THE DISCOVERY OF THE LOST FORTRESS OF AI

Bryant G. Wood, PhD (Associates for Biblical Research)

Wednesday, March 20, 7 PM

Lynn Wood Auditorium
(Southern Adventist University)

Synopsis: The location of Joshua’s Ai has been a matter of mystery and controversy since the beginnings of archaeological research in Israel. Scholars have concluded that the location of Joshua’s Ai is at et-Tell. They have also used this conclusion to discredit the Biblical account of Joshua 7-8 because there is no evidence of occupation at et-Tell during the time of Joshua. Since 1995, under the direction of ABR Director of Research Bryant G. Wood,
ABR research and excavation has uncovered important archaeological finds at Khirbet el-Maqatir, just .6 miles (1 km) west of et-Tell. The discoveries include a city gate and wall system, large amounts of pottery from the time of Joshua, evidence of destruction by fire, ancient coins, a house dating to the first century AD, and a Byzantine Monastery. This area is located 9 miles north of Jerusalem. This discoveries provide evidence for a tentative identification of Khirbet el-Maqatir as the Biblical city of Ai.

The Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum Lecture Series is **free** and open to the public. For more information call 423.236.2030 or visit [https://www.southern.edu/archaeology/lectureseries/Pages/lectureseriesprogram.aspx](https://www.southern.edu/archaeology/lectureseries/Pages/lectureseriesprogram.aspx)

Justo Morales  
Museum Coordinator  
Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum  
4960 Industrial Drive  
Collegedale, TN 37315  
O: 423.236.2027  
C: 630.631.8786  
[www.southern.edu/archaeology](http://www.southern.edu/archaeology)