

as the day of Hammurabi, the king of Babylon, that Hammurabi put up a law court in a public square, and he said on this, These are the laws which I put up here so that anyone who questions whether he is being unjustly treated, ~~an~~ can ~~may~~-come and read the laws and see what his rights are. That was done about the time of Abraham in Babylon. Now, today if you want to know what the law is in Philadelphia, you go ~~to~~/~~your~~ lawyer, and he hunts through a lot of books and find out what your rights are and maybe he will have to say, We will have to wait and ~~see~~-- have a court case and see whether you have ~~this~~- these rights or not. But Hammurabi evidently thought that he could make them clear enough that ordinary person could read ~~and~~-- the inscription ~~a~~- and tell. And that is quite different from <sup>old</sup>the/idea that the days of the writing of the Bible, writing in Babylon was very uncommon. I do not mean necessarily that everyone/could read but certainly ~~he~~ thought that everybody could read or had a friend who could read it to him. Writing and reading were quite widespread as early as the time of ~~Abraham~~ in Babylon/ undoubtedly. Now, this is quite a bit after the time of Abraham, and this is at the end of the kingdom of Babylon, <sup>because</sup> and you notice that it was conquered and taken over by ~~the~~ the Medes and Persians. And so when we began excavating in Babylon, we found in Babylon, by the way, this stone called Hammurabi which I mentioned was taken away by the Edomites once when they conquered the ~~Babyl~~-- Babylon, and it was thought ~~et-b~~-- to be a sufficient value. ~~This-figure-had~~- They figured this stone to be carried clearly off across the mountain to a distant place where it was eventually found, and it is today in the Louvres in Paris. But in Babylon we found thousands of clay tablets, often about the size of <sup>a</sup>the-cake of Ivory soap. The bulk of them are legal documents, contracts and that sort of a thing. And you can see that it would be necessary to have contracts and necessary for a person to know how to read these contracts, and when you realize that in this code of Hammurabi which was the law of Babylon from the time of Abraham and on , in this there is a statement made that if a person sees something in some body else'