

It might be worth while to take a minute right now to say a word about my ideas for a course for next semester. Now I thought of various things within the field of the prophets as possibilities, and there are, of course, various minor prophets of interest--Ezekiel, Daniel--but I think that other parts of Isaiah are also of special interest and then there has been lately in the last few months, I guess the last few years, there has been coming up in different circles considerable discussion as to the time of the rapture of the church, whether it is immediately before the return of Christ or whether there is an interval between it and that. I think the question too often is simply that, "which of these two is it?" I think the question should be, "Is the evidence sufficient in the Scripture for us to know which of the two, and if the evidence is sufficient, which of the two is it?" Now I find that every discussion of that eventually gets back to the Isaiah apocalypse, Isaiah 24 to 27, because that is one of the passages which is most vital in connection with this question and it is really impossible to discuss the question without considering that passage and it is impossible to discuss just a few verses in that passage without having an understanding of the passage as a whole, and so I have been thinking of possibly taking an elective which would deal with that passage, but not simply with that passage; with that passage in relation to the whole question of the rapture of the church, and that deals to some extent with any other passage in the Scripture which is related to that question but with particular interest in and emphasis upon that particular passage which is so vital to the whole subject.

Now I have been thinking of the organization of this, to do it in a way that is a little unusual. I've been thinking, instead of giving one elective of two hours, to give two electives of one hour, the idea of that being this-- that I would give one elective which I would entitle, "Isaiah 13--27, and its relation to the question of the rapture of the church." That course would be a lecture course which would survey the material from Isaiah 13 to 23,