(Student) V. 9 says, "In that day shall their strong cities be as a forsak en place in the wood and on the mountain top, which were forsaken from before the children of Israel and it shall be a desolation." That is still desolation entirely. (Student) Yes. We have then in this chapter up to 11 here, we have a picture which starts in reference to Damascus for two verses and a half; after that we have Israel prominently and strongly stressed. If Damascus is referred to again it is not explicitly stated that such is the case. It may be that you can find it in some verses but certainly in many verses it is definitely excluded and whether it is in others or not is questionable. Damascus is going to be wrecked even as Israel is wrecked but then Israel seems to occupy at least the forefront of attention during all the rest of this section and it is a question whether Damascus is really involved in it. Now you come to v. 12, and you ask the question, "Is v. 12 related to v. 11?" Are verses 12 and 13 and 14 a unit? If so, is this unit connected with what precedes or with what follows? "here should the chapter really begin? We have had the burden of Damascus which seems to have been principally the burden of Israel, principally the message of the condition which is to come to Israel; destruction but not complete destruction, and the result of the destruction from which no rescue is suggested at all, v. 11 ends with the harvest being a heap in the day of grief, yet in the midst of this there is a revival and there/quite a number of people who seem to turn to the Lord as a result of the catastrophe and that is always true in any godly land, that when catastrophe comes in any land with a godly heritage there are some who turn to the Lord, and forsake their idols, but it wouldn't suggest that it was an overwhelming turning to the Lord for if it was you would expect that surely God's blessing was coming and there is no suggestion of any material blessing in the chapter at all. Then 12-14, what do they deal with? And what about 18? Do 12-14 go with chapter 18 or with what