R 1

to this earth. Now he would read of various things this One is going to do. He is going to put down all that is evil, He is going to reign upon this earth. He is going to destroy all wickedness here. He is going to make an end to war. He is going to suffer for the sins of the world. He is going to be humiliated. He is going to bear the sins of all those who believe upon Him. Now as one all these things which are to take place in connection with the manifestation to the earth of God as the Messiah, as one read these various things in the Old Testament one might be greatly puzzled and wonder, "How are these different events going to take place at the manifestation of the Messiah, the coming of the Messiah, of the God-man to this earth? How are they to take place? Are they all to take place as He is here continuously, or is He perhaps to go to heaven and come back to earth and do other things, and if He does, will it be almost immediate, will it be instantaneous, will it be a few minutes after the other event? What right do you have on the ground of the Old Testament to assume that the manifestation of the Messiah, of the coming of the God-man, is divided into two stages, and that these two stages will have as much as two thousand years in between the two distinct stages of His coming," What right do you have to assume that, from the Old Testament? Well, of course, as you read you find "a child is born, a Son is given," and yet as you read on in that passage you come to declarations of the end of war, etc. which seem to be rather closely tied up to the coming of this child, and, of course, they are. They did not occur immediately, they occurred a long period later, but they are the result of the coming of the child that was born in Bethlehem, because all His acts of power are the result of His death on Calvary's cross. Well, they are closely tied together, but as you read them closely tied together in the context I don't think anybody reading the Old Testament would say, "Well, there's two thousand years in between them--two stages which are here combined into one picture, the two comings combined into one picture." Just how much evidence there is in the Old Testament of a coming to the earth,

4