

ruler who would have that many horses and horsemen particularly in a land like Palestine which is not ordinarily a place which has a great many horses in it. Egypt is the great land ~~xxxx~~ of horses after the early days. In Egypt they have the finest horses, Pharaoh's horsemen are known throughout the ancient East. But in Palestine horses were always comparatively uncommon. It is one of the commands in Deuteronomy that the king shall not send to Egypt and get horses and build up a great establishment with horses.

When I rode through Palestine for three weeks on horseback, it was rather unpleasant every time you would meet another horse because it happened so comparatively seldom that my horse wasn't accustomed to seeing other horses. Of course, there were in our party seven or eight horses, but he wasn't accustomed to seeing strange horses, and the minute that ~~xxxx~~ a horse would come before I could perhaps see it, my horse would go right up on his hind legs and be ready for a fight and begin pawing the air. At sometimes it was not extremely easy to hang on under those circumstances. Palestine, at least twenty years ago, was a land of the donkey and the camel, but not the land of the horse. It is comparatively infrequent except when you get over into trans-Jordan.

Well, here we find Solomon with ~~xxxxx~~ a whole city for his horses. A statement which anyone who believes that Solomon was a merely petty king ~~xxxxxx~~ that would simply dismiss with a wave of the hand as the invention of a later age, and yet here at Megiddo you have one of those cities. ~~xxxx~~ One of the great cities of Palestine with a very large portion of the city laid off into stalls and stables for the horses of King Solomon and built on a very fine hill with very excellent workmanship--nothing shoddy about it--very clearly built at one time in accordance with one plan. Subsequently other similar layouts have been found at other places in Palestine coming from this same time. So the evidence is clear, evidence that cannot be gainsaying, that at the time of Solomon there was a powerful ruler in control in Palestine--evidence far stronger than a statement ~~which~~ written on a wall somewhere or a great monument put up to ~~xx~~ celebrate him, which monument might