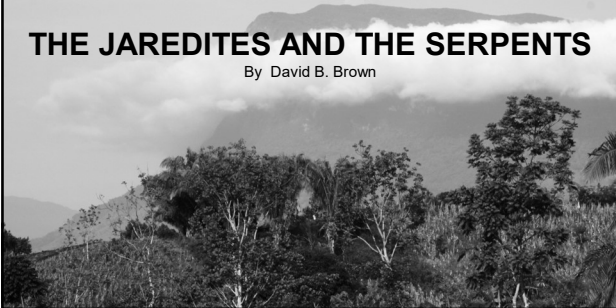


**Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc**  
**Transforming Faith to Knowledge**

**THE JAREDITES AND THE SERPENTS**

By David B. Brown



**IN THE PREVIOUS PRESENTATION  
 WE COVERED THE CONNECTIONS  
 BETWEEN JOSEPH OF EGYPT  
 AND THE JAREDITE (OLMEC)  
 CULTURE OF MESOAMERICA.**

**A CRITICAL COMPONENT TO THAT  
 CONNECTION IS THE  
 MEDITERRANEAN-BASED MINOAN  
 CULTURE. THIS IS A SEAFARING  
 CULTURE THAT THRIVED FROM  
 ABOUT 3000 BC UNTIL AROUND  
 1200 BC WHEN IT MORPHED INTO  
 THE PHOENICIAN CULTURE AND  
 BEGAN TO BE OVERSHADOWED  
 BY THE MYCENAEAN CULTURE OF  
 THE NORTHERN AEGEAN SEA.**

**AT THE HEIGHT OF MINOAN  
 INFLUENCE DURING THE 17<sup>TH</sup>  
 CENTURY BC, IT APPEARS  
 THAT THERE IS A STRONG  
 CONNECTION BETWEEN  
 MINOA AND EGYPT AS  
 ILLUSTRATED IN MURALS  
 FOUND IN BOTH MINOAN AND  
 EGYPTIAN PALACES.**

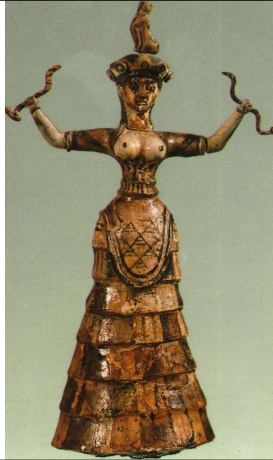


**FOR THESE FOREIGN CONCEPTS TO  
 BE ILLUSTRATED IN PALACIAL  
 ARTWORK IS A SOLID INDICATION OF  
 CULTURAL RELATIONSHIP AND  
 COMMON PURPOSES.**

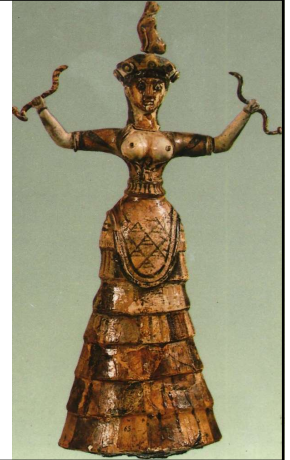


**ADDITIONALLY, THERE  
 SEEMS TO BE A SYMBOLIC  
 RELATIONSHIP EMBEDDED IN  
 BOTH MINOAN AND  
 EGYPTIAN ARTWORK.**

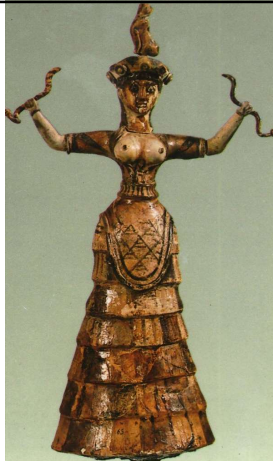
**THE CENTRAL DIETY OF THE MINOAN CULTURE IS SAID TO BE THE SNAKE GODDESS. WE ASSERT THAT THE MINOANS ARE DISPLAYING THEIR ROLE IN A CLAIM TO POWER.**



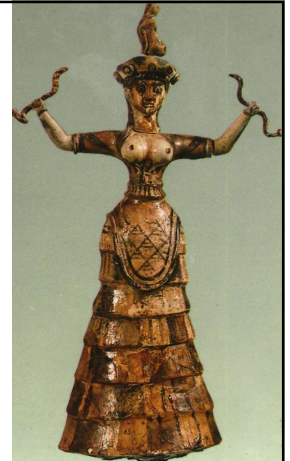
**THEY ARE INDICATING THAT THEIR NATION (FEMALE) IS FEEDING THE WORLD (BARE BREASTS) BY MEANS OF CONNECTING THE SEAWAYS OF THE EAST AND WEST (SNAKES IN HANDS).**



**MINOAN THEREFORE IS KNOWN AS THE SNAKE NATION BECAUSE OF THEIR SEAFARING ABILITIES. THEY SLITHER UPON THE WATER AND DELIVER GOODS FROM TRIBUTARY TO TRIBUTARY.**



**AND, NOTE THAT THE ANIMAL THAT IS SEATED ON THE TOP OF THE HEAD IS A FELINE. THIS IMPLIES THAT THE FELINE NATION (EGYPT) IS AT THE HEAD OF IT ALL.**



**THIS SYMBOLIC CONCEPT IS CONFIRMED BY THE USE OF THE SNAKE APEP IN EGYPTIAN SYMBOLISM. EARLY IN EGYPTIAN SYMBOLISM, AROUND THE 8<sup>TH</sup> DYNASTY (2100 BC), APEP IS AN ENEMY OF EGYPT. SOMEWHERE CLOSE TO THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DYNASTY (1600 BC) APEP IS SEEN AS A FRIEND TO EGYPT, HELPFUL AND ASSISTING ITS PROSPERITY.**



**THIS IS A 14<sup>TH</sup> DYNASTY RENDITION OF APEP WHERE IT IS FRIENDLY AND ASSISTING THE STAFF OF ATUM.**



**BUT, BY THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DYNASTY, APEP IS ILLUSTRATED AS A POWER THAT HAD TO BE DESTROYED. THIS SEEMS TO COINCIDE WITH EGYPT'S INVASION OF BYBLOS AND SIDON.**

**DURING THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DYNASTY WHEN JOSEPH IS IN POWER, THE SERPENT APEP (MINOA) IS FRIENDLY TO EGYPT. IT APPEARS THAT JOSEPH HAD ENGENDERED GOOD RELATIONS WITH MINOA AND WAS UTILIZING THEIR SEA POWER TO ENHANCE EGYPT'S GOAL OF SURVIVING THE SEVEN YEARS OF LEAN.**

**IT APPEARS THAT JOSEPH WAS LEVERAGING THE MINOAN SEAFARING ROUTES IN THE ATLANTIC IN ORDER TO SUPPLEMENT EGYPT'S DEMAND FOR GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK DURING THE SEVEN YEARS OF LEAN. THIS WAS SO SUCCESSFUL THAT EGYPT BECAME A REGIONAL BROKER FOR GRAIN COMMODITIES.**

**WE ASSERT THAT THE MINOAN SEAFARERS MADE THEIR WAY TO THE GULF OF MEXICO REGION AND ENGAGED IN SIGNIFICANT TRADE WITH THE OLMEC (JAREDITES). THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON WHEN KING EMER REPORTS ON THE RICHNESS OF THE CULTURE AND PROVIDES A DETAILED LIST OF THEIR COMMODITIES.**

**WHAT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO CONSIDER AT THIS POINT IS THAT ANCIENT SEAFARING CULTURES STRONGLY IDENTIFY WITH THE SYMBOL OF THE SERPENT.**

**WHY?**

**THE IMAGE OF THE SERPENT PROVIDES AN OBJECT LESSON ON THE LIFE OF THE MARINER.**

**1. THE RIVERWAYS MARINERS TRAVERSE WHERE THEY HARVEST THE GOODS, UNDULATE BACK AND FORTH LIKE THE MOVEMENT OF A SNAKE.**

**2. THE TECHNIQUE FOR USING WIND SAILS TO PROPEL WATERCRAFT ON THE SEAS REQUIRES A SERIES OF SAIL ADJUSTMENTS THAT CREATE A ZIG-ZAG PATHWAY THROUGH THE WATER, LIKE A SNAKE.**

**3. THE DELIVERY OF PRODUCTS TO THE END-USER IS DONE WHERE THE RECIPIENT IS UNAWARE OF THE ORIGIN. THE TRUE MOVEMENT OF PRODUCT FROM HARVEST TO DELIVERY IS UNDETECTABLE, LIKE THE STEALTH ACTION OF A SNAKE.**

**ALL OF THESE SAILING FEATURES ARE POWERFUL SEAFARING SYMBOLS OF THE SNAKE THAT HAVE LASTED FOR MILLENNIA. THEREFORE, WHILE THE IMAGE OF THE SNAKE ORIGINATED WITH THE SEAFARING POWERS DEVELOPED BY THE MINOANS, WE SUBMIT THAT THIS IMAGERY EVOLVED TO BECOME THE IDENTITY OF ALL MARINERS INVOLVED IN OCEANIC MERCHANT DELIVERY.**

**AN EXAMPLE OF THE SNAKE IMAGERY IN MEDITERRANEAN FOLKLORE IS THE GREEK GODDESS MEDUSA. WE BELIEVE THAT JOSEPH CAMPBELL WAS CORRECT IN STATING THAT THE LEGEND OF MEDUSA IS MEMORIALIZING A STORY OF HOW SEAFARING POWERS BEGAN AND EVOLVED.**

**THROUGH THE LEGEND, WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT MEDUSA'S POWER OVER OTHERS IS THE ABILITY TO TURN THEM TO STONE. IN OTHER WORDS, REMOVE THEIR ABILITY TO STAY AFLOAT UPON THE WATER; TURN THEM INTO AN ANCHOR.**



**THIS TRANSFORMATION TOOK PLACE WHEN THE INDIVIDUAL SNAKES ON THE HEAD WERE ABLE TO FOCUS THEIR GAZE UPON A SINGLE ENEMY.**



**IN OTHER WORDS, THE SINGULAR POWERS OVER THE NUMEROUS RIVER SYSTEMS FOCUS IN PURPOSE TO AFFECT A UNIFIED OUTCOME AND THEREBY REMOVE A POTENTIAL THREAT TO THE SYSTEM.**



**THIS IS THE VERY DEFINITION OF A CABAL, OR A COUNCIL OF INDIVIDUAL SEPARATE INTERESTS WHO ENTER INTO HIDDEN AGREEMENT TO SECURE CONTROL OF AN INDUSTRY. HENCE, THE MINOANS CONTROLLED THE SEAFARING INDUSTRY BY CONTROLLING THE SECRETS OF NAVIGATING THE TRADE ROUTES.**

**IN THE FOLLOWING SLIDE, NOTICE HOW AN ANCIENT PORTRAYAL OF MEDUSA (GORGON) HAS SNAKE FANGS AND WAVY HAIR LIKE THE UNDULATIONS OF A SNAKE, OR THE WAVES OF THE SEA.**



**THE GREEK LEGEND OF MEDUSA DOCUMENTS HOW THE MINOAN CABAL WAS OVERTAKEN BY THE GREEKS, IN THAT PERSEUS BEHEADS MEDUSA AND USES IT AGAINST HIS ENEMIES. HE THEN GIVES IT OVER TO THE WAR GODDESS ATHENA TO PLACE ON HER SHIELD. THIS INFERS THAT THE GREEKS TOOK OVER THE POWER OF THE SEAFARING CABAL AND USED IT TO THWART THE POWERS OF THEIR RIVALS.**





**ADDITIONALLY, PYTHIA IS AN APOLLO PRIESTESS WHO WAS CONSULTED ABOUT ESTABLISHING A GREEK PORT AT THE NORTH AFRICAN CITY OF CYRENE. THE QUESTION ARISES; "IS PYTHIA SYMBOLIC FOR THE GREEK INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL THAT CONTROLS ALL SEAFARING TRAFFIC?"**

**THE NAME PYTHIA SHARES THE ROOT WORD FOR ONE OF THE LARGEST SERPENTS; THE PYTHON. AGAIN, IT IS SERPENT IMAGERY FOR SEAFARING.**

**BASED ON RESEARCH DONE BY MANOLIS KOUTLIS IN HIS BOOK IN THE SHADOW, IT APPEARS THAT THE GREEK MYCENAEAN CULTURE BEGAN HAVING HEAVY INFLUENCE ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC SEA ROUTES DURING THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC. THIS INFERS THAT THE MYCENAEANS BEGAN WORKING WITH THE MINOANS IN COLONIZING THE REGIONS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC.**

**THIS CO-OP MAY HAVE BEGUN IN THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC WITH MINOA NEEDING TO EXPAND THEIR FLEETS TO SUPPLY EGYPT AND THEREBY UTILIZING THE MYCENAEAN SEAFARERS TO KEEP UP WITH THE DEMAND. WHAT MINOA MAY NOT HAVE EXPECTED, IS THAT MYCENAE WOULD EVENTUALLY TAKE FULL CONTROL. HENCE, THE LEGEND OF PERSEUS BEHEADING MEDUSA.**

**ACTUALLY, THE MYCENAEAN INFLUENCE IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC MAY NOT HAVE BEEN A HOSTILE TAKE OVER AS MUCH AS IT WAS AN OPPORTUNISTIC MOVE TO FILL A VOID AFTER THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY EXPLOSION OF THERA (SANTORINI) AND DAMAGE TO CRETE DECIMATED THE MINOAN FLEETS AND PORTS.**

**WHILE PERSEUS IS SEEN LIFTING THE HEAD OF MEDUSA, HER BEHEADING MAY HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF AN ACT OF GOD (VOLCANIC EXPLOSION) AND NOT A MILITARY OVERTHROW. GREECE (PERSEUS) WAS MERELY THE ENTITY LEFT BEHIND TO CARRY ON THE BUSINESS OF UTILIZING AND PROTECTING THE SEA ROUTES OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC.**

**HAVING ESTABLISHED THAT THERE IS LIKELY SEAFARING TRADE BEING CONDUCTED WITH THE JAREDITES (OLMEC) BEGINNING IN THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC, ARE THERE CLUES PROVIDED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON THAT THIS SEAFARING INTERACTION CONTINUED?**

**FROM OUR TIMELINE, WE SEE THAT THE NEXT MENTION OF EVENTS AMONG THE JAREDITES (OLMEC) HAS TO DO WITH A “DEARTH UPON THE LAND” AND AN INVASION OF SERPENTS.**

Ether 4:31-41 "And it came to pass that he [Heth] did dethrone his father; for he slew him with his own sword, and he did reign in his stead. [32] And there came prophets in the land again, crying repentance unto them—that they must prepare the way of the Lord or there should come a curse upon the face of the land; yea, even there should be a great famine, in which they should be destroyed if they did not repent. [33] But the people believed not the words of the prophets, but they cast them out; and some of them they cast into pits and left them to perish. [34] And it came to pass that they did all these things according to the commandment of the king Heth. [35] And it came to pass that there began to be a great dearth upon the land; and the inhabitants began to be destroyed exceeding fast because of the dearth, for there was no rain upon the face of the earth; and there came forth poisonous serpents also upon the face of the land and did poison many people. [36] And it came to pass that their flocks began to flee before the poisonous serpents towards the land southward, which was called by the Nephites, Zarahemla. [37] And it came to pass that there were many of them which did perish by the way; nevertheless, there were some which fled into the land southward. [38] And it came to pass that the Lord did cause the serpents that they should pursue them no more, but that they should hedge up the way, that the people could not pass, that whoso should attempt to pass might fall by the poisonous serpents. [39] And it came to pass that the people did follow the course of the beasts and did devour the carcasses of them which fell by the way, until they had devoured them all. [40] Now when the people saw that they must perish, they began to repent of their iniquities and cry unto the Lord. [41] And it came to pass that when they had humbled themselves sufficiently before the Lord, he did send rain upon the face of the earth; and the people began to revive again, and there began to be fruit in the north countries and in all the countries round about."

**THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE POISONOUS SERPENTS IS INTERESTING. THERE IS NO MENTION OF SERPENT BITES. ONLY THAT THE SERPENTS ARE POISONOUS TO THE PEOPLE, THAT THE SERPENTS FORCED THE HERDS OF ANIMALS TO THE LAND SOUTHWARD AND THEN THE SERPENTS WOULD NOT ALLOW THE PEOPLE TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE ANIMALS.**

**THESE BEHAVIORS SOUND MORE LIKE THE ACTIONS OF PEOPLE, NOT OF REPTILES. THE QUESTION THEN ARISES; WHAT IF THESE ARE NOT REPTILES BUT ARE INSTEAD PEOPLE WHO IDENTIFY AS SERPENTS? WHAT IF THESE ARE SEAFARERS THAT HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REFERRED TO AS THE PEOPLE OF THE SERPENT CULTURE?**

Ether 4:35 "... and there came forth poisonous *mariners* also upon the face of the land and did poison many people *with their poisonous values*. [36] And it came to pass that their flocks began to flee before the poisonous *mariners* towards the land southward, which was called by the Nephites, Zarahemla. [37] And it came to pass that there were many of them which did perish by the way; nevertheless, there were some which fled into the land southward. [38] And it came to pass that the Lord did cause the *mariners* that they should pursue them no more, but that they should hedge up the way, that the people could not pass, that whoso should attempt to pass might *be killed by the mariners*."

**THIS VERSION OF “SERPENT PEOPLE” MAKES SENSE. THE PEOPLE OF HETH HAD TURNED AWAY FROM GOD, AND GOD WAS TRYING TO BRING THEM BACK. FIRST HE SENDS THE PROPHETS TO WARN THE PEOPLE, BUT THEY WERE REJECTED AND SOME WERE KILLED.**

**THEN GOD HOLDS BACK THE RAIN AND CREATES DROUGHT CONDITIONS WHICH BRINGS A DEARTH OR SICKNESS UPON THE LAND, BUT THE PEOPLE DO NOT RESPOND.**

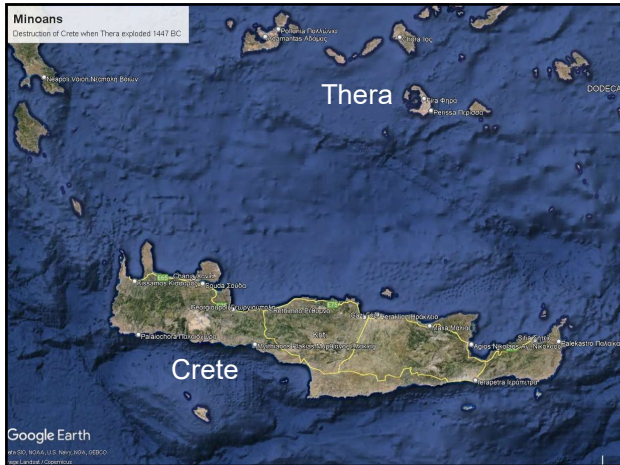
**THEN, GOD ALLOWS THEIR LAND TO BE INVADED BY MARINERS. WHY? BECAUSE THE PROMISE IS THAT THOSE WHO DO NOT FOLLOW GOD WILL BE SWEEPED OFF THE LAND OF PROMISE. THE PEOPLE WERE ABOUT TO BE REMOVED BY INVADERS. BUT, THE INVADERS ARE MARINERS, NOT REPTILES.**

**BECAUSE THE BOOK OF MORMON RECORDS THAT MIGRATIONS OCCURRED IN TIMES OF CULTURAL UPHEAVAL, WHAT MIGHT BE HAPPENING IN THE WORLD AT THE TIME OF HETH?**

Dates	Old World Holy Bible	New World Book of Mormon Kings		Minoan
2200 BC	Great Tower		Migration of Jared & company to America from Sumer thru Asia & Pacific	Founded 3200 BC
2150 BC				
2100 BC		Orihah		
1950 BC				
1900 BC		Kib		
1850 BC	Abraham (1853 BC)	Shuie		
1800 BC				
1750 BC	Isaac	Omer		Apex of Civilization
1700 BC	Jacob			Cultural Disturbance
1650 BC	Joseph in Egypt (1670 BC)	Emer Ether 4:17-23	First mention of essential trade materials	1627 BC Alaskan eruption
1600 BC				
1550 BC	Israelites enslaved (1565 BC)	Corianton		Strong evidences of trade with Egypt, Greece and Canaan.
1500 BC				
1450 BC	Exodus (1447 BC)	Heth Ether 4:31-41	Serpents in the land, puts a barrier to the land southward	Santorini Eruption
1400 BC	Cross Jordan Israelites invade Canaan	Shez		

**NOTE THAT THE SERPENT INVASION IS HAPPENING AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE CAULDERA-FORMING EXPLOSION OF THERA (SANTORINI) TAKES PLACE. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS EXPLOSION CREATED A TSUNAMI THAT DESTROYED THE MINOAN PORT CITIES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE ISLAND OF CRETE.**





**WHICH IS HAPPENING AT THE SAME TIME THAT EGYPT IS REELING FROM THE PLAGUES, THE EXODUS AND THE LOSS OF A WORKER-CLASS. WHICH IS FOLLOWED BY THE HEBREW INVASION OF CANAANITE CITIES FORTY-YEARS LATER. ALL OF THESE EVENTS ARE CREATING HUGE CULTURAL SHIFTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION.**

**THIS MEANS THAT THE MINOAN CULTURAL ECONOMIC ENGINE IS DECIMATED. THE EGYPTIAN CULTURE IS EXPERIENCING A MAJOR RESTRUCTURE AND THE CANAANITE CULTURE IS FALLING APART. WHAT HAPPENS IN TIMES OF DISASTER THAT CAUSE SOCIAL UPHEAVAL?**

**MASS MIGRATIONS.**

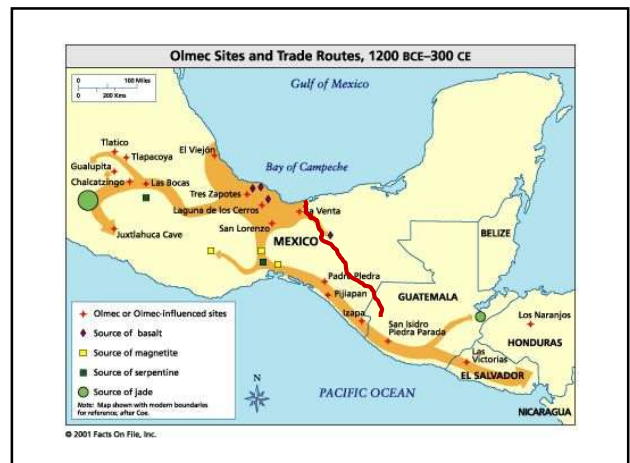
**THIS LEAVES THE PHOENICIANS AND MYCENAEANS AS THE MOST CAPABLE SEAFARING CULTURES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. IT COULD BE THAT THESE SEAFARERS FOCUSED ON SERVICING THE MINOAN TRADE ROUTES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND OFFERED TO HELP THE REFUGEES, BUT ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY AGREE TO RELOCATE THEM; NOT TAKE THEM IN.**

**ADDITIONALLY, WITHIN A FEW YEARS, EGYPTIAN AND CANAANITE REFUGEES ARE LOOKING FOR A PLACE THAT PROVIDES SAFETY FOR FAMILIES. AGAIN, THE PHOENICIANS AND MYCENAEANS ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE PASSAGE FOR ALL OF THEM. HENCE, THE OLMEC REGION POTENTIALLY HAS A VERY LARGE GROUP OF REFUGEES WHO ARE LOOKING TO START ANEW.**

**BUT, WHEN THESE REFUGEES ARRIVE IN THE NEW WORLD, THERE IS ALREADY A FAMINE IN THE LAND. THE QUESTION ARISES; “DID THE ASH CLOUD AND ATMOSPHERIC BLANKET FROM THE EXPLOSION OF THERA (SANTORINI) CAUSE THE DEARTH THAT CAME UPON THE JAREDITE LANDS DURING THE TIME OF HETH?”**

**SO THE SERPENTS ARRIVE DURING A FAMINE. WHAT DO A PEOPLE OF DESPERATION DO TO ENSURE THEIR SURVIVAL? THEY TAKE DESPERATE MEASURES. PERHAPS SOMETHING LIKE STEALING HERDS AND TAKING THEM TO A WILDERNESS AREA THAT IS DEFENSIBLE?**

**THE GRIJALVA RIVER SYSTEM MAKES AN EXCELLENT DEFENSIBLE BARRIER FOR SOMEONE TO MONITOR AND PREVENT OTHERS FROM ENTERING INTO THE SOUTHERN REGION.**



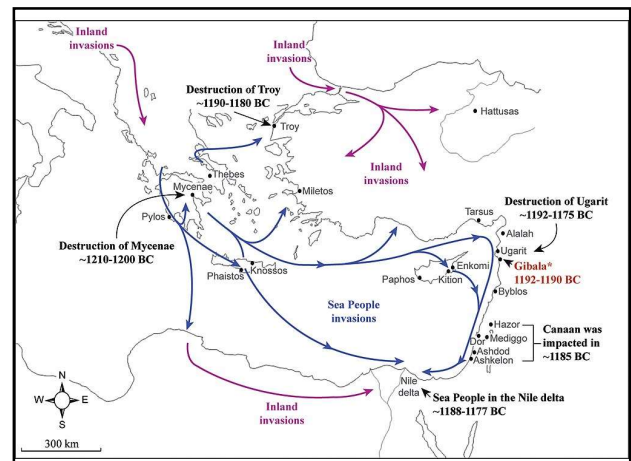
**NOTICE HOW EVERYTHING EAST OF THE GRIJALVA RIVER IS NOT CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN POPULATED BY THE OLMEC. NOTHING EAST OF THIS RIVER SYSTEM INTERFERES WITH THE OLMEC TRADE SYSTEM. EVERYTHING EAST OF THE RIVER SYSTEM IS THE CLASSIC MAYA REGION THAT WE BELIEVE TO BE THE NEPHITES/MULEKITES, BUT THEY HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED.**

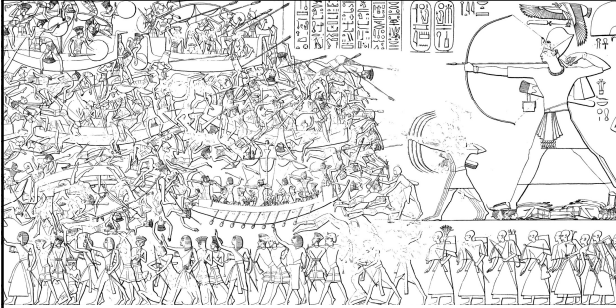


**THEREFORE, THIS INVASION OF SERPENTS BEGINS A 400-YEAR OCCUPATION OF THE LAND EAST OF THE GRIJALVA RIVER. WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION DURING THIS 400-YEAR PERIOD?**

**IT IS DURING THIS TIMEFRAME FROM 1400-1000 BC WHEN THE MEDITERRANEAN CULTURES WERE EXPERIENCING A SERIES OF INVASIONS FROM A CONFEDERACY OF NAVAL RAIDERS CALLED THE "SEA PEOPLE."**

**IF THE 1447 BC NATURAL DISASTERS THAT OCCURRED IN THE NEAR EAST DISRUPTED THE SEAFARING POWERS AND THE PHOENICIANS AND MYCENAEANS TOOK CONTROL OF THE MINOAN TRADE ROUTES, THERE IS STILL AN ENTIRE NORTH ATLANTIC PORTION OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN WHOSE INTERESTS MAY NOT BE MET BY THE NEW SEAFARING POWERS.**





**THIS IS AN EGYPTIAN MURAL LINE DRAWING DEPICTING BATTLES WITH THE SEA PEOPLE. IT INFERS THESE ARE THE DISPLACED REFUGEES.**

**IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE MEDITERRANEAN CABAL REFUGEES OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC UPHEAVELS DECIDED TO RECLAIM THEIR MARITIME POWER BY INVADING THE MEDITERRANEAN PORT CULTURES IN THE LATE 13<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC. THESE “SEA PEOPLE” BECAME THE “TAIL WAGGING THE DOG.” THEY WERE UNSUCCESSFUL BECAUSE THE POWER VOID HAD ALREADY BEEN FILLED.**

**IN THE BOOK OF MORMON, THERE IS A BRIEF PERIOD OF PROSPERITY RECORDED BY MORIANTON AT ABOUT 1250 BC. HOW THAT TAKES PLACE IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A BRIEF REKINDLING OF ATLANTIC MERCHANT TIES WHILE THE SEA PEOPLE WERE ATTEMPTING TO RECLAIM CONTROL OF THE TRADE ROUTES.**

**IT IS NOT UNTIL THE TIME OF KING LIB AT ABOUT 1000 BC THAT WE FIND ANOTHER ENTRY CONCERNING CULTURAL EVENTS WHICH IMPLIES SUBSTANTIAL TRADE. HERE WE FIND THAT LIB RECLAIMS THE LAND SOUTHWARD WITH ITS ACCESS TO THE WILDERNESS WHERE THEY ARE ABLE TO FIND WILDLIFE FOR SUSTENANCE. THIS IS BECAUSE THE SERPENTS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.**

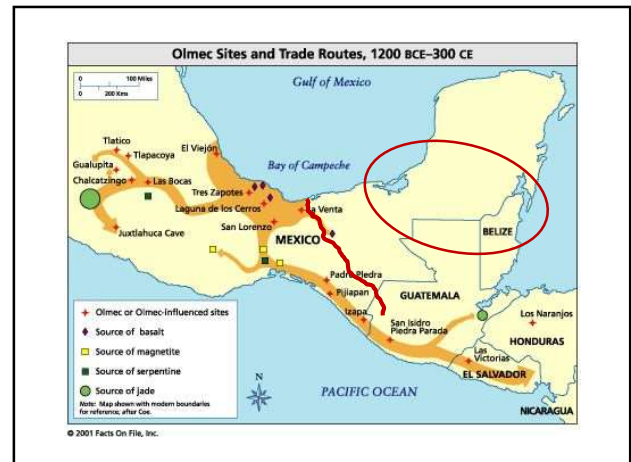
Ether 4:65-81 "And it came to pass that Lib also did that which was good in the sight of the Lord. [66] **And in the days of Lib the *poisonous serpents* were destroyed; wherefore, they did go into the land southward to hunt food for the people of the land; for the land was covered with animals of the forest.** [67] And Lib also himself became a great hunter. [68] And they built a great city by the narrow neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land. [69] And they did preserve the land southward for a wilderness to get game. [70] And the whole face of the land northward was covered with inhabitants; and they were exceeding industrious; and they did buy, and sell, and traffic one with another, that they might get gain. [71] And they did work in **all manner of ore, and they did make gold, and silver, and iron, and brass, and all manner of metals; and they did dig it out of the earth; wherefore, they did cast up mighty heaps of earth to get ore—of gold, and of silver, and of iron, and of copper.** [72] And they did work all manner of fine work. [73] And they did have **silks and fine twined linen**; and they did work all manner of cloth, that they might clothe themselves from their nakedness. [74] And they did make all manner of tools to till the earth, both to plow and to sow, to reap and to hoe, and also to thrash. [75] **And they did make all manner of tools with which they did work their beasts.** [76] And they did make all manner of weapons of war. [77] **And they did work all manner of work of exceeding curious workmanship.** [78] And never could be a people more blessed than were they, and more prospered by the hand of the Lord. [79] And they were in a land that was choice above all lands, for the Lord had spoken it. [80] And it came to pass that Lib did live many years and begat sons and daughters; and he also begat Hearthom. [81] And it came to pass that Hearthom reigned in the stead of his father."

**IT STATES THAT THE *POISONOUS SERPENTS* WERE DESTROYED IN THE DAYS OF LIB. THAT COULD HAPPEN SEVERAL WAYS. LIB COULD HAVE BEEN THE CATALYST TO THEIR DESTRUCTION BY MEANS OF EITHER WAR OR THE GOSPEL. OR, IT MAY MEAN THAT THE SERPENT CULTURE COLLAPSED AND RELOCATED.**

WHAT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE IS THAT IT IS ABOUT 1000 BC WHEN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD BEGINS TO FIND A RULING CLASS CALLED "SNAKE KINGS" IN THE PETEN OF GUATEMALA. ARCHAEOLOGISTS STATE THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE INDUSTRIAL MERCHANTS WHO WIELD THEIR POWER THROUGH THE MEANS OF WATERWAY TRADE, BOTH TRIBUTARY AND OCEANIC.

IF THESE ARE THE SERPENTS THAT WERE THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REFUGEES, THEN IT APPEARS THAT THE IMMEDIACY OF THEIR MARITIME IDENTITY HAD WANED THROUGH THE GENERATIONS TO BECOME CONTENT WITH BEING THE SUPPLIERS FOR MARITIME TRADE. THEREFORE, THEY MOVED TO AREAS THAT WERE MORE CONDUCTIVE TO THE PRODUCTION AND TRADE OF COMMODITIES.

THE LEVEL PLAINS EAST OF THE USUMACINTA RIVER AND THE TWO NATURAL BAYS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE BASE OF THE YUCATAN PROVIDES A RIVER SYSTEM NETWORK FOR MOVING TRADE PRODUCTS FROM INLAND SOURCES OF THE PETEN OF GUATEMALA TO OCEANIC PORTS FOR DISTRIBUTION.



WHATEVER THE MOTIVATION MAY HAVE BEEN FOR THE SNAKE CULTURE TO MOVE, IT APPEARS THAT IT WAS DURING LIB'S REIGN THAT THEY VACATED THE AREA BETWEEN THE USUMACINTA AND GRIJALVA RIVERS, AND CONCENTRATED EASTWARD IN THE PETEN OF GUATEMALA AND SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF THE YUCATAN.







**ONCE LIB WAS ABLE TO RECLAIM THE LAND SOUTHWARD BECAUSE THE SERPENTS HAD BEEN DESTROYED, THE BOOK OF MORMON RECORDS THAT LIB BUILT A CITY NEXT TO WHERE THE SEA DIVIDES THE LAND. WE BELIEVE THE CITY THAT LIB BUILT IS LAVENTA.**

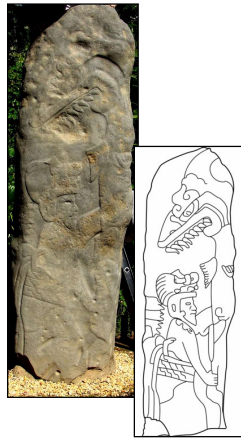


**THERE IS ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE AT LAVENTA THAT INDICATES IT WAS LIB WHO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN DEFEATING THE SERPENTS.**

**THIS STELA FOUND AT LAVENTA PARK IN VILLAHERMOSA SHOWS AN OLMEC KING STRUGGLING WITH A LARGER-THAN-LIFE SEA REPTILE.**



THE KING HAS A FISHTAIL ON HIS CROWN. "LIB" IS THE MAYAN WORD FOR FISH.



THE INVASIONS OF THE SEA PEOPLE WITH THEIR DISRUPTION TO SEAFARING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION COINCIDED WITH THE COLLAPSE OF THE BRONZE AGE. SCARCITY OF SOURCE MATERIALS SUCH AS COPPER AND TIN COUPLED WITH IMPROVEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY FORCED THE BEGINNING OF THE IRON AGE.

THE INTERESTING THING TO NOTE HERE IS THAT LIB NOT ONLY RECORDS THAT THEY ARE MINING PRECIOUS METALS, HE ALSO LISTS IRON AND INDICATES THAT THEY ARE MOVING INTO MORE REFINED METALURGY SUCH AS BRASSES AND "ALL MANNER OF METALS." AND, THIS TIMEFRAME COINCIDES WITH THE BUILDING OF KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.

ALL OF THESE ARE MATERIALS THAT COULD BE USED FOR THE BUILDING OF THE ISRAELITE TEMPLE AT JERUSALEM. ADDITIONALLY, THEY ARE AGAIN LISTING SILKS AND FINE-TWINED LINENS. AND, THIS TIME THEY ARE CLEARLY STATING THAT THEY ARE TRADING THEIR PRODUCTS IN ORDER TO GET GAIN.

ALL OF THIS IMPLIES THAT LIB, AND PERHAPS EVEN THE SNAKE KINGS, WERE PROVIDING AT LEAST THE RAW MATERIALS FOR ITEMS THAT WOULD BE NEEDED FOR THE BUILDING OF KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE. HYRAM, KING OF TYRE, WAS A CRITICAL PART OF THE TEMPLE-BUILDING PROCESS SINCE HE WAS KING OF THE MERCHANT CITY THAT WAS PROVIDING CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS.

THEREFORE, DID BOTH ETHER AND MORONI PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION ABOUT LIB BECAUSE IT WAS A TURNING-POINT CONNECTION BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND MESOAMERICA; IS IT HISTORICAL OVERLAP BETWEEN THE TWO CULTURES AND THEIR HERITAGE IN BUILDING KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE?

IT IS AFTER LIB THAT THE JAREDITE CULTURE THEN FALLS INTO TWO MAJOR FACTIONS THAT CONTINUE TO WAR OVER THE NEXT 600-700 YEARS. MEANWHILE, IT APPEARS THAT WE NOW HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHO IS OCCUPYING THE LANDS TO THE EAST OF THE OLMEC.

IT IS THE SNAKE PEOPLE WHO ARE OCCUPYING THE LAND. THIS ACCOUNTS FOR WHY THE OLMEC CULTURE (JAREDITES) NEVER MOVE EAST OF THE GRIJALVA RIVER. THE LAND IS OCCUPIED BY ANOTHER CULTURE THAT IS STILL IN THE EARLY STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT.

IT APPEARS THAT THE SNAKE KINGS THEN DEVELOP THE SOUTHERN YUCATAN REGION BETWEEN THE BAYS INTO A LARGE INDUSTRIAL SIZE OPERATION. LARGE "GREEN FIELDS" ARE ENGINEERED AROUND EACH BAY TO RAISE PRODUCE FOR COMMERCIAL TRADE OPERATIONS.



IT APPEARS THAT THE REGION BETWEEN THE USUMACINTA AND GRIJALVA RIVERS REMAIN RELATIVELY UNDEVELOPED FOR THE NEXT FOUR HUNDRED YEARS UNTIL THE MULEKITES ARRIVE AT 586 BC. EITHER STATES IT IS BECAUSE IT IS KEPT AS A WILDERNESS FOR GAME, BUT IT MIGHT ALSO BE A BUFFER BETWEEN CULTURES.

**WE NOW HAVE THE IMPLICATION THAT THE MULEKITE MIGRATION TOOK PLACE AS IT DID BECAUSE THERE WAS ALREADY CONSISTENT TRADE TAKING PLACE BETWEEN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND MESOAMERICA. THE MULEKITES FOUND PASSAGE ON A MERCHANT SHIP THAT WAS ALREADY HEADING TO THE AMERICAS.**

**WHY IS THE PRIMARY RIVER OF ZARAHEMLA CALLED THE SIDON? BECAUSE THE PRIMARY SHIPPING DESTINATION FOR TRADE OUT OF MESOAMERICA WAS THE MEDITERRANEAN PORT OF SIDON. THE BULK OF THE CARGO SHIPS IN THE AMERICAS WERE REGISTERED (SPONSORED) BY INTERESTS DOING BUSINESS FROM THE PORT OF SIDON.**

**WHILE THERE IS NO DIRECT INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE BOOK OF MORMON CONCERNING THE LARGER CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF THE MESOAMERICAN REGION, WHEN WE TAKE THE JAREDITE/MULEKITE/NEPHITE TIMELINE AND OVERLAY THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TIMELINE AND THEN FACTOR IN THE GLOBAL EVENT TIMELINE, A MORE COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE COMES INTO FOCUS.**

**AND, THIS IS NOT ALL; THERE IS MORE INFORMATION YET TO COME IN OUR NEXT PRESENTATION AS WE EXPLORE THE IMPACT OF THE NEPHITE AND MULEKITE MIGRATIONS.**

**Hill Cumorah Expedition Team, Inc  
Transforming Faith to Knowledge**

**THE JAREDITES AND THE SERPENTS**

By David B. Brown

