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Tsiyon News

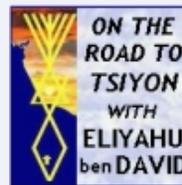
Tsiyon Messianic Radio Newsletter - Vol 7.21 - 03/04/6012 TAM - 05/25/12 AD

The Tishbite Goes Home

Who was that stranger?



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In this issue

- [The Tishbite Goes Home](#)
- [Visit Tsiyon](#)

Recent Programs

- [The Tishbite Goes Home #334](#)
- [Elijah at Mount Carmel #333](#)
- [Elijah in the Smelting Place #332](#)
- [Elijah the Tishbite Appears #331](#)
- [Satanic Conspiracy in Israel #330](#)
- [Sealed Among My Talmidim #329](#)
- [Targum Isaiah Insights #328](#)
- [Immanuel in Three Strands #327](#)
- [God With Us #326](#)
- [Targum Isaiah Reveals a Divine Messiah #325](#)
- [The WORD is Jewish! #324](#)
- [Lifting Up Messiah! #323](#)
- [Mystery of Elohim #322](#)
- [Shake Up In Washington #321](#)
- [Cracks in Washington #320](#)
- [Occult America 2012 #319](#)
- [Witch War Woes #318](#)
- [Bosheth Infiltration #317](#)
- [Bosheth Unmasked #316](#)
- [Eliyahu's Testimony #315](#)
- [Your Graven Image of YHWH #314](#)
- [Being a Bondslave #313](#)
- [After "Go!" #312](#)
- [Death or Deliverance #311](#)
- [Chariot at the Temple #310](#)
- [Your High Places #309](#)
- [Go! #308](#)
- [Compass from the Ashes #307](#)
- [Compass in the Ashes #306](#)

Contest!

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"Out of Tsiyon,
the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth" Psalm 50:2

Tsiyon News



May's EBD Crossword Contest

There's still time!

You can find this latest crossword puzzle on my website blog at elijahubendavid.com. Do it for fun or do it to win a prize.

TSIYON PARTNER MEETING

Partners - Are you having trouble accessing the latest Tsiyon

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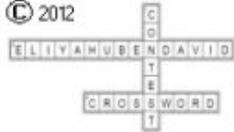
Beersheba - Southern Border of the Kingdom of Judah

Source: Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs - mfa.gov.il



ELIYAHU BEN DAVID

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CROSSWORD
CONTEST

Tel Sheva, the mound of biblical Beersheba, is located in the northern Negev, several kilometers east of the present-day city of Be'er Sheva. The Arabic name of the mound, Tell es-Sab'a, preserves the biblical name; the archeological finds support its identification with biblical Beersheba.

The ancient town was built on a low hill on the bank of a wadi (dry river-bed), which carries floodwater during the winter months. A close-to-the-surface aquifer along the wadi ensured the year-round supply of water.

Beersheba is first mentioned in the biblical account of God's revelation to the patriarchs (Gen. 26:23-25; 46:1) and its name is derived from the Hebrew word shevu'a (oath) or shiv'a (seven) as elaborated in Gen. 21:31 and 26:33. Beersheba symbolized the southern boundary of the Land of Israel, as in the phrase from Dan to Beersheba. (Judges 20:1; 1 Samuel 3:20; and 1 Kings 5:5)

A large area of the site was excavated between 1969 and 1976, producing several layers of the remains of settlement, including fortified towns of the early Israelite period and the monarchic period of Judah, covered by remnants of small fortresses dated from the Persian to the Roman periods.

The earliest remains of settlement at Beersheba are a number of rock-hewn dwellings (12th-11th centuries BCE) and a 20 m.-deep well supplying fresh water to the inhabitants of the first permanent unfortified settlement of Israelites of the Tribe of Simon. (Joshua 19:2)

By the end of the 11th century BCE, a fortified settlement was established at Beersheba with the houses built close to one another on the hill's summit, forming an outer, circular defensive wall with only a narrow opening for a gate. The houses opened inwards, towards a central square, where livestock was kept.

In the mid-10th century BCE, during the monarchic period, the first large fortified city was established at Beersheba, to serve as the administrative center of the southern region of the kingdom. Its area extended over some 10 dunams (2.8 acres) of the hill's summit. It was a planned city, fortified by a solid wall of mudbrick on stone foundations. The city gate, with a four-chambered gatehouse, is typical of Israelite military architecture of that period. The plan of this city, on broad lines, was preserved throughout the next 300 years, during which time it was rebuilt several times.

In the 9th century BCE, a new city wall was erected on the remains of the previous one. The new casemate wall was composed of two parallel walls with a narrow space between them which was divided into small rooms, creating living and storage spaces within the wall.

The uppermost layer of the mound revealed the 8th century BCE city of Beersheba, a remarkable example of provincial town planning and indicative of the importance of the city for the defense of the southern border of the Kingdom of Judah at the end of the monarchic period. The area of the walled city was divided into quarters; peripheral, circular streets followed the course of the city wall and a main street cut through the center of the town; and all the streets met at the square inside its gate. A planned drainage system was constructed beneath the streets to collect rainwater into a central channel, which carried it under the city gate and outside into the well. An impressive water system was also constructed in the northeast of the city, within the wall, with a stone staircase leading down to a water chamber cut deep into the rock. This sophisticated system assured a regular water supply even in times of long siege.

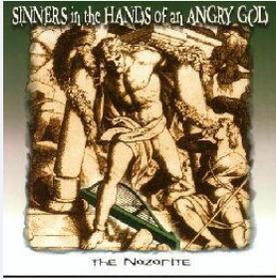
In the eastern part of the city stood a complex of three pillared structures covering an area of 600 m2. This served as the city's storehouse, as is evident from its ground-plan, its location near the city gate and from the hundreds of pottery vessels, including many large storage jars, found there. Next to the city gate also stood the governors palace, with many rooms and three large reception halls. Most of the dozens of houses in the city were built uniformly, with four rooms, one of which served as a courtyard. They were located along the streets and, in the houses abutting the city wall, one room was built into the narrow space in the casemate walls.

The population of Beersheba in the 8th century BCE is estimated at 400-500, including officials and soldiers of the army of Judah stationed in Beersheba, the regional capital of the south.

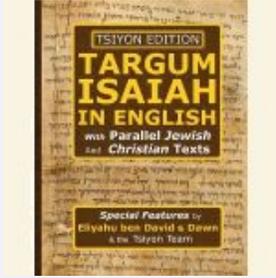
A large horned altar was uncovered at the site. It was reconstructed with several well-dressed stones found in secondary use in the walls of a later building. This altar attests to the existence of a temple or cult center in the city which was probably dismantled during the reforms of King Hezekiah. (1 Kings 18:4)



Our Theme CD



NEW!



Be Prepared



Pass It On

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter, please forward.



The city of Beer-sheba was destroyed by King Sennacherib of Assyria, during his campaign against Judah in 701 BCE. During the 7th century BCE a small settlement existed on the site, its poor and sparse construction indicative of royal neglect; it came to an end when the Babylonians conquered the Kingdom of Judah in 587-6 BCE.

*The site was excavated by Y. Aharoni and the last season by Z. Herzog, on behalf of Tel Aviv University.

From Eliyahu

The Tishbite Goes Home is our latest episode in our on-going teaching on Eliyahu HaNavi a/k/a Elijah the Prophet. Until now the more we progressed through the Biblical account about Elijah, the more questions that have been raised about this mysterious prophet. With this installment of the series, we start solving the enigmas that people have puzzled over for centuries! This latest program is pivotal, so don't miss it.

Shalom,

Eliyahu ben David

www.tsiyon.org

Good News Nugget - GREETINGS TRIBESMEN!!! This is "Wild Man" Dave from the Tsiyon Promo and Media Dept with exciting news for ALL of our partners and friends of *Tsiyon*. Eliyahu has given me this column in the weekly *Tsiyon News* to help equip you to share the *Tsiyon* message. Here you will find a **Good News Nugget** posted each week for you to put to work in Messiah's service.

The latest **Good News Nugget** follows:

HELP FRIENDS + RELATIVES WITHOUT COMPUTERS:

Do you have a friend or a relative who doesn't use a computer but would be blessed by hearing the *On The Road To Tsiyon* program? They can join *On the Road To Tsiyon* via phone or shortwave radio.

Short wave radio station WINB is airing the Tsiyon programming Saturdays at 2 PM EST. Anyone can phone in by dialing (712) 432-7752. Upon calling the number, the caller will hear the radio station identification and then will immediately begin hearing the live radio broadcast of *On the Road to Tsiyon*.

Also your friends or relatives can listen via short wave or emergency radio (emergency radios often have a short wave band on them). To hear *On The Road to Tsiyon*, simply dial SW 9265 or 13570 kHz at 2PM EST on Saturdays.

Email me at help@tsiyon.org, so that we can work together in reaching the scattered remnant of Israel and/or for FREE Tsiyon cards. Shalom, "Wild Man" Dave

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