

Isaiah 1

in the spring, but these plans all, even including next semester, are still somewhat tentative.

Now let us continue with our present discussion. We've got quite a lot of ground to cover, in these three hours, so I feel we'll have to move along fairly rapidly. I hate to do this because there is a great deal of interesting material and important material, but after all, the vital thing is method. The Bible is a big book and every word of it is important to us. It is God's word and no one who truly believes the Bible who is satisfied with understanding a few verses. If one truly believes that the Bible is God's word he is going to spend his whole life trying to learn more about every section of it, and it isn't near so important what you learn here now as what you learn of methods here now which will be helpful in going on and studying yourself the rest of your life, reading God's word as long as He chooses to leave you on this earth to realize this Spiritual nourishment from that word. We have noticed that we have a section with three passages of rebuke followed by a passage of blessing and the last of these was a very long passage, from 59:15b up to 63:6 and that this passage has an envelope structure. It began with God's sovereign interposition to overthrow His adversaries. It is God who does it. He saw that there was no man, and He came alone, and He came with power, and He is spattered with the blood of His enemies. It is described in the Encyclopedia Biblica as the passage, that 63:1 to 63:6 as the passage which is beautiful but ethically repulsive, and that is the way it impresses the editors of Encyclopedia Biblica. It, of course, depends on what is the nature of those whose blood is spattered on His garments. It is ethically repulsive if there are murderous acts described. It is not ethically repulsive if it is a victory of the great and holy and just God ~~over~~ over the wicked forces which during this present era are dominating this world, and this moral interposition of God, His sovereign interposition, is that which is to bring to an end the wickedness of the present age and to introduce <sup>the</sup> / period of glory and righteousness which God is to introduce upon