

R 2

were very scholarly men but were not inspired, of course. We are interesting in knowing what the Hebrew teaches, and from the Hebrew we have this word " " in v. 4. Now does " " decide it? Does that determine for us whether it is the whole world or whether it is just the land of Judah? Does it determine it for us? At first sight " " would suggest he means the whole world. On the other hand if you are describing the miseries of one country which is in confusion and turmoil you could in one instance say, "The world is in an awful condition without showing that you were also talking about the world. That is, the world language, the whole world is in a bad condition but you are particularly interested in the one place, so that I am not at all sure that " " in the middle of a verse would necessarily prove that this is dealing with the whole world. (Student) What I mean is, if you start a discussion, you say, "Oh, the world is in awful shape. There is misery in India, there's trouble in South Africa and there is upheaval in Siberia," and so on. You are talking about the whole world, but if you say, "My, we are having a miserable time in the United States here. The armies of Canada and of Mexico are attacking us from both sides and the future looks very uncertain and oh, the world is in a terrible mess." You see what I mean? You could make a reference to the world in the midst of it without affecting the main subject. If you designate by your words what you mean you are pretty apt to do it right at the start.

Unless

the word simply couldn't be used in that connection. I think that is true of v. 5, for instance. In v. 1, the Lord makes the earth empty, in v. 1, if we take it that way I think it surely doesn't mean the land of Palestine, but in v. 5, the earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof, that/ to be thinking of the ground more, when you say, "under the inhabitants thereof," and even translating v. 5 "earth" I would think we could in our English take that in a discussion which was entirely dealing with Palestine. The earth