

R 7

Open the gates, that the righteous may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee. Trust in the Lord forever. Quite general statement. He brings down them that dwell on high. The Lord has His power, even though there is upheaval and turmoil and trouble during the whole thing course of this age the Lord has His power and He is with His own and He will take care of them and you have this rather general statement. There isn't so much that is specific until you get over to verse 16. In trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them like a woman with child that draweth near the time of her delivery is in pain and cryeth out in her pangs. So have we been in thy sight, O Lord. It could certainly be a description of the situation of the Church or of the godly in Israel, either one, all through the age, and then we find that here is here is a feeling of futility. The postmillennialists say that the whole world is to be conquered by the gospel and every man, woman and child will become a Christian, but here we have people who have been working and toiling and trying to overspread the world with righteousness diffused or that knowledge is or with knowledge of the gospel, with the understanding of salvation as it is the and in Christians here dealt with, /verse 18, you have the expression of frustration, which certainly in days of increasing apostasy expresses the thought and feeling of the Christian church. We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind. We have not wrought any deliverance in the earth; neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen. There were times when we thought we could make a godly world. We thought all the world would become Christian, and then we've seen the providence of the devil, we've seen the spread of apostasy. We have seen things getting worse and we have seen that it is not God's will through His Church to convert the whole world, but that, instead, at the end of the age things seem to get worse instead of better. And then the Lord gives a great promise of the resurrection. Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and