

R 4

you are given just a little glimpse of one of the phases which occurred.

(Student) Well, simply that the visitor--this is something of which we are told nothing more. It is a thing which seems to be more or less another occurrence without any further information given us in the chapter about this.

(Student) Well, but of course these people are punished, they're gathered together and they are shut up in prison and there is quite a stress on the bringing to an end of their power but then after many days, why bring in the many days? After many days they're visited--you are not saying, "This is a pretty poor court to come to. It takes forever to get any justice there. That's not the theme at all. There is some other idea in the many days, but it is not elaborated further here, and then the next verse elaborates. "the Lord of hosts shall reign." Well, how important is His reign? It is so important that these rather figurative elements, the moon, the sun. It isn't--they are visited and then the moon is confounded and then the sun is ashamed and the Lord reigns. You see your last verse is a unit. The moon is confounded and the sun is ashamed is one thing. That "and" certainly can't get much strength, and the sun is ashamed and then you have a "when" which breaks your string of "ands", when the Lord will reign--before the Lord will reign, so that you have the sequence of it broken up here. You have one specific idea in v. 23 which is greatly stressed, while in v. 22 you have the stress laid originally on the end of the power of these and then you have just this little note thrown in, after many days they are going to be visited, and that is either giving us another stage in the process of occurrences but not explaining it--just mentioning it, or else it is a complaint against the ~~full~~ progress of justice, which doesn't seem to fit, of course, into the idea of it. (Student) Yes, because in 23 you have one idea which is . The Lord of hosts reigns, the sun is confounded, the moon is ashamed, His glory is before His ancients--that's all one thing, with all that put under one thing and before it, the overwhelming of these you might say is one thing. They are visited and gathered together and put in