

R 1

I think we must agree that Mr. --- was right, that while the translators doubtless took it in one way and the reader in the English is going to get that interpretation of it and no other, I believe, yet in the light of the Hebrew word " ", either interpretation is a possibility.

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R 2

In our consideration of these chapters and of the subject of the rapture which we are going to study in connection with them, one thing I am very anxious that we do is this; that we study in each passage to see exactly what we can draw from the passage; that is, before we compare passages we ought to see what the passage alone teaches. Now if you take this first verse here you say, "Does this verse teach an emptying of the whole world?" Now if plus 10 means that it does teach it absolutely, unequivocally--there's no question about it--; if minus 10 means that it very definitely and unequivocally and unquestionably does not teach it, I think you would say that this could get either a plus 5 or a minus 5. Plus or minus 5 would be the correct designation. That is to say, there is a fifty-fifty chance if you take a verse alone, and I think we should recognize that. Other verses following may show a difference but I think that it is one of our easy causes of error in the consideration of prophecy or of any other type of Biblical study, one of our great chances of error as we look at a verse and we immediately interpret it in the light of our knowledge of other verses. We jump at a conclusion which may be the correct conclusion, but it is easy for us to take up one verse of Scripture and to say, "This means so-and-so," in line with our idea of interpretation, when it might be that it could just as well be taken another way, then having taken up that verse we can take another one and say, "This must mean so-and-so," so as to fit with this, and we take a third, it must fit with the second, and we can go on--we can take ten verses and explain them all or explain them away in line with the first one. Now if we would take the first one and mark it plus or minus 5--in other