

Prophets

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particular subject?" Well, now that being the case, I have not done a great deal of taking up particular things and trying to gather the teaching of the Scripture as a whole on these themes. I've tried to make my approach rather the approach, "Here's a book. Here's a chapter. Here's a section. What does it have to say to me?" And I find it definitely says this. It definitely does not say this. There is this here--I'm not sure whether it says it or not. All right. I reserve judgment on that until I find other passages which give further light on it, and the result is that there are^a great many things on which I don't know whether the Scripture has a great deal of light or not. I don't think anybody can know simply by hunting proofs on it, but I think that as we study passages we learn more and more what their real content and meaning is. Now, on this matter of the millennium. We have--these passages we've come to in our study in Micah and in Isaiah have, I think, brought out certain great truths very clearly and one very great truth, I believe, is that there is to be a period of external peace and safety upon this earth, a period when, if you take these passages literally as fits in with Romans 8 and with Revelation 20, that the curse will be removed from the earth, we will have a renewed earth, an earth in which not only will there be peace in the human creation but also in the animal creation. Well now, that I find clearly taught. Now in Thessalonians we read that Christ is going to raise the dead and we who are alive will not precede those who are raised from the dead but together we will be raised up to meet Him in the air. There is to be a rapture of the church. That is clearly taught in Thessalonians. We don't have to be premillennialists to believe there is going to be a rapture. I would say that if you accept the Bible I don't see how you could interpret Thessalonians otherwise, than to believe there is going to be a rapture. The question is, "When is that rapture going to be?" Well, now the idea, whatever idea you have on when that is going to be has nothing to do with whether you are a premillennialist. It is a different question, related question but a different question. Now it is a question which I have not studied through the Scripture. I have not taken up the different