

as long as the heavens" was inscribed upon one of the Egyptian temples. Now these gods must either have altered their intentions, as sometimes even the gods make grievous mistakes, or else they were unable to carry out their plans. Such were the gods whom the people worshipped. Do not her magnificent ruins stand up like a great Mausoleum to tell the story of the frailty and instability of these gods as compared with Him who is great above all gods?"

Polytheism spread from Egypt into Greece, Assyria, Babylon, etc. The very Tower of Babel was converted into a Pantheon.

Chaldæa, which was probably the birthplace of Asiatic culture and civilization, the first nation that ever held the sceptre of an independent monarchy in Asia. It was a stronghold of Polytheism which much resembled that of Greece, with whom there is every evidence that she had commercial intercourse, besides the contiguity of Egypt, would lend much to her colonial, political and social aggrandisement. Assyria, a semetic offshoot of Chaldæa, no doubt the bump of veneration, was not quite so large in the Assyrian as in the Egyptian, Chaldæan, Indian or Greek. Nevertheless they were strongly attached to their gods, but instead of lavishing their opulence upon the construction of temple dedicated to dead gods, they prepared to expend their money in the erection of magnificent palaces to their kings. The principles of their religion was much the same as that of the Chaldæans. Ninevah, according to Scripture, was founded by Ashur the son of Shem. It was at times the seat of the Kings. Ninevah was a city of great wickedness and idolatry. It contained about 600,000 inhabitants. The principal object of worship was a god represented on very large and handsomely carved figures in the form of a bull having a man's head with wings of an eagle. The man's head was supposed to represent wisdom and intelligence, while the body represented physical power; the eagle's wings were typical of swiftness of motion. Ninevah fell precisely as the Scripture had predicted, through the prophets Jonah and Nahum, at a time when there was but little prospects of such a fulfillment. Ninevah, like Babylon, is buried beneath the rolling waves of time. The billows of the ages have washed almost every remnant from the site where she once stood.

There is no date recorded in ancient history of which we are more certain than that of Babylon. It has been ascertained by astronomical calculations made by modern astronomers,