

R 2

words it may teach this, it may teach something else. You cannot be sure from this verse which of the two it teaches. It fits in with one or the other; or mark it plus 7, minus 3 if you want to. In other words, that this verse looks quite probable in this way, not absolutely certain this way, while there is a good possibility of taking it another way though the verse alone looks in this particular direction. Let's see what the tendencies are in each verse; then as you go through you will find one verse which gets an 8 or 9 or perhaps a 10 and that may settle the whole thing, and that may not be the first verse you look at, it may be a later verse, so we take each one and look at it objectively and separate from other things and then compare the two together and study all your subjects together is, I think, one of the most vital principles in Biblical study, in the study of any science. Now right here, too, we come in contact with another problem, the problem of technical terms. In any sort of thinking it is very vital to have technical terms. If you don't have technical terms your thinking becomes fuzzy. You have to take a term and say, "For our present discussion this word is going to mean this," You have to nail it right down and define it as narrowly and as exactly as you can in order that your thinking may be clear, but you can't expect the definition that you give to a word is going to be used by everybody else who uses the word and you can't expect that the definition used today of a word will be used a few centuries from now. As a matter of fact science today means what philosophy meant a thousand years ago and philosophy today means what science meant a thousand years ago. The two terms have just exactly changed sides. Science used to mean, figuring out theories of interpretation and trying to get a large overall picture, and philosophy, the study of, the love of knowledge, literally, used to mean taking stones and trees and birds and flowers and arranging them in categories and studying them in detail and seeing what you could learn from them. The two words have exactly changed sides and it doesn't matter, but if we are going to have a discussion of one or the other it is very vital as we begin