

000723

ARCHAEOLOGY

Chapel 10/19/73

I hope that all of you wither have your Bibles here hhis mornngg or are sitting next to someone with whom you can looken because I would like to refer to a number of verses. First I would like to read from 1 Pet.1: the last two verses: "For all flesh is as grass and all the glory of man as the flower of grass; the grass withers and the flowers thereof falls away but the Word of the Lord endures forever and this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached unto you." Then frm 2 Pet. L;16 -- "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables when we made known unto you the pwwer and coming. . . . "

I would like to speak a little about the subject of Archaeology. Some years ago I was talking with a man who said to me "I was brought up to study the Bible, to believe theBible." He said, "It has had a great influence on my life. But when I read these stories about these things in ancient times when things were so very different from the way they are today. Sometimes I feel as if there as if they were a lot of fairey stories. I just don't feel sometimes any reality to it."

Well I had an experience myself some years ago which gave me a vivid feeling of just what he meant. It was a good many years ago. It was the day before Thanksgiving. On that day I did something I have not done a great many times. I went and bought a new pair of shoes. It was also an unusual day in that I had no classes that day. It was a Wednesday, and I was teaching a heavy schedule Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday but had no classes on Wednesday. That year I had none Thursday either because that next day was Thanksgiving Day. Now there was another very unusual thing. I had invitations to three Thanksgiving dinners that year. That Wed. night I was invited to a Thanksgiving dinner; Thursday noon I was to be at one with a different family, and Friday I was invited to still a third Thanksgiving dinner. Well on Wednesday, I went to the University of Pennsylvania to look up some materials there, and as I left the place heading for the 30th street station to get the suburban train out to German-town, I came to the corner right there by the station where five different streets come together. I was in a little huzzy hurry so as to be sure to catch my train, and I got to the corner and I looked this way and I looked that way and I saw nothing coming so I