

longevity of the antediluvian ~~patriark~~ patriarchs. All we know is that the Bible clearly states that they did live far longer than has been the case during most of the time since the flood.

I do not know of any archaeological material that relates to the period before the flood. It seems evident from the Bible that civilization before the flood had progressed to a far higher point than was reached for a considerable time after that event. If I and my family were to be the only people left alive after the complete destruction of all the other ~~inhabitans~~ inhabitants of this earth, we would not know how to build new railroads and airplanes, but would have to live on a scale ~~is~~ similar to that of some centuries ago, and it would probably be a long time before humanity would rediscover many of the ~~til~~ things that have become ~~a comm~~ commonplace today.

<sup>③</sup> should have been found <sup>②</sup> that no <sup>④</sup>  
I do ~~not~~ know of any archaeological evidence regarding situations or  
<sup>⑤</sup> events before the ~~and~~ flood, <sup>①</sup> ~~This~~ is not ~~at~~ all strange <sup>③</sup> since ~~we do not know~~ <sup>②</sup> ~~after all, we~~  
<sup>④</sup> have ~~no way of knowing~~ in what part of the earth people lived before the ~~fil~~ flood. It might have been almost  
anywhere. In a year's time the ark may have moved <sup>a</sup> very long distance.

It is true that much publicity was given about 30 years ago to a discovery in ~~Mesp~~ Mesopotamia, where an excavator claimed to have found evidence of Noah's flood. There is no doubt, however, that the layer of rubble ~~that~~ he found was simply the result of a river having overflowed its banks. <sup>②</sup> ~~but~~ considerable rubble had been deposited in a certain area, but no ~~cor~~ corresponding deposits were found in other areas along the river. <sup>①</sup> It was altogether different ~~from from~~ -- from Noah's flood. <sup>③</sup> ~~Fu~~thermore, and the type of civilization represented below ~~was~~ above this particular flood layer were almost identical. There was no sign of any change comparable to that which occurred in connection with Noah's flood.