

second of the four great periods of miracles in the Bible is that which came as a result of this tremendous Baal crisis. Sometimes you will hear people talk as if as soon as the kingdom divided, God immediately took His mercy away from the northern kingdom and left it entirely with the southern kingdom and all good people went to the south and all bad people went to the north, and the north was all bad and the south all good. It is true that there are ~~fixix~~ far more good kings in the southern kingdom than in the northern. ^{Practically} ~~In fact~~ all the northern kings are evil, but God worked in the northern kingdom. One of the greatest works He ever worked in any nation ~~anywhere~~ anywhere in the world, the divine intervention to put an end to this Baal worship was one of the most outstanding interpositions of God ~~ixxx~~ that the history of the world has ever seen. So I wouldn't be surprised if you have more, certainly if you start in after the conquest of Israel, from that time on to the ~~end of the Bible~~, end of the Old Testament, at least two-thirds of the supernatural acts recorded would be in connection with the destruction of the Baal worship and the saving of the worship of God in the northern kingdom in Israel. Now this, of course, was done because it was a great crisis. God was using the people of Israel as the people which through whom He was giving His revelation to the world, through whom He was bringing His divine teaching to the world, ~~thru~~ through whom He was preparing the way for the coming of His Son into the world. This ~~ixx~~ was threatened by the coming in of the Baal worship. It was a crucial point in God's economy. Consequently God poured out miracles and signs. ^{those in} Probably nearly half of the entire Old Testament, certainly two-thirds of those after the conquest from that point to the end of the Old Testament are in connection with this one great crisis, the crisis of the Baal worship. It is important then that we realize what this Baal worship was and how important it was in the history of the northern and ^{essentially} ~~the~~ the southern kingdoms of Israel. How necessary it was that a stop be put to its tremendous progress before it secured tremendous progress into the land.