

was only talking about A.E., not going beyond that. But the critical view is that is was written at the time of A.E., it takes past history, and deals with it as if it was prediction, looking forward to that day, to make it look as if a great man 400 years later had been enabled of the Lord to look forward and to see these great days, and write this book, in order to encourage people in this day. It looks forward to that day, all according to the critics, that is says of history of Daniel's time, is imagination, it of course, didn't happen, these events, there probably wasn't even a Daniel. But the purpose of writing them is to encourage people in the persecution. Now, I would say that from our viewpoint, there was very definitely a Daniel, all the events described are true, they actually happened, but I would agree with the critics on this, that the purpose of the writing of the book, the first primary ~~xxx~~ purpose of it, is to tell these events, which I say did happen, not stories, but to tell them in order to encourage the people of God in the days of A.E. Well, now, the critics go on to say, it comes up to A.E., and it relates past history, up to that point, as if it was prediction. Then at that point it goes haywire, and it goes on and suggests future events, from about the middle of A.E.'s reign, and there it gets completely wrong, because it didn't happen. He didn't know anything about the future, he pretended he was talking about the future. He knew nothing about it. But he wanted to show that A.E. had been predicted, that it was part of God's plan that A.E. would come and be destroyed, and he wanted to give them encouragement to be ~~xxx~~ true in persecution. Now the modernist view, or this first approach is, this is the exclusive subject of the book. From any viewpoint we must agree that this is the primary subject, it is that which occupies more space than anything else, and it is that which is the theme of so much of the history, to prepare people for this great time of persecution, but we would say it also is intended to ~~pre~~prepare for other persecutions, not just for the one under A.E. And we would say that the predictions are valid, true, predictions, and do not stop with A.E., but go on. So that is your first viewpoint. That is is only ~~Ex~~ A.E. that is the subject of the book, that is its whole ~~pur~~pose, and then the corollary of that from