

No. 1, "The Third Millennium B.C." Now I trust that everyone ~~know~~ knows that when you speak of ~~the~~ "The Third Millennium B.C." you mean from 3000 to 2000 B.C. I am speaking of that as a general large area of time - those thousand /years. And during those thousand years there were probably not 1/100th of the people on the world (earth) ~~that~~ that there are today. And a great many of the things we have today they did not have, but there was a considerable amount of literature written. But none of that literature which was ~~known~~ written in that millennium was preserved through the ages so that it has been ~~known~~ known continuously from that day to this. Everything that we know about the literature written in the third millennium, B.C., has been discovered within the last 150 years by excavation. Everything we know about it. We have discovered, for instance, a large amount of literature which we speak of as ~~Sumerian~~ "Sumerian" literature. Now for those of you who know nothing about archaeology I'll spell the word: "Sumerian." But the Sumerians were the first really active, able people perhaps of whom we have very much evidence in history. Then are a people ~~who~~ who completely died out. They had a language utterly unrelated to any language known today. But the Sumerians, who lived during a portion of the third ~~millennium~~ millennium B.C. in Mesopotamia, invented writing, and from them it spread eastward across Asia to China, and it spread westward/~~across~~ <sup>into</sup> Africa, and the Egyptian writing, and the Chinese writing both had their ~~origin~~ <sup>origins</sup> ~~in~~ from the Sumerian writing. But the Sumerians invented it; both of these other nations ~~took~~ took the start of it from them, and then developed it in an entirely different way than the Sumerians did. So that if you get the ~~idea~~ <sup>writing</sup> of either of these areas a thousand years later ~~it's~~ <sup>that</sup> it's not a bit like the way/the Sumerian writing developed, but at the start it is practically identical, and most scholars are quite convinced today that it was the Sumerians who invented it. Probably they invented it originally as a means of indicating property, in connection with caravans -/ <sup>you</sup> ~~they~~ put a mark on it to show to whom it belonged. ~~They~~ <sup>you</sup> ~~developed~~ develop a system of ~~it~~ listing how many things you had in the caravan. You listed your offerings that you made in the temple, and thus for practical purposes the idea of making marks to remind you of something developed, and de-veloped the habit