

I 10

shorter. In actual number of verses it is only as long as one of the two chapters but actually it is perhaps half or two-thirds as long as Babylon, but it is two chapters. It is a fairly long passage. It is a passage which has more proper names in it than any other chapter. That's rather natural. It was right next to Israel. They were quite familiar with it. I asked you to check passages of blessing. How many passages of blessing did you find in Chapters 15 and 16, Mr.---? Mr.--- suggests 16:5 as a blessing passage. Blessing to Moab? Blessing to Israel and Judah and the rest of these two chapters--how many think all the rest of these chapters--is rebuke, condemnation. It seems to be, doesn't it? And it is a rather general picture of , detailed picture of suffering, of desolation, of misery. Now is it a picture which could be explained simply by famine and trouble or is there definite war involved? Mr. Pote? (Student) And mainly war, isn't it? They are fleeing, of course there is famine, the tender grass fails, but the, he speaks about the blood . and there is war involved. Now in Chapter 16 there is an interesting verse. Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela, which may be Petra, to the wilderness, to the mount of the daughter of Zion. That is a very interesting verse and a very peculiar verse. Just what it means I don't know whether anybody knows. Mr. Wolfe, what is your suggestion? (Student) That is one suggestion, which is probably as good as any, that this verse means, "Send a tribute". Don't try to evade the payment of the tribute. Send the tribute. Now that is probably as good an interpretation as any. In fact, I don't know of any better suggestion that might be made. Moab is scattered; Moab is in difficulty. Send the tribute, and send the tribute because you can't avoid it. God is going to bless Israel. Of course, the tribute didn't use to go to Jerusalem. The tribute went to Jerusalem in the days of David and Saul, but Moab then was subject to Samaria.