

# Archaeology and the Bible



## The Hebrew Bible (The Old Testament)

It's the foundation stone upon which is built the moral and ethical aspirations of the more than 3.8 billion Jews, Christians and Muslims living in the world today. And yet it's the product of a poor and tiny nation that existed in the shadow lands between the ancient world's most powerful civilizations.

**But who were the Israelites** and where did they come from?

**Were the Patriarchs real people** and if so, when did they live?

**Was the Exodus a historical event?**

**Was there a United Kingdom** under King David?

**What events led to the destruction of the first Temple**, and how did that impact the writing of the Bible?

These are profound questions that go to the heart of Western civilization. What does archaeology have to say about them? The course takes a look at the historical basis of the Biblical narrative, drawing on the findings of archaeological science with particular emphasis on the ground-breaking insights of the past 20 years. The focus is not on *proving* the Bible, but rather on *understanding* it.

### Sessions

*Footprints of Abraham, Sands of Time.* Where can we place the Patriarchs in time and space?

*Strangers in a Strange Land.* The search for the historical Exodus.

*Conquest and Judges.* Who were the ancient Israelites and where did they come from?

*King David and Early Judah.* What secrets lay buried at Khirbet Qeiyafah near where David fought Goliath?

*The Destruction of Judah, the Birth of the Bible.* The last 120 years of the kingdom of Judah and the world-changing impact of the Babylonian Exile. (2 sessions)



*Archaeology and the Bible* was developed by Dr. Christopher Farrar for Congregation Beth Tikvah in Worthington Ohio. The lecture series is now available to churches, mosques and synagogues of all denominations. Dr. Farrar has been a lay student of Biblical Archaeology for over 20 years and has studied under Israeli archaeologist Dr. Avi Ofer, formerly of Tel Aviv University. He's the author of the historical novel *By The Waters of Babylon*, available now at Amazon and other on-line retailers. To discuss offering this course in your congregation contact Dr. Farrar at [christopherdfarrarllc@gmail.com](mailto:christopherdfarrarllc@gmail.com) or visit [christopherfarrar.com](http://christopherfarrar.com).