Introduction

Page xix

Digging Up the Old Testament

I. The Coming of the Patriarchs: From Abraham to Jacob

Chapter 1 In the Fertile Crescent

Page 5

Four thousand years ago—Continents asleep—The great cradle of our civilization—Culture in the Ancient East—Arab tribes attack from the desert

Chapter 2 Ur of the Chaldees

Page 9

A station on the Baghdad railway—A staged tower of bricks—Ruins with Biblical names—Archaeologists in search of scriptural sites—A consul with a pick—The archaeologist on the throne of Babylon—Expedition to Tell al Muqayyar—History books from rubble—Tax receipts on clay—Was Abraham a city dweller?

Chapter 3 Digging Up the Flood

Page 23

The graves of the Sumerian kings—A puzzling layer of mud—Traces of the Flood under desert sands—A catastrophic flood about 4000 B.C.

Chapter 4 A Flood Story from Old Babylonia Page 32

The Epic of Gilgamesh and the Bible—Twelve clay tablets from Nineveh—An ancient epic from the library of Ashurbanipal—Utnapishtim, a Sumerian Noah?—The secret of Mt. Ararat—A gigantic

ship in a museum of ice-Expeditions in quest of the Ark

Chapter 5 Abraham Lived in the Kingdom of Mari Page 40

A stone corpse—Lieutenant Cabane reports a find—A Syrian tell has important visitors—King Lamgi-Mari introduces himself—Professor Parrot discovers an unknown empire—A royal palace with 260 apartments and court yards—23,600 clay tablets have survived for 4000 years—Desert police report the "Benjamites"—Rebecca's home—A flourishing city

Chapter 6 The Long Journey to Canaan

Page 50

Six hundred miles by the caravan route—Nowadays four visas are required—The land of purple—Punitive expeditions against "Sand dwellers"—Proud seaports with a troublesome hinterland—An Egyptian best-seller about Canaan—Sinuhe praises the Good Land—Jerusalem on magic vases—Strongholds—Sellin finds Shechem—Abraham chooses the high road

Chapter 7 Abraham and Lot in the Land of Purple Page 64
Famine in Canaan—A family portrait of the patriarchal age—Permit
of access to the Nile grazings—The mystery of Sodom and Gomorrah
—Mr. Lynch investigates the Dead Sea—The great fissure—Submerged
forests in the Dead Sea—The Vale of Siddim's headlong plunge—Pillars
of salt at Jebel Usdum—At the terebinth of Abraham

II. In the Realm of the Pharaohs: From Joseph to Moses

Chapter 1 Joseph in Egypt

Had Potiphar a prototype?—The Orbiney Papyrus—Hyksos rulers on the Nile—Joseph, official of an occupying power—Corn silos, an Egyptian patent—Evidence of a seven-year famine—Assignments to Goshen—Bahr Yusuf: Joseph's Canal—Jacob-Her on scarabs

Chapter 2 Four Hundred Years of Silence Page 90

Reawakening on the Nile—Thebes instigates revolt—Rout of the Hyksos—Egypt becomes a world power—Indian civilization in Mitanni—A Horite settlement under the derricks of Kirkuk—Nofretete, an Indo-Aryan princess?—The "Sons of Heth" on the Halys—Pharaoh's widow in quest of a mate—The first nonaggression pact in the world—Hittite bridal procession through Canaan

Chapter 3 Forced Labor in Pithom and Raamses Page 100

Joseph had died a long time ago—A story in pictures from a prince's tomb—Pithom labor camp in Egyptian texts—The royal seat is transferred to the delta—A builder's enthusiasm and vanity lead to a fraud—Montet unearths the bond city of Raamses—Moses wrote his name "MS"—A Mesopotamian story about a baby in the bulrushes—Moses emigrates to Midian—Plagues are no strangers to Egypt

III. Forty Years in the Wilderness: From the Nile to the Jordan

Chapter 1 On the Road to Sinai Page 111

Departure from Raamses—Two possible sites for the "miracle of the sea"—Traces of fords beside the Suez Canal—Three days without water

—Swarms of quails at the migration season—An expedition clears up the mystery of manna—Egyptian mining center in Sinai—The alphabet at the Temple of Hathor

Chapter 2 At the Mountain of Moses

Page 125

The "Pearl of Sinai"—Israel was 6000 strong—Striking water from rock—Practical experience in desert life—Was the burning bush a gas plant?—The valley of the monks and hermits—The great miracle

Chapter 3 Under Desert Skies

Page 130

Sinai—150 miles to Kadesh—Two springs at the chief halting place—Scouts sent out to Hebron—The bunch of grapes was a vine—Foreign races—Peasant woman finds the Amarna tablets—Letters from Indo-Aryan Canaanite princes—Scouts' report leads to a new decision—The "wilderness" of the Bible was a steppe

Chapter 4 On the Threshold of the Promised Land Page 137
Rise of a new generation—Change of plan—Transit permit for Edom—
Pressing on through Transjordan—King Og's "iron bedstead"—Dolmen discovered near Amman—Moab sends its daughters—Baal worship in Canaan—Moses sees the Promised Land—Camping opposite Jericho

IV. The Battle for the Promised Land: From Joshua to Saul

Chapter 1 Israel Invades

Page 147

The world about 1200 B.C.—The weakness of Canaan—The first iron merchants—The ford across the Jordan—The stronghold of Jericho, the oldest city in the world—Scholars quarrel over broken walls—A trail of fire—Pharaoh mentions "Israel" by name for the first time—Excavations at Hazor—Graves at the village of Joshua

Chapter 2 Under Deborah and Gideon Page 157

Israel settles down—Pioneering in the mountains—Peasants' huts instead of palaces—Deborah incites to revolt—Clash in the plain of Jezreel—Victory over the "chariots of iron"—Israelite crockery at Megiddo—Marauders from the desert—Traces of Abimelech's destruction of Shechem—Gideon's successful tactics—First battle in history against a camel corps—A new breed of long-distance carriers

Chapter 3 The Warriors from Caphtor Page 163
Invasion by the "Sea Peoples"—The great trek from the Aegean—Triumphal progress with ox wagons and ships—The Hittite empire disappears—Seaports in flames on the coast of Canaan—General mobilization on the Nile—Pharaoh Ramesses III saves Egypt—The great land

and sea engagement—Interrogation in P.O.W. camps—Life-sized portraits of the Philistines

Chapter 4 Under the Yoke of the Philistines Page 169

Philistines on the coast—Swan pattern pottery—Beer mugs with filters
—Carefully guarded iron monopoly—Philistines occupy the highlands
—Traces of the burning of Shiloh—Choosing a king from dire necessity
—Allenby successfully uses Saul's tactics—Surprising the Turks—Albright finds Saul's castle—Two temples in Beth-Shan—The end of Saul

V. When Israel Was an Empire: From David to Solomon

Chapter 1 David, a Great King

Page 179

A man of genius—Poet, composer, and musician—From armor-bearer to monarch—Unintentional military aid for Assyria—From the Orontes to Ezion-geber—Revenge at Beth-Shan—New buildings with casemated walls—Finding of the Pool of Gibeon—Jerusalem fell by a stratagem—Warren discovers a shaft leading to the city—The Sopher kept the "Imperial Annals"—Was David called David?—Ink as a novelty—Palestine's climate is unpropitious for keeping records

Chapter 2 Solomon the Copper King Page 190

Expedition to the Gulf of Aqabah—Iron ore and malachite—Glueck discovers Ezion-geber—Desert storms used as bellows—The Pittsburgh of old Israel—Shipyards on the Red Sea—Hiram brought the timber—Ships' captains from Tyre—The mysterious land of Ophir—An Egyptian portrait of the queen of Punt—American archaeologists buy a Tell—A model dig at Megiddo—The fateful plain of Jezreel—Royal stables with 450 stalls

Chapter 3 The Queen of Sheba as a Business Partner Page 205

"Arabia Felix," the mysterious land—Death march of 10,000 Romans
—Number one exporter of spices—First news of Marib—Halévy and
Glaser have a dangerous adventure—When the great dam burst—An
American expedition to Yemen—The temple of the moon in Sheba—
Camels, the new long-distance transport—Export talks with Solomon

Chapter 4 Israel's Colorful Daily Life Page 212

Israel's love of ornamentation—Secrets of the boudoirs of Palestine—
Sleeping with myrrh and aloes—The Balsam gardens of Jericho—
Mastic, a favorite chewing gum—Perfumes of Canaan—The Egyptians invented the bed—An ostracon describes a cloak being taken in pledge—Noisy flour mills

VI. Two Kings—Two Kingdoms: From Rehoboam to Jehoiachin

Chapter I The Shadow of a New World Power Page 225

The Empire splits—Frontier posts between Israel and Judah—Napoleon reads Shishak's report on Palestine—Samaria, the northern capital—Traces of Ahab's "ivory palace"—A mysterious "third man"—Arabs blow up victory monument in Moab—Mesha the mutton king's song of triumph—Assyria steps in—The black obelisk from Nimrud—King Jehu's portrait in Assyria—Consignments of wine for Jeroboam II—Uzziah's palace—The prophet Amos warns in vain—The walls of Samaria are strengthened to 30 feet

Chapter 2 The End of the Northern Kingdom Page 244

Pul the soldier becomes Tiglath-Pileser III—King Pekah mentioned at
Hazor—Assyrian governors over Israel—Samaria's three-year defiance—
Consul Botta looks for Nineveh—The bourgeois king opens the first
Assyrian museum—Searching for evidence by moonlight—The library
of Ashurbanipal—Deportation of a people

Chapter 3 Judah Under the Yoke of Assyria Page 256

Hopes aroused by Sargon's death—A fig poultice cures King Hezekiah
—A well-tried ancient eastern remedy—Merodach-Baladan, gardener
and rebel—Secret armaments in Judah—Aqueduct through the rocks
of Jerusalem—Inscription describes Hezekiah's tunnel—The fate of
Lachish in stone relief—Traces of Assyrian battering rams in the ruins
—A puzzling retreat—Herodotus' story of the king with the mouse—
Starkey finds a plague grave—Sennacherib describes the siege of Jerusalem

Chapter 4 The Seductive Religions of Canaan Page 270

The "abominations of the heathen"—Harsh words from the prophets—
Philo of Byblos, a witness—Eusebius, the Christian Father, finds no one to believe him—A plowman stumbles upon Ugarit—A powerful seaport disappears—Schaeffer digs at the "Head of Fennel"—The library in the priest's house—Three scholars decipher an unknown alphabet

Chapter 5 The End of Nineveh as a World Power Page 276

Ashurbanipal plunders Thebes—An empire stretching from the Nile to the Persian Gulf—The "great and noble Asnapper"—Big-game hunting with bow and arrow—Assyria's strength is exhausted—Crushed between two powers—Medes and Chaldeans arm—Scythian hordes in Palestine—Nineveh sinks in ruins—The Fertile Crescent breathes again —A Biblical slip of the pen—Gadd's discovery in London—Nebuchadnezzar, crown prince of Babylon

Chapter 6 The Last Days of Judah

Page 284

First deportation—King Jehoiachin in Babylonian court records—Discovery in the basement of the Berlin Museum—Nebuchadnezzar on the conquest of Jerusalem—Second punitive campaign—Dispatches on clay—Starkey's tragic death—Incendiary technique of Babylon engineers—A clean slate for the archaeologists

VII. From the Exile to the Maccabean Kingdom: From Ezekiel to John Hyrcanus

Chapter I Education Through Exile Page 297

Good advice from the prophet Jeremiah—The firm of Murashu and Sons, Nippur—Interest 20 per cent—Farmers and shepherds turned traders—Koldewey excavates Babylon—The greatest city in the ancient world—Tower of Babel 300 feet high—Chamber of Commerce on the Euphrates

Chapter 2 Sunset in the Ancient Orient Page 305

The old world about 500 B.C.—Last spasms before the end—Escape into the past—Nabonidus restores ancient buildings—First museum in the world at Ur—Semitic empires make their exit—The birth of the west

Chapter 3 Cyrus, King of Persia Page 309

Two famous dreams—Cyrus unites Media and Persia—The writing on the wall—Belshazzar was merely crown prince—Peaceful entry into Babylon—Persian toleration

Chapter 4 Return to Jerusalem

The edict of Cyrus—The trek of the 42,000—A caravan of fateful significance—Starting work on the ruins—A lonely grave in Pasargadae—Rebuilding the Temple—The Persian Empire: from the Nile to India—Duncan finds Nehemiah's work—The secret of the "thick water"—A theocratic state—Judah coins stamped with the Athenian owl—A Persian province for two centuries

Chapter 5 Under Greek Influence Page 321

Alexander the Great in Palestine—Causeway forces capitulation of Tyre
—Siege towers 160 feet high—Alexandria, the new metropolis—
Ptolemies occupy Judah—Seventy-two scholars translate the Bible—
Pentateuch in Greek—The Septuagint came from Pharos—A stadium below the Temple—High Priest in "gaming house"—Jewish athletes give offense

Chapter 6 The Battle for Religious Liberty Page 331

Tax official plunders Jerusalem—Worship of Zeus in the Temple—The revolt of the Maccabees—The Battle of the Elephants at Bethlehem—Americans find Beth-Zur—Coins from Antioch among the rubble—Canteen supplies from Rhodes—Pompey storms Jerusalem—Judah becomes a Roman province

Digging Up the New Testament

I. Jesus of Nazareth

Chapter 1 Palestine on Mare Nostrum

A Province of the Roman Empire—Greek cities on the Jordan—The New Testament—The governor appears in history—A census every fourteen years

Chapter 2 The Star of Bethlehem Page 345

A suggestion by Origen—Halley's comet over China—Kepler's observations in Prague—Astronomical tablets found at Sippar—Babylonian astronomers' records—Modern astronomical calculations—December frost in Bethlehem

Chapter 3 The Flight to Egypt

Mataria near Cairo—A famous herbal garden—Place of pilgrimage near
the On of the Bible—Queen Cleopatra's balsam garden

Chapter 4 Nazareth in Galilee

Death of King Herod, "the most cruel tyrant"—Unrest in the land—
Checking Jerusalem's finances—Sabinus steals the Temple treasures—
Varus crucifies 2000 Jews—A town of carpenters—Where Jesus grew to manhood

Chapter 5 John the Baptist

The witness of Josephus—A forbidden marriage—Herod Antipas orders an arrest—The castle of Machaerus in Moab—The dungeon of death—Princess Salome—Capernaum on the sea—Ruins in a eucalyptus grove—The place where Jesus taught

Chapter 6 The Last Journey, Trial and Crucifixion Page 366

Detour through Transjordan—The tax collector of Jericho—View from the Mount of Olives—Arrest on the Mount of Olives—The "clubs" of the high priests—The Procurator Pontius Pilate—Vincent discovers

the "Pavement"—Scourging in the courtyard of the Antonia—"The most cruel form of execution"—A crown of Syrian Christ's-thorn—A drink to stupefy—Heart failure as the cause of death—Crurifragium hastens the end—A solitary tomb under the Church of the Holy Sepulchre—Tacitus mentions "Christus"—The evidence of Suetonius

II. In the Days of the Apostles

Chapter 1 In the Steps of St. Paul

Page 381

The tentmaker from Tarsus—A triumphal arch in Antioch—Galatia, a Roman province—J. T. Wood digs in Ephesus—The temple of Artemis—The ruins of the gateway of Philippi—In ancient Corinth—A meat market with a cooling system—"The Hebrew Synagogue"—A prisoner on the way to Rome

Chapter 2 The Grave of St. Peter

Page 388

Caligula's racecourse—As Rome burned—Vatican hill—The cemetery on the Via Cornelia—The Emperor Constantine builds a church—The new cathedral—Bernini's find in 1626—Commissioned by Pius XII—Investigations by Dr. Kaas—Digging under St. Peter's—The most important discovery in Christian archaeology

Chapter 3 The Destruction of Jerusalem Page 396

Rebellion—The Jewish War—Fighting in Galilee—General Titus—

Receipton—The Jewish wai—Fighting in Gaintee—General Fitus— So,000 Romans advance—The order to attack—Parade outside the gates—500 crucifixions daily—Jerusalem sealed off—The specter of famine—Castle of Antonia taken—The Temple in flames—The city is razed—Triumph in Rome

III. Let There Be Light

Chapter 1 The Creation Story Page 409

Modern science calculates "The Beginning"—The expanding universe—
The recession of the spiral nebulae—The age of the earth's crust:
5,000,000,000 to 10,000,000,000 years—A speech by Pope Pius XII

Chapter 2 Rebuilding with the Help of the Bible Page 414

Economic planning with the help of the Old Testament—The wells of the patriarchs provide for the settlers—"Honey out of the rock"—
Stone walls to collect dew—Digging again in Solomon's mines—
Pioneering on the Biblical pattern

Chapter 3 The Dead Sea Scrolls

Page 419

A lost lamb—The Dead Sea scrolls—Harding and de Vaux in Wadi Qumran—Archbishop Samuel goes to Chicago—Nuclear physicists assist with the dating—Testing linen in the "atomic clock"—In the valley of the pirate diggers—A text that corresponds after 2000 years

Appendix

The Oldest Manuscripts of the Bible	Page 429
Index of Biblical References	Page 433
Bibliography	Page 441
General Index	Page 449