

kingdom out of it. Now, he said, Here is Egypt, and Egypt is an isolated area. You can attack it from the water, from the north, you can attack it from that little strip coming down to Asia, but otherwise, it is surrounded by desert. It is an isolated area, very easy to defend, because you don't have to defend all its borders. You can put all your force on one or two places. It is an easy area to defend, and it is an area of great wealth, tremendous wealth. Other regions, they'd have a good crop one year and they were happy. Another year they wouldn't have a good crop, and they would struggle along until the following year hoping for a decent crop, but Egypt would have four or five ~~xxx~~ crops in a row in the course of a year. The productiveness of the land was simply indescribably, and it is amazing how a man of such marvelous natural resources as Egypt had, can descend to such poverty, and such a weak state, as Egypt has come into through mismanagement, during this past few centuries. But at that time Egypt was in a very exalted position, and it was as prosperous a section as there was in the world then anywhere, and Ptolemy rushed in, down to Egypt, which Alexander held. It had been part of the Persian empire, for 200 years it had been subject to Persia, so the people were accustomed to foreign control. So in came Ptolemy, it had been taken over from the Persian empire by Alexander, Ptolemy came in with a sizable number of troops with him who were subject to his command, and he announced, I am the successor of the ancient Pharaohs. I am the new Pharaoh of Egypt, and he established himself as Pharaoh in Egypt, this great Greek ruler, calling himself Pharaoh, and he ruled Egypt, and his descendants continued for 200 years to rule Egypt, until Cleopatra was finally conquered by the Romans, and it was united with the Roman empire. But for 200 years, here Ptolemy had a definite idea. He said, this great Egyptian area is a wonderful territory to control. I'll be satisfied with that, and so he took it, and it was a very successful thing. And how much wiser we are to decide what we are capable of doing and doing it, than to try to ~~xxx~~ do something five times as much as we are capable of doing, and end up not doing a fifth of what we are capable of doing, because we tried to grab too much. Well, Ptolemy showed very good sense in Egypt, and he went down there, and with him went a man named Seleucus, who was one of Alexander's ~~xxx~~ generals, but who was quite content