

Something different. A long time-member of the blog, Ron Taska, has sent this along to me. Biblical scholars for years have argued that the camels one finds in the patriarchal narratives of Genesis (Gen. 12-50) are anachronistic, since camels were not yet domesticated in the times in which the Patriarchs allegedly lived. (I'm one of those scholars who doubts whether the Patriarchs of Genesis are historical figures at all; but that's another question.) Here is some recent scientific evidence that appears to support this older scholarly claim. (For reference: Abraham, the "father of the Jews" is usually dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> century BCE. If he lived.) If it's right, then this is one more piece of evidence (among many) that the narratives of Genesis are not historically accurate and were not composed any time near the dates of the alleged events they discuss, or even in the time of Moses (if he lived: 13th century).

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TEL AVIV (Press Release)-Camels are mentioned as pack animals in the biblical stories of Abraham, Joseph, and Jacob. But archaeologists have shown that camels were not domesticated in the Land of Israel until centuries after the Age of the Patriarchs (2000-1500 BCE).

In addition to challenging the Bible's historicity, this anachronism is direct proof that the text was compiled well after the events it describes.

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