



**“The Land that I will Show You”:  
Recent Archaeological and Historical Studies of Ancient Israel  
A Virtual Public Conference**

**October 25-28, 2020**

Sponsored by:

New York University

Global Network for Advanced Research in Jewish Studies  
Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies  
New York University Tel Aviv

Israel Antiquities Authority  
Friends of the Israel Antiquities Authority

**Sunday, October 25**

**11:00 - 12:30 PM EDT: Plenary Session**

Chair and Opening Remarks  
Alex Jassen, New York University

Greeting and Welcome  
Andrew D. Hamilton, President, New York University

Welcome  
Gideon Avni, Israel Antiquities Authority  
Emily Master, Friends of the Israel Antiquities Authority  
Benjamin Hary, New York University Tel Aviv

Archaeological Research in Jerusalem: More than Just Archeology  
Yuval Baruch, Israel Antiquities Authority

In Praise of the Conquered: Identity Making in Israel and Judah in the Face of Assyrian Rule  
Yifat Thareani, New York University Tel Aviv, Hebrew Union College

**12:30 - 1:00 PM EDT: BREAK**

**1:00 - 2:30 PM EDT: Recent Excavations in Israel: From Early People to Early Cities, New IAA  
Excavations**

Chair: Emily Master, Friends of the Israel Antiquities Authority



In Search of the Origins of Modern Human and the Beginning of the Upper Paleolithic at Manot Cave, Israel

Omry Barzilai, Israel Antiquities Authority

Motza: A Neolithic Megalopolis in the Outskirts of Jerusalem

Hamoudi Khalaily, Israel Antiquities Authority

Jacob Vardi, Israel Antiquities Authority

En Esur: The Largest Urban Center of the Early Bronze Age

Yitzhak Paz, Israel Antiquities Authority

**2:30 - 3:00 PM EDT: BREAK**

**3:00 - 4:00 PM EDT: Israel and the Surrounding Cultures**

Chair: Liane Feldman, New York University

David, Solomon and Edom: Reflections from the Edom Lowlands Regional Archaeology Project

Thomas E. Levy, University of California, San Diego

The Forgotten Kingdom of Geshur

Rami Arav, University of Nebraska

**Monday, October 26**

**9:00 - 10:30 AM EDT: Religion and Society in the Iron Age**

Chair: Andrea Weiss, Hebrew Union College

Ritual Experts: Women in Israelite Households

Carol Meyers, Duke University

Recent Study of Israelite Religion and Divinity

Mark Smith, Princeton Theological Seminary

Religion and Cult of the Philistines and their Interaction with Israel and Judah

Aren Maeir, Bar-Ilan University

**10:30 - 11:00 AM EDT: BREAK**

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM: New Discoveries in Jerusalem**

Chair: Lawrence H. Schiffman, New York University



Jerusalem Unearthed: Recent Archaeological Discoveries at Jerusalem and their Significance  
Yuval Gadot, Tel Aviv University

Roman Jerusalem as Seen from the Excavations beneath Wilson's Arch  
Joe Uziel, Israel Antiquities Authority

Herodian Jerusalem: In light of New Finds from the Western Wall Tunnels  
Shlomit Weksler-Bdolah, Israel Antiquities Authority

The Jewish Character of Jerusalem of the Early Roman Period as Attested by the  
Archaeological Record  
Ronny Reich, University of Haifa

**1:00 - 1:30 PM EDT: BREAK**

**1:30 - 3:30 PM EDT: Urbanization**

Chair: Edan Raviv, New York University, Tel Aviv

Between the Classical City and the Islamic Madina, a View from the Holy Land  
Gideon Avni, Israel Antiquities Authority

On Some Unique Architectural Discoveries in Caesarea Maritima  
Joseph Patrich, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Sepphoris an Urban and Cultural Center: Where Hellenism and Jewish Life Prospered  
Eric Meyers, Duke University

How Salem Became Jerusalem: An Archaeological View  
Robert R. Cargill, University of Iowa

**Tuesday, October 27**

**9:00 - 11:30 AM EDT: Between Old and New Canaan**

Chair: Ilana Goldberg, New York University Tel Aviv

The Fate of New Canaan  
Daniel Master, Wheaton College

1177 BC Revisited: The Late Bronze Age Collapse and Its Immediate Aftermath  
Eric Cline, George Washington University



"Thou Shalt Make No Graven Image": An Archaeological Speculation on the Origins of the Second Commandment

David Ilan, Hebrew Union College, Jerusalem

Constructing Power: Monumental Architecture and Materials in the Middle Bronze Age Southern Levant

Nurith Goshen, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

The Levant in Crisis: The Archaeology of Migrants, Refugees and Colonizers at the End of the Bronze Age

Ann E. Killebrew, The Pennsylvania State University

**11:30 - 12:00 PM EDT: BREAK**

**12:00 - 1:00 PM The United Monarchy between Image and Reality**

Chair: Yifat Thareani, New York University Tel Aviv, Hebrew Union College

The United Monarchy Between Reality and Myth: An Archaeological Perspective

Amihai Mazar, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The 10th Century BCE: a "United Monarchy" or a Kingdom of Judah?

Yosef Garfinkel, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**1:00 - 2:00 PM EDT: BREAK**

**2:00 - 3:30 PM EDT: Science and Technology**

Chair: Guy Stiebel, Tel Aviv University

Biblical Incenses: Cannabis and Frankincense at the Judahite Shrine of Arad

Eran Arie, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

Dvory Namdar, Agricultural Research Organization, Volcani Center

Magdala of the Dyers: Maritime Technology in the 1st Century CE Village on the Coast of the Sea of Galilee

Nimrod Marom, University of Haifa

Exploring History Hidden in the Stones: When was Wilson's Arch, the Way to the Temple Mount, Built?

Elisabetta Boaretto, Weizmann Institute

**Wednesday, October 28**



**9:00 - 10:30 AM EDT: Synagogues and Churches**

Chair: Annette Reed, New York University

Building God’s House: Synagogues, Churches, and Intercommunal Relations in Late Antique Palestine

Zeev Weiss, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Huqoq Synagogue Mosaics: Recent Discoveries

Jodi Magness, University of North Carolina

“A Place to Read, to Interpret and to Hear Petitions”: Samaritan Synagogues in Late Antiquity

Steven Fine, Yeshiva University

**10:30 - 11:00 AM EDT: BREAK**

**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM EDT: Judah and Israel**

Chair: Ayelet Gilboa, University of Haifa

Pictorial Representations of Yahweh in 8th-6th Centuries BC Jerusalem: Images, Symbols and the Bible Ban on Images

Tallay Ornan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Little Israel of David in the Absalom Narrative

Daniel Fleming, New York University

Israel and Judah: Two Kingdoms or Two Peoples?

Avraham Faust, Bar-Ilan University

Naboth’s Vineyard and the Archaeology of Jezreel

Norma Franklin, University of Haifa

**1:00 - 1:30 PM EDT: BREAK**

**1:30 - 3:00 PM EDT: Archaeology and Roman Period Judaism and Christianity**

Chair: Steven Fine, Yeshiva University

Herodian Jerusalem as an Urban Center between Eastern Hellenism, Roman Rule and Jewish Identity

Orit Peleg-Barkat, Hebrew University of Jerusalem



Unearthing the Historical Pontius Pilate  
Steven Notley, Nyack College

Archaeological Explorations at 'En Qobi in the Jerusalem Hills  
Boaz Zissu, Bar-Ilan University

**3:00 - 4:00 PM EDT: Closing Session**

Chair: Benjamin Hary, New York University Tel Aviv

Roman Judea, Three Views: Jerusalem, Qumran and Caesarea  
Lawrence H. Schiffman, New York University

Closing & Thanks

Gideon Avni, Israel Antiquities Authority

Emily Master, Friends of the Israel Antiquities Authority