

the NT° and an account of the efforts that many scholars were making to collect hundreds of manuscripts from the hidden away in monasteries in the Near East in order to get all possible evidence/~~from~~ <sup>on</sup> the precise reading of various passages in the NT°. The article, however, was written up in very sensational form and it took a few variants in NT° Greek manuscripts and played them up as if they were tremendously important. The headline said, "even the Lord's prayer is uncertain." Evidence for this was that the last phrase in the Lord's prayer, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen" does not occur in one or two manuscripts of the Gospel of Matthew, although nearly all manuscripts of the Gospel of Matthew have this ~~phrase~~ phrase. Interestingly enough this same phrase does not appear at all in the Lord's prayer as it is given in Luke, so the fact that there are one or two manuscripts of Matthew that do not contain it ~~is~~ does not really raise any new problem. If one wants to know whether the ~~Lord's~~ Lord's prayer as Jesus gave it to His disciples contained these words or not he is facing a problem to which no solid answer can be given. ~~Like~~ Luke gives it without them; Matthew gives it with them. The fact is, of course, that Jesus probably gave this prayer on a number of occasions. In Matthew (or is it Luke?) it is preceded by the words that we should not be like the heathen and make simply repetitions of words without thought. The thought is what is important. Nevertheless the Lord's prayer has been repeated over and over by people as if the mere words were magical. It is a <sup>presentation</sup> presentation of a pattern of the type of approach that God wishes ~~us~~ His people make toward Him. It contains very important material for our thought and study. Whether Jesus on one occasion gave it without this final phrase, or whether He ever gave the final phrase does not affect the matter or the type of prayer that God wants us to give. Anyway there is nothing in this final statement "For thine etc. is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen" that is not abundantly taught elsewhere in the Scriptures. The question whether He actually included it in what He said to His disciples ~~is~~ <sup>not a great deal</sup> more important than the question whether there were ten steps in front of the prison (get exact correct number of steps.) Yet of course it is important that we try to get our text just as near the original as we possibly can.