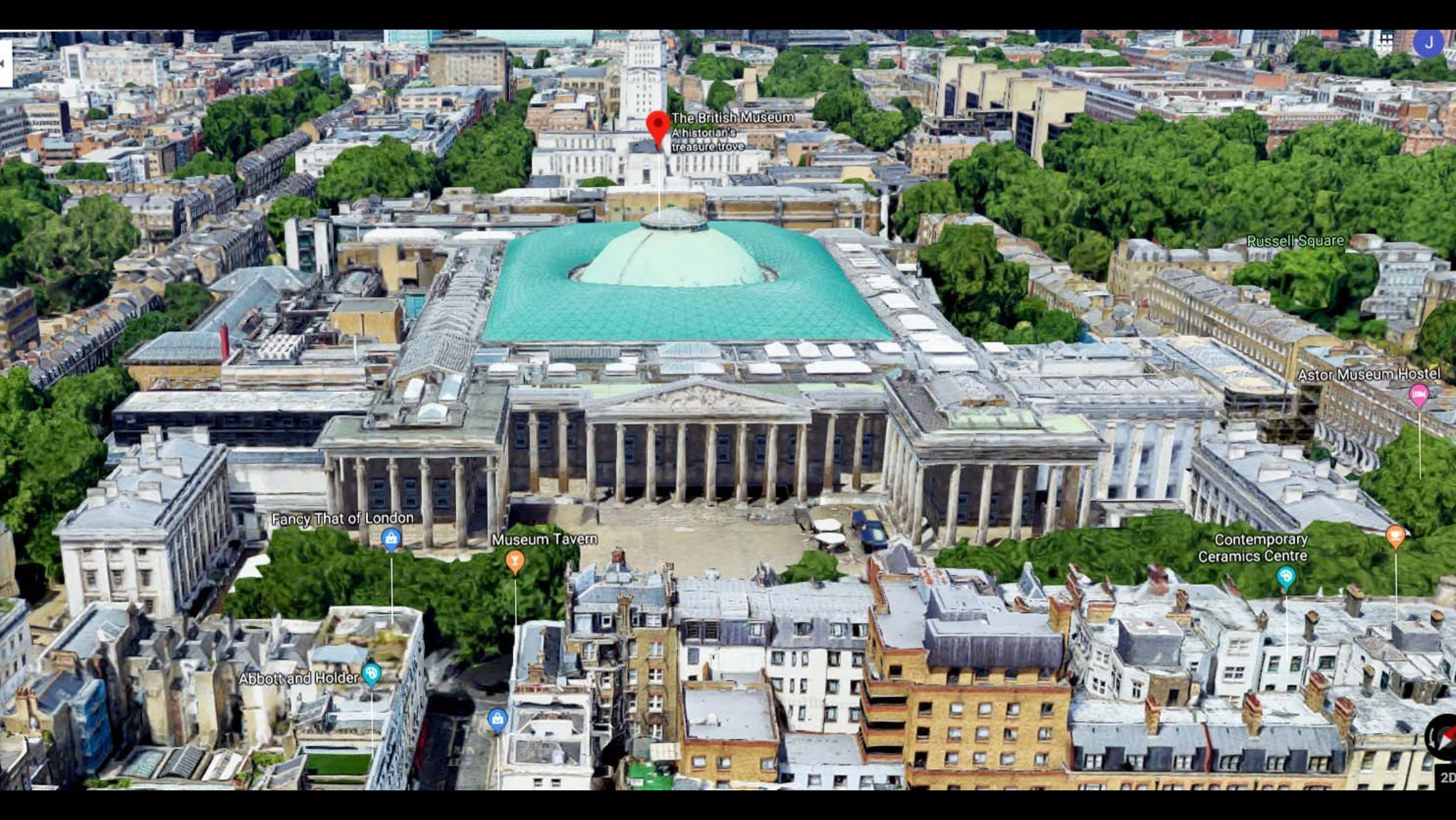


ARTIFACTS THAT MATTER

THE BIBLE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

Part 1



The British Museum
A historian's
treasure trove

Russell Square

Astor Museum Hostel

Fancy That of London

Museum Tavern

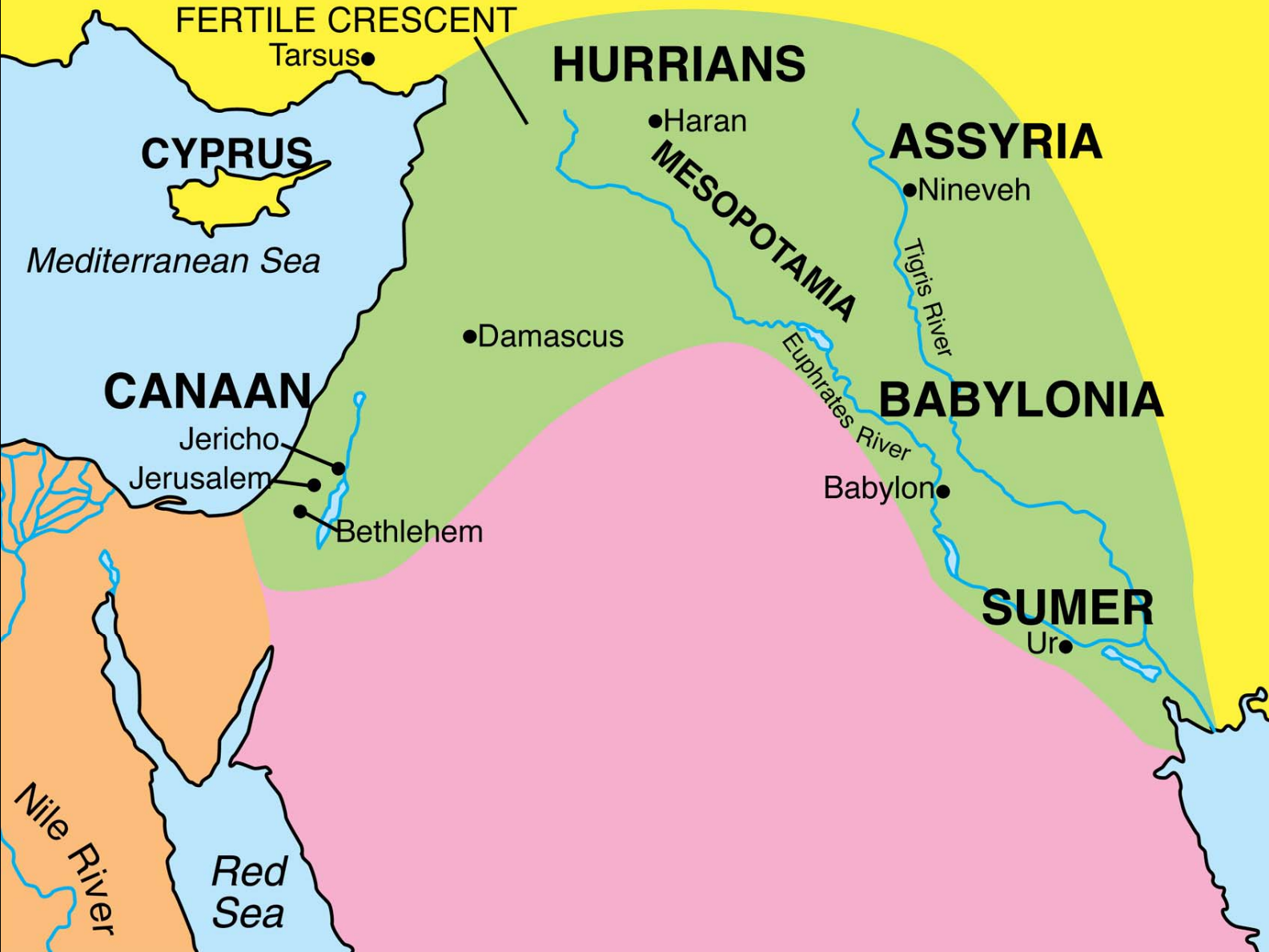
Contemporary
Ceramics Centre

Abbott and Holder



Purpose of this series

- *Support the Bible*
 - *Real place*
 - *Real people*
 - *Real events*
 - *Accurate descriptions*
- *Better understand the Bible*
- *To understand that more knowledge of history enriches our understanding of the Bible.*



FERTILE CRESCENT

Tarsus

HURRIANS

CYPRUS

Mediterranean Sea

Haran

MESOPOTAMIA

ASSYRIA

Nineveh

Tigris River

Damascus

Euphrates River

CANAAN

Jericho

Jerusalem

Bethlehem

BABYLONIA

Babylon

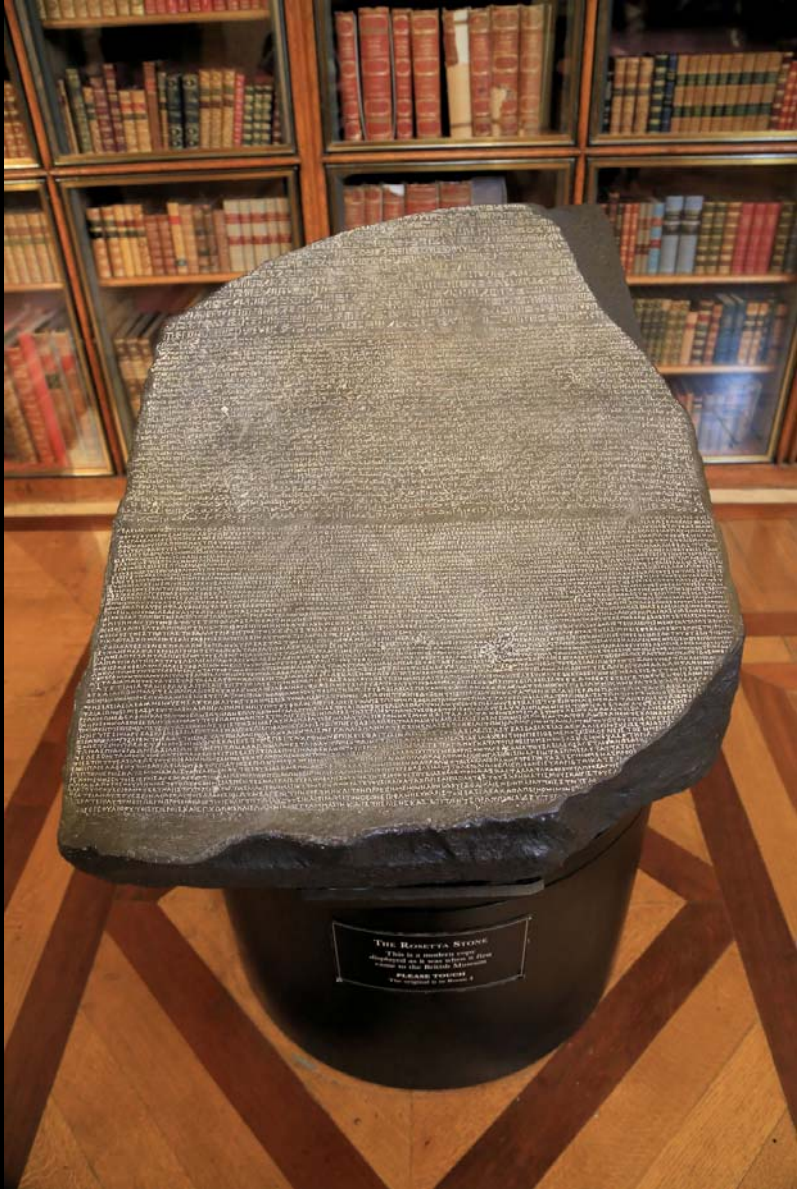
SUMER

Ur

Nile River

Red Sea





WRITING IN 3 LANGUAGES

John 19:20-22

20 Therefore many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin and in Greek.

21 So the chief priests of the Jews were saying to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; but that He said, 'I am King of the Jews.' "

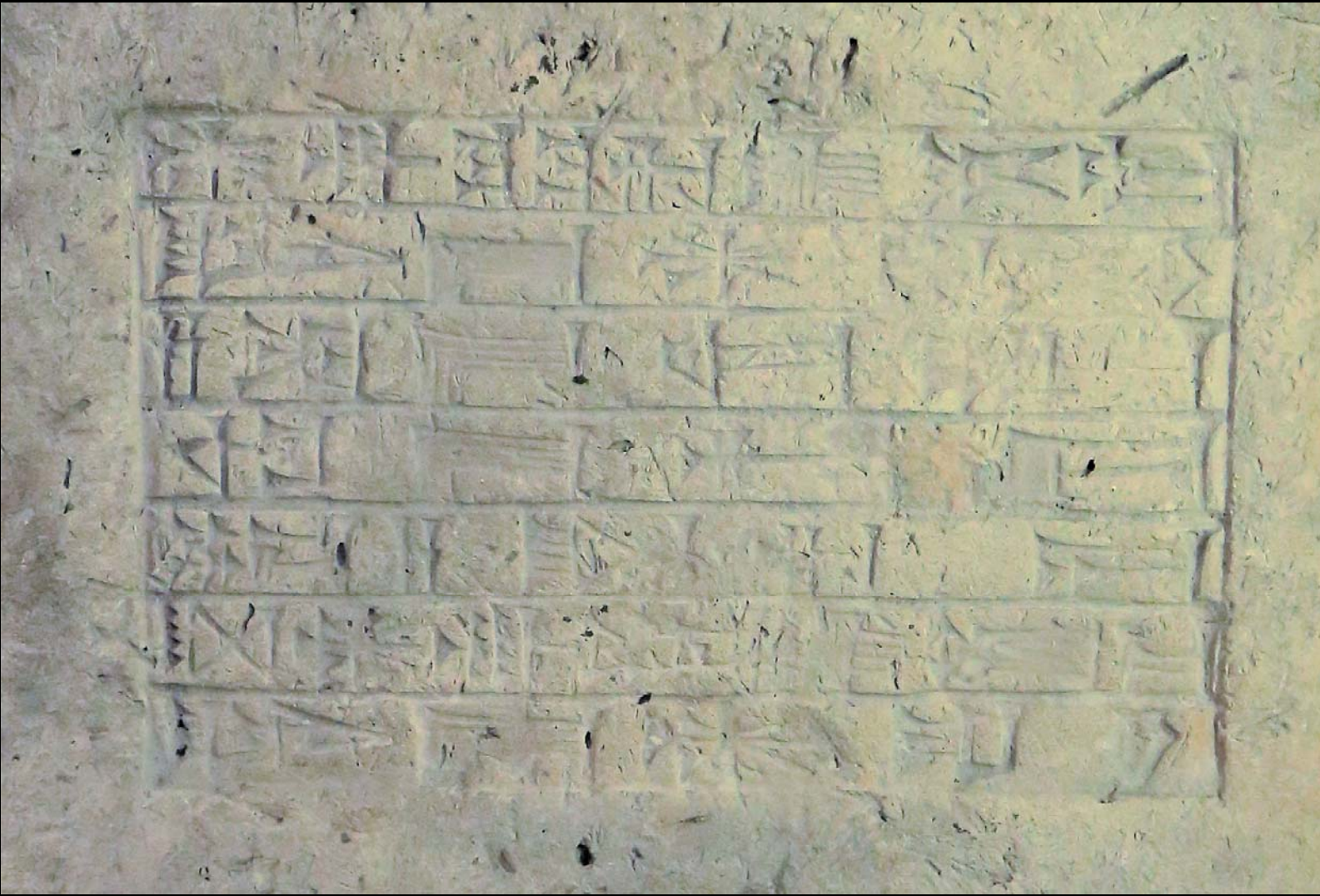
22 Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

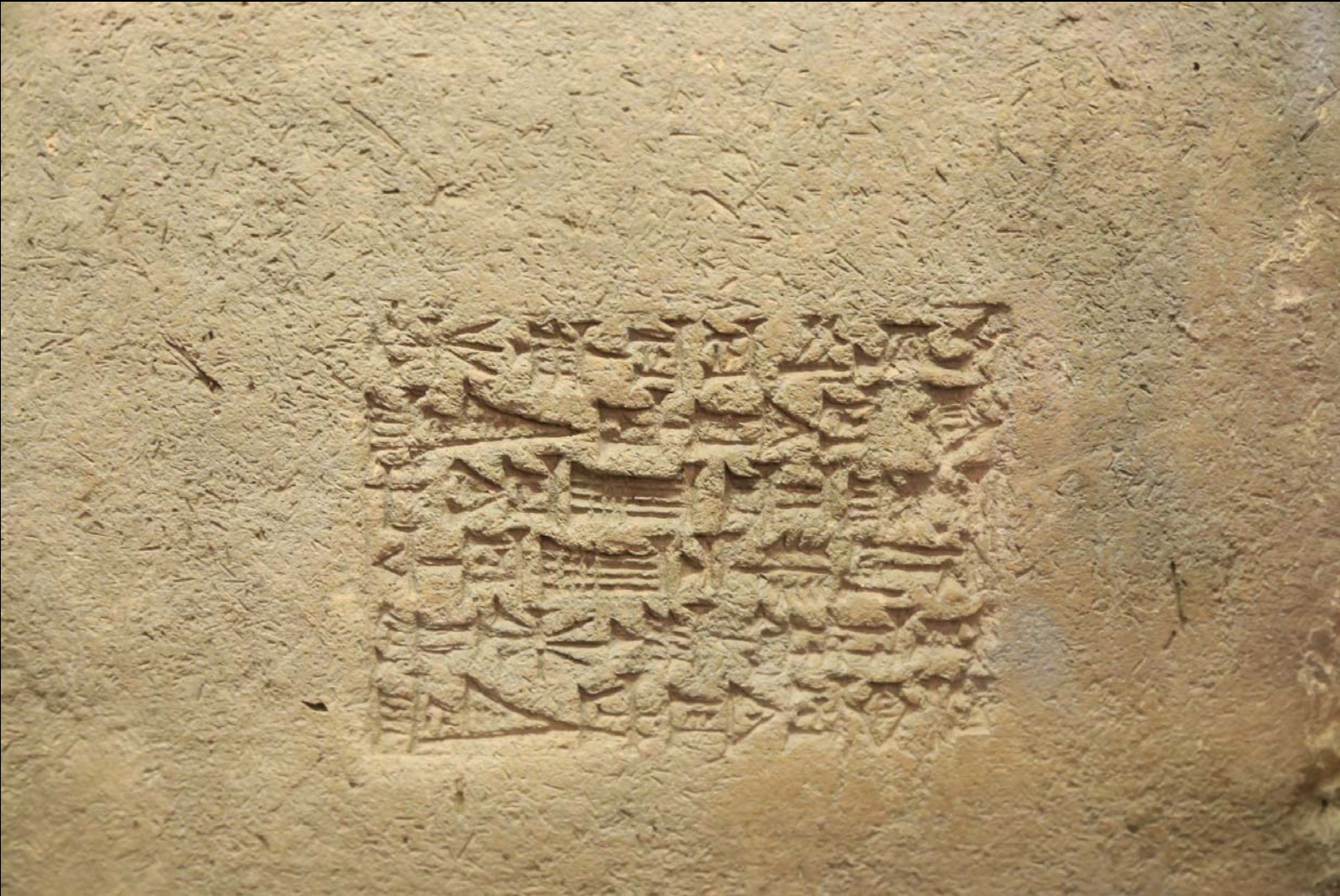


361

[90082]

BRICK INSCRIBED WITH THE NAME
AND TITLES OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR II,
KING OF BABYLON, B.C. 604-561.
FROM BABYLON.







"I am Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon... the eldest son of Nabopolassar"

Mentioned 91 times in the Bible



BLACK OBELISK

- *Describes the victories of the Assyrian king, Salmaneser III.*
- *Mentions defeat of Ben-Hadad of Damascus (mentioned 27 times in the Bible -)*
- *Mentions defeat of Hazael of Damascus (II Kings 8:7-15)*



BLACK OBELISK

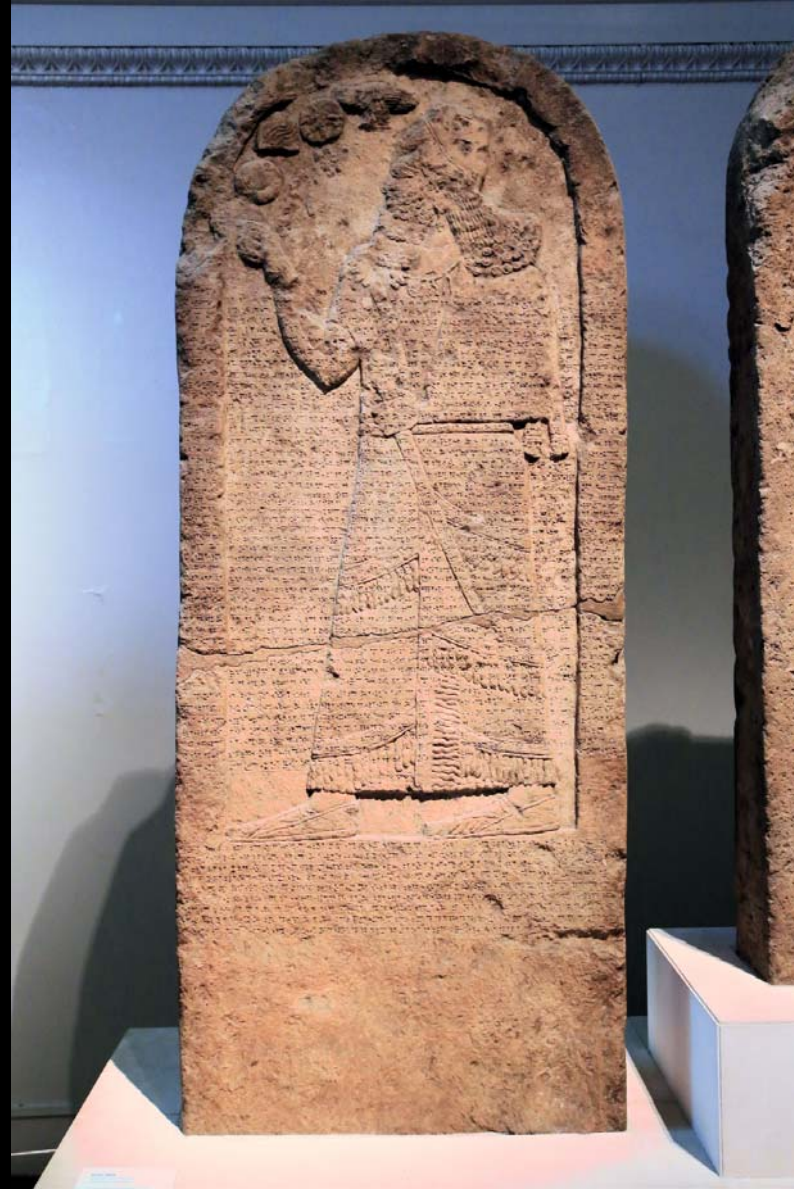
- *“Tribute of Yaua, son of Humri: I received silver, gold...”*
 - *Yaua is Jehu (II Kings 9-10)*
 - *Humri is Omri (I Kings 16:16-30)*

References:

Ben-Hadad

and

*Ahab, King of
Israel
(Mentioned 94
times in the
Bible)*





Small informational label on the wall to the right of the relief.



Tiglath-Pileser III (or Pul) II Kings 15:19



*Picture of Israelites bringing tribute
(II Kings 15:17-19)*





The King of Assyria boasted:

- *“I built a pillar over against the city gate, and I flayed all the chief men who had revolted, and I covered the pillar with their skins. Some I walled up within the pillar on stakes, and others I bound round the pillar; and I cut off the limbs of the officers who had rebelled. From some I cut off their hands and from others I cut off their noses, their ears, and their fingers, of many I put out the eyes. Their young men and maidens I burned in the fire. The rest of them I consumed with thirst in the desert of the Euphrates.”*

- *This was the reputation of the kings of Assyria.*
- *Some violence of this nature is depicted on the imposing doors.*
- *“Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and cry against it, for their wickedness has come up before Me.” (Jonah 1:3)*
- *Ever wonder why Jonah was so hesitant to go to Nineveh?*













NAHUM 2:8-13

- 8 *Though Nineveh was like a pool of
water throughout her days,
Now they are fleeing;
“Stop, stop,”
But no one turns back.*
- 9 *Plunder the silver!
Plunder the gold!
For there is no limit to the treasure—
Wealth from every kind of desirable
object.*
- 10 *She is emptied! Yes, she is desolate
and waste!
Hearts are melting and knees knocking!
Also anguish is in the whole body
And all their faces are grown pale!*

NAHUM 2:8-13

- 11 Where is the den of the lions
And the feeding place of the young lions,
Where the lion, lioness and lion's cub
prowled,
With nothing to disturb them?*
- 12 The lion tore enough for his cubs,
Killed enough for his lionesses,
And filled his lairs with prey
And his dens with torn flesh.*
- 13 "Behold, I am against you," declares the
LORD of hosts. "I will burn up her chariots in
smoke, a sword will devour your young lions; I
will cut off your prey from the land, and no
longer will the voice of your messengers be
heard."*



The Reign of Sargon
721-705 BC

The Assyrian emperor Sargon II, who ruled from 721 to 705 BC, is depicted in the relief. He is shown in a chariot, holding a bow and arrow, and is surrounded by his soldiers. The relief is made of limestone and is part of a larger frieze from the palace at Dur-Sharrukin. The king is shown in a chariot, holding a bow and arrow, and is surrounded by his soldiers. The relief is made of limestone and is part of a larger frieze from the palace at Dur-Sharrukin.

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Isaiah 20:1

“In the year that the commander came to Ashdod, when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him and he fought against Ashdod and captured it,”

SARGON'S ACT

- *Sargon writes that in the first year of his reign he conquered Samaria and replaced the inhabitants with peoples from other nations.*
- *The Bible also records this. "The king of Assyria brought men from Babylon and from Cuthah and from Avva and from Hamath and Sepharvaim, and settled them in the cities of Samaria in place of the sons of Israel. So they possessed Samaria and lived in its cities." (II Kings 17:24)*



Alimud
The Bull of Heaven
10c

Alimud
The Bull of Heaven
This relief shows the winged bull Alimud, a mythical creature that was believed to be the messenger of the god Baal. It is depicted with a human face, a beard, and wings. The bull is shown in a standing position, facing left. The relief is made of dark stone and is mounted on a brick wall. The bull's body is covered in a grid-like pattern, which is a characteristic feature of Assyrian art. The relief is one of the most famous works of Assyrian art and is a symbol of power and strength.

6



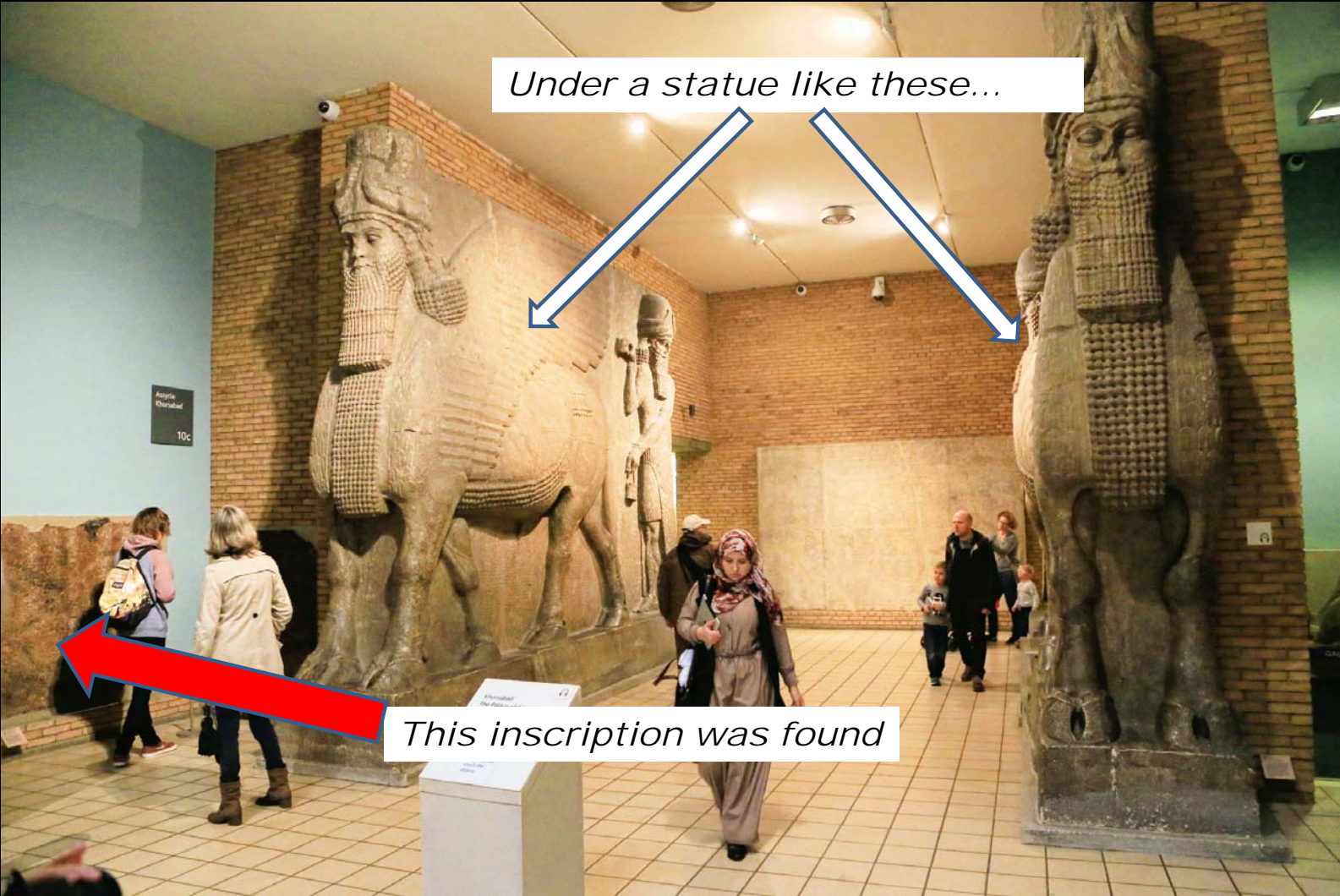
From the Palace of Esarhaddon

II Kings 19:36-37

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and returned home, and lived at Nineveh.

37 It came about as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer killed him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son became king in his place.





Under a statue like these...

This inscription was found

Apple
Pommes
10c

6



TRIBUTE FROM HEZEKIAH

- *The inscription says that Hezekiah paid 800 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold*

TRIBUTE FROM HEZEKIAH

II Kings 18:13-16

13 Now in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and seized them.

14 Then Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong. Withdraw from me; whatever you impose on me I will bear." So the king of Assyria required of Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

15 Hezekiah gave him all the silver which was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasuries of the king's house.

16 At that time Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the doorposts which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

DEALING WITH DISCREPANCIES

- *The inscription says that Hezekiah paid 800 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold*
- *The Bible says he paid 300 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold*
- *What gives?*

DEALING WITH DISCREPANCIES

- *Maybe the Bible is wrong*
- *Maybe Sennacherib exaggerated*
- *Maybe it is a copy error*
- *But eventually it was discovered that what really happened...*
 - *Assyria measures gold like Judah does.*
 - *Assyria measures silver differently*
 - *Who would have guessed that? But, it turns out there was no discrepancy at all.*

