

of imagination. But solid history in the sense of knowing actual facts went back to 500 B.C. and no further back. Back of that we had very little, practically nothing that we could depend on. But here we had the OT tellings us of events going back some thousands of years back of that time. We had mention in it all sorts of places and people of which we had absolutely no knowledge 150 yrs. ago.

For instance we had in the OT mention of a city called Ninevah, and in the Book of Jonah we read that Ninevah was a city of 3 days journey - a city so large that it would take 3 days to walk about it. And there were those who said, That would be as big as Berlin or Paris one of our big cities of today. If there ever was a city like that in ancient times, we'd at least have some ruins. We'd have some idea where it had been. That's a purely imaginary thing. Then in about 1840 a French excavator and an English excavator went across the Tigris river from Mitsu in Iraq, and there they dug into the ground and there they found the remains of ancient Ninevah and they found there the evidence that there was a city so large that it would take 3 days for an ordinary person to walk around the walls of that city, but a city that had been so thoroughly destroyed by its enemies in 612 B.C. that when the Greeks in their Anabasis a couple of centuries later came very near the place, they would seem not to have heard the slightest rumour that there had been a city in that area. So lately had it been destroyed and covered over with the sand and dust of the ages. Ninevah disappeared completely from the memory of man and then Botta and Layard 140 yrs. ago found the evidence that there had been indeed one of the great cities of the world's history there.

Prof. Speiser of the U. of Pa. once said in my hearing that the ^{edition} ~~addition~~ of the Encyclopedia Britannica that had been issued --- I think it was the 7th edition, I forget the exact number -- they don't number them any more ~~so~~ you don't know whether you are getting new ones or not. They just change a few articles every year. But they used to get a new edition out about every 20 years. And I believe he said it was the 7th edition that said that in Isa. 23:21 where it says that the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him and fought against Ashdod and took it at the same time spake the Lord by Isa. saying and it goes on and gives a message