

Chapel - 4/29/58 - Dr. MacRae

the remains of the ancient city of Ninevah, a city so great that it would take three days to walk around it. The walls around it were nearly 60 miles in length, around that great metropolitan complex of ancient Ninevah, the capital of the Assyrian Empire. That city was destroyed in 612 B. C. It was so completely destroyed by its enemies that when 200 years later the Greeks and the _____ under the direction of _____ (9.) marched near the spot, nobody had the slightest recollection of what these ruins were. And a few centuries more and the sand of the desert covered it so completely there wasn't even anything to show Assyria had been there - just a series of mounds there. And it remained that way until 1841. For a period of nearly 2500 years Ninevah was only a word. Ninevah was only an occasional reference in history. There was no visible evidence, no stones to mean that a great ancient capital had been there. And the Bible kept _____ (9.75) of the great Assyrian capital. The same is true of many great conquerors - one of the very interesting cases is ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~one of the kings of Ninevah named Sargon. And I am told that in the sixth edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, which was issued about 1837, there is a statement that since Sargon is mentioned only once in the Bible - and that is in the 20th chapter of Isaiah, the first verse - "In the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him) and fought against Ashdod, and took it" - because he's only mentioned once in the Bible at this place and nowhere in any of the Greek writings, we can be sure this is a mistake in the Bible for some other king - there was no such king as Sargon. But the next edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, published about twenty years later, omits this statement and instead tells about the powerful King Sargon who had been excavated in the meantime and tells about the discovery there of the annals of this king, one of the great conquerors of the world's history. Sargon, a great king, a mighty conqueror - for nearly 2500 years completely forgotten. It was thought there was no mention of him anywhere except this and then later it was found that one mention in Ptolemy of a king called Archeamus is really Sargon - but the "S" is dropped off in the _____ - and this Archeamus, from what he says about him, we know is a reference to the same King Sargon. Forgotten for 2500 years and only one reference in the Bible to remind us of the existence of that great monarch, that great conqueror. Professor Olmstead of the University of Chicago, in a book called PERSECUTION AND LIBERTY, A Study in Honor of George Lincoln Burd a professor in Cornell University - in this