

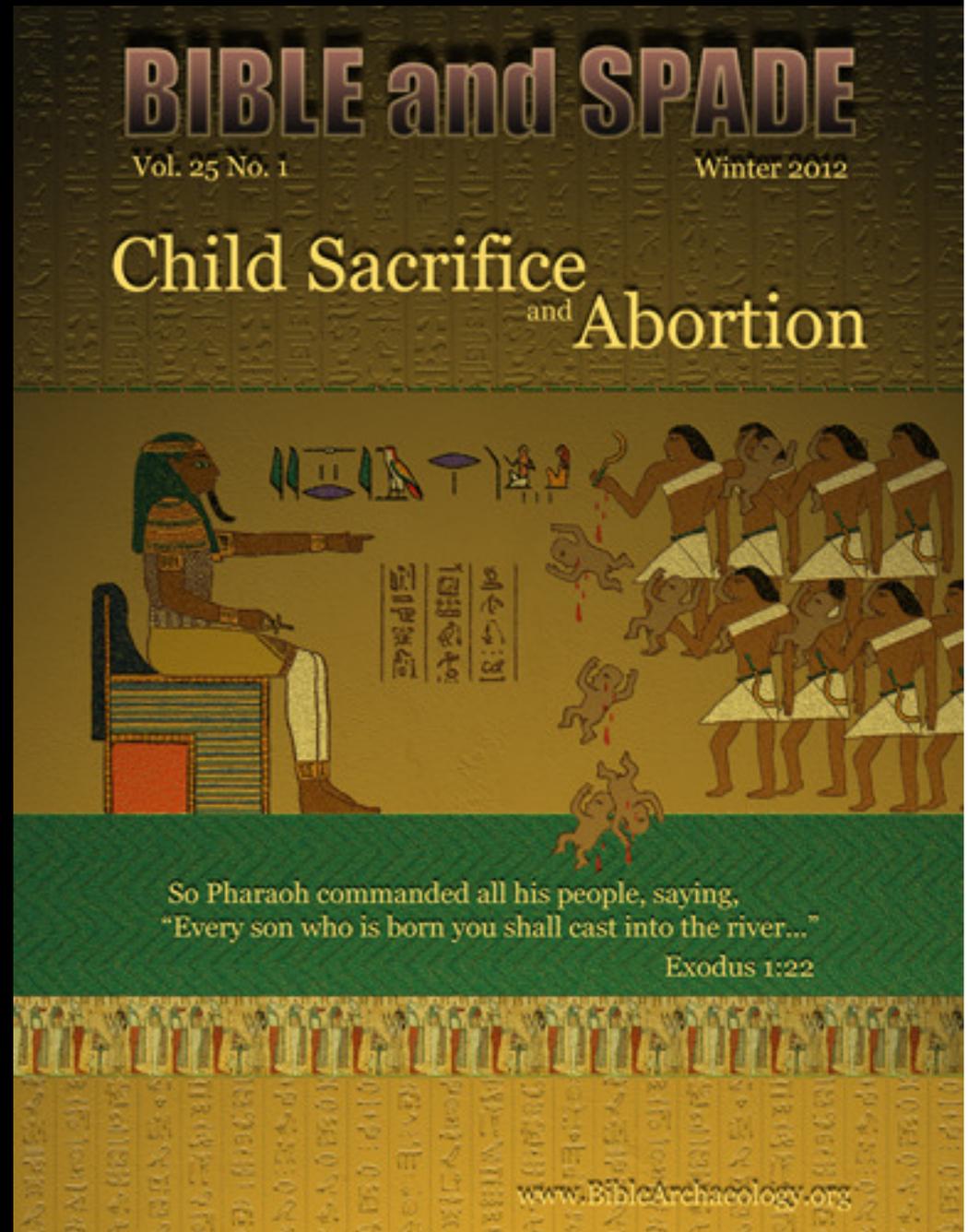
OT Child Sacrifice and Modern Day Abortion

Presented by:

Henry Smith

January 8 and 15, 2017

in ABI



**Sanctity of
Human Life Day
January 15, 2017**



ASSOCIATES FOR
BIBLICAL
RESEARCH

“And Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren. And the Lord granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived. 22 The children struggled together within her, and she said, ‘If it is thus, why is this happening to me?’ So she went to inquire of the Lord...”

Genesis 25: 21-22

“23 And the Lord said to her,
“Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples from within you shall be
divided; the one shall be stronger than the
other, the older shall serve the younger.”
24 When her days to give birth were
completed, behold, there were twins in her
womb [Jacob and Esau]....”

Genesis 25: 23-24

Prohibitions against unlawful killing

“When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined. . . .

But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life...”

Exodus 21:22-23

When is man permitted by God to take human life?

1. Capital Punishment for Murder, a function of civil government (Gen. 9:6; Romans 13:1-8)
2. Just War (Romans 13:1-8). Has a long history in Christian reflection, starting with Augustine. Only a function of human government.
3. Self-Defense- only scenario presented in the Bible where an individual acting outside the authority of the State is permitted to take another life.

OT Child Sacrifice and Modern Day Abortion

BIBLE and SPADE

Vol. 25 No. 1

Winter 2012

Child Sacrifice and Abortion



So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying,
"Every son who is born you shall cast into the river..."

Exodus 1:22

www.BibleArchaeology.org

Psalm 106

BIBLE and SPADE

Vol. 25 No. 1

Winter 2012

Child Sacrifice and Abortion



So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying,
"Every son who is born you shall cast into the river..."

Exodus 1:22

www.BibleArchaeology.org

They served their idols, which became a snare to them. **They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons; they poured out innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood.**

Psalm 106:36-38, ESV



ASSOCIATES FOR
BIBLICAL
RESEARCH

“...what pagans sacrifice they offer
to demons and not to God.

I do not want you to be
participants with demons.”

1 Corinthians 10:20 ESV



ASSOCIATES FOR
BIBLICAL
RESEARCH

“When the LORD your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do the same.’ You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the LORD hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.

(Deuteronomy 12:29-31 ESV)



For the sons of Judah have done evil in my sight, declares the LORD. They have set their detestable things in the house that is called by my name, to defile it. **And they have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into my mind.**

Jeremiah 7:31, ESV

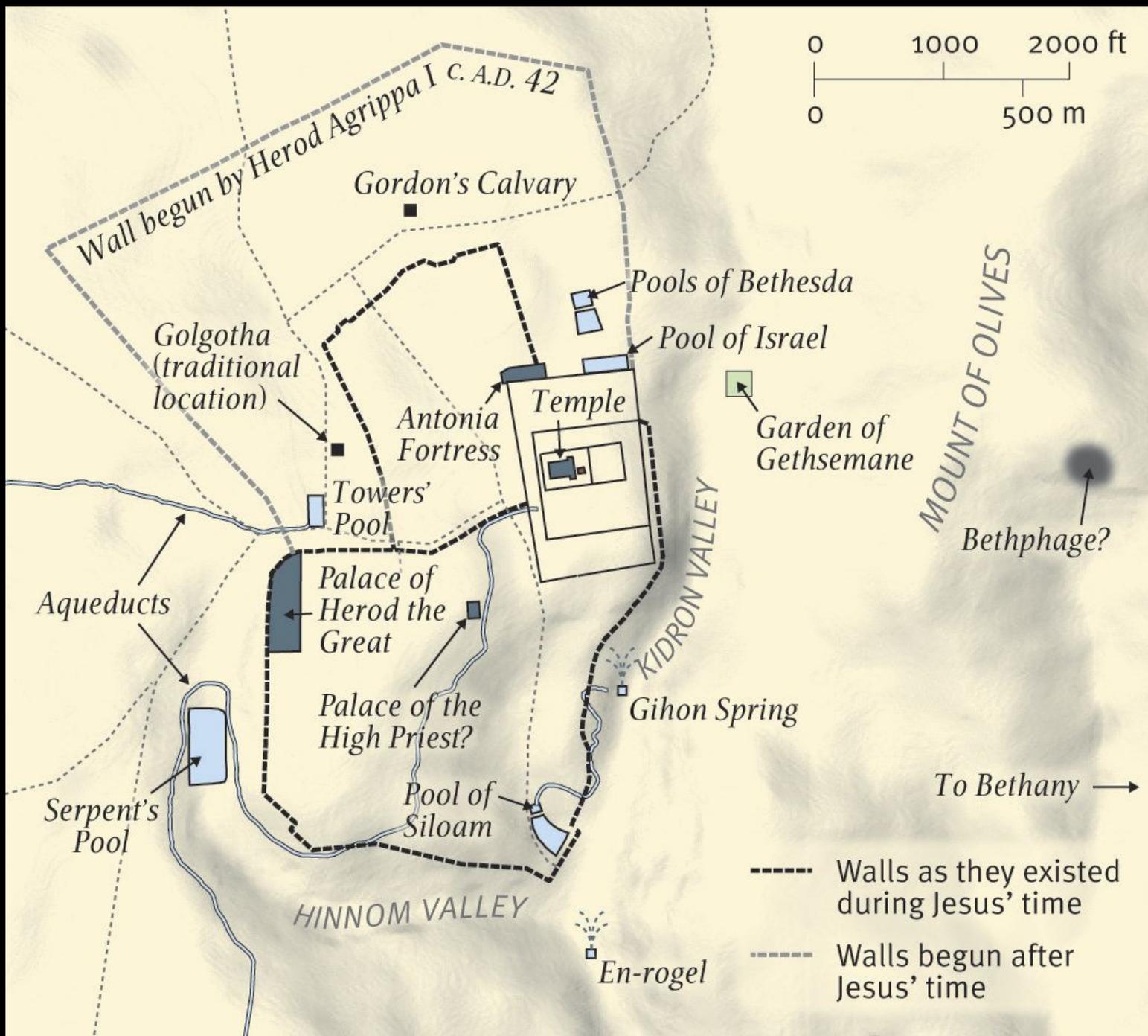


He [Ahaz] even made metal images for the Baals, and he made offerings in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom **and burned his sons as an offering**, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the people of Israel.

(2 Chronicles 28:2-3 ESV)



Hinnom Valley from the Mount of Olives (looking west).



**And they burned their sons
and their daughters as
offerings and used divination
and omens and sold
themselves to do evil in the
sight of the LORD,
provoking him to anger.
—2 Kings 17:17, ESV**

You shall not give any of your children to offer them to **Molech**, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.

Leviticus 18:21, ESV

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Say to the people of Israel, Any one of the people of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. I myself will set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given one of his children to Molech, to make my sanctuary unclean and to profane my holy name. (Leviticus 20:1-5 ESV)

And if the people of the land do at all close their eyes to that man when he gives one of his children to Molech, and do not put him to death, then I will set my face against that man and against his clan and will cut them off from among their people, him and all who follow him in whoring after Molech.

(Leviticus 20:1-5 ESV)

Fragment of a papyrus scroll containing Hebrew text, likely a portion of Leviticus 20:1-5. The text is written in a cursive script and is partially obscured by a large tear in the center. The fragment is irregularly shaped and shows signs of age and wear.

Fragment of Leviticus 20:1-5 ESV

Fragment of a papyrus scroll with several lines of ancient Greek text. The text is written in a cursive hand and is partially obscured by two red arrows pointing to specific characters. The fragment is irregularly shaped and shows signs of age and wear.



Fragment of ancient Hebrew text with two red arrows pointing to specific words.

Fragment of ancient Hebrew text, likely from the Dead Sea Scrolls. The text is written in a cursive script and is arranged in several lines. Two red arrows point to specific words in the second and third lines from the top. The fragment is irregularly shaped and shows signs of age and wear.

In summation, the Biblical data yields a variety of formulas, including terminology such as: high place, tophet, fire, Molech, Baal.

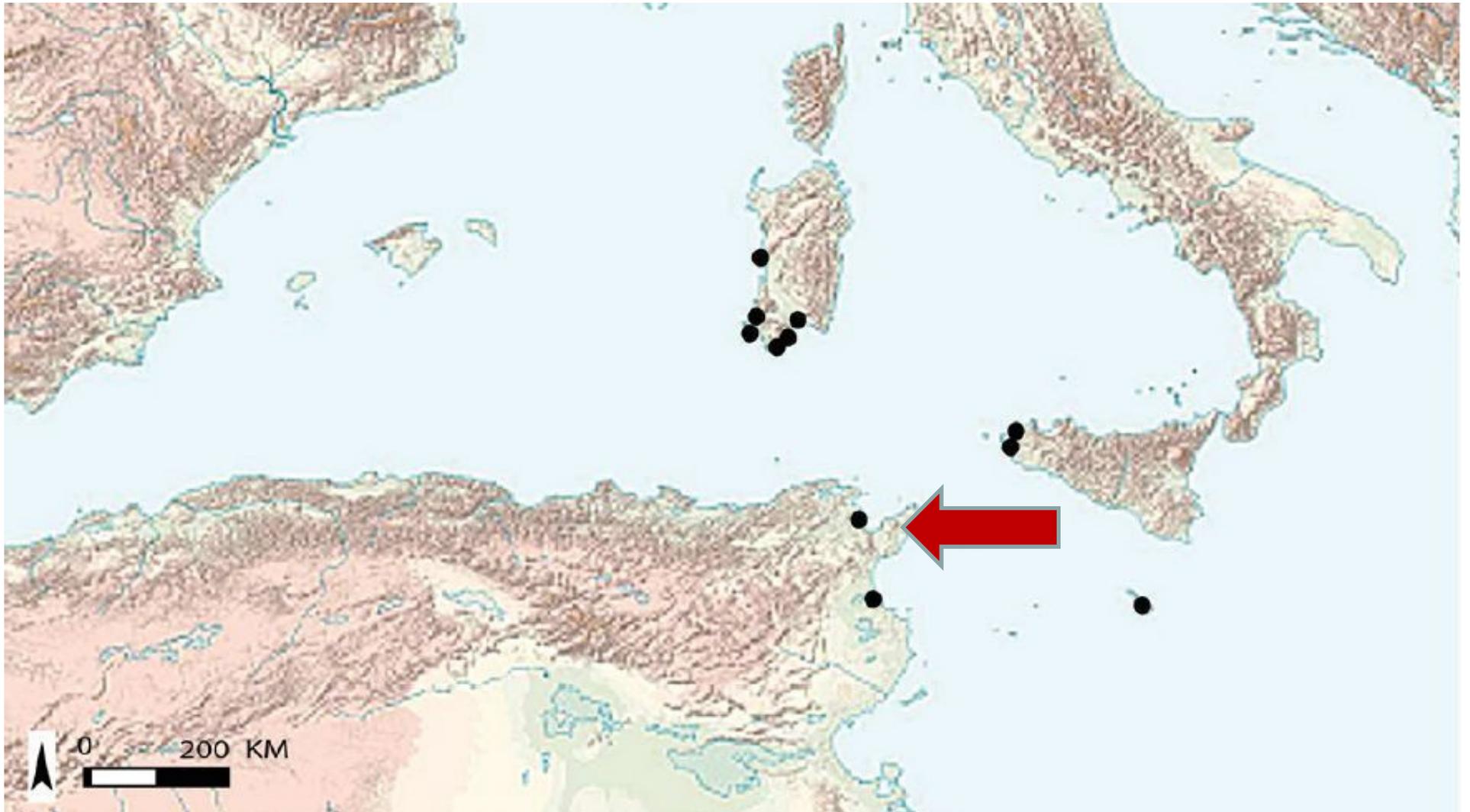
over long periods of time,

and explicitly connects the practice to demonic influence.





The Empire of Carthage (in Dark Blue)



Tophets identified in the western
and central Mediterranean



The Tophet at Carthage

The two principle
Carthaginian deities
were Tanit-Ashtart and
Ba'al Hammon.

Tanit-Ashtart and Ba'al Hammon

have distinctive Canaanite origins, both affirmed by archaeology. Tanit is represented on some of the Carthaginian stelae with an upraised hand(s) or triangles with extended lines and circles that represent upraised hands. Ba'al Hammon is typically represented by a disk and crescent.



“The people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served *the Baals and the Ashtaroth*...And they forsook the LORD and did not serve him”
(Judges 10:6, ESV).





Limestone
stela, dated
to the 2nd
century BC.
Dedicated
by Gaius
Julius Arish,
son of
Adon-Baal.

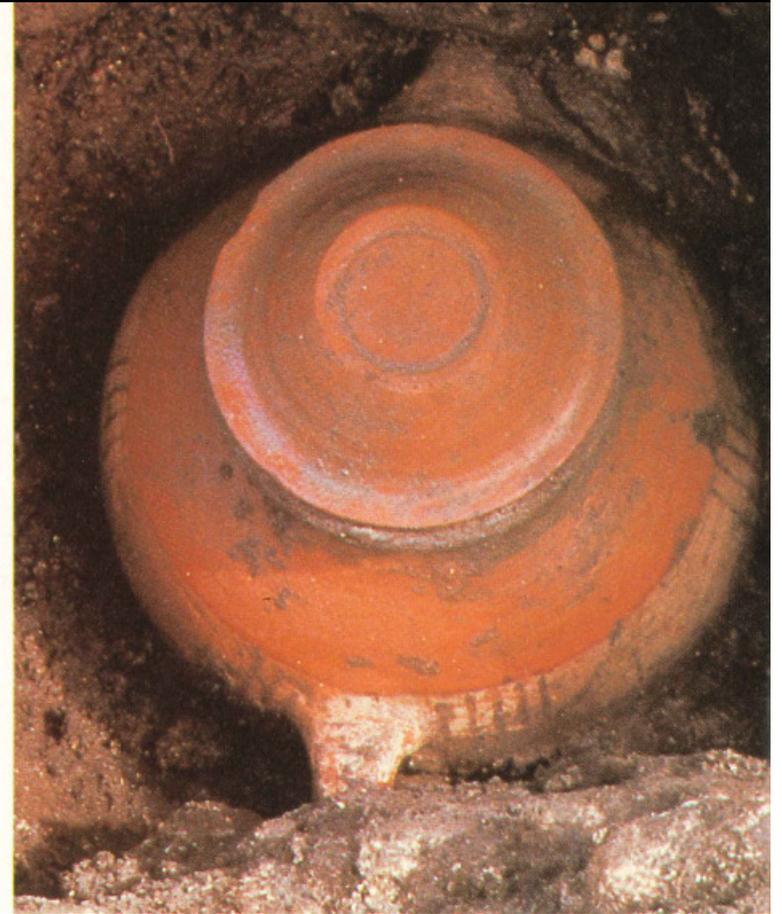
“To our lady, to Tanit,
the face of Ba ‘al, and
to our lord, to Ba’al
Hammon, that which
was vowed”.





Limestone stela from 300-146 BC. The Inscription tells us that Bod'ashtart, son of Hanno, has dedicated his child to the goddess Tanit. Note the crescent moon at the top.





Seventh century BC burial urn from Carthage, showing the charred remains of an infant.

Do we have evidence “closer” to
the Phoenician/Canaanite
homeland?

“Out of reverence for Kronos (the Greek equivalent of Ba'al Hammon), the Phoenicians, and especially the Carthaginians, whenever they seek to obtain some great favor, vow one of their children, burning it as a sacrifice to the deity if they are especially eager to gain success.”

- 3rd B.C. Greek author Kleitarchos



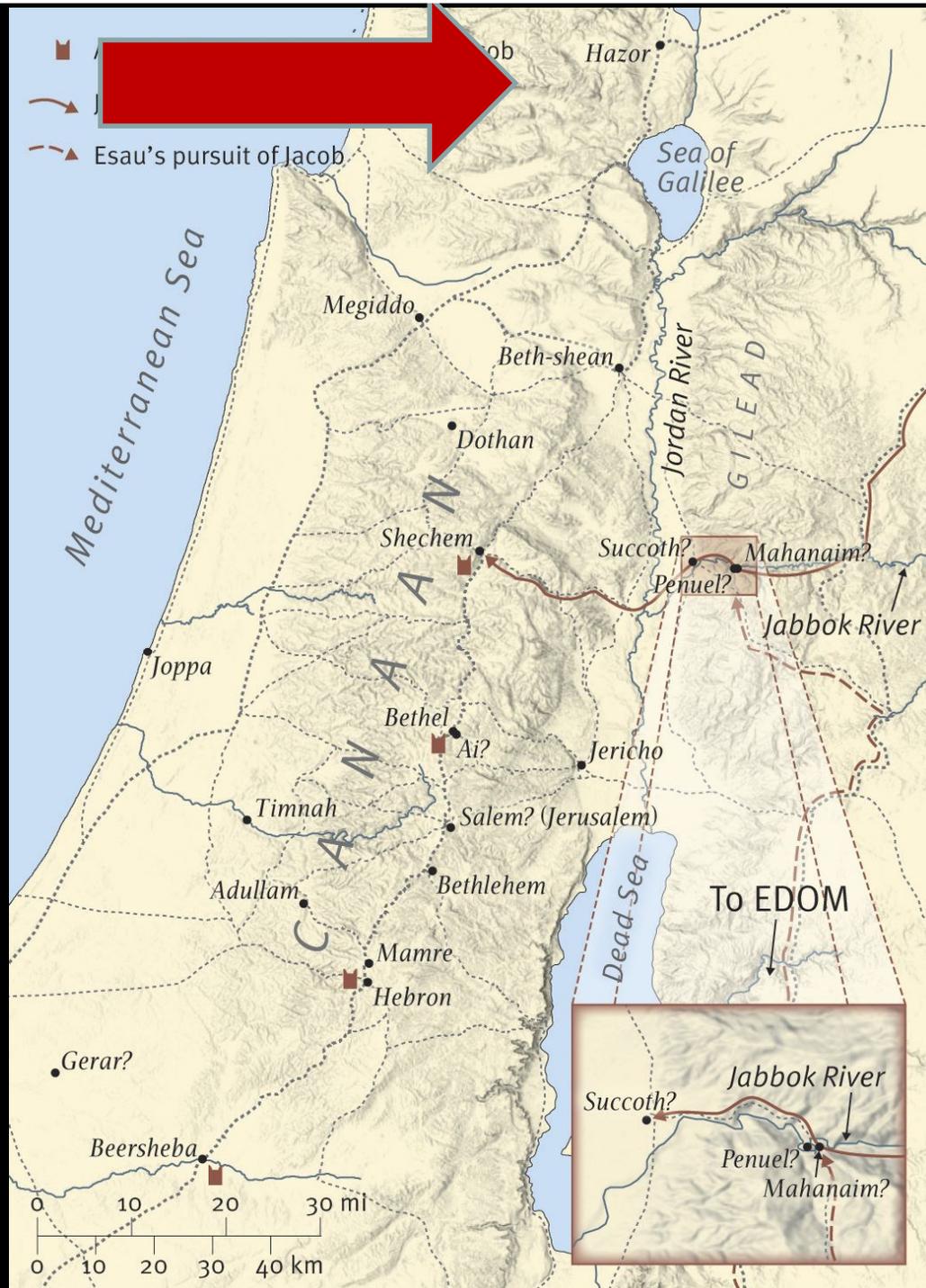
Sarepta Inscription (Zarephath)



“The four-line inscription of the plaque, written in ancient Phoenician characters, reads “This statue made (by) Shillem, son of Mabaal, son of Inai for Tanit-Ashtart.” This is the oldest reference to Tanit found to date and it identifies the shrine and cultic objects as dedicated to Tanit and another Phoenician deity, Ashtart or Astarte, goddess of fertility. Astarte [Ashtoreth] is mentioned in the Bible at a number of places, e.g. Judges 10:6, 1 Kings 11:5, 33 and 2 Kings 23:13.18”

--Dr. Bryant Wood







Discovered
at Hazor
By Yigael
Yadin

And dated
to ca. 1200
BC the
time of the
Judges



ASSOCIATES FOR
BIBLICAL
RESEARCH



A Carthaginian
“Priest” with a
child under his
arm...