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return of Christ, the first beginning of it and you don't know when it is going to be; it may be today; it may be tomorrow; there be vigilant, be wide awake," but He said, "We don't know whether it is going to be today--'In such an hour as ye think not'" Well, if I ask you if it will be two hundred years from now and you say, "I don't think so." well, then, maybe it will be two hundred years from now. But supposing that I say this, "You won't go through the great tribulation. You have nothing to worry about. Of course, it is true, Stalin will conquer the United States and he will hang nine-tenths of the Christians and the others he'll burn and persecute and so on, but that isn't the great tribulation, after all that we have a time of great peace and happiness, and that only affects the United States after all, it doesn't affect South America, so there is nothing for us to worry about, and then after that comes the rapture--" You see what I mean. Anybody who makes a reason for slothful living out of this is taking an utterly wrong interpretation of it. It is a challenge to vigilant, Christian living because you don't know whether Christ comes today or tomorrow or whether He comes two hundred years from now, you don't know whether there are tremendous persecutions to come through. Christ says that every Christian will have tribulation and there may be tribulation as great as any tribulation that anyone would suffer in the last tribulation might come to any section of the world. The question isn't one of tribulation, the question is one of-- "Can we say that the rapture might come now for all we know?" Nobody has a right to say it will come ^{now.} Nobody has the right to say there won't be six persecutions as bad as Nero before the rapture comes. But can they say that it might come now? I'm glad Mr. Cordes brought this up. I think it is very important, but the particular point he brought up I don't think is a motive for attacking the idea that the rapture is the first event in the return of Christ, and then there there might be quite a ^{period} few in between. That is, I am trying to figure out what can be a reasonable motive if one takes this picture down here, for him to get excited about it and feel that it is worth taking much time on. I mean my feeling is that if I took this view down here--I haven't taken either one yet, I'm