Lecture No. 2.

an important part in world affairs, but never so important as during the previous periods. Eventually, the Assyrians conquered Egypt and Egypt was finally a part of the Persian Empire and later of that of Alexander the Great.

As much of the history of Egypt as I have given is a common necessity to a correct understanding of the biblical statenents referring to Egypt. But I hardly think it necessary in these ectures to go into Egyptian history and culture in much more detail. There are good books on the subject which may be studied by those interested in becoming more familiar with it. I shall simply notice some of the most important contacts of the Bible with Egypt.

The first place at which we have much mention of Egypt in the Old Testament is in connection with the trip of Abraham down into Egypt. We have pictures in Egypt showing the entrance of various Asiatics into Egypt. One of these has been called the Chming of Abraham, though it comes from a period which could not possibly be the period of Abraham. It merely serves to show that Asiatics did come into Egypt as visitors at various periods in dates. During the latter days of Egyptian history, the horse was one of the outstanding animals of Egypt. Raising horses was a great industry in Egypt and Egyptian horses were known for their excellence through all the ancient world. Anyone writing a history in ancient times about Egypt would be almost sure to bring in horses, because of their importance in Egypt. Consequently, it is remarkable to read in connection with the history of Abraham in Egypt, an account

17.