

achievements of the Son of God, who died that we might live.

VII. New Testament Archeology of Countries Outside of Palestine.

A. The General Situation.

The majority of the events described in the New Testament occurred in Palestine. However, a substantial portion of the rest of the ancient world is touched upon in the last half of the book of Acts, which describes Paul's missionary journeys. It is therefore of great interest to the Bible student to ascertain the location of these cities, to learn something of their life and culture, and to find whatever light can be thrown upon specific statements about them in the book of Acts.

In dealing with this material we are in an altogether different position from that of the Old Testament. Most of the history of the nations related to Israel was completely unknown before the rise of archeology, but a great deal of writing on papyrus was done in the first century A.D., and a considerable portion of this material has been copied and thus preserved. Consequently the greater part of our information about the ~~background~~ background of Acts comes not from archeological discoveries but from manuscripts that have been passed on through the ages. This material is of great importance for the understanding of the book of Acts, but does not really come under the head of Biblical archeology. Discussion of it will be found in the articles in this encyclopedia about the various cities involved.

Considerable archeological work has been carried on in just about every city named in Acts. A few of these cities have remained important places through the ages. Consequently ~~in some of them~~ it is difficult to do much archeological work in some of them but in others a great deal has been done. Some are today comparatively deserted, so that there is little hindrance to excavation. In the case of a few, the very location was forgotten, but all of these have now been located.