

Critics claim the Bible is largely a work of fiction. However, archaeological discoveries of Baalis, king of Ammon help to prove the Bible's authenticity.



“Now Johanan, son of Kareah, and all the military leaders in the field came to Gedaliah in Mizpah and said to him, ‘Surely you are aware that Baalis, the Ammonite king has sent Ishmail, son of Nethaniah, to assassinate you?’ But Gedaliah, son of Ahikam, would not believe them”—Jeremiah 40:14 NAB

Archaeological discoveries of Baalis, king of Ammon, help confirm the Bible's accuracy

Even in minor details, the Bible proves true, when examined in the light of external evidence. **“Baalis, the Ammonite king”** is mentioned only once in the Bible (**Jeremiah 40:14**), and that in a very incidental way. A seal and a seal impression with the name of Baalis have been discovered.

The seal, which was acquired on the antiquities market, is of Baalis himself. It has a winged sphinx with the words: **“Belonging to Baalis”** above it, and the letters for **“king”** on either side and **“Sons of Ammon”** below it.

The seal impression was unearthed at Tell el-Umeri, just south of Amman in Jordan. It reads: **“Belonging to Mikomor servant of Baalis.”**

There are also three royal inscriptions that have been found which may relate to **“Baalis, the Ammonite king”**: (1) **“King Ba’lay,”** as his name is written on an early sixth century BCE bottle discovered in Jordan; (2) **“Ba’al/Yasha,”** an Ammonite king whose name appears on a stamp seal was found at Tell-el ‘Umeiri in Jordan in 1984, and (3) “Baalis king of the

Ammonites,” as his name reads on an Ammonite stamp seal that came to light in 1998.

“In receiving the word of God . . . you received not a human word but, as it truly is, the word of God”—1 Thessalonians 2:13 NAB

These archaeological discoveries of Baalis, king of Ammon, are just a handful of examples of the great volume of archaeological evidence which supports what is written in the Bible, which is what we would expect of something that **“truly is, the word of God.”** By comparison, other prominent sacred books, such as the Book of Mormon and the Koran, have no archaeological evidence to support them.