

fact that at the end of his life he forgot God and put Him to a large extent out of his thoughts and doubtless turned his attention to his <sup>personal</sup> own enjoyment rather than to the effective running of the kingdom. Certainly in the latter part of his reign there was an autocratic arbitrary control of the kingdom in order to get the utmost out of it for his great buildings and great purposes, but did not make for satisfaction to ~~the Bible~~ among the people. The people saw him as the great son of David. They saw him as the great glorious king. As long as he lived there was no rebellion against him. One man whom he suspected of trying to start a rebellion at one time, Jeroboam had to flee for his life down to Egypt~~xxxx~~. ~~That~~ There seems to <sup>have</sup> been no great number who were in any similar situation during the reign of Solomon. After his death the kingdom was ~~xxxxxxx~~ outwardly very strong, but within it there was that which might easily bring difficulty and trouble. The seeds of ~~disruption~~ disruption we could not say were planted by Solomon, but they certainly were enabled to grow to quite an extent during his reign. We cannot say they were planted at that time because in the history previous to this period, you are <sup>all familiar</sup> doubtless with the fact that ~~xxx~~ they already had quite a split between the north and the south. You had it in the time of the judges and occasionally you had war between the north and the south. And then you had it in the reign of ~~Saul~~ David, in the beginning of the reign, when the northern ten tribes ~~were~~ for seven years remained true to the house of Saul while the house of Judah made David their king for a number of years before the whole of Israel turned to David. Then after Absalom's rebellion, you remember, when David came back, the house of Judah welcomed him back, but there was then considerable dissatisfaction ~~xxxx~~ in a portion of the northern section of the land. And there was a revolt raised against David on the part of a good many in the north of the land after the putting down of Absalom's rebellion. So the division between north and south was nothing altogether new. It could perhaps be partially blamed