

heathen god would have been worshipped, the Arabs established the city of Cairo just south of the delta, and took many of the remains of the great capital city called Memphis, which was only ten miles away, to use as building stones for Cairo.

#### E. Relation of Egyptian Archeology to the Bible.

##### 1. General Corroboration.

In the area of general corroboration Egyptian archeology has great interest for the Bible student. In the early part of the Bible Egypt appears as the outstanding power of the day. This is the land to which the Israelites go for help in time of famine. Here the posterity of Jacob increases until it becomes a great nation. God's marvelous power is displayed in rescuing the Israelites from Egyptian oppression. Toward the end of the Old Testament history there is a vital change. Israelite kings still tend to look to Egypt as a counterforce to protect them from Assyrian or Babylonian attack, but the prophets warn them against putting trust in Egypt (cf. Isa. 30.1-7).

All these features of the general background of the Biblical narrative are abundantly illustrated by material from Egypt.

It is a mistake to think of the Israelites as having any part in the building of the pyramids. This occurred at least a thousand years before the time of Joseph. The first Biblical contact with Egypt is when Abram goes *there for help* in time of famine. Such visits of Asiatics to Egypt are illustrated by a picture in an Egyptian tomb from this general period, showing a picturesque group of thirty-seven Asiatics visiting Egypt. Another such picture shows Syrian cattle in Egypt, addressed by a herdsman who says: "Once you trod the sand, now you walk on herbage."