

manifest God, and tried to force the people to do away with the worship of God and to worship him, and even if he wasn't as great a figure as Nebuchadnezzar in actuality, in what he tried to do, well, he appeared in that form....end of ^{D5}

it is comparatively rare, and I would say only to be accepted when the proof is quite plain. But in this case, I would say that here we have the history directed pretty well. You tell somebody, you make a trip across the United States, you say, and you leave the Atlantic Ocean and you drive along through flat country for two or three hundred ~~maxxxxxxxx~~ miles until you get into some rolling country, and then some fairly high hills, and then you come out beyond them and you get into flat country again, ~~xxx~~ and you go across the flat country for days, and then you begin to see hills looming high ahead of you, far higher than anything you have passed before. Well we might describe a person that way getting on to Colorado, and then we could begin to describe a particular valley into which they will come, and a particular place where they go and find a gold mine. And when you got into that it would be much harder to pinpoint the exact meaning of the details than it is in the first part, but for someone on the ground it might be more important, and some of the details of exactly how some of these fit with A.E. may be not quite so easy for us to fully explain, but I think we would have the same difficulty if we tried to related them to the Antichrist. But they would seem, I think everything that is read here would seem very apt at the time. And regarding this chapter, I would be rather surprised if you would find many commentaries regardless of view that would say the antichrist is spoken of here. I am sure most conservative commentaries would say, this is A.E., specifically spoken of here. I am sure most would say that. And the difference here between the conservative and the modernist is that the conservative says, God enabled Daniel to have a vision that showed ~~Ex~~ A.E. coming in ~~that~~ this terrific persecution, coming in the future, to prepare the people for it, in order that they should trust God and follow Him through that, and also to prepare them for all subsequent persecutions, and of course, there are other things in the book of Daniel with its pictures of the end time, etc. that are vital, but that that is the purpose