

The methods which were used by Ashur-Nasirpal were used by all of his successors. Perhaps none of them used them with more cruelty or thoroughness than he did, but all used them to some extent. The outstanding feature of the Assyrian conquests is not simply the fact that they were able to conquer so many nations, but the fact they they were able to organize the conquered territory and to build a permanent empire.

Tiglath-Pel~~is~~<sup>is</sup>ir IV. who began to reign in 745, inaugurated a policy of transporting to a distant part of his empire the wealthy and influential members of the conquered nation and of putting similar <sup>9 troops</sup> assignments from other lands in their place. Individuals so transported would not be able to work up rebellions against him, but would be inclined to look to the Assyrian army for protection against the peoples among whom they were placed. Thus the local centers of opposition to him were broken up and the attempt was made to weld the whole dominion into a permanent empire.

This policy which he introduced was continued by his successors. This is a period of tremendous importance for the Old Testament student. Not only because of its great interest for the correct understanding of the Old Testament statements, but also because of the many events recorded in the Assyrian writings from this period which can be compared with the record of the same events in the Old Testament. It is the first period from which much material came to light bearing on the Old Testament, ~~but~~ it was in the territory of the capital of the Assyrians that the first great excavations in Mesopotamia were conducted. It still remains to date one of our greatest sources of corroboration of the accuracy of the biblical history.

The names of many of these kings, such as Tiglath-Pel<sup>is</sup>ir, Shalman<sup>is</sup>ir, Sarg<sup>on</sup>on, Sennacherib, Essarhaddon and Asurban<sup>ip</sup>al occur