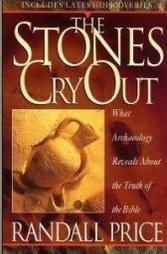


# The Stones Cry Out

## Biblical Archaeology



**Class 7**  
**Chapter 7**  
**The Exodus**  
**Pgs. 125-140**

The Stones Cry Out Syllabus			
	Date	Topic	Pages
1	3/12/14	Snow Class Cancelled	
2	3/19/14	Chapter 1: Adventures of Archaeology Chapter 2: Digging for Answers	Pages 21-49
3	3/26/14	Chapter 3: Digs That Made a Difference	Pages 51-71
4	4/2/14	Heaven's Gate Hell's Flame Play	
5	4/9/14	Chapter 4: More Digs that Made a Difference	73-86
6	4/16/14	Chapter 5: The Patriarchs	89-107
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### Chapter 6: Sodom and Gomorrah

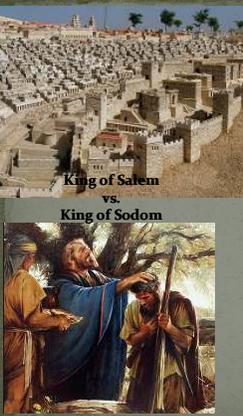
#### Salty Story or Sinful Cities?

- Genesis 10, 13, 14, 18-19
- Time of Abraham
- Pentapolis (Group of five cities)
- Well watered plain southern portion of Jordan valley
- Lot (Abraham's Nephew) choose to live in the plains of Sodom



### Genesis 13:10-11

(10) And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) (11) So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other.



### Genesis 14

- Kings of the East attack Sodom and Gomorrah along with other cities
- Lot is taken hostage
- Abraham rescues Lot
- Returns with people and possessions of Sodom
- Abraham is met by 2 Kings
- Melchizedek King of Salem (Jerusalem)
- Bera King of Sodom
- Abraham rejects Sodom
- Abraham is anointed by King of Salem



### Genesis 18-19

- The LORD along with 2 Angels appears to Abraham
- The Lord tells of the coming destruction of Sodom (Gen. 18:20-23)
- Abraham negotiates mercy for Sodom
- 50 to 10 Righteous
- God would spare the city (Gen. 18:23-33) if 10 were found
- Lot, his wife and 2 daughters were spared
- Lot's wife turned into salt



**Genesis 19:24-29**  
 (24) Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven.  
 (25) And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.  
 (26) But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.  
 (27) And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD.



**Genesis 19:24-29**  
 (28) And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.  
 (29) So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

**Skepticism of the Scholars**



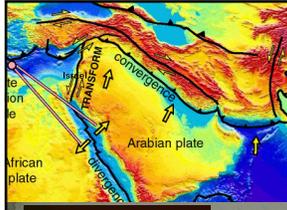
“Purely mythical tale”..  
**Theodor Gaster**



Created by Israelite storytellers to communicate theological concerns.. Not real history

Kernel of historicity...fragment of local recollection

**Skepticism of the Scholars**



Earthquake destroyed Sodom in 2350 BC

Caused “Light fractions of hydrocarbons escaping from underground reservoirs”  
 David Neev & K.O. Emery



Primitive recollections of the past...

**Sodom and Gomorrah Represent Sin**

Sodom is mentioned 48 times in scripture  
 From Genesis 10 to Revelation 11  
 Jesus spoke of Sodom and Gomorrah  
 Philo and Josephus also spoke of Sodom



**Matthew 10:15**  
 (15) Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

**Matthew 11:23**  
 (23) And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.



**The Search for Sodom and Gomorrah**

- Concentrated on the Dead Sea region
- Biblical Text specifies “The Valley of Siddim” (The Salt Sea)
- 1924 W.F. Albright & Rev. M. Kyle
- Believed city was under the waters
- 1960 Ralph Baney explored the sea floor (Dead Sea) found Tress at 23 foot level
- No trace of city structures
- Assumed the city was consumed
- Others “Jebel Usdum”..Lots Wife




Jebel Usdum “Lot's Wife”

# Tall el Hammam Season 5 Report: King Bera's Palace



### The Search for Sodom and Gomorrh

- Albright also discovered structures on the Eastern shore of Transjordan
- Across from Lisan Peninsula..Bab Edh-Dhra
- Remains heavily fortified and settled community
- Walled buildings, houses and numerous cemeteries, artifacts
- Collapsed 13-foot blocks (monoliths)
- He dated to 3150-2200 BC
- Believed ceased to be occupied with the period



The ruins at Babe edh-Drah



### The Search for Sodom and Gomorrah

- In 1965 and 1967 excavations carried out by Paul Lapp
- Continued by Walter Rast and Thomas Schaub in 1973
- 23 foot thick walls
- Segmented with gateway and 2 twin towers
- Interior city with mud-brick houses
- Canaanite Temple
- Enormous cemetery outside the city with thousands




### The Search for Sodom and Gomorrah

- Estimates have placed the graves at Bab edh-Dhra at over 500,000 people,
- Over 20,000 grave holes have been identified




- oArchaeologist Bryant Wood
- o**Bab Edh-Dhra** suggests is Sodom
- o1 Kilometer away..cemetery
- oProves large population
- oType of burial..dead buried in a building on the surface
- oQuote from Pg. 115-118



### Excavation of Bab edh-Dhra

**Charnel House:** Collecting of bones of the dead  
Following they would bury bones.  
Charnel houses were burned from the inside out





**Excavation of Bab edh-Dhra**



•The burning of Bab edh-Dhra implies a way a vast area was burned  
 •1920's,30's abundant deposits of asphalt, petroleum and natural gas were noted  
 •Genesis 14:10, Tar bits  
 •Genesis 19:24-26, salt, brimstone (Sulphur)

God rained on the city fire and Brimstone

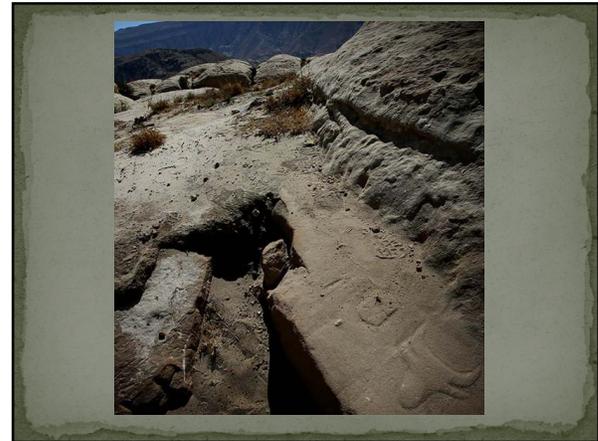
**More Extensive Survey**



•5 Cities were identified  
 •Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zoar and Zeboiim  
 •Other cities have been found  
 •es-Safi has been identified as Zoar from Byzantine times  
 •Numeria  
 •Feifa  
 •Khanazir  
 •These sites were destroyed and abandoned at the same time (2450-2350 BC) Early Bronze Age III Period  
 •Same ash deposits found



Map of the Five Cities of the Plain.



**CITIES OF THE PLAIN**



Map of the Five Cities of the Plain.

- Numeira A heavily fortified city (Gomorrah)
- One layer of ash was over 7-feet thick
- City was in perfect condition underneath it
- Every city, ash deposits caused the soil to have consistency of spongy charcoal
- Impossible to resettle
- Only Zoar did not share the ash (Gen. 19:30)

**Which City goes with which site**

**•Which site hosted which city?**  
**•Sodom and Gomorrah**  
**•Admah and Zeboim**  
**•Zoar was near Sodom**  
**•Sodom and Gomorrah were most prominent**  
**•Lot choose Sodom..the best**  
**•King Bera represented other cities**  
**•Angels visited Sodom**  
**•Visible, Abraham viewed destruction**  
**•Bab edh-Dhra largest**

Map of the Five Cities of the Plain.

**Which City goes with which site**

**•Numeira connected with Gomorrah**  
**•Southwest sector of the city destroyed by extensive burning**  
**•Foundations buried under tons of burnt bricks**  
**•Rooms sealed in ash, 5000 barley seeds recovered..bread and bear**  
**•Ezekiel 16:49..fullness of bread**

Map of the Five Cities of the Plain.

**Which City goes with which site**

**•Bab Edh-Dhra with Sodom**  
**•Numeira with Gomorrah**  
**•Es-Safi with Zoar**  
**•Feifa with Admah**  
**•Khanazir with Zeboim**

Map of the Five Cities of the Plain.

Timeline of the region's history:

- Tabernacle (1448-960 BC)**
- First Temple (960-586 BC)**
- Second Temple (516 BC-A.D. 70)**
- 20 Year Jewish Kingdom, ends with Rome's intervention. In 70 AD Rome destroys Jerusalem and the Second Temple.**
- Empires and Kingdoms:** Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome.
- Key Events:**
  - 605 BC: The Battle of Carchemish. Babylon defeats Egypt and Assyria for control of Near East and Jerusalem.
  - 586 BC: Babylon destroys Jerusalem and takes Jews into exile.
  - 539 BC: Cyrus the Great of Persia defeats Babylon in 539 BC. He allows the Jews to return to the Holy Land. Temple is rebuilt in 520 BC.
  - 333 BC: Alexander the Great defeats Persia in 333 BC. The Greek Kingdom takes control of Persian lands. He dies in 323 BC.
  - 300 BC: Ptolemy and the Seleucids are the main powers. Great Kingdom of Greece is divided into 4 Kingdoms by the 4 Diadochi.
  - 100 BC: Pompey and his legions take control of the region.
  - 63 BC: Roman Republic conquers the region.
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