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**DR. STEVEN COLLINS CHALLENGES ACADEMICS IN NEW BOOK BASED ON  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG FINDINGS, *DISCOVERING THE CITY OF SODOM***

*"I consider Tall el-Hammam to be one of the most significant excavations—if not the most significant—in Biblical Archaeology that is now taking place in the Middle East; it is even more significant than Hazor and Gezer."*

— *Dr. Clyde Billington of Northwestern College. article for Artifax*

NEW YORK and NASHVILLE, Tenn. – (January 1, 2013) From respected archaeologist Dr. Steven Collins and award-winning author Latayne C. Scott comes *Discovering the City of Sodom* (Howard Books/Simon and Schuster, April 2, ISBN: 9781451684308), the fascinating true account of the frustrating search and exciting excavation of the city the Bible calls Sodom, which scholars and others had “misplaced” for hundreds of years.

Like many modern-day Christians, Dr. Collins struggled with what seemed to be a clash between his heritage of belief in the Bible and the research regarding ancient history – a crisis of faith that inspired him to put both his education and the Bible to the test by embarking on an expedition that has led to one of the most exciting finds in recent archaeology.

Recounting Dr. Collins’ quest for Sodom in absorbing detail, this adventure-cum-memoir reflects the tensions that define Biblical archaeology as it narrates a tale of discovery. The book follows Dr. Collins as he tracks down biblical, archaeological, and geological clues to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, narrowing down the list of possible sites as he weighs evidence and battles skeptics. Finally, he arrives at a single location that looms as the only option: Tall el-Hammam in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Challenging the assumptions of academics around the world, *Discovering the City of Sodom* may well inspire a revision of the history books. Dr. Collins has become a new voice in the controversy over using the Bible as a credible source of understanding the past – and opened a new chapter in the struggle over the soul of Biblical archaeology.

The book also includes black and white photos and charts that chronicle the history of the archaeological dig and its findings.

***Praise for Discovering the City of Sodom:***

"T. Hammam, an immense site, cries out for excavation. It is surely at least as significant as Bab Edh-Dhra, but probably more so. . . . Dr. Collins and his team have the deep experience and broad background to be ideal excavators of this wonderful site. His academic background is impeccable and his field experience is up to date in every regard."

— *William J. Fulco, S.J., NEH Professor of Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Loyola Marymount University*

“Dr. Collins is a meticulous archaeologist with an extraordinary team of specialized scholars who are not afraid to challenge the traditional assumptions about the location and fate of the Bible’s most mysterious city—Sodom. His findings are scholarly, fascinating, educational, and extremely convincing to anyone who needs hard facts to support their conclusions regarding this famous city. The massive accumulation of the archaeological and geographical data from Tall el-Hammam, and its surrounding territory, leaves little doubt in my mind that Dr. Collins has emerged as the authority on the identification of Sodom. This riveting account of Dr. Collins’ fascinating journey and discovery has contributed a unique body of knowledge that surpasses anything published on the subject. I don’t know of a more convincing case for Sodom’s long-awaited identification.”

— *Joseph M. Holden, Ph.D., President of Veritas Evangelical Seminary and co-author, The Popular Handbook of Archaeology and the Bible*

“This lively volume provides the compelling story of the(re)discovery and excavation of an important biblical-period site, combining personal experiences, archaeological evidence, and discussion of biblical texts. Even if one does not see eye-to-eye with the authors’ interpretations on the identity of the site and relationship to specific parts of the biblical narrative, the enthusiastic description of the story of the study of this site and related issues makes it a great read!”

— *Prof. Aren Maeir, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel, director of the Tell es-Safi/Gath Archaeological Project*

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**Dr. Steven Collins** is a respected archaeologist and the chief archaeologist and co-director of The Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project. He is also Executive Curator of The Museum of Archaeology & Biblical History; Dean of the College of Archaeology & Biblical History at Trinity Southwest University; and Visiting Professor of Archaeology at Veritas Evangelical Seminary. His areas of expertise and teaching include the following: biblical studies, biblical criticism, biblical languages, Christian apologetics, Near Eastern archaeology, biblical backgrounds.

**Latayne C. Scott** is the award-winning author of over a dozen books, including the recently-released *The Hinge of Your History: The Phases of Faith, Latter-day Cipher and The Mormon Mirage*. Latayne is the recipient of the Distinguished Christian Service Award by Pepperdine University for “Creative Christian Writing.” She has also won national awards and contests for poetry, humor, and radio plays. A full-time writer and teacher, Latayne also speaks at seminars, retreats, and on television and radio programs. Latayne has been married to her first husband for over three decades and makes her home in her native New Mexico.

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