

RJ Hall

Subject: FW: TeHEP UPDATE 23 JANUARY 2010

# Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project

Trinity Southwest University,  
Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

in a Joint Scientific Project with the

Department of Antiquities,  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

## TeHEP UPDATE

23 January 2010

*An Exclusive Report for TeHEP Alumni, Financial Supporters, and Friends*

**[GLOSSARY OF CHRONOLOGICAL TERMS FREQUENTLY USED IN TeHEP UPDATES:**

*Chalcolithic Period = Copper/Stone Age, 4400-3300 BCE; EBA = Early Bronze Age, 3300-2350 BCE; IBA = Intermediate Bronze Age, 2350-2000 BCE; MBA = Middle Bronze Age, 2000-1550 BCE; LBA = Late Bronze Age, 1550-1200 BCE; IA1 = Iron Age 1, 1200-1000 BCE; IA2 = Iron Age 2, 1000-586 BCE; IA3 = Iron Age 3/Persian Period, 586-332 BCE; HP = Hellenistic/Greek Period, 332-63 BCE; ERP = Early Roman Period, 63 BCE-168 CE]*

Hello All:

We normally take off on Saturday, but we've got a very limited number of days left at the site, and we wanted to take advantage of the beautiful weather.



TALL EL-HAMMAM'S MASSIVE BRONZE AGE  
FORTIFICATIONS



JENNIFER SHOWS PROPER SLINGING FORM

1/26/2010

While the work in our big LA.28 trench is impressive with all the massive Bronze Age fortifications and houses, what's now coming up in our banana field probe is pretty exciting. Tom and crew have now uncovered about 8 meters of what appears to be some kind of Canaanite building, perhaps a temple. We've now got the interior intersecting wall and an unusual (ritual?) paved floor. The exterior wall is 2.7m thick, and has spawned quite a few theories. As Dr Ritmeyer speculated when he was here, it seems to have the earmarks of Canaanite temple construction, but we'll just have to see how it all pans out. It is looking more and more like such a building.



**TOM WORKING IN THE BANANA FIELD PROBE**



**ALEX FOLLOWS A WALL IN THE BANANA FIELD PROBE**



**CHUCK FINDS AN ANCIENT FLOOR**



**FLOOR WITH A SPECIAL FUNCTION, BUT WHAT?**

I think many of our remaining team members are starting to get a bit weary, but everybody's hanging in there for the final, intensive week of work and wrap-up. I feel overwhelmed when I think about how much we've got to do before we leave, but I'm trying hard just to focus on one thing at a time. I think everyone else is doing the same thing.

Please pray for our strength and health to hold up. And thanks always for your continuing financial support.

Digging the Bible,

Steven Collins, TeHEP Director  
Dean, College of Archaeology, Trinity Southwest University

P.S. Please forward this to whomever you like!

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**Donations can be mailed to: TSU; 5600 Eubank NE, Suite 130; Albuquerque, NM USA 87111.**

**For detailed information about the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project, visit the official TeHEP website: [www.tallelhammam.com](http://www.tallelhammam.com).**