

when
 Some yrs. ago/we had ~~was/were~~ what we called the Presby. Ch. of America, in that ch. which later divided, in that ch. there was a group which was determined ~~to~~ not to take any stand against the use of alcohol. And we went thro the records of the Presby. Ch. in the U.S.A. and found that on at least a dozen occasions through the yrs. they had passed resolutions advising their people that the best thing to do with alcohol ~~was~~ with all the misery it brings to so many ^{is} was to keep completely clear of it. And we attempted in our Synod, we said, Let's pass again in our Synod the very action passed by the Presby. Ch. in the U.S.A , I believe it was in 1812, the first of about a dozen times when they ~~passed~~ these strong resolutions. But unfortunately we found that in the course of that ^{resolution} resolutuion they said, w^e should follow the Scriptural injunction, Touch not, taste not, handle not. And if you look at the context, Paul says, Be ye not subject to ordinances, Touch not, taste not, handle not. It is a complete misuse of Scripture, and I believe it is vital that we use the Scripture in the light of context and we have plenty of Scripture that truly prove the great doctrines. Let's build up on them and study the others, and not grab a few words out of context and make them mean something that they did not mean in the original. Well so much for the Fourth Prophecy, 24:15-25. And we have just a very few minutes to look at

XIX Balaam's Failure. That is the sad thing. Balaam here in these chapters appears as a wonderful man of God. Though he made one serious error, going when God told him not to go. God did give him permission to go that night. And God did when he said after the donkey spoke he said, I'll go back if you want. He said, No, go ahead, but be sure you speak the word that I told you to speak. He did despite that one serious error he stood true to God's word and ^{presented it} ~~presented it~~. But we find later on that he was killed during the conquest of the Israelites. We find that it is said that he gave advise which was used to injure Israel. Now this was because of Balaam's misunderstanding of Christian truth and his eagerness to get that which would profit him. It's easy to think, Well now I'm going to get a great advantage for myself here and I'm going at the same time to help ^{these} these people who want something here.. Now it's easy to think that. If we stand true to God He may give us great worldly advantages and he may not. But when we put the worldly