Today many museums are filled with ancient artifacts.
In the 18th Century, little was known apart from the writings of Samuel Johnson, 18th century English writer said, "all that is known of ancient Britain is contained in a few pages".
While Roman London was under his feet..

Chapter 3: Digs That Made a Difference
- The "Good ground" in Luxor...bedrock in the sand
- Flat areas, turned out to be the columns in Karnak
- 100-foot columns, described by Herodotus in 450BC
Chapter 3: Digs That Taught Us How to Read

- People became curious about the strange symbols
- History of a lost civilization.
- Great kingdom of Egypt and Mesopotamia

The Rosetta Stone: Key to Egyptian Hieroglyphics

- Keys to the languages found
  - Egypt: Rosetta Stone
  - Mesopotamia: Rock of Behistun
- Taught us how to read the languages

The Rosetta Stone: Key to Egyptian Hieroglyphics

- Hiero-Glyphics
- “Sacred” “Engrave”
- Secret meanings.
- 1798 Napoleon Bonaparte army invaded Egypt
- Collected Egyptian Artifacts
- British later confiscated finds

The Rosetta Stone

- Slab of basalt stone (tar)
- Found by French Army officer Lt. P.F.X Bouchard in Rosetta (village)
- 4 feet by 2 ½ feet
- 1676 pounds
- 3 Different Scripts
  - Hieroglyphics
  - Demotic
  - Greek
- Commemorative stela dated to 196 BC, King Ptolemy V Epiphanies
- Name of the King helped decipher it
- Jean Francois Champollion age 32 cracked the code in 1822
- Unlocked Egypt’s history
The Behistun Inscription: Key to Akkadian Cuneiform
- In Iran, Semitic language of Mesopotamia
- Assyrian, Babylonian
- Nations used to punish Israel and Judah for being Unfaithful
- Strange figures on Iranian mountain,

The Behistun Inscription: Key to Akkadian Cuneiform
- Called the place of God “Baga-Stana” (Behistun)
- Since 500 BC
- Before Modern times, Christ Disciples, Holy Spirit
- Wall was engraved with “Arrowhead”
- Ancient writing “Cuneiform” Wedge-shaped (Latin)
The Behistun Inscription: Key to Akkadian Cuneiform
- British Major Sir Henry Rawlinson
- Scaled the sheer cliff to copy inscriptions from the top of a ladder
- 3 cuneiform languages: Old Persian, Babylonian, Elamite
- Corresponds with the Bible

Digs That Retold Ancient Tales
- What about other stories outside the Bible?
  - Mesopotamian Texts
  - Sir Austen Henry Layard
  - Assyrian Capital of Ninevah 1850's
  - Palace of Ashurbanipal
  - Thousand of clay tablets from Royal Archives
  - Since 612 BC, from the fall of Ninevah

The Atrahasis Epic
- Atrahasis parallels Genesis
- Atrahasis Epic after main character
- First published in 1876. George Smith
- Corrected in 1965
- 1200 lines of text

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Atrahasis Epic</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Babylonian</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bible</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gods rule the heavens &amp; earth</td>
<td>Genesis 1:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make man from clay mixed with blood to take over chores, tending land</td>
<td>Genesis 2:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men multiply and become too noisy, flood is sent</td>
<td>Genesis 6:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One man, Atrahasis is given advance warning, told to build a boat</td>
<td>Genesis 6:14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build a boat, loads with food, animals and birds</td>
<td>Genesis 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrahasis in conclusion offers a sacrifice to the gods, accepting mankind's continued existence</td>
<td>Genesis 8:20-22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Enuma Elish-Mesopotamian Creation**

- George Smith
- From Ashurbanipal Library
- 7 Tablets total found
- Babylonian and Assyrian view of Creation
- Enuma Elish “When Above”
- gods represent the forces of nature
- Marduk head god
- Marduk not Creation is dominant theme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enuma Elish</th>
<th>Bible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Watery Chaos separated into Heaven and Earth</td>
<td>Genesis 1:1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light pre-exists creation of sun, moon and stars</td>
<td>Genesis 1:1-3, 5:14-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number 7 plays prominent role</td>
<td>Genesis 2:2-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mythology Content**
- Gods procreate with other gods who they seek to destroy because of loud parties
- Mother of gods is Tiamat, she creates monsters and eats them. Marduk cuts her in half
- Two halves of Tiamat form heavens and earth
- Blood of captured rebel god is used to make man, man is to work as slaves for the lazy lower gods and feed Babylonian pantheon

**Gilgamesh Epic-Mesopotamian Flood**

- From Henry Laylard’s excavation
- Babylonian account of the Flood
- King Gilgamesh ruler of Uruk @2600 B.C.
- Searching for immortality
- Composite text from documents 1750 BC-612BC
- 12 Tablets

**Gilgamesh Epic-Mesopotamian Flood**

- First published in 1872 Europe
- Some claimed proof for Genesis Flood
- Others said it diminished claims of Biblical flood
- King Gilgamesh is like Nimrod
- Noah is like Utnapishtim

**Where did these stories come from?**

- 1. They came from Israelite sources
- 2. Originally Mesopotamian Tales..Hebrews borrowed
- 3. Both accounts came from common ancient source

**Gilgamesh Epic-Mesopotamian Flood**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gilgamesh</th>
<th>Bible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gilgamesh is told about the flood by Utnapishtim...</td>
<td>Genesis 1:1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utnapishtim is a man who gained immortality...had already passed safely thorough the flood</td>
<td>Genesis 1:3-5:14-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Creator god Ea favored him and warned him about the coming flood</td>
<td>Genesis 2:2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On this boat he brought his family, treasures and all living creatures</td>
<td>Genesis 6:18-22, 7:10-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of mankind is destroyed</td>
<td>Genesis 7:14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm ended on the 7th day</td>
<td>Genesis 7:11-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry land emerged on 11th day</td>
<td>Genesis 7:14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat rested on Mt. Ninus in Kurdistan</td>
<td>Genesis 7:24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utnapishtim sent out a dove, swallow and then a raven</td>
<td>Genesis 8:3-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raven did not return</td>
<td>Genesis 8:10-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He left the boat and offered a sacrifice to the gods</td>
<td>Genesis 8:12-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where did these stories come from?

- 1. Unlikely that it was borrowed from Israel
  - Israel (Jacob) 1450 BC
- 2. Unlikely Hebrews borrowed from Mesopotamian sources
- 3. Likely, both accounts had a common ancient

Where did these stories come from?

- 4. God super-naturally revealed it to Moses on Mt. Sinai
  - Genesis all happened before Moses
  - And Genesis 1-2 happened before Adam
  - Required “Supernatural” Revelation of events

Major Inscriptions of Old Testament Significance

Ben Hasan Tomb Painting 1900 BC

Laws of Hammurabi 1725 BC

Merenptah Stela 1207 BC

Sheshonq Inscription 920 BC

Egyptian raids against Israel
Major Inscriptions of Old Testament Significance

House of David Inscription
9th Century BC
Earliest mention of David

Mesha Inscription
850 BC
Moabite-Israelite relations in 9th century

Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III
840 BC

Finds from the First Temple Period
Balaam Inscription
Numbers 22-24
discovered during a 1967 excavation in Deir 'Alla, Jordan
Numbers 22:5
(5) sent messengers to Balaam the son of Beor at Pethor, which is near the River in the land of the people of Amaw,