

May 5, 1949

I feel as if it was about two months since we met together in this class and it seems almost as if we'd lost the continuity. I don't suppose it seems quite as long to the rest of the class. We were looking, however, if I recall correctly, at our last meeting together, we had completed a hasty survey of Isaiah 21 and it is a very vivid and striking chapter indeed and we had begun examination of chapter 22. We noticed that it has a rather, it has a title which doesn't say much to us, the burden of the valley of vision, and you can't get much idea from that title just what it is dealing with. It is in this section which is largely dealing with the burden against foreign nations but you find nothing in this chapter to suggest that he is dealing here with foreign nations, particularly. There is a reference to Elom, but most of the passage seems to be dealing with Jerusalem, and then when you get down to verse 15 you have a reference to an individual named Shebna, and you get over to verse 20 and you have a man named Eliakim. Now how many know where else in the Scripture you can read about Shebna and Eliakim? Yes, 2 Kings 18 and Isaiah 36. We find both of these men mentioned, and how much do we learn about them in those two chapters? Mr. Shedd, what do you learn about them in those chapters? (Student) In Chapter 36: 3 that Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah was over the house, and Shebna the scribe. Well, now which of these two had the highest position, then? Eliakim or Shebna? The man who is over the house, Eliakim, and yet back here in verse 15 what do we read about Shebna? Mr. Ludlam, what do you find out about Shebna in v. 15? (Student) Yes. Well, now there is a contradiction. How can they both be over the house? (Student) It might be, yes. Over the house might have two different meanings, and yet, since we have the one phrase used in these two places I don't like to assume anything like that unless . . . You have in the one case Shabna who is over the house. In the other case you read that Eliakim is over the house. Well, now in Isaiah 22 here we read that the Lord said, "Go to Shebna who is over the house and ask him a question," and what is the general burden of the question in verse 16, Mr. ---? I don't mean what it says, I mean, what is the