

section starts. You notice how he reverts to it again here. Yes, Mr. Abbott.

I'm glad you raised that question, because it's a thing one can just take for granted.

You repeat it. I mean every time I give a course in Isaiah or a course in Prophets ~~the~~ or a course in Old Testament History I go into it, and naturally there's a good bit of overlapping between those classes. And so you sort of get to the point where you

take it for granted everybody knows, but they don't, of course, and it's good to have them brought up again. The word "Babylon" refers to a particular city, and the people of Babylon were originally semitic people, west semitic people who had come from

Syria probably. And they lived in Babylon and had a great ~~civilization-there~~ ~~civilization~~ civilization there from about 2000 B.C - perhaps a little before that - - (L-13)

it's not an old city; it's old from our viewpoint but it's not one of the ancient cities

of Mesopotamia; many cities there go back to 4000; this one only to about 2500 at the

earliest, but it became a great city, the strongest city in ~~Mesopotamia~~ Mesopotamia for

a few centuries and then was conquered by people from the mountains and sank into a

secondary position. When again it comes to be a primary city--at the time of Nebuchad-

nezzar at about something after 600 B.C., at this time the leading people in the city

are called Chaldeans; they were not so called before. And we have previously in

sp?-Cuneiform records had references to a people called the Chaldeans who were settled at

the northern end of the Persian Gulf in the marshland there. And so we know there were

a people called Chalgeans in that area for some time before this - how long we don't

know, and they would seem to have come into Babylon and to have become dominant in

Babylon. And then when we find in the book of Daniel they refer to the Chaldeans as a

synonym for wise men it would seem that these people were the leading people in the land

and had so much standing that the outstanding leaders and experts came to be called

Chaldeans. But it's not really a term for wise men; it is a term for a group of people

who at this period are the dominant people in the city of Babylon. Now with terms like

this always raise a question if there is something that you don't know, because it may

be something that nobody knows; there are terms that we just haven't found the answer to.

But they are comparatively few; most of them we have a pretty good inkling now, and some