

**4ON602
SUMMER 2008
DR. JOHN D. CURRID**

**RTS-ATLANTA
jcurrid@rts.edu**

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE BIBLE

GOAL:

This course is an examination and evaluation of the contributions of archaeology to our understanding of the history of the Bible. The archaeology of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Canaan, and especially Israel will be analyzed. We will pursue this study through various mediums, such as slide lectures, map analysis, and pottery presentations. Emphasis will be placed on the archaeological evidence that gives one greater understanding of the biblical narratives.

TEXTBOOKS:

The following books are required for the course:

1. John D. Currid, **Doing Archaeology in the Land of the Bible** (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999).
2. A Hoerth, **Archaeology and the Old Testament** (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998).
3. O. P. Robertson, **Understanding the Land of the Bible: A Biblical-Theological Guide** (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1996).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. These three books must be read by July 31. The percentage of reading done by the student must be reported to the professor by e-mail by that date. 25% of the final grade.
 2. There will be a final take home examination. It is due on July 31, and ought to be sent by e-mail to the professor. 75% of the final grade.
-

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. June 24 Introduction
Test Case: Carthage
Test Case: Bethsaida
2. June 25 Test Case: Manahat
Geography of Israel

Agriculture and Herding
Water Supply

Architecture of Ancient Israel
Fortifications/Weaponry
3. June 26 Temples and Idolatry
Burial Practices

Writing Practices
Introduction to Hieroglyphics

A Study of Jerusalem

- Jerusalem in the Biblical Period
Jerusalem in the Time of Herod
4. June 27 Jerusalem in the Periods of Hadrian and Constantine
Jerusalem in the Times of Muhammed and the Crusades

A Study of the Exodus

- The Splendor that was Egypt
Route of the Exodus

Geography of the Sinai
Wilderness Wanderings
5. June 28 Wilderness Wanderings, Part II
Flora and Fauna of the Desert

A Study of Paul's Missionary Journeys

Paul's First Missionary Journey

Paul's Second Missionary Journey

Conclusion

Doing Archaeology in Israel
Pottery