

THE WORD OF GOD AND PROPHECY

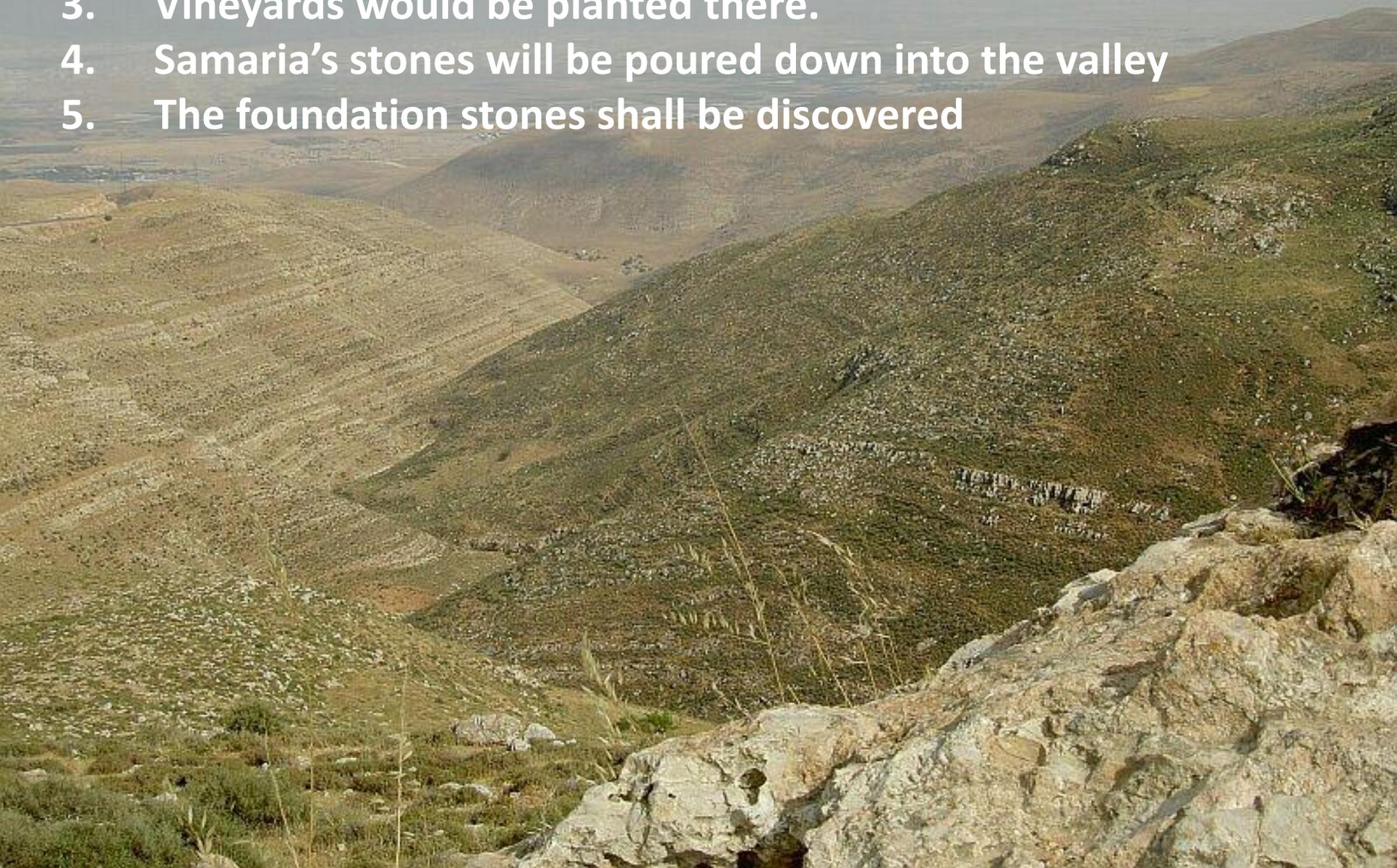
SAMARIA

- Hosea 13:16 - *Samaria will be held guilty, For she has rebelled against her God. They will fall by the sword, Their little ones will be dashed in pieces, And their pregnant women will be ripped open.* NASU
- Micah 1:6 (NASB) *For I will make Samaria a heap of ruins in the open country, Planting places for a vineyard. I will pour her stones down into the valley And will lay bare her foundations.*

- *“Samaria has been destroyed, but her rubbish has been thrown down into the valley; her foundation stones, those grayish ancient quadrangular stones of the time of Omri and Ahab, are discovered, and lie scattered about on the slope of the hill”*
- *Floyd Hamilton gives this description “Today the top of the hill where Samaria stood is a cultivated field with the foundations of the columns marking the place where the palaces and mansions stood. At the foot of the hill, in the valley, lie the foundation stones of the city...”*



1. Samaria would fall violently
2. Samaria would become “as a heap in the field”
3. Vineyards would be planted there.
4. Samaria’s stones will be poured down into the valley
5. The foundation stones shall be discovered



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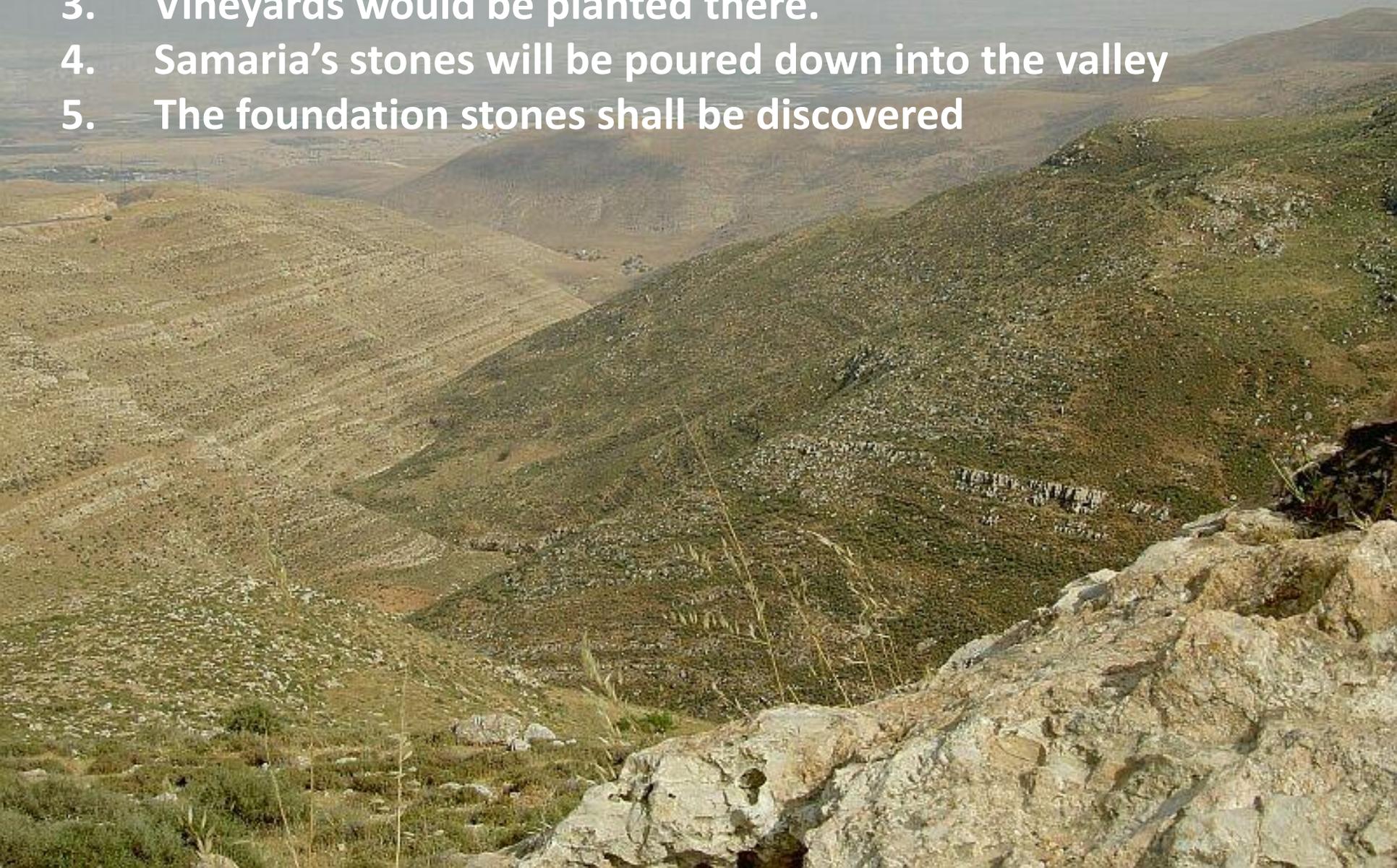


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**Peter Stoner (Science Speaks) on
the odds of these prophecies
being fulfilled**

1 in 40,000

GAZA AND ASHKELON (The fate of the Philistines)

- According to the Bible, the Philistines ruled the city-states (**THE "PHILISTINE PENTAPOLIS"**) of **Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Ekron and Gath** (Also **Eglon and Gerar**)



 = Cities of the Philistine Pentapolis

Amos 1:8 (775 - 750 BC)

8 *“I will also cut off the inhabitant from
Ashdod,*

*And him who holds the scepter, from Ashkelon;
I will even unleash My power upon Ekron,
And the remnant of the Philistines will perish,”
Says the Lord God.*

NASU

Jeremiah 47:5 (626 - 586 BC)

5 *Baldness has come upon Gaza,
Ashkelon is cut off
With the remnant of their valley.
How long will you cut yourself?*

NKJV

Zephaniah 2:4 -7 (640 - 621 BC)

*4 For Gaza shall be forsaken,
And Ashkelon desolate;*

*They shall drive out Ashdod at noontday,
And Ekron shall be uprooted.*

*5 Woe to the inhabitants of the seacoast,
The nation of the Cherethites! (*another name for the Philistines)*

*The word of the Lord is against you,
O Canaan, land of the Philistines:*

*"I will destroy you;
So there shall be no inhabitant."*

*6 The seacoast shall be pastures,
With shelters for shepherds and folds for flocks.*

*7 The coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah;
They shall feed their flocks there;*

In the houses of Ashkelon they shall lie down at evening.

*For the Lord their God will intervene for them,
And return their captives.*

NKJV

- 1 - The Philistines will not continue (Amos 1:8)
- 2- Baldness (*forsaken*) shall come upon Gaza (Jeremiah 47:5; Zephaniah 2:4)
- 3- Desolation shall come on Ashkelon (Zephaniah 2:4)
- 4- Shepherds and sheep will dwell in the area around Ashkelon (Zephaniah 2:6)
- 5- Remnant of the house of Judah will reinhabit Ashkelon (Zephaniah 2:7)

George Davis comments:

And not only was Ashkelon destroyed but the entire nation of the Philistines was "cut off" precisely as predicted by the prophet Ezekiel 2,500 years ago. The Philistines have been destroyed so completely that there is not a single Philistine living anywhere in the world today. (Prediction #1)

Davis on the present condition of Ashkelon:

Following the establishment of the State of Israel the Jews recognized the splendid location of the old city of Ashkelon on the seacoast of their nation. They decided to make it a beautiful city of Israel's new State.

The Jerusalem Post says the new city of Ashkelon has been "designed on the lines of a Garden city"

Davis adds that today "after long centuries of mighty Ashkelon lying waste and desolate, it is now being transformed into a garden city.

The coast of the Mediterranean is indeed for 'the house of Judah' and 'in the house of Ashkelon shall lie down in the evening'

(Prediction #5)













More from Davis

Ashkelon was destroyed exactly as foretold. The Philistines were "cut off" from the face of the earth till not one Philistine remains in all the world. (Prediction #1) And lastly, long desolate Ashkelon (Prediction #3) has been revived from its ruins of centuries, and is becoming a Garden city.

CONCERNING GAZA



Peter Stoner writes

A city of Gaza still exists, so for a long time, the prophecy with respect to Gaza was thought to be in error. Finally a careful study was made of the location of Gaza, as described in the Bible, and it was found that the new city of Gaza was in the wrong location. A search was made for the old city and it was found buried under the sand dunes.

It had indeed become bald. What better description would you give of a city buried under sand dunes than to say that it had become bald? (Prediction #2)

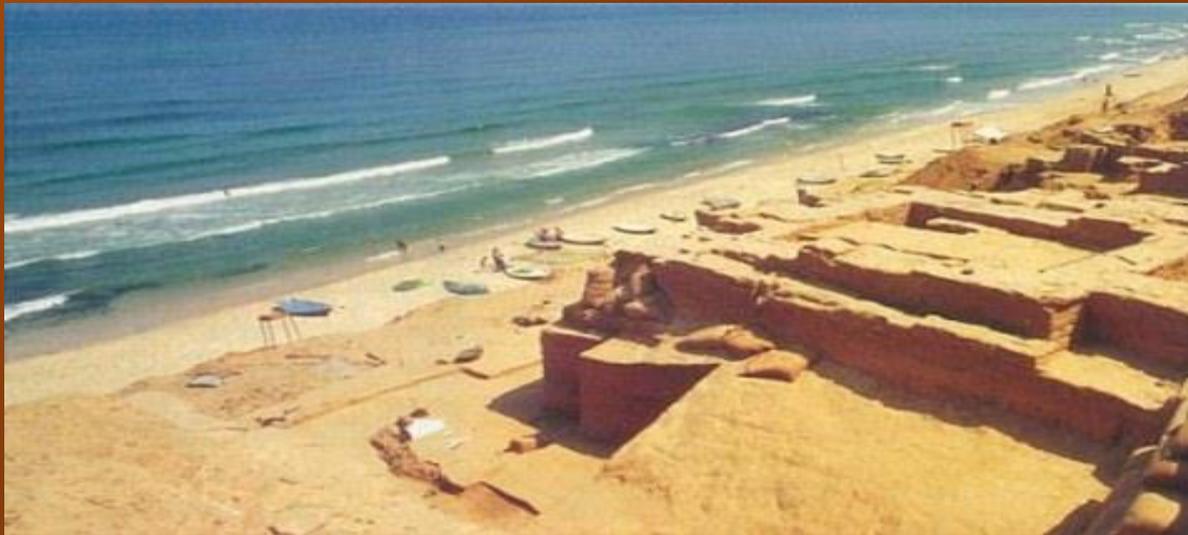
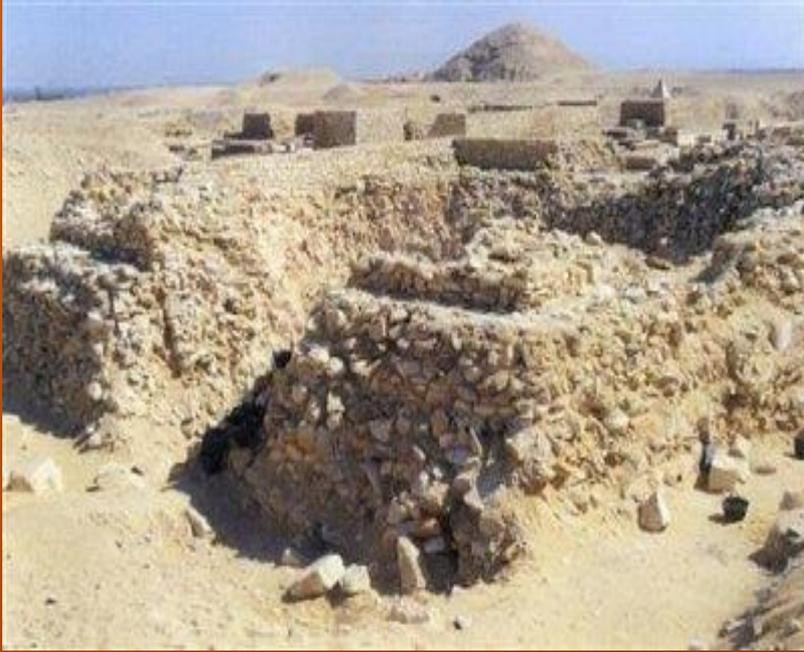
John Urquhart expands on Gaza's total disappearance.

"It is so forsaken that there is not a single hut resting on this site. It is so bald that neither pillar nor standing stone marks the place where the city stood, nor is there a single blade of grass on which the weary eye can rest."

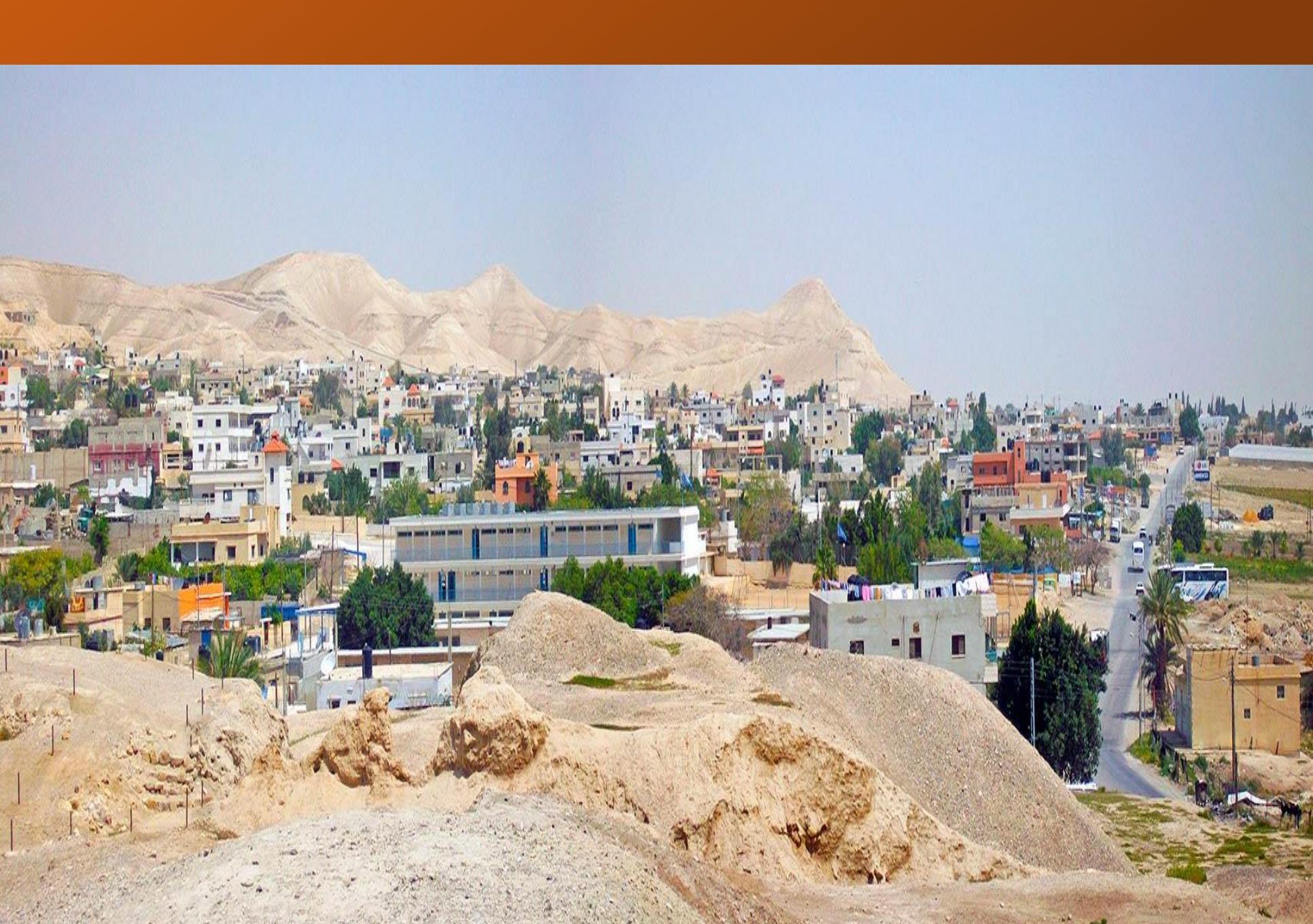
Sands, not lights, cover Gaza archaeology sites







**FROM NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
MAGAZINE ON THE
DISCOVERY OF THE
ANCIENT CITY OF
GAZA**





PETRA AND EDOM

- In all, six prophets heap condemnation upon the nation of Edom: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Amos, and Obadiah.
- "Their prophecies on Edom", writes George Smith, "number so great, they are so exuberant in language, so various, grand, and minute in detail, that many pages might be filled reciting them, and many more employed in showing their exact and complete fulfillment."

- **Edom will become a desolation (Isaiah 34:13)**
- **It will never be populated again (Jeremiah 49:18)**
 - *Jeremiah 49:17-18 (NASB) "Edom will become an object of horror; everyone who passes by it will be horrified and will hiss at all its wounds. "Like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah with its neighbors," says the LORD, "no one will live there, nor will a son of man reside in it.*
- **It will be conquered by heathen (Ezekiel 25:14)**
- **It will be conquered by Israel (Ezekiel 25:14)**
- **It shall have a bloody history (Ezekiel 35:5-6; Isaiah 34: 6-7)**
- **Edom will be made desolate as far as the city of Teman (Ezekiel 25:13)**
- **Wild animals will inhabit the area (Isaiah 34:13-15)**
- **Trade will cease (Isaiah 34:10; Ezekiel 35:7)**
- **Spectators will be astonished (Jeremiah 49:17)**

- History of Edom after these prophecies
- The fall of Assyria marked the approximate period of completion of the prophecies against Edom. What follows is the history after the prophecies were completed
- "The Nabateans are probably 'the children of the east' mentioned in Ezekiel 25:4. Some time during the sixth Century B.C. the Nabateans succeeded in expelling Edom from their rock fortresses and taking the city of Petra." (Prediction #3)

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- Discussing the fulfillment of Prediction #4, Bernard Ramm explains the Jewish conquest of Petra and Edom:
- "That the Jews conquered them (Edomites) is recorded in 1 Maccabees 5:3 and Josephus' Antiquities (XII, 18,1) They were attacked successively by John Hyrcanus and Simon of Gerasa. Therefore, the prediction that the Jews too would conquer them has been fulfilled."
- Around the time of the birth of Jesus, Petra was prosperous. Citing Strabo, who lived about that time, George Davis explains, "*Petra was also a city of great prosperity. Strabo tells that it was the terminus of one of the great commercial routes of Asia. It was the market of the Arabians for their spice and frankincense.*"



- Unger's Bible Dictionary, concerning Edom during the Romans times, records:
- The Edomites were now incorporated with the Jewish nation, and the whole province was often termed by Greek and Roman writers Idumaea. Immediately before the siege of Jerusalem by Titus, 20,000 Idumaeans were admitted to the Holy City, which they filled with robbery and bloodshed. From this time, the Edomites, as a separate people, disappear from the pages of history

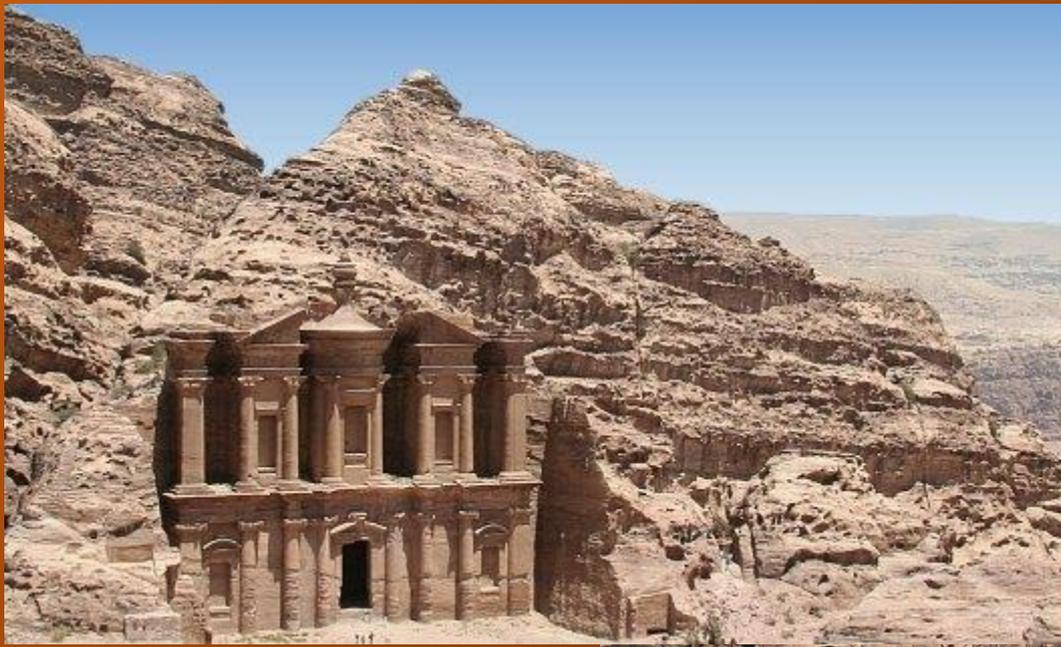
- When the Jews needed help the most, during the Roman siege (AD 70) was when the Edomites hurt the worst. "After the massacre of the Jews," writes David Higgins, "the Idumeans returned home. But with the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70 the children of Esau disappear as a separate people from the stage of recorded history (Prediction #5)
- Davis adds: "Petra, the capital of the land of Edom, was one of the wonders of the ancient world. it was built out of a mountain of rock. Many of its buildings were hewn out of the solid rock. Petra presents a stupendous sight with its rock hewn buildings, carved out of the very mountainside itself, of beautiful rose-red stone. it was practically impregnable from the assault of enemies. There was just one long narrow canyon-like entrance, where a small force of soldiers could protect the city from being taken by a large army."

- What does it look like today?
- "The fulfillment of these prophecies is equally complete, and as minutely exact as the preceding. Captain Mangles, who visited these ruins, says that when surveying the scenery of Petra, "the screaming of the eagles, hawks, and owls, who were soaring over our heads in considerable numbers, seeming annoyed at anyone approaching their lonely habitation, added much to the singularity of the scene"
- It was also declared, "It shall be a habitation for serpents".
- Dr. Shaw represented the land of Edom, and the desert of which it now forms a part, "as abounding with a variety of lizards and vipers, which are very numerous and troublesome" So plentiful, as observed by Mr. Cory, "are the scorpions in Petra, that, though it was cold and snowy, we found them under the stones, sometimes two under one stone."
- "Both lions and leopards are often seen in Petra, and on the hills immediately beyond it, but that they never descend into the plain beneath."

- "a rough hairy goat" wild goats, in large herds infest it. (Prediction #1, #2, #7, #9)
- It was predicted in Ezekiel 25:14 that Israel would be used by God to take vengeance on Edom. Considering the fact that Israel was then in the Babylonian captivity, such a prophecy probably seemed ludicrous. Yet, some four centuries later the prediction finds its fulfillment in Judas Maccabeus and John Hyrcanus. Thousand of Edomites were slain and the nation was forced to submit to Jewish circumcision, and for all practical purposes they became Jews.

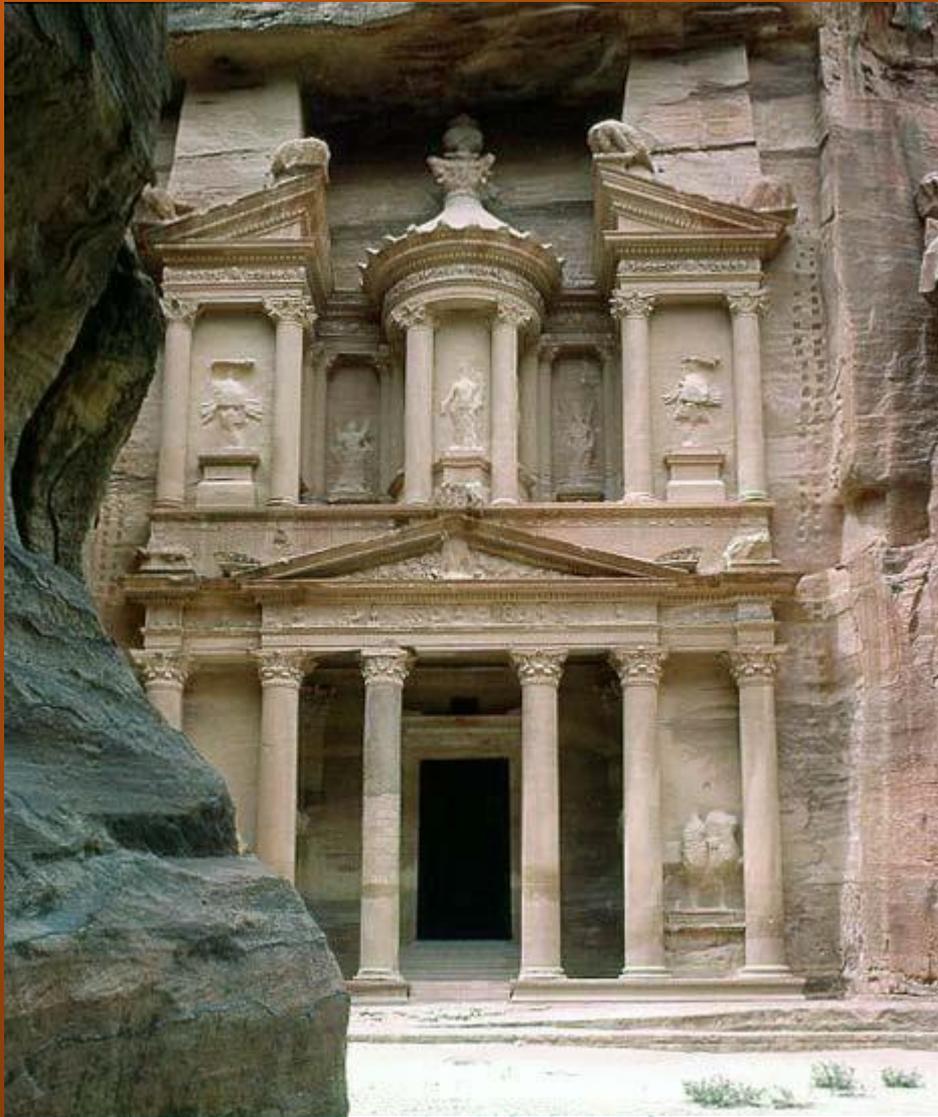
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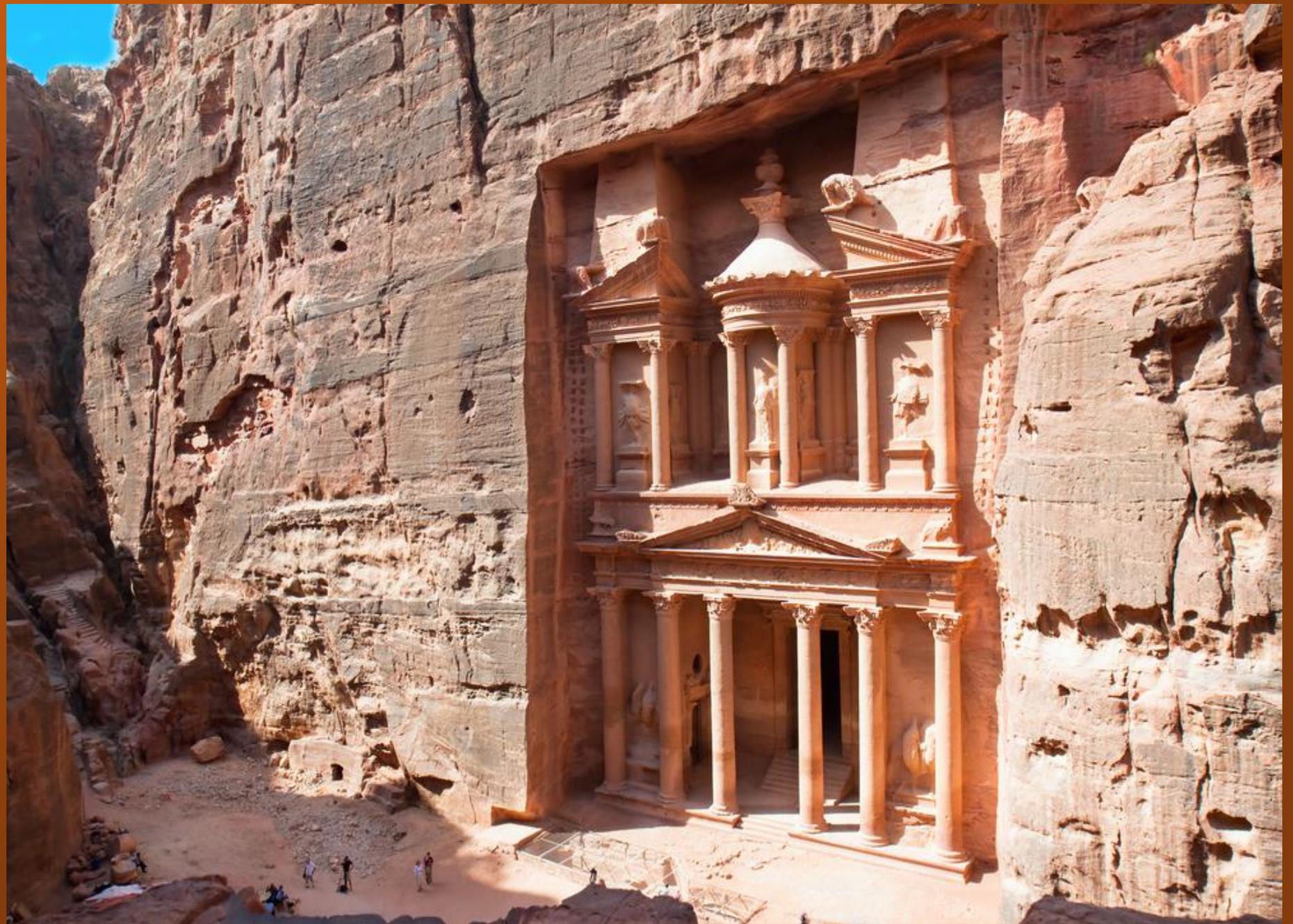








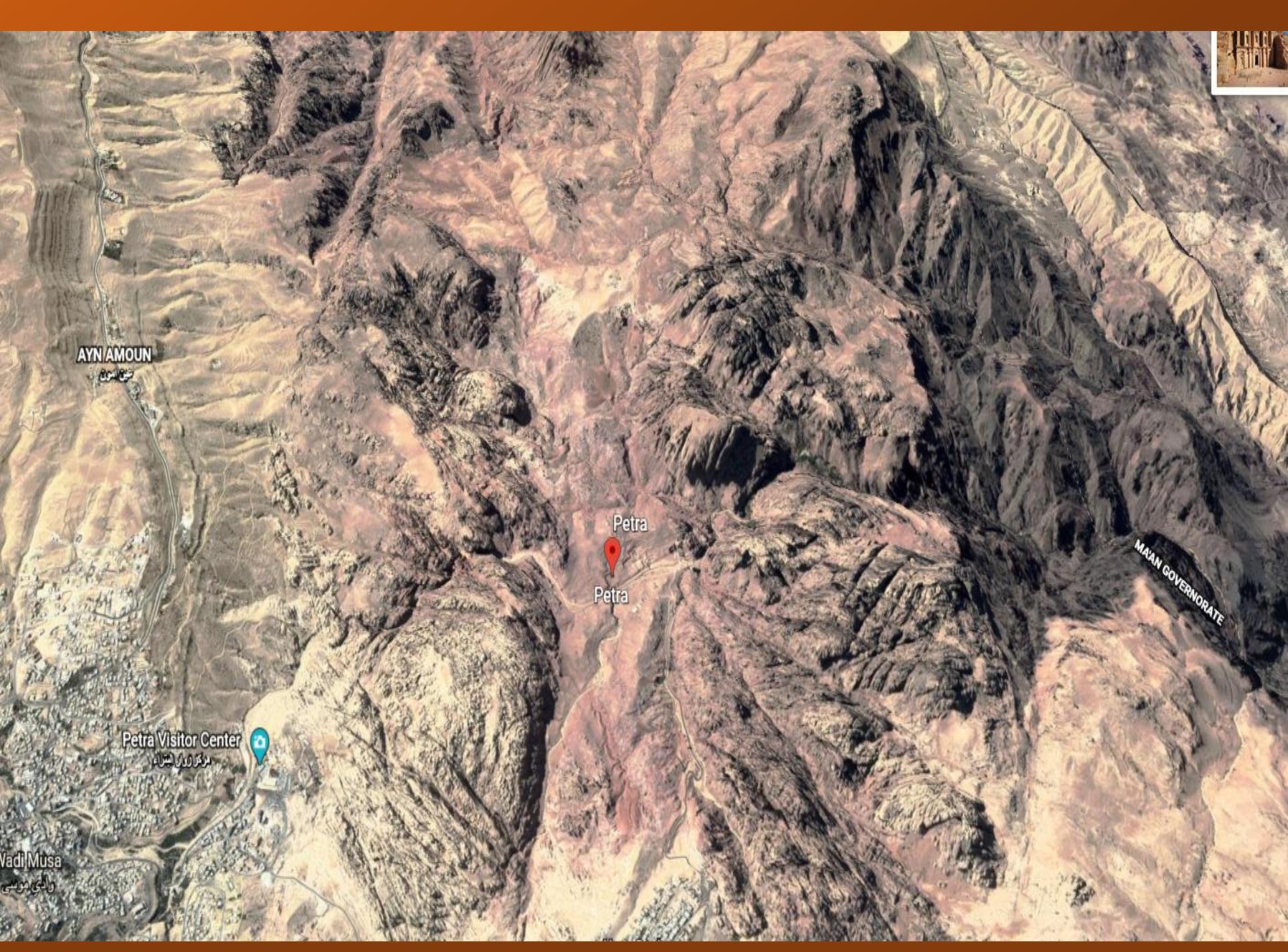












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Petra

Petra

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MAAN GOVERNORATE



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**J. Barton Payne's
*Encyclopedia of Biblical
Prophecy* lists 1,239
prophecies in the Old
Testament and 578
prophecies in the New
Testament, for a total of
1,817. These encompass
8,352 verses.**

**I believe the power of
prophetic evidence in the
Bible should give informed
Christians great confidence
that the Bible is indeed the
Word of God.**

**Do you need the Lord's help
today?**