

helping you to see how, we can approach a book like this in order to find what it is really about, and I am interested not in your getting the particular conclusions I get, or even in your necessarily getting a great many conclusions, tho I hope you will. But I am interested in your learning how to get them, and seeing the proper approach to the ~~g~~ book. We glanced in our first meeting at chapter 1-6. We noticed the book divided naturally into two parts. And that by the way is one of the main things I want you to do at this stage is to get a familiarity with the contents of the book. I would like you to be able to say right away if I say, What's in chapter 3, or what's in chapter 8, that you have an idea immediately what it is it, because the book is a unit. And especially we~~r~~ are interested in the prophecies, and they are certainly a unit, and we want you to be able to see what the vital problems are, and then to relate one section of it to another section. Some of our most vital problems cannot be answered apart from our consideration of the book as a whole. So I am very anx~~i~~ous that you realize fully that chapters 1-6 are one section and 7-12 a second section. That in 1-6, 1 tells how Daniel and his fr~~e~~ends finding the kings commands~~x~~ opposing that which God had commanded them, asked permission to try out that which God had told them, and to see if they wouldn't be better off, that they were going to stand by that which God had commanded in any case. They said that they purposed in their heart to follow God's commands. And we find here that though everybody thought it was foolish, God blessed~~d~~ them, and God caused that it should come out that way. So here they were loyal to God, and received blessing for it. Then in 2 we have the one chapter out of the first six that is prophecy, rather th~~n~~ history. Of course, it is all prophecy, in on~~e~~ sense. But his one is specifically prophecy, and specif~~i~~ally pred~~i~~ction. But in a general historical setting. The king ~~h~~ has a vision, he forgets the vision, nobody can ~~t~~ tell him what it is, Daniel tells him, and Daniel interprets it, and so this is our first prophetic part of the book. And in this vision here, we have an assurance that tho Nebu. is a great world ruler, and there are going to be other great human world rulers after him, never~~t~~he~~s~~s, God is still in control