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these fellows? For forty days I've been telling them there is a spiritual kingdom of the Church on earth and Israel is done with, and now they say, "Wilt thou at this time restore to us the Kingdom of Israel?" But He didn't say that. He didn't say they were wrong in their attitude, but neither did He say, "As soon as a certain thing has happened or you see certain signs, then I'm going to restore again the kingdom to Israel." He said, "It's not for you to know the times nor the seasons. The Lord has put these in His own power but you are to receive power after the Holy Ghost has come on you and be witnesses. This is your work. You are to be faithful in serving and witnessing to the Lord, and this is in His own power, when He domes. You don't know." That seems to fit again with the idea that it is a thing that we are not to be able to tell. Well, now our question in this course is, "Is the rapture something which is the first event of the complex of events which makes up the return of Christ, whether these events spread over a hundred years or a thousand or three and a half or seven or what they spread over, is that the first clearly recognizable event? Is it something which comes so suddenly that it is a motive for us all through this age to be vigilant in our Christian service because we don't know whether it might be tomorrow?" We don't know but what it might come next week. It is a constant source for vigilance, to us in our Christian service. Or are there events which must take place first before the rapture can occur and events of such a nature that Christians can clearly recognize it and can know that it is going to come. That is, I think, our basic problem. I don't quite like the statement of it this way, "Is the rapture before or after the tribulation?" because I am not at all sure that the Scripture tells us whether the rapture comes after tribulation or in times between. I am not at all sure it tells us what the situation is when the rapture comes, and it seems to be the question is, "Is there a tribulation which can be recognized as the tribulation which must definitely precede the return of Christ, which must come before the rapture? We've had tribulation during the ages time after time, the Church has had tribulation. We may have tremendous tribulation in the next few years. We don't know. We don't know

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