

hill country. The first of these was the city of Jericho, that powerful fortress which was just in front of them. ~~It is~~ There is a good deal of archaeological material relating to the Israelite conquest of Jericho. In 1903? Prof. S. of the University of Berlin excavated Jericho. He uncovered the walls of the various cities and opened up many of the houses. He found that a number of cities had been built at Jericho, one above the other. A study of the pottery of the different cities at this point shows a break in the civilization here of a number of centuries. Students of pottery found that the pottery of the Canaanite city from about the time of Joshua. The next city on top of it does not have the pottery of the early Israelite city as would be expected but has the pottery as used at the time of the divided kingdom. This break in the sequence of Jericho shows that there was not a fortified city here during a period of several centuries and corroborates the reference to Jericho in Joshua 6-26 where Joshua destroys the city and pronounced a curse upon anyone who should rebuild it and in I Kings 16-34 we are told that in the days of King Ahab, H. the B. rebuilt Jericho with the fulfillment of the curse which Joshua had pronounced. This chapter in the history of Jericho which is recorded in the Bible is thus corroborated in archaeology.

There used to be those who questioned the Biblical account of the down fall of Jericho where we are told that the Israelites marched around the city every day for six days and then on the seventh day they marched around it seven times and the seventh time they marched around it the priests blew their trumpets and the people shouted and the wall of the city fell down in its place. It was said that it would be impossible for an army to march around the city seven times in one day. This would indeed be true of an M center such as N or of a great city such as M but the excavations show that Jericho was not a city of the type of these. They were industrial cities where great masses of people lived and performed their work within the city walls. Jericho was the city of an agricultural community. The people lived on their plots of ground up and down the Jordan valley. some