



 **LifeGroups**  
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# God's Care for David

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# Godly People

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- The Lord will always provide a way of escape from temptation
- 1 Samuel 29, 1 Corinthians 10:11–13
- This chapter brings us back to David.
- The whole Philistine army had gathered from all the different tribes. That is why Saul was terrified when he saw them (1 Samuel 28:5).
- David, as Achish's vassal and personal bodyguard, went with him to gather with the rest of the Philistine armies.

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# Godly People

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- The other Philistine kings were surprised to see Hebrews with Achish in a battle against Israel (29:3).
- Achish promised them that he trusted David, who had been his loyal servant now for years.
- But the other commanders said he might get into the middle of the battle and fight against them with the Israelites instead (29:4).
- If God had not orchestrated the situation the way He did to get David out of the battle altogether, David very well may have turned on them in battle.

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# Godly People

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- Achish called David and told him that he trusted him, but the others didn't, so he was sending him back
- David must have been relieved that he was being sent back and yet he protested in order to stay on Achish's good side.
- David's language was ambiguous when he said, "I may not go against the enemies of my lord the king," he may have been referring to Saul.
- David was deceptive and manipulative, but God was able to use his sinful actions to accomplish His will.

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# Godly People

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- Paul promised that when we are struggling with temptation, God will always provide a “way of escape” for us (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- When God took Israel to the Promised Land, He didn’t destroy the Red Sea; He provided them a way through it. He didn’t stop Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego from being thrown into the fiery furnace, or Daniel from being thrown into the lion’s den, or Joseph from being thrown into the pit or prison; He was there with them and brought them through it.
- God doesn’t take away our temptations or hard situations, but He does show us a way through them.

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# Trust in the Lord

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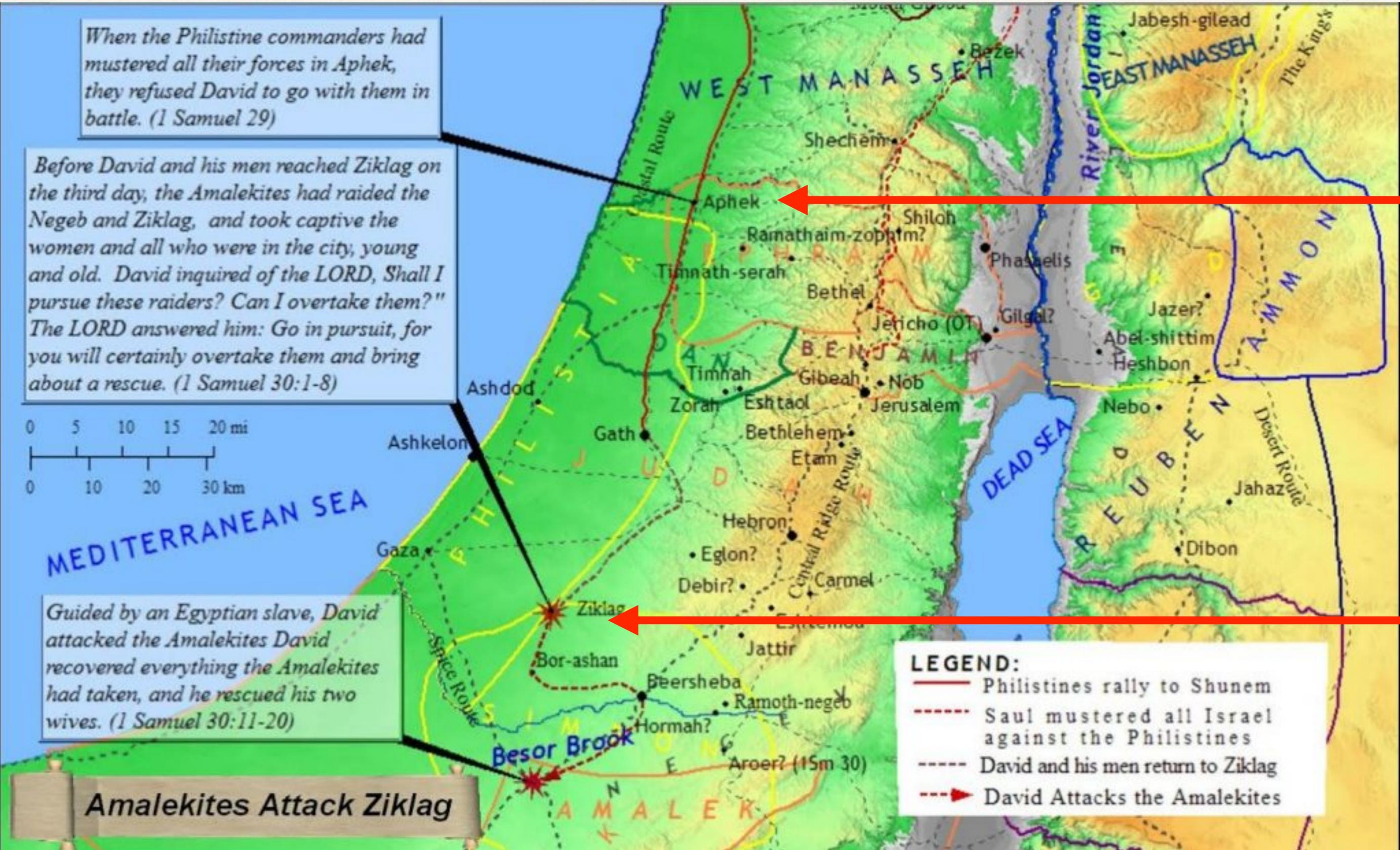
- Godly people trust in the Lord even when the situation is horrible
- 1 Samuel 30:1–8, Psalm 6
- Aphek is at the northernmost point and Ziklag, where David was living, is far away in the south.
- When David had gone on raids for Achish and brought back spoils, he had told Achish that he was raiding cities of Israel and her allies in the Negeb (27:10), but he was really raiding non-Israelite peoples, one of which was the Amalekites (27:8).

When the Philistine commanders had mustered all their forces in Aphek, they refused David to go with them in battle. (1 Samuel 29)

Before David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day, the Amalekites had raided the Negeb and Ziklag, and took captive the women and all who were in the city, young and old. David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I pursue these raiders? Can I overtake them?" The LORD answered him: "Go in pursuit, for you will certainly overtake them and bring about a rescue." (1 Samuel 30:1-8)

Guided by an Egyptian slave, David attacked the Amalekites. David recovered everything the Amalekites had taken, and he rescued his two wives. (1 Samuel 30:11-20)

### Amalekites Attack Ziklag



**LEGEND:**

- Philistines rally to Shunem
- - - Saul mustered all Israel against the Philistines
- · · David and his men return to Ziklag
- - - > David Attacks the Amalekites

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# Trust in the Lord

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- When he struck these cities, he destroyed them, but the Amalekites had multiple cities, just like the Philistines. So there were still some Amalekites around who were seeking revenge.
- While David and his men were in the north at Aphek, those Amalekites attacked Ziklag, burned it to the ground, and took captive the families of David and his men (30:1–3).
- David's men showed deep emotion at the loss of their families. They “wept until they had no more strength to weep” (30:4). They threatened to stone David because they were “bitter in soul” (30:6).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- This would have been an especially hard situation to face after they had just done what they thought was right in God's eyes.
- They left the battle against Israel – only to return and see that the Lord had allowed this to happen?
- It would be easy to become embittered and angry at God.
- But even though he was “greatly distressed,” David chose to “strengthen himself in the Lord” (30:6).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- Psalm 6 was written with the emotion David and his men must have felt in this moment.
- “I am weary with my moaning ... I drench my couch with my weeping; my eye wastes away because of grief” (Psalm 6:6). David was not afraid to pour out his deepest emotions to the Lord. He didn’t whitewash or sugarcoat his grief.
- But when he was grieved, he didn’t wallow in despair. He turned to the Lord. “Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. ... Turn, O Lord, deliver my life” (Psalm 6:2–4).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- Instead of wallowing in despair or letting his anger get the best of him and reacting with a bloodthirsty revenge, David called for the high priest and the ephod – he consulted the Lord (30:7–8).
- Though he didn't have a perfect track record, he did consistently show a desire to follow God and His will and His timing.
- Only after he received the go-ahead from God did he take his men to attack the Amalekites (30:10).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- When we are in heart-breaking situations and feel as though all we can do is weep, we can weep to the Lord, and He will hear our cries.
- The Lord is near to all who call upon Him (Psalm 145:18).
- In Psalm 56:8, David wrote, “You have kept count of my tossings, put my tears in your bottle.” God hears and remembers every one of our griefs.
- When circumstances are this desperate and horrible, it would be easy to give up, turn our backs on God, and even blame Him for what is happening to us.

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# Trust in the Lord

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- But James tells us not to blame God, because God does not tempt anyone (James 1:13).
- God does not send evil upon us. God is light and in Him, there is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5).
- Instead, God is in the business of making good out of everything that happens to us (Romans 8:28).
- He is not the one who sends evil on us; He is the one we run to as our refuge and strength (Psalm 46:1).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- The Lord keeps His promises to His people
- 1 Samuel 30:9–31
- David and his men pursued the Amalekites. Originally all 600 went, but when they came to the brook, 200 of them were too tired to go on (30:9–10).
- They found an Egyptian slave who had been abandoned by the Amalekites and gave him food and water (30:11–12).
- Note that they did this before they even asked him who he was and realized they could use him (30:13).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- They ended up being able to use him to find the Amalekites.
- The implication is that David did it first out of hospitality and care for the stranger/foreigner, as a man after God's own heart.
- The fact that he was Egyptian would have especially reiterated God's commands to "show your love for the alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt" (Deuteronomy 10:19).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- When they got to the land of the Amalekites, David struck them down and recovered all that had been stolen from them, just as the Lord had promised (30:16–20).
- The text even uses the same word in the promise and the fulfillment of the promise – “rescue” the captives (30:8, 18).
- When the 400 of his men who made it all the way to the battle didn’t want to share the spoils with the 200 who stayed behind, David said no, because “you shall not do so, my brothers, with what the Lord has given us” (30:23).

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# Trust in the Lord

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- God shows how He keeps His promises to His people.
- He was anointed king but hadn't yet become king. Instead, he went through years of danger, being pursued by Saul, and even exiled from the land.
- Through it all, he had learned to rely on God alone for provision and protection.
- It may take years or decades for us to see it all come to fruition, but God will keep His promises to us. And He will use the journey to shape and mold us into who He wants us to be.

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# Ask Kerby

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Some of the latest  
archaeological news

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# Pool of Siloam

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- The Israel Antiquities Authority and the City of David Foundation announced that the Pool of Siloam will soon be opened to the public.
- First time in 2,000 years that anything, but a small section has been visible.
- The pool is significant to both Jews and Christians.
- This is where Jewish pilgrims cleansed themselves prior to entering the Second Temple.
- This is also the site of where Jesus healed the blind man in John 9.

# Pool of Siloam



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# Pool of Siloam

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# Pool of Siloam

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- Ze'ev Orenstein is the director of international affairs for the City of David Foundation in Jerusalem. He explains that the pool is:
- “One of most significant sites affirming Jerusalem’s biblical heritage — not simply as a matter of faith, but as a matter of fact — with significance to billions around the world, will be made fully accessible for the first time in 2,000 years.”



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# Pool of Siloam

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- Johnnie Moore concludes that:
- “In the Pool of Siloam, we find evidence of history preserved for us, revealed at just the right time. This is a truly historic event. Theologically, it affirms Scripture, geographically it affirms history and politically it affirms Israel’s unquestionable and unrivaled link to Jerusalem. Some discoveries are theoretical. This one is undeniable. It is proof of the story of the Bible and of its people, Israel.”



# Israel archaeologists find ancient comb with 'full sentence'

by Eleanor H. Reich



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# Ancient Comb

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- Israeli archaeologists found an ancient comb dating back some 3,700 years ago and bearing what is likely the oldest known full sentence in Canaanite alphabetical script.
- The inscription encourages people to comb their hair and beards to rid themselves of lice. The sentence contains 17 letters that read: “May this tusk root out the lice of the hair and the beard.”
- Experts say the discovery shines new light on some of humanity’s earliest use of the Canaanite alphabet, invented around 1800 B.C. and the foundation of the all successive alphabetic systems.

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# Ancient Comb

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- The comb was first excavated in 2016 at Tel Lachish, an archaeological site in southern Israel.
- It was only late last year when a professor at Israel's Hebrew University noticed the tiny words inscribed on it. Details of the find were published Wednesday in an article in the *Jerusalem Journal of Archaeology*.
- Canaanites spoke an ancient Semitic language—related to modern Hebrew, Arabic and Aramaic—and resided in the lands abutting the eastern Mediterranean. They are believed to have developed the first known alphabetic system of writing.

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# Isaiah the Prophet

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Isaiah bulla, a 2,700-year-old clay seal impression which may have belonged to the biblical prophet Isaiah. (Ouria Tadmor/© Eilat Mazar)

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# Isaiah the Prophet

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- A few different clay seal impressions from 2,700 years ago have been discovered in Jerusalem's Western Wall Plaza.
- This seal impression appears to say "Isaiah the prophet" but a letter is missing at the end.
- The seal is from a small piece of clay from that time period.
- It was found a near another seal that says "of King Hezekiah of Judah."
- King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah are mentioned together 17 times.

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# Archaeology

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- Millar Burrow (Yale Divinity School): “Archeological work has unquestionably strengthened confidence in the reliability of the scriptural record. More than one archaeologist has found his respect for the Bible increased by the experience of excavation in Palestine.”
- Nelson Glueck (Hebrew Union College): “It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible.”

A BIBLICAL VIEW ON  
**ARCHAEOLOGY**



KERBY ANDERSON