

*The Story of*

# Jericho

(Illustrated)

42 Photographs illustrating the Biblical  
Story of the events surrounding the fall of  
Ancient Jericho.



ABOUT five years ago I paid my first visit to Palestine, and it was certainly a very thrilling experience to walk over the excavations then in progress at Jericho, but it was not my good fortune then to meet the Excavator, Professor John Garstang, of the Liverpool University—on the next visit however, two years later, I was more fortunate.

On this occasion I was able to do a little more quiet study of the ruins and with the help of the physical surroundings and the study of the official records, viz.:—"The Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology" published by The Liverpool Univer-

sity Press, and the "Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly," I was able to make a more thorough study of the results of the excavations.

Most of the accompanying photos have been taken by me, and they reflect the wonderful accuracy of the Biblical records. I am indebted to Professor John Garstang, The Liverpool University Press, and the Secretary of The Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly for their permission to use certain of their photos.

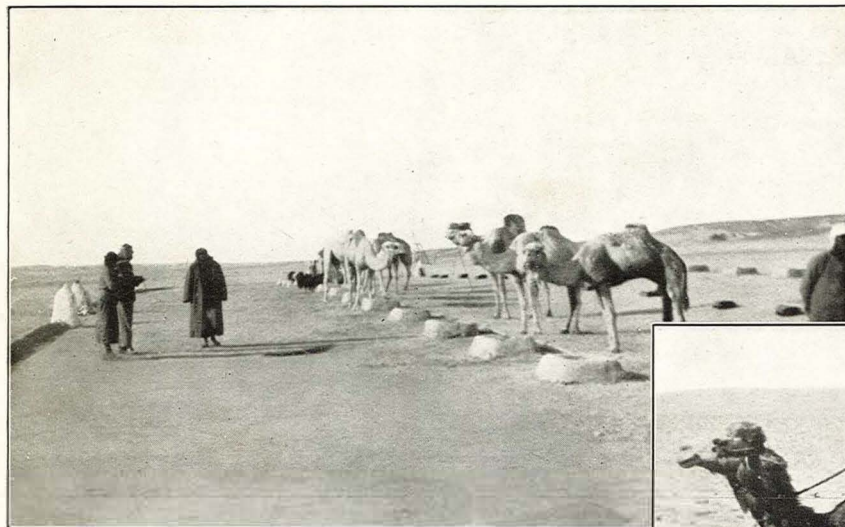
The summary of the evidence in the book reveals the fact that the Biblical writers were very conscientious in their recording of the events of their day. I have used all the material possible in the survey of the evidence and it is well worth noting here that nothing contrary to the Scripture records has been found.

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## **SUMMARY OF THE CHIEF POINTS IN THE EVIDENCE OBTAINED FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH.**

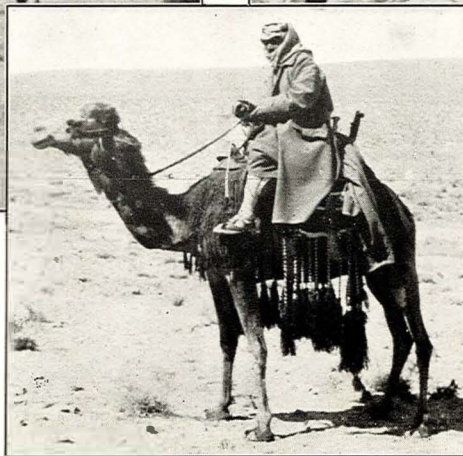
1. Jericho was left in ruins and these were covered by age-long dust because of Joshua's curse.
2. Various Scripture dates and figures are found to agree exactly with the historical events that refer to the Oppression and the Exodus of the Children of Israel from Egypt.
3. The Hornets of God's promise were the Pharaohs, Thothmes III. and Amenhetep II.
4. The spies did actually see many cities strongly fortified with high walls and towers.
5. Cities and houses built by very strong men have been found in Bashan.
6. The Canaanites were only gradually subdued.
7. There were the ruins of a palace found at Jericho.
8. The observation of strangers in a small city with narrow streets made it easy for the king to hear of the arrival of spies.
9. There was one gate at Jericho.
10. Rahab spoke the same language as the spies.
11. The knowledge of the Most High God was already known in the land.
12. Ruins of houses built on the walls of Jericho were found.
13. There is a mountain opposite Jericho.
14. Spies could easily hide in the natural caves of the mountain.
15. Spies could keep Jericho under observation from these caves.
16. Had the spies gone to their camp past the gate of Jericho, they would have been seen a considerable distance away.
17. To get to the mountain and hide was a wise and necessary instruction.
18. Jericho was destroyed while in active occupation.
19. The city was merely a large fort, small enough for an army to march around seven times in one day before an attack.
20. The walls fell as the result of earthquake shock.
21. The walls fell as described in the Scripture narrative.
22. Jericho was destroyed by fire.
23. Jericho was deliberately burned.
24. Jericho was destroyed apparently after the harvest had been gathered in.
25. Jericho was systematically burned.
26. Good food was burned because of the commandment of Joshua.
27. Jericho was not systematically plundered as were other cities.
28. The burning of the city took place after the earthquake.
29. Part of the wall nearest the mountain was found to be the least damaged.
30. There was trade with Babylon before Jericho was destroyed.
31. An expiatory deposit has been found by Sir Flinders Petrie at Gaza showing that the method of punishment meted out to Achan was not unusual.
32. As stated in the books of Joshua and Judges, certain cities were not captured by the Children of Israel.
33. The ruins of Jericho show traces of a re-building about the period of Ahab.
34. No metal of the period of the destruction of the city has been found.
35. Other cities mentioned as being taken at the historical period of Jericho's downfall have been found to be correct.
36. Scarabs found in the graves at Jericho give the period of its destruction as about 1400 B.C., which fits in the facts of the Biblical story with Egyptian history.
37. The crude pottery of the Israelites and their early low general culture indicates that they had been a long time away from the culture of Egypt.

### 1. EGYPTIAN POLICE LINES



1. The above photo gives a very good idea of the Sinai Desert. This picture was taken during the winter season, and although the sun was shining, the mornings were very cold.
2. Owing to the excellent police force patrolling the desert highways to-day touring is a very pleasant experience.

### 2. DESERT POLICEMAN



### 3. THE ROCK AT AIN KADEIS



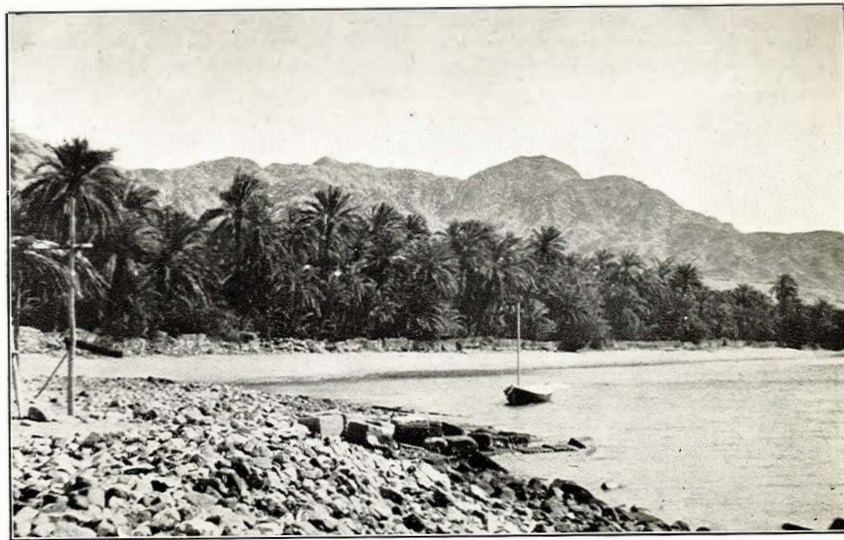
3. Ancient watering place in the wady of Ain Kadeis, which according to some authorities, is the site of Kadesh Barnea. Owing to an earthquake the water has left this rock and is now found about fifty yards away. Note the rocks form a basin into which the people could dip their water pots.



#### 4. ROUTE THROUGH SINAI TO THE AKABAH GULF



#### 5. GULF OF AKABAH



4. This is the natural pass between the granite hills of the Sinai peninsula and the gulf of Akabah. The Children of Israel would have to pass this way.
5. At the head of the Gulf of Akabah was the port used by Solomon. It is mentioned in 1 Kings, 9-26. "King Solomon made a navy of ships in Ezion-geber . . . on the shore of the Red Sea in the land of Edom."

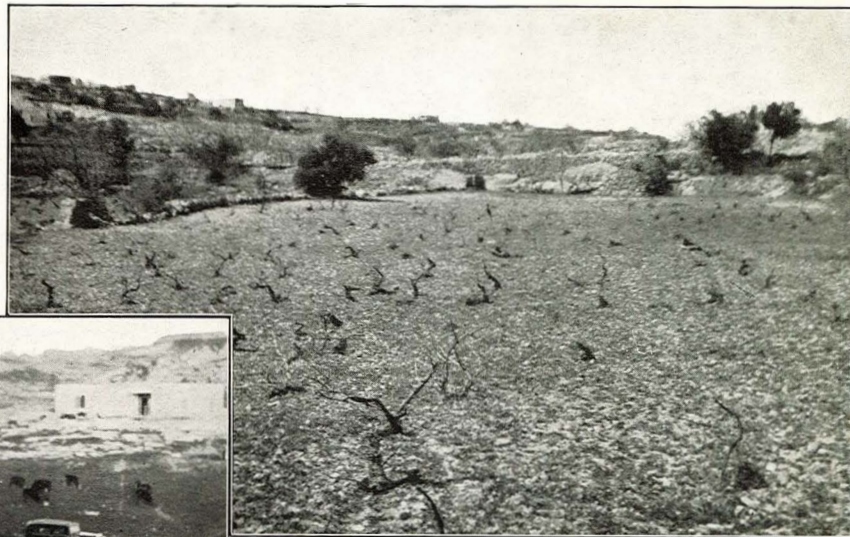
## 6. A STREET IN ANCIENT HEBRON



6. Hebron is a very old town. In Numbers 13:22, it is mentioned that the spies came from the wilderness to search the land of Canaan and passed through Hebron.

7. When the spies returned after their forty days spying out the land they took grapes

## 7. VINES AT ESHCOL, NEAR HEBRON



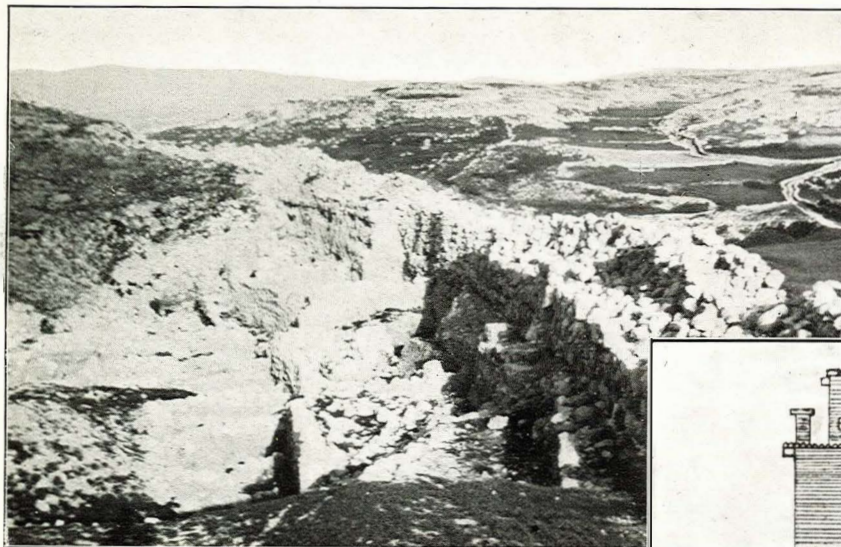
**7a. THE UPPER SPRING AT  
KIRJATH-SEEPHER**

from Eshcol (Numbers 13:23). This place is still noted for its vineyards.

7a. The upper spring at Kirjath-Sepher. The Hebrew word is not the ordinary one for spring, but one that means receptacle. This description is most apt. The "upper and nether" springs are still so described by the local people. Judges 1:15.



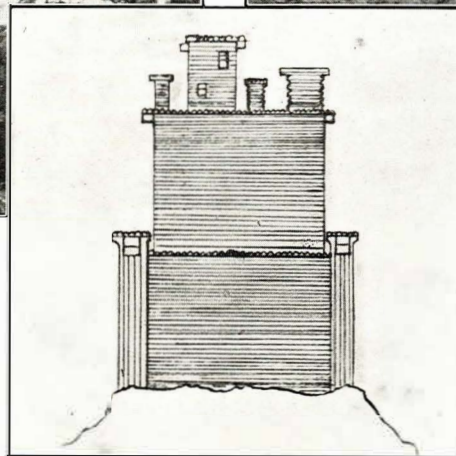
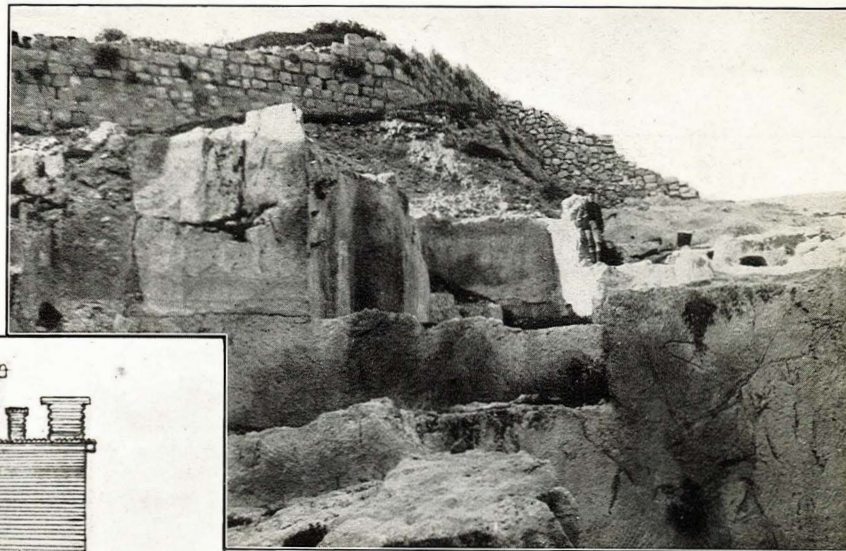
8. RUINS OF KIRJATH-SEPHER—A CITY SEEN BY THE SPIES.



8. Mentioned in Judges 1:11 as being taken by Othniel, Caleb's younger brother. This city has recently been excavated and the remains of the Canaanitish walls have been uncovered. They were very strongly built and are a wonder to modern engineers.

9. The walls and houses of the Jebusite inhabitants of Jerusalem have now been

9. HOUSES OF JEBUSITE JERUSALEM

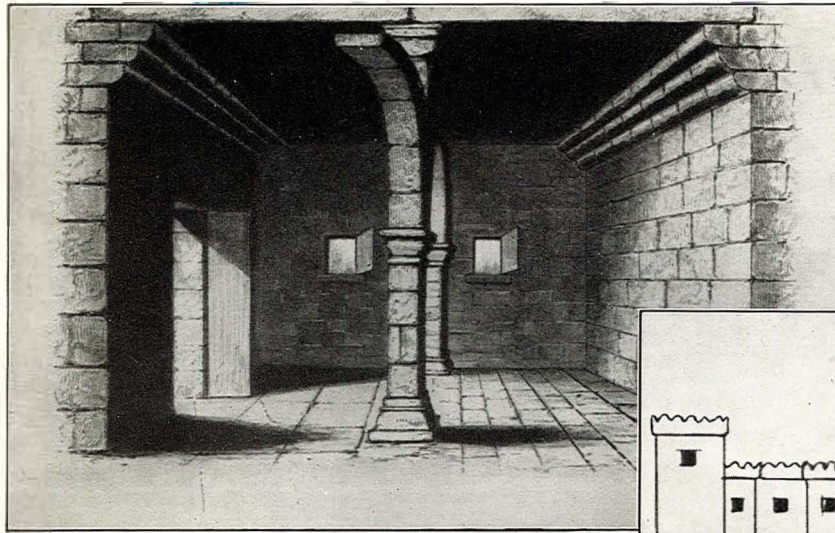


9a. TOWERS—FORTRESS AT BETH-SHAN

uncovered. We realise from many such towns which have been excavated, that the spies looked upon highly fortified cities surrounded by strong walls.

9a. Towers such as sketched above are now known to have been used by the Ancient Canaanites. This type of tower was built at Beth-Shan. (Numbers 13:28).

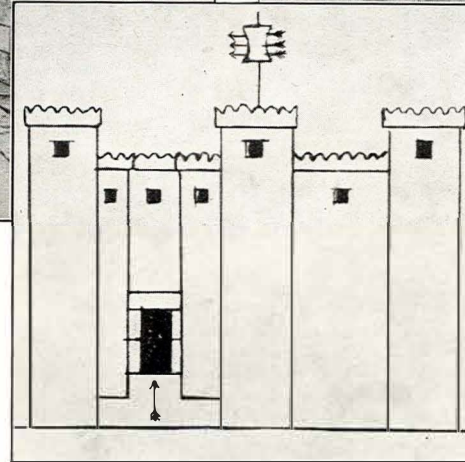
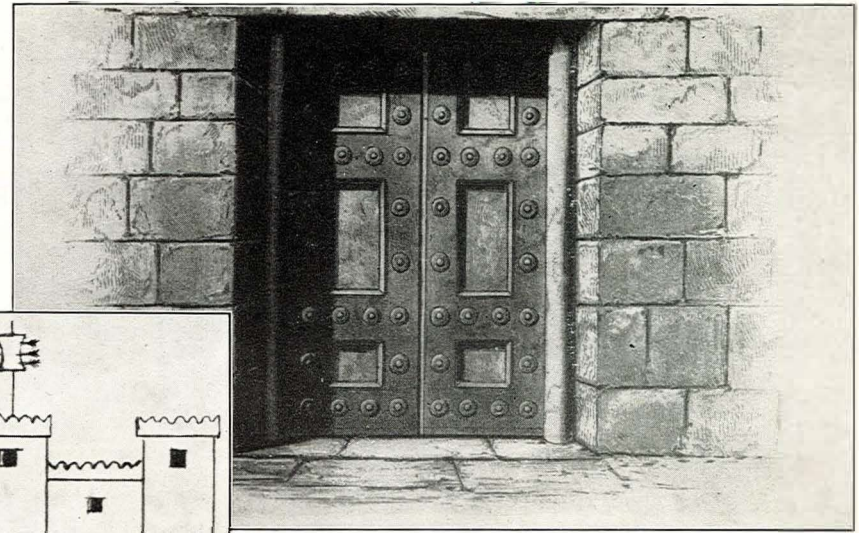
# 10. HOUSE INTERIOR—GIANT CITIES OF BASHAN



10. Dr. Porter, who travelled through Bashan in 1886, has left on record the fact that the three-score walled cities, which were taken by the Children of Israel before crossing over the Jordan, were cities of giants. Deut. 3:3-8.

11. Dr. Porter tells us that some of the doors as depicted above were of one piece of stone, each half standing nine feet high

# 11. DOOR OF THE HOUSE OF A GIANT



11a. **FORTRESS**

and four feet wide. They were still standing in 1886 and were in an excellent state of preservation.

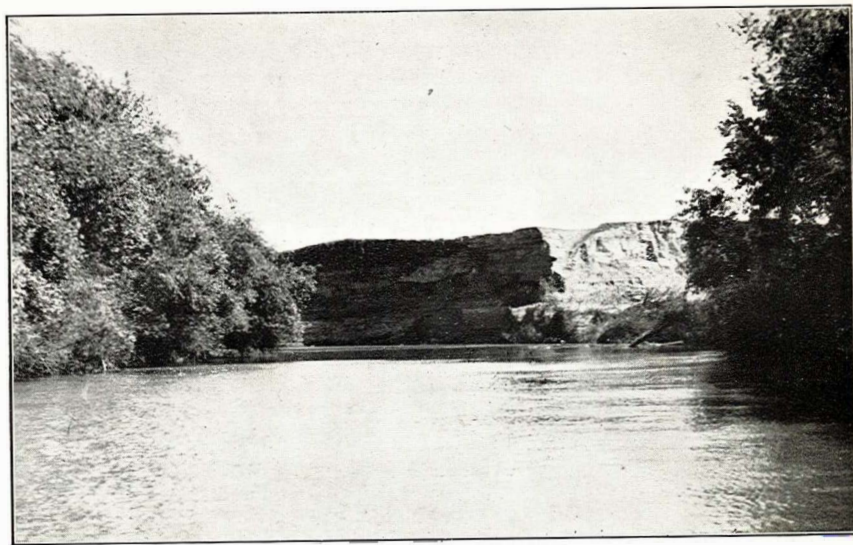
11a. Thothmes III. of Egypt warred against the cities of Canaan before the entry of the Children of Israel into the land. Egyptian records tell us how he subdued 119 cities. He and other Pharaohs were the Hornets mentioned in Joshua 24:12, Deut. 7:20.



12. RIVER JORDAN



13. RIVER JORDAN



12. This is the traditional place of the Baptism of our Lord. Just at this part it is very pretty with the weeping willows lining both banks.
13. The traditional place for the crossing of the Children of Israel. Notice the high cliffs caused through the soil being worn away by the river. This caused the banks to fall into the river on several occasions when earthquakes shook them down, thus blocking up the river as mentioned in the Scriptures. Joshua 3 : 15-16.

14. DEBRIS CAST UP



14. "Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest." Joshua 3: 15. This is due to the heat of the Spring sun melting the snow on the Lebanon mountains. Jordan overflows and is a mile wide at places. After the floods recede debris of all kinds is left behind and pools of water are seen everywhere in the Jordan valley.

15. HOUSE ON STILTS



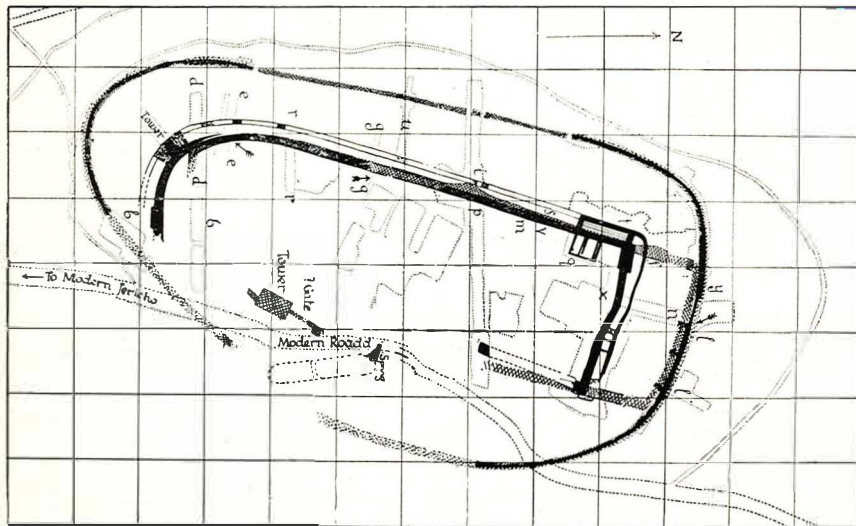
15. That the local people are quite ready for this seasonal flood is seen by the picture.
16. Note the oven used by these people. When the floods occur, everything goes on as usual because the people have prepared for the overflow.



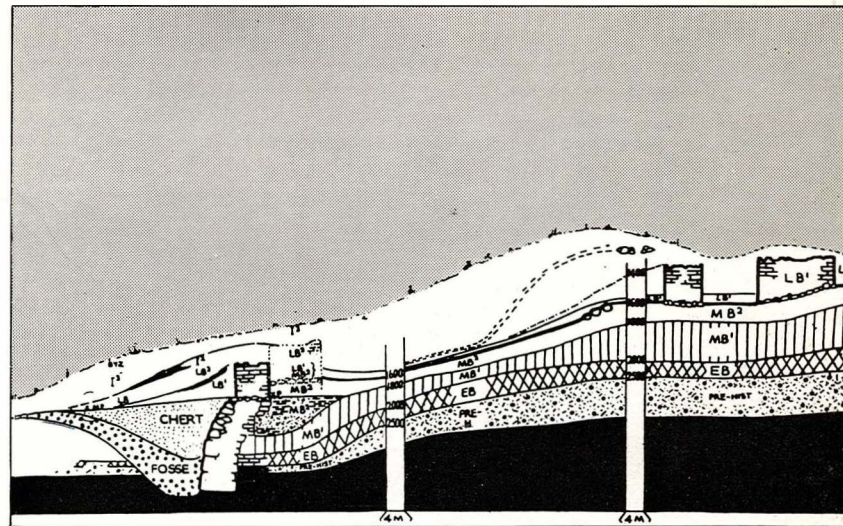
16. OVEN



## 17. PLAN OF THE WALLS OF JERICO



## 18. EXCAVATOR'S PLAN



17. This plan has been drawn to scale by Professor John Garstang, of the Liverpool University. The Scripture speaks of "the gate" (Joshua 2 : 5), and only one gate has been located in the ruins of the walls.
18. This plan shows how the mound of Jericho rose from very ancient times. The dark portion shows the virgin rock, after this comes the pre-historic layer, then the Early Bronze Age (2500-2000 B.C.), the Middle Bronze Age (2000-1600), the Late Bronze Age—this shows the parallel walls on the top of the mound and the Hyksos wall on the lower part of the mound.

19. LATE NEOLITHIC CULTURE AT JERICHO



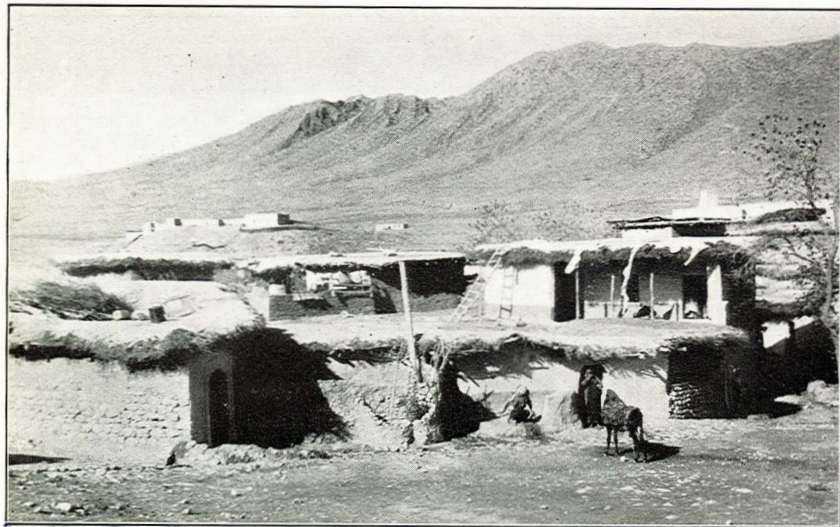
20. NORTH SYRIAN HUTS



19. Professor John Garstang has shown us that before the Early Bronze Age (2500 B.C.) there were circular houses built at Jericho. Remains of the same style of dwelling are found in Mesopotamia, Cyprus and many other places.
20. When the writer passed by Aleppo, in North Syria, he saw a number of villages with houses like this. They are a survival of the early circular houses such as existed at Jericho and other places about 3000 B.C.



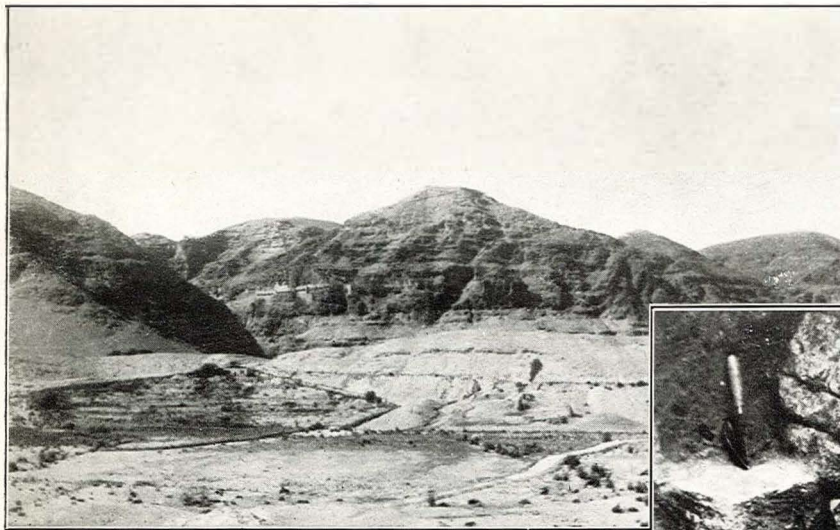
21. HOUSES IN KURDISTAN



22. HOUSE ON WALL AT DAMASCUS



21. According to excavations this is the type of house that was built at Jericho in Joshua's time. Note, on the left, the small roller on the roof. The thatch is covered with mud. Drying flax, clothes or other things are quite common. Rahab hid the spies in the drying flax on the roof. (Joshua 2 : 6). Burnt thatch was found in the ruins of the houses.
22. On the wall of Damascus we see a very good illustration of the kind of house Rahab had at Jericho. She let the spies down from a window. (Joshua 2 : 15). The Apostle, Paul, also escaped over the wall in a basket. Tradition says that it was near this place.



23. This photo was taken from the walls of Jericho. We can understand the instructions given by Rahab, "Get you to the mountain and hide there." Joshua 2:16. Natural caves are here and would hide a great number of men as well as provide them with a good point of observation.
24. Had the spies gone back to their camp past the gate of Jericho and not hid in the mountain caves, they would have passed over these plains and could then have



24a. POT UNDER WALL

been seen for miles from the tower at the gate of Jericho. Rahab was a very wise woman then to advise the spies to "flee to the mountain" opposite Jericho and not go back over the plains.

- 24a. This shows a foundation deposit under the walls of Jericho. A child's body had been placed in the pot. It was because of such evil practices as this that God gave the land to the descendants of Abraham. (See Genesis 15:16).



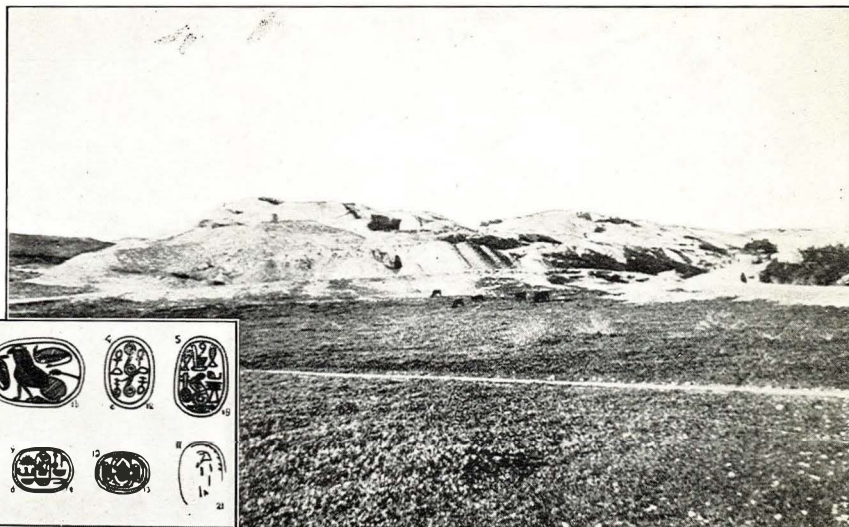
## 25. PALACE AREA STORE ROOMS



25. "It was told the King of Jericho" (Joshua 2:2). The palace of the King has been excavated and a great number of rooms filled with stores were located. The reason for the destruction of good food is given in Joshua 6:17, 18, 24.

26. The Mound of Jericho occupied about twelve acres. It was really a fort to accommodate the people in time of danger. The Children of Israel could easily walk

## 26. MOUND OF JERICHO

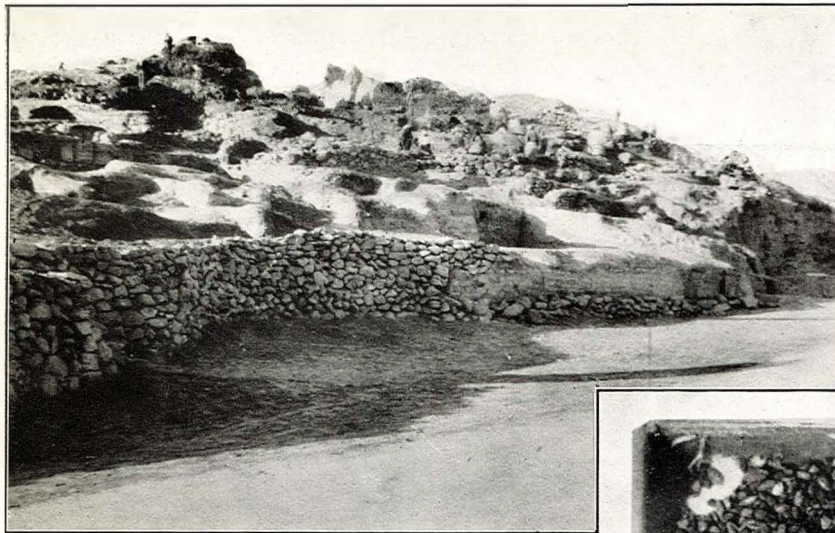


26a. SCARABS

around it seven times in one day, as mentioned in the Scripture narrative. The inhabitants of Jericho would naturally have their farms spread over a large area in the Jordan valley, and in time of danger they would retire to the fortress.

26a. Scarabs giving the names of some of the Pharaohs of Egypt were helpful clues to the date of the destruction of the city of Jericho. These Scarabs were used as charms and ornaments.

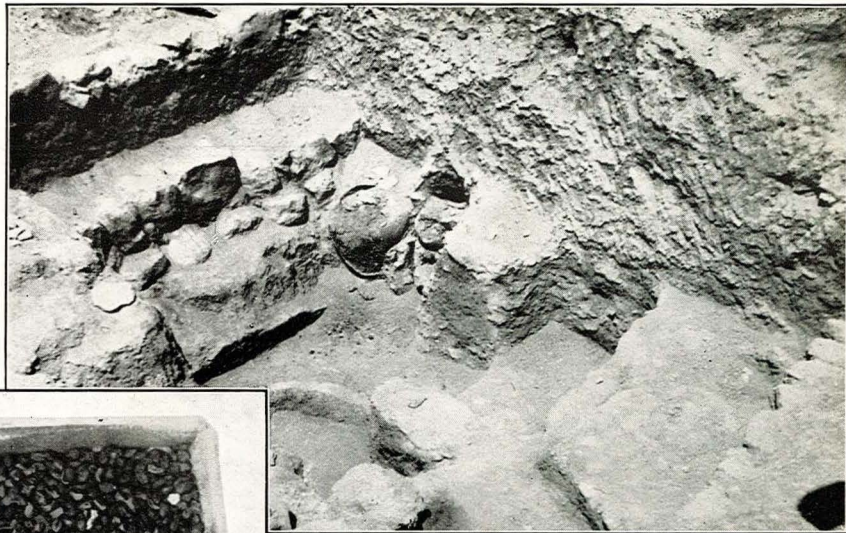
27. "SPRING HILL" AT JERICHO



27. This picture shows the excavations in progress. On the top of the mound were found the houses of the time of Hiel the Bethelite. 1 Kings 16 : 34 (about 900 B.C.).

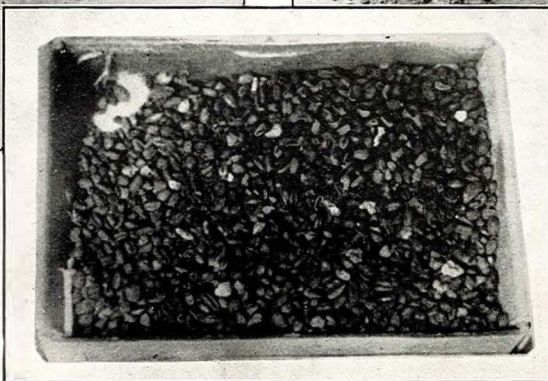
28. The rooms at Jericho varied considerably in size but were mostly small. Notice the pot in the corner. It con-

28. CLEARED ROOM OF A HOUSE



tained the household grain, which was thoroughly burned by the fire.

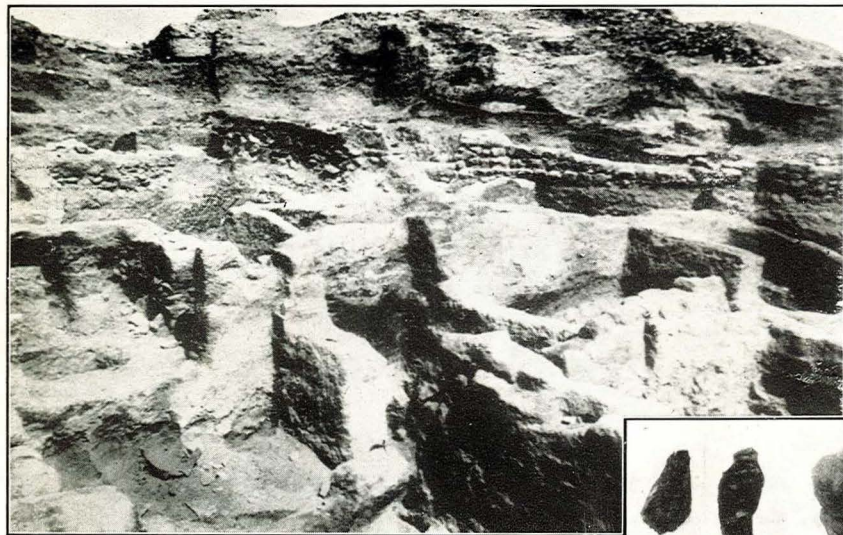
29. The pots were left by the Children of Israel because of Joshua's instructions. Joshua 6 : 17-18. Burnt wheat, barley and other grains were found scattered over the floors, showing that the pots and the food were left to be destroyed, and not taken as spoil.



29. BURNT WHEAT



30. BURNT PALACE LOOKING WEST



30. The light portions of this picture show the traces of the intense burning which occurred in these palace store rooms. A great quantity of grain was deliberately destroyed in the pots in these rooms.

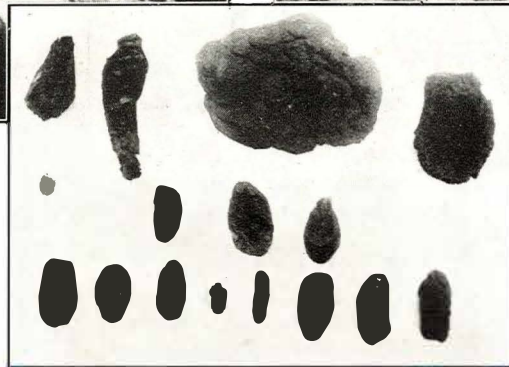
31. The spring was originally enclosed within the walls of Jericho. A modern

31. PALACE LOOKING EASTWARD



road now separates the ruins from the spring seen above.

32. Professor John Garstang tells us that Jericho was destroyed whilst in active occupation. Here is shown some of the bread and dates found in a burnt house.



32. BREAD AND DATES

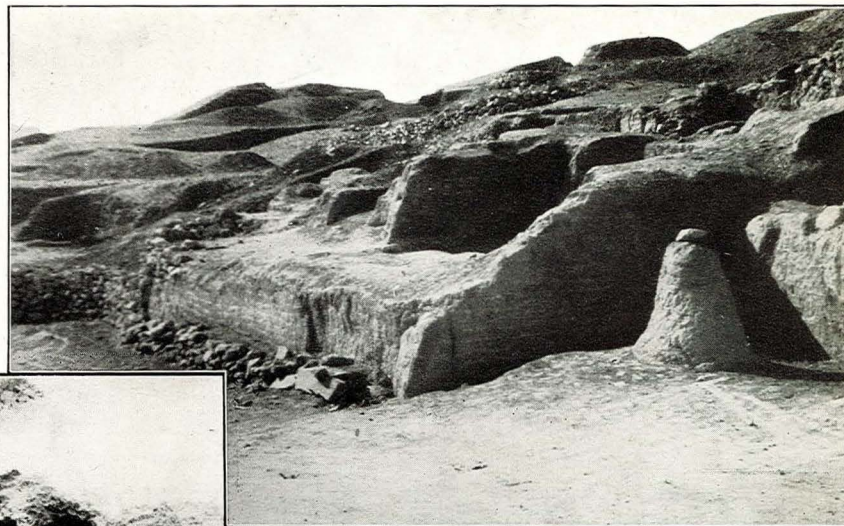
### 33. INNER WALL OF JERICO



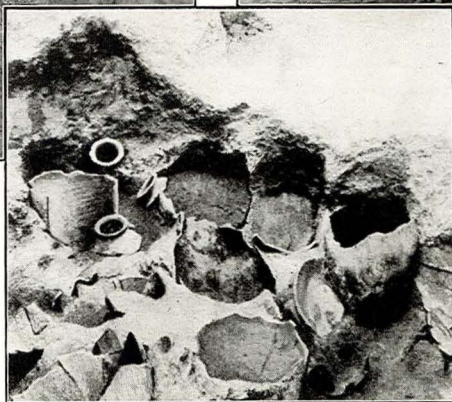
33. There were double walls found at Jericho. The outer wall was about twelve feet thick separated by a space of twelve feet from the inner wall, which was about six feet thick. The two walls were connected by houses built on the top.

34. The gate of Jericho has just been omitted from the photo on the right. A tower was built on the left—it measured sixty feet by

### 34. WALL NEAR GATE



thirty feet and was sixty feet high. Had the spies gone back to their camp past this gate and tower they would easily have been seen.

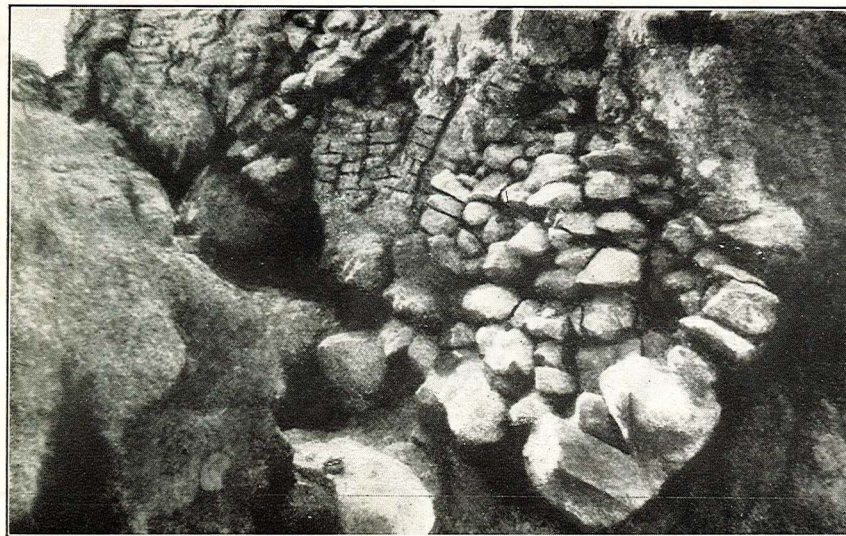


35. BURNT POTS IN PALACE

35. This photo gives an idea of the destruction of food in pots contained in the rooms of the palace. The reason it was destroyed and not seized for food by Joshua's army is noted in Joshua 6 : 17, 18, 21, 24.

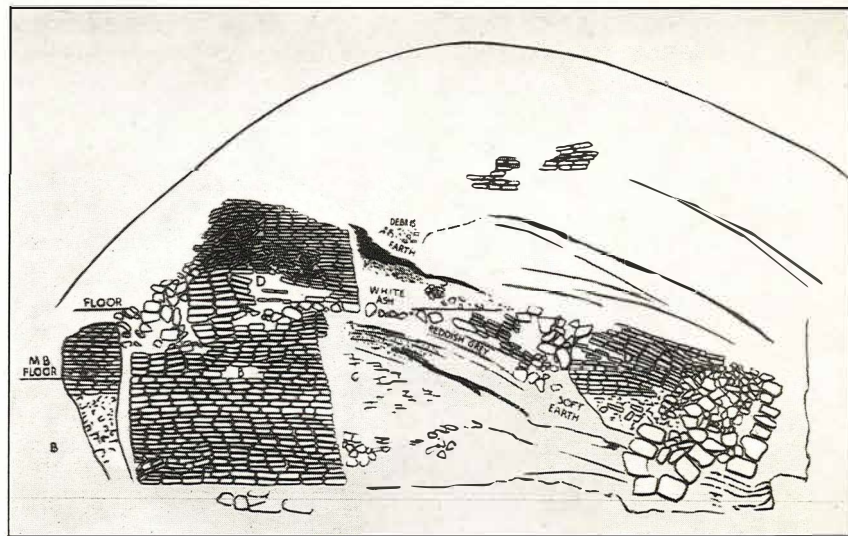


### 36. FALLEN WALLS



36. The inner wall (top left) has fallen against the outer wall. The space between has been filled by the ruins of the inner wall composed of Babylonian style of brick. Psalm 114 tells us of the earth trembling when Jordan fled—no doubt a reference to an earthquake sent by God to shake down the walls.

### 37. PLAN OF FALLEN WALLS



37. This sketch has been provided by Professor John Garstang to show how the inner wall collapsed against the outer wall pushing the stones out of position. These two photos have been provided to show that the walls did not collapse as the result of any undermining, but as the result of an earthquake divinely caused. (Psalm 114: 5-7).

38. CANAANITE FOUNDATION TO WALL



38. This photo shows the outer wall which was built on field stones (called jerry-built by Sir Charles Marston). The wall would fall "under," as the Scriptures state, with the weight of the houses on the top and earthquake waves, which would cause the brickwork to leave the weak stone foundation.

39. DISLODGED BRICKWORK OF THE WALLS



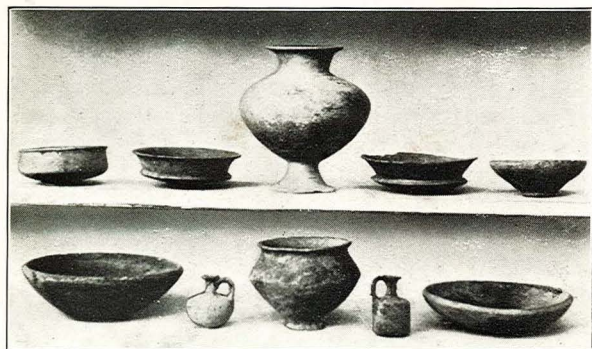
39. Showing how the earthquake shook down the walls dislodging the upper brickwork and making some of it fall into the space between the two walls.



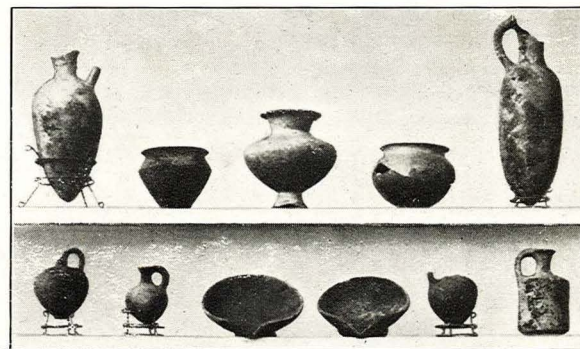
40. BURNING AFTER EARTHQUAKE

40. The light portion shows the burnt layer of the destruction of the city on top of the fallen walls. This shows that the city was destroyed by fire after the walls fell as the Scripture story relates.

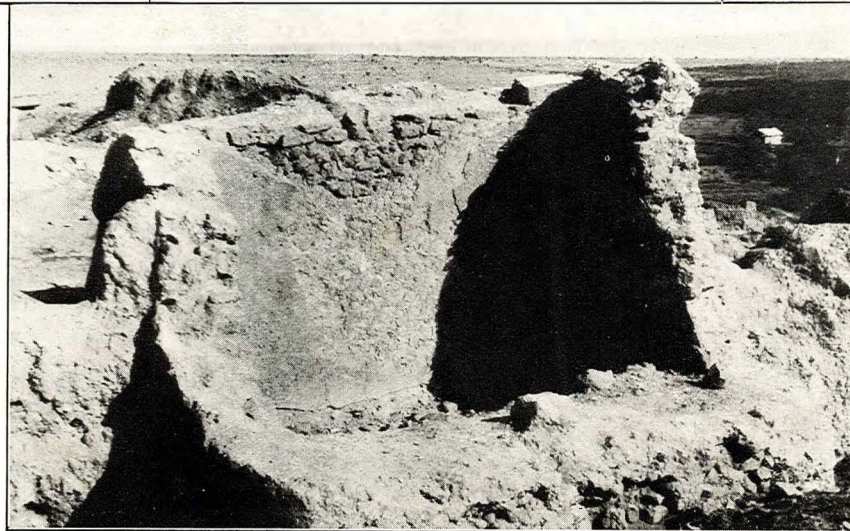




41. POTTERY FROM JERICO  
GRAVES



41. Pottery from the graves of Jericho has been a feature of the excavations. By means of this pottery and the scarabs, Professor Garstang was able to date the fall of Jericho (about 1400 B.C.) during the reign of Amenhetep III.



42. HOUSE ON THE TOP OF THE MOUND

42. These houses belonged to a later period as indicated in the Scripture story. Abundant evidence of this rebuilding of the city in the time of Ahab was revealed in the ruins.

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