

HISTORICAL APPROACH OF ANCIENT WELDED METALS

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ABSTRACT

Modern historians divide the roughly 3,000 year-period beginning approximately 3200 B.C. into two major segments—the Bronze Age and the Iron Age. The Bronze Age extends from about 3200 B.C. to 1200 B.C. Thereafter it is the Iron Age. These periods are parallel and contemporary to the events presented in the Old Testament. The periods are actually related to the most commonly used metals. Six metals are mentioned in the Bible: gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and tin. There are numerous intriguing evidence references to the metals and metals working in the Old Testament as they came in use in the Near and Middle East. Although the Bible is a religious text, it represents an authentic written source of information.

The article presents two aspects: (a) references regarding the way the metals are mentioned "for the first time" in the Bible; (b) references which due to incorrect translations of the Bible, create the false impression that brass might have existed in the Biblical antiquity.

KEYWORDS: Metal, copper, iron, bronze, brass, bronze age, iron age.

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