

I'd like to begin with a few verses in the New Testament. First, I'd like to call your attention to the Book of Matthew, the 6th chapter. There we read in verses 28 and following that our Lord Jesus Christ, ~~x~~ said, "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the ~~fix~~ field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." And then we find over in Luke another reference to Solomon. In Luke 11:31 we find Jesus said, "The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of ~~Som~~ Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solom is here." These two passages speak of Solomon's glory and of Solomon's wisdom as something that was really outstanding, something that was very ~~de~~ tremendous. Some years ago I came across a statement that took quite a different view of Solomon. This was an article by H.G. Wells, the noted British publicist, who a few years ago was very readily read and widely discussed. H.G. Wells ~~wxx~~ wrote an article which appeared in the current history magazine in which he dealt with the matter of British education. And in this article, H.G. Wells deplored the fact that ~~a~~ British education ~~spend~~ spent so much time dealing with the Bible and dealing with Palestine. Well, he said, Why should we ~~speaks~~ spend so much time on Palestine. Nothing of any real importance ~~lx~~ ever happened in Palestine, he said. Why don't they put that time studying England and the important things that have happened there. Why, he said, nothing of ~~and~~ any importance ever happened in Palestine. It only had one very brief period of substantial glory and even that ~~lx~~ has been tremendously exaggerated. He said, Actually Solomon was a petty king, sub~~lx~~ject to Hiram of Tyre, and