

2025 Biblical Archaeology programme for Tyndale Fellowship Conference

Study Group theme and/or introduction

The Biblical Archaeology Study Group of Tyndale Fellowship exists to promote evangelical scholarship in the field of biblical archaeology, including not just archaeology proper, but subjects of broader historical or textual-linguistic interest in relation to the Bible such as ancient Near Eastern studies or Classics.

Tyndale Fellowship Lecture: Tuesday 1 July, 20:00-21:30

First name and surname	Institution /location	Title	Abstract
Michael G. Hasel	Southern Adventist University, USA	The Ivory Comb from Lachish: Texts, Literacy, and the Written Word	The Bible mentions Lachish for the first time in Joshua 10 stating that the king of Lachish joined forces with a Canaanite coalition to defeat Israel. The city flourished from the earliest times and was fortified in the Middle Bronze Age through the Late Bronze Age (1800-1125 BC). In 2016 an ivory comb was found by Southern Adventist University archaeologists on the first day of excavation at Tel Lachish. In late 2021 it was investigated for publication under microscopic analysis. Images revealed a three-line inscription incised on the comb. The inscription was deciphered a few months later, published, and made headlines in the <i>New York Times</i> , <i>The Smithsonian</i> , <i>BBC</i> and forty other news outlets around the world as containing the first complete sentence using the alphabet in history. In 2022 <i>Christianity Today</i> listed the Lachish ivory comb inscription #1 in their Top Ten Finds in Biblical Archaeology. The invention of the alphabet revolutionized writing and communication and was later adapted for multiple languages including Phoenician, Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. The implications for literacy and writing will be explored in connection with the origin of the biblical text.

Monday 30 June 2025

Timings 16.00-18.30	First name and surname	Institution/location e.g. St Andrew's, UK or VU Amsterdam, Netherlands	Confirmed paper title
	J. Alberto Paredes	University of Cambridge, UK	The Dual Form אָבְיִים in Exodus 1:16: Archaeological, Iconographic, and Linguistic Parallels with Egypt
	David Armitage	Tyndale House, UK	The flight to Egypt (Matthew 2): practicalities and possibilities

Tuesday 1 July 2025

Timings 10.00-12.30	First name and surname	Institution/location e.g. St Andrew's, UK or VU Amsterdam, Netherlands	Confirmed paper title
	David Toshio Tsumura	Japan Bible Seminary, Japan	The Canaanite collective godhead <i>The Deity Ilū</i> , DINGIR.MEŠ, and Hebrew <i>ʾēl</i> and <i>ʾēlōhîm</i> — Toward the better understanding of polytheism and monotheism
	Caleb Howard	Tyndale House, UK	Genesis 14 in Its Time
	Kengoro Goto	Nazarene Theological College, UK	On the Significance of Onomastic and Numismatic Evidence for the Study of Ancient Hebrew Dialects