

which runs for over a half a mile along the southern end of the Sea of Galilee. The debris there shows that the city began its history about 3000 B.C., but that it was deserted from around 1800 B.C. on. Except for a small Roman fortification on top of the hill, there is no sign of human life there after the time of Abram. At the time of the later Israelite kingdom it looked much as it does to-day, just a deserted hill with nothing to suggest that people had ever lived there.

The evidence indicates that at the time of the entrance of the Israelites into Canaan under the leadership of Joshua the Jordan Valley was almost deserted. In subsequent periods people could hardly have imagined that this was such an attractive section that Lot would choose it in preference to the hill country where Abram remained. The account in Genesis 13 exactly fits the situation at the time of Abram. It is hard to see how it could have been invented centuries later.

A PROBLEM OF NUMBERS

There will be time for but one more illustration and this is not specifically taken from the field of archeology. For many years students have scoffed at the numbers contained in the books of Kings and Chronicles. Much has been said of the fact that occasionally a number given in one of these books is given differently in the parallel. Still more has been made of the fact that sometimes the statement that a certain king of the northern kingdom began to reign in a certain year of the reign of a particular king of the southern kingdom, and vice versa, are difficult to fit together. It has sometimes been alleged that no confidence whatever can be placed in the numbers in the books of Kings and Chronicles.

Careful examination of all the numbers of Kings and Chronicles, instead of only a few, shows that in the overwhelming majority of cases the numbers exactly agree. The claim that Chronicles simply magnifies the numbers in Kings