

Shiloh

Shiloh is the first place the tabernacle of Moses was set up permanently as described in 1 Samuel. It was overrun by the Philistines in the days of the High Priest Eli and moved to the High Place of Gibeon by Samuel. It was first occupied in the Bronze Age (1750-1550 BC) and glaci setting against a large city wall from this time can still be seen. Excavations have



uncovered no residences which seems to indicate that Shiloh was only a cultic site of worship for people traveling to the site (1400-1200 BC). The Israelites simply set up their worship center where the Canaanites had been holding services for 200 years. The Israelite's use of Shiloh came to an end in 1050 BC when the Philistines captured the Ark in battle and followed the retreating Israel army back into Shiloh to burnt the tabernacle. Shiloh is never seen again in Israel's history except as a warning to the people of Jeremiah's day. In 1100-900 BC, after Israel's worship center had moved to the High Place of Gibeon, and then, to Jerusalem, two houses were cut into the glaci that had protected the wall in the 1500's BC.

In the Bible: **Jos.18:1**, Israel sets up tabernacle after having come out of the wilderness; **1 Sm.3:2-15**, a permanent type of temple is built for the Ark at Shiloh; **Judges 21:19**; **1 Sm.1:3**, Israelites would travel annually to worship at Shiloh; **1 Sm.4:1-18**, The Ark of the Covenant is captured and Shiloh is destroyed by Philistines; **Jer.7:1-7**, Jeremiah uses God's destruction of Shiloh as proof that God will destroy the Jerusalem Temple.



Attempts to locate the place of the tabernacle have been many and futile since occupation and building during the Roman/Byzantine periods destroyed any evidence. The above photo presents merely a possible location