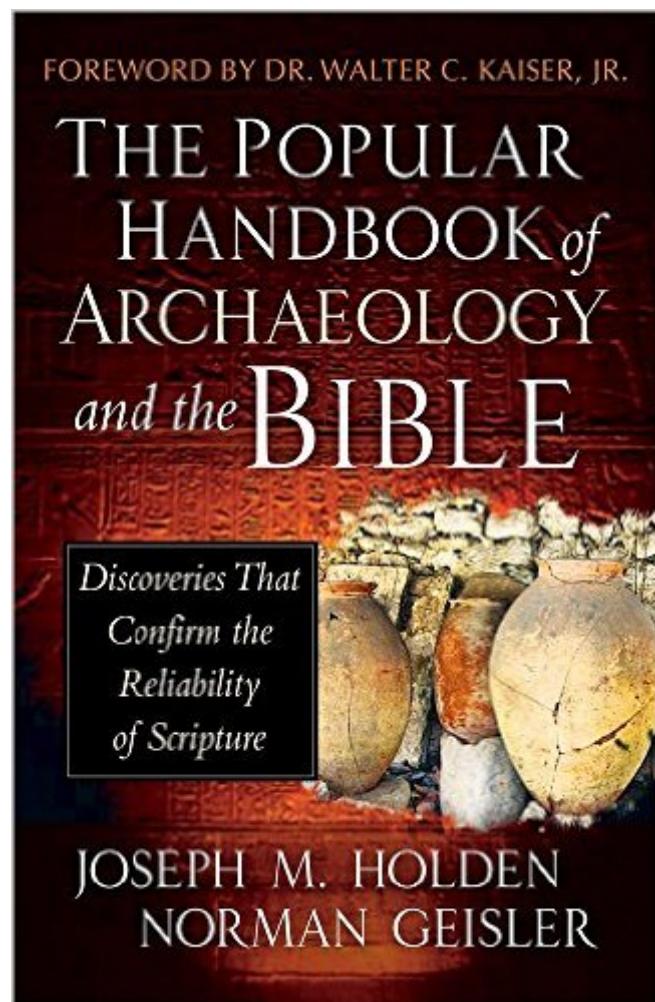


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# The Popular Handbook Of Archaeology And The Bible: Discoveries That Confirm The Reliability Of Scripture



## Synopsis

From two leading Christian apologists, here is a fascinating survey of the most important Old and New Testament archaeological discoveries through the ages. Biblical archaeology has always stirred excitement among believers and curiosity among unbelievers. The evidence dug up with a spade can speak volumes--and serve as a powerful testimony of the reliability of Scripture. Norman Geisler and Joseph Holden have put together an impressive array of finds that confirm the biblical peoples and events of ages past. In a user-friendly format written in popular style, they...examine the latest finds and explain their significance includes more than 150 of photographs provide an instructive chart of artifacts (along with fast facts) sample a variety of finds--papyri, inscriptions, scrolls, ossuaries, and more! If readers are looking for just one book to cover this topic both concisely and comprehensively, this is it!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Brilliant book, well-researched, includes maps, tables, pictures, and scriptural references. Prof. Holden outlines the geographical clues in the Scriptures that led to the discovery of the ruins of Sodom -- actually located in a huge mound north of the Dead Sea -- and shows the evidence of a powerful blast that incinerated the city at well over 2000 degrees Fahrenheit. He notes that nobody built on top of the ruins for some 700 years, and shows pictures of molten pottery that match samples taken from outside a little town in New Mexico, USA, called Los Alamos -- the first nuclear bomb test site. This book also compares various ancient Middle Eastern myths and Bible stories with archaeological evidence to determine what's realistic and what's not. He knocks down a number of

skeptical arguments, but always with historical records and solid reasoning. This is not your granny's "faith-based science" -- this is the real McCoy. If you wanted to bring one extra-Biblical text to help demonstrate the historical value of the Scriptures, this would be it. It would be like bringing a cannon to a knife fight.

This book is amazing. It is very clear and easy to understand. We use it as a resource for a 7th grade apologetics course in our homeschool (along with an archaeology bible, more than a carpenter, and biblical atlas by Time which is neutral. My son is intrigued because of the writing style and can process the information and significance. This is also great for adults as there are many opportunities to dig further. I especially like that each section is then summarized in a chart. Great for studying, self-testing, creating handouts, or quizzing. I wouldn't hesitate to buy a workbook for this. This is written from the view of a believer which is what I was looking for. But I think the authors do a great job of presented the evidence and basing their arguments on evidence not just opinion. The reader can feel confident that they are gaining reliable knowledge. A really great purchase.

More Christians need to understand the evidence in Archaeology that supports the Bible's overall reliability and the specific people, places, and events, thereby denying the minimalist's and nihilists and the liberal speculators' presuppositional denial of the historical and supernatural events of a Sovereign God. In our fragmented society and culture where anything goes, and truth is denied by many, it is refreshing to see truth literally unearthed. This book will take you from the basics of how the reliability of the Bible can be reliably established and it's transmission verified from back in 400/200 BC to the present time. How can we defend our faith without knowing the facts, because this will allow us to clarify and enlighten those who go by hearsay and misguided "historical" TV programs. 1Peter 3:15 says, "Be ready to give reason for the hope that is in you ...." Dig in and be a light to others!

A must-have for any Christian apologetic library. I compose short snippet "Reasons to Believe" posts in storyboard, Facebook-compatible form. This has become a ministry of sorts for me, as I then daily share these "Reasons to Believe" posts with family and friends on my Facebook wall. This book gave me some great ideas for another 10-12 posts. Some of the information I had come across before (Evidence That Demands a Verdict by Josh McDowell), but this book described several discoveries that were brand new to me. For example, that there actually is corroborating literary

evidence for the 10 Biblical Plagues of Exodus in Egyptian literature --- The Ipuwer Papyrus. Of course, the Ipuwer Papyrus does not attribute these plagues to the power of the God of the Bible, but, "reading between the lines", the believer can be confident that the author of this ancient text is, in fact, writing about the Biblical Plagues described in Exodus 7-12. Amazing! Another example is the mention of King Belshazzar seeing the writing on the wall foretelling of both his and the Babylonian Kingdom's demise [Daniel 5]. Critics were quick to point out that the Bible was in error, because no extra-biblical Babylonian King lists include Belshazzar. But another archaeological find --- the Cylinder of Nabonidus --- revealed that Belshazzar was co-regent of the kingdom, i.e. he would be placed in charge whenever his father, King Nabonidus, was away for extended periods of time. This also explains why Belshazzar could offer only the THIRD-highest position [Daniel 5:7] in the kingdom to the interpreter of the wall writings. Incredible! The Bible proves accurate again, even in the smallest of details.

The book: Very complete and detailed in a heavy and durable binding. More than you want to know or at least more than I can remember! The print is an easy read except that when the author summarizes the artifacts in a nice simple to use list format, the print is extra small. This causes my 63 year old eyes to strain. Highly recommended, though it would have been nice if the book was printed in a larger format.

The Content: Finally a reasonable and fact based presentation of the amazing archaeological discoveries of last century. When in college, the minimalist ruled, teaching the Bible narratives were folk stories at best, fabrications at worst, with no basis in historical fact. However, last century, especially since the creation of a free Israel, the evidence has rolled in showing the Bible is indeed fact based on real people and real events. Christianity is the only religion revealed by God through the lives of multiple historical figures. Therefore, this book is a must read if you want to know the historical Christ and how we came to understand His message.

The author makes a one sided attempt to defend the Genesis chapters 1-10 as historical. This attempt surprised me as generally throughout the book he is open minded and presents alternative interpretations of most of the other findings. To insist that the creation accounts of Genesis must be historical or the whole Bible is untrustworthy is a weakness in logic, not a threat to the truth.

Regarding creation science, the Bible as we read it is exactly as God would have it be and tells us "why". It is not a scientific textbook telling us "how". Again Highly recommended though it would have been nice if the book was printed in a larger format.

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