

Prophets

7

be able to distinguish between the word and the word of man. Well, if you take that attitude you certainly should not use a Hebrew Bible that has vowel points in it, because they aren't the word of God, and you certainly shouldn't use any English Bible because it is a translation and human opinion enters in very, very largely. One must learn to distinguish between the word of God and the word of man. You can't publish the word of God separately unless you have just the Hebrew Bible with the vowel points omitted and probably with most of the vowel letters marked with a special mark to show that we are not sure whether they are part of the word of God or not, but the Scofield Bible has a very excellent note on Exodus 19 which says that the law was not given as a means of salvation. The law was not given, it points out, until after the people had been redeemed and it is given on the basis of the redeemed. It is a very excellent note. Now the Scofield Bible has also a very good note on Acts 15, properly understood. It's a good note. But it has an extremely unfortunate statement in the note which is a very bad statement. Of statements of dispensation, this is one of the most important passages in the New Testament, and therefore, I have known a good many people who, taking the Scofield Bible for their text, that dispensationally this is one of the most important passages of the New Testament, have proceeded to try to prove that this passage does not teach premillennialism and therefore have said, "Therefore, premillennialism is untrue." Well, personally, you could take out Acts 15 of the Bible altogether and it wouldn't affect the evidence for premillennialism. To my mind it is not one of the most important passages in the New Testament in any sense of the word. It might be a passage which was very clear; it might be a passage which was extremely obscure, but from either viewpoint it would not prove or disprove premillennialism. Now we have--Acts 15 is a difficult passage to interpret for the reason that the quotation is from the Septuagint and the Septuagint doesn't strictly follow the Hebrew and at a number of points--it would take considerable time to go into on it, we discussed it in the elective in minor prophets last year and a good many here heard that discussion so I don't think we ought to take the time in