

Study 2: D&M north: The Phoenix  
by William R. Saunders

In his book "The Stairway To Heaven," author and historian Zecharia Sitchin asserts that an object the ancient Egyptians called a 'Ben-Ben' was an Anunnaki 1 space capsule. Sitchin states:

"The secret object - the Ben-Ben-was enshrined in the Het Benben, the 'Temple of the Benben..' We know from the hieroglyphic depiction of the place's name that the structure looked like a massive launch tower from within which a pointed rocket was posed skyward."

"The Ben-Ben was, according to the ancient Egyptians, a solid object that had actually come to Earth from the Celestial Disk. It was the 'Celestial Chamber' in which the great god Ra himself had landed on Earth; the term Ben (literally: 'That Which Flowed Out') conveying the meanings of 'to shine' and to shoot up in the sky.'"

"The term Ben and its hieroglyphic depiction (of a cone), in time, indeed acquired the connotations virility and reproduction..." "In addition to virility and reproduction, the shrine also acquired the attributes of rejuvenation; this in turn gave rise to the legend of the Ben bird, which the Greeks, who had visited Egypt, called the Phoenix.

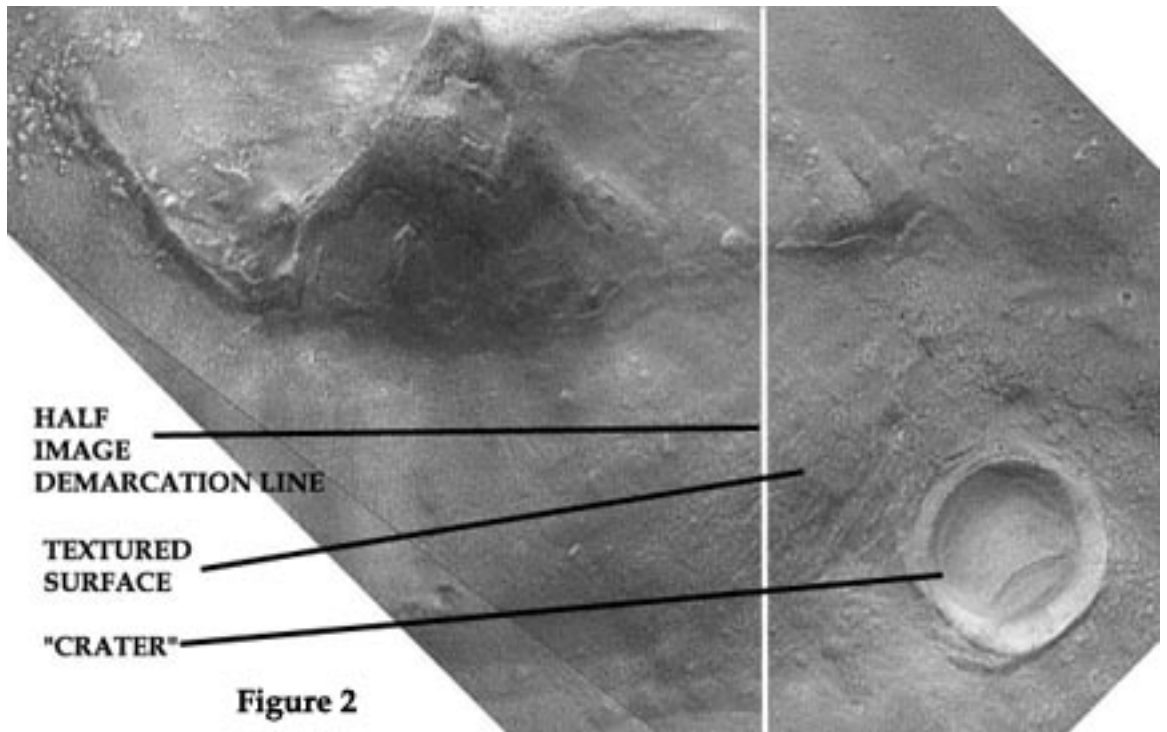
As these legends had it, the Phoenix was an eagle with plumage partly red and partly golden; once every 500 years, as it was about to die, it went to Heliopolis and in some manner rose again from the ashes of itself (or of its father)."

"Archaeologists have in fact found a stone scale-model of the Ben-Ben, showing a god at its open hatch-door in a gesture of welcome." 2

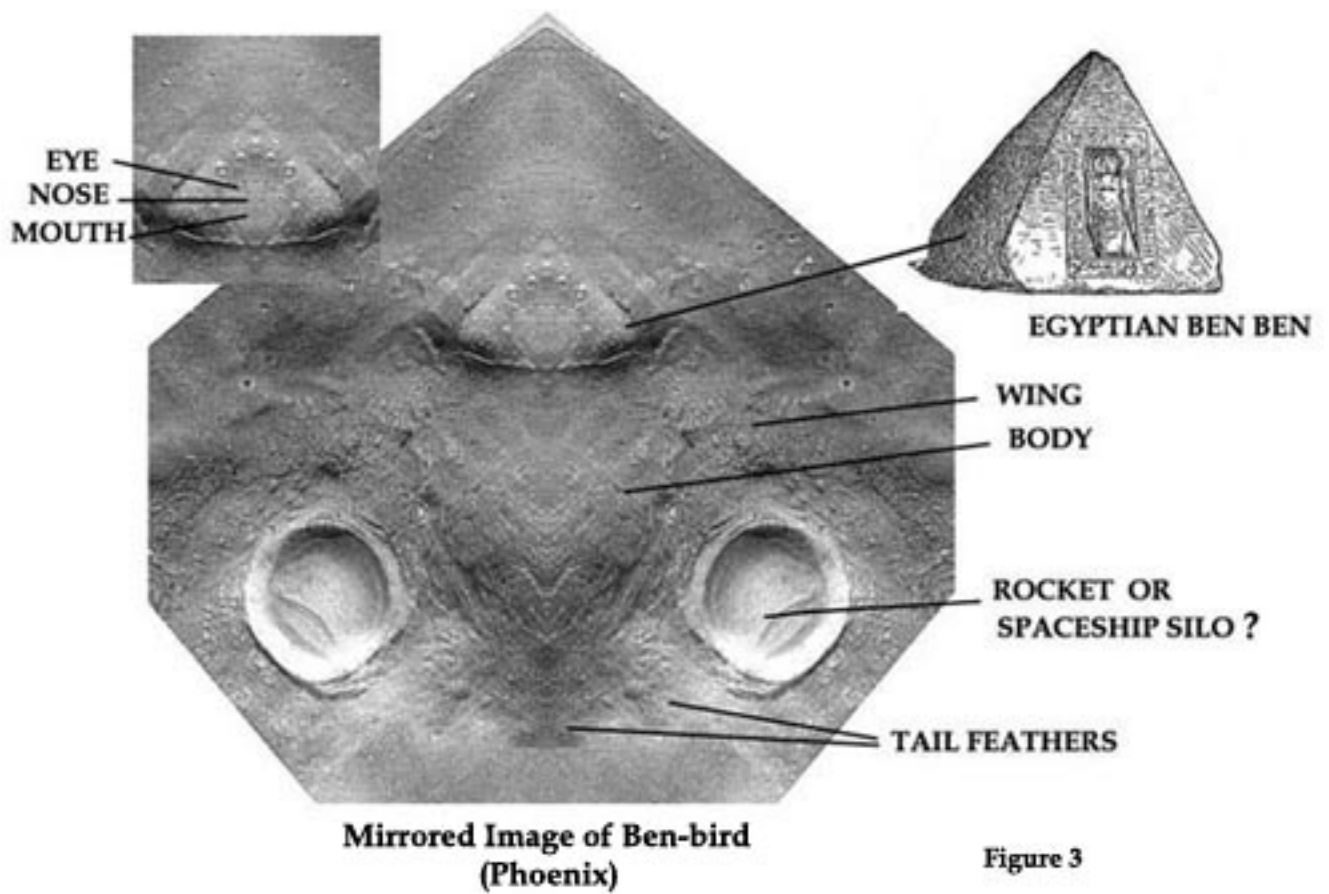


Figure 1: Ancient Egyptian stone model of Ben-Ben  
from The Stairway to Heaven by Zecharia Sitchin , page 73

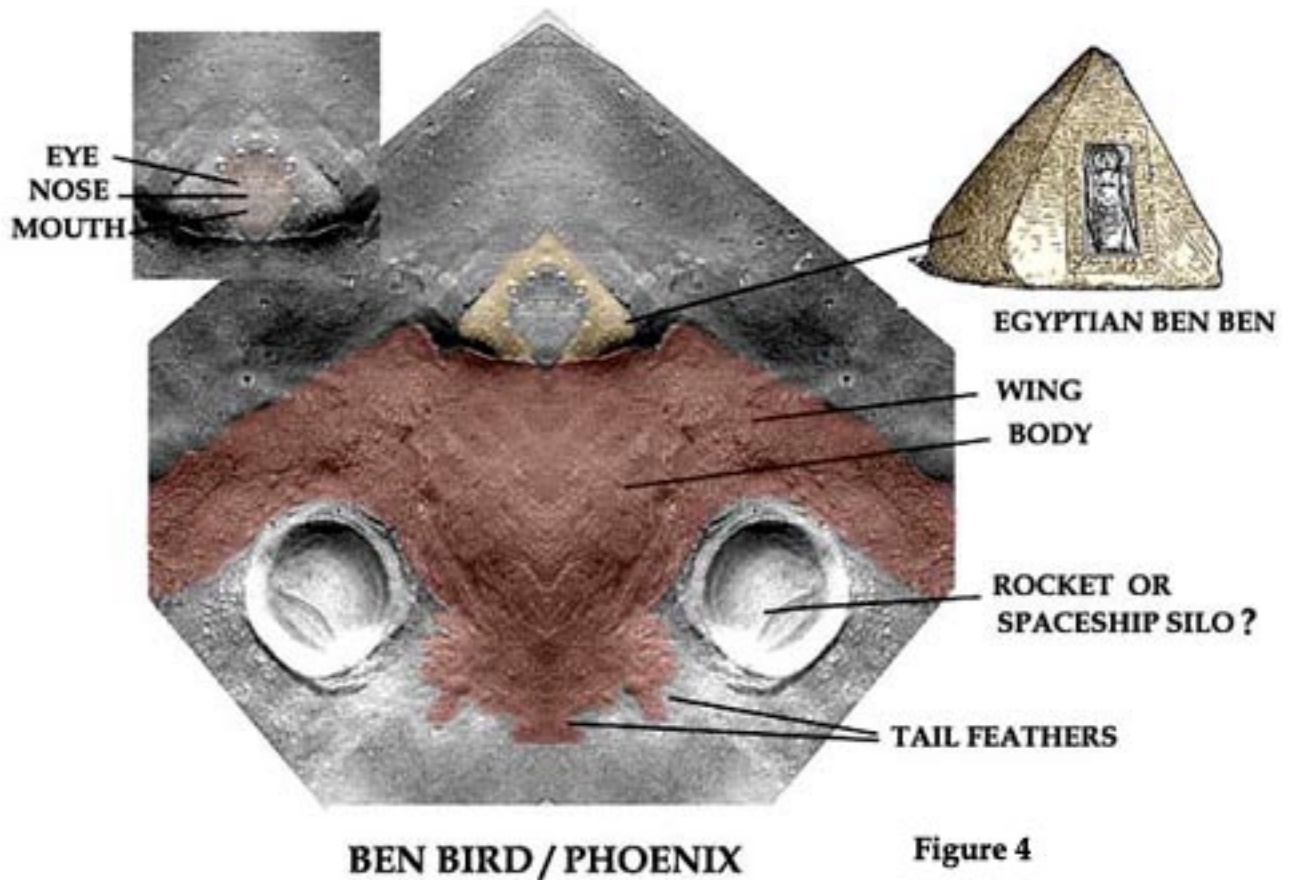
At the north edge of the so-called D&M platform is what appears to be a very circular crater with a large, well formed rim but no obvious splash pattern surrounding it. Much of the surface of Cydonia looks like a circuit board or maze, however the area around the "crater" seemed even more "textured" than normal. I began looking closely for another possible image. (View Figure 2 with a magnifying glass and you will see the incredible intricate and geometrical surface design.)



After rotating the Themis enhancement 45 deg. clockwise, I began to see another half image appear. After doing a mirror flip of this half image near the edge of the platform what appeared was a wonderful depiction of the ancient Egyptian version of a Ben-Ben as the head of a bird about to, or in the process of, soaring into the air. Since this image appears beside the crater, it is my contention that this may not be a crater at all but possibly a rocket or spaceship silo.



Notice the rounded base just like the Egyptian Ben-ben, the astronaut's face withing the Ben-ben –a similar motif to the Egyptian stone model) and the intricate design on the body of the bird.



In the tomb of Huy who was viceroy in Nubia and the Sinai during the reign of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamon circa 1300 BCE is the depiction of what Zecharia Sitchin describes as a rocket in a silo Figure 5. You can see the Ben-ben above ground surrounded by trees and worshippers while within the silo you can see the shaft of the craft. While no thrusters can be seen in this image they can clearly be seen in the sculpture in figure 6. This artifact (circa 1000 BCE) was uncovered in 1973 during an archaeological dig in the ancient city of Tushpa, Turkey (now called Toprakkale.) The object is 23cm long, 9.5cm high 8cm wide and made of a soft yellowish brown stone. 3 The head was broken and missing so the area in white depicts what Sitchin believes it may have looked like.

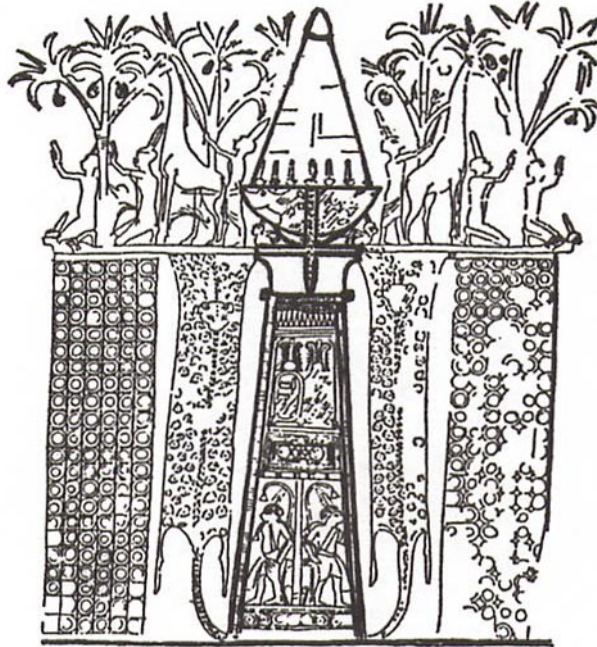


Figure 5: From Egyptian tomb of Huy circa 1300 BCE depicting what appears to be a rocket in a silo.  
Zecharia Sitchin, *The Stairway To Heaven*



Figure 6: Spacecraft sculpture circa 1000 BCE Zecharia Sitchin,  
*The Earth Chronicles Expeditions: Journeys to the Mythical Past*

### Footnotes:

1. Anunnaki was the Akkadian term for the Creator gods, who came down from the heavens and created Mankind and civilization on Earth. Zecharia Sitchin, *The 12th Planet*, (New York, Avon, 1976,) 327-332.
2. Zecharia Sitchin, *The Stairway To Heaven*, (New York, Avon, 1983), 69-73.
3. Zecharia Sitchin, *The Earth Chronicles Expeditions: Journeys to the Mythical Past*, (Rochester, Bear & Company, 2004,) 12-26.