

each of the two monarchs called the other "my brother" and the king of the Hittites went down to Egypt and made a trip through the length and breadth of Egypt and far south in Egypt there has been found the inscription on a rock celebrating Rameses II, one of the greatest of the Egyptian kings, and the Hittite king who had come down there to that place in the southern place of Egypt as part of the friendly influence which the two were making to each other. So the statement here which is our only hint for over two thousand years, the only hint anywhere in literature, that the Hittites had been one of the great empires of the world system--just this one verse here had revealed that. This one verse which in the Bible simply tells us of the idea of the Syrians and nothing else--that in the ~~Syrian~~ Syrian's minds the Hittites were as great a power as the Egyptians. So when the Lord caused this terrific panic to come and many a battle and many a war has been decided by what seemed to be utterly irrational plans or irrational attitudes or ideas of people. In this case the Lord caused irrational panic to sweep over these people and they ~~arose~~ arose and fled and left everything there and so, of course, when the material was brought into the city, the word of Elisha was fulfilled in the most remarkable and exact manner--fulfilled in a way which no one could ever have dreamed possible. This wouldn't happen once in thousands of years quite as complete a turn-about as that which is described here. There are minor turn-about of the same nature, although not to the same extent which have occurred every now and then in history. Then, of course, we are told here not that it makes any great deal of difference to us what happened to one of the lords of the king of Israel, a man whose name even we don't know, a man of no great particular importance in himself. What happened to him is not important enough to describe in the Bible except that we are given here the record of the way in which Elisha's prediction was fulfilled. Elisha described this particular individual and told him what was going to happen to him, and we ~~read~~ find here that it took place. He saw the great amount of food being brought in; he saw the complete fulfillment of the prediction but he was trampled upon in the excitement.