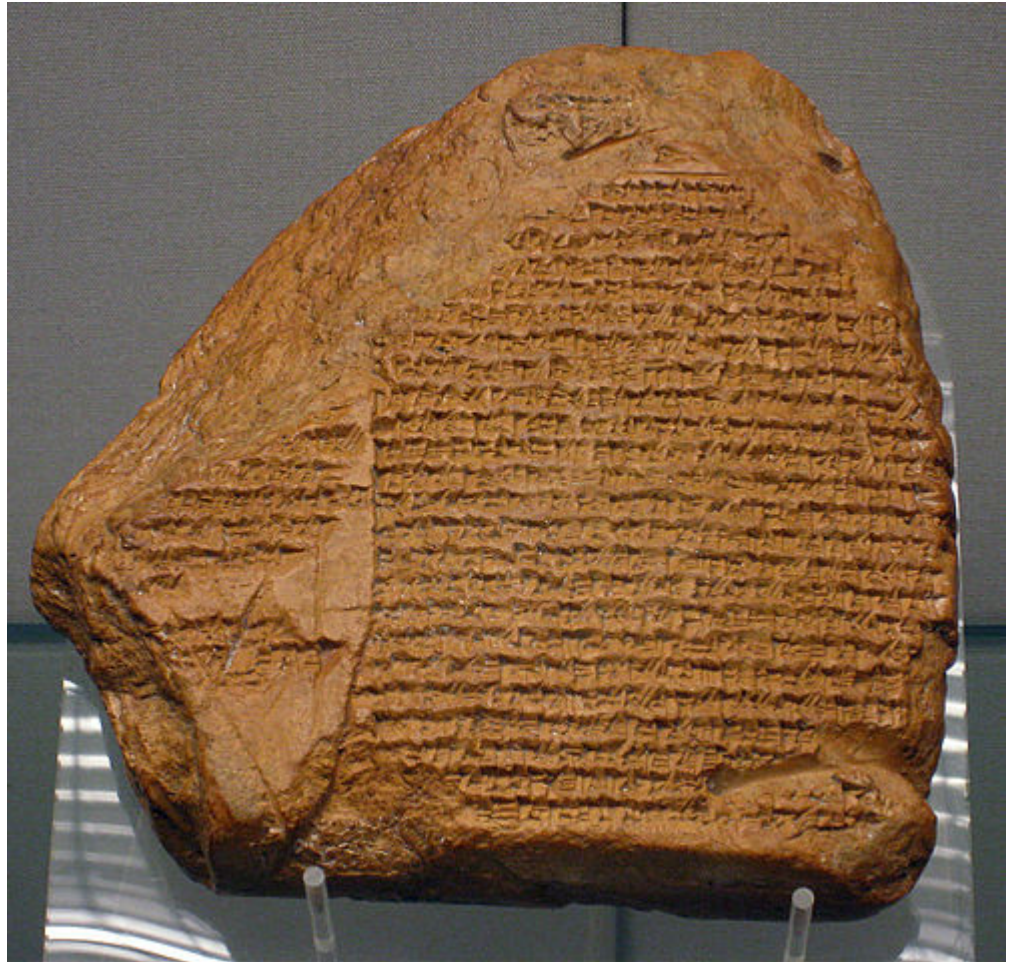


Cuneiform documents of ration tablets of Jehoiachin have been discovered at the site ancient Babylon.

“In the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the year Awel-Marduk became king of Babylon, on the twenty-fifth day of the twelfth month, he released Jehoiachin king of Judah and freed him from prison. He spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat of honor higher than those of the other kings who were with him in Babylon. so Jehoiachin put aside his prison clothes and for the rest of his life ate regularly at the king’s table.



Ration tablets of Jehoiakim in ancient Babylon have discovered

**Day by day the king
of Babylon gave
Jehoiachin a regular
allowance as long as
he lived, till the day
of his
death”—Jeremiah
52:31-34 NIV; see
also 2 Kings
25:27-30**

In the first year of his reign, 561 BCE, Babylonian king Awel-Marduk (Evil-Merodach) released Jehoiachin, king of Judah, from his 37 year Babylonian imprisonment and gave him a position of prominence among the captive kings, as well as a daily allowance of food for the rest of his life—but did not permit him to return to Judah. Cuneiform tablets of Babylonian administrative annals have been discovered in a basement, which served as a royal archive room, near Babylon's famous Ishtar gate. These tablets have been dated to the reign of Awel-Marduk's predecessor Nebuchadnezzar. They refer to provisions or rations, such as oil and barley, supplied to Jehoiachin and five of his sons (cf. 2 Kings 24:15), and to other royal prisoners. The latest of these tablets is at least eight years older than the date of Jehoiachin's release, which is referred to in the scriptures above. Awel-Marduk likely increased Jehoiachin's allowance from the meager amounts mentioned in these tablets.

The discoveries of ration tablets for Judean king Jehoiachin is just one of many archaeological evidences proving that people, places, events and things mentioned in the Bible really did exist, or happen, and that the Bible can be trusted as Almighty God's inspired word (2 Timothy 3:16,17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:24,25).