

92-144v

find that sometimes--David was one; he was a king; ~~A E~~ \_\_\_\_\_ was one; he was a keeper of sycamore trees. We have them from all walks of life, from all sections of the land. We have them often coming alone into a situation. The Lord seems to have just met arbitrarily ~~in a sense~~ in accordance with his wisdom and selected these men, men who were fitted to carry his message.

Now, of course, the great prophets in connection with the capital like Nathan in connection with David. Men like that were men who came to have functions in the court, and they made the records and they wrote the chronicles of the king and all that. That wasn't because they were prophets; ~~and of 32~~ that was just pretty much

that was pretty much just an incident. I mean there is ~~not~~ no specific statement in it any place that the Lord ~~went~~ <sup>said</sup> to a man, you are more righteous and ~~O. T. H. 33~~ therefore I will make you a prophet! He says to a man, "Because of your right-

eousness, I will give you a gift; I will advance you in the kingdom; I will do other things; ~~but~~ <sup>^</sup> But the prophets were men who carried God's message. Now you would expect they should be clean ~~vessels~~ vessels certainly, but it is nowhere so stated. The prophet was a specific man with a specific ~~function~~ function.

He was the mouthpiece of God. That was his function. The Lord, of course, may have had certain ~~qualifications~~ qualifications, but these qualifications are not here stated. We have the old prophet in Samaria who lied and lured the younger prophet to his death by his lie, but he was definitely a prophet, one ~~through~~ through whom the Lord ~~spoke~~ spoke. They were men like we are, and the difference between righteousness and wickedness among men is to quite an extent a relative matter.

The difference between a heart that is true to the Lord and the heart that is not is an absolute matter; one ~~that~~ is going in this direction or he is going in that direction. But one may be over here going in that direction and one in this direction, and the important thing isn't where you are but what ~~you~~ direction you are going in. Some men are so constituted that it is very, very ~~easy~~

easy for them to live disrespectful lives; other men are so constituted that it