

into ruins, and one hundred years ago even its location was unknown. In 1863 an English architect, J. T. Wood, went to the ruins of Ephesus in order to find the famous temple, but had to search for six years before he succeeded. After much hunting he came upon an inscription which gave a clue to the fact that it was more than mile northeast of the city, and here he found its sculptured columns and massive blocks of marble, twenty feet below the present level of the ground. Later excavations were carried on for many years by the Austrian Archeological Institute. The temple was found to have been very large and splendidly decorated and many interesting inscriptions were found, corroborating the references in Acts to the worship of Diana at Ephesus.

These are a few examples of the type of special corroboration that is apt to emerge from the discovery of inscriptions and the examination of buildings in the cities visited by Paul. Much more material of the same sort has come to light from the study of the writings that have been handed down by copying and recopying, as shown in the articles on the various cities.

At this point we might also mention some material found outside of Palestine, that corroborates certain details of the gospel story. In Egypt papyri have been found referring to the taking of a Roman census every fourteen years. Actual census returns have been found, using the same Greek word that Lk. 2.2 employs for the "enrollment." In addition, evidence from the papyri found in Egypt also corroborates the practice of going to one's own home place for enrollment, as in Lk 2.1-5.

D. Interpretation.

The more we know about the life, customs, and geographical situation of the various cities mentioned in the book of the Acts or in the New Testament Epistles, the easier it is to understand the precise meaning of some of the