

PROFESSOR TAPPY FEATURED ON NOVA DOCUMENTARY



Archaeologist Ron E. Tappy, G. Albert Shoemaker Professor of Bible and Archaeology at the

Seminary, is one of a team of scholars and researchers who have studied biblical stories, examined artifacts, and deciphered ancient manuscripts to trace how the concept of one God emerged in the history of ancient Israelite religion. The results of their work were recently featured in the NOVA documentary “The Bible’s Buried Secrets,” a two-hour program that aired on WQED.

In this special public television presentation, viewers travel on a fascinating, scientific journey back in time to the beginnings of modern monotheistic faith. The documentary digs deeply into both the Bible and the history of the Israelites through the archaeological artifacts they left behind. The program includes very rare motion picture recordings of Pittsburgh Seminary’s work at the site of Tell Beit Mirsim from 1926 to 1932. It also features Tappy’s current fieldwork at Tel Zayit, a PTS field project at a site in the lowlands of biblical Judah. In 2005, Tappy and his team discovered what is currently the oldest known Hebrew inscription in the world—a complete Hebrew alphabet from the time of King Solomon.

"The Bible's Buried Secrets" is available on DVD Feb. 24. Bonus features include a bonus video - "From Concept to Complete" -; materials and activities for educators; link to the NOVA website. closed captions; and described video for the visually impaired . To order "The Bible's Buried Secrets: Beyond Fact or Fiction" on DVD or VHS, contact 1-800-949-8670 or visit shop.wgbh.org.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and Professor Tappy are pleased to play such a prominent role in NOVA’s special presentation of “The Bible’s Buried Secrets.” The views expressed in NOVA’s documentary are diverse, exciting, challenging, and sometimes even controversial. While not all the perspectives presented in the program film represent the stance of the Seminary or its professors, the program is guaranteed to generate much thought and pave the way for future discussions.



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