**How does archaeology conclusively demonstrate the Bible to be reliable and unique among all the holy books of world religions?**

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| http://www.christiananswers.net/0.gif | http://www.christiananswers.net/0.gif | [http://www.christiananswers.net/bibleplaces/beershebaexcavation102000.jpg](http://www.christiananswers.net/bibleplaces/home.html)  Archaeological discoveries verify the historical reliability of the Old and [New Testaments](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/newtestament.html).  When compared to other religious books, the [Bible](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/bible.html) is unique in that it is the oldest, as testified by the [places](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/places.html), [people](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/men.html), [titles](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/king.html), and events mentioned in the Bible; and the language and literary formats used to compose the Bible.  Many scholars today question the validity of Biblical accounts, supposedly based on the findings of [archaeology](http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html). When the “discrepancies” are examined in detail, however it is found that the problems lie with the [archaeology](http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html) (i.e. misinterpretation of evidence, lack of evidence, or poor scholarship) and not with the Bible.  **How can archaeology prove helpful to someone seeking for truth to the basic questions about life?**  The discoveries of archaeology can be helpful in removing doubts that a person might have about the historical trustworthiness of the Bible. The [miracles](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/miracle.html) described, as well as the spiritual message, must be accepted on [faith](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/faith.html), which is the basis of our relationship with God. When the truth of Scripture is challenged by skeptics, archaeology can be used to demonstrate that the [people](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/men.html), [places](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/places.html), and events of the Bible are real.  **What** [**archaeological discovery**](http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html) **would you point to as the most convincing evidence for the** [**Bible**](http://www.christiananswers.net/bible/home.html) **being** [**God's Word**](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/wordofgod.html)**?**  Any one discovery can be explained away as coincidence, or an alternative interpretation can be given to disassociate it from the Bible. It is the weight of a myriad of discoveries that demonstrates the Bible to be the Word of God.  These discoveries fall into three categories:   1. [Archaeological evidence](http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html) demonstrates the historical and cultural accuracy of the Bible. 2. The Bible's message of a [loving Creator God](http://www.christiananswers.net/gospel/gospel1.html) who interacts in the affairs of mankind and has provided a means of [salvation](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/salvation.html) stands in sharp contrast to the pagan fertility religions of the ancient world as, revealed by archaeology. 3. Archaeological findings demonstrate that the Biblical [prophets](http://www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/prophet.html) accurately predicted events hundreds of years before they occurred—something that lies beyond the capability of mere men.   **Evidence and further information on this topic**  [http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/btn-archaeology.gif](http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html)   * [Archaeology and the Bible](http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html) * [Associates for Biblical Research](http://www.biblearchaeology.org/) * [Answers About Religions of the World](http://www.christiananswers.net/menu-ar1.html)   Author: Bryant G. Wood, Ph.D. of [Associates for Biblical Research](http://www.biblearchaeology.org/), as quoted in [*Areopagus Proclamation*](http://aiia.christiananswers.net/), Vol. 13, No. 4, January 2003.  Bryant G. Wood, Ph.D., is Director of [Associates for Biblical Research](http://www.biblearchaeology.org/) and editor of *Bible & Spade* journal. He is adjunct professor at a number of educational institutions. He presently continues extensive archaeological field work. He and his wife Faith live in Harrisburg, PA. Dr. Wood has served as an AIIA Resource Associate since March of 1997.  [Text Copyright ©](http://www.christiananswers.net/copyrite.html) 2003, 2004, AIIA Institute, All Rights Reserved - except as noted on attached [“Usage and Copyright”](http://www.christiananswers.net/copyrite.html) page that grants ChristianAnswers.Net users generous rights for putting this page to work in their homes, personal witnessing, churches and schools.  Photo provided by ChristianAnswers Associate, [BiblePlaces](http://www.christiananswers.net/bibleplaces/home.html).  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