

Chapel - 4/29/58 - Dr. MacRae

there was absolutely no evidence to show where it was. In fact, of that great metropolis of Ninevah and that other great metropolis of Babylon, all that was above ground 110 years ago could have been put in this corner of the room and wouldn't even reach to the ceiling - everything that was above ground of those two tremendous cities of ancient times. But it was in 1842 that (6.), a French Vice-consul in and the upper Tigris River went across the river one day and dug into a great series of hills. And digging into these hills he found the remains of houses there, showing that there had been a city. He kept on digging and he found more and more and more remains of houses but he didn't find anything that told much about it - just houses, houses, houses - there was a big city. There was a young Englishman named Henry Laird (later Sir Henry Laird) and he thought that was digging in the wrong place. Suppose all of Philadelphia were buried and you were to come and try to find out something about it and you started digging somewhere and you're up in one of the poorest districts and you dig and you find a poor house and you go a little further and you dig and you find another and another and another and you could go on for months and you wouldn't learn much about it. Well Laird thought that was digging in the wrong place. And yet was the one who had the authority there and they couldn't do something without his approval so Laird went off in the middle of the night when wouldn't know what he was doing and he went to another section and there he got right in the center of the city. And starting there in the middle of the night and digging, by morning they had found a statue of a winged (7.5) so high it reached two-thirds of the way to the ceiling with the body of a and the face of a man and with wings on and with inscriptions in cuneiform letters. And the Arabs who were digging immediately said they thought they had found one of the great ancient demons and they ran in terror. He managed to get them to come back and got them to dig a few feet over where he thought was probably another one because it might be the entrance to a palace with these two standing on the two sides of the entrance. And of course it could have been that side or this side and it was fortunate that he hit the right side. Because if he'd hit the wrong one he probably wouldn't have been able to continue with the work there. But he hit the right one and they found the other . And there they found the steps leading into the palace and there they found whole acres of the foundation of the palace and temples. They found there