

Apologetics — Archaeology

"I know of no finding in archaeology that's properly confirmed which is in opposition to the Scriptures. The Bible is the most accurate history textbook the world has ever seen."

—— Dr. Clifford Wilson, *Archaeologist Speaks Out*.

"Through the wealth of data uncovered by historical and archaeological research, we are able to measure the Bible's historical accuracy. In every case where its claims can thus be tested, the Bible proves to be accurate and reliable."

—— Dr. Jack Cottrell, *The Authority of The Bible*. (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979), 48-49.

"In every instance where the findings of archaeology pertain to the Biblical record, the archaeological evidence confirms, sometimes in detailed fashion, the historical accuracy of Scripture. In those instances where the archaeological findings seem to be at variance with the Bible, the discrepancy lies with the archaeological evidence, i.e., improper interpretation, lack of evidence, etc. -- not with the Bible."

—— Dr. Bryant C. Wood, *Archaeologist, Associates for Biblical Research*.

"It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible. And, by the same token, proper evaluation of Biblical description has often led to amazing discoveries."

—— Dr. Nelson Glueck, *Rivers in the Desert*. (New York: Farrar, Strous and Cudahy, 1959), 136.

"Archaeology has confirmed countless passages which have been rejected by critics as unhistorical or contradictory to known facts.....Yet archaeological discoveries have shown that these critical charges.....are wrong and that the Bible is trustworthy in the very statements which have been set aside as untrustworthy.....We do not know of any cases where the Bible has been proved wrong."

—— Dr. Joseph P. Free, *Archaeology and Bible History*. (Scripture Press, Wheaton, IL, 1969), 1.

"The reader may rest assured that nothing has been found [by archaeologists] to disturb a reasonable faith, and nothing has been discovered which can disprove a single theological doctrine. We no longer trouble ourselves with attempts to 'harmonize' religion and science, or to 'prove' the Bible. The Bible can stand for itself."

—— Dr. William F. Albright, eminent archeologist who confirmed the authenticity of the Dead Sea Scrolls following their discovery.

"There can be no doubt that archaeology has confirmed the substantial historicity of Old Testament tradition."

—— Dr. William F. Albright, *Archaeology and the Religions of Israel*. (John's Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 1956), 176.

"On the whole, however, archaeological work has unquestionably strengthened confidence in the reliability of the Scriptural record. More than one archaeologist has found his respect for the Bible increased by the experience of excavation in Palestine....Archaeology has in many cases refuted the views of modern critics. It has shown, in a number of instances, that these views rest on false assumptions and unreal, artificial schemes of historical development. This is a real contribution and not to be minimized." —— Millar Burrows, *Professor of Archaeology at Yale University, What Mean These Stones?*. (Meridian Books, New York, NY, 1956), 1.

"The excessive skepticism of many liberal theologians stems not from a careful evaluation of the available data, but from an enormous predisposition against the supernatural."

—— Professor Millar Burrows, *Professor of Archaeology at Yale University, What Mean These Stones?* (Meridian Books, New York, NY, 1956), 176.

"It is therefore legitimate to say that, in respect of that part of the Old Testament against which the disintegrating criticism of the last half of the nineteenth century was chiefly directed, the evidence of archaeology has been to re-establish its authority and likewise to augment its value by rendering it more intelligible through a fuller knowledge of its background and setting. Archaeology has not yet said its last word, but the results already achieved confirm what faith would suggest – that the Bible can do nothing but gain from an increase in knowledge."

—— Sir Frederic Kenyon, a former director of the British Museum, *The Bible and Archaeology*. (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1940), 279.

"I set out to look for truth on the borderland where Greece and Asia meet, and found it there. You may press the words of

Luke in a degree beyond any other historian's and they stand the keenest scrutiny and the hardest treatment.”
—— Sir William Ramsey (eminent archaeologists who changed his mind regarding Luke after extensive study in the field), (1915), *The Bearing of Recent Discovery on the Trustworthiness of the New Testament*. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1975 reprint), 89.

“Luke is a historian of the first rank; not merely are his statements of facts trustworthy; he is possessed of the true historic sense...In short this author should be placed along with the very greatest of historians.” —— Sir William Ramsey (archaeologist), *The Bearing of Recent Discovery on the Trustworthiness of the New Testament*, 1915, 81, 222. Website Reference: <https://www.bethinking.org/is-the-bible-reliable/archaeology-and-the-historical-reliability-of-the-new-testament>

“It is remarkable that where confirmation is possible and has come to light, the Bible stands investigation in ways that are unique in all literature. Its superiority to attack, its capacity to withstand criticism, its amazing facility to be proved right after all, are all staggering by any standards of scholarship. Seemingly assured results “disproving” the Bible have a habit of backfiring. Over and over again the Bible has been vindicated.”

—— Clifford Wilson, *Archaeology—the Bible and Christ*, volume 17, (Victoria, Australia: Pacific Christian Ministries), no page number available. Cited in John Ankerberg and John Weldon, *Handbook of Biblical Evidences* (1997), 288–289.

“The skeptics’ claim that King David never existed is now hard to defend.”

—— Michael D. Lemonick, *Are the Bible’s Stories True? Archaeology’s Evidence*. (Time magazine, December 18, 1995).

Other discoveries include: Ancient extrabiblical accounts of a catastrophic flood (Genesis 6–8) #1 — The palace of Sennacherib the king of Assyria (2 Chronicles 32:1f) and a wall relief depicting the Assyrian siege on Lachish (2 Kings 18:13–17; Isaiah 36:1–2) #2 — The ruins of Jericho (Joshua 6) along with evidence the city wall “fell down flat” (6:20) at the very time the Old Testament dates the crossing of the Hebrew people into Canaan (c. 1400 BC) #3 — Hezekiah’s tunnel (2 Kings 20:20) built to secretly channel water into the city of Jerusalem c. 700 BC #4 — The ancient ruins of Babylon (Book of Daniel), including the ruins of king Nebuchadnezzar’s palaces, temples, city walls, houses, inscriptions mentioning “Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon” #5 — The Babylonian Chronicle. These ancient historical records verify that the Babylonians invaded the land of Judah, besieged the city of Jerusalem, and took the Jews captive back to Babylon...just as the Bible said they did (2 Kings 24; Daniel 1). #6 — The “Pool of Siloam” (John 9:1–12) where Jesus sent the blind man with mud on his eyes to wash and receive healing #7 — The well called “Jacob’s Well” (John 4:6) where Jesus met the Samaritan woman #8 — The pool called “Bethesda” (John 5:2) where Jesus told the man who had been lame for 38 years to take up his bed and walk #9 — Herod’s palace (Mark 6:14–29) where John the Baptist was imprisoned and killed; the historian Josephus mentions this palace and John the Baptist’s imprisonment and murder there #10 — A bone ossuary mentioning Caiaphas the Jewish high priest (Matthew 26:3) who presided over Jesus’s late night trial (Matthew 26:57–68) #11 — The synagogue in Capernaum (Mark 1:21) on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus often taught #12 — Mosaic tile floor of an early Christian church in Megiddo, Israel, that says the church was built in the memory of “the God Jesus Christ”—evidence the early Christians believed Jesus was God

Website Reference: <https://alwaysbeready.com/bible-evidence?id=99>

“Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, He shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of schools, He spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, He set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.”

—— Schaff, *The Person of Christ*, 29