

Archaeological Evidence for Sodom: Recent Findings Shed Light on Discoveries of ‘Biblical Proportions’

By Brian Nixon, Special to ASSIST News Service
PO Box 609, Lake Forest, CA 92609-0609 USA

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ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO (ANS) -- There are few events in a person's life where one can say that they have changed a society's understanding of history. For Dr. Steven Collins of Trinity Southwest University in Albuquerque, this just may be the case.



Dr. Steven Collins monitoring the dig.

Upon his recent return from the Tall el-Hammam dig in Jordan, Dr. Collins was full of fascinating facts and possible historic findings. But before I get into his recent finds, allow me to review what occurred during last year's dig.

In my article “Sodom Found?” I wrote, “According to Collins, ‘The traditional “Southern Theory” site of Sodom does not have the geographical parallels described in the [biblical] text. Namely:

1. One can see the whole area from the hills above Jericho (Bethel/Ai)
2. It must be a well-watered place (described “like Egypt”)
3. It has a river running through it (the Jordan), and
4. It must follow the travel route of Lot (“who went to the other side of the Jordan, eastward, away from Jericho.”)”

What does all this mean? Simple: The traditional sites attributed as Sodom may be incorrect. With this, Dr. Collins and his team began digging at a new site, Tall el-Hammam, which corresponded to several factors. Dr. Collins summarized the end result: “To start with, the Tall el-Hammam site has twenty-five geographical indicators that align with the description in Genesis. Compare this with something well known—like Jerusalem—that has only sixteen. Other sites have only five or six. So this site has a greater number of indicators than any other Old Testament site. That is truly amazing. Second, our findings—pottery, architecture, and destruction layers—fit the timeframe profile. Meaning we should expect to find items like what we are finding from the Middle Bronze Age. This is exactly what we are uncovering.

Lastly, ... *To read this article in its entirety, go to:* <http://www.assistnews.net/Stories/2011/s11120037.htm>.