

trying to represent in English these Chinese words. I find that Chinese words like Shanghai and Peking, etc. that I've known all my life, when I see them now I hardly can recognize them because they look so different. It is one of the hardest things to get right is the foreign names written particularly in a different kind of script.

When you realize that the Hebrew Bible was copied and recopied and recopied you would not expect that naturally they would get these names correct. They'd be all mixed up. In fact there was a man who went with Alexander the Great on his great conquests of the Persian empire, and wrote a history of Alexander's work called the Seudo Calesithines (?). In this history it names 12 of the companions of Alexander. This history has been preserved to us in manuscripts as they had to be within the last 400 years, and the manuscripts wore out and were copied and recopied. We have copies of them in one language and copies of them in the other language, and there's not a single one of these names that is enough like the other that we can tell for sure which particular companion of Alexander the Great was intended.

When I became a student at the U. of Berlin, they had a very fine custom there. They gave you a certificate as soon as you became a student. You didn't have to wait until you graduated to get your diploma; you got it immediately when you became a student! The director gave us a speech in which he told us how fortunate we were to become students at the U. of Berlin. Then he left the room and one of the attendants came in and gave out these diplomas that we were students at the U. of Berlin.

He would call the names and the students would come forward to get his diploma. When he gave the names which seemed to me as far as I could tell that the Russian names and the Egyptian names and the Chinese names, etc., I couldn't see he had any trouble with. But when he came to American names, he was absolutely stuck. He said Mr. Kossin, Mr. Woodbridge started forward because he thought he said Woodbridge. Woodbridga sounded like Cotton than Woodbridge did. When he got to my name he was absolutely ~~xxxx~~ stuck. He said, Mc, Mc Alexander Mc. Of course my full name is Allen, Alexander MacRae and I got forward before he had to try to say the whole name!

To get four (or full?) names accurate is very, very difficult, and then to copy them as those manuscripts are copied and recopied and recopied is almost impossible. But we have many foreign kings mentioned here in this account in the OT, and in every case in the history as it has been discovered in archaeology they are in their proper place, arranged in their proper sequence in the correct surroundings and they are closer to the actual pronunciation in the ~~Bible~~ Babylonian or other ancient languages than one would ever expect them to be. The accuracy of the preservation of the history of the OT goes way beyond what one would have any reason to expect. We know that God watched not only the writing of the OT but the copying of the manuscripts.