

mentioned in the Old Testament now finds specific and exact corroboration in these new discoveries. The Old Testament history no longer stands alone. It takes its place in that larger world history which gradually comes to view as new factors are discovered here and there. The Bible becomes clearer as we come to understand it, not as an artificial production, but as a book which give us an accurate picture of the way in which God revealed Himself in the midst of striking historical events.

A world of life and movement, glory and tragedy, effort and achievement, long ago disappeared from sight. Only an occasional reference in the Bible kept alive the memory of its greatness. Then the excavator's spade unearthed its remains. What a striking illustration of the statement in I Peter 1:24-25: "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: but the word of the Lord endureth for ever."

Nineveh was for a time the capital of most of the civilized world. Nation after nation fell before the onslaught of her armies. A few verses in the Old Testament tell of her greatness. The most impressive are in the Book of Jonah, with its reference to Nineveh as a city so large that it would take three days to walk around it. One hundred and twenty years ago, no trace of Nineveh remained above the ground. Sceptics derided the Biblical statements about it. "Surely," they said, "if there had actually existed in ancient times a city as great as modern Paris or Berlin, some trace of it would remain, so that we would at least know where it was". Then in 1842 the French vice-consul, Emil Botta crossed the upper Tigris river opposite modern Mosul and began to excavate a series of deserted mounds. There, under the sand of the ages, he found the remains of many acres of ancient palaces and temples. He found evidence