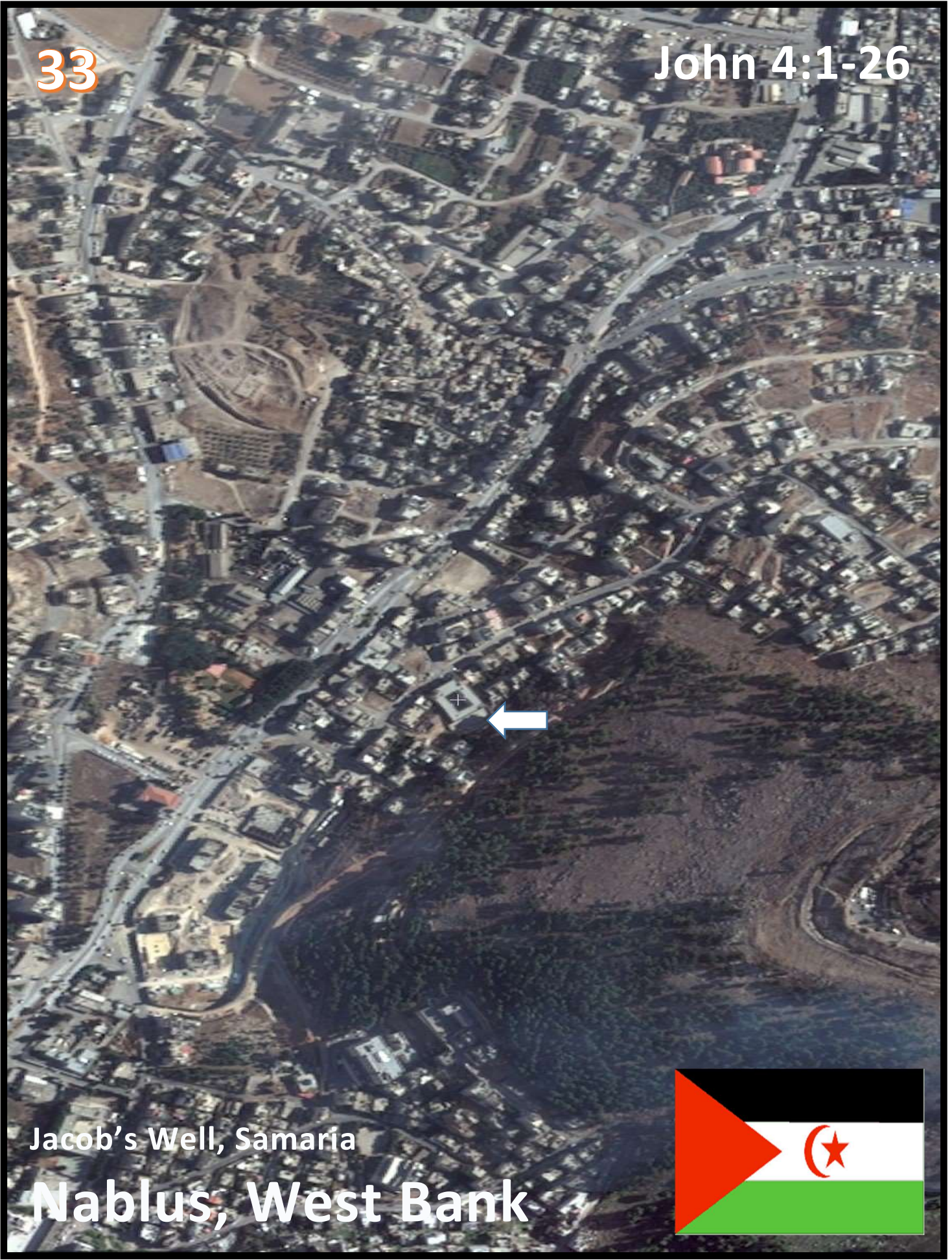
The beautiful Church of St. Photini



Saint Philoumenos, keeper of Jacob's Well

33

John 4:1-26



Jacob's Well, Samaria

Nablus, West Bank

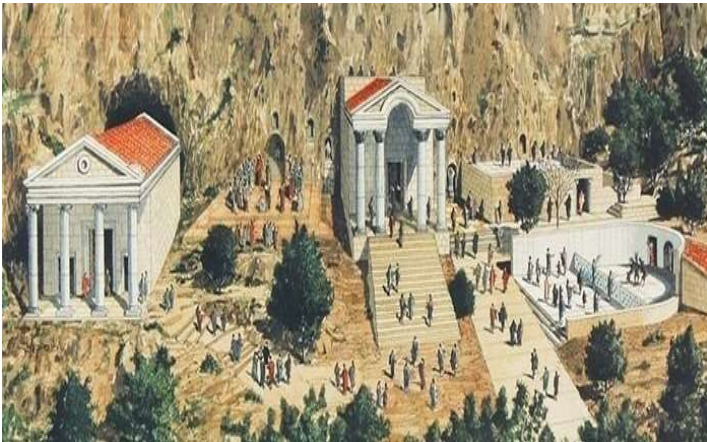


34. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR CAESAREA PHILIPPI

Banias, Golan Heights, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 33° 14'46.32"N, 35° 41'38.79"E

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I the Son of Man, am?” So they said, “Some say that You are John the Baptist, some, Elijah, and others Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Matthew 16:13-16 (KJV 2016)

This place is also called Banias, named after the Greek god Pan, the half-goat, half-man god whose shriek could cause fright (thus the word “Panic”). It was a large center of pagan worship in the time of Jesus. The Grotto of Pan is where worshippers would cast sacrifices into the cave. Banias is situated at the base of Mount Hermon. Jesus and his disciples were on a road near Caesarea Philippi when Jesus asked the question “Who do men say that I am?” This is where Peter declared “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God”.



Caesarea Philippi in the time of Jesus Christ



Ruins of the Grotto of Caesarea Philippi



The raised Roman Road in Caesarea Philippi

34

Matthew 16:13-19

Ancient Caesarea Philippi
Banias, Golan Heights, Israel



35. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE SYCAMORE TREE WHERE ZACCHAEUS MET JESUS

Jericho, West Bank. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°51'33.01"N, 35°27'25.64"E

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, because he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, because He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, because today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Luke 19:1-7 (KJV 2016)

At this spot, on the grounds of the Convent of the Good Shepherd in Jericho, Zacchaeus, a man of short stature, climbed the sycamore fig tree in order to see Jesus as he was passing by. Some believe this tree to be the actual tree that Zacchaeus climbed. Nearby is a little room surrounded by glass with a very old sycamore fig trunk which the Orthodox Church believes is the actual tree of Zacchaeus. Either way, evidence shows that the sycamore fig tree mentioned in Luke 19:1-10 was somewhere in this vicinity.



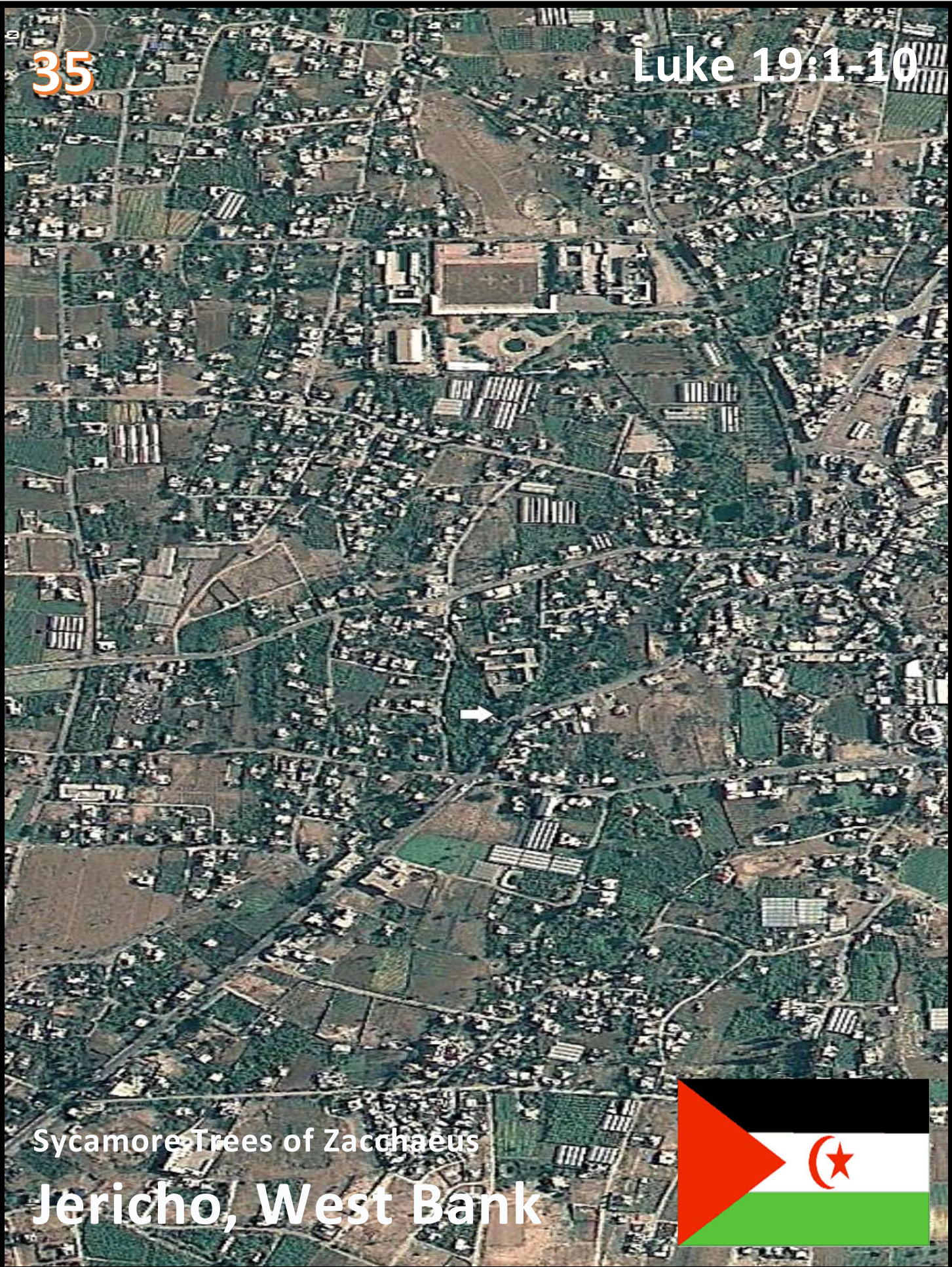
The Zaccheus Tree in Jericho



Zacchaeus Ancient Tree Stump (Orthodox) nearby in Jericho

35

Luke 19:1-10



Sycamore Trees of Zacchaeus
Jericho, West Bank



36. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE TOMB OF LAZARUS WHOM JESUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD

Al-Eizariya, West Bank. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'11.94"N, 35°15'51.63"E

Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time he smells, because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." Now when He had spoken these things, He shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go." Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed on Him. John 11:38-45 (KJV 2016)

In the year 330 AD, Eusebius of Caesarea mentions visiting the tomb of Lazarus as described in John 11:1-45. By the year 390 there was a church dedicated to Lazarus at this site called the Lazarium. In the 16th century the al-Uzair Mosque was built on this site. In modern times, 24 steps descend from the street level to a place of prayer, then a few more steps descend to the antechamber, dating to the first century, where Jesus would have stood. From here Jesus called to Lazarus in his tomb, which was 21 square feet (2 m²). Here Lazarus was raised to life after four days of death.



The Tomb of Lazarus in Bethany - al-Eizariya



Steps leading to 1st Century Tomb

36

John 11:1-44



The tomb of Lazarus

Al-Eizariya, West Bank



37. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE POOL OF BETHESDA WHERE JESUS HEALED THE LAME MAN

Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'53.04"N, 35°14'8.88"E

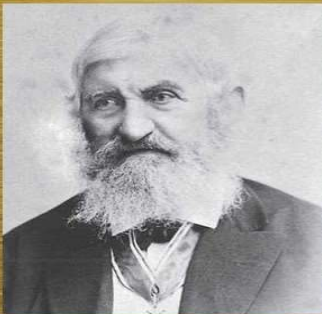
After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in the Hebrew language, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a large crowd of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. Because, an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And on the same day was the Sabbath. John 5:1-9 (KJV 2016)

The Prophet Isaiah foretold that God would come and save His people – then the lame shall leap like a deer. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy when He healed the lame man at Bethesda and told him to take up his bed and walk. In 1888, Conrad Schick, a German architect and archaeologist, discovered the Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem. It is only 410 feet (125 m) away from the Sheep Gate (later renamed the Lion's Gate), following the Biblical description. Later in 1964, after further excavation, it was discovered that Byzantine and Crusader-era churches were built on the site to commemorate the miracle of the healing of the lame man in John 5:1-9.



The Pool of Bethesda

The Discovery of the Pool of Bethesda in 1888



Dr. Conrad Schick
M.A., Ph.D.
1822 - 1901



Architect &
Archaeologist
from Kingdom of
Württemberg

Education:

He first studied at the Chrishona Institution at Basle, Switzerland. Then he apprenticed as a watch and clock maker. Later in life he was awarded honorary Masters and Ph.D. from Tübingen University, Germany.

Organization/Place of Work

He worked for the Palestine Exploration Fund and published many articles in German and English. His life work as a missionary and archaeologist and architect for Muslims, Jews and Christians made him beloved by all who knew him.

Bible Evidence:

Conrad Schick discovered a large tank situated about 100 feet north-west of St. Anne's Church, Jerusalem, which he contended was the Pool of Bethesda.

Bible Passage:

John 5:1-9



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'53.04"N, 35°14'8.88"E

37



John 5:1-9



The Pool of Bethesda
Jerusalem, Israel



38. THIS IS THE POOL OF SILOAM WHERE JESUS HEALED THE BLIND MAN

City of David, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'13.18"N, 35°14'7.19"E

Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and returned seeing. John 9:1-7 (KJV 2016)

The Prophet Isaiah foretold that God would come and save His people – then the eyes of the blind would be opened. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy when He opened the eyes of the blind man. In 2004, workers who were repairing a large water pipe drainage system uncovered ancient steps. Then Dr. Ronny Reich and Eli Shukron, both Israeli archaeologists, excavated further and discovered that this is the Biblical site of the Pool of Siloam, fed by the Gihon spring, in the city of David in southern Jerusalem. Further excavation is difficult as the rest of the pool lies underneath property owned by the Greek Orthodox Church. This is the place where Jesus said to the blind man to go and wash after he put mud on the man's eyes in John 9:1-7.



The Pool of Siloam

The Discovery of the Pool of Siloam in 2004



Dr. Ronny Reich
1947 - Present



Israeli
Archaeologist

Education:

He received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He obtained his Ph. D. with his dissertation on Jewish ritual baths in the second temple period.

Organization/Place of Work

He is now professor at the University of Haifa, Israel in the department of Archaeology where he serves as dept. head.

Bible Evidence:

John 9:1-5

Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'13.18"N, 35°14'7.19"E

The Discovery of the Pool of Siloam in 2004



Eli Shukron



Israeli
Archaeologist

Education:

Shukron received his master's degree from the Institute of Archaeology of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Organization/Place of Work

He works for the Israeli Antiquities Authority

Bible Evidence:

John 9:1-5

He discovered the Biblical site of the Pool of Siloam in Southern Jerusalem and in the city of David. He has been excavating for past 18 years.

Contact Email:

elishu29@gmail.com

Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'13.18"N, 35°14'7.19"E



38



John 9:1-5

Pool of Siloam

Jerusalem, Israel



39. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE FALLEN TOWER OF SILOAM

City of David, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'22.72"N, 35°14'11.00"E

Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” Luke 13:4-5 (KJV 2016)

The Tower of Siloam protected the Gihon Spring, which provided the city of David with the clean spring water that ran downhill into the pool of Siloam. Excavating in this area, Dr. Ronny Reich and Eli Shukron uncovered massive fortification boulders dating back to 1800 BC, the Canaanite period, when the Jebusites lived in the city—well before David’s conquest. It is clear that the springs of Gihon have been protected for millennia. In Luke 13:1-9 we read how 18 people were killed when the Tower of Siloam fell on them. Ruins of the base of this tower and fallen stones are still visible.



The Fallen Tower of Siloam, City of David, Jerusalem

The Discovery of the Tower of Siloam in 2004



Eli Shukron



Israeli Archaeologist

Education:

Shukron received his master’s degree from the Institute of Archaeology of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Organization/Place of Work

He works for the Israeli Antiquities Authority

Bible Evidence:

John 9:1-5
He discovered the Biblical site of the Pool of Siloam in Southern Jerusalem and in the city of David. He has been excavating for past 18 years.

Contact Email:

elishu29@gmail.com

Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'13.18"N, 35°14'7.19"E

The Discovery of the Tower of Siloam in 2004



Dr. Ronny Reich
1947 - Present



Israeli Archaeologist

Education:

He received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He obtained his Ph. D. with his dissertation on Jewish ritual baths in the second temple period.

Organization/Place of Work

He is now professor at the University of Haifa, Israel in the department of Archaeology where he serves as dept. head.

Bible Evidence:

John 9:1-5
He discovered the Biblical site of the Pool of Siloam in Southern Jerusalem and in the city of David.

Contact Email:

ronny@research.haifa.ac.il



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'13.18"N, 35°14'7.19"E

39



Luke 13:1-9



Tower of Siloam

Jerusalem, Israel



40. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE TRIBUTE PENNY OF TIBERIAS CAESAR

Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'19.40"N, 35°12'14.77"E

“Then the Pharisees went, and plotted how they might entangle Him in His speech. And they sent out to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You gratify anyone, because You do not regard the person of men. Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, “Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the tax money.” So they gave a denarius to Him. And He said to them, “Whose image and inscription is this?” They said to Him, “Caesar’s.” Then He said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” Matthew 22:15-21 (KJV 2016)

Jesus was questioned in Matthew 22:15-21 about whether or not to pay taxes to Caesar. Jesus asks the Pharisees to show Him the denarius. This denarius is a tribute penny of Tiberius Caesar, rare coins that can be purchased on eBay and are also on display in the Israel Museum. The coin was minted during the reign of Emperor Tiberius Caesar, 14-37 AD.



The Tribute Penny of Tiberias Caesar



The Israel Museum

40

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Israel Museum
Jerusalem, Israel

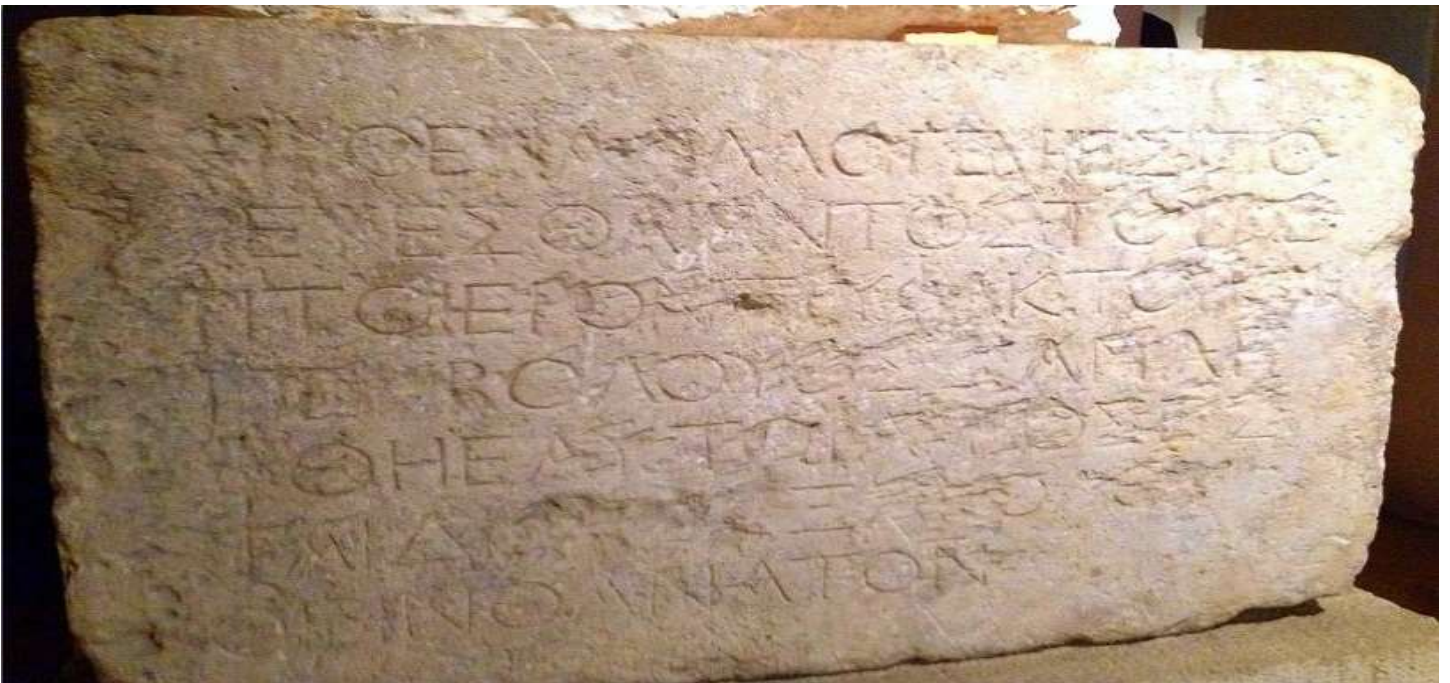


41. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF HEROD'S TEMPLE – TEMPLE WARNING INSCRIPTION

Temple Mount, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'40.68"N, 35°14'7.41"E

Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said, “As for these things which you see, the days will come in which not one stone will be left upon another that will not be thrown down.” Luke 21:5-6 (KJV 2016)

The prophet Malachi foretold that the Lord, the Messenger of the Covenant, would come suddenly to His temple and would purify the priests, the sons of Levi. Jesus came to the temple from just eight days old to just a few days before His death at 33. There He made a whip out of cords and drove money changers from the temple and rebuked the chief priests in fulfillment of the prophecy. Herod's Temple was built starting in 19 AD and it was the center and heart of the Jewish faith. In 1871, Charles Simon Clermont Ganneau, a French archaeologist, discovered a thick marble slab north of the temple mount in Jerusalem with an inscription in Greek which reads: “No foreigner is to enter within the balustrade and forecourt along the sacred precinct. Whoever is caught will himself be responsible for (his) consequent death.” This inscription is located at the Istanbul Archaeology Museum. As well, a silver tetradachm from the Bar Kokhba period shows what the temple looked like from the front.



The Temple Warning Inscription at the Istanbul Archaeology Museum



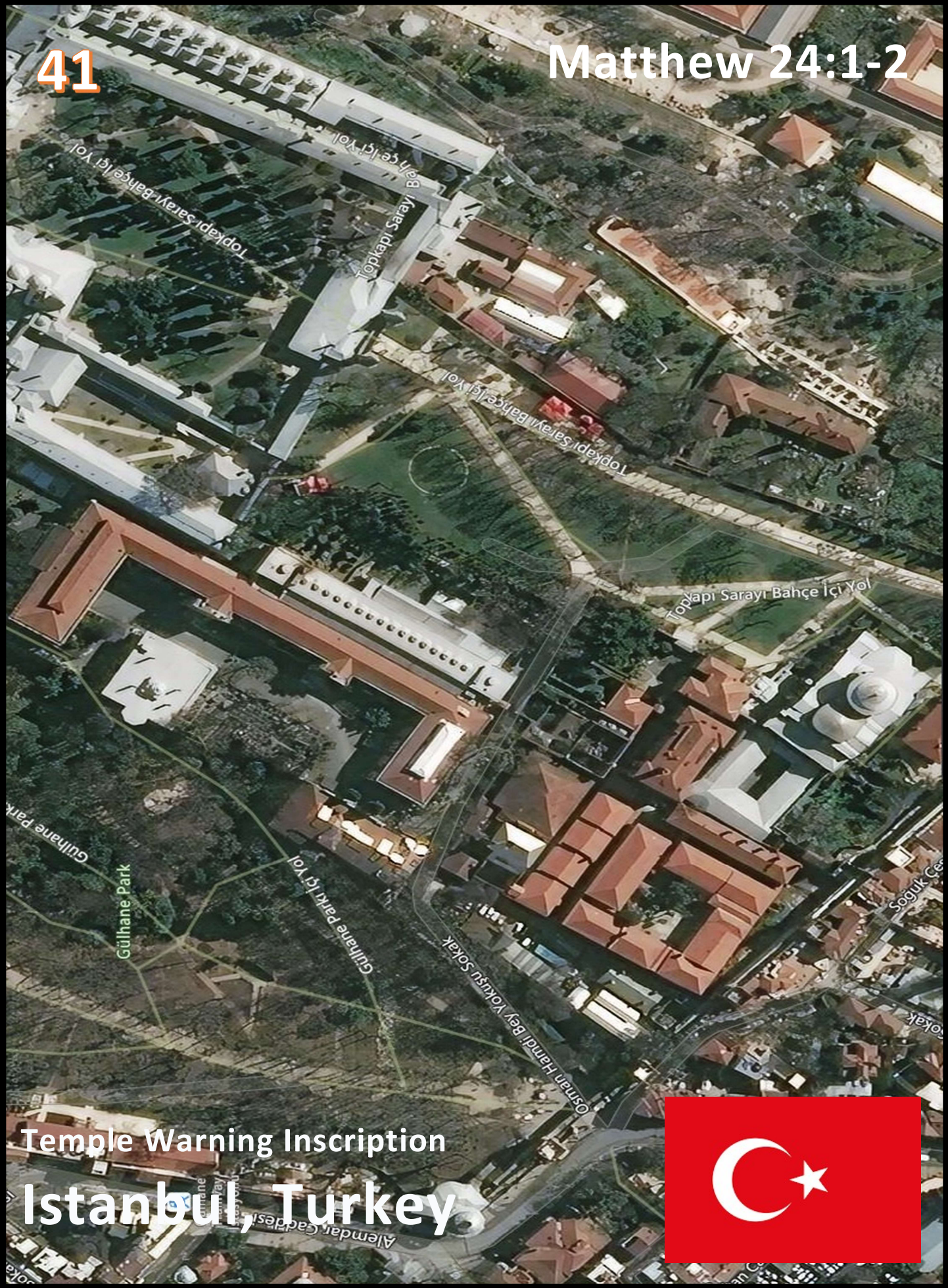
Silver Tetradachm showing front of Temple



Model of Temple, Holyland Model of Jerusalem, Israel Museum Scale 1:50

41

Matthew 24:1-2



Temple Warning Inscription
Istanbul, Turkey



42. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF HEROD'S TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM

Temple Mount, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'40.68"N, 35°14'7.41"E

Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said, "As for these things which you see, the days will come in which not one stone will be left upon another that will not be thrown down." Luke 21:5-6 (KJV 2016)

Jesus came to the temple from just eight days old to just a few days before His death at 33. Herod's Temple was built starting in 19 AD and it was the center and heart of the Jewish faith. Just recently an examination of landfill by the Temple Mount sifting project under Israeli archaeologist Dr. Gabriel Barkay is uncovering pieces of the tiles from Herod's temple. These tiles were ornate and multicolored and called "opus sectile", latin for cut work, which was a very expensive and prestigious type of tile. Indeed Herod's temple was an incredible piece of craftsmanship and the crowning jewel of Herod's building projects. It was the centerpiece of the Jewish faith and fabulously decorated. This is why the disciples were so impressed with the buildings of the temple in Matthew 24:1-2.



Floor tiles of the Temple that have been restored by archaeologists in Israel



The Western Wailing Wall – the Foundation of Herod's Temple



Dr. Gabriel Barkay with Herod's temple tile design

Matthew 24:1-2

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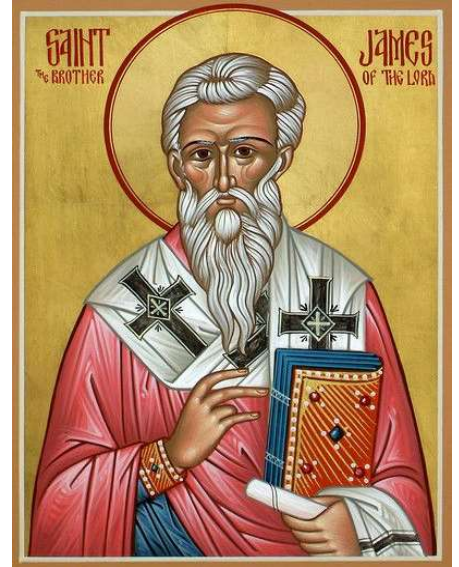
Herod's Temple Location
Jerusalem, Israel



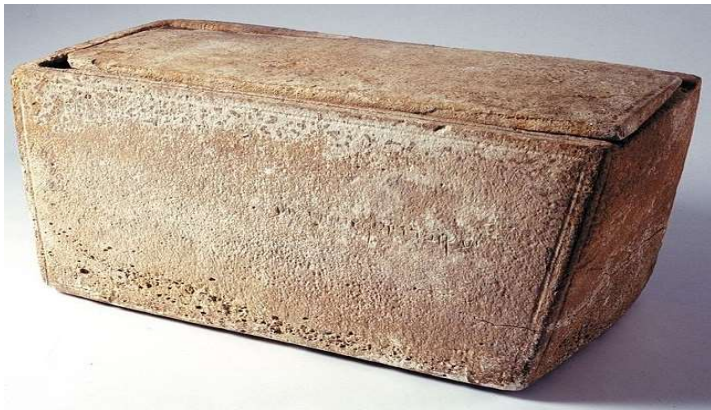
43. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR JAMES THE BROTHER OF JESUS

Present Location: UNKNOWN. In personal collection of Oded Golan

Then He went out from there and came into His own country, and His disciples followed Him. And when the Sabbath day had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that even such mighty works are performed by His hands? Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and the brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Mark 6:1-6 (KJV 2016)



A stone box containing the bones of James, the half-brother of Jesus and leader of the Jerusalem church, was purchased in the 1970s for a few hundred dollars by Oded Golan, an Israeli engineer. He kept it for years with no idea what the inscription meant. When it was later examined, the ossuary read: "Jacob (James) son of Joseph, Brother of Jesus". James was the half-brother of Jesus according to Matthew 13:55-56. This ossuary was examined by Andre Lemaire, French Epigraphist and later Israeli Paleographer, Ada Yardeni. In 2002 Lemaire declared it to the world as the ossuary of James the brother of Jesus Christ. However, this discovery was later contested by the Israel Antiquities Authority and Oded Golan was charged with forgery. Ada Yardeni, after examining the ossuary and inscription, said: "If this is a forgery, I quit!" After an almost 8 year trial in an Israeli court, Oded Golan was cleared of all charges, for the court could not prove it was a forgery. Even Israeli archaeologist Gabriel Barkay believes it to be authentic. It is therefore the oldest written inscription referring to Jesus Christ.




The Ossuary of Jacob (James) son of Joseph brother of Jesus




Oded Golan with his enormous private collection

Discovery of the Ossuary of James, Brother of Jesus in 2002



Oded Golan
Presently Alive




Israeli Engineer and Antiquities Collector

Education:
Oded Golan is an Engineer.

Organization/Place of Work
He owns one of the largest collection of Biblical archaeology in the world. Golan bought the ossuary in the early 1970s for a few hundred dollars but was not aware of the inscription until decades later.


Bible Evidence:
Matthew 13:55-56

The Ossuary or bone box of James the 1/2 brother of Jesus, son of Mary and Joseph of Nazareth. Currently in the Oded Golan's collection.




Google Earth Coordinates: Currently stored in undisclosed location

Discovery of the Ossuary of James, Brother of Jesus in 2002



Ada Yardeni



Israeli Paleographer


Education:
She received her diploma of Graphic Arts from Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design (1960). Then BA in Hebrew Language (1976), MA (1983) and PhD (1991) in Semitic Languages and Paleography from The Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

Organization/Place of Work
She is professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem at the Institute of Arts and Letters, Faculty of Humanities.

Bible Evidence:
Matthew 13:55-56

Hebrew Paleographer who examined the James' ossuary and stated in 2002 that she had no doubt that it was of ancient origin, and that it was inscribed by a single individual. "If this is a forgery...I quit."

Contact Email:
ada.yardeni@mail.huji.ac.il



Google Earth Coordinates: Currently stored in undisclosed location

43

The James Ossuary



44. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR WHERE JESUS WEPT OVER JERUSALEM

Dominus Flevit Church Grounds, Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'40.15"N, 35°14'30.24"E

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to you! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!" Luke 13:34 (KJV 2016)

In 1953, Dr. Bellarmino Bagatti, a Franciscan monk and archaeologist, began excavations at this site which overlooks Jerusalem. It was here where our Lord wept over the city. In Latin this is called "Dominus Flevit" and this is the name of the church that is built at that site. During Byzantine times there was a chapel in this location with mosaic floors. This site was later used by the Crusaders who must have known its importance. While construction was taking place on the church an amazing find was discovered. The oldest Christian cemetery ever found was located there. Ossuaries with inscriptions such as "Simon bar Jonah", "Mary / Martha" and "Sapphira" were found at this location. It was here where Jesus declared His love for Jerusalem and wept for the people of Israel.



The Dominus Flevit Church, Jerusalem, Israel

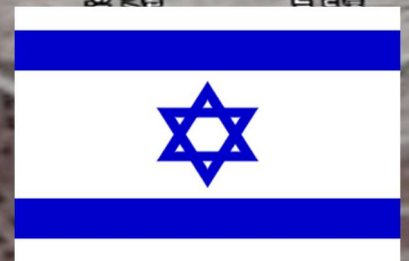


This Window shows the Cup of Suffering Jesus Took



Where Jesus wept over Jerusalem
 Dominus Flevit Church

Jerusalem, Israel



45. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR MARY AND MARTHA OF BETHANY

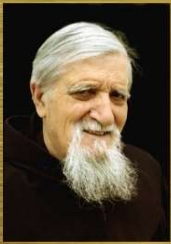
Dominus Flevit Church Grounds, Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'40.15"N, 35°14'30.24"E
The Ossuary is currently located in the Museum of the Flagellation, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'49.78"N, 35°14'3.19"E

Now it happened as they went that He entered into a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:38-42 (KJV 2016)



In 1953, while excavating on the Mount of Olives before the construction of the Dominus Flevit Church on this hill where Jesus wept for Jerusalem, Italian Franciscan archaeologist Dr. Father Bellarmino Bagatti found many ossuaries in three different caves. In one of the caves, he found a Christian symbol, the Greek Chi-Ro, which identified it as a Jewish Christian burial, at tomb number 79. In tomb number 79 they found an ossuary bearing the name Simon son of Jonah, which is the name of Simon Peter. As well, in tomb number 70 they found an ossuary bearing the names Mary and Martha, who were both from Bethany, as mentioned in detail in the gospels. Their findings were published in 1958 in "Gli Scavi del "Dominus Flevit" parte I", along with Father J. T. Milik, an expert in ancient languages and who was central to deciphering the Dead Sea Scrolls. This is direct physical evidence from the first century of the existence of Mary and Martha, as mentioned in Luke 10:38-42.

The Discovery of Mary, Martha, Sapphira and Simon Peter Ossuaries



Dr. Fr. Bellarmino Bagatti
1905 - 1990



Italian
Franciscan
Archaeologist

Education:

He became a priest in 1928 and studied at the Pontifical Institute of Christian Archaeology in Rome where he received a doctorate in Christian Archaeology.

Organization/Place of Work

From 1935-1978 he worked at "Studium Biblicum Franciscanum" in Jerusalem, teaching Christian archeology, topography of Jerusalem which he directed (68-78).

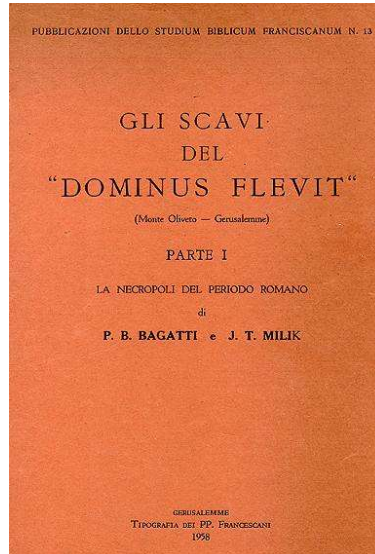
Bible Evidence:

John 11:1-2; Matthew 4:18-20

He performed excavations at many sites in Israel including Dominus Flevit in 1953-1955. At the Dominus Flevit site he uncovered many ossuaries with New Testament names such as "Mary, Martha" and "Simon son of Jonah".



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'40.15"N 35°14'30.24"E



The Mary / Martha Ossuary, Site 70



Mary / Martha Inscription

Matthew 4:18-20

45



Church of the Flagellation
Jerusalem, Israel

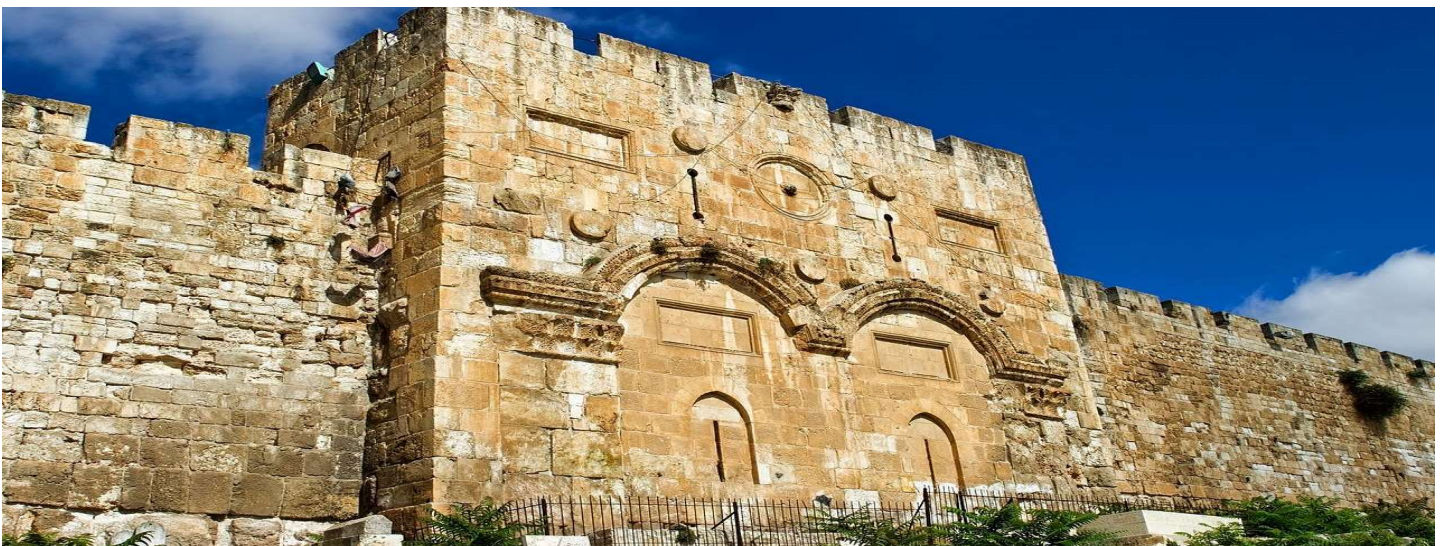


46. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE EASTERN GATE WHERE THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY TOOK PLACE

Temple Mount, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'44.13"N, 35°14'14.03"E

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent out two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them, and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and he will immediately send them." All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, humble, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" Then the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, and brought the donkey and the colt, put their clothes on them, and they set Him on them. And a very large crowd spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds who went before and those who followed shouted out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! Hosanna in the highest!" And when He came into Jerusalem, the entire city was moved saying, "Who is this?" Then the crowd said, "This is Jesus the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee." Matthew 21:1-11 (KJV 2016)

The prophet Zechariah foretold that the King of the Jewish people would come to Jerusalem, a just person and having salvation, humble and riding on a young donkey. Then the prophet Ezekiel foretold that the Lord God of Israel would pass through the Eastern gate and that it should remain sealed. Jesus fulfilled this prophecy as He entered Jerusalem's Golden Gate that great day – and today the gate is completely sealed up. However, in 1969, Dr. James Fleming, who was then completing his Master of Archaeology degree, was leading a group of pilgrims near the Yusefiya Islamic Cemetery, outside Jerusalem's Eastern Gate. As he approached the closed Golden Gate near the cemetery to take a picture of the arch, he fell through the floor of a tomb 8 feet (2.4 meters) down and landed on top of a pile of bones. It was a mass grave with 46 individuals buried there in the past 100 years or so. Fleming grabbed his camera and took a photograph of an ancient arch which was underground—the very arch of the Eastern Gate from the time of Jesus when He came through this gate into the temple in Jerusalem.



The Sealed Golden Gate of Jerusalem



Fleming's Photo of arch of the older Eastern Gate in Jerusalem



Dr. James Fleming

Matthew 21:1-11

46



Eastern Gate of the Triumphal Entry
Jerusalem, Israel



47. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF WHERE THE LAST SUPPER AND PENTECOST TOOK PLACE

Mount Zion, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'17.74"N, 35°13'44.68"E

When came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." So they said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare?" And He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered into the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he enters. Then you will say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?'" Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready.'" So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover. Luke 22:7-13 (KJV 2016)

In Luke 22:7-13 we read how Jesus told his disciples to prepare for the Passover in a furnished upper room. This place on Mount Zion is probably the same location where the disciples were all meeting of one accord in Acts 2 when the Holy Spirit came and the Christian church was born. The prophet Isaiah foretold that the Lord God would lay a foundation stone in Zion. This was fulfilled with the birth of the church upon Jesus the true foundation stone. The prophet Zephaniah foretold that God would restore to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one accord. This was also fulfilled in the upper room when the disciples spoke in tongues. Cyril of Jerusalem called this place the Upper Room of Pentecost on Mount Zion in 348 AD. The upper room can be seen depicted of the Madaba map of 540 AD, and it was known as the "Upper Church of the Apostles." The style of architecture in the room strongly indicates that this room was built by the Crusaders in the 12th century or soon afterward by the Franciscans. After the expulsion of the Crusaders it was used as a mosque, and in 1948, when Israel became a nation, it was taken over by the Israeli government. Below the upper room is the traditional site of the tomb of King David.



The Upper Room of the Apostles depicted in the Madaba map

Madaba Map Depiction of Jerusalem in the mid-6th Century



The Cenaculum, Mount Zion, Jerusalem

Luke 22:7-13

47



The Upper Room of the Disciples
Jerusalem, Israel

48. THIS IS THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'43.93"N, 35°14'23.31"E

And He came out, and went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you do not enter into temptation." And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if You are willing, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. Then He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation." Luke 22:39-46 (KJV 2016)

The prophet Joel foretold that He would gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat and enter into judgement with them there on account of the Jewish people whom they had scattered among the nations. The Garden of Gethsemane is located in the Valley of Jehoshaphat. St. Jerome (c. 347-420 AD), a historian and priest in ancient times, mentions Gethsemane, which means "oil press", the place where Jesus prayed with His disciples before His arrest as found in Luke 22:39-46. There was a 4th century church built at the site in the days of St. Jerome, but it was destroyed by the Persian army in 614 AD, then rebuilt only to be destroyed again in 746 by a powerful earthquake. The Church of All Nations is located here, built upon the ruins of the Byzantine and Crusader churches. It was built in 1922 by the Franciscans and 16 nations in total went in together to help build the church. Within this church is the rock where it is believed Jesus prayed in agony and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. It is a sacred space where visitors must be extra quiet in reverence. In the garden are ancient olive trees which could have been the very same ones Jesus saw in his time of agony before the cross.



The Garden of Gethsemane Olive Grove



The Rock upon which Jesus sweat drops of blood



The Church of all Nations

48

Matthew 26:36



Garden of Gethsemane, Mount of Olives
Jerusalem, Israel



49. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF WHERE JESUS WAS HELD AS PRISONER

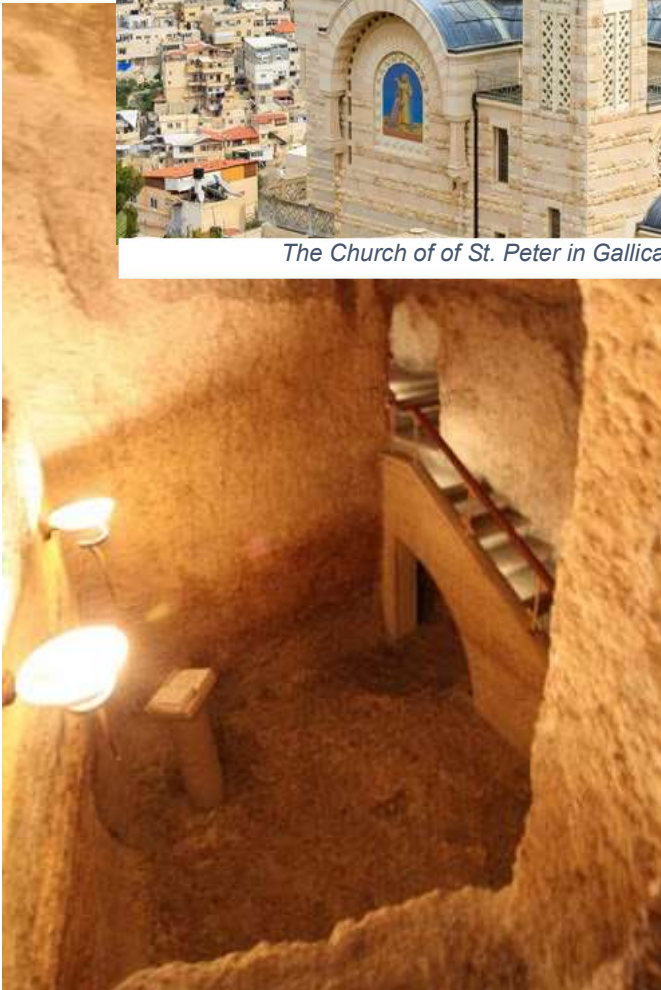
Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31° 46' 17" N, 35° 13' 55" E

Then Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So Peter went out and wept bitterly. Luke 22:60-62 (KJV 2016)

In the year 333 AD, pilgrims recorded visiting the house of Caiaphas the high priest in Jerusalem. Then in 457 AD a church was built at the site of Peter's denial of Jesus. The present church was built in 1932 and is called the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. Gallicantu means "cock crow" and is on the Eastern slope of Mount Zion. After Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, Peter followed right into the courtyard of the high priest, Caiaphas. At this place Peter denied Jesus three times before the rooster crowed twice. Today a golden rooster sits on top of a black cross to remind pilgrims of Peter's denial and repentance. Then Jesus was unjustly tried and condemned as deserving of death. He was then placed in a dungeon after his mock trial awaiting trial before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. This dungeon is called Christ's prison, and Jesus would have been lowered by rope harness. Like Joseph, who was betrayed by his brothers and thrown into a pit, Jesus would have spent hours here before his suffering and crucifixion for the sins of the world. This is now a sacred place of pilgrimage for Christians.



The Church of of St. Peter in Gallicantu, Jerusalem



Christ's Prison beneath the Church of Gallicantu, Jerusalem



The Statue of Peter Denying Christ before 3 people with Rooster on Top that Crowed before dawn

Luke 22:60-62

49



Where Jesus was tried at House of Caiaphas

Jerusalem, Israel



50. THIS IS HEROD'S PALACE COMPLEX WHERE JESUS STOOD TRIAL BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE

Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'33.90"N, 35°13'40.93"E

Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" And Jesus said to him, "It is as you say." And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He did not reply. Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly. Matthew 27:11-14 (KJV 2016)

This site, named the Kishle, right next to the citadel and Tower of David complex, is where Amit Re'em, an Israeli archaeologist, started excavations in 1999. When he dug through layers of history, he uncovered the foundation of a fortification wall built by Hezekiah, a defensive wall from the Hasmonean period, and Herod the Great's Jerusalem palace wall. This palace was a very large complex, and after Herod's death, the sons of Herod and Roman officials would administer much of Palestine from the building. While the prefect would normally be at the provincial capital Caesarea, he would travel to Jerusalem for Passover in order to maintain order among the masses of Jews who converged on the Temple from the entire region. It was here that Pontius Pilatus tried Jesus Christ. Here Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah which foretold that Jesus would be led as a lamb to the slaughter and silent as a quiet lamb before shearing. It was also here that Jesus Christ fulfilled the prophecy of Micah which said that men "will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek." This occurred when the Roman soldiers mocked Jesus saying "Hail King of the Jews".



The Kishle, adjacent to the Tower of David

The Discovery of the Herod's Palace in Jerusalem



Amit Re'em,
M.A. Archaeology



Israeli
Archaeologist

Education:

He received a Master's in archaeology in the following: The Graves in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Akeldama Charnel House, as a Case Study for Tombs and Burial Customs in the Crusader Kingdom

Organization/Place of Work

He works for the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

Bible Evidence:

Matthew 2:19-20

He has worked on many excavations in Israel including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (1999), and being excavation director of the Arab village of Bodrus. (2004-)



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'33.90"N, 35°13'40.93"E

Matthew 27:11-14

15
50



Where Jesus was tried by Pontius Pilate

Jerusalem, Israel



51. THIS IS THE TRADITIONAL SITE OF JESUS' DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION

Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'42.54"N, 35°13'46.55"E

Then they crucified Him, and divided His clothes, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through the prophet: "They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." And sitting down, they kept watch over Him there. And they put over His head the charge written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then two thieves were crucified with Him, one on the right, and another on the left. And those who passed by reviled Him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who destroy the temple, and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." Likewise the chief priests also, mocking Him with the scribes and elders, said, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself! If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him; since He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" Matthew 27:33-43 (KJV 2016)

The holiest place in Catholic and Orthodox Christianity is the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Built in 335 AD this church was filled with smaller places of worship that date back to the 4th century. The most sacred of places would be the site of the crucifixion, an altar, where worshippers can kneel and place their hand down into the rock where the cross is believed to have stood. As well, there is the aedicule, or little house, the empty tomb of Jesus. This was built by Constantine after he became emperor of Rome. The rock-hewn tomb was said to have been mostly removed, leaving the actual inner part of the tomb intact, and an aedicule was built around it. As well, there is the stone of anointing, where it is believed the body of Jesus was laid after the crucifixion. These sites are believed by Catholics and Orthodox believers to be the actual site of the crucifixion, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus as portrayed in John 19:41.



The Church of the Holy Sepulcher



The Place of Crucifixion



The Stone of Anointing



The "Edicule" or Tomb of Christ in the Anastasis Rotunda

John 19:41

51



Church of the Holy Sepulcher
Jerusalem, Israel

52. THIS IS THE ALTERNATE SITE OF JESUS' CRUCIFIXION – GORDON'S CALVARY

Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'1.22"N, 35°13'52.20"E

And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, The Place of a Skull. Then they gave Him wine mingled with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it. And when they crucified Him, they divided His clothes, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. Now it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. And the inscription of His accusation was written above: THE KING OF THE JEWS. And with Him they also crucified two thieves, one on His right and the other on His left. Mark 15:22-27 (KJV 2016)

This alternate site for the crucifixion of Jesus was initially proposed by Otto Thenius, a German theologian, in 1842 and then by British Major-General Charles Gordon in 1883. They believed that the 4th century church of the Holy Sepulcher did not fit well the Biblical account. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher was on Mount Zion instead of on Mount Moriah, the holy mountain of God where sacrifices were made by Abraham (with Isaac) and Solomon (Temple Mount). As well, it was within the city limits, although some archaeologists maintain that the site was incorporated into the city of Jerusalem in 41 AD. This site, north of Jerusalem, is the highest point on Mount Moriah, and is located in an abandoned quarry, with the "skull" visible in the rock complete with eye sockets, and right along the road to Damascus as you leave Jerusalem through the Damascus gate. This was a place of stoning, but this practice was outlawed by the Romans and replaced with a more prolonged manner of execution. People would have passed by Jesus as he hung on the cross, as the gospel said.



Gordon's Calvary and Summit of Mount Moriah

The Proposal of Golgotha on Moriah in 1842



Dr. Otto Thenius
1801 - 1876



German
Theologian,
Biblical
Scholar

Education:

Doctor of Theology and Philosophy

Organization/Place of Work

He preached for 20+ years.

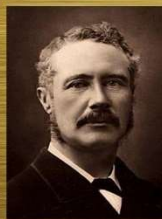
Bible Evidence:

Christ's possible crucifixion site. He suggested that the skull-faced cliff was the hill of Golgotha, where Jesus was crucified...not the church of the Holy Sepulcher. Mark 15:22-24; John 19:20; Mark 15:29-30



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'1.22"N, 35°13'52.20"E

The Promotion of the Crucifixion Site in 1883



Major General
Charles George Gordon
1833 - 1885



British Major
General

Education:

He was educated at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Royal Engineers then was promoted to full lieutenant in 1854.

Organization/Place of Work

He was placed in charge of "The Ever Victorious Army" in China where he put down the "Taiping Rebellion". He was made later the Governor-General of Sudan.

Bible Evidence:

Mark 15:22-24

General Charles Gordon on believed that the site was the Biblical Golgotha. Because of his importance in British society at that time the idea took hold and people began to look seriously at the claims that this could possibly be the site as the place of the skull.



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'1.22"N, 35°13'52.20"E

52



Mark 15:22-24



Alternate Golgotha (Gordon's Calvary)
Jerusalem, Israel



53. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE ALTERNATE EXACT SITE OF JESUS' CRUCIFIXION

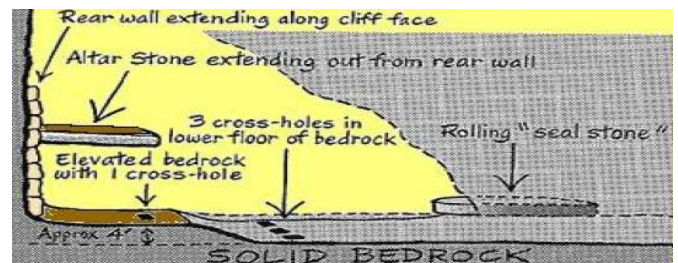
Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'0.87"N, 35°13'50.48"E

And they put over His head the charge written against Him: **THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.** Then two thieves were crucified with Him, one on the right, and another on the left. **Matthew 27:37-38 (KJV 2016)**

As Jesus hung on the cross He quoted the Psalm of David, Psalm 22, where David cried out to God "Why have you forsaken me?" Later the psalm says: "For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;" Crucifixion involves piercing hands and feet, yet this practice did not exist in the days of King David. This was a prophecy that was fulfilled in Jesus crucifixion. Then the prophet Zechariah foretold that God would be pierced in Jerusalem. He says "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem. This was fulfilled with the crucifixion of the Only Begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ at this place. In 1981, American nurse anesthetist, Korean War veteran and experienced amateur archaeologist Ron Wyatt discovered what he believes is the exact place of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. As he excavated along the rock face wall about 262 feet (80 m) from the eye sockets of the skull formation on the northern part of Mount Moriah, he discovered three small cut depressions which he believed were the places where the Romans put the signs with the accusation against the condemned criminals. As well, he discovered an altar stone which he believed was placed there by early Christians who knew the place of the crucifixion well. Into the bedrock right at the site was carved a total of four square-shaped holes, which he believes held the crosses at this place of execution. There were three on the lower rock and one above in the middle, where Jesus would have been crucified—this hole had a crack in it from the earthquake that took place when Jesus died at 3 p.m. Plugging this central hole was a square-shaped rock plug which was used to cover the place when it was not being used. This is still in the possession of the late Ron Wyatt's wife, Mary Nell Wyatt. These details match the crucifixion descriptions in the gospels.



The Crucifixion Site according to Ron Wyatt



A Pictorial Description of Wyatt's Findings

The Discovery of the Exact Crucifixion Spot in 1982

American Amateur Archaeologist

Education:
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) from Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. A Specialist 3rd class (SP3) Korean War Veteran.

Organization/Place of Work
He worked at Summit Medical Centre, Nashville, Tennessee. He also founded the Wyatt Archaeological Research.

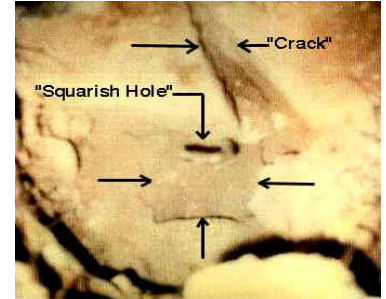
Bible Evidence:
Christ's possible crucifixion site which is near a garden, outside the city walls and near a place where people passed by. It is also near new unused rich tombs of the first century. Mark 15:22-24; John 19:20; Mark 15:29-30

Contact Email:
info@wyattmuseum.com

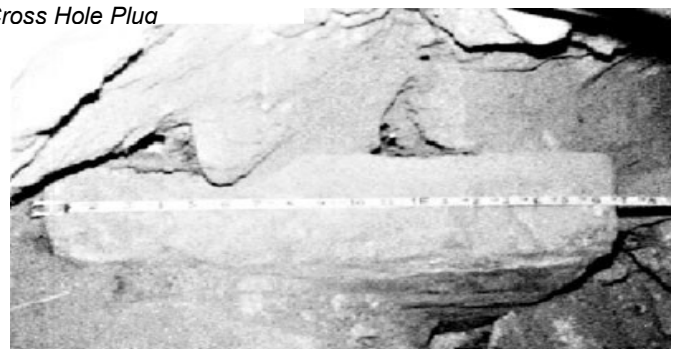
Google Earth Coordinates: 39°26'25.93"N, 44°14'5.23"E



The Cross Hole Plug



Ron Wyatt at excavation site with his son Ronny



The Altar Stone at the Site

Mark 15:22-24

53



Alternate Crucifixion Site of Jesus
Jerusalem, Israel



54. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF A FIRST CENTURY CRUCIFIXION VICTIM

Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°48'11.17"N, 35°13'51.89"E

And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him. Mark 15:22 (KJV 2016)

In 1968, contractors from Israel's Ministry of Housing were working in Giv'at ha-Mivtar, a Jewish neighborhood in northeast Jerusalem, accidentally found a Jewish tomb from the 1st century. The tomb was excavated by Vassilios Tzaferis, a Greek born Israeli archaeologist. Inside the tomb was found a Jewish stone ossuary with the inscription "Jehohanan son of Hagkol". Inside the ossuary was a heel bone with a 4.5 inch (11.5 cm) iron nail through it. The victim had been crucified by piercing the heel bone with a nail into wood. The victim was a man in his late 20s, and when the nail was driven into the olive wood, it hit a hard knot, which was so hard that it caused the iron nail to bend as it was driven in. A piece of olive wood was discovered still attached to the nail. On the head side of the nail was attached a piece of acacia wood. Likely because the nail was stuck into the knot and immovable, the foot had to be amputated when the body was removed from the cross. At first examination, it was believed that the nail had gone through the victim's 2 feet, but examination later in 1985 showed that the nail only went through one heel bone. This is direct physical evidence of the practice of crucifixion in the first century among the Jews according to Mark 15:22-24.



Ossuary of Jehohanan son of Hagkol



Heel bone pierced with 7-inch Roman Nail

The Discovery of a Crucifixion victim in 1968



Dr. Vassilios Tzaferis
1936 - 2015



Greek
Archaeologist

Education:

He became an ordained deacon in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. Then he received a BA in Archaeology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Then he received his Ph.D in Archaeology in 1970.

Organization/Place of Work

He worked for many years for the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

Bible Evidence:

Dr. Tzaferis also made excavations at Kursi, discovering the largest byzantine monastery in Israel from 1970-1973, then again in 2001-2002.

Bible Passage:

Matthew 8:28-34



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°48'11.17"N, 35°13'51.89"E

54

Mark 15:22-24

Place where Crucifixion victim ossuary found
Giv'at ha-Mivtar, Jerusalem, Israel



55. THIS IS THE GARDEN TOMB, WHERE JESUS CHRIST WAS RAISED TO LIFE

Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'2.39"N, 35°13'49.07"E


Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.
John 19:41 (KJV 2016)

The prophet Isaiah foretold the Messiah's suffering and death: He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked-- But with the rich at His death. Earlier, the prophet David, King of Israel, foretold the resurrection of the Holy One. He writes: For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. This is the place of the burial and resurrection of the Messiah – the tomb of the rich Joseph of Arimathea. In this place, the tomb According to John 19:41, there was a garden tomb near the place where Jesus was crucified. Discovered in 1867 by Conrad Schick, a German archaeologist, the Garden tomb seems to fit the descriptions given in the gospels about Jesus' empty tomb. Firstly, the gospel says that the tomb was located in a garden and that it was a rock-carved tomb, not a natural cave. Excavations revealed a Roman-era winepress and a Crusader-era cistern that can hold 250,000 gallons (950,000 L) on the grounds. Perhaps this cistern was expanded from what was a 1st century cistern. This very elaborate tomb has the burial area to the right, as the gospels says, and also has a weeping chamber where the three women went into the tomb. The gospels tell us that two angels sat where Jesus' body had lain—one at the head and one at the foot. This indicates that the tomb was large enough to accommodate five people at one time—and this is true of this unique tomb, for only a rich person could afford such a grave. On the outside there is the track for the rolling stone, a basin for foot washing for early Christians, an anchor cross to the upper left of the doorway (which was the insignia used during the persecuted church era), and a curious fragment of metal in the rock face, which was analyzed and found to be a mixture of iron and lead. These two metals, when used together, would form a very strong seal to perhaps hold the Roman seal which was on the rolling stone. Finally, this place was part of a building, most likely a church at one time, as Byzantine-style archways are visible outside the tomb. All together this site fits the many descriptive points as mentioned in the gospel. Israeli archaeologist Dr. Gabriel Barkay believes that the tomb is not the tomb of Jesus, but is rather a tomb from the 7th century BC and that the groove is a Crusader-period water trough for animals. This tomb, however, is an elaborate grave, not a customary grave from the 1st century or earlier centuries, and it matches the Biblical account word for word. The gospels are also talking about an elaborate grave that is also not typical of the 1st century except for the rolling stone, which was used by some tombs during that time.



The Garden Tomb, Jerusalem

The Discovery of the Garden Tomb in 1867




Architect & Archaeologist
from Kingdom of Württemberg

Bible Evidence:
Conrad Schick discovered the Garden Tomb which fits the Biblical description of the tomb of Jesus Christ.

Bible Passage:
John 19:41

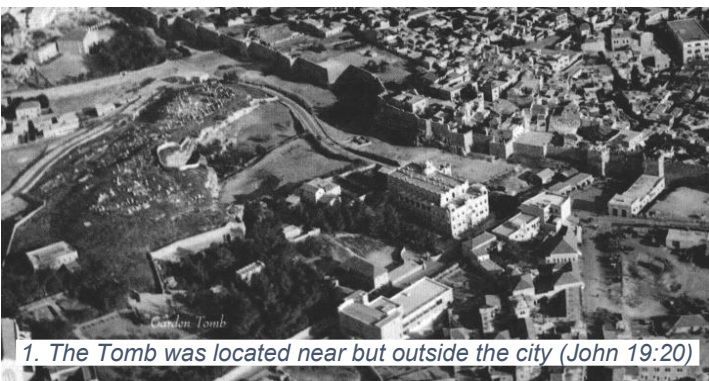
Education:
He first studied at the Christiana Institution at Basle, Switzerland. Then he apprenticed as a watch and clock maker. Later in life he was awarded honorary Masters and Ph.D. from Tübingen University, Germany.

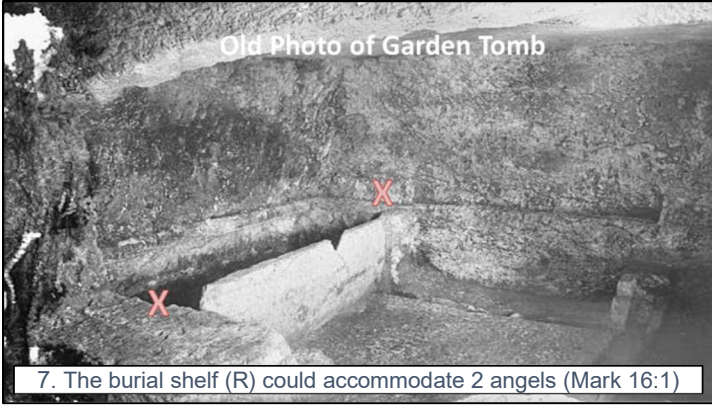
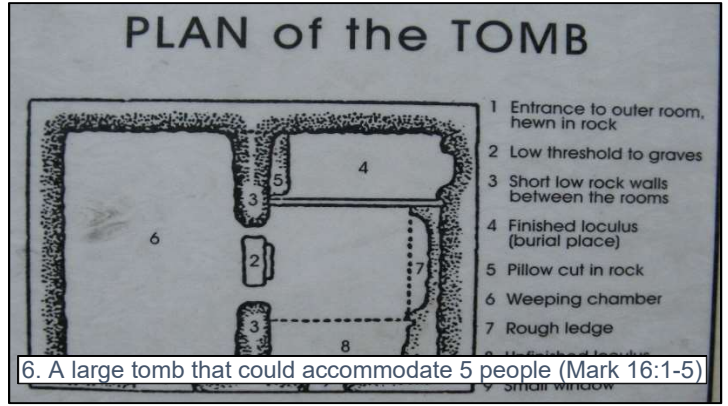
Organization/Place of Work
He worked for the Palestine Exploration Fund and published many articles in German and English. His life work as a missionary and archaeologist and architect for Muslims, Jews and Christians made him beloved by all who knew him.



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'53.04"N, 35°14'8.88"E

EVIDENCE FOR THE GARDEN TOMB







55

John 19:41-42

The Garden Tomb
Jerusalem, Israel



56. THIS IS WHERE THE OSSUARY OF HIGH PRIEST CAIAPHAS WAS FOUND

Peace Forest, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°45'31.00"N, 35°13'43.00"E

Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? Because this Man does many miracles. If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation." And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the entire nation should perish." Now this he did not say from himself; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad. Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. John 11:47-53 (KJV 2016)



Construction workers discovered a burial chamber in 1990 in the Peace Forest, South Jerusalem. Dr. Zvi Greenhut, an Israeli archaeologist with the Israeli Antiquities Authority, examined the chamber. Inside this burial chamber were 12 ossuaries, or bone boxes, belonging to the family of the high priest before the fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD. One ossuary was ornately decorated and had an inscription in Aramaic which read "Joseph son of Caiaphas". Within this ossuary were the bones of an approximately 60-year-old male. It also held the bones of two infants, two teenage boys and an adult woman. The Jewish historian Josephus relates that "Joseph who was also called Caiaphas" was made high priest by the Procurator Valerius Gratus in 18 AD and that he was removed by the Procurator Vitellius in 36 AD. So, this is definitely the ossuary of Caiaphas the high priest who schemed to put Jesus to death, as recorded in Matthew 26:3-4. It is now on display at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.



The Entrance to the Tomb of Caiaphas



Peace Forest, Jerusalem



The Ornate Caiaphas Ossuary

The Discovery of the Caiaphas Ossuary in 1990

Dr. Zvi Greenhut

Israeli Archaeologist

Education:
He completed his Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University in 2007. His doctoral thesis was Production, storage and distribution of grain during the Iron Age and their linkage to the socio-economic organization of the settlement in Israel.

Organization/Place of Work
Dr. Greenhut is head of Artifacts Treatment and the Conservation Department of the Rockefeller Archaeological Museum in Jerusalem, under the Israel Antiquities Authority.

Bible Evidence:
Matthew 26:3-4; Luke 3:1-2
It was discovered by a park construction worker who bulldozed the tomb's roof in the Peace Forest, Jerusalem in November 1990.

CAIAPHAS OSSUARY
Now at Israel Museum, Jerusalem

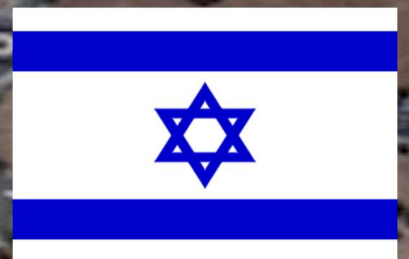
Google Earth Coordinates: 31°45'31.00"N, 35°13'43.00"E

56

John 11:47-53



Where Caiaphas Ossuary was Found
Peace Forest, Jerusalem, Israel



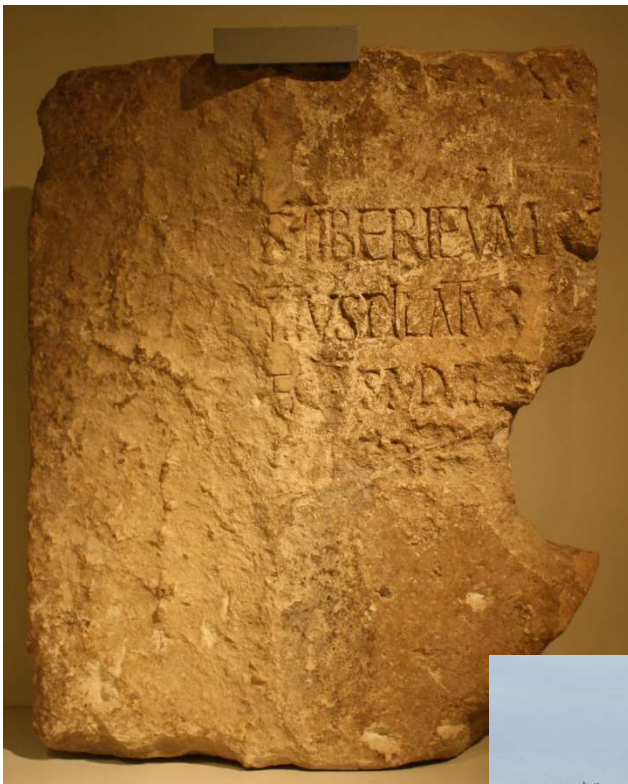
57. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF PONTIUS PILATE GOVERNOR OF JUDEA

Found in Theatre in Caesarea Maritima, Israel. Google Coordinates: 32°29'45.68"N, 34°53'27.49"E

Now in Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Coordinates: 31°46'19.39"N, 35°12'14.73"E

Then Pilate entered the judgment hall again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I have come into the world, that I should testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. John 18:33-38 (KJV 2016)

In Matthew 27:1-11 we read about Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor who tried Jesus. Unfortunately, there was no concrete evidence for Pontius Pilate's existence until in an archaeological team led by Dr. Antonio Frova, Italian archaeologist, and his team excavated the ancient port city of Caesarea Maritima in 1961. This city was formerly the capital of the Roman province of Judea, where the Roman governor resided for most of the year. As the theatre in Caesarea Philippi was excavated, Dr. Antonio Frova discovered a stone with an inscription bearing the name Pontius Pilate. The Latin inscription in limestone reads: "To the divine Augustus [this] Tiberium...Pontius Pilatus....Prefect of Judea.....has dedicated [this]." The inscription, originally placed in a Tiberium or temple dedicated to the divine Emperor Tiberius Caesar, was found in the theatre in Caesarea Philippi, but has been moved to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.



Pontius Pilate Inscription (Israel Museum)

*To the Divine Augusti [this] Tiberieum
...Pontius Pilate
...prefect of Judea
...has dedicated [this]*

Translation of Pilate Inscription

The Discovery of the Pilate Inscription in 1961

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
|  |  | Italian Archaeologist | Bible Evidence: Matthew 27:2,11 Italian archaeologist who discovered the Pilate Inscription, extra-Biblical evidence of Pontius Pilate while excavating at Caesarea Maritima in 1961. |
| Dr. Antonio Frova 1914 - 2007 | Education: He went to the Catholic University of Sacred Heart in Milan and graduated in archaeology in 1935. Then he continued his studies at the Italian Archaeological school of Athens.. | Organization/Place of Work In 1962 he became professor of archaeology and history of Greek and Roman history. Then he became director of Genoa's specialization in archeology until 1990. |  |

Now at Israel Museum, Jerusalem



Area where Inscription was found

57

John 18:33-38



Where Pilate Inscription was Found
Caesarea Maritima, Israel

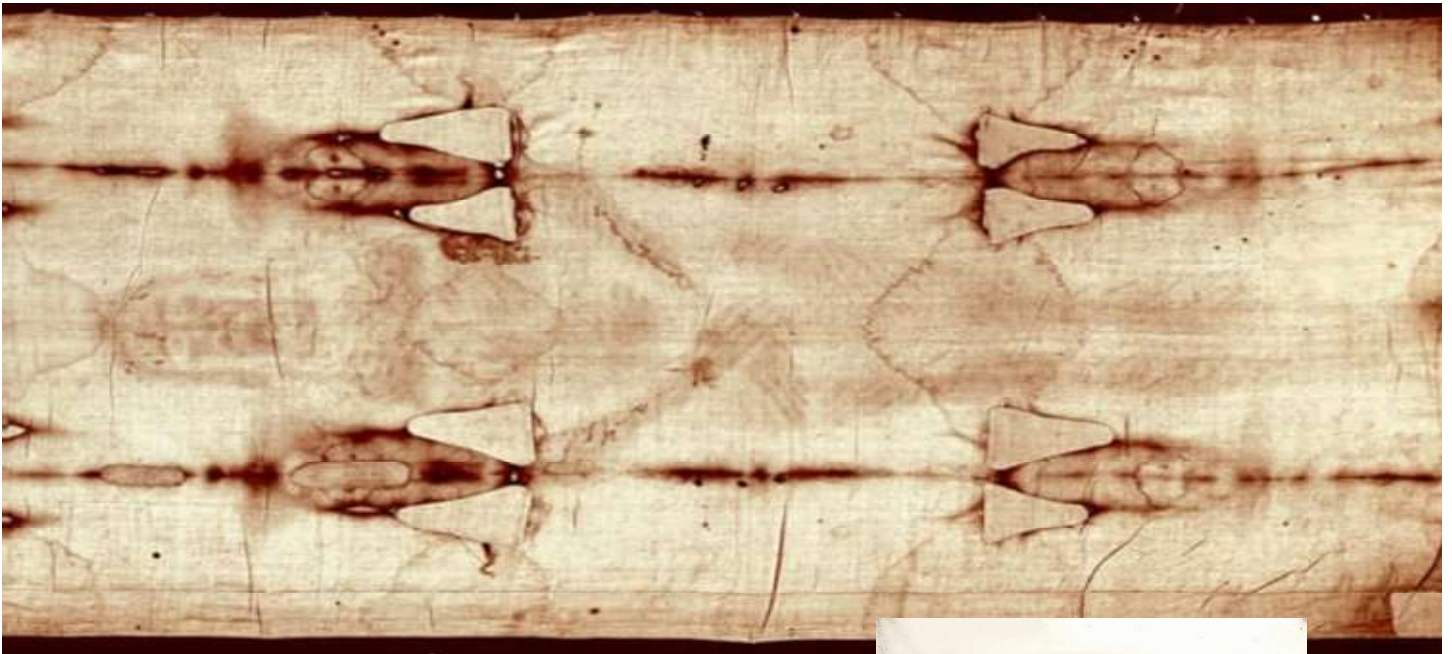


58. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST – THE SHROUD OF TURIN

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Turin, Italy. Google Earth Coordinates: 45° 4' 23.95" N, 7° 41' 7.57" E

Now when the evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathaea, named Joseph, who himself was also Jesus' disciple. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb which he had cut out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. Matthew 27:57-60 (KJV 2016)

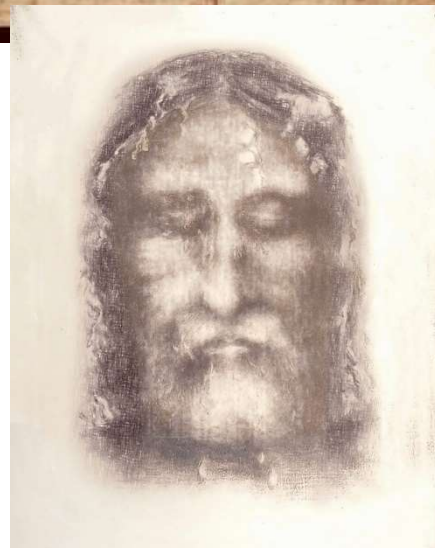
Matthew's gospel tells us that Joseph of Arimathea took the body of Jesus and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his tomb. John's gospel says that the body was wrapped in strips of linen with about a hundred pounds of spices. This means that there must have been a main linen cloth with one or more strips to bind the cloth. This is what we see with the Shroud of Turin – a large (4.4 x 1.1 m) cloth that bears the image of a crucified man. The image is impossible to reproduce and is likely the result of a burst of radiation that was emitted at the time of the resurrection. Although Carbon-14 testing shows it to be a medieval forgery from the 1300s, the Pray manuscript shows that it very likely dates to the 12th century. Matching stains on the shroud and the Sudarium of Oveido show that it can be possibly dated to the 6th century. Pollen grains on the shroud from plants that grow in Palestine put the shroud in Israel. Dirt particles in the Shroud were analyzed and determined to contain calcium and the mineral specifically was concluded to be travertine aragonite limestone, which is the , which is the element that is in As well, And if it was in Israel, and was on the same body as the Sudarium of Oveido, it is very likely the burial cloth of Jesus of Nazareth..



The Shroud of Turin, the Possible Burial Cloth of Jesus Christ



The Cathedral of St. John in Turin, Italy



The Image of the Crucified Man

58

John 17:16-18



The Shroud in The Cathedral of St. John
Turin, Italy

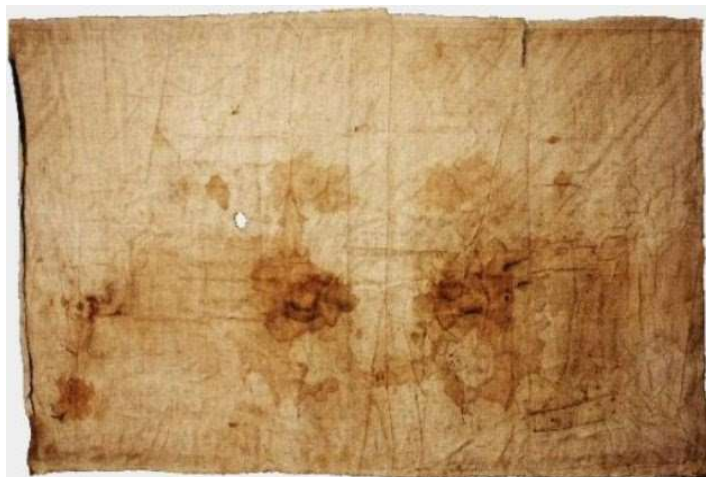


59. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE SUFFERING OF JESUS CHRIST – THE SUDARIUM OF OVEIDO

Oveido Cathedral, Oveido, Spain. Google Earth Coordinates: 43° 21' 45.3" N, 5° 50' 35.09" W

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. John 20:6-7 (KJV 2016)

A special but ancient cloth measures 33 x 21 inches and is kept in the Cathedral of San Salvador, Oviedo, Spain. The sudarium of Oveido is an ancient cloth that is reportedly the same cloth used 20 centuries ago to cover the head of Jesus. A careful investigation of the Biblical account of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus shows that there were the cloths that covered the body of Jesus and another "handkerchief" that was around Jesus' head. This is called a sudarium and would have collected blood (alive and after death) and pulmonary fluid after the death of Jesus. Death by crucifixion was actually a gruesome thing to behold. The victim would suffocate and the fluid built up in the lungs would ooze out of the nose. Isaiah foretold that the suffering Messiah's face would be "marred more than any man". In response, a cloth had been lovingly placed around the head of Jesus post-mortem. This cloth was then placed next to the burial cloths in the tomb. The pilgrim Antoninus of Piacenza wrote in 570 AD that the cloth was kept in a cave near Jerusalem. Then in the year 614 AD the Sudarium was smuggled out of Jerusalem during the Persian conquests and brought to Spain where it has been ever since. In the year 840 AD King Alfonso II of Asturias built a chapel and an ark to hold the precious cloth. Interestingly there is a blood stain on the Sudarium which perfectly matches the blood stain on the Shroud of Turin and the blood types are both AB. The cloth is displayed to the public only 3 times a year, one being on Good Friday.



The Sudarium of Oveido



The Ark that contains the Sudarium



The Sudarium is within the Ark, within the Cathedral of Oveido, in Oveido, Spain

59

John 20:6-7



The Sudarium in Oveido Cathedral
Oveido, Spain



60. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR ALEXANDER SON OF SIMON OF CYRENE

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mount Scopus Campus, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'35.03"N, 35°14'34.68"E


And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him. Then they compelled a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, the father of Alexander and Rufus, as he was coming out of the country and passing by, to carry His cross. Mark 15:20-21 (KJV 2016)

In 1941, Israeli archaeologists Eleazar Sukenik and Nahman Avigad found an ossuary along with 10 other ossuaries in a first century tomb in the Kidron valley, south of the village of Silwan. On the side of the ossuary it reads: "Alexander, son of Simon" (The inscription of SIMONALE above was a mistake and so underneath it was written: ALEXANDER SON OF SIMON beneath it. So 2 names and the relationships are put together which match the above passage. However, as well, on the lid of the same ossuary we have another inscription: "Alexander QRNYT." This word QRNYT is a misspelling of the word QRNYH which means Cyrenian. So we have the ossuary of Alexander, son of Simon, from Cyrene. This means that this is almost certainly the ossuary of the son of the man who carried the cross of Jesus. The "Alexander (son) of Simon" ossuary resides in the collection of Hebrew University's Institute of Archaeology located on Mt. Scopus in Jerusalem. Catalogued as Inventory No. 1965, this intriguing artifact has been loaned in the past for exhibition but is unfortunately not on regular public display.




The Inscription Reads: Alexander son of Simon

The Discovery of the Ossuary of Alexander, Son of Simon of Cyrene in 1941



Eleazar L. Sukenik
1889 - 1953




Israeli Archaeologist & Professor

Bible Evidence:
He excavated tombs south of Silwan, in the Kidron Valley, near Jerusalem.
Mark 15:21

Education:
He studied at the University of Berlin (A.B., 1923) and Dropsie College, Philadelphia (Ph.D., 1926).

Organization/Place of Work
He became associated with the Hebrew University as field archaeologist (1926), subsequently becoming lecturer (1935) in and then professor (1938) of the archaeology of Palestine. He was also director of the Museum of Jewish Antiquities.



Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'42.76"N, 35°14'54.07"E

The Ossuary Lid with more Information



It reads:
Alexander (Greek)
Then
Alexander QRNYT (misspelled version of word QRNYH, which means "Cyrenian").



60

Mark 15:20-21



“Artifact 1965”

Ossuary of Alexander son of Simon of Cyrene
Hebrew University Institute of Archaeology

Mount Scopus, Jerusalem

