



The  
Dead Sea  
SCROLLS







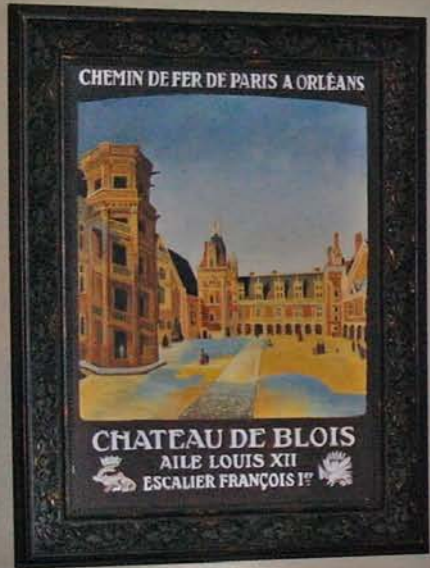








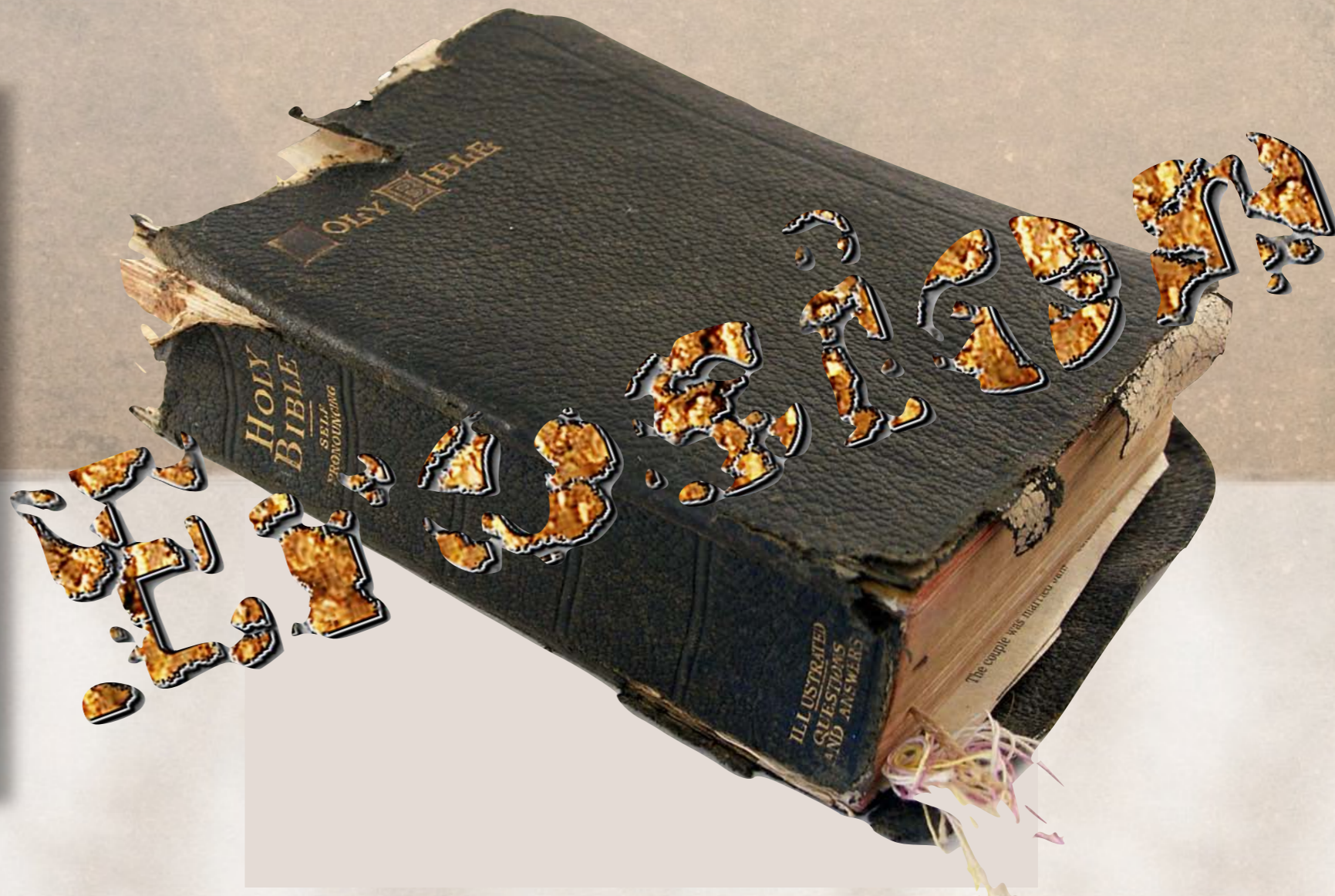








# The Dead Sea SCROLLS



**Joseph Smith**



**Bart Ehrman**



**Muhammed**

# Isaiah 40



7 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
When the breath of the LORD blows  
upon it;

# Isaiah 40



7 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
When the breath of the LORD blows  
upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8  
The grass withers, the flower fades, ...

# Isaiah 40



7 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
When the breath of the LORD blows  
upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8  
The grass withers, the flower fades, But

# Isaiah 40



7 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
When the breath of the LORD blows  
upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8  
The grass withers, the flower fades, But  
the word of our God stands forever.



# Matthew 24



35 "Heaven and earth will pass away,...

# Matthew 24



35 “Heaven and earth will pass away,  
but ...

# Matthew 24



35 “Heaven and earth will pass away,  
but My words will not pass away.”

# 1 Peter 1

24 For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,  
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE  
FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS,  
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,



# 1 Peter 1

24 For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,  
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE  
FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS,  
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, 25 **BUT** ...

...



# 1 Peter 1

24 For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,  
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE  
FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS,  
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, 25 BUT THE  
WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER."

...



# 1 Peter 1



24 For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,  
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE  
FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS,  
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, 25 BUT THE  
WORD OF THE LORD **ENDURES FOREVER.**"  
And this is the **word** which was **preached** to you.

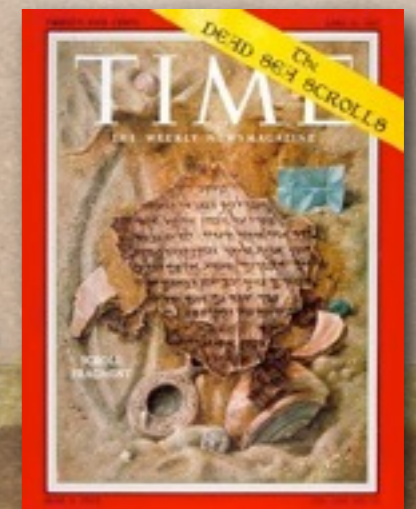
# Discovery Of

# The Dead Sea SCROLLS



“the greatest manuscript discovery  
of all time”

William Albright, Dean Of American Archeologist





# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls

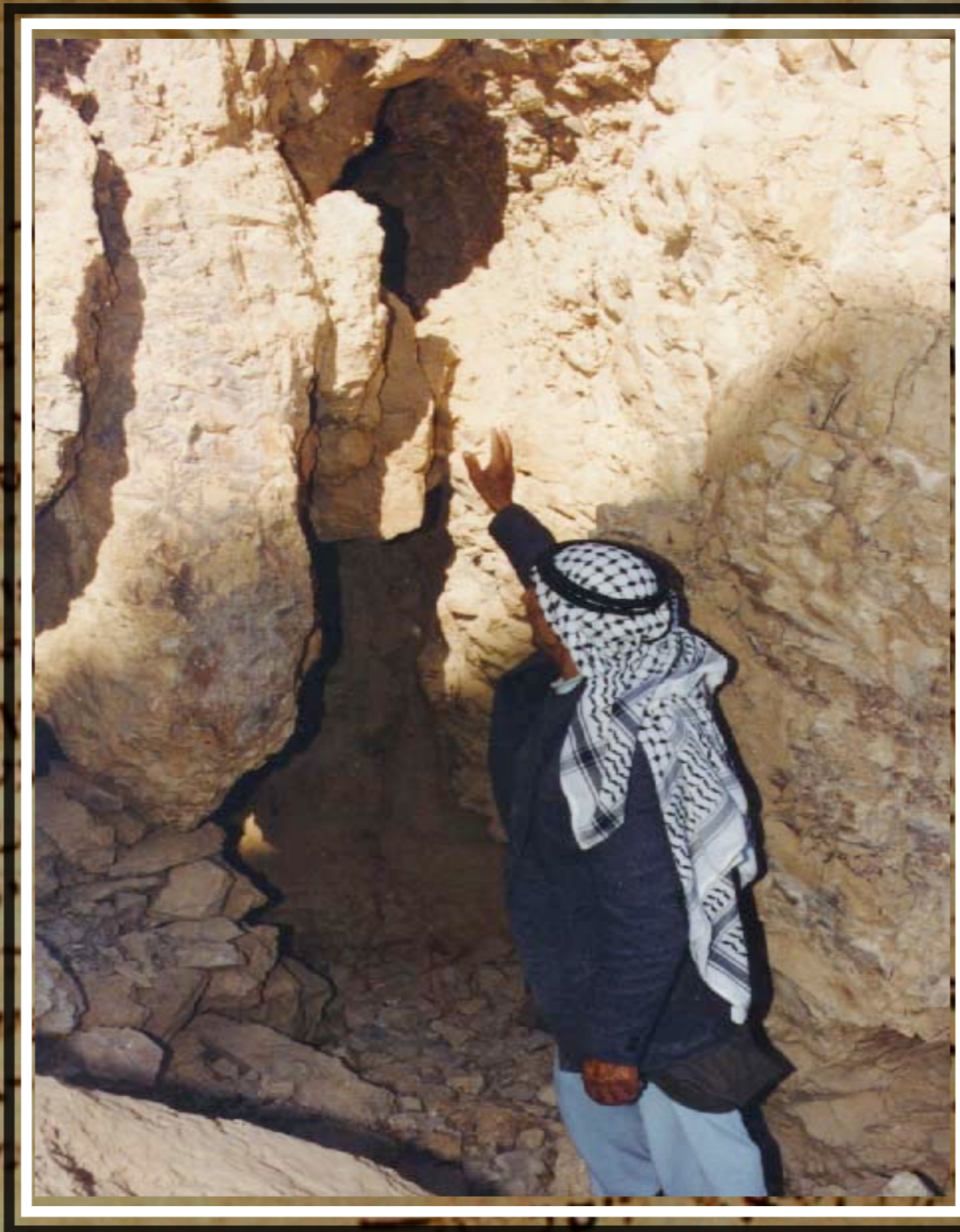


Muhammad edh-Dhib

Juma'a Abu-Hashaba

Bedouin Shepherds - 1947  
Tending Goats

# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls



Threw a rock to find lost goat  
Heard the sound of breaking pottery

# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls



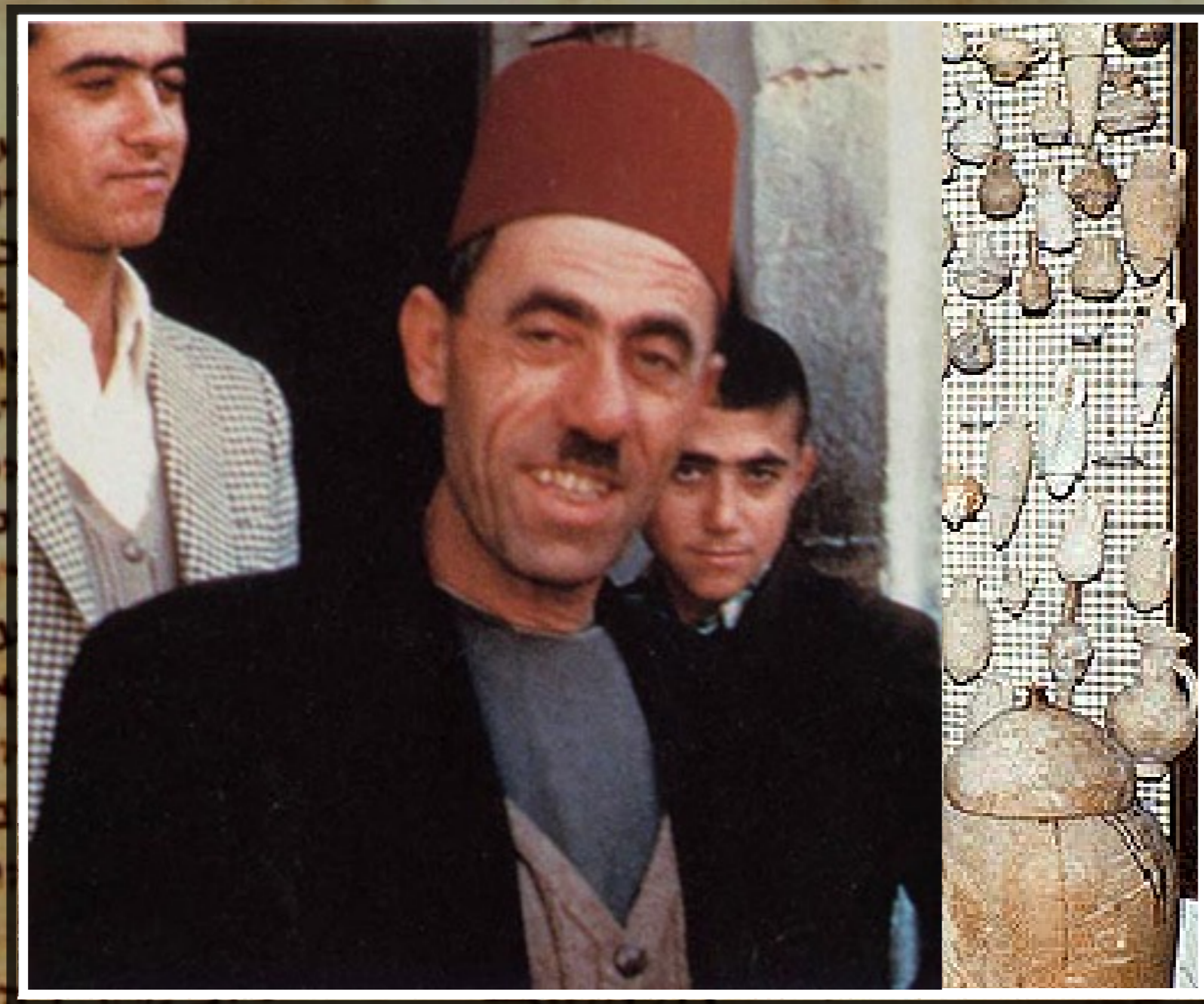
Found scroll jars with scrolls

# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls



Saw 37 scroll jars  
Removed 7

# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls

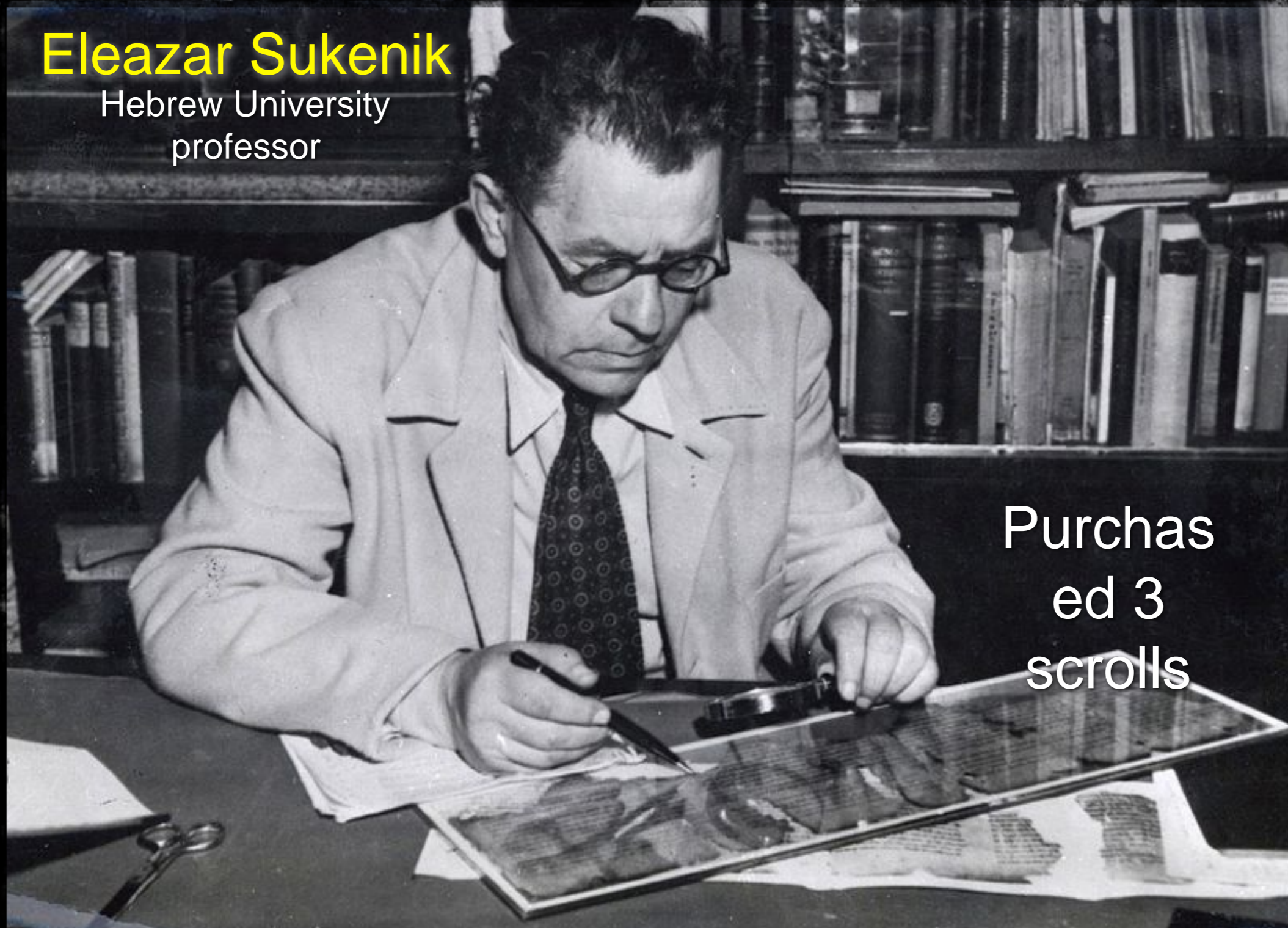


Sold to "Kando," Khalil Eskander Shahin  
Bethlehem Cobbler - Antiquities Dealer  
Syrian Orthodox Church

# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls

**Eleazar Sukenik**

Hebrew University  
professor



Purchased  
ed 3  
scrolls

אלהים כיום השב  
וישבת בית השן  
ועתה יתעלה

עצמי עשה פר למי  
אשר ודנובועל הארץ ויהי כן ימי  
הארץ דשא עשב מזרע זרע ליהו  
ועתה יתעלה

# Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Mar Samuel

Archbishop of  
Syrian Orthodox  
Church in  
Jerusalem

Purchased  
4 scrolls

John Trevor  
Albright Institute  
photographed  
1948



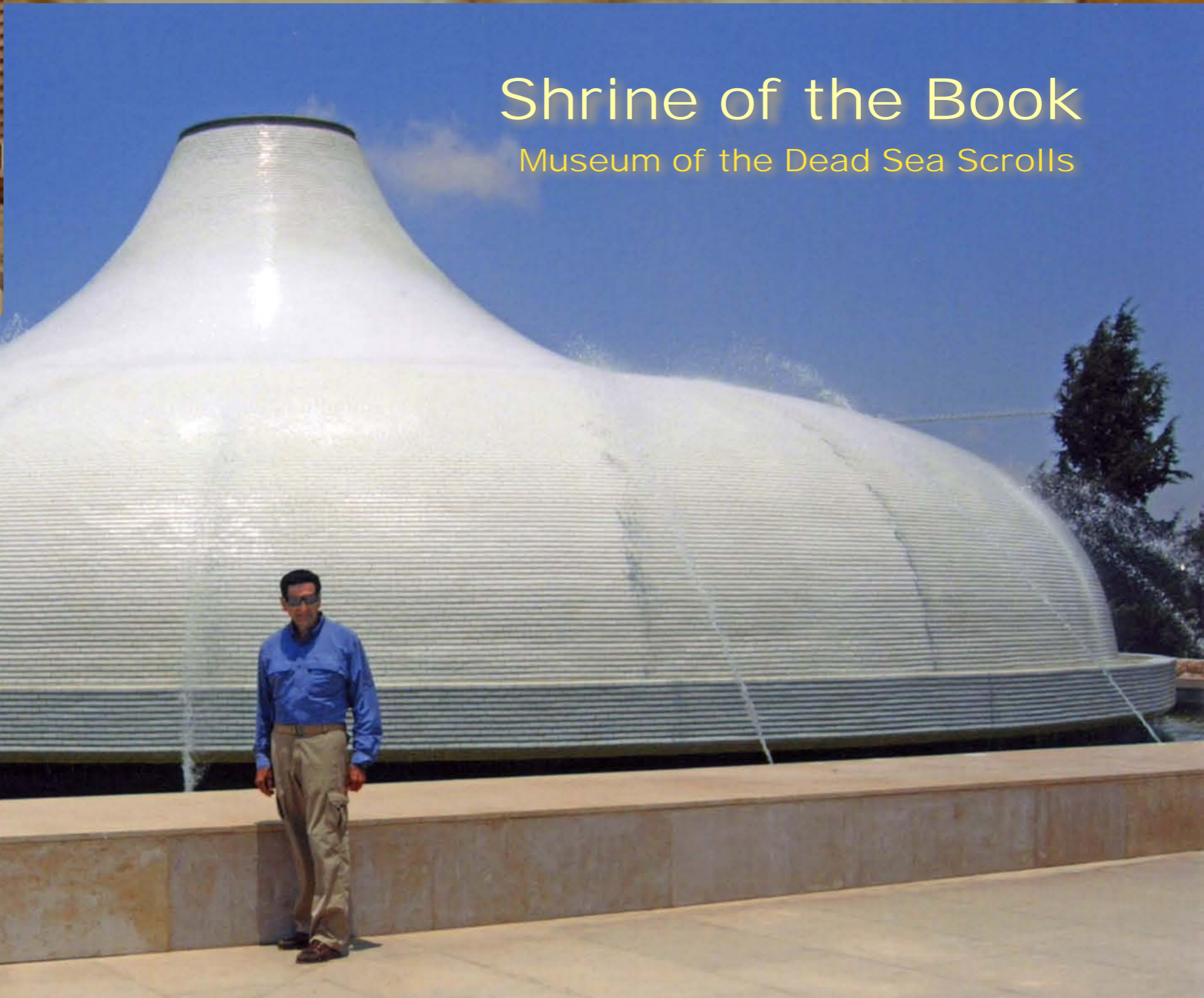
ויכלו בשמי ורה  
אלהים כיום השב  
וישיב בית השנ

הים תרשא הארץ רשא בשב  
הארץ רשא עץ פרי עשה פרי למנו  
הארץ רשא עץ פרי עשה פרי למנו  
הארץ רשא עץ פרי עשה פרי למנו



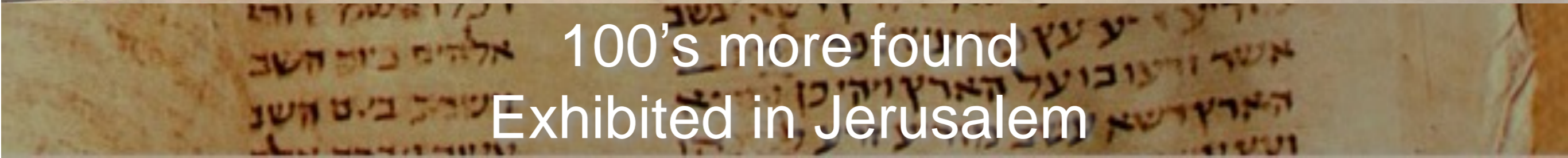




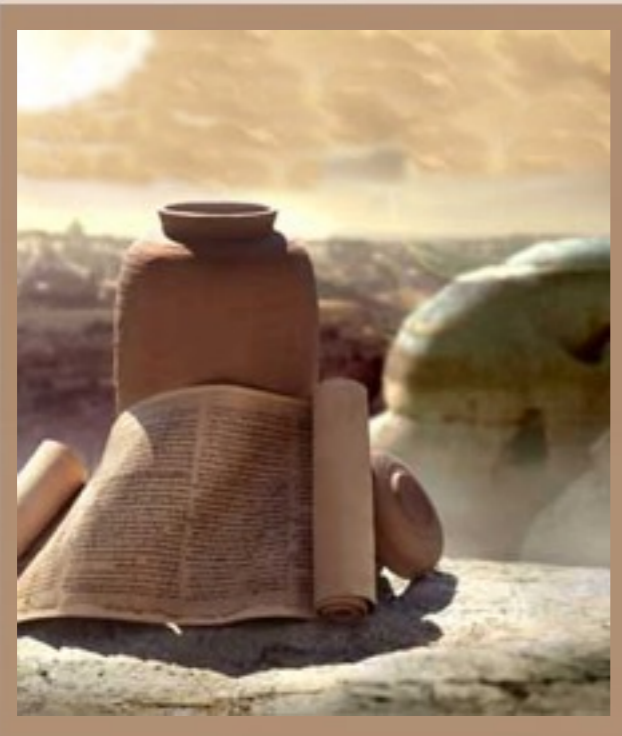


# Shrine of the Book

Museum of the Dead Sea Scrolls



100's more found  
Exhibited in Jerusalem



*Site Of*

The  
Dead Sea  
SCROLLS

# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls



# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls



# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls

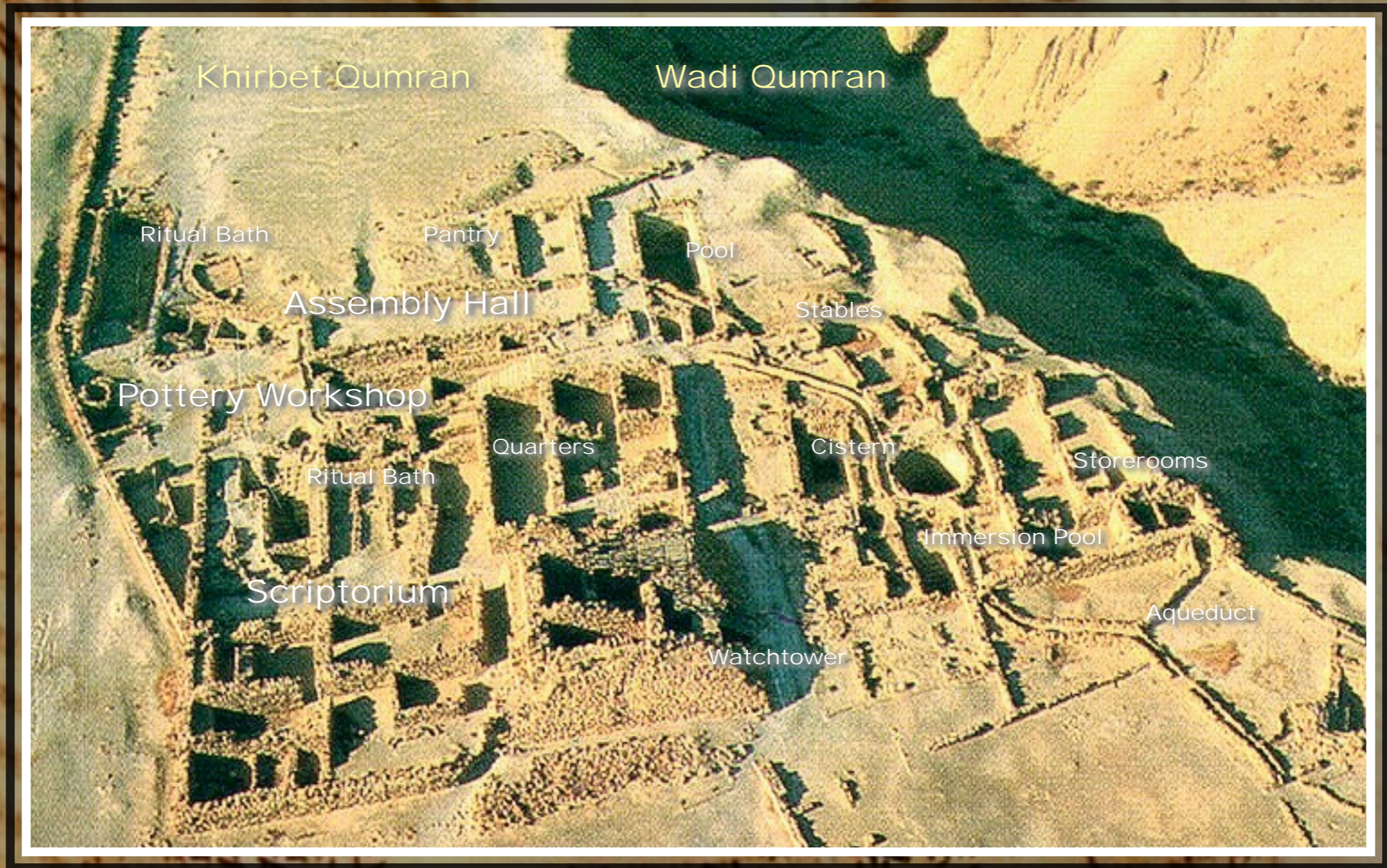


# Locating the Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls



Qumran was excavated from 1951-1956  
Scrolls were discovered in Cave 4 in 1952

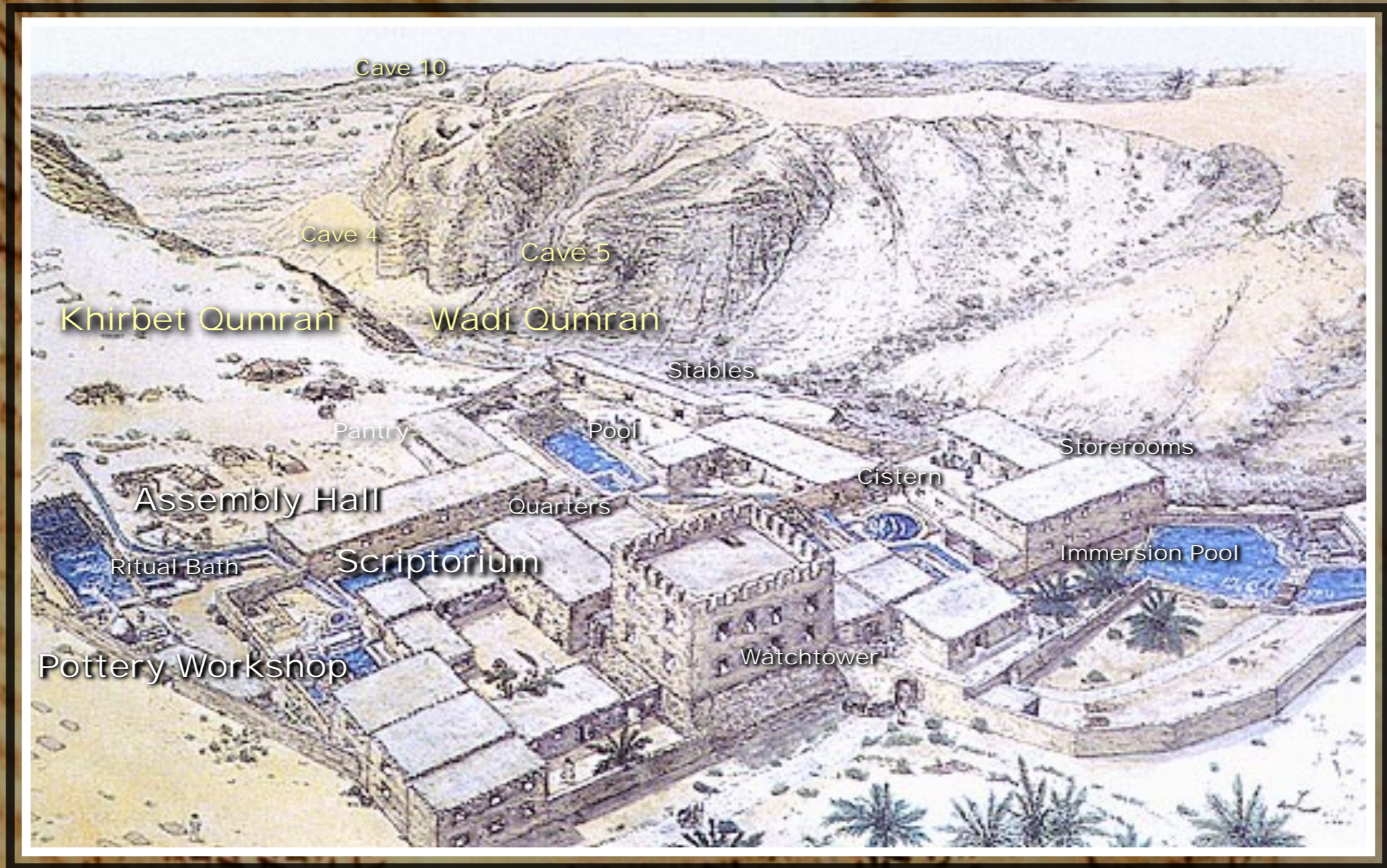
# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls



Excavation revealed a complex of buildings  
Jewish sect (Essenes) produced the scrolls.

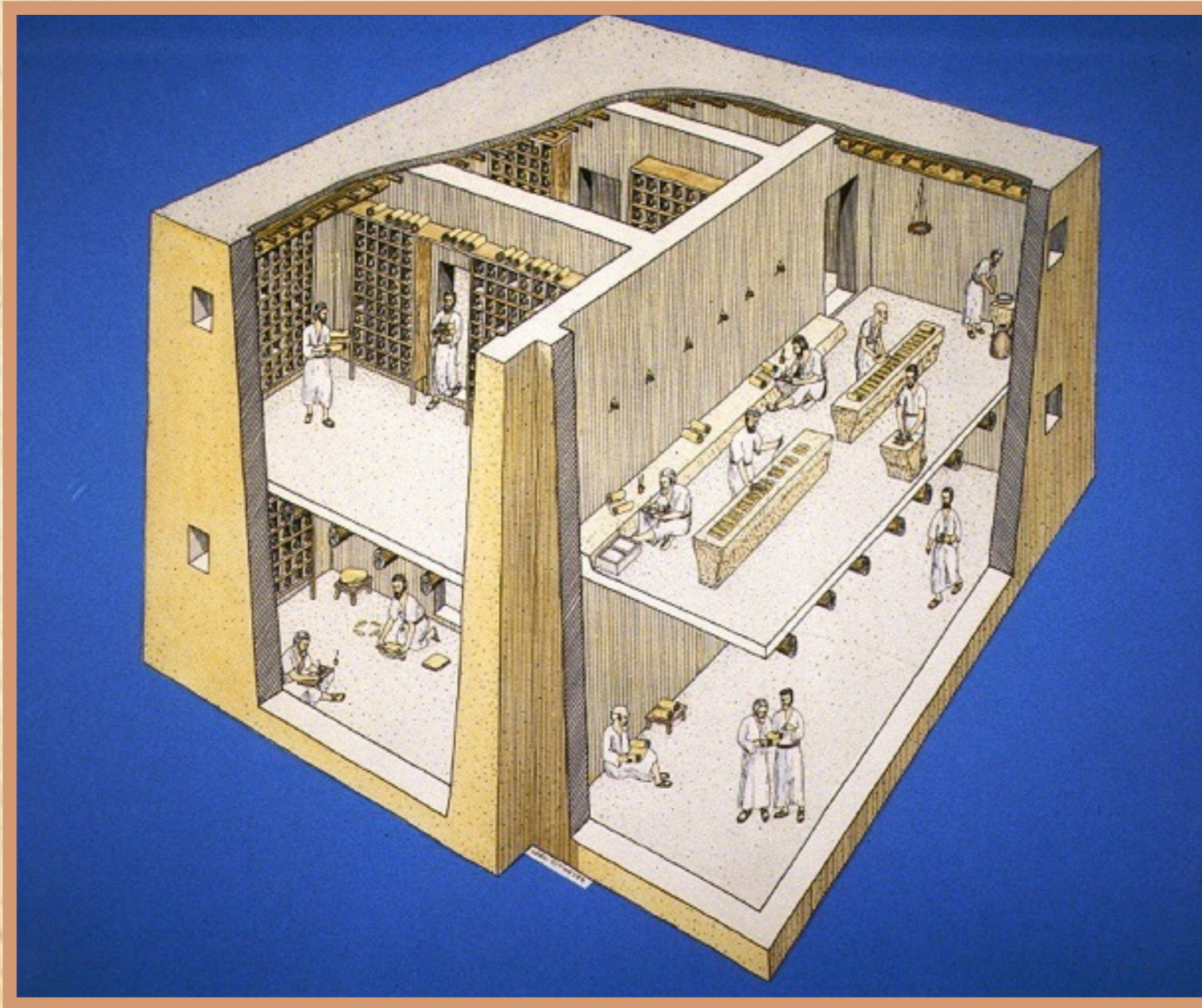


# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls



Reconstruction indicates community of 200 using the nearby caves for storage and living quarters.

# The Authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls



Ink  
Well



Two-storied Scriptorium where scrolls were copied and stored

# The Authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Scribes used benches for writing the scrolls, or for sewing together the leaves of parchment**

# The Authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**On display  
Amman, Jordan**

# Authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls

AD 66

Jews **revolted**  
against Rome

Sect **hid Scrolls**  
in jars in caves



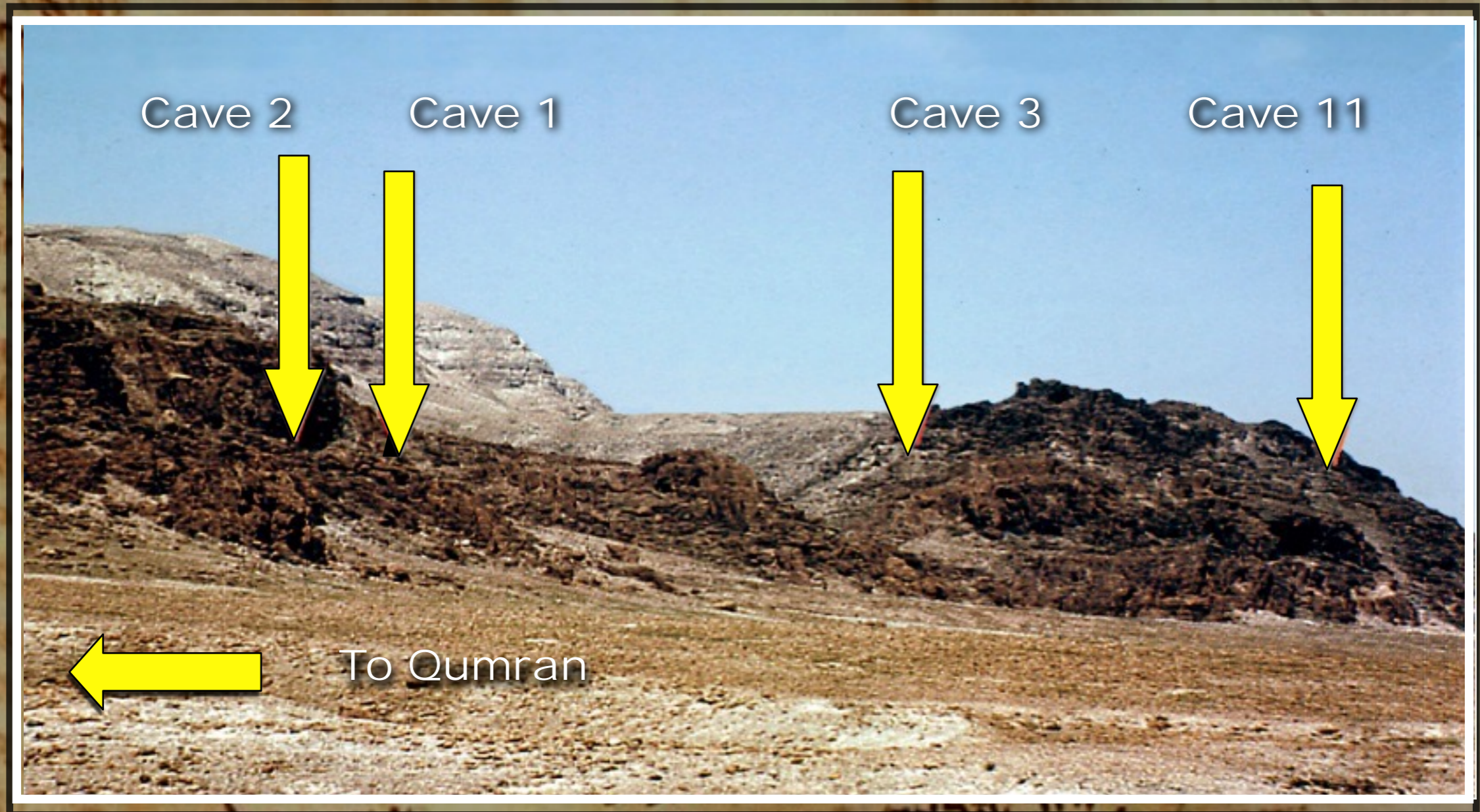
**Scroll jars**

# Authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls

AD 68  
Roman Tenth Legion  
destroyed settlement



# Locating the Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls

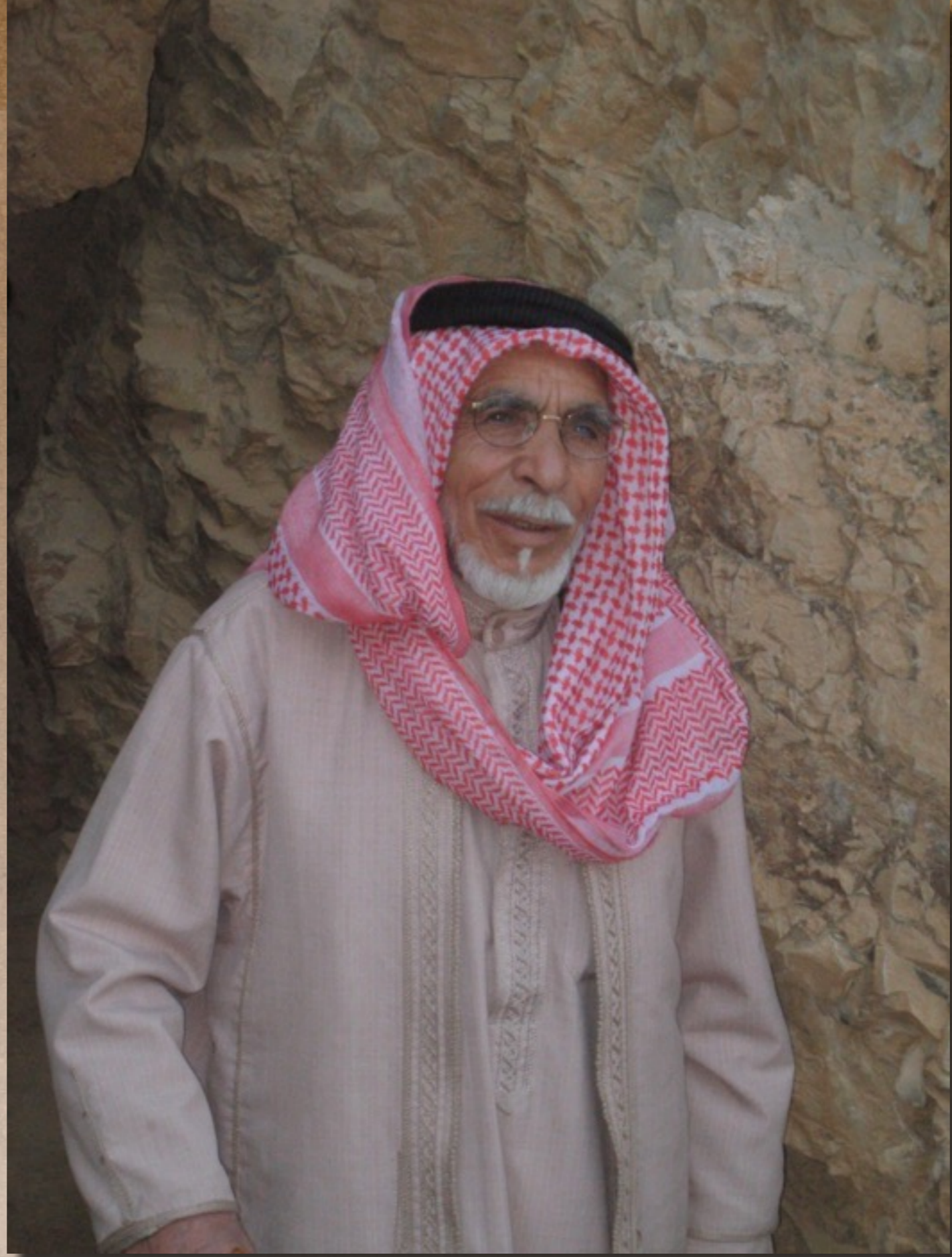


Handwritten Hebrew text from the Dead Sea Scrolls, including phrases like "ויכלו בשמחה ורה" and "הארץ רשא עשב מזריע זרע לכהן".



Bedouin Sheik, Muhammad Hammad Ubiayt





Bedouin Sheik, Muhammad Hammad Ubiayt





**Unopened Isaiah scroll**

Cave 1



In Cave 4, Bedouin found 15,000 scroll fragments  
Archaeologists found another 40,000 beneath  
cave floor.  
Fragments were from 400  
manuscripts



**Scroll  
fragments  
found  
here**



**Inside Cave 4**



Dig Site

Qumran Community











Dr. Randall Price  
Director Of  
Excavations





Yusuf Omaria



Cave 4

Yusuf Omaria



Grandfather And Grandson

# Excavation on the Qumran Plateau



This ovoid store jar  
(made in Jerusalem)  
still sealed with a bowl lid  
contained wine



Large-style Hasmonean era  
cooking pot



# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Excavations on the Qumran Plateau





# The Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Excavations on the Qumran Plateau

Bones collected for DNA analysis

Scrolls on parchment  
(un-tanned sheepskin)  
analysed for DNA



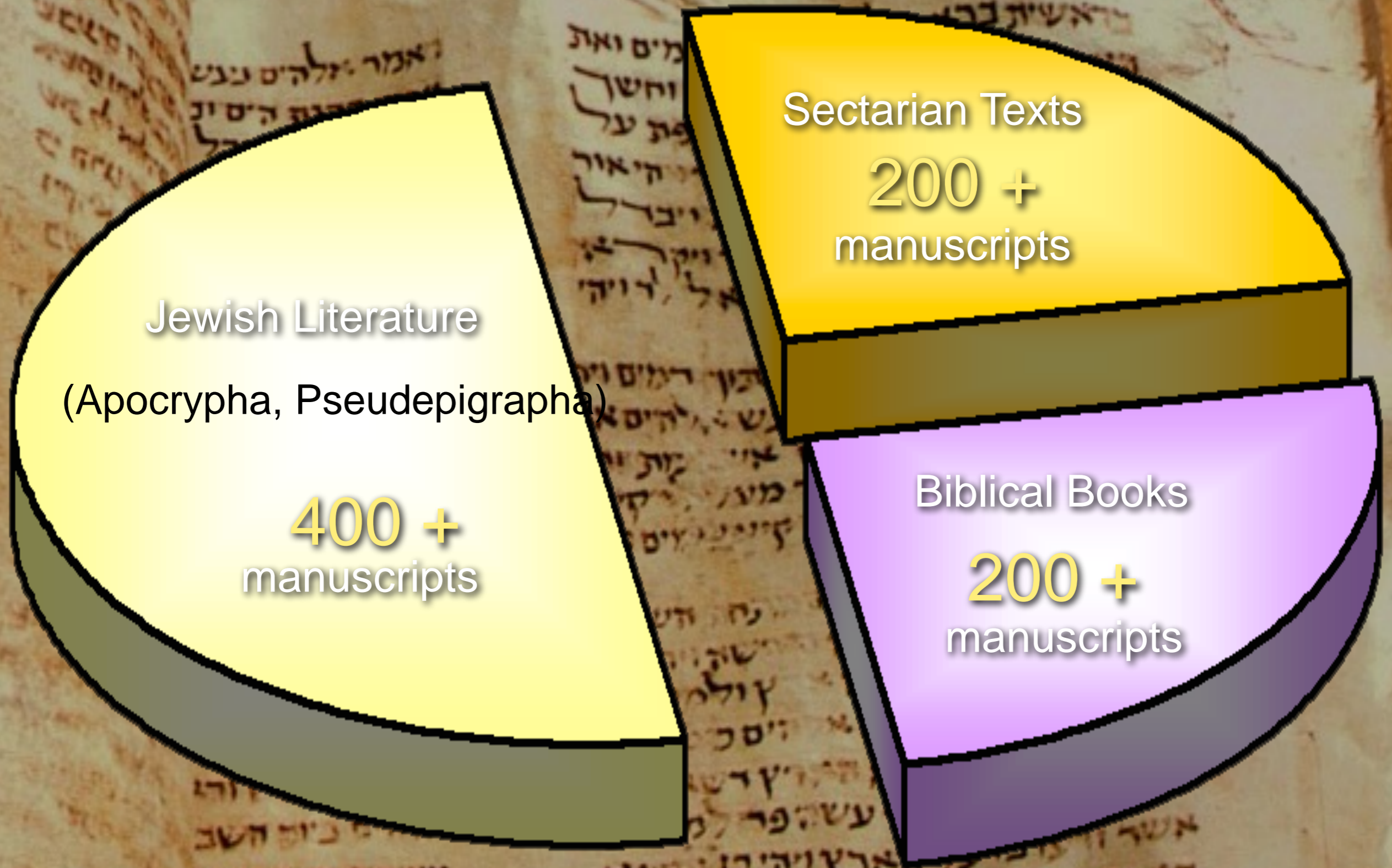
DNA Matches

*Contents Of*



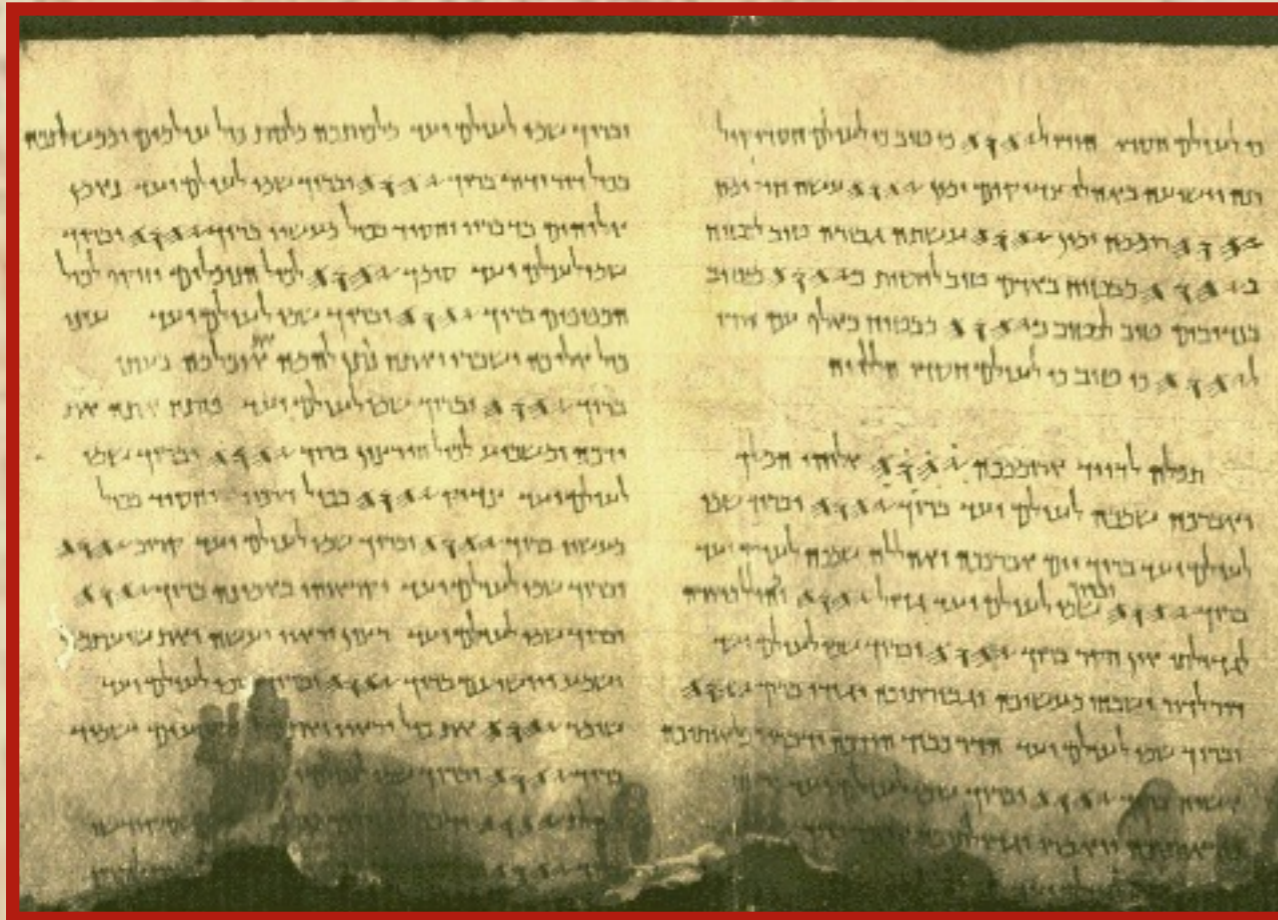
The  
Dead Sea  
SCROLLS

# Classifying the Dead Sea Scrolls



# Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## The Biblical Manuscripts



Psalms Scroll (1Q10-12)



Samuel Scroll (1Q7)

**Whole or fragmentary copies of every book  
of the Old Testament  
(Except Esther)**

# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## The Biblical Manuscripts



Paleo-Exodus (4Q22) fragment 2



Paleo-Leviticus (11Q1-2)

## 12 Biblical Scrolls In **Paleo-Hebrew** (*pre-exilic script*)

Oldest - Genesis (4Q12)  
Copied 300 B.C.

# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Interpretive Commentaries



Commentary on Habakkuk (1QpHab)



Commentary on Isaiah (4Q162)

**View Prophecies Predicting Messiah  
As Did New Testament Writers**

***“Pierced”  
“Resurrected”***

# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## The Biblical Manuscripts



1QIsa<sup>a</sup>

Great Isaiah Scroll in **Paleo-Hebrew** from Cave 1

***One Complete Intact Scroll***

(Symbols mark Messianic passages)

# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Earliest New Testament Text



Cave 7's roof and sides eroded away

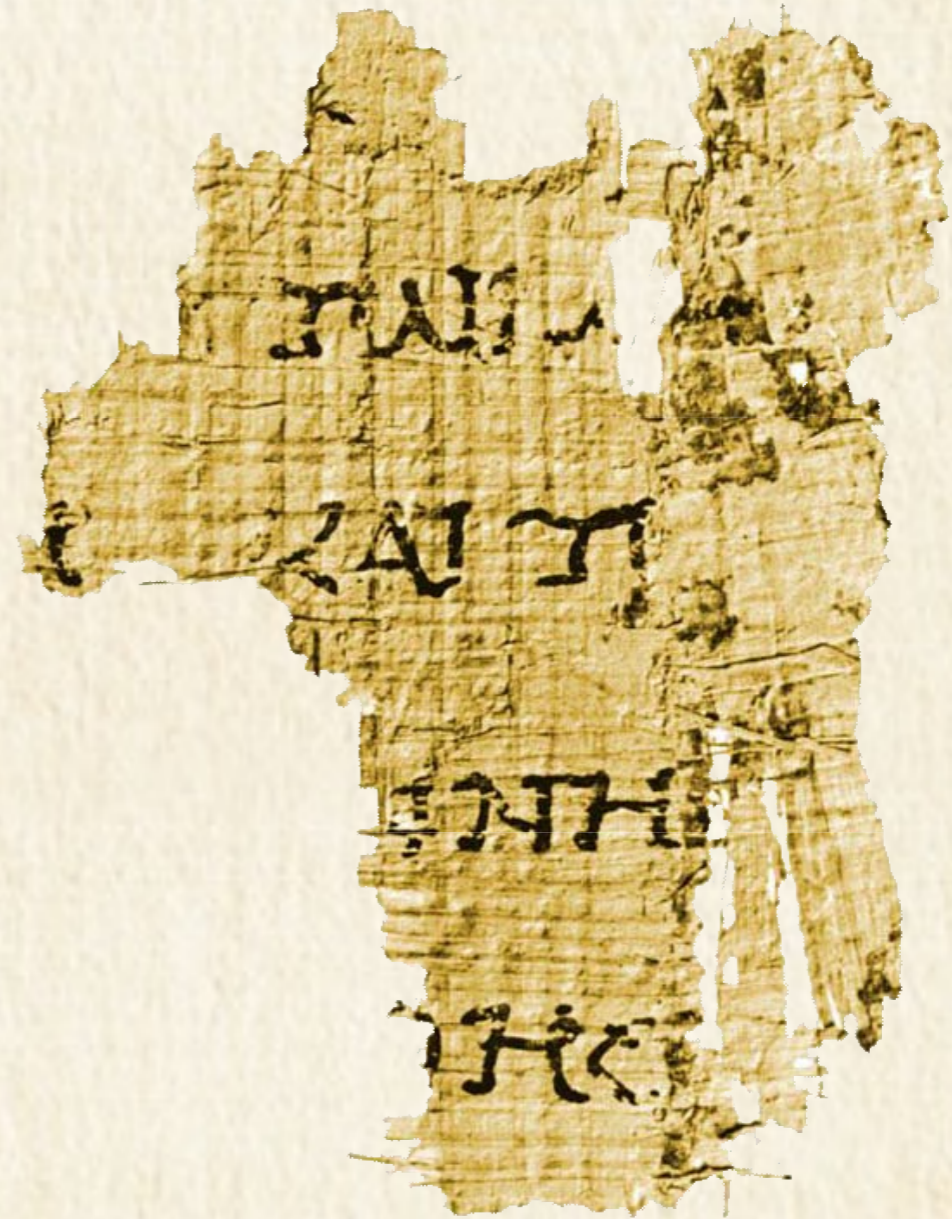


Greek fragments (7Q3-18)



# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Earliest New Testament Text



**Cave 7's roof and sides  
have eroded away.**

**(7Q5)**

# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Earliest New Testament Text

ouj gar sunhnykan e'pi toiv<sup>3</sup> aqrtoiv,

all<sup>TM</sup>Δ h<sup>TM</sup> n aujtw<sup>n</sup> hJ kardia

perwrmene<sup>i</sup>. Kai diaperasante<sup>i</sup>

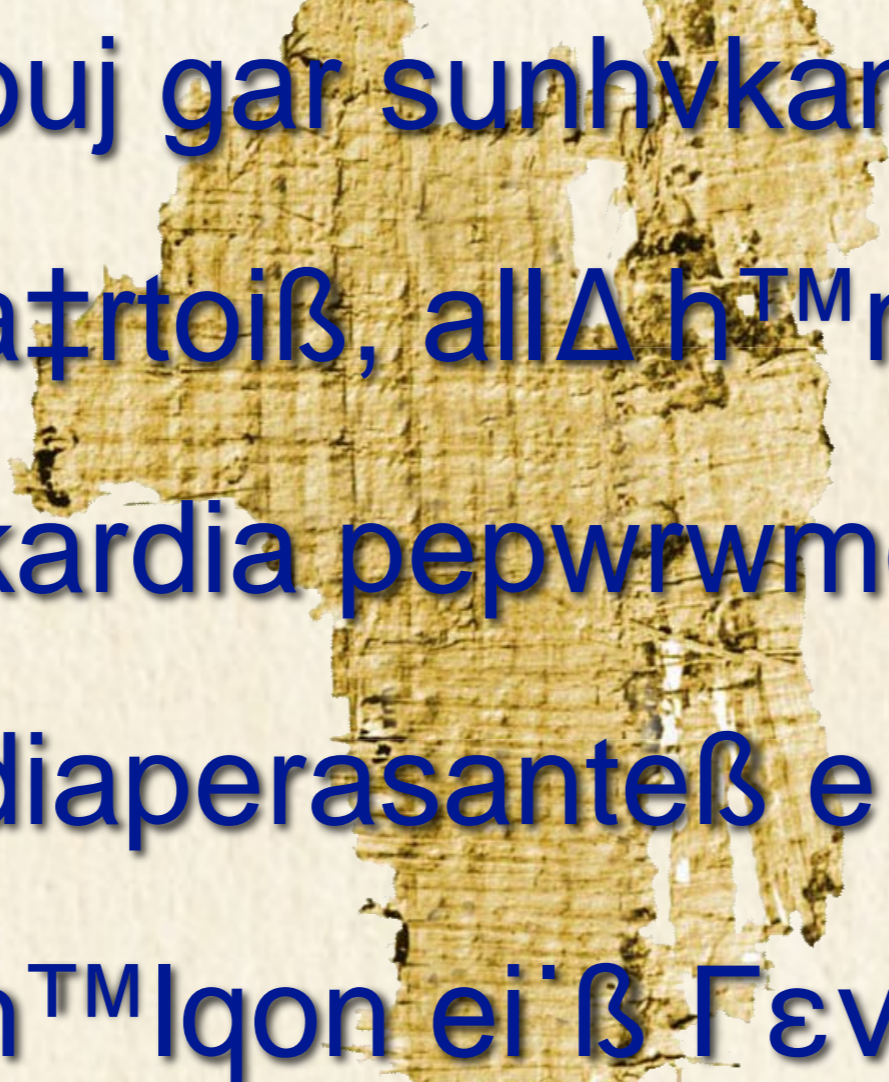
e'pi th<sup>n</sup> ghen h<sup>TM</sup> lqon ei'β

Γέννησαρέτ και proswrmisqhsan.

**Mark 6:52-53**

# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Earliest New Testament Text



ouj gar sunhvkan e`pi toi`v  
a`rtois, allh<sup>TM</sup> n aujtw`n hJ  
kardia pepwrmenh. Kai  
diaperasante`v e`pi th`n ghvn  
h<sup>TM</sup> Iqon ei`v Γεννησαρέτ

kai proswrmisqhsan.  
**Mark 6:52-53**

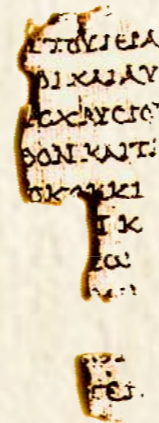
# The Contents of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Earliest New Testament Text

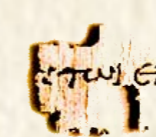
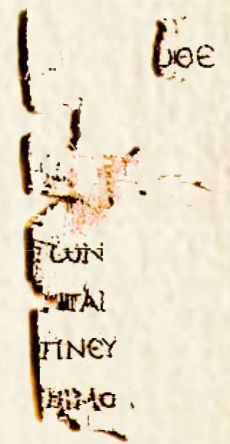
Spanish papyrologist Jose O'Callaghan

- 7Q6A—Mk.4:28
- 7Q15—Mark 6:48
- 7Q5—Mk.6:52, 53
- 7Q7—Mk.12:17
- 7Q6B—A.27:38
- 7Q9—Rom 5:11-12
- 7Q4—1Tim.3:16, 4:1-3
- 7Q10—2Pet.1:15
- 7Q8—Js.1:23, 24

Exodus

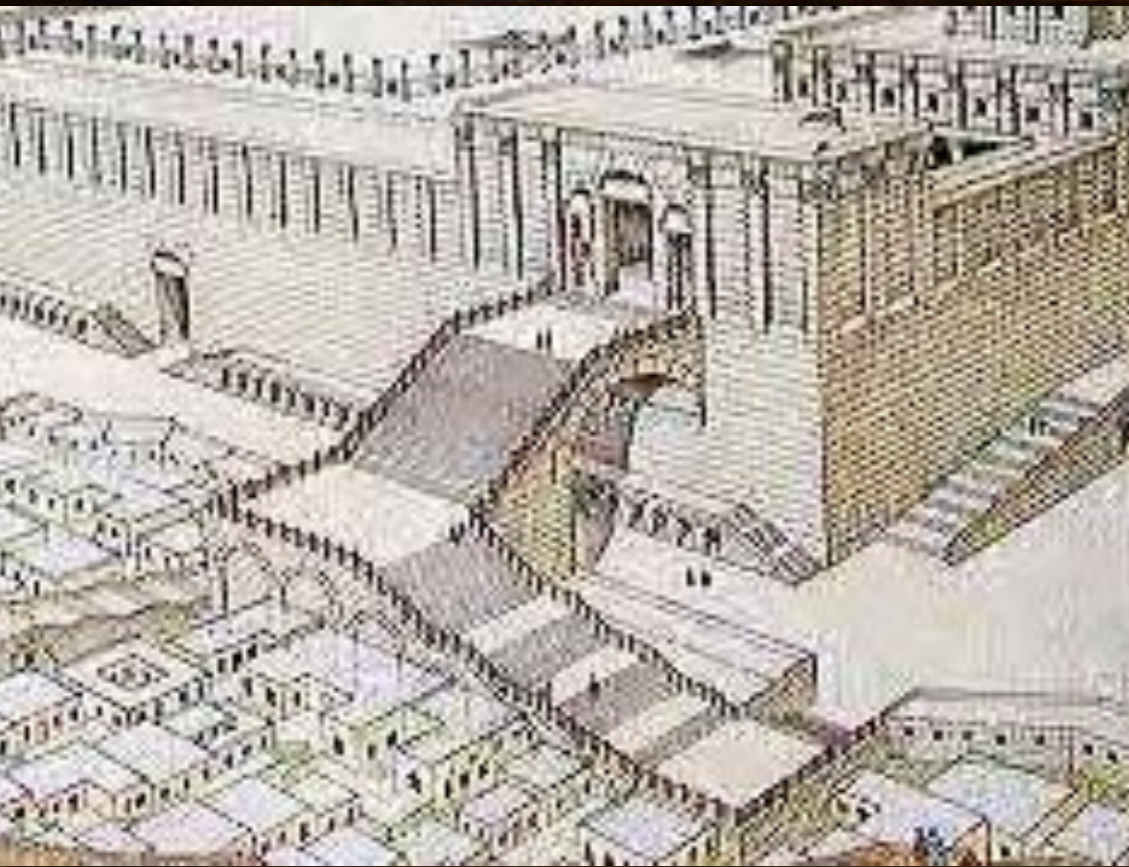


Jeremiah



**Before 68 AD**

Style (papyrology) indicates 50 AD



# Mark 13

2 And Jesus said to him,  
“Do you **see** these  
**great buildings?**”



Occurred  
AD 70

# Mark 13

(Written AD 50)

2 And Jesus said to him,  
“Do you see these  
great buildings?”

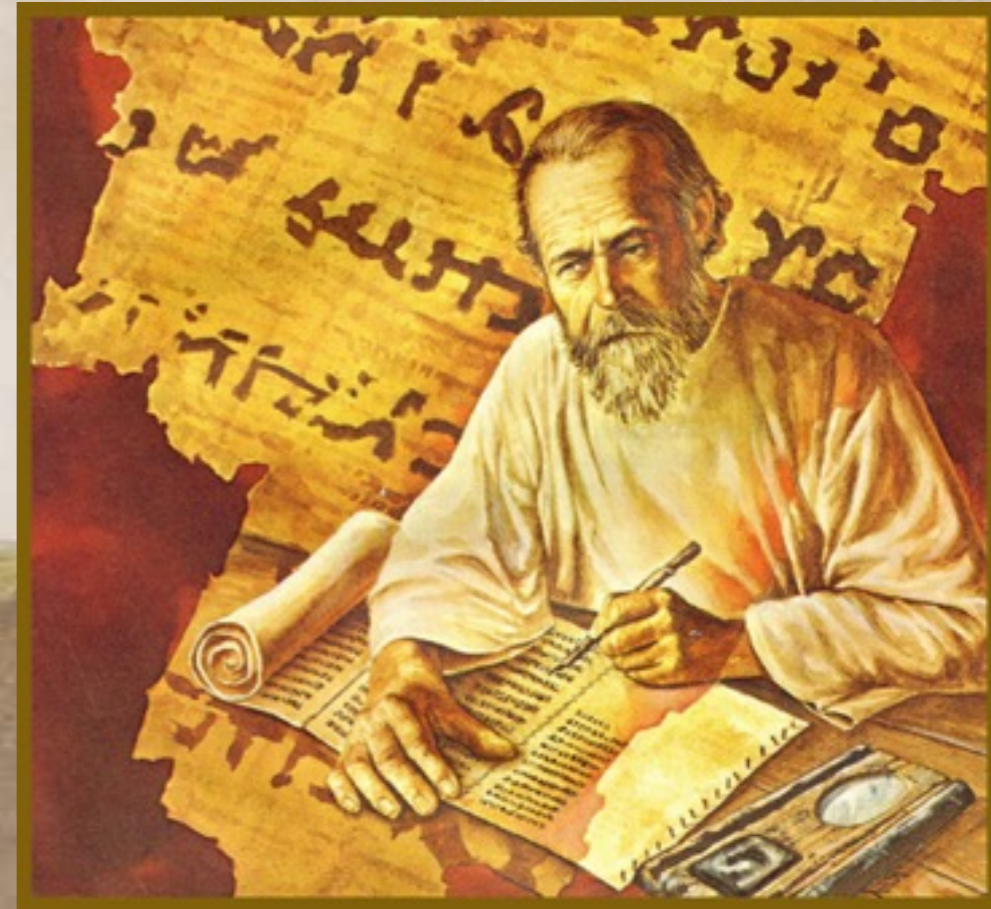
Not one stone will be left upon another  
which will not be torn down.”

*Significance Of*



The  
Dead Sea  
SCROLLS

# Significance



Demonstrates view of Scripture & prophecy, same as New Testament authors.

Destroys idea that faith of New Testament was developed over 100s of years.



# Significance



Like Jesus & Apostles,  
believed Scriptures predicted  
coming Messiah:

*Suffering, Executed, Resurrected*  
*Judge at end of time, on throne of God*

# Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Accuracy of Textual Transmission



Copying  
methodology  
reveals extreme  
care and great

חָבַר אֲשֶׁהִים אַחַת שְׁמִי וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ	- 1586
דָּעַל פְּנֵי תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ	- 1359
פְּנֵי הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם	- 1864
וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד	- 1714
אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ	- 1697
תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת	- 1596
הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם	- 1259
וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד	- 1850
אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ	- 1694
תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת	- 1048
הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם	- 1393
וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד	- 1244
אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ	- 1279
תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת	- 1044
הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם	- 1538
וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד	- 1510
אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ	- 1012
תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת	- 1740
הַיָּם וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם	- 1865
וְאֶחָד אֶרֶץ תְּהוֹמוֹת הַיָּם	-
total	28292

Every letter was  
counted!



Every Book Of Old Testament  
Represented  
**Over 1,000 years older**  
than previous manuscripts!

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Aleppo Codex**

**Masoretic Text**

**AD 1**

**AD 500**

**AD 900**

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Isaiah Scroll**

**Over 1000 Years Earlier**



**Aleppo Codex**

**Dead Sea Scrolls**

**Masoretic Text**

**125 BC**

**AD 1**

**AD 500**

**AD 900**

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Isaiah Scroll**

**Over 1000 Years  
Earlier**



**Aleppo Codex**

**How Do They Compare?**

**Identical, Word-For-Word  
In More Than 95% Of The Text**

**Less Than 5% Variation**  
*(tense and spelling errors)*

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Isaiah Scroll**

**Over 1000 Years  
Earlier**



**Aleppo Codex**

**How Do They Compare?**

**No Substantive  
Difference!**

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Latest OT Autograph  
Written About  
BC 325**

About  
25  
Years



**Oldest Dead Sea Scroll  
Written About  
BC 300**

**Less Than A Generation Removed  
(The Generation Closest To Original)**



# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls



**Latest OT Autograph  
Written About  
BC 325**

About  
25  
Years

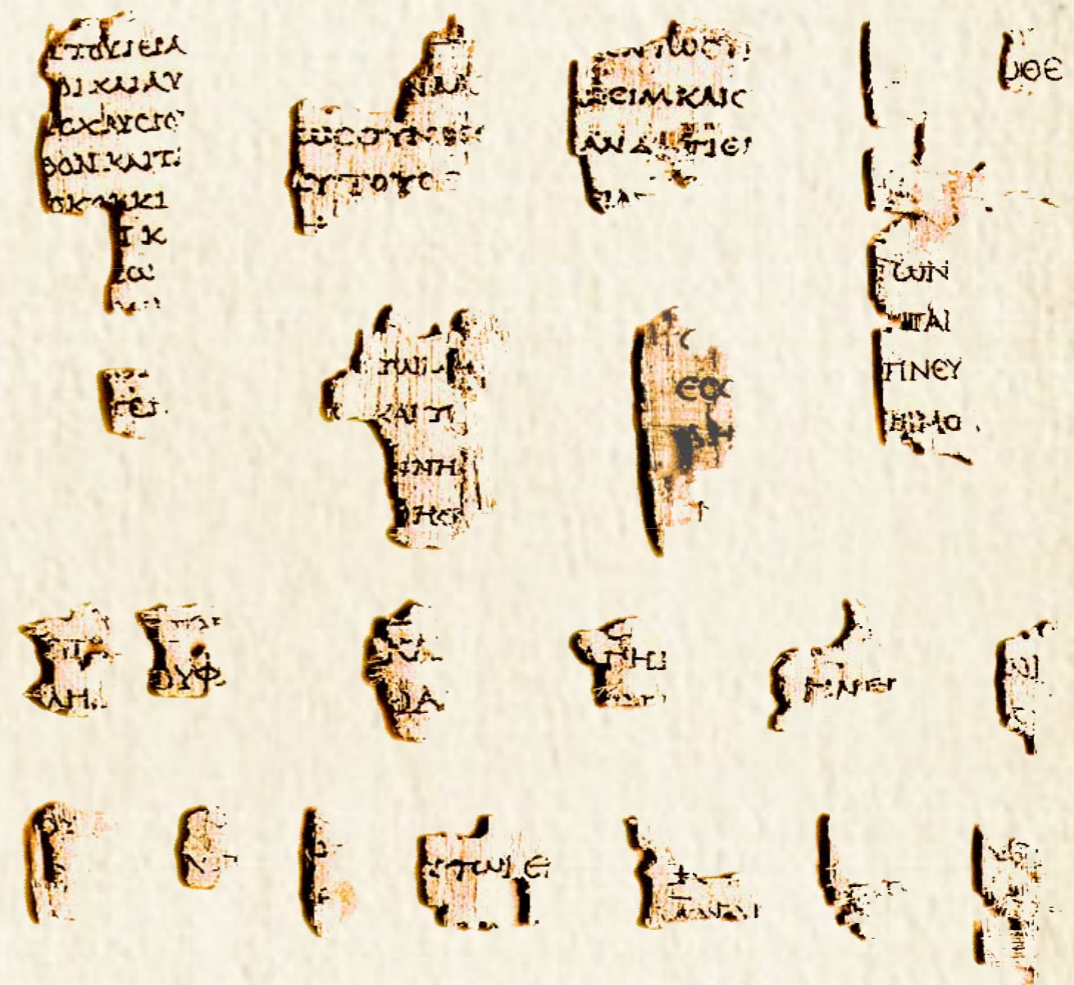


**Oldest Dead Sea Scroll  
Written About  
BC 300**

**Less Than A Generation Removed  
(The Generation Closest To Original)**

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls

## Earliest New Testament Text



**Proof N.T. Written  
During Lifetime Of Eye Witnesses  
Before Events Foreseen In Prophecy**

# Significance For Darwin



“But I was very unwilling to give up my belief;—...”

# Significance For Darwin



“But I was very unwilling to give up my belief;—... I can well remember often inventing day-dreams of old letters between distinguished Romans and **manuscripts being discovered at Pompeii or elsewhere ...**

# Significance For Darwin



“But I was very unwilling to give up my belief;—... I can well remember often inventing day-dreams of old letters between distinguished Romans and **manuscripts being discovered at Pompeii or elsewhere**

**which confirmed in the most striking manner all that was written in the Gospels.”**

# Significance For Darwin



## Refused Evidence

**But I found it more and more  
difficult, ...**

# Significance For Darwin



## Refused Evidence

But I found it more and more difficult, ...I can indeed hardly see how anyone ought to wish Christianity to be true; for if so the plain language of the text seems to show that the men who **do not believe**, and this

would include my **Father, Brother** and **almost all my best friends**, will be everlastingly punished. ...

# Significance For Darwin



## Refused Evidence

But I found it more and more difficult, ...I can indeed hardly see how anyone ought to wish Christianity to be true; for if so the plain language of the text seems to show that the men who **do not believe**, and this

would include my **Father, Brother** and **almost all my best friends**, will be **everlastingly punished**. And this is a **damnable doctrine**."



# Compare Other Early Manuscripts



Title	Date Writ.	Earliest M.	Num. Of M.	Orig. to M.
Homer	700 BC	300 BC	673	400 yrs

# Quoted Manuscripts



Early Church Fathers Wrote  
**Commentaries**

Over One Million  
Quotations Of NT

*“...if all other sources of our knowledge of text of the New Testament were destroyed, would be sufficient alone for the reconstruction of practically the **entire New Testament.**”*

*Bruce Metzger & Bart Ehrman*



**5,600**

**Manuscripts**

**Av. 405 pages each**

**(2.6 million pages)**

**+10,000 MSS  
Latin**

**+5,000 MSS  
Coptic, Syriac, Georgian,  
Eithiopic, Armenian**

# Very Early Manuscripts



**1<sup>st</sup> Century** - 2 confirmed fragments  
8 probable fragments  
16 contested fragments

**2<sup>nd</sup> Century** - 12 MSS

**3<sup>rd</sup> Century** - 64 MSS

**100+ Witness**

**Within 200 Years Of Autographs**

**No Substantive Variants!**



# Sir Frederic Kenyon

Director  
(For 21 years)  
British Museum Of Natural History

“It cannot be too strongly asserted that in substance the **text of the Bible is certain**: especially is this the case with the New Testament. ...”



# Sir Frederic Kenyon

Director  
(For 21 years)  
British Museum Of Natural History

“The **number** of manuscripts of the New Testament, of early translations from it, and of **quotations** from it in the oldest writers of the Church, is so large that it is practically certain that the true reading of **every doubtful passage is preserved** in some one or other of these ancient authorities.”



# Sir Frederic Kenyon

Director  
(For 21 years)  
British Museum Of Natural History

“This can be said of no other ancient book in the world.”

# Isaiah 40



7 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
When the breath of the LORD blows  
upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8  
The grass withers, the flower fades, But  
the word of our God stands forever.



# John 12

48 "He who rejects  
Me and does not

receive My sayings, has one who judges him;  
the word I spoke is what will judge him ...





# Compare Other Early Manuscripts



Title	Date Writ.	Earliest M.	Num. Of M.	Orig. to M.
Homer	700 BC	300 BC	673	400 yrs
Herodotus	424 BC	AD 900	8	1324 yrs
Plato	335 BC	AD 900	7	1235 yrs
Aristotle	384-322B	AD 1100	49	1222 yrs
Ceasar	100-44	AD 900	10	944 yrs
Josephus	AD 70	AD 400	9	330 yrs
Tacitus	AD 100	AD 900	20	800 yrs
N. T.	AD 35-100	AD 66-125	5,366	<50 yrs