

that is when history begins.

Now another date that is important to remember, another very approximate date is about 1000 B. C. That is about the time of David. Now here is a date which all scholars today agree on. That doesn't prove that it is true, because in the interlude between 300 B. C. and 500 B. C. our material is extremely scanty. As to the length of that period from 300 to 500 B. C. it might be proven that there is as much as 50 years off in our idea of the length of that period. Hardly any scholar today even thinks of that as a possibility, but the fact is that our idea of the length of the period from 300 to 500 B. C. rests only upon one document and that a document written long after that time. And consequently it is entirely ~~that the~~ possible that the period from about 300 B. C. to about 500 B. C. that that period was 50 years longer or 50 years shorter. It is possible. All ~~scholars~~ scholars today agree upon how many events took place during those two hundred years even though we know practically nothing about many large sections of the period. Now ~~we~~ you can easily see that if it is proved that what we thought happened in 500 happened at 550 or 450, it would make all the dates before that move 50 years one way or the other. So every date before 300 B. C. has a certain element of uncertainty about it. That is not at present thought of by scholars. It is assumed that these dates are correct even though they only rest on this one document. And it would be revolutionary in ancient history if something should be discovered making a change there. I know one book by Martin ⁷⁻⁹ on the Romance of Bible Chronologyⁱⁿ which he builds his chronology on the Bible alone and insists that all modern historical science is absolutely wrong in these dates and what they say happened in 500 ~~is~~ happened in about 450. He insists on that, but I don't think the Biblical data that he builds it on is clear ~~enough~~ enough to insist on it dogmatically as he does. But I was interested in reading what he said to see what the evidence on which our dates before 500 are based and to know that it is only one manuscript, one late manuscript is all that the exact date upon which that