Dear Nelson,

I finished reading The Other Side of the Jordan sometime ago and have been telling it out to people who were anxious to read it. People seem to be interested in reading about this comparatively little-known piece of Biblical territory, and your book seems to be just the thing to fill the bill. To me it was like a breath of TJ again, and it seemed to me that you presented the picture in just the way to interest the intelligent layman. I hope it will go through a second edition so you can present the material on Ezion-geber in its revised form, for I found that it was that subject that most people were interested in finding out more about.

As I read the book I made notes of a few errors, mostly typographical, which will inevitably creep in. Here they are: page 16, line 6: Transjordan; p. 19, l. 1:and passim: in the index and in other things you have written you refer to Tell el-Kheleifeh, not Tell Kheleifeh; p. 27, ll. 23-25, don't you think this phonetic change could be better expressed?; p. 37, ll. 13-18: to me this statement is too strong; probably early Islamic art and Nabataean art were both influenced by the sub-antique style of Syria. Have you seen Kitzinger's article "Notes on early Coptic Sculpture" in: Archaeologia, vol. 87 (1937), esp. p. 207ff.?; p. 39: Qasrayr 'Amrah is usually considered a hunting-lodge; p. 39, ll. 1l-13: the rosettes at Qasr al-Kharana are typically Sasanian and are common in Parthian architectural ornament before it; I doubt if Nabataean influence is to be seen here; p. 40, l. 2: "buxom" instead of "fat"?; p. 40: Qasr al-Azraq; p. 41: Qasr al-Tuba; p. 42, l. 4: Lakhmids; p. 69, l. 25: Serabit al-Khadim; p. 88, l. 16: benzoin ?; p. 108, l. 6: better Ezion-geber-Elath; p. 108, l. 21ff. better, "the "sky-scaper" type of house....ingers on [why "in ruined form"] as far north as Ma'an.; p. 113, l. 9: heyday; p. 118, ll. 7-8: menhár [no italics]; p. 127, l. 28: Sakhr; pp. 130, 133, 142, 144; glaciis [no cedilla]; p. 159, l. 15: commas around phrase "but not completely accurate"; p. 143, l. 2 from bottom; Uyun, better, "Uyun; p. 147, l. 28; if this is plural, should be rujum malfufah, but if sing., then rujum malfuf; p. 155, l. 1: 'iqal; p. 158, l. 22: no comma after "state"; p. 159, last line; what evidence of Nabataean gifts in literature?; p. 162, l. 2: Siq means a narrow pass or defile, not street (as?); p. 173: Uyun Ghuzlan; Kh. el-Tannur; p. 178, l. 5: vine-and-leaf is less awkward.

The work on the index is progressing smoothly and I hope to get my share done well within the six-
months limit. They tell me the AOS meeting this spring is going to be in Chicago, which means I probably won't be able to go, unless I get a ride out, on account of the expense.

How does teaching seem after archeology? Pretty tame, I suppose.

Best regards from us both,

Harold (Gibbem)