

SEMINEX

NEWS NEWS NEWS

DR. LARRY W. NEEB, DIRECTOR OF SEMINARY RELATIONS
(314) 534-9410 • OFFICE (314) 878-5470 • HOME

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Subject: SEMINEX OPENS ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION

The Department of Antiquities of Jordan has designated Christ Seminary--Seminex as the official depository of artifacts from a 5000-year old tomb originally located at Bab edh-Dhra near the Dead Sea .

Dr. Walter Rast of Valparaiso University will deliver a public lecture at the opening of an exhibition of the artifacts on September 19 at Seminex, 8 p.m. on the 15th floor, following the unveiling of a reconstruction of the 5000-year old tomb. In his illustrated lecture, Dr. Rast will describe and interpret his archaeological discoveries at several sites from the third millennium BC, known as the Early Bronze Age.

The antiquities include 24 stone and pottery vessels which came from a single tomb in a huge ancient cemetery overlooking the Dead Sea near the presumed area of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. The tomb was the final resting place of three unnamed individuals. Their bones were placed all in one heap. This striking burial practice indicates that the bones were already free of flesh when placed in this tomb. Archaeologists surmise that these were nomads whose clan saved the remains of those who had died during the annual migrations

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for burial at the family burial grounds.

The specially constructed tomb display, as well as other artifacts from tombs at Bab edh Dhra on special loan from the excavation's staff, will be on display daily from 8-4:30 each week day in the library of Christ Seminary--Seminex.

The display and the reconstruction of the tomb were made possible through a grant from the Aid Association for Lutherans, a fraternal benevolence society located in Appleton, Wisconsin.