

A TRIBUTE TO SIEGFRIED H. HORN FOR  
HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY  
AND A NOTE  
ON THE HORN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

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March 17, 1988, was the 80th birthday of Siegfried H. Horn. His eight decades of life reveal a person who from his childhood was determined and purposeful. In his youth Siegfried developed an interest in biblical, historical, and archaeological subjects which rightly can be credited to the influence of his mother, who was a minister and teacher of the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church. Those readers who know Horn personally know also that as he lives to study he also lives to travel. As his mother influenced the direction of his studies, his father Albin Horn, an early aviation pioneer, gave him a love for travel and adventure.<sup>1</sup>

As a student, minister, missionary, scholar, teacher, and dean, Horn set high standards in all areas. Among Seventh-day Adventist scholars he can certainly be seen as a pioneer. Among his many firsts are the following: he established *AUSS* (1963), he initiated the excavations at Heshbon in Jordan (1968), he founded the Archaeological Museum (1970; renamed the Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum in 1974), and as the first Director of the Th.D. program in the early 1970s he established doctoral work in the SDA Theological Seminary on a solid footing, a task he enhanced during his several-year tenure as Seminary Dean before his retirement in 1976. Through his teaching, prolific writings, and in other ways, he has undoubtedly influenced every major contemporary SDA theologian and biblical scholar, as well as making a significant impact on the world of OT scholarship in general, both in North America and abroad.<sup>2</sup>

The staff of the Horn Archaeological Museum had planned to honor Horn's 80th birthday with a rededication of the Museum during the month of March, 1988; but as is common in building projects, there have been unforeseeable delays. In 1982 the Horn Museum moved to a new location across the street from the SDA Theological Seminary. Since that time we

<sup>1</sup> A popular account of Horn's early life has been provided by Joyce Rochat, *Survivor: [A Biography of Siegfried Horn]* (Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 1986).

<sup>2</sup> A monumental 732-page *Festschrift* volume has been published to honor Horn: *The Archaeology of Jordan and Other Studies*, Lawrence T. Geraty and Larry Herr, eds. (Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 1986). The contributions of thirty-three well-known biblical scholars are included.

have been refurbishing the facilities. Lawrence T. Geraty, the former curator, began the process by developing the overall plan, refurbishing the office and work areas and raising almost two-thirds of the funds needed to complete the display area. Since 1985, when Geraty became the president of Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, I have directed the project.

We are now in the last phase of completing the Museum's display area. About a year ago we commissioned Nathan Greene to paint eleven murals, which will be used with the Museum's collections to provide a unique visual display of ancient artifacts in realistic biblical scenes. The last of these murals will be finished in May, 1988.

Although the Museum was not ready to open in March, we will rededicate the Museum in September, 1988; and we wish Horn a happy 80th year and many more happy, healthy years to come.