

Greek writing that have come down to us--a few. They are not very well preserved and they don't tell us much about ancient history. So this is not an important source for Old Testament but only mentioned for the sake of completeness.

However, there is a third source for Old Testament history which has come to light in the last century. This source has given us a tremendous amount of knowledge that is very useful in coming to understand Old Testament history. This source we call archeology. Now the difference between archeology and the classics is that the classics deal with paper which may have been written on a hundred years ago, ~~by~~ five hundred, ~~at~~ a thousand, but hardly ever a thousand years ago. It is paper on which there is something written but is copied from something else, something else, and copied from something else and so on back, the same as in the case of our Bible. Our Bible is taken from manuscripts which are copied from ~~xxx~~ other manuscripts, copied from others, copied from others, and so on way back. That is true of the classics. But archeology is the science that seeks to find the actual things used by the people with whom it deals so that ~~if you have something~~ if you found something that Moses had actually written that would be archeology. If you find something he actually used that is archeology. But ^{if} you have a book that he wrote that has been copied and recopied and recopied whether it was in Greece or Rome that would be classics ~~xx~~ rather than archeology. Now ~~xxxxxx~~ archeology ~~deals with the~~ in the last century has brought to light a tremendous amount of material bearing on the Old Testament. A little over one hundred years ago we knew practically nothing of ancient history back of 500 B. C. aside from the statements in the Old Testament. A few statements of the Greek writers which were considered largely ~~xxxx~~ mythical was all we had ~~aside~~ from the Old Testament. In the Old Testament we had the account of people going back just as far back of 500 B. C. as we are this side. We had the names of many ~~xxxxxx~~ people these absolutely ~~xxxxxx~~ unknown anywhere else. We had great cities mentioned in the Old Testament which were not mentioned in other sources and of which