

ROCK SOLID EVIDENCE

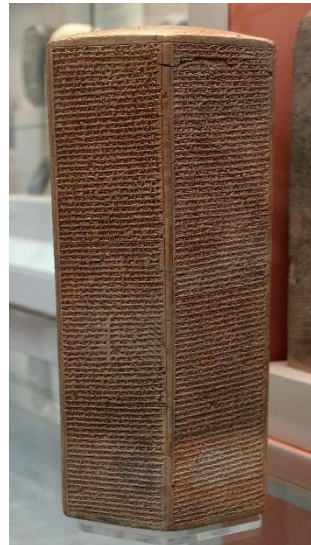
Archaeology is a great way to discover that the Bible is not myths and legends, but real history. It is constantly unearthing things connected with people mentioned in the Biblical record, showing that they truly existed. Not only that, but the discoveries are often directly connected with the stories themselves. Take **Sennacherib's ill-fated expedition against Jerusalem**, for instance.



This lengthy story is found in no less than three Bible passages (2 Kings 18:17-19:37; 2 Chronicles 32:1-23; & Isaiah 36-37). It tells how the Assyrian monarch came and

attacked Israel and *tried* to capture Jerusalem in the days of the Jewish king, Hezekiah.

But this story is also recorded – of a fashion – on a six-sided clay prism that was discovered in 1830, by Colonel R. Taylor in the ruins of Nineveh, Syria. *The Taylor Prism*, as it became known was Sennacherib's own account of his failed conquest of Jerusalem.



Except of course, he couldn't admit defeat, but rather

put the best possible spin on the situation! He says, *“As for Hezekiah, the Jew, he did not submit to my yoke, I laid siege to 46 of his strong cities, walled forts and to the countless small villages in their vicinity, and conquered them...Himself I made a prisoner in Jerusalem, his royal residence, like a bird in a cage.”*

Notice, the account doesn't say Jerusalem was taken – only that he laid siege to it and 'caged up Hezekiah.' Actually, the Lord miraculously killed his army in one night, which was why he had to retreat suddenly to Nineveh. But that would be too much to admit! However, the family shame was obviously felt by his sons, who

decided to assassinate him. As the Bible says, **“Now it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down with the sword...” (Isaiah 37:38).**

This part of the story is also recorded in both Babylonian and Assyrian accounts from that time – such as the



Nabonidus Stela.

So we see from the Bible that Sennacherib's false god couldn't save him, but the LORD mightily saved Hezekiah! And archaeology seems to echo this. *So, will you trust Him too?*