R 6

The Holy Spirit has always been here and will always be here, at Pentecost. but at Pentecost the Holy Spirit manifested Himself in a particular way, with great, unusual power, and that power which the Holy Spirit manifests through the body of believers of the Church, that particular thing, individual Christians scattered throughout the world, form a strong hindrance to the manifestation of antichrist and that hindrance will be removed by the rapture when this body of Christians is gone from the earth, but the Holy Spirit will still be here, of course. He's controlling, as He always has been. He'll be here, doubtless leading souls to the study of the Word or to the unexpected study of it or to the recollection of what they have seen in the paste of the knowledge of the gospel. He'll be here active, but that thing that prevents manifestation of antichrist will be removed. Now that is a very widely known interpretation of this verse. It may be correct and it may not be, but as over against it there are two others which I have heard suggested. One of them is this. Until the Roman empire is taken out of the way. The Roman empire is preventing the manifestation of antichrist. Once the Roman empire is gone antichrist will come. Well, the Roman empire went many centuries ago. If that/what is meant, you would think that surely then antichrist would have come long before this, and Christ would have come long before this. It doesn't seem a very satisfactory explanation. Some people say that the Roman empire is to be revived. were to be revived, it certainly has been removed, so if this were the thing that would manifest antichrist, the removal of the Roman empire--the Roman empire has been removed. Even if it came back, that would seem to hardly postpon this particular thing to the future, and as to whether the Roman empire is to be revived or not, a great deal of that rests on very speculative interpretation of the passages. Well, now the third interpretation which I have heard suggested, which I fear impresses me as the poorest one of the three, is the interpretation that this means lawful government, the loss of government is removed, and the trouble with that is, while it sounds good at first, when I get to thinking