

~JERICH0 (777)

(Jer'i-cho) [possibly, Moon City]

.. Firstfruits Of Israel's Conquest

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- The first Canaanite city West of the Jordan to be conquered by the Israelites.
- Then the sons of Israel pulled away and encamped on the desert plains of Moab across the Jordan from **Jericho**. (**Numbers 22:1**)
- Now **Jericho** was tightly shut up because of the sons of Israel, no one going out and no one entering. (**Joshua 6:1**)
- And they burned the city with fire and everything that was in it. Only the silver and the gold and the articles of copper and iron they gave to the treasure of Yehowah's house. (**Joshua 6:24**)
- And Rahab the prostitute and the household of her father and all who belonged to her, Joshua preserved alive, and she dwells in the midst of Israel down to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent out to spy on **Jericho**. (**Joshua 6:25**)
- It is identified with **Tell es-Sultan**, **Tel Yeriho** about 22 kilometers (14 miles) East-Northeast of Jerusalem. Nearby **Tulul Abu el-`Alayiq** is considered to be the site of **First-Century Jericho**.
- Lying about 250 meters (820 feet) below sea level in the Jordan Valley, **Jericho** has a subtropical climate. Today oranges, bananas, and figs are cultivated in the area and, as anciently, palms still thrive there.

.. Firstfruits Of Israel's Conquest

- At the end of their 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, the Israelites came to the Plains of Moab. There, opposite **Jericho**, Moses ascended Mount Nebo and viewed the Promised Land, including **Jericho**, the city of the palm trees, and its plain.
- These are the commandments and the judicial decisions that Yehowah commanded by means of Moses to the sons of Israel on

- the desert plains of Moab by the Jordan at **Jericho**. (**Numbers 36:13**)
- Go up into this mountain of Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, which fronts toward **Jericho**, and see the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the sons of Israel as a possession. (**Deuteronomy 32:49**)
 - Then Moses proceeded to go up from the desert plains of Moab into Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which fronts toward **Jericho**. And Yehowah went showing him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan. (**Deuteronomy 34:1**)
 - And all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh and all the land of Judah as far as the western sea. (**Deuteronomy 34:2**)
 - And the Negeb and the District, the valley plain of **Jericho**, the city of the palm trees, as far as Zoar. (**Deuteronomy 34:3**)
 - After Moses death Joshua sent two spies to **Jericho**. Concealed by Rahab, they avoided detection and afterward escaped from the city by means of a rope through the window of her house situated atop Jericho's wall. For three days the two men hid themselves in the nearby mountainous region, after which they forded the Jordan and returned to the Israelite camp.
 - Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men out secretly from Shittim as spies, saying; Go, take a look at the land and **Jericho**. So they went and came to the house of a prostitute woman whose name was Rahab, and they took up lodging there. (**Joshua 2:1**)
 - In time it was said to the king of **Jericho**; Look! Men from the sons of Israel have come in here tonight to search out the land. (**Joshua 2:2**)
 - At that the king of **Jericho** sent to Rahab, saying; Bring out the men that came to you, that have come into your house, for it is to search out all the land that they have come. (**Joshua 2:3**)
 - Meantime the woman took the two men and concealed them. And she proceeded to say; Yes, the men did come to me, and I did not know from where they were. (**Joshua 2:4**)

- **And it came about at the closing of the gate by dark that the men went out. I just do not know where the men have gone. Chase after them quickly, for you will overtake them. (Joshua 2:5)**
- **She, though, had taken them up to the roof, and she kept them out of sight among stalks of flax laid in rows for her upon the roof. (Joshua 2:6)**
- **And the men chased after them in the direction of the Jordan at the fords, and they shut the gate immediately after those chasing after them had gone out. (Joshua 2:7)**
- **As for these, before they could lie down, she herself came up to them on the roof. (Joshua 2:8)**
- **And she went on to say to the men; I do know that Yehowah will certainly give you the land, and that the fright of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have become disheartened because of you. (Joshua 2:9)**
- **For we have heard how Yehowah dried up the waters of the Red Sea from before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. (Joshua 2:10)**
- **When we got to hear it, then our hearts began to melt, and no spirit has arisen yet in anybody because of you, for Yehowah your God is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. (Joshua 2:11)**
- **And now, please, swear to me by Yehowah that, because I have exercised loving-kindness toward you, you also will certainly exercise loving-kindness toward the household of my father, and you must give me a trustworthy sign. (Joshua 2:12)**
- **And you must preserve alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all who belong to them, and you must deliver our souls from death. (Joshua 2:13)**
- **At that the men said to her; Our souls are to die instead of you people! If you will not tell about this matter of ours, it must also occur that when Yehowah gives us the land, we also shall certainly exercise loving-kindness and trustworthiness toward**

you. (Joshua 2:14)

- After that she had them descend by a rope through the window, for her house was on a side of the wall, and it was on the wall that she was dwelling. (Joshua 2:15)
- And she proceeded to say to them; Go to the mountainous region, that those in pursuit may not come in contact with you, and you must keep hid there three days, until those in pursuit have come back, and afterward you may go in your own direction. (Joshua 2:16)
- In turn the men said to her; We are free from guilt respecting this oath of yours that you have made us swear. (Joshua 2:17)
- Look! We are coming into the land. This cord of scarlet thread you should tie in the window by which you have had us descend, and your father and your mother and your brothers and all the household of your father you should gather to yourself into the house. (Joshua 2:18)
- And it must occur that anyone who goes out of the doors of your house into the open, his blood will be upon his own head, and we shall be free from guilt, and everyone who continues with you in the house, his blood will be on our heads if a hand should come upon him. (Joshua 2:19)
- And if you should report this matter of ours, we shall also have become free from guilt respecting this oath of yours that you have made us swear. (Joshua 2:20)
- To this she said; According to your words so let it be. With that she sent them off, and they went their way. After that she tied the scarlet cord in the window. (Joshua 2:21)
- So they went and came to the mountainous region and kept dwelling there three days, until the pursuers had come back. Now the pursuers were looking for them on every road, and they did not find them. (Joshua 2:22)
- And the two men proceeded to descend again from the mountainous region and to cross over and come to Joshua the son of Nun, and they began to relate to him all the things that had happened to them. (Joshua 2:23)

- Great must have been the fear of **Jericho's** king and its inhabitants as they heard about or witnessed the miraculous damming up of the flooding Jordan, enabling the Israelites to cross on dry ground.
- Afterward, although the Israelite males underwent circumcision and had to recover from its effects before being in a good position to defend themselves, no one dared to attack them at Gilgal. Unmolested, the Israelites also observed the Passover on the desert plain of Jericho.
- And it came about that as soon as all the kings of the Amorites, who were on the side of the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the Canaanites, who were by the sea, heard that Yehowah had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the sons of Israel until they had passed over, then their hearts began to melt, and there proved to be no spiritedness in them anymore because of the sons of Israel. (**Joshua 5:1**)
- At that particular time Yehowah said to Joshua; Make for yourself flint knives and circumcise the sons of Israel again, the second time. (**Joshua 5:2**)
- Accordingly Joshua made flint knives for himself and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth. (**Joshua 5:3**)
- And this was the reason why Joshua did the circumcising, all the people that came out of Egypt, the males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the road when they were coming out of Egypt. (**Joshua 5:4**)
- For all the people who came out proved to be circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness on the road when they were coming out of Egypt they had not circumcised. (**Joshua 5:5**)
- For the sons of Israel had walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation of the men of war who came out of Egypt that did not listen to the voice of Yehowah had come to its finish, to whom Yehowah swore that he would never let them see the land that Yehowah had sworn to their forefathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. (**Joshua 5:6**)
- And their sons he raised up instead of them. These Joshua

circumcised, because they proved to be uncircumcised, for they had not circumcised them on the road. (Joshua 5:7)

- And it came about that when they had completed circumcising all the nation, they kept sitting in their place in the camp until they revived. (Joshua 5:8)
- Then Yehowah said to Joshua; Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. So the name of that place came to be called Gilgal until this day. (Joshua 5:9)
- And the sons of Israel continued to camp in Gilgal, and they proceeded to carry out the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month, in the evening, on the desert plains of Jericho. (Joshua 5:10)
- Later, near Jericho, an angelic prince appeared to Joshua and outlined the procedure for taking the city, which was then tightly shut up on account of the Israelites.
- Obediently, once a day for six days the Israelite military force went forth, followed by seven priests continually blowing the horns, behind whom were the priests carrying the Ark, and finally the rear guard all marching around Jericho.
- But on the seventh day they marched around the city seven times. At the blowing of the horns on the final march around Jericho, the people shouted a great war cry, and the city's walls began to fall flat.
- And it came about when Joshua happened to be by Jericho that he proceeded to raise his eyes and look, and there, there was a man standing in front of him with his drawn sword in his hand. So Joshua walked up to him and said to him; Are you for us or for our adversaries? (Joshua 5:13)
- Then the people shouted, when they proceeded to blow the horns. And it came about that as soon as the people heard the sound of the horn and the people began to shout a great war cry, then the wall began to fall down flat. After that the people went up into the city, each one straight before him, and captured the city. (Joshua 6:20)

- The Israelites then rushed into **Jericho**, devoting its inhabitants and all domestic animals to destruction. But on account of the kindness shown by Rahab in hiding the spies, she and her relatives, safe in her house atop the portion of the wall that had not fallen, were preserved alive. The entire city was burned, only the gold and silver being turned over to Yehowah's sanctuary.
- Then the people shouted, when they proceeded to blow the horns. And it came about that as soon as the people heard the sound of the horn and the people began to shout a great war cry, then the wall began to fall down flat. After that the people went up into the city, each one straight before him, and captured the city. (**Joshua 6:20**)
- And they went devoting all that was in the city, from man to woman, from young man to old man and to bull and sheep and ass, to destruction by the edge of the sword. (**Joshua 6:21**)
- And to the two men who had done the spying on the land, Joshua said; Go into the house of the woman, the prostitute, and bring out of there the woman and all who belong to her, just as you have sworn to her. (**Joshua 6:22**)
- So the young men who had done the spying went in and brought out Rahab and her father and her mother and her brothers and all who belonged to her, yes, all her family relationship they brought out, and they proceeded to set them down outside the camp of Israel. (**Joshua 6:23**)
- And they burned the city with fire and everything that was in it. Only the silver and the gold and the articles of copper and iron they gave to the treasure of Yehowah's house. (**Joshua 6:24**)
- And Rahab the prostitute and the household of her father and all who belonged to her, Joshua preserved alive, and she dwells in the midst of Israel down to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent out to spy on **Jericho**. (**Joshua 6:25**)
- However, one Israelite, Achan, stole a gold bar, some silver, and a fine garment and then hid the items under his tent. Thereby he brought death upon himself and his entire family.
- At this Achan answered Joshua and said; For a fact I, I have

sinned against Yehowah the God of Israel, and this way and that way I have done. (**Joshua 7:20**)

- When I got to see among the spoil an official garment from Shinar, a good-looking one, and two hundred shekels of silver and one gold bar, fifty shekels being its weight, then I wanted them, and I took them, and, look! They are hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent with the money underneath it. (**Joshua 7:21**)
- At once Joshua sent messengers, and they went running to the tent, and, look! It was hidden in his tent with the money underneath it. (**Joshua 7:22**)
- So they took them from the midst of the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the sons of Israel and poured them out before Yehowah. (**Joshua 7:23**)
- Joshua, and all Israel with him, now took Achan the son of Zerah and the silver and the official garment and the bar of gold and his sons and his daughters and his bull and his ass and his flock and his tent and everything that was his and they brought them up to the low plain of Achor. (**Joshua 7:24**)
- Then Joshua said; Why have you brought ostracism upon us? Yehowah will bring ostracism upon you on this day. With that all Israel went pelting him with stones, after which they burned them with fire. Thus they stoned them with stones. (**Joshua 7:25**)
- And they proceeded to raise up over him a big pile of stones, down to this day. At this Yehowah turned away from his hot anger. That is why the name of that place has been called Low Plain of Achor, down to this day. (**Joshua 7:26**)

•• Later Historical References

- The destroyed city of **Jericho** subsequently became part of Benjamite territory bordering on Ephraim and Manasseh.
- And the lot came out for the sons of Joseph from the Jordan at **Jericho** to the waters of Jericho eastward, the wilderness going up from Jericho into the mountainous region of Bethel. (**Joshua 16:1**)

- And it went down from Janoah to Ataroth and Naarah and reached to **Jericho** and went out to the Jordan. (**Joshua 16:7**)
- And their boundary came to be at the northern corner from the Jordan, and the boundary went up to the slope of **Jericho** on the north and went up on the mountain westward, and its termination proved to be at the wilderness of Beth-aven. (**Joshua 18:12**)
- And the cities of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin by their families proved to be **Jericho** and Beth-hoglah and Emek-keziz. (**Joshua 18:21**)
- Not long thereafter some kind of settlement apparently sprang up at the site. It was captured by Moab's King Eglon and remained under his control for 18 years.
- And once again the sons of Israel went doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. At that Yehowah let Eglon the king of Moab grow strong against Israel, because they did what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. (**Judges 3:12**)
- Furthermore, he gathered against them the sons of Ammon and Amalek. Then they went and struck Israel and took possession of the city of palm trees. (**Judges 3:13**)
- And the sons of Israel continued to serve Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years. (**Judges 3:14**)
- And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. So Yehowah raised up for them a savior, Ehud the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a left-handed man. In time the sons of Israel sent tribute by his hand to Eglon the king of Moab. (**Judges 3:15**)
- Meanwhile Ehud made a sword for himself, and it had two edges, its length being a cubit. Then he girded it underneath his garment upon his right thigh. (**Judges 3:16**)
- And he proceeded to present the tribute to Eglon the king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man. (**Judges 3:17**)
- And it came about that when he had finished presenting the tribute, he at once sent the people away, the bearers of the

tribute. (**Judges 3:18**)

- And he himself turned back at the quarries that were at Gilgal, and he proceeded to say; I have a secret word for you, O king. So he said; Keep silence! With that all those who were standing by him went on out from him. (**Judges 3:19**)
- And Ehud came to him as he was sitting in his cool roof chamber that he had to himself. And Ehud went on to say; A word of God I have for you. At that he rose up from his throne. (**Judges 3:20**)
- Then Ehud thrust in his left hand and took the sword off his right thigh and plunged it into his belly. (**Judges 3:21**)
- And the handle kept going in also after the blade so that the fat closed in over the blade, for he did not draw the sword out of his belly, and the fecal matter began to come out. (**Judges 3:22**)
- And Ehud proceeded to go out through the air hole, but he closed the doors of the roof chamber behind him and locked them. (**Judges 3:23**)
- And he himself went out. And his servants came and began looking, and there the doors of the roof chamber were locked. So they said; He is just easing nature in the cool interior room. (**Judges 3:24**)
- And they kept waiting until they were ashamed, and, look! There was no one opening the doors of the roof chamber. At this they took the key and opened them, and, look! Their lord was fallen to the earth dead! (**Judges 3:25**)
- As for Ehud, he escaped while they were lingering, and he himself passed by the quarries and made his escape to Seirah. (**Judges 3:26**)
- And it came about that when he got there he began blowing the horn in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel began going down with him out of the mountainous region, he being at their head. (**Judges 3:27**)
- Then he said to them; Follow me, because Yehowah has given your enemies, the Moabites, into your hand. And they went following him and got to capture the fords of the Jordan against

the Moabites, and they did not allow anybody to pass over.
(**Judges 3:28**)

- And at that time they went striking down Moab, about ten thousand men, every one robust and every one a valiant man, and not a single one escaped. (**Judges 3:29**)
- And Moab came to be subdued on that day under Israel's hand, and the land had no further disturbance for eighty years. (**Judges 3:30**)
- In the time of King David a settlement continued to exist at **Jericho**.
- Later people reported it to David, and he at once sent to meet them, because the men had come to feeling very humiliated, and the king went on to say; Dwell in **Jericho** until your beards grow abundantly. Then you must return. (**2 Samuel 10:5**)
- Later people went and told David about the men, and he at once sent to meet them, because they had become men very much humiliated, and the king went on to say; Dwell in **Jericho** until your beards grow abundantly. Then you must return. (**1 Chronicles 19:5**)
- But not until Ahab's reign did Hiel the Bethelite actually rebuild **Jericho**. The prophetic curse pronounced by Joshua over 500 years earlier was then fulfilled, Hiel losing Abiram his firstborn as he laid the foundation and Segub his youngest son when he put up the doors.
- Then Joshua had an oath pronounced at that particular time, saying; Cursed may the man be before Yehowah who gets up and does build this city, even **Jericho**. At the forfeit of his firstborn let him lay the foundation of it, and at the forfeit of his youngest let him put up its doors. (**Joshua 6:26**)
- In his days Hiel the Bethelite built **Jericho**. At the forfeit of Abiram his firstborn he laid the foundation of it, and at the forfeit of Segub his youngest he put up its doors, according to Yehowah's word that he spoke by means of Joshua the son of Nun. (**1 Kings 16:34**)
- During this same general period some of the sons of the prophets, resided at **Jericho**.

- **Elijah now said to him; Elisha, sit here, please, because Yehowah himself has sent me to **Jericho**. But he said; As Yehowah is living and as your soul is living, I will not leave you. So they came on to Jericho. (2 Kings 2:4)**
- **Then the sons of the prophets that were at **Jericho** approached Elisha and said to him; Do you really know that today Yehowah is taking your master from headship over you? At this he said; I, too, well know it. Be silent. (2 Kings 2:5)**
- **After Yehowah took the prophet Elijah away in a windstorm, Elisha remained at **Jericho** for a time and healed the city's water supply.**
- **And it came about that as they were walking along, speaking as they walked, why, look! A fiery war chariot and fiery horses, and they proceeded to make a separation between them both, and Elijah went ascending in the windstorm to the heavens. (2 Kings 2:11)**
- **All the while Elisha was seeing it, and he was crying out; My father, my father, the war chariot of Israel and his horsemen! And he did not see him anymore. Consequently he took hold of his own garments and ripped them into two pieces. (2 Kings 2:12)**
- **After that he picked up the official garment of Elijah that had fallen off him, and went back and stood by the shore of the Jordan. (2 Kings 2:13)**
- **Then he took the official garment of Elijah that had fallen off him and struck the waters and said; Where is Yehowah the God of Elijah, even He? When he struck the waters, then they were gradually divided this way and that way, so that Elisha went across. (2 Kings 2:14)**
- **When the sons of the prophets that were at **Jericho** saw him some way off, they began to say; The spirit of Elijah has settled down upon Elisha. Accordingly they came to meet him and bowed down to him to the earth. (2 Kings 2:15)**
- **In time the men of the city said to Elisha; Here, now, the situation of the city is good, just as my master is seeing, but the**

- water is bad, and the land is causing miscarriages. (2 Kings 2:19)
- At that he said; Fetch me a small new bowl and put salt in it. So they fetched it for him. (2 Kings 2:20)
 - Then he went on out to the source of the water and threw salt in it and said; This is what Yehowah has said; I do make this water healthful. No more will death or any causing of miscarriages result from it. (2 Kings 2:21)
 - And the water continues healed down to this day, according to Elisha's word that he spoke. (2 Kings 2:22)
 - The water of `Ain es-Sultan, traditionally, the fountain that Elisha healed, has been described as sweet and pleasant and irrigates the gardens of modern Jericho.
 - In the time of wicked Judean King Ahaz, Yehowah permitted the Israelite armies under King Pekah to inflict a humiliating defeat upon unfaithful Judah, killing 120,000 and taking 200,000 captives.
 - But Yehowah's prophet Oded met the returning victors and warned them not to enslave the captives. Accordingly, the captives, after being clothed and fed, were taken to Jericho and released.
 - Accordingly Pekah the son of Remaliah killed in Judah a hundred and twenty thousand in one day, all valiant men, because of their leaving Yehowah the God of their forefathers. (2 Chronicles 28:6)
 - Further, Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah the son of the king and Azrikam the leader of the household and Elkanah the one next to the king. (2 Chronicles 28:7)
 - Moreover, the sons of Israel took two hundred thousand of their brothers captive, women, sons and daughters, and also a great deal of spoil they took from them as plunder, after which they brought the spoil to Samaria. (2 Chronicles 28:8)
 - And there happened to be a prophet of Yehowah there whose name was Oded. So he went out before the army that was coming to Samaria and said to them; Look! It was because of the rage of Yehowah the God of your forefathers against Judah that he gave them into your hand, so that you did a killing among them with a raging that has reached clear to the heavens. (2

Chronicles 28:9)

- **And now the sons of Judah and of Jerusalem you are thinking of reducing to menservants and maidservants for yourselves. Nevertheless, are there not with you yourselves cases of guilt against Yehowah your God? (2 Chronicles 28:10)**
- **And now listen to me and return the captives that you have captured from your brothers, for Yehowah's burning anger is against you. (2 Chronicles 28:11)**
- **At that certain men of the heads of the sons of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Jehohanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum and Amasa the son of Hadlai, rose up against those coming in from the military campaign. (2 Chronicles 28:12)**
- **And they said to them; You must not bring in the captives here, for it will result in guilt against Yehowah on our part. You are thinking of adding to our sins and to our guilt, for abundant is the guilt we have, and there is burning anger against Israel. (2 Chronicles 28:13)**
- **Accordingly the armed men left the captives and the plunder before the princes and all the congregation. (2 Chronicles 28:14)**
- **Then the men that were designated by their names rose up and took hold of the captives, and all their naked ones they clothed from the spoil. So they clothed them and furnished them with sandals and fed them and gave them drink and greased them. Furthermore, in the case of anyone tottering, they gave them transportation on the asses and brought them to **Jericho**, the city of palm trees, beside their brothers. After that they returned to Samaria. (2 Chronicles 28:15)**
- **After the fall of Jerusalem in 607 B.C.E, King Zedekiah fled in the direction of **Jericho** but was overtaken and captured by the Babylonians in the desert plains of Jericho.**
- **And a military force of Chaldeans went chasing after the king, and they got to overtake him in the desert plains of **Jericho**, and all his own military force was scattered from his side. (2 Kings 25:5)**

- And a military force of the Chaldeans went chasing after them, and they got to overtake Zedekiah in the desert plains of **Jericho**. Then they took him and brought him up to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath that he might pronounce upon him judicial decisions. (**Jeremiah 39:5**)
- And a military force of the Chaldeans went chasing after the king, and they got to overtake Zedekiah in the desert plains of **Jericho**, and all his own military force was scattered from his side. (**Jeremiah 52:8**)
- Following the release from Babylonian exile, 345 sons of **Jericho**, were among those returning with Zerubbabel in **537 B.C.E.** and apparently settled at **Jericho**.
- And these were the sons of the jurisdictional district that went up out of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile at Babylon and who later returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each one to his own city. (**Ezra 2:1**)
- Those who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel. (**Ezra 2:2**)
- The sons of **Jericho**, three hundred and forty-five. (**Ezra 2:34**)
- The sons of **Jericho**, three hundred and forty-five. (**Nehemiah 7:36**)
- Later, some of the men of **Jericho** assisted in rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem.
- And at their side the men of **Jericho** did building. And at their side Zaccur the son of Imri did building. (**Nehemiah 3:2**)
- Toward the close of the year 32 and the beginning of **33 C.E.**, **Jericho** figured in Jesus ministry. Near this city Jesus Christ healed the sight of blind Bartimaeus and his companion.
- And they came into **Jericho**. But as he and his disciples and a considerable crowd were going out of **Jericho**, Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting beside the road. (**Mark 10:46**)

- Now as they were going out of **Jericho** a great crowd followed him. (**Matthew 20:29**)
- Now as he was getting near to **Jericho** a certain blind man was sitting beside the road begging. (**Luke 18:35**)
- At **Jericho**, Jesus also met Zacchaeus and thereafter was a guest at his home.
- And he entered **Jericho** and was going through. (**Luke 19:1**)
- Now here there was a man called by the name Zacchaeus, and he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. (**Luke 19:2**)
- Well, he was seeking to see who this Jesus was, but he could not for the crowd, because he was small in size. (**Luke 19:3**)
- So he ran ahead to an advance position and climbed a fig-mulberry tree in order to see him, because he was about to go through that way. (**Luke 19:4**)
- Now when Jesus got to the place, he looked up and said to him; Zacchaeus, hurry and get down, for today I must stay in your house. (**Luke 19:5**)
- With that he hurried and got down and with rejoicing he received him as guest. (**Luke 19:6**)
- But when they saw it, they all fell to muttering, saying; With a man that is a sinner he went in to lodge. (**Luke 19:7**)
- Earlier in Judea, when giving his illustration of the neighborly Samaritan, Jesus alluded to the road from Jerusalem to **Jericho**.
- In reply Jesus said; A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to **Jericho** and fell among robbers, who both stripped him and inflicted blows, and went off, leaving him half-dead. (**Luke 10:30**)
- This road, according to ancient historical testimony, was frequented by robbers.

See Also BARTIMAEUS

• Archaeological Findings Evidence Of The Destruction Of Jericho

- Professor John Garstang, leader of an English expedition at Tell es-Sultan between 1929 C.E. and 1936 C.E, found that what he considered to be one of the cities built on the site had been subjected to intense fires, and its walls had fallen.
- This city he identified with the **Jericho** of Joshua's time and assigned its destruction to about 1400 B.C.E. Although some scholars today still endorse Garstang's conclusions, others interpret the evidence differently.
- Writes archaeologist G. Ernest Wright: The two walls which surrounded the summit of the old city, which Garstang believed were destroyed by earthquake and fire in Joshua's time, were discovered to date from the 3rd millennium and to represent only two of some fourteen different walls or wall-components built successively during that age. [Biblical Archaeology, 1963, pp. 79,80]
- Many feel that little, if anything, remains of the **Jericho** that existed in Joshua's time, earlier excavations at the site having removed what might have survived from the time of its destruction.
- As Professor Jack Finegan notes: There is now, therefore, virtually no evidence at the site by which to try to determine at what date Joshua might have taken Jericho. [Light From the Ancient Past, 1959, p. 159]
- For this reason numerous scholars date the fall of **Jericho** on circumstantial evidence, and suggested dates span a period of about 200 years.
- In view of such uncertainty, Professor Merrill F. Unger fittingly observes: Scholars also must be extremely wary of attaching undue authority to archeologists estimates of dates and interpretation of data.
- That the fixing of dates and the conclusions drawn from archeological findings often depend on subjective factors is amply demonstrated by the wide divergences between competent authorities on these matters. [Archaeology and the Old Testament, 1964, p. 164]

- Therefore, the fact that the interpretations of archaeologists do not agree with Biblical chronology in pointing to **1473 B.C.E.** as the date for **Jericho's** destruction is no reason for concern.
- The difference in the viewpoint of Garstang and other archaeologists about **Jericho** illustrates the need for caution in accepting archaeological testimony regardless of whether it seems to confirm or to contradict the Bible record and its chronology.