

is and God really did speak through the writers of the Bible. Now the first of these to which I am going to call your attention ~~tonight~~ tonight is found in the 51st chapter of the book of Jeremiah. This 51st chapter is dealing with the great Babylonian Empire, and it is telling about the punishment that God is going to bring upon the Babylonian Empire ~~in~~ for it's sin, and there are many interesting things in the chapter , but I'm going to call your attention particularly to a specific statement made in the 43rd verse of the chapter. For context, I will read the 42nd, "The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof." Now Babylon is a long distance inland. That could mean that there is going to be a tidal wave that is going to come up and hundreds of miles there and overwhelm the city, but it may be a figurative statement of great armies sweeping across the sea. The Sea, ~~the~~ the ocean, the ocean is often used in the Bible as a figure for the great hords of heathen nations, of the great multitudes . We will say that Babylon , like all other ~~great~~ great ancient ~~city~~ cities has at some time been overwhelmed by great armies and has passed from one control to another, <sup>so</sup> while this 43rd verse has been fulfilled in that sense, it's the sort of thing you can say about any ~~a~~ place almost. Let's look at the next verse. "The sea ~~is~~ is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof. Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby." Now, that is a very specific statement ~~isn't~~ isn't it, what was the situation in the day of Jeremiah. Along the Tigris and Euphrates rivess stretching down from the mountains of Armenia southward , down to the Persian Gulf , along these two great rivers there were great cities, cities which had been there for thousands of years, cities which were great centers of <sup>great</sup> commerce, /cities of religion, cities of thought and of culture. These cities had been there thousands of years . The boats had been floating down the rivers carrying the products from one to