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NAAMA SCHEFTELOWITZ, PETER FABIAN and ISAAC GILEAD: The Clog-Shaped Vessel and the Tray: New Ghassulian Pottery Types

ABSTRACT: Two new pottery vessel types from Ghassulian mortuary caves near Qiryat Gat, Israel, are presented: the clog-shaped vessel and the tray. It seems that they were used for burial and funerary offerings.

- 131 MORDECHAI COGAN: A New Cuneiform Text from Megiddo
- YOSEF GARFINKEL and MADELEINE MUMCUOGLU: Triglyphs and Recessed Doorframes on a Building Model from Khirbet Qeiyafa: New Light on Two Technical Terms in the Biblical Descriptions of Solomon's Palace and Temple

ABSTRACT: A unique building model from the early tenth century BCE, excavated at Khirbet Qeiyafa, Israel, presents new data on royal construction in the days of David and Solomon. A combination of triglyphs and a recessed doorframe appears on the model façade. This indicates that aspects of royal architecture typical of the Iron Age Levant, known archaeologically from the ninth--seventh centuries BCE, developed 150 years earlier than previously thought and suggests an eastern origin for the triglyph of classical Greek architecture. The model serves as the basis for identifying two obscure technical terms in the biblical texts describing King Solomon's palace and temple in Jerusalem.

DORON BEN-AMI and YANA TCHEKHANOVETS: A Roman Mansion Found in the City of David

ABSTRACT: The large peristyle building of the Late Roman period exposed at the Givati site in the City of David features solid dates marking both its phase of foundation and its demise. While its construction is dated to no later than the third century CE, the scores of coins found buried under the collapse point to its actual date of destruction, early in the second half of the fourth century CE. The archaeological evidence suggests that this might be due to the earthquake that occurred in Palestine in 363 CE. The dates of construction and destruction of the Roman peristyle building have far-reaching consequences, for they reflect the spread of the Roman occupation over the southern part of the city in the time of Aelia Capitolina. The discovery of this building testifies that the southern hill witnessed new building and occupation activities during the third century CE.

AVRAHAM FAUST: From Regional Power to Peaceful Neighbour: Philistia in the Iron I—II Transition

ABSTRACT: This paper examines the changes in settlement patterns, internal trade relations and material culture that occurred in Philistia and the Shephelah during the Iron I--II transition. It appears that the Philistines were hegemonic during the Iron Age I. They lived in large fortified settlements, accompanied by smaller settlements in the coastal areas. The Shephelah was only sparsely settled at the time, probably as a result of Philistine policy. Since it was to their advantage to maintain high boundaries with their neighbours, the Philistines increased their use of 'foreign' elements in their material culture. The Philistines were significantly weakened during the transition to the Iron Age IIA, with many sites becoming significantly smaller and others abandoned. As the Philistines withdrew westward, the Shephelah was gradually filled with new Israelite/Judahite settlements. In tandem with their weakening, the Philistines changed their boundary maintenance strategy, and in a quick process of cultural change, abandoned many of the foreign traits that previously characterised them. Instead, they adopted a local material vocabulary, symbolising

that they had become 'one of the neighbours'. The city of Gath is an exception: Philistine identity was negotiated there differently than in other sites in Philistia.

ASHER GROSSBERG: A New Perspective on the Southern Part of Channel II in the City of David

ABSTRACT: This article suggests that the 'stream that flowed through the midst of the land' and was sealed by Hezekiah in order to withhold water from the Assyrian army (2 Chron. 32:4), can be identified as the northern part of Channel II (up to 190 m south of the Gihon). The waters of the Gihon Spring flowed through it down to the Kidron Valley. The stream was sealed by diverting its waters to the 'Lower Pool' (Isa. 22:9) via the southern part of Channel II, which was cut by Hezekiah for this purpose in a relatively short period of time (about a month). The article discusses the biblical and extra-biblical written sources relating to this subject.

ASHER S. KAUFMAN: The *Stoai* of the Temple Abutted on the Staircase of the Tower of Antonia

ABSTRACT: According to Josephus and Acts of the New Testament, there was a way down (a staircase) from the Tower of Antonia to the Temple precincts. The reconstruction of the staircase proposed here in accordance with Herodian architecture is based upon the existence of surface-rock in the form of an arc of a circle. If this reconstruction is correct, the Tower of Antonia would have extended into the north-western corner of the Temple area. Of greater significance, the *stoai* of the outer court of the Temple precincts would have abutted on the staircase, as indeed, in keeping with Josephus' *Jewish War* V.243 (V.v.8).

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