

and venom was directed that was necessary in order to encourage soldiers to kill and people to give money for the support of the army. ~~Nabonid~~ Evidently Nabonidus who was living in retirement was not enough selective, but Belshazzar who was instead the active ruler and head of the army even though nominally he was only the associate in the kingship.

It would seem that the hatred against Belshazzar led to the omission of his name in the official records. After a time he was completely forgotten and the ~~ancient~~ chronicles of the history of Babylon or of Persia only mentioned Nabonidus. Prof. Daugherty made an intensive study of all the ancient writings that told anything about the downfall of Babylon. He found that, except for the book of Daniel, there was no mention of the name of Belshazzar until we get to the time of Josephus at nearly 100 A.D. and Josephus drew his material from the book of Daniel. Daugherty said in this book which he published in the Yale Oriental Series (Vol. XV Nabonidus and Belshazzar, published in 1929 by Prof. Daugherty of Yale U.) in this book he says the book of Daniel is superior in its accuracy to all other ancient non-cuneiform writings about the end of the Babylonian empire because it correctly preserves the name of Belshazzar. Secondly, because it shows that Belshazzar was actually the reigning king. Third, because it shows there was a dual rulership in the kingdom by 3 references to rewarding a man by making him the third ruler in the kingdom.

Thus often the Bible contains hints of important historical or scientific matters which would otherwise be unknown to us. We can trust the Bible. The greatness of Belshazzar disappeared like a flower of grass. He was completely forgotten for 2500 years. Then God caused that men should dig under the turf that had covered the city of Babylon and there he should find contemporary tablets and that