

writings found on monuments or in ancient letters, accounts of lawsuits, or other materials of which we have the actual original copies as written down in ancient times and rediscovered in modern days.

Archeology is usually restricted to remains of human activity in the past. Prehistoric bones, for instance, are considered a part of paleontology rather than of archeology, unless they are found in connection with objects that would throw light upon the activities of the human beings involved.

C. Biblical Archeology.

Biblical Archeology is that portion of archeology which throws light on events or situations described in the Bible. Much of archeology has no relation to the Bible, but one cannot properly study Biblical archeology without learning a fair amount about other phases of the subject. Archeology may deal with any part of the earth in which men have lived, and archeological discoveries have been made on every continent. Biblical archeology is principally restricted to the region around the eastern end of the Mediterranean and to Mesopotamia, with a little reference to Persia. Even in these regions much of the material comes from periods when they had no relationship with events recorded in the Bible.

Up to the present, archeologists have discovered comparatively little material that relates directly and immediately to Biblical statements. There is far more that is indirectly related to them, and a vast amount that throws important light upon the general background of the Biblical history.

D. Why Archeology is Important to the Bible Student.

There are four reasons why archeology is important to the Bible student. The first of these we may designate as general corroboration. Much of the background of the Bible is so different from the historical and cultural situation