

of every alphabetic system/which any evidence has been found anywhere either comes directly from a system originated in Palestine about the time of Moses, or maybe a little before -- we are not sure exactly when; we have no statement about it. We just have evidence of its starting, starting either in Palestine or just south of Palestine but then from Palestine spreading north into Phoenicia, being carried overland eastward, being carried westward to Greece and being carried from there northward into Russia carried across into Italy and from it is derived our Latin alphabet that we use in English. There are a few alphabets known which are not directly derived from it but which were originated by people which were familiar with one of these alphabets and got the idea from it. So we can say that nearly every alphabetic system of writing in the world goes back to the system that started in Palestine c. 1500 B.C. and the few that ^{don't} go directly back to it, go back to it indirectly. And yet H. G. Wells says Nothing of importance ever happened in Palestine. But I was interested in what H. G. Wells went on to say about Solomon. So I think before we look at this in relation to archaeology, I will call your attention to two Scripture passages that speak particularly of Solomon and they are both spoken by our Lord Jesus Christ. So the question of whether Solomon lived or was anything like he was described in the OT has tremendous importance in our attitude toward Christ, because if Solomon was merely a petty king who amounted to very little and is not at all as he is described in the OT then the Lord Jesus Christ ^{certainly} certainly showed utter lack of intelligence to speak as He did in these two passages.

Now the first of these is in Mt. 6:28-29 where our Lord said, "And why take ye thought of raiment, Consider the lilies of the field how they grow. They toil not neither do they spin and yet I say unto you that even Sol. in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." What a tremendous statement. He wants to show the greatness of God; the wonders of God's creation, and he says that even Sol. in all his glory was not arrayed like these." And H.G. Wells says that Sol. was just a little petty kinglet that did not amount to anything much. Well our Lord made a similar statement that is quoted in other places in the Gospels. But I call your attention to a statement by him to another thing about Solomon. Turn to Lk. 11:31 "The queen of the south shall rise up the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to