

R 11

to be a tremendous thing that everyone everywhere is going to be aware of. That is the ^{immediate} /first implication, but it is not necessarily the teaching of this verse. We have to have the teaching of other verses to tell us because what this verse is saying is that there is going to be a resurrection of the dead produced by Christ, and the shout of command wouldn't necessarily even be heard by the living believers, as far as this verse is concerned. It would accomplish its purpose. The word of the Lord goes out and it accomplishes that whereto He sends it but how much--when the Lord summoned Paul to believe in Christ, the others on the road heard the sound but they didn't hear the words. Well, now would they necessarily have had to ? That, of course, would be up to the Lord. He could work it any way He wanted to, but we would, I should think you might say that from the verse, the probability ~~that everybody would hear it~~ would be, say 6, , that everybody would hear it, but on the other hand you'd say there would be five that . That makes 11, doesn't it? Maybe we ought to say $5\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$. (Student) Well, let's make it 6 and 4. Now whether it is 6 and 4 or 7 and 3 we can leave for further study but we do have to, with every one of these things, think, "What is the purpose of it?" The purpose of the verse here is to say that the dead in Christ will rise and he has made no reference here to unbelievers nor has he as yet even made reference to what is going to happen to believers, and we must say that whatever this shout or voice has come involved, whether there are three different things or whether they're one thing, they are effective for the purpose for which they are planned. Is that purpose to declare the joy of Christ? Well, there is nothing in the context to say they are. It's not just the joy of exuberance ; there's nothing to suggest that. Is there purpose to strike terror to the hearts of unbelievers? There is nothing in the passage to say any such thing. Is their purpose to notify the dead that it is time for them to rise? That is at least part of it, ^{need} That's a thing that is stressed here. Whether there is anything more, we'll/ other evidence. We certainly