

Prophets 11

shall take you: for morning by morning it will pass over, by day and by night: and it shall be a vexation only to understand the report, for the bed is shorter than a man can stretch himself on and the covering is narrower than ^{that} he can wrap himself in it. You've got your plan you think is going to give you safety, but it won't work. Your plan is like a bed that is too short to stretch out, and the covering is too narrow to get over you, and you turn over and it comes out one side and then you tuck it in there and it comes pulling out the other side. You just can't keep it on you. Yes? (Student) Yes. It's a prediction of the Assyrian conquest. (Student) And not. Well, of course, in this case it was assigned to those that believed not. (Student) Yes. We have to look into that. I think maybe I'd rather leave that question till a little later because I'd like to get over as much of the general teaching of the passage as I can, but we'll look at Paul's use of that. That's a very important question. Right now, I'd rather go on and get the general

of the passage, if possible to the end of the chapter. I think I can because what follows is more uniform; that is, there is a lot of repetition in what follows. He says, "Your plan will not give you safety. Your plan will not give you that which you are looking for because," he says, "the plan won't work. It is insufficient. The Lord will rise up as in mount Perazim, he will be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon." He refers back to the way in which God has acted in the past in great world-shaking events. He's going to work now that He may do His work, His strange work, and bring to pass His act, His strange act. Now therefore be not mockers, let your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord God of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole land. There is exile, there is difficulty, there's trouble ahead, not merely for Ephraim, the northern land, but the whole land, the land of Judah as well. God has promised the destruction of Ephraim which is a joy to these people of Judah, but Judah is going to have trouble too. Of course, the exile doesn't come for a hundred and fifty years, but within the next twenty years the Assyrian army overruns three-fourths of Judah and causes tremendous