

people will think of mean that ~~they will do it~~ and it certainly doesn't mean that people will adopt it. And so until the year 312 B. C. we do not know of any ~~information~~ ancient nation which numbers its years 1, 2, 3, 4 ~~th~~ right on up indefinitely. That is only begun in 312 B. C. and then only a comparatively small portion of the world did it. From 312 B. C. ^{6 - 11 3/4}, one of Alexander's generals after the death of Alexander the Great, went into the city of ~~xxx~~ Babylon and he secured the control of it and he was fortunate to establish an empire which lasted a couple of centuries as the result of ~~xxx~~ the empire and in his empire they called the year from that year so that the time of Christ, when Christ was born, was the year 308 according to the ^{6-12 1/4} era and that system was kept up until as late as about 1500 A. D. in certain places. The earliest system of naming years went ~~right straight along with~~ ~~xxxx~~ 1, 2, 3, 4. When the Romans conquered them, they didn't adopt it. The Romans kept their system of naming it according to the man's name who had conquered. Naturally then people had ~~xxxx~~ if they wanted the name used. God is naming them according to the king who ruled--in the first, second, third year of his reign. The question then is, who is the king? What country is he in? Another country may have another system. Or perhaps they have named it after a great event, the year of the earthquake, the second year ~~after~~ after the earthquake, and so on. All so such systems have been used. So it is not at all strange that when you take up the Old Testament and turn to events in it there are none of them in which the text says that this happened in the year 725 B. C. There is no case where it says that or makes a statement according to another system like our present one--1, 2, 3, 4 up to the ~~xxxxxxx~~ ~~present~~ thousands. There is no such system used there. So if you want to know the date in which something happened in the Old Testament, it is rather like the matter of trying to figure out the date when something happened in your own life which you didn't bother to write down and keep track of. It is a problem and a difficult problem and often you can't be sure at all about the exact date. So this matter of chronology to the superficial reader seems like