

Childhood home of Jesus Christ found in Nazareth

27th November, 2020



Archaeologists working in the city of Nazareth have unearthed what they believe to be the childhood home of Jesus Christ. Following an arduous, 14-year excavation of the site at the Sisters of Nazareth Convent, researchers say they

believe the first-century home is where Jesus grew up as a child. Lead researcher Professor Ken Dark embarked on 14 years of research and fieldwork at the ancient site. He says his studies of the well-preserved abode on a limestone hillside revealed "excellent craftsmanship" and a "structural understanding of rock". He says this is, "consistent with it having been constructed by a tekton" - the occupation of Jesus' father, Joseph.

Professor Dark says the dwelling was originally found in the 1880s and was first excavated in the 1930s. For decades, experts and nuns living in the convent have asserted that the site was Jesus' boyhood home. Dark started on his dig in 2006 to investigate these assertions. He said the site had been "almost forgotten by scholars". He used cutting edge archaeological techniques to uncover more secrets of the house. Dark discovered that people believed that the building was Jesus' house from at least the 380s. However, he says his claims are not conclusive and acknowledges that we may never know for sure whether or not Jesus Christ lived at that location.

Sources: arabnews.com / ancient-origins.net / foxnews.com

Writing

It is important we know where Jesus grew up. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

archaeologists / city / Jesus / excavation / first century / ancient / abode / occupation / decades / expert / childhood / 2006 / scholars / techniques / building / sure / location

True / False

- a) Archaeologists say they have found the home where Jesus was born. T / F
- b) Archaeologists worked on the site for 14 years. T / F
- c) The home is on a flat piece of limestone farmland. T / F
- d) The home wasn't very well made. T / F
- e) The home was first discovered in the year 880. T / F
- f) A professor said scholars had almost forgotten about the home. T / F
- g) A professor used cutting edge techniques to find secrets about the home. T / F
- h) The professor is certain the home is where Jesus Christ grew up. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. unearthed | a. residence |
| 2. arduous | b. inquiries |
| 3. embarked | c. methods |
| 4. research | d. laborious |
| 5. consistent | e. dug up |
| 6. dwelling | f. undeniable |
| 7. excavated | g. discovered |
| 8. techniques | h. assertions |
| 9. claims | i. in tune with |
| 10. conclusive | j. started |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Jesus?
- b) What do you want to know about Jesus?
- c) What would it be like to be an archaeologist?
- d) Where in the world would you like to go on a dig?
- e) Is it important we know where Jesus grew up?
- f) How important is archaeology?
- g) What craftsmanship is valued in your country?
- h) What do you think of your childhood home?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Archaeologists | a. scholars |
| 2. Following an arduous, | b. at the ancient site |
| 3. embarked | c. conclusive |
| 4. fieldwork | d. working in the city |
| 5. excellent | e. found in the 1880s |
| 6. the dwelling was originally | f. of the house |
| 7. almost forgotten by | g. 14-year excavation |
| 8. He used cutting edge archaeological | h. craftsmanship |
| 9. uncover more secrets | i. techniques |
| 10. his claims are not | j. on 14 years of research |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about Nazareth?
- What was life like in the times of Jesus?
- Would you like to visit the house the archaeologists found?
- What three adjectives best describe this story?
- What are the most important ancient sites in your country?
- What would you like to be an expert in?
- What questions would you like to ask archaeologists?

Spelling

- drhaeuetn what they believe to be
- an ouurads, 14-year nxcviaatoe
- fieldwork at the cnntiea site
- a rustclrut understanding of rock
- soneitncs with it having been constructed
- the pacootucni of Jesus' father
- the lwgdlien was originally found
- first vctaaedx in the 1930s
- aetssder that the site was Jesus' boyhood home
- almost forgotten by rcoshals
- archaeological encqhtisue
- his claims are not oscvilunce

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. i
6. a	7. e	8. c	9. h	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Stonehenge

You think Stonehenge is the best ancient site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): the Pyramids, Petra or Easter Island Moai.

Role B – The Pyramids

You think the Pyramids is the best ancient site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Stonehenge, Petra or Easter Island Moai.

Role C – Petra

You think Petra is the best ancient site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): the Pyramids, Stonehenge or Easter Island Moai.

Role D – Easter Island Moai

You think the Easter Island Moai is the best ancient site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): the Pyramids, Petra or Stonehenge.

Speaking – Ancient Sites

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| • Angkor Wat | • Stonehenge |
| • Petra | • The Pyramids |
| • Luxor Temple | • Machu Picchu |
| • Easter Island Moai | • Pompeii |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.