

Believing the Bible – Week Four

Digging Up the Past

Archaeology and the Bible

Main Idea: Compared to the other holy books around the world, the field of archaeology provides fascinating confirmations of biblical historicity.

1. What can archaeology teach us?

- A. Archaeology is the excavation of old civilizations and the interpretation of alleged events
- B. Archaeology, *as a science*, is a fairly recent phenomena.
- C. Archaeology has limits on what it can and cannot do.
- D. The uniqueness of the Bible and archaeology

2. Archaeology and the Old Testament

- A. An example of an early discovery: The Hittites.
- B. An example of a more recent discovery: The Ebla Tablets.
- C. An example of a controversial discovery: The Merneptah & Karnak Inscriptions
- D. An example of a discovery that combines archaeology with prophecy: The Cyrus Cylinder.
- E. Other discoveries of interest.

3. Archaeology and the New Testament

- A. Did Jesus even exist?
- B. Are the stories about Jesus accurate?
- C. Was Luke an eyewitness?
- D. What is the most recent manuscript evidence?

4. Archaeology and the other Holy Books

- A. Today there are five major world religions and four minor ones.
- B. Among the religions there are approximately eleven holy books.
- C. How the books compare to the Bible.