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### Current Archeological Publications

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THE MARCH, 1973, *Ministry* carried a similar review of books published in 1971. It was so well received at that time that the author has again provided us with brief introductions to the most significant scholarly books in the field of Biblical archeology produced since that time. Depending on a minister's individual interests, each of the books reviewed is a suitable addition to his general library.

### General Archeological Interest

Among the many books published in 1972 that are of interest to students of Biblical archeology, one of the most useful and usable is Avraham Negev, editor, *Archaeological Encyclopedia of the Holy Land* (New York: G. P. Putnam's, 1972, 355 pages, 225 black and white illustrations, \$15.95).

Among its 600 entries are the majority of geographical names in the Bible. With most of them, sites are identified, excavations concisely described, and the importance of finds from earliest times to the Arab conquest are analyzed. Though most entries contain the information a non-specialist would require, the volume's chief lack is the absence of bibliographies. This defect, however, can be remedied for excavated sites in Jordan and Israel, with the supplementary use of E. K. Vogel, "Bibliography of Holy Land Sites," *Hebrew Union College Annual*, Vol. XLII, pp. 1-96 (Cincinnati: Hebrew Union College, 1971). An indispensable tool for the serious student of Biblical archeology, this compilation lists for each site excavator(s), sponsoring institution(s), dates, and all pertinent bibliography.

Of a different sort is Edward Bacon, *Archaeology: Discoveries in the 1960s* (New York: Praeger Publishers, 1971, 293 pages, \$12.50), which attempts in eighteen chapters to cover important archeological discoveries made around the globe during a decade of unparalleled scientific discovery and achievement. The author, longtime editor of the *Illustrated*

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# Current Archeological Publications

*London News*, devotes eleven of these chapters to areas of special interest to Biblical archeologists. His work, well illustrated with photographs and maps, reflects the situation up to the June, 1967, Arab-Israeli war.

Narrower in scope, L. Sprague de Camp's *Great Cities of the Ancient World* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Co., 1972, 510 pages, \$12.95) portrays, through the eyes of an engineer-turned-amateur-archeologist, the life, culture, and monuments of fourteen ancient cities at the height of their prosperity. This is done with the aid of detailed maps, plans, and photographs. Ten of the cities, including such sites as Nineveh, Tyre, and Babylon, are of particular interest to students of Biblical archeology and prophecy.

More clearly apologetic in format is Edwin Yamauchi's *The Stones and the Scriptures* (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1972, 207 pages, \$5.95). In addition to a general discussion of the bearing of archeology on the Bible, this evangelical author illustrates his thesis with the relevancy of discoveries at Mari, Nuzi, and Alalakh for the Old Testa-

ment, and Ramsay's discoveries for the New Testament. There is also a chapter on the Dead Sea scrolls.

### Specific Archeological Interest

A number of books appeared in 1972 with specific geographical areas. A must on the list of those planning to visit Iran is Sylvia A. Matheson, *Persia: an Archaeological Guide* (London: Faber and Faber, 1972, 330 pages, \$7.50—paper, \$20.00—cloth). In addition to a thorough description of archeological remains, region by region, with the aid of quality photographs and maps, this guide has helpful notes on traveling in Iran, useful addresses, a historical survey, chronological tables, glossary, and up-to-date bibliography.

For the first time anywhere, a comprehensive survey of the results of the Israeli excavations at Hazor (which Joshua 11:10 describes as "the head of all those kingdoms") has appeared in Yigael Yadin's *Hazor* (London: Oxford University Press, 1972, 211 pages, \$9). The book comprises the author's Schweich Lectures before the British Academy in 1970 and contains the bonus of a chapter on

Baker Book House, 1972, 184 \$3.95—paper) is a convenient collection of materials and sources for the study of the Philistines, though much of the discussion is heavily dependent on secondary sources.

John J. Davis, *Moses and the Gods of Egypt* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1972, 331 pages, \$3.50—paper), takes a fresh and systematic look at the text of the book of Exodus in the light of recent archeological and historical studies. A good bibliography enables the serious student to pursue topics of interest in greater depth.

It would not be a normal year without a book on the Dead Sea scrolls; hence: William Sanford LaSor, *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: W. B. Eerdmans, 1972, 281 pages, \$3.95—paper). The first half of the book deals with the discovery and contents of the scrolls themselves, but as the title indicates, the remaining portion considers their bearing on the New Testament. It is a reliable treatment of an often distorted relationship.

#### Old Testament History

John Bright, *A History of Israel*, second edition (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1972, 519 pages, 16 color maps, \$9.95), is a thorough revision of a text that has enjoyed wide influence in most seminary classrooms. In no essential element has the author altered his position, but he has made corrections and brought it up to date. It is essentially judicious and reliable but should be compared with the more "conservative," Leon Wood, *A Survey of Israel's History* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1970, 444 pages, 16 color maps, \$7.50).

Another volume has appeared in an important series mentioned in last year's review: Abraham Schalit, editor, *The World History of the Jewish People*, First Series, Volume VI: The Hellenistic Age (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1972, 360 pages, illustrated, about \$20). Valuable contributions by Avi-Yonah, Klausner, and Tcherikover deal specifically with the fourth to the first centuries B.C. and will be of particular interest to students of the Intertestamental Period.

#### Books for Beginners

Among the books that are elementary but nevertheless useful for their teaching value are: Harry M. Orlinsky, *Understanding the Bible Through History and Archaeology* (New York: Ktav Publishing House, 1972, 292 pages, \$7.95). Designed as a workbook, each left-hand page contains a reprinting (with some modification and updating) of the author's *Ancient Israel* published in 1954, while the opposite right-hand page contains extensive pertinent Biblical quotations (in parallel Hebrew and English columns) as well as useful illustrations. This aid to Old Testament understanding closes with several excellent bibliographies.

Marc Lovelace, *Compass Points for Old Testament Study* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1972, 176 pages, \$4.95) is an introductory guide for the beginning student that stresses the historical, geographical, and cultural setting of the Old Testament with several useful illustrations and suggestions for further reading.

O. Jessie Lace and D. R. Ap-Thomas in *Understanding the Old Testament* (Cambridge: University Press, 1972, 191 pages, \$2.95—paper) likewise set out to provide the larger historical and archeological background and to say something about the life and thought of the people of the Old Testament. It serves as one of the introductory volumes in the *Cambridge Bible Commentary on the New English Bible*.

There are two good books intended for younger readers: Ronald Harker, *Digging Up the Bible Lands* (London: The Bodley Head, 1972, 127 pages, \$6), describes the discoveries at eight sites from Ur and Nineveh in Mesopotamia to Jericho and Jerusalem in Palestine. It is attractively produced with color photographs, drawings, plans, and maps of the archeological sites.

Azriel Eisenberg and Dov P. Elkins, *Treasures from the Dust* (New York: Abelard-Schuman, 1972, \$6.95), contains fifteen vignettes of the discovery and significance of important sites and artifacts. The style is a combination of factual reporting and reconstructed conversation. ➤

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Israelite Megiddo. Though the discussion is detailed, it is presented in a personal manner along with numerous photographs, plans, and maps.

Another important Biblical city is dealt with in G. Frederick Owen's *Jerusalem* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1972, 180 pages, \$5). Known for his three-dimensional map of Palestine, the author here presents the traveler a helpful introduction to the Holy City—its history, valleys, hills, walls, gates, streets, and surrounding historical sites. Though many of the photographs are recent, the same cannot always be said of the information in the text.

In Alistair Duncan's *The Noble Sanctuary—Portrait of a Holy Place in Arab Jerusalem* (London: Longman Group, 1972, 80 pages, \$6), we have forty magnificent full-page, full-color photographs of the Temple area. Yet it is more than a picture book; the accompanying text follows the various phases of construction and restoration at the site.

Several other books deal with the relation of archeology to specific Biblical subjects. Edward E. Hindson, *The Philistines and the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: