

the Bible or on engineering or on astronomy or any other subject of that type. The Bible is not written to explain those things. When the Bible touches on them, it touches on them actually and gives ~~us~~ certain facts about them and those facts are dependable, but those facts are ^a comparatively small portion of that particular field. The same is true to a much lesser extent in the matter of history. If we want to know the history of Old Testament times, while the Old Testament is our best and largest source, it is not a sufficient source for that purpose. So there is much that we cannot know about the history unless we can find some other source.

Well, we mention then a second source which immediately occurs in connection with the New Testament but which is not of great importance in connection with the Old. We mention it ~~for~~ the sake of completeness here. Number 2, the classics. That word, the classics, is not a particularly good word. It is a word which historically has come to have a certain meaning. Great books written in ancient Greece and Rome were thought to be the standard works ~~th~~ at everybody should know ~~about~~, so they called them classics. In the late middle ages everybody studied them ~~extensively~~ extensively. Today comparatively few study them at all. By the classics then we mean those books of ancient countries which were considered by their people to be of sufficient value to copy and ~~recopy~~ recopy so that copies have come down ~~to~~ to us today. Those are the classics. In the classics we learn a ~~good~~ good bit about the history of Rome and we ~~learn~~ learn many things that are very helpful and interesting in building up our knowledge of New Testament history., but very little for Old Testament history because the Old Testament started before Greece or Rome were of great importance. We do not have classics that have been passed on down from the other countries at the time of the Old Testament. All of their literature disappeared except this extract from it which was preserved in the literature of ancient Greece and Rome and ~~there~~ are comparatively few. There are a few quotations from ancient Babylonian and Egyptian writing preserved in