

still more. It takes diligent effort to properly understand material written at that time.

Human nature is the same as it was two thousand years ago. Eternity is the same as it was. Man's origin and man's destiny remain exactly as they were. There is just as much need of studying the teachings of Christ and seeking a personal relationship to God as there ever was. Although the great truths of the Bible are just as vital today as they ever were, there may be aspects that were easily understood at an earlier time, or that perhaps will be at a later time, that are not easily understood in our day.

- 3) The Bible was not written for just one period. After men had turned away from God and tried to forget that He even existed, the Lord gave His people the Bible in order that they might be able to ascertain His will. He made it more attractive by including in it some of the finest literature ever written. Many different approaches are found in the various books of the Bible, all to the end of presenting God's truth and giving it an entrance to men's hearts.

Conditions change; attitudes change; immediate needs change. Since the Bible was written to meet the needs of men at all times we cannot expect that all of it will be equally clear to those living at any one time. Some parts of the Bible that might have been difficult to understand two thousand years ago are so planned as exactly to meet our present needs. Some parts that might have been easily understood and immediately relevant to a situation at some previous time may today be very difficult to understand.

- 4) Much of the book of Daniel was explicitly written for the distant future. This is made clear in Daniel 12:4 where Daniel is told: "But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many