12/21/74Cuneiform Studies2nd tape18But it looks I more like the original pictures. It's an earlier form.The Arameans perhaps were influenced by cuneiform in making more straightlines like our Hebrew writing today.

Hebrew

(Student: Many people are questioning whether/was really as rare --- I don't know whether in official use, or common use, or Rabbinic schools or what in the time of Christ than **WXW** was earlier thought.

I don't think there is any evidence it was a living language at that time. But it was used extensively in study of course.

(Student: There is a thing you did not get to. The 1 i and the with the (???)

Thank you for calling attention to that because that is a thing that is important in reading anything that quotes from cuneiform. This sign up here we represent as a U. But this sign is also a U. There is no difference between them. There may be a difference that in certain words you'll use one and in certain the other, but as far as we know there is no difference in meaning between these two. I think if you mean "and" you are apt to use this one; if you mean the first U of a word, you are apt to use this one. While in the end of the word you are more apt to use this one. Really no difference.

But when you taken cuneiform and write it in Latin letters, we need a way to indicate to the scholar which U is U. So they began putting an acute accent to **w**• show a different one. For wuite a time **h**hey put the acute accent on this **w**• one and not this. But there was a French Scholar **XNXXXXXXX** (Name given ???) who **XXXXXX** worked out a system which all cuneiform scholars since c. 1925 have adopted. This system which is we call this simple U; we call this U with an acute accent. But it just simply means a different way of writing U. Here is the sign for believe. . . . H**e**re is another lee. This is really the sign nee but sometimes it is used for lee. The sign she I told you could mean lim; there are times when it simply represents