

whole talk poorly recorded

Now in this passage (which?) you notice doubtless that it begins and ends on exactly the same note. That's why I quoted it as a unified passage. v.1 is to take care that you don't do your alms before men, to be seen of them. v.18 is when you fast don't do it before men to be seen of them. Then after ...2½... not doing alms before men to be seen of them, we have2½.....I have heard someone say that vv 1-18 was divided into three parts, ~~avoiding hypocrisy~~ avoiding ~~seeking men's approbation~~ seeking men's approbation, first of all, secondly prayer, and thirdly fasting. We have ~~been~~ taken a section out of the second part, and we have stressed that section.....3.... Well, now, you might say, why do we need to remember the rest? Doesn't this sound silly to us today, v.2, When thou givest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the sinners do, the hypocrites do in the synagogue3...add glory to men. Did you ever see anybody do anything like that? Did you ever see anybody who loves to pray standing in the synagogue.....3½.....to be seen of men? What would happen if somebody went down to one of the main corners of the city of Philadelphia and began to pray. He's doing that ~~to~~ to be seen of men, so that all may look up to him, honor him, well in our civilization times have changes, and today people tend to hide their religion, rather than do it openly. They tend to be ashamed of it, they tend to want people not to know about it, they don't parade their religion in front of the world. ^{have} Times have changed so much that we can just destroy all these verses? Well, these would fit that day when they sounded their trumpet when they were going to give alms, praying4½..... we don't do that today. This part of the Bible here belongs to another age. It has no meaning for us today. It is true that there are many sections of the Bible that are particularly relevant to a certain time, to a certain situation. And then they don't seem to have so much relevance in other times. Nevertheless I believe that when the Lord gives as much attention to something as He does here, when He stresses...4 3/4.. as He does here, I think we should say this, ~~Though~~ Though the external5..of it, though the outward manifestation of it may be aimed, may even