

off the fence.

Sacred Sites (Series 1)

6 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Ireland

Why did the ancient people of Ireland abandon worship of the Earth for worship of the Sky? Combining history, mythology, astronomy, science and archaeology, this documentary looks at how celestial phenomena influenced religious practice and sacred sites in Ireland, thousands of years ago.

2. Chaco Canyon

The desert valley of Chaco Canyon was once a great sacred site and the heart of a sophisticated Pueblo Indian community. But when climate change struck Chaco around 1100 AD, some may have resorted to human sacrifice and cannibalism.

3. Egypt

The amazing sacred sites of ancient Egypt reveal their makers' obsession with death and the afterlife. But the recent discovery of a 4,000-year-old leather manuscript suggests that the ancient beliefs could have more to do with life than death.

4. Petra

The magnificent rock temples of Petra and Hegra hold a remarkable secret. Were these places centers of a 'lost matriarchy', in which women enjoyed unrivalled power and privilege? Filmed in stunning 4K UHD, this documentary explores this incredible story.

5. The Oracles

At Delphi and other ancient Greek oracles, the gods spoke through a priestess or priest, offering cryptic visions of the future. New scientific evidence suggests that these visions were caused by powerful elemental forces – seismic activity and magnetism.

6. The Templars

For over seven hundred years, Europe's most famous military order has been cloaked in mystery, myth and many conspiracy theories. A recent discovery at the Vatican Secret Archives may at last reveal the truth about the Knights Templar.