

Israel in the World: Light or Judgment

Light to the Gentiles?

God's Covenant promise to Abraham and Isaac:

“In your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed”

Gen. 26:4

(also found in Gen. 18:18; 22:18)

Solomon's Expedition



Phoenician Port Cities



Circling Africa

An Egyptian Pharaoh sponsored a Phoenician expedition to circumnavigate Africa around 600BC. The Greek historian Herodotus provides an account of the journey.

“And so the Phoenicians set out from the Erythraean Sea (Red Sea) and sailed the Southern Sea. Whenever autumn came, they would put in to shore at whatever region of [Africa] they happened to have reached in order to sow seeds. There they would wait for the harvest, and after reaping their crops, they would sail on again. This they did for **two years, and in the third**, they came around through the Pillars of Heracles [Straits of Gibraltar] and returned to Egypt. They mentioned something else which I do not find credible, though someone else may: that when they were sailing around [Africa], **the sun was on their right side as they went.**”

Herodotus 4.42 (*The Landmark Herodotus: The Histories*, translated by Andrea Purvis, 299)

Solomon's Expedition

“For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish at sea with the fleet of Hiram. **Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish** used to come bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks.”

-I Kings 10:22
(and II Chronicles 9:21)



Not In Africa Anymore

“This stone monument has been cut by Canaanites of Sidon who, in order to establish trading stations in distant lands, mountainous and arid, under the protection of the gods and goddesses, set out on a voyage in the nineteenth year of the reign of Hiram our powerful king. [i.e. 536 B.C.] They departed from Ashongaber in the Red Sea, after having embarked colonists in ten ships; and they sailed in company along the coast of Africa for two years. Subsequently they became separated from the flagship and carried far away from their companions. Ten men and three women arrived here on this unknown coast. Of whom I, the unhappy Metu-Astarte, servant of the powerful goddess Astarte, have taken possession. May the gods and goddesses come to my aid.”

-Discovered in 1886 in Parabyba, Brazil.

-Stone inscription in Phoenician, translated in 1939

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 111.

Phoenician Port Cities



Explorers of Tarshish

“Inscription cut by mariners from Cadiz (Gedeth) exploring.”

Inscription in Iberian-Punic script

-Discovered in Paraguay, South America

“Mabo discovered this remote western isle”

-Inscription in Ogam script, Old Celtic language

-Circa. 800 BC

-Cut into a rock at Saint Vincent Island, West Indies

(Fell, 114)

“Mariners of Tarshish this rock proclaims”

Inscription in Tartessian Punic text

Also with a carving of a high-sterned ship of Tarshish

-Discovered in 1780 in Mount Hope, Rhode Island

-Not translatable until 20th Century

-Estimated date: 600-700BC

Trans-Oceanic Trade

Copper ingots used for international trade and currency found in Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, and Kentucky.

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 165.

Inscription found 10 miles offshore from Maine reads in Bronze Age Phoenician “Ships from Phoenicia, Cargo platform.” The word for “ships” is of Norse origin, suggesting Norse involvement in Phoenician maritime trade routes to America long before the Viking age.

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 58.

“These inscriptions... suggest that organized international maritime commerce was well established in the late Bronze Age, that North American ports were listed on the sailing timetables of the overseas vessels of the principal Phoenician shipping companies.”

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 101.

Judgment on Tyre

Ez. 27:12, 25 “Tarshish did business with you because of your great wealth of every kind; silver, iron, tin, and lead they exchanged for your wares... The ships of Tarshish traveled for you with your merchandise. So you were filled and heavily laden in the heart of the seas.

Global Paganism

Multiple dedication inscriptions to Bel found in Vermont.

Dedicatory Inscription to Baal, written in Iberian script, reads: “To Baal of the Canaanites, this in dedication.”

Found at a winter solstice temple-observatory in New Hampshire. (Fell, 91)

Ruins of a temple dedicated to Bel, the Celtic sun god, oriented to the midwinter sunrise. Inscriptions written in Ogam and Punic Iberian

- Located at Danbury, Connecticut

- ca. 800-600 B.C.

(Fell, 137)

Celts/Iberians in America

Inscription in two languages: Celtic Ogam and North Iberian. The inscriber carved his name, Gwynn (“fair-haired”). Dated approx. 500 B.C. Found near Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 49.

Tombstone inscription of a Celtic chieftain named Ewan who ruled in Vermont, circa. 500 B.C. (Fell, 59)

Inscription in Irish Ogam: “To Baal son of Habakuk.”
Susquehanna valley, Pennsylvania

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 54.

Phoenicians in America

Inscription discovered in 1838 at a burial mound in Grave Creek, West Virginia along with a skeleton and copper arm rings. Written in ancient Phoenician in Iberian script. At the time of discovery, the script had not yet been deciphered. It was later translated in 1968 as:

“The mound raised on high for Tasach... This tile... (His) queen caused to be made...”

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 21.

Calendar stele written in three languages: Egyptian hieroglyphs, Iberian-Punic, and Libyan. Discovered in 1874 in Davenport, Iowa. Neither the Libyan nor the Punic-Iberian scripts had been deciphered in 1874 when this was unearthed, making claims of its being a hoax unbelievable. Circa. 9th Century, B.C. (Fell, 261-263.)

Pontotoc Stele

Found in Oklahoma

Depicts the rays of the sun descending upon earth with the words “Start of dawn” and “dusk” written in early Iberian script common to northern Portugal.

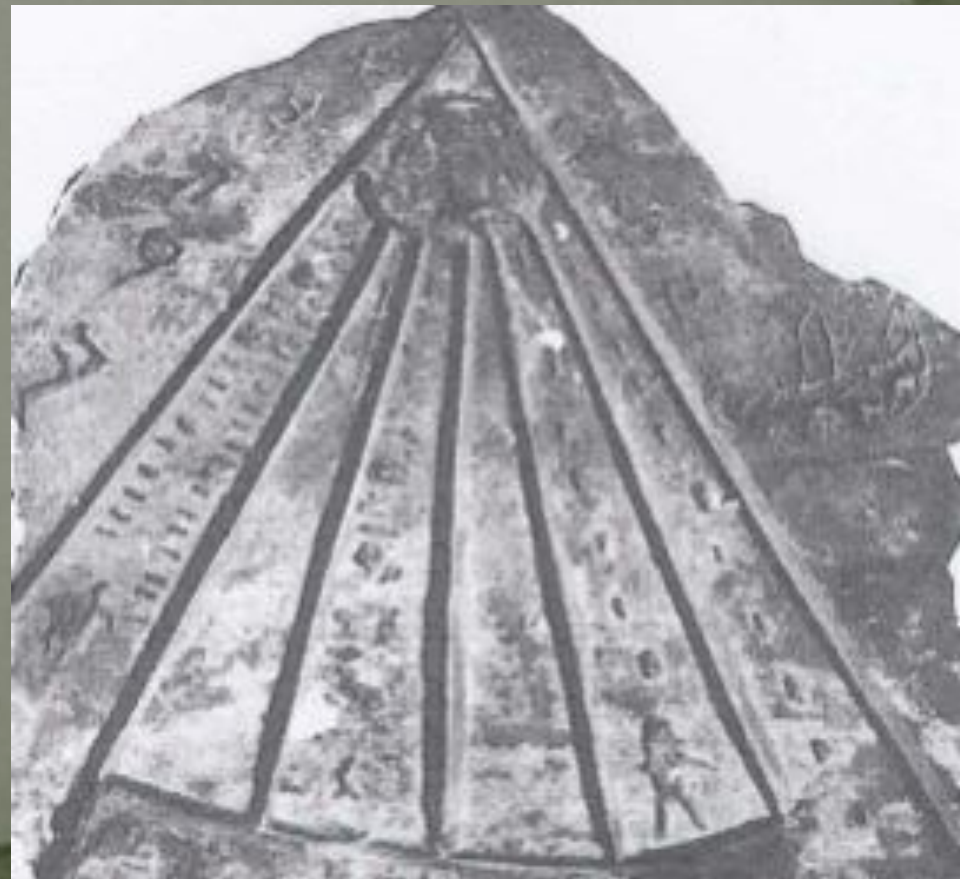
“When Baal-Ra rises in the east, the beasts are content, and (when he hides his face) they are displeased.”

Written in Ogam Punic script,
Iberian Punic language

An excerpt from the *Hymn to the Aton* by Pharaoh

Akhenaten

(Fell, 159)



Jonah Flees to Tarshish

Jonah 1:3

But Jonah rose to **flee to Tarshish** from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them **to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.**



Judgment on Tarshish

Isaiah 2:12, 16: “For the Lord of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up—and it shall be brought low... against all the ships of Tarshish”

Isaiah 23:1, 6, 14 “The oracle concerning Tyre. Wail, O ships of Tarshish, for Tyre is laid waste, without house or harbor!... Cross over to Tarshish; wail, O inhabitants of the coast!... Wail, O ships of Tarshish, for your stronghold is laid waste.”

Psalms 48:7 By the east wind you shattered the ships of Tarshish.

Wail, Ships of Tarshish

The conquest of Egypt by Darius I in 525 B.C. and the successive rise of the Greek and Roman empires effectively closed the eastern Mediterranean to Carthaginian shipping. Carthage retaliated by closing the Straits of Gibraltar to all European mariners. Under the guise of supposed Spanish and North African trade, Carthaginian merchants exploited the North America resources, bringing to Cadiz the copper of the Celtiberian settlements of North America, and the tin of Cornwall [England], to provide the raw materials of a bronze industry, whose products were re-exported to Britain, Gaul [today's France], North America, and West Africa. The Celts of New England obtained a share of the American imports by supplying furs and hides, both of which the Carthaginians re-exported to the eastern Mediterranean as supposed products of Gaul, the furs even reaching India. By the time the Romans conquered Spain and Carthage they had adequate alternate sources of these materials, and they took no interest in overseas shipping, having no merchant navy. The North American trade dwindled, the last phases presumably being operated by the maritime Celts of Brittany until their conquest by Caesar in 55 B.C. For 400 years after the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C. the Romans had no navy, since they had no rivals, and the memory of America apparently was lost. By 200 A.D. geographers believed that a voyage westward from Spain would lead to India and China, and this was the inheritance of Columbus.

Barry Fell, *America B.C.: Ancient Settles in the New World*, 106-107.

Light to the Gentiles

Isaiah 42:6

“I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations”

Is. 49:6;

“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Acts 13:47

For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

New Covenant Tarshish

Psalm 72:10 “The kings of Tarshish and of the isles will bring presents” [to the king of Israel, Christ] [NKJV]

Is. 60:9 For the coastlands shall hope for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful.

We, as God’s New Covenant people Israel, are still at the cross-roads of the world, called to be a light to the world

Now made effective because of the gospel of Christ revealed

Judgment

The Black Obelisk

The relief sculptures glorify the achievements of King Shalmaneser III (reigned 858-824 BC) and his chief minister. It lists their military campaigns of thirty-one years and the tribute they exacted from their neighbours: including camels, monkeys, an elephant and a rhinoceros.

Erected in 825BC
Currently located in the British
Museum, London



British Museum

Israel Brings Tribute

Jehu, King of Israel,
brings tribute to
Assyrian Emperor
Shalmaneser III
(reigned 858-824 BC)



British Museum



Earliest surviving picture of an Israelite, it reads:
*The tribute of Jehu, son of Omri: I received from him silver,
gold, a golden bowl, a golden vase with pointed bottom,
golden tumblers, golden buckets, tin, a staff for a king [and]
spears.*



Assyrian Intimidation

Guardian colossal statues from the Palace of Ashurnasirpal II
Winged bull and a winged lion, both human headed

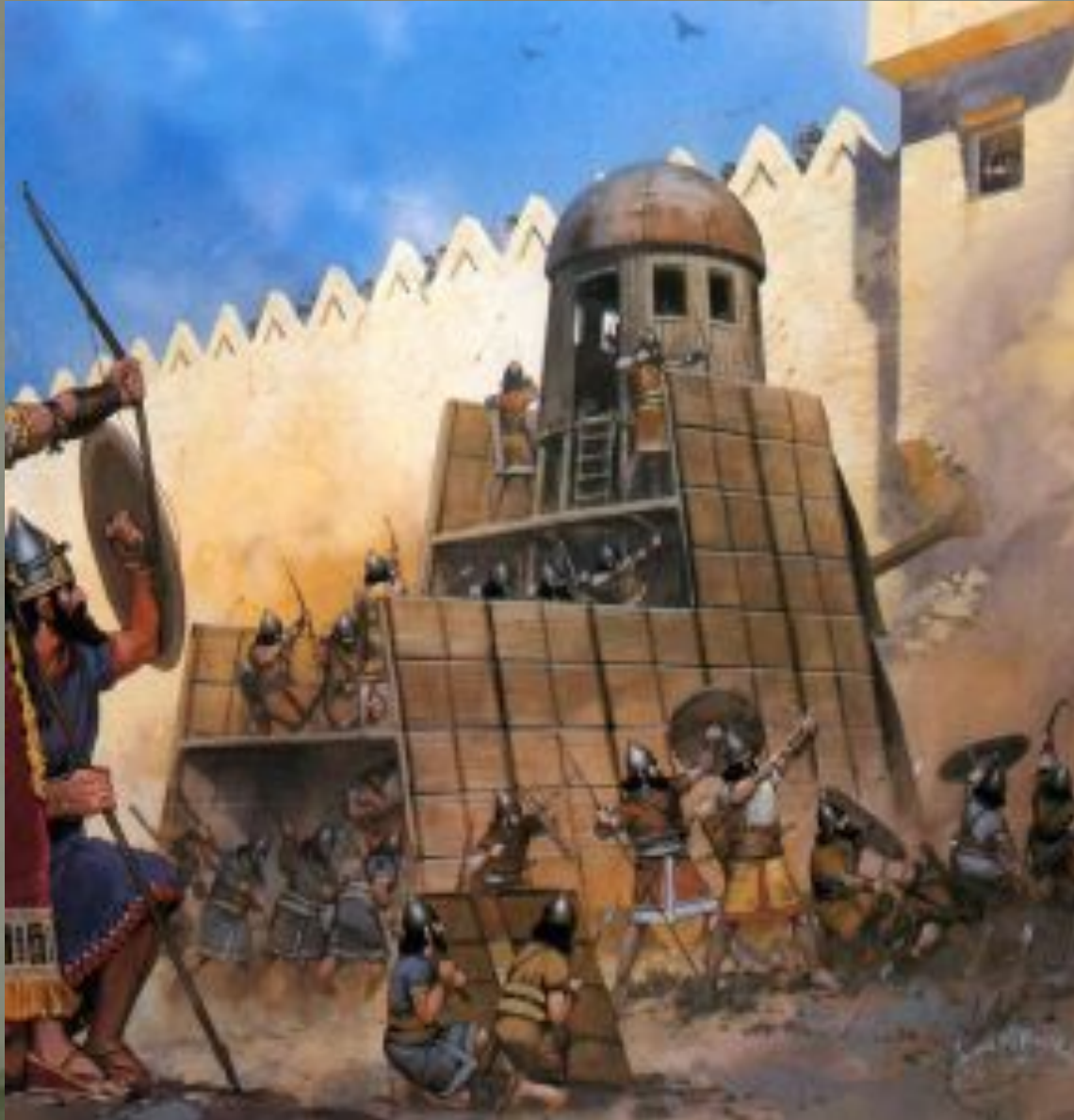


10ft high x 10ft long

Assyrian Engineering



Assyrian Engineering



Assyrian Engineering



Assyrian Use of Terror



Siege of Lachish, 701BC

The Assyrian cavalry, chariots, and camp

British Museum

II Kings 18

13 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them. 14 And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong; withdraw from me. Whatever you impose on me I will bear." ... 17 And the king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the Rab-saris, and the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem.

Siege of Lachish, 701BC



British Museum

Siege of Lachish, 701BC

Assyrian siege-engines and wheeled battering rams lead the final assault on Lachish



Siege of Lachish, 701BC



One Assyrian soldier is throwing a large ladle over his shoulder to douse a fire on the battering ram. The inhabitants of Lachish are throwing lighted torches, stones and arrows.

Siege of Lachish, 701BC



Captives are impaled

Siege of Lachish, 701BC

The exiles of Lachish move through the countryside to be resettled elsewhere in the Assyrian Empire as their officials are tortured and executed.

Sennacharib's campaign deported 200,000 people.



Captured officials are flayed alive



Judgment Upon Israel

Deut 29:24-28

...all the nations will say, 'Why has the Lord done thus to this land? What caused the heat of this great anger?' 25 Then people will say, 'It is because **they abandoned the covenant of the Lord**, the God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt, 26 and went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they had not known and whom he had not allotted to them. 27 Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against this land, bringing upon it all the curses written in this book, 28 and the Lord uprooted them from their land in anger and fury and great wrath, and cast them into another land, as they are this day.'