

35 commentaries say it means this, and 15 or 20 say it means that, and 35 is the majority so this is what it means. And they are always trying to find, what does this authority say, and oh, they'll spend hours and hours ~~up~~ studying that verse, far more than any body who has ever gone through Faith Seminary, but he said, he found this, that he could take up the verse and with his training here, he could go into the verse, and look at the Hebrew and Greek and see what the verse meant, and he could learn from what the verse actually said, and he said these other students there were not equipped to do that. He said, they were quite lost when it came to getting into the verse itself ^{for} and seldom finding what it meant. But they would spend hours and hours reading authorities to see what this authority says it means, and what that authority says it means, and what the other authority says it means, and I always say, I'm not the least bit interested in what any authority says, but I am tremendously interested in the reasons why anyone gives that he accepts a certain interpretation. I think it is very much worth reading books of interpretation. Not to say, Hodge says this, and therefore it is true. Hodge said many wonderful, true things and made many extremely serious mistakes as anybody does that writes voluminously as he did. But I am tremendously interested in the reason Hodge gives for any view that he gives. Tremendously interested in that. And I am interested in the reason why any man gives for the view of his. And the more study a man makes and the more reasonable he is, and the more highly trained he is, the more likely it is that he reasons things out correctly, but if he writes very much, he probably writes a good many things that he hasn't studied through specifically. And in those cases, he can make the most serious error, and God will not excuse us, for being misled by other human beings. We have one source of authority and that is the Bible. Now human beings are so constituted, that they will not everyone of them spend a year studying the original languages, to learn how to interpret the Bible correctly, and neither will they take the time they need to in the English to learn to understand it correctly. The great mass of people will not do that. And God gives Christian leaders the responsibility to study it and go out and present it, and to persuade the people of what it means. But in the end those people are not excusable if they have followed the wrong leader, because God wants