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King **Omri**'s oppression of Moab (1st King 16; 2nd Kings 3:4-5).

The Kurkh Monolith of Assyria, dated to 852 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1861, which is now housed in the British Museum in London, lists King **Ahab** of Israel as one of eleven kings allied to fight against the Assyrians in 853 B.C. It also mentions Syrian King **Ben-Hadad**, with whom Ahab had connections (1st Kings 20).

The Aramean Tel-Dan Stele, dated to 870-750 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1993, which is now housed in the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, describes Syrian King **Hazael** defeating King **Jehoram** of Israel and King **Ahaziah** of Judah, from the house of **David** (2nd Kings 8:29).

The Assyrian Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III, dated to 827-824 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1846, now housed in the British Museum, not only describes but also illustrates King **Jehu** (2nd Kings 9) of Israel offering tribute to King Shalmaneser III of Assyria. This is the most ancient illustration yet discovered of any Israelite king.

The Aramean Stele of Zakkur, dated to 805-775 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1903, which is housed in the Louvre, describes Syrian King **Ben-Hadad III**, son of **Hazael** (2nd Kings 13:24) as one who mounted opposition to King Zakkur of Hamath.

The Tel al-Rimah Stela of Assyria, dated to 797 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1967, now housed in the Iraq Museum in Baghdad, mentions King **Jehoash** of Israel (2nd Kings 13:10) as one who offered tribute to Assyrian King Adad-Nirari III.

The Bulla of Shema, dated to 788 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1980s, now in the possession of the Israel Antiquities Authority, has been authenticated as a clay impression of the seal of Shema, servant of King **Jeroboam II** of Israel (2nd Kings 14:23).

The Stele of Tiglath-Pileser III, dated to 737 B.C. and discovered by A.D. 1967, now in the collection of the Israel Museum, tells of Israelite King **Menahem** (2nd Kings 15:19) and Syrian King **Rezin** (2nd Kings 15:37) paying tribute to King **Tiglath-Pileser III** (1st Chronicles 5:26) of Assyria.

The sixteen bronze Assyrian Lion Weights, dated to 800-700 B.C. and discovered A.D. 1845-1851, now located at the British Museum, include eight bearing the inscription of Assyrian King **Shalmaneser V** (2nd Kings 17:3).

The Sargon Stele, dated to 707 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1845, now kept at the Berlin State Museums, depicts Assyrian King **Sargon II**

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(Isaiah 20:1; 2nd Kings 17:6, 24).

Sennacherib's Annals are three hexagonal clay prisms – the Taylor Prism, the Oriental Institute Prism, and the Jerusalem Prism, all of which bear the same text. They date to 690 B.C. and were discovered in A.D. 1830. Respectively, they are housed at the British Museum, the Oriental Institute of Chicago, and the Israel Museum. The annals recount Assyrian King **Sennacherib**'s siege of Jerusalem (Isaiah 36:1).

The Bulla of Ahaz, dated to the eighth century B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1990s, held in the private collection of Shlomo Moussaieff, is a clay impression of the seal of King **Ahaz** (2nd Kings 15:38) of Judah. The impression includes a fingerprint that may have belonged to the king himself, making it, possibly, the only fingerprint of an Israelite monarch known to exist. The bulla also mentions Ahaz's father **Jotham**.

The Bulla of Hezekiah, dated to 727-698 B.C. and discovered among the Ophel Treasure in A.D. 2009, is a clay impression of the seal of Judah's King **Hezekiah** (2nd Kings 18:1). Hezekiah is also mentioned on the aforementioned Taylor Prism.

The Bulla of Isaiah, dated to the eighth century B.C. and also discovered among the Ophel Treasure circa 2009, is a clay impression of the seal of the prophet **Isaiah** (2nd Kings 20:1). The bulla was found fewer than ten feet from the Bulla of Hezekiah.

The Esarhaddon Prism, dated to 673-672 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1927, now displayed at the British Museum, is a hexagonal clay prism describing Assyrian King **Esarhaddon**'s (2nd Kings 19:37) reconstruction and expansion of Nineveh. The prism details a number of foreign kings who paid tribute to Esarhaddon, including King **Manasseh** of Judah (2nd Kings 20:21).

The Bullae Hoard, dated to 605 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1982, is a trove of 51 clay seals excavated in a single house, including one belonging to "**Azariah, son of Hilkiyah**" (1st Chronicles 9:11), both of whom were priests, and another belonging to "**Gemariah, son of Shaphan**" (Jeremiah 36:10).

The Babylonian Chronicles, dated to 595-570 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 19th century, now stored in the British Museum, is a collection of 45 tablets recording major events in Babylonian history. Four tablets list food rations allotted to various individuals, including oil for the captive King **Jeconiah** of Judah (Jeremiah 24:1).

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**"WHAT MUST I DO
TO BE SAVED?"**

ACTS 16:30

LEARN THE GOSPEL

John 6:45; Romans 10:17

BELIEVE IN CHRIST

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

CONFESS CHRIST

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

REPENT OF SIN

Acts 3:19; 17:30

BE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

REMAIN STEADFAST

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

**"THE ASSEMBLING OF
OURSELVES TOGETHER"**

HEBREWS 10:24-25

SUNDAY

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

Studies @ 11:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Studies & Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

75 Sherrod Boulevard

Belén, New Mexico

Seekers Welcome.

Members Expected.

**"IF A MAN IS OVERTAKEN IN
ANY TRESPASS...
RESTORE SUCH A ONE"**

GALATIANS 6:1

CONFESS TRESPASSES

James 5:16; 1st John 1:9

REPENT OF SIN

Acts 8:22

PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS

Acts 8:22

REMAIN STEADFAST

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

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Dozens of individuals named in Scripture, including scribes, priests, kings of Israel, Judah, Tyre, Syria, Assyria, and Babylon have been authenticated by name in archaeological discoveries. And, if the Lord wills for the world to continue, further archaeological excavations are likely to prove true the existence of many more.

Holy Scripture is not fictional in the least. It is a most trustworthy collection of divinely inspired literature, including credible historical records.

"WHOLE COUNSEL"

ACTS 20:27

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**"ARE THEY NOT WRITTEN IN
THE BOOK OF THE CHRONICLES?"**

Bryan Matthew Dockens

In thirty-four instances, the inspired writers of Scripture urge readers to cross-reference the material for verification. All but once, those instances occur in the books of First and Second Kings, rhetorically asking, *"Now the rest of the acts of [insert name of king here], are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of [Israel/Judah]?"* Thus, these were ordinarily pointing to other books of Scripture. However, in the case of the thirty-fourth cross-reference, the writer of Esther concluded the book, *"Are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?"* (Esther 10:2). Since those chronicles were not sourced from the Holy Spirit, this is an encouragement to serious students to examine relevant historical data to verify what the Scripture claimed.

Skeptics deny that the word of God is a legitimate record of history, asserting it is merely fiction with no basis in reality. Accordingly, it is appropriate to search for external verification in history. It so happens that dozens of characters in the biblical narrative have been mentioned in uninspired contemporary records. Archaeology is friendly to the holy writ.

The Mesha Stele of Moab, dated to 840 B.C. and discovered in A.D. 1868, which is now housed in the Louvre in Paris, describes Israelite
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