

Patterns of Evidence: Exodus

What additional archaeological evidence may support the Biblical account of the Exodus?

Clues:

1. "And Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in...Goshen..." Genesis 47:27a (KJV)
2. "...they had possessions therein, and grew, and multiplied exceedingly." Genesis 47:27b (KJV)
3. "...they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them..." Exodus 1:11 (KJV)
4. "And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives...'if it be a son...kill him...'" Exodus 1:15-16 (KJV)
5. "And Pharaoh's servants said unto him, '...knowest thou not yet that Egypt is destroyed?'" Exodus 10:7 (KJV)
6. "And they burnt the city (Jericho) with fire..." "...and he burnt Hazor with fire." Joshua 6:24; 11:11 (KJV)

Answers:

1. The town of Avaris in the Nile delta, home to 25,000 to 30,000 immigrants from Canaan
2. An additional 20 similar towns near Avaris, indicating rapid expansion and the prominence of a Semitic people in the Nile delta
3. Brooklyn papyrus listing 70% Semitic slave names
4. Bones revealing high infant mortality, with more women than men reaching adulthood
5. Ipuwer papyrus detailing a collapse of Egypt
6. Sudden destruction and burning of Jericho and Hazor, with the houses built into Jericho's northern rampart still standing

Follow one man's 12-year search for evidence!

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