

Old Testament History 112

with a number of different excavators taking part working in one place and another up and down through that country finding a great many very fine statues and bas reliefs--yes, Mr.---? (Student) Layard. Yes? (Student) Many. Many, yes. There are many places which have not been excavated and there are many others which have only been to a slight extent excavated but the thing is this, that as long as the material is in the ground there it retains its force. There are different layers, one city which existed for anywhere from fifty to five hundred years destroyed by enemies, buried immediately, or perhaps a hundred years later; another city built on top of it. It takes careful search to see just where the ruins of one city end and the next city begins. It takes careful study to see the exact relationships and materials in there and what they mean. The result is that as long as they remain there they can some day be excavated and studied and much learned. Once they are dug up we have only that which was learned by the man who dug them up. We have individual museum pieces

- - - - -  
 Old Testament History 113

a mile away, and it had up there a picture of a king and in front of the king there there were prisoners, and underneath it there were a great many of these wedge-shaped characters , and Rawlinson guessed that there had formerly been a high place to stand up facing the mountain and look over and read the inscription but this had disappeared in the course of time. He went over to it and he managed to climb up several hundred feet up the face of the mountain till he got to this place where the flat surface had been chiselled out there and there there was a little place at the bottom of it about a foot wide at the bottom of this flat place at the side of the mountain that had been flattened off and these inscriptions made on it and he stood on that little parapet with a five hundred foot drop below him and he copied off these wedge-shaped marks and he went up there day after day after he finished his troop training for that day he'd go there and he climbed up and he copied all he could reach. Then he