“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
Shlomith 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