

BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeology & Land of Jordan

See the **House Visual Study Bible** for more discussion of archaeology and the Bible, hvsb.app.



Why the Study of Jordan?

See the **House Visual Study Bible** for more discussion of archaeology and the Bible, hvsb.app.

Why Study about the land called Jordan?

It is composed of several ancient people:

Ammonites (Gen 19:37-38) descended from Lot

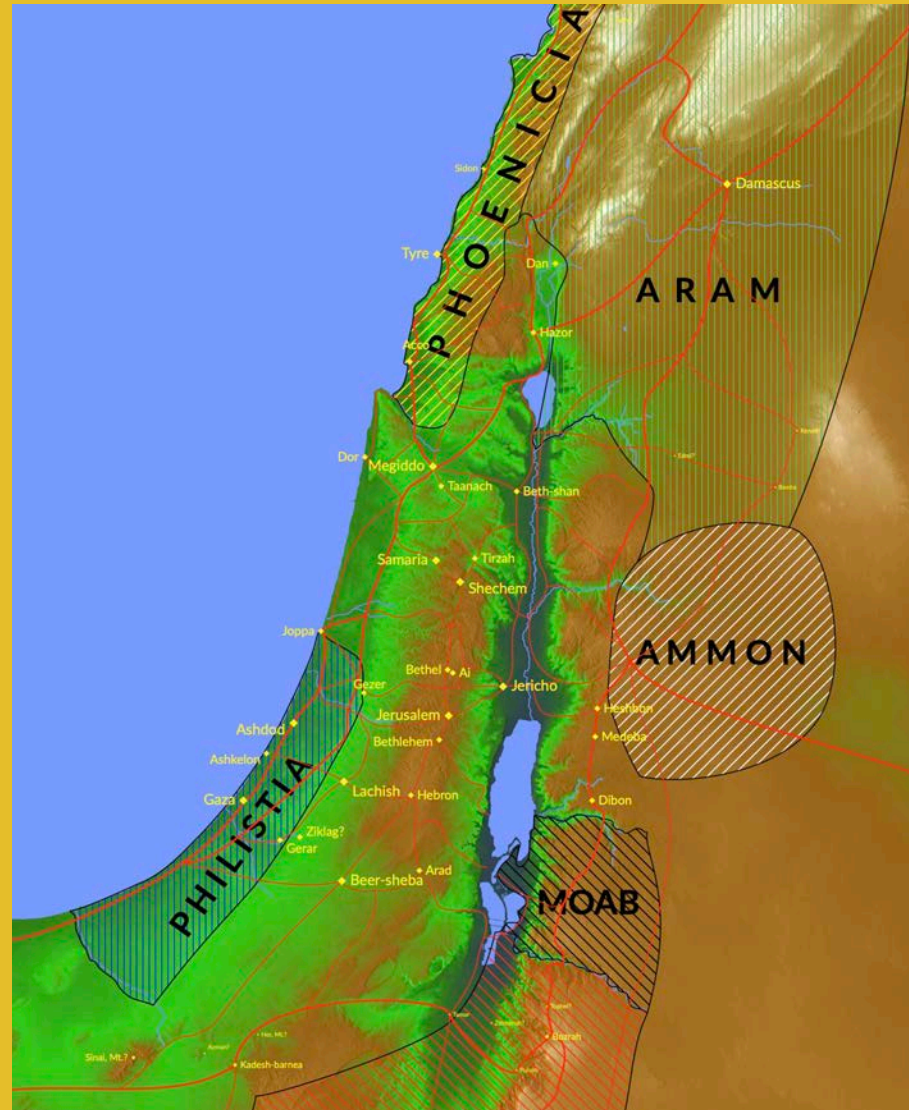
Moabites, the people from which Ruth came (Ruth 1:16-19) who traveled to Bethlehem with Naomi, and an ancestor of David the King (Ruth 4:18-22), and of the Messiah (Matt 1:5).

Edomites, sons of Esau, frequent enemies of the Israelites, spoken of in Obadiah (Obad 1:1-4), inhabitants of the famous site Petra.

Canaanites and Perizzites (People of Sodom and Gomorrah) (Gen 13:8-13)

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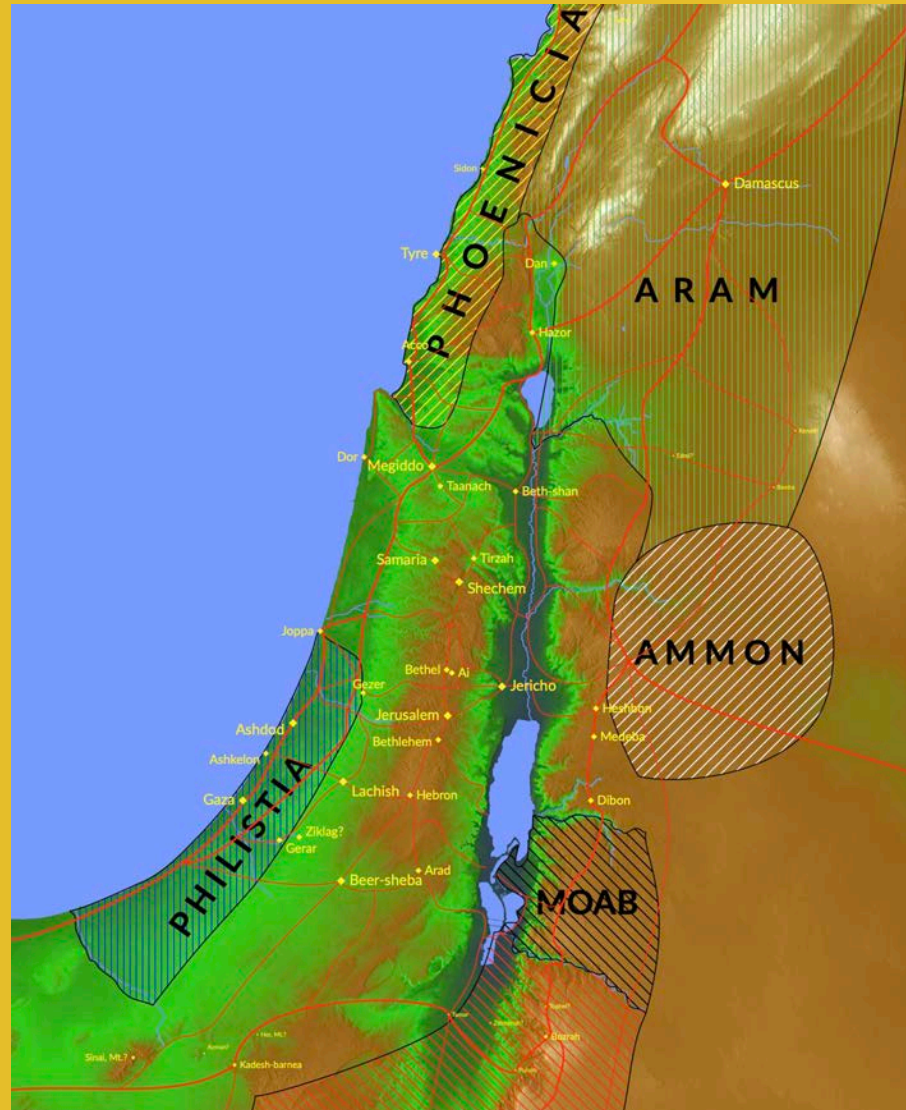
Land of Jordan

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Map of Jordan



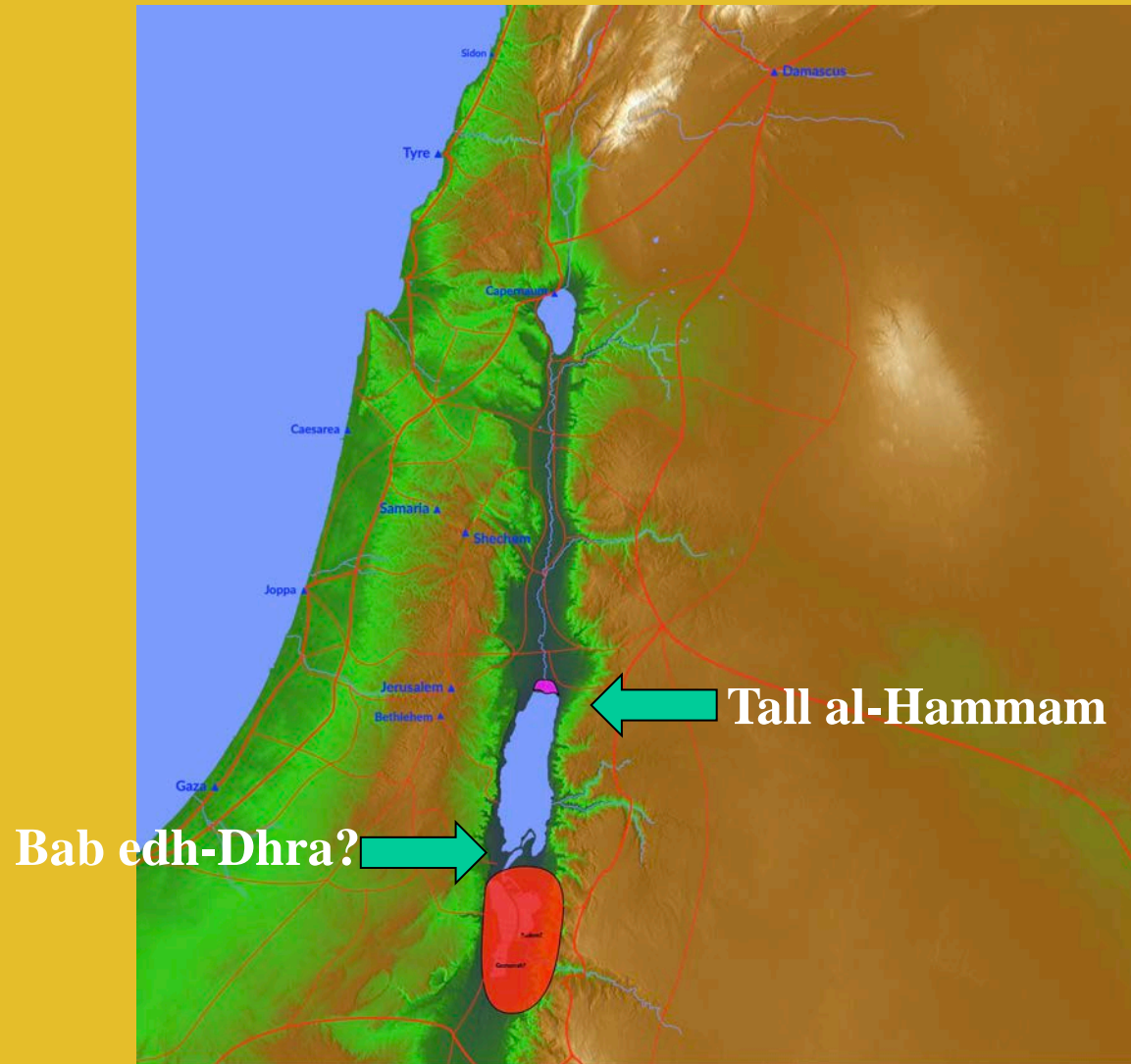
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The Ancient City of Sodom

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Genesis 13:1 Abram went up out of Egypt—he, his wife, all that he had, and Lot with him—into the South. **2** Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. **3** He went on his journeys from the South as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, **4** to the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first. There Abram called on Yahweh’s name. **5** Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks, herds, and tents. **6** The land was not able to bear them, that they might live together; for their possessions were so great that they couldn’t live together. **7** There was strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s livestock and the herdsmen of Lot’s livestock. The Canaanites and the Perizzites lived in the land at that time. **8** Abram said to Lot, “Please, let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen; for we are relatives. **9** Isn’t the whole land before you? Please separate yourself from me. If you go to the left hand, then I will go to the right. Or if you go to the right hand, then I will go to the left.”

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10 Lot lifted up his eyes, and saw all the plain of the Jordan, that it was well-watered everywhere, before Yahweh destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, like the garden of Yahweh, like the land of Egypt, as you go to Zoar. **11** So Lot chose the Plain of the Jordan for himself. Lot traveled east, and they separated themselves from one other. **12** Abram lived in the land of Canaan, and Lot lived in the cities of the plain, and moved his tent as far as Sodom. **13** Now the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinners against Yahweh.

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Sodom from Mt. Nebo (northern view)



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The Ancient Site of Sodom from Mt. Nebo



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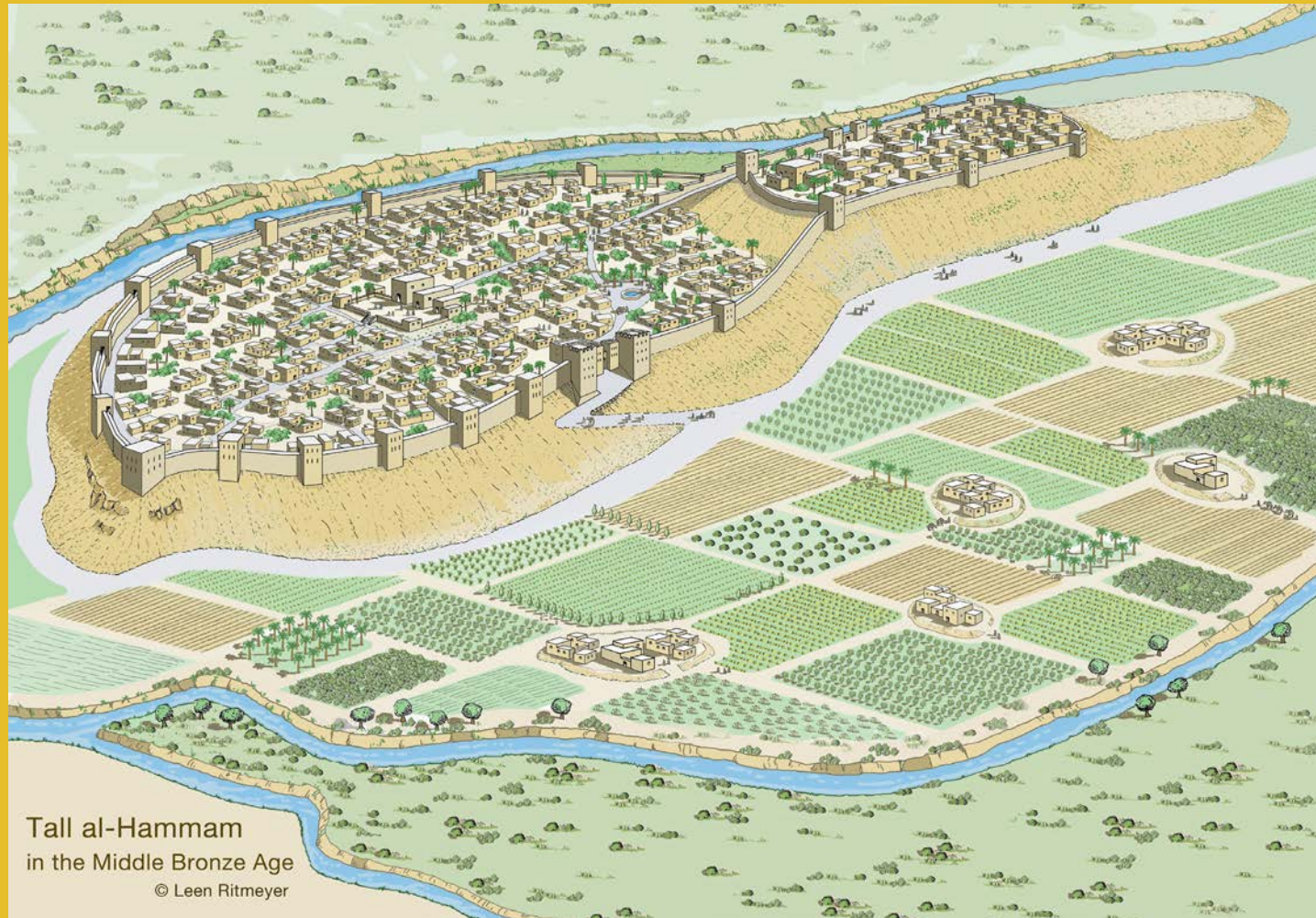
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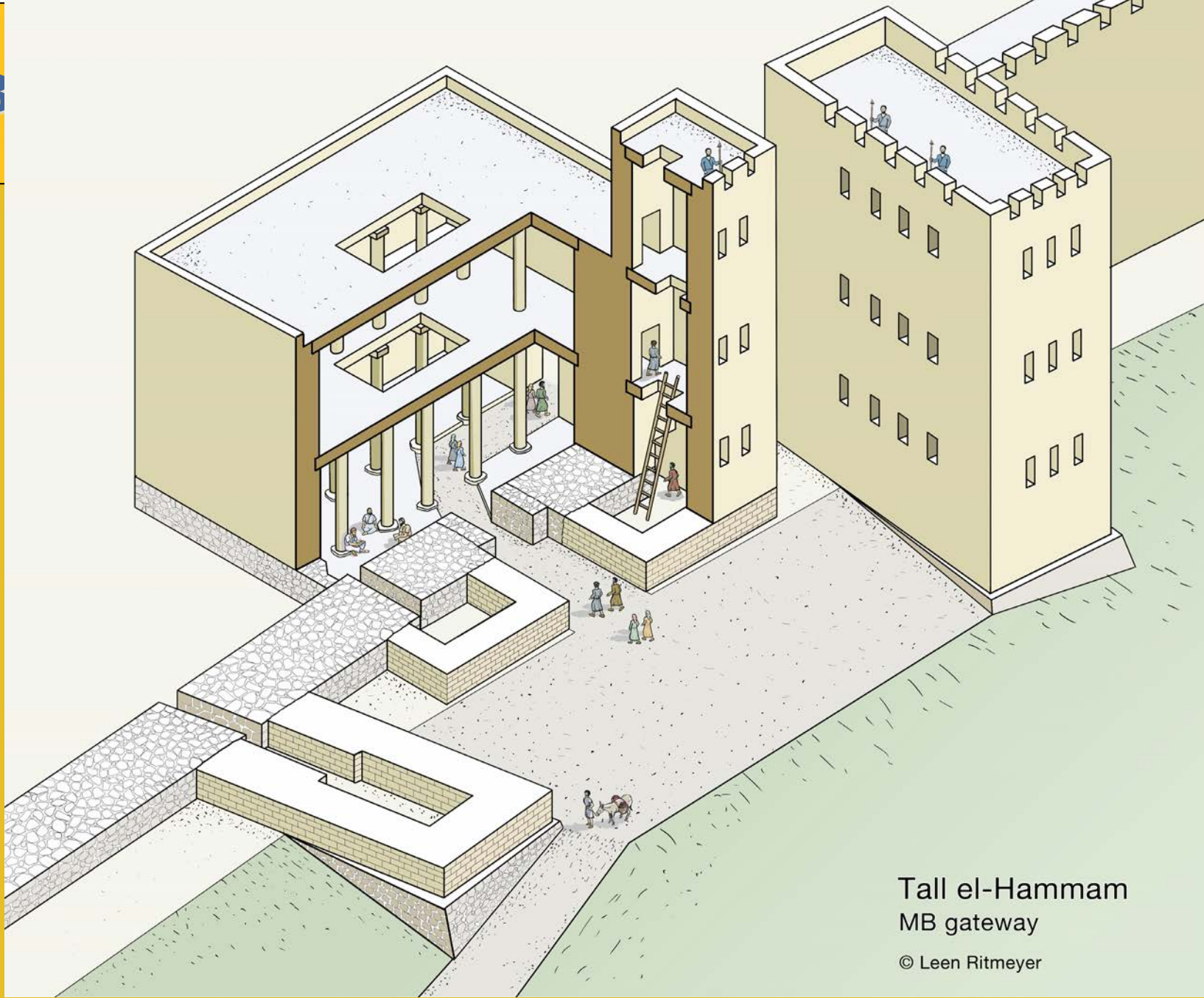
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Tall al-Hammam
in the Middle Bronze Age
© Leen Ritmeyer



Tall el-Hammam
MB gateway

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Working with Friends at the he Ancient Site of Sodom



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Where did they say the
treasures were hidden?

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Excavating at the Ancient Site of Sodom



The Ancient City of Petra (large rock)

The Ancient City of Petra

Obadiah 1:1-4

1 The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Lord Yahweh says about Edom. We have heard news from Yahweh, and an ambassador is sent among the nations, saying, “Arise, and let’s rise up against her in battle. **2** Behold, I have made you small among the nations. You are greatly despised. **3** The pride of your heart has deceived you, **you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high, who says in his heart, ‘Who will bring me down to the ground?’** **4** Though you mount on high as the eagle, and though your nest is set among the stars, I will bring you down from there,” says Yahweh.

8 “Won’t I in that day”, says Yahweh, “destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the **mountain of Esau?** **9** Your mighty men, Teman, will be dismayed, to the end that everyone may be cut off from the mountain of Esau by slaughter. **10** For the **violence done to your brother Jacob**, shame will cover you, and you will be **cut off forever.** **11** In the day that you stood on the other side, in the day that strangers carried away his substance and foreigners **entered into his gates and cast lots** for Jerusalem, even you were like one of them. **12** But don’t look down on your brother in the day of his disaster, and **don’t rejoice over the children of Judah**

The Ancient City of Petra

in the day of their destruction. Don't speak proudly in the day of distress. **13** Don't enter into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity. Don't look down on their affliction in the day of their calamity, neither seize their wealth on the day of their calamity. **14** Don't stand in the crossroads to cut off those of his who escape. Don't deliver up those of his who remain in the day of distress. **15** For the day of Yahweh is near all the nations! As you have done, it will be done to you. Your deeds will return upon your own head. **16** For as you have drunk on my holy mountain, so all the nations will drink continually. Yes, they will drink, swallow down, and will be as though they had not been. **17** But in Mount Zion, there will be those who escape, and it will be holy. The house of Jacob will possess their possessions. **18** The house of Jacob will be a fire, the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble. They will burn among them and devour them. There will not be any remaining to the house of Esau." Indeed, Yahweh has spoken.

Esau was cast out of their land in the fifth century B.C. and there are no remnants of the Edomites today as far as it can be ascertained.

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The Ancient Edomites

The Teaching of the Apostle Paul on the Descendants of Jacob and Esau

Romans 9:6 But it is not as though the word of God has come to nothing. For they are not all Israel that are of Israel. **7** Neither, because they are Abraham's offspring, are they all children. But, "your offspring will be accounted as from Isaac." **8** That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as heirs. **9** For this is a word of promise: "At the appointed time I will come, and Sarah will have a son." **10** Not only so, but Rebekah also conceived by one, by our father Isaac. **11** For being not yet born, neither having done anything good or bad, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him who calls, **12** it was said to her, "The elder will serve the younger." **13** Even as it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

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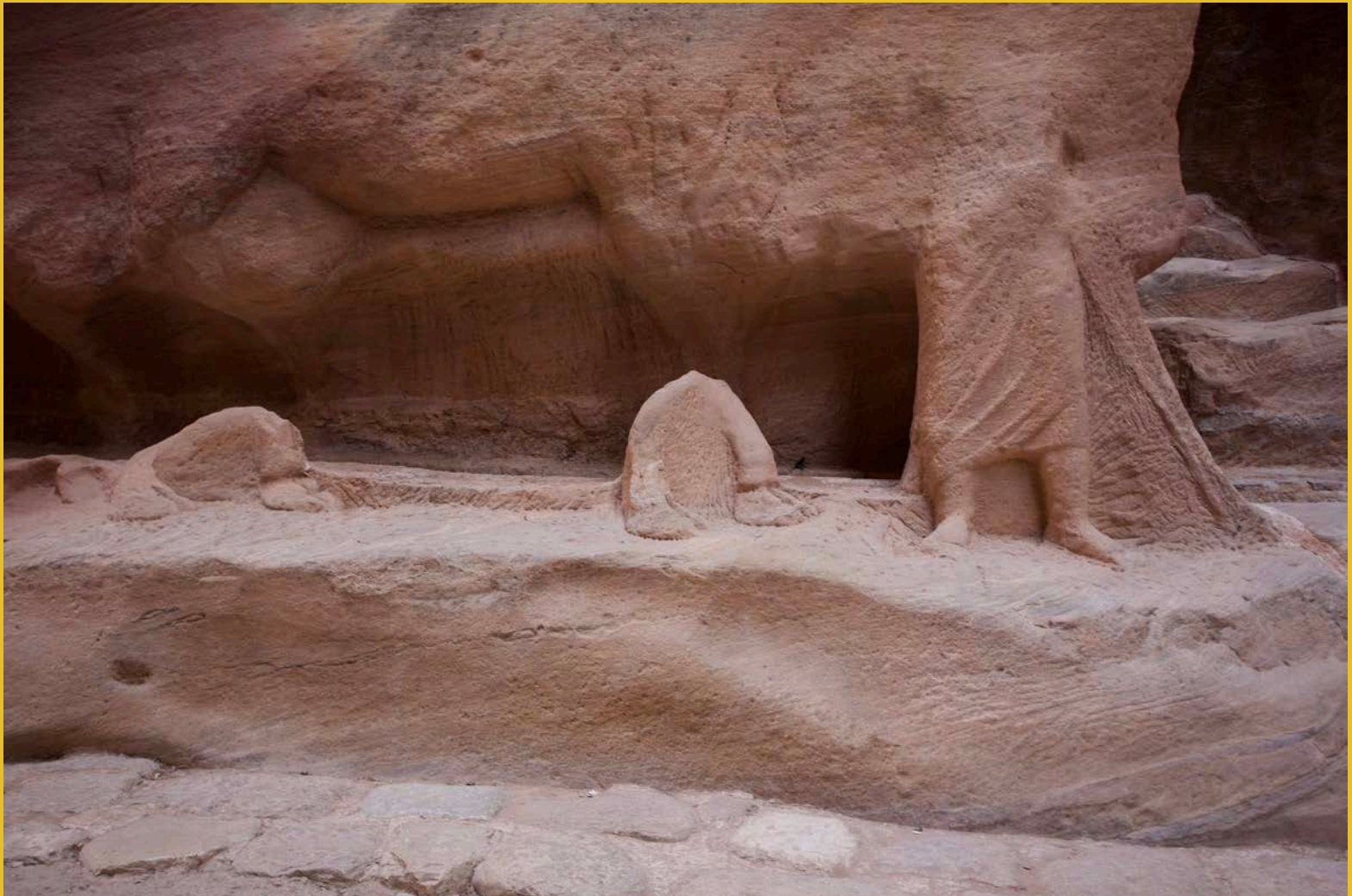
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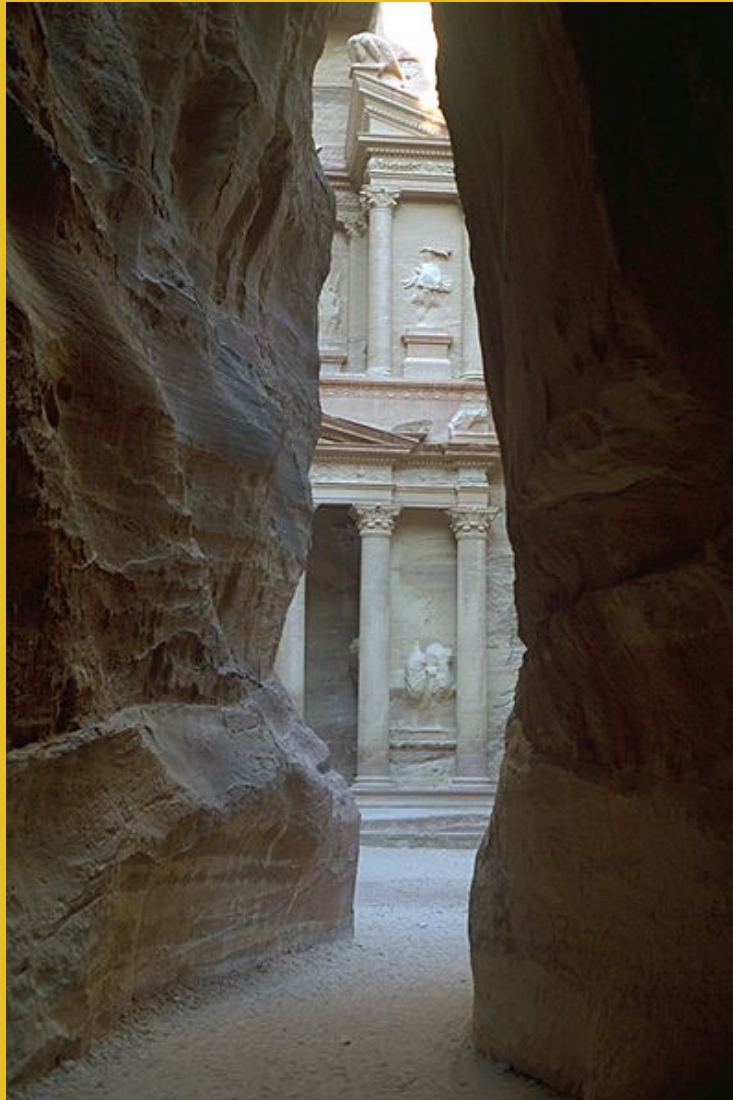
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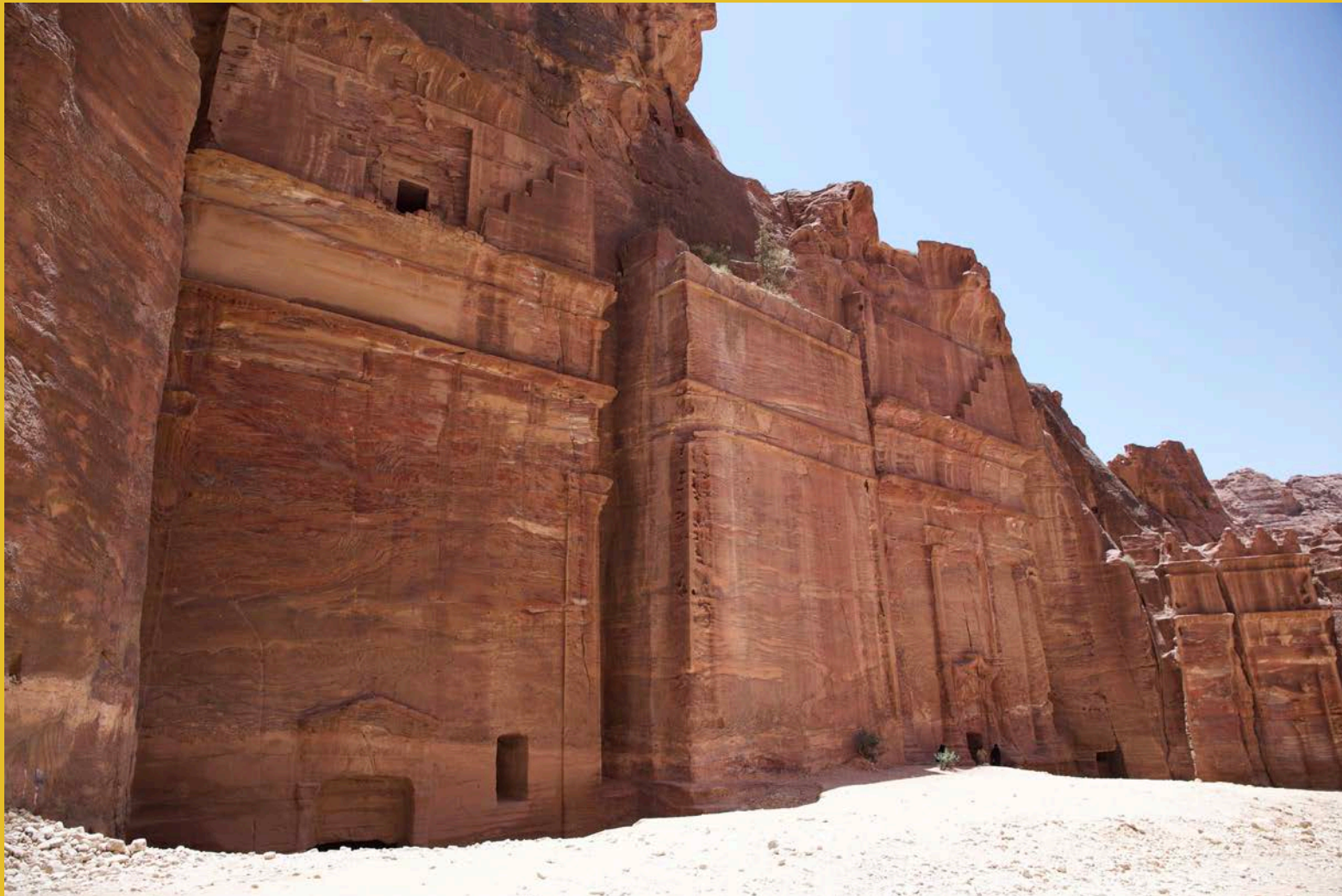
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