

The second set of pictures from the top shows the king of Juda bringing his tribute and has as its title "Tribute of Jehu, Son of Omri". Here was a mention of a biblical king, with his name given practically the same as it is given in the Bible, and a recent one of his predecessors whose son he is called. Son is here used of course with the meaning simply of successor or follower. The king of Damascus who is mentioned in the Bible at this period is also mentioned on the inscription.

In 1852, Hormuzd Rassan who had been one of Layard's helpers, continued excavations at Kouyunkij which had proven to be the site of the ancient Nineveh. He found a palace that his predecessor had not discovered, the palace of Assurbanikal, the last of the great Assyrian kings. In this palace he discovered a library containing every variety of Babylonian and Assyrian literature, including dictionaries and grammatical exercises. Some hundreds of thousands of tablets were contained in this library. Assurbanikal had sent his scribes through all parts of the Babylonian empire, collecting all the tablets that he could. Those tablets which were of any value from historical or literary viewpoint which could not be secured, he had copied and tried to make as complete a library of the literature of his day as possible. These tablets were arranged here according to subject, placing history, law, medicine, poetry and every other type of literature together. The tablets were so arranged that any desired tablet could be found quite easily.

As it happened less than twenty years after the death of Assurbanikal who had collected this great library, the enemies of the Assyrians succeeded in defeating them and in conquering Nineveh. They turned the waters of the Tigris River on the city, knocked down everything that they could and burned whatever would burn. The