

# The Dead Sea Scrolls:

## The Book of Isaiah



# Timeline of Ancient Israel

- ca. 1950 BCE Abraham migrates from Ur to Palestine
- 1600-1350 Hebrew tribes in Egypt (“Egyptian Captivity”)
- 1350-1300 Exodus: Moses leads Hebrews back to Palestine
- 1300-1020 Rules of Judges
  
- 1020-1005 Union of Hebrew Tribes under Saul
- 1005-965 Reign of David
- 965-925 Reign of Solomon; Construction of First Temple
- ca. 925 Division into Two Kingdom: Israel (N) and Judea (S)
- 722 Assyrians capture/enslave Israel
- 586 Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar defeat Judeans
- 586-538 Babylonian Captivity**
- 538 Cyrus restores Hebrews to Palestine; Second Temple
  
- 70 CE Roman General Titus destroys the Second Temple

# The Pentateuch

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy

# The Authors of the Pentateuch

## J

- Jahweh (JHWH): “He causes to exist” or “He always is”
- Judea (Southern Kingdom)
- simple appearances of God
- “God of my father” (Gen. 32:9)
- Israel will one day triumph over all nations

# The Authors of the Pentateuch

## E

- Elohim (EI)
- Ephraim (Northern Kingdom)
- more complex appearances of God
- contemporaneous with J, but has different perspective on history
- less prominent in Pentateuch than J
- influence of Canaanite culture

# The Authors of the Pentateuch

## P

- Priestly Tradition
- written by First Temple Priesthood
- theme: Purity of Hebrew Community
- lists of abominations (Leviticus)
- “Realms of Existence” (M.L. Douglas)
- “Priestly Blessing”

# The Authors of the Pentateuch

## D

- Deuteronomy
- the text, as we have it, was revised after the Babylonian Captivity
- eloquent and skillfully written
- theme: Centrality of Temple in Jerusalem
- Josiah (ca. 640-625 BCE): 2 Kings 22



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# Evolution toward Monotheism

- local deity: “God of my family”
- Henotheism: “Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (First Commandment)
- Monolatry: “Thou shalt know no god but me” (Hosea 13:4)
- Monotheism: Deutero-Isaiah
- “I am the first and I am the last; beside me there is no god.” (Isaiah 44:6)

# The Moabite Stone

(the Mesha  
Stele)



# Text of the Moabite Stone

I am Mesha ... King of Moab, ... I made this high place for Chemosh in Qarhoh [...] because he saved me from all the kings and allowed me to triumph over all my adversaries. As for Omri, King of Israel, he had humbled Moab many years, for Chemosh was angry at his land (Moab). And his son (Ahab) followed him and he also said, "I will humble Moab." In my time he spoke (thus), but I have triumphed over him and over his house, while Israel has perished forever! . . . Then Chemosh said to me, "Go, take Nebo from Israel!"

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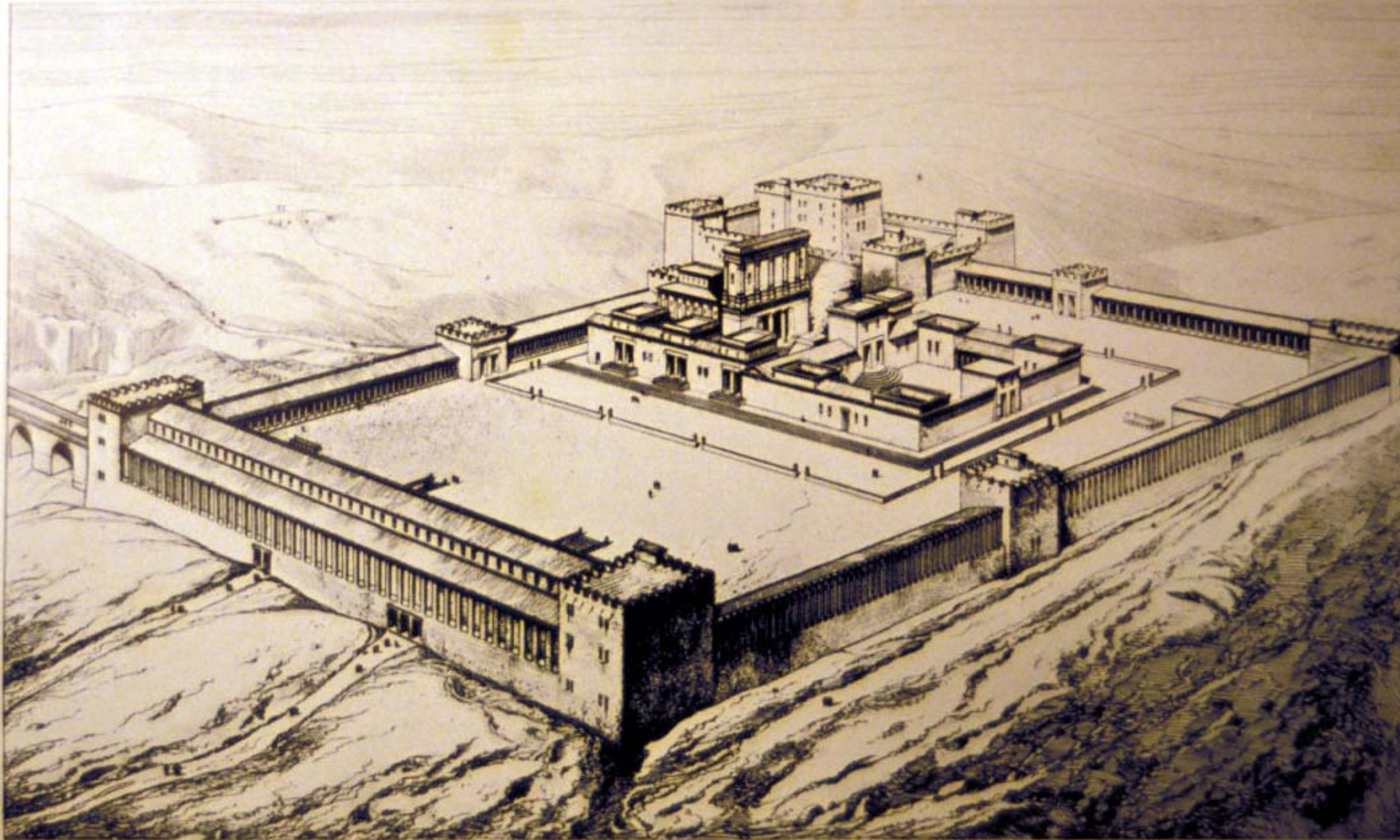
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# JERUSALEM



The Temple as reconstructed by De Vogüé in *Le Temple de Jérusalem*. This great folio was published in 1864, before the field-work of Warren and Wilson, the English pioneer archaeologists. Nearly a century later, it is still regarded by the

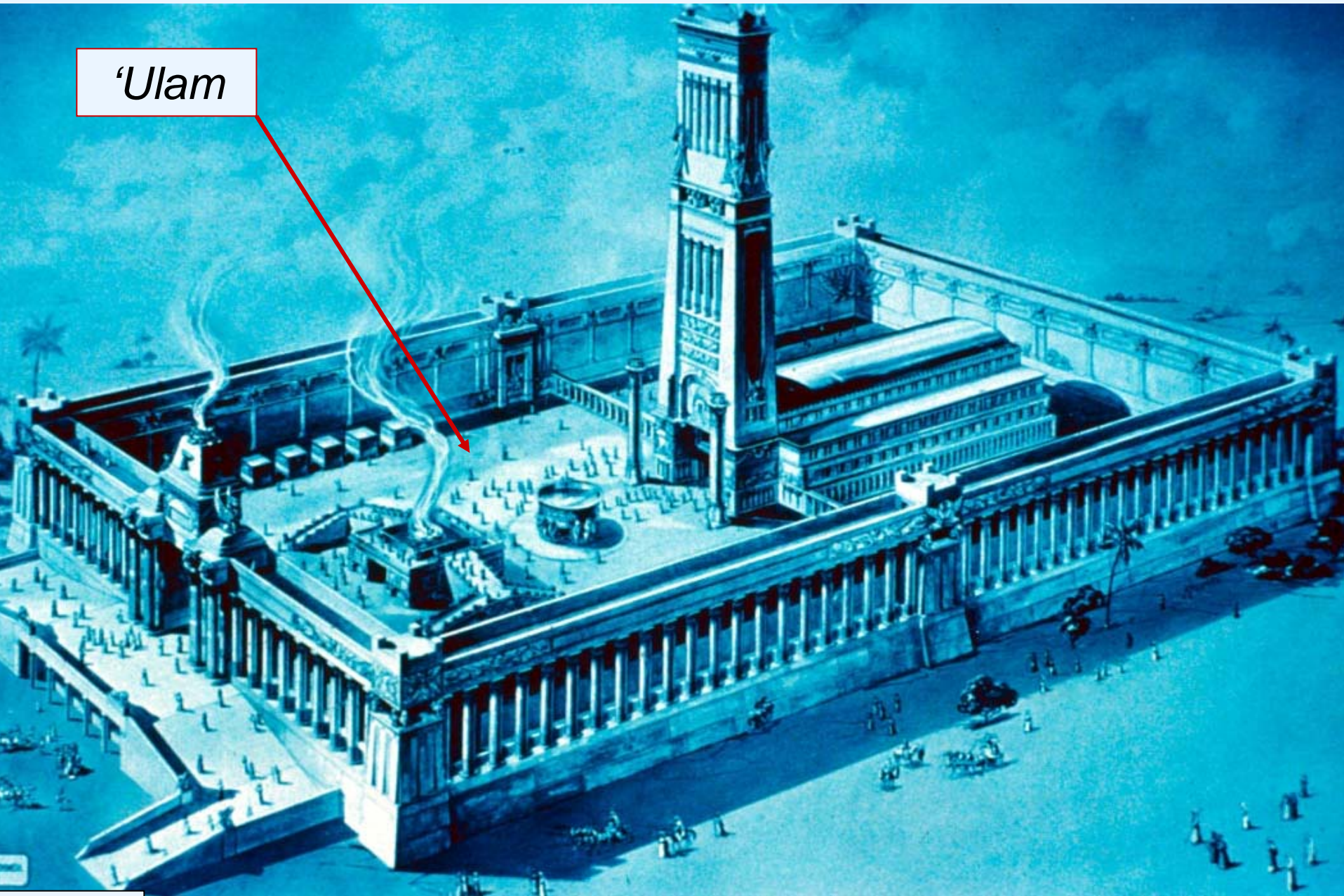


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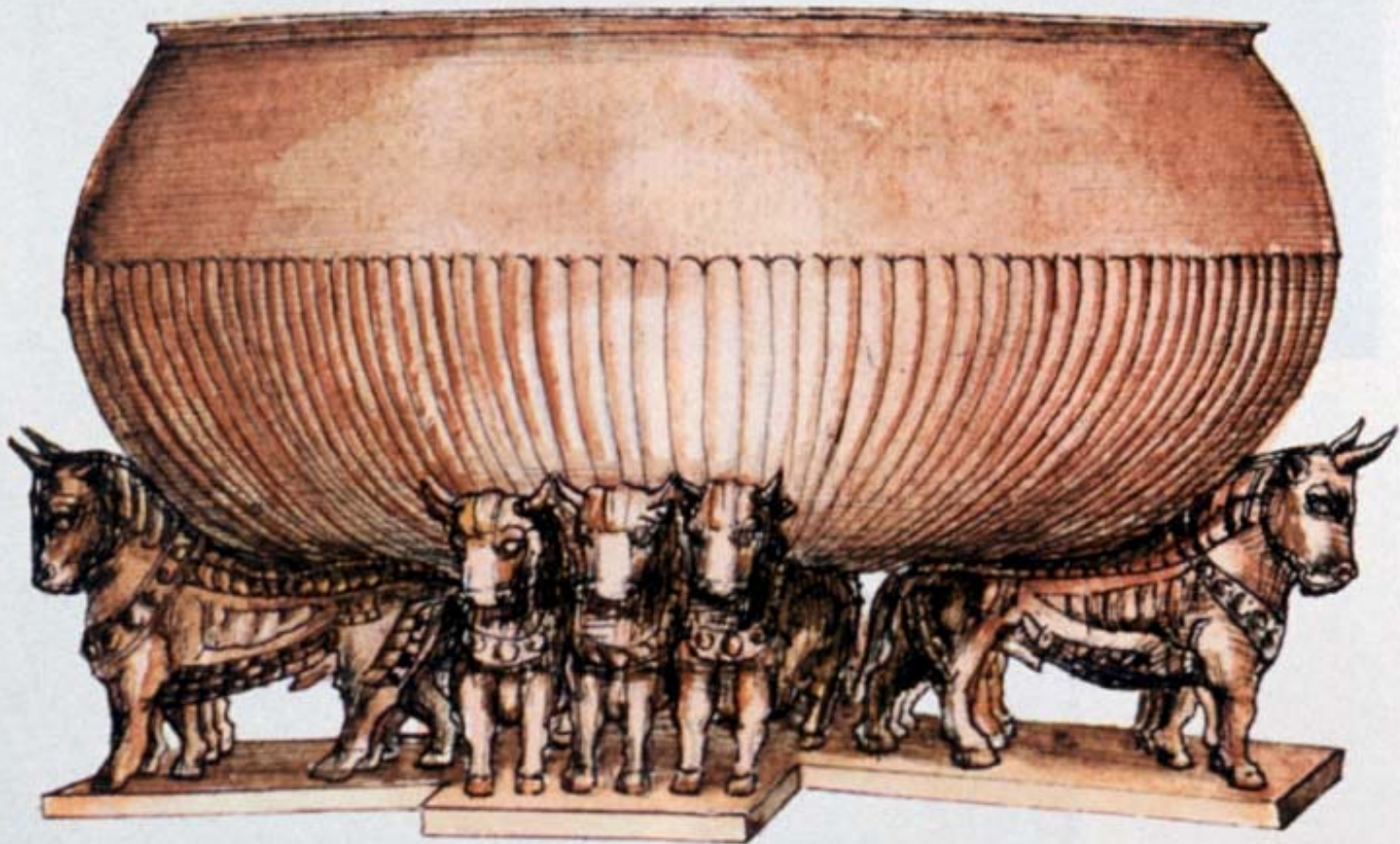
COMMAND the priests who bear the Ark of the Covenant . . .

(Josh. 4 : 16)

*'Ulam*



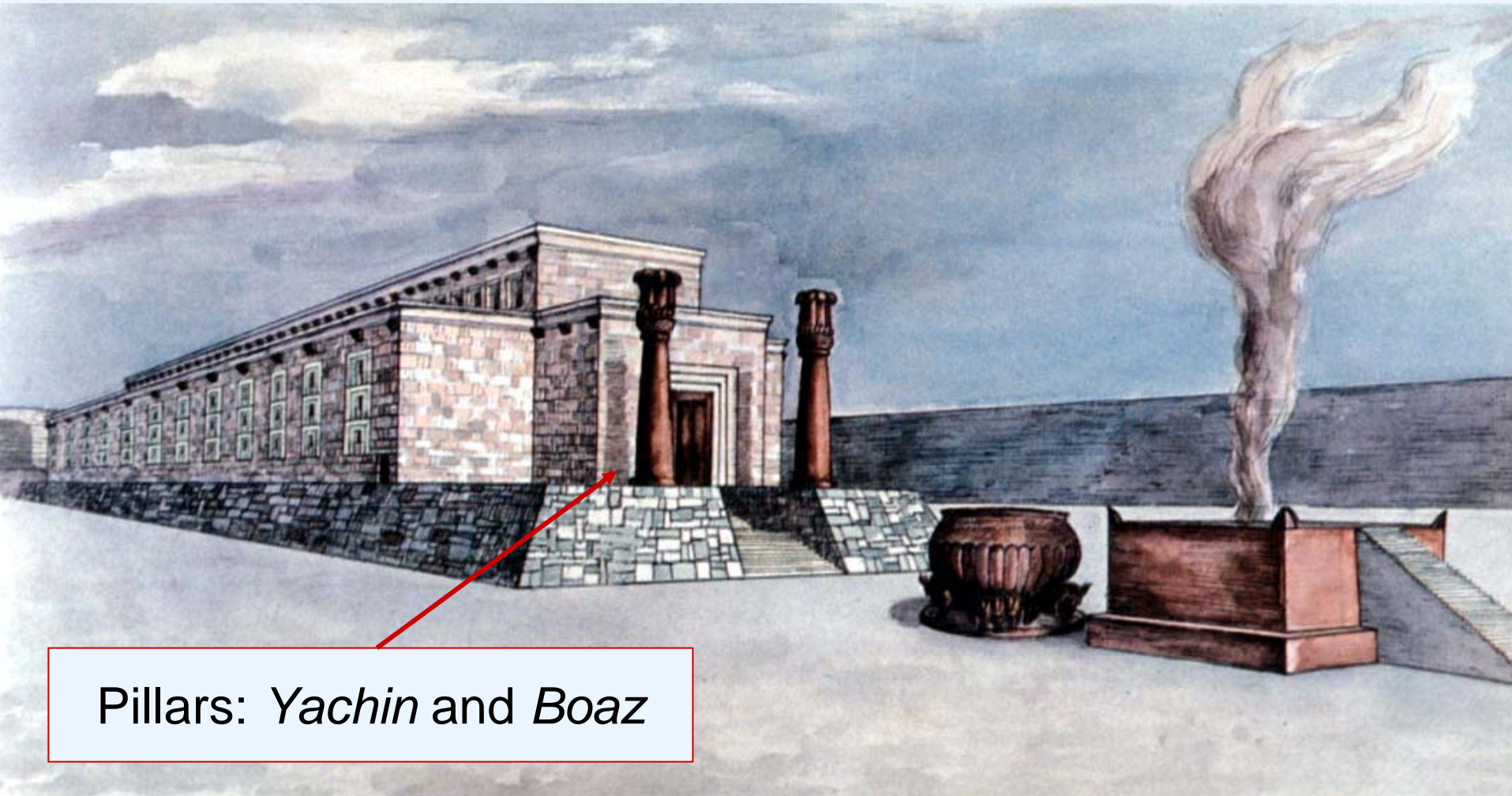
THEN he made the molten sea; it was round, ten cubits from brim to brim . . .  
(1 Kings 7 : 23)



# “Horned” Altar



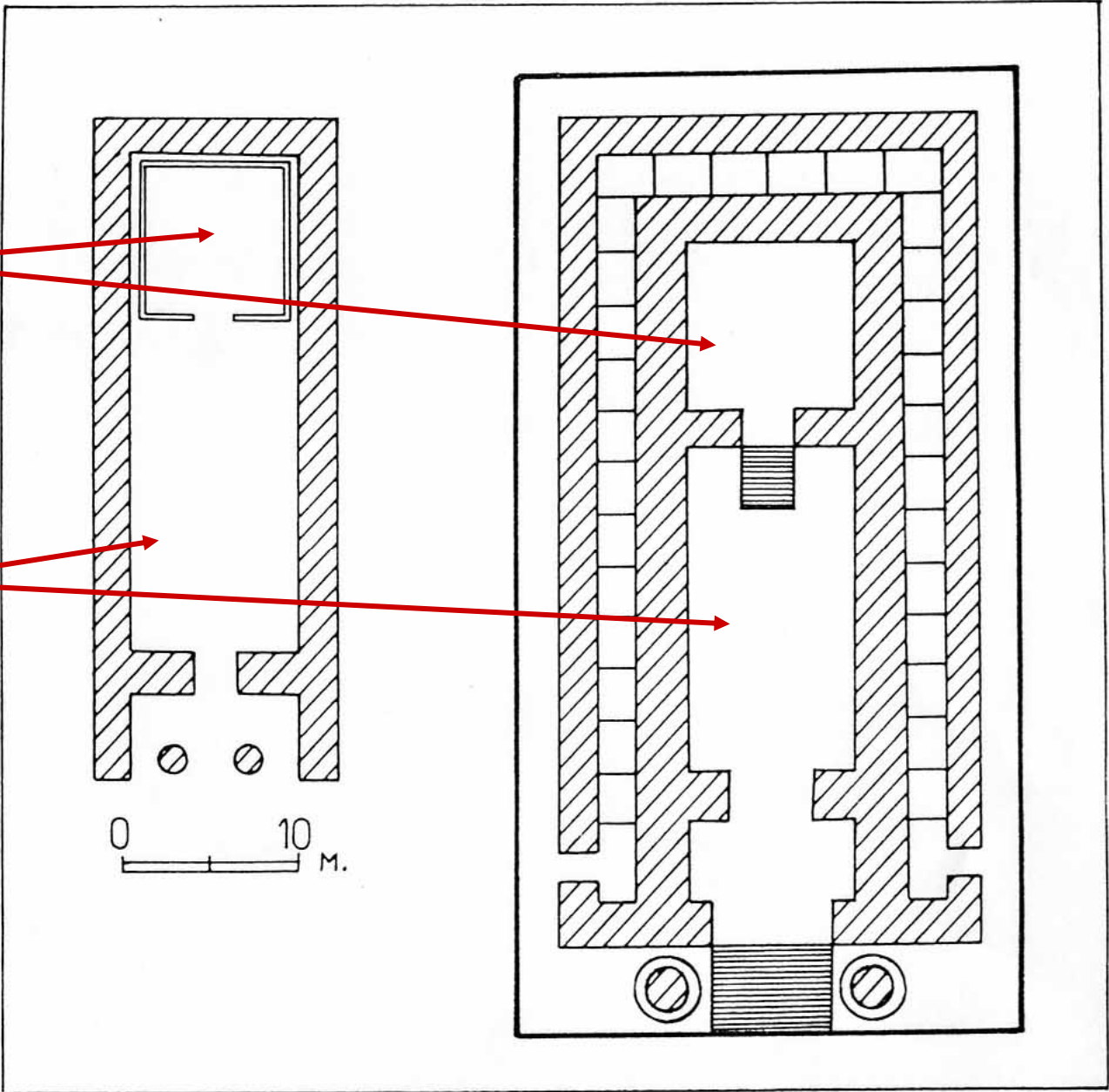
# Reconstruction of the First Temple



Pillars: *Yachin* and *Boaz*

*Devir*

*Hekal*  
(*e.gal*)



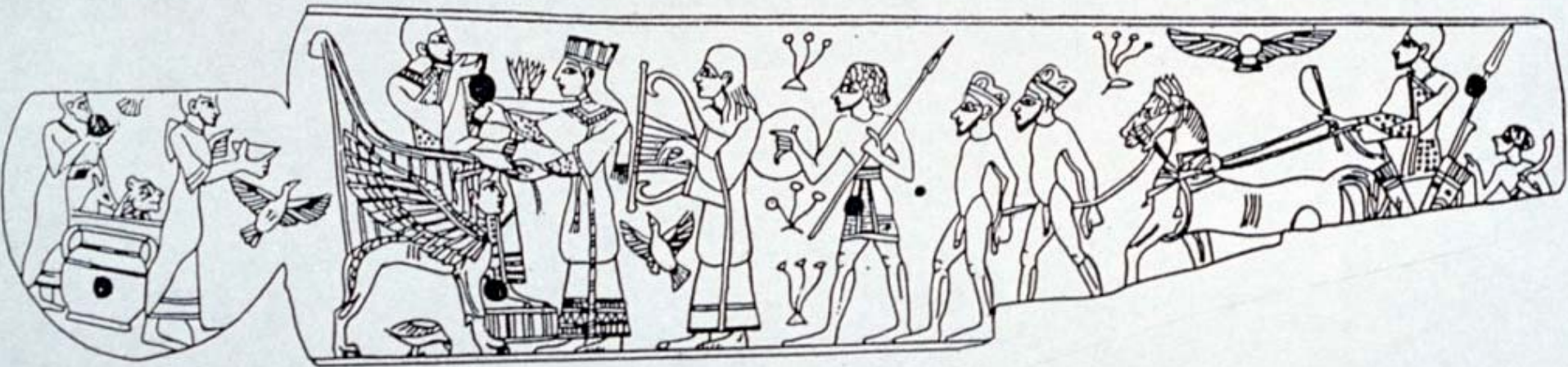
9.4 Two suggestions for the reconstruction of the temple of Solomon in Jerusalem. Left: after F. Fritz. Right: after K. Watzinger.



# The Megiddo Ivory



# The Megiddo Ivory



# Sarcophagus of King Ahiiram



# Temple of Hazor (ca. 14<sup>th</sup> c. BCE)



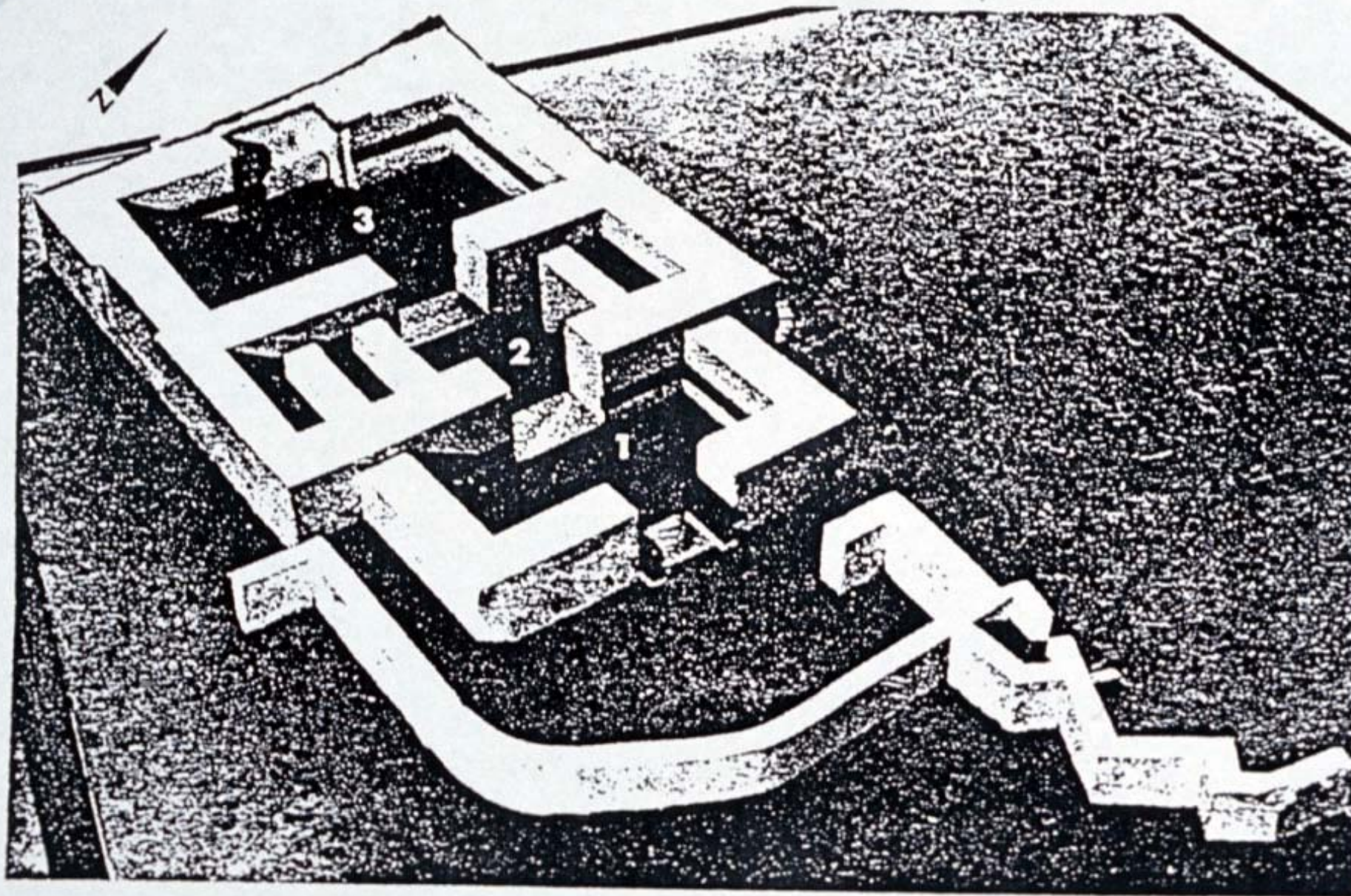
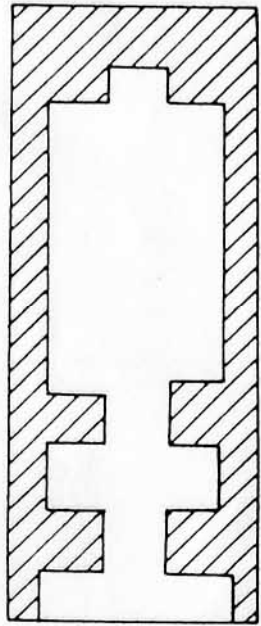
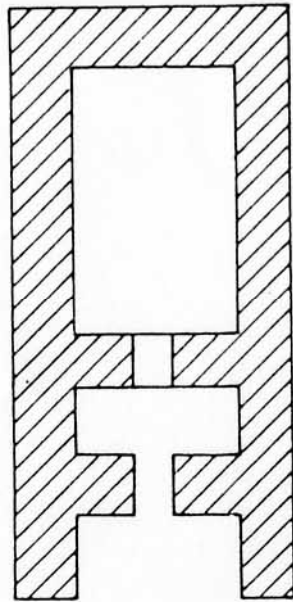


Figure 44: Model of Canaanite temple at Hazor, area H (14th cent. B.C.E.): (1) entrance hall (*uiam*); (2) main hall (*heikhal*); (3) Holy of Holies (*devir*)

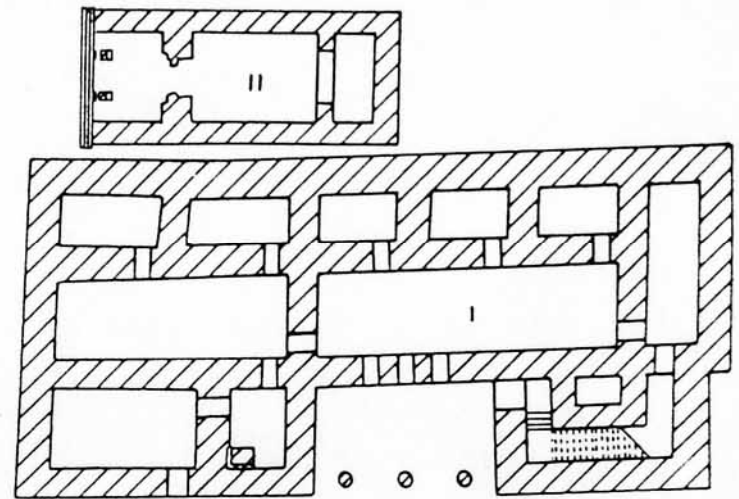
9.5 Temples resembling the temple of Solomon: (A) a Middle Bronze Age temple at Ebla, north Syria; (B) a Late Bronze temple at Tel Mumbakat, north Syria; (C) plan of the *Bit Hilani* palace (I) and attached tripartite temple (II) at Tell Tainat (north Syria, eighth century B.C.E.).



A



B



C



M7-20

# Cylinder Seal: Sacred Tree





# Asherah

Click below for an article about Asherah worship among the early Hebrews:

<http://www.usu.edu/markdamen/ANE/asherah.pdf>