

Lecture No. 2.

Egypt and our evidence regarding this period is not very explicit, but we have evidence of other instances of intermarriage between royal houses of Egypt and Asia. For instance in the 18th dynasty Amenophis III. married a daughter of the king of Babylonia and also a daughter of the king of the Mitanni, also Rameses II. married the eldest daughter of a Hittite ruler.

Just after the time of Solomon we read in the book of I Kings that Shishak, king of Egypt, conducted a warlike expedition through Palestine, that he conquered Jerusalem and that he took many of the valuable things from the temple back to Egypt with him. An inscription has been discovered on the walls of a part of the temple at Karnak in Upper Egypt showing King Sheshonk I. the founder of the twenty-second Egyptian dynasty with a rope in his hand and before him over one hundred human figures, each of which has this rope tied about it. Upon each of these figures are Egyptian hieroglyphics, spelling out the name of a town which he claims to have conquered. A number of these towns are unknown to us, but many of them can be definitely located as towns in Palestine. In the list we find Megiddo in the Northern Kingdom. I Kings tells us of Shishak's conquest of Judah, but does not mention his having attacked the Northern Kingdom also. It used to be thought that Shishak had simply put in the names of cities copied from the list of the cities conquered by his great predecessor, Thutmosis III and claimed many conquests that he had not actually made. It is interesting to notice that within the last five years, the excavations at Megiddo have brought to light a monument that Shishak actually put up in that great fortress, proving that he did conquer it as he claims in his list.

The contacts of Egypt with the Old Testament after this