are some who accept the teachings of the New Testament on other points as true and yet hold the Maccabean view of the origin and meaning of the book of Daniel. We shall simply use these terms as a convenient means of referring to the two approaches, since there are many points, not only in chapters 8 and 11 but in other chapters as well, where the interpretations of those holding the two view points differ greatly. Our purpose includes careful examination of these differing interpretations, as we seek to find the true meaning of each verse in the prophecies.

It should be kept in mind that this is not a verse by verse commentary. We are interested in pointing out the development of thought and the interrelation of material. Individual verses are discussed at length when they are especially important in relation to the passage as a whole.

The next three chapters will deal with matters that need consideration before beginning the study of the individual prophecies in the book of Daniel. Chapter 5 will discuss the briefer predictions. Then we shall examine the longer prophecies of Daniel 2, 7, 8, 9 and 11-12 in the order of their occurrence.

Notes

- ^1 Maccabees is considered a dependable source for the history of the times of the Maccabees, but 2 Maccabees, the latter part of which parallels the earlier part of 1 Maccabees, contains much that is considered unhistorical.
- ^2 Porphyry's book has been lost, but Jerome's commentary on Daniel, written about A. D. 400, frequently refers to it and thus enables us to know quite definitely what he said.
- ^3 For discussion of some of the key points of the argument for the Maccabean view see p. 59.