

R 10

than as a fact. He expected the event as a fact but as to which of the two groups he would be in, he had no reason to think he would be in the dead group rather than in the living group, and so he is speaking as if he would be in the dead group. I don't think there is any question of that, in the light of the context. My principal interest here is to warn us against the terrific danger of pressing things beyond what the verses say. I say "Note every possible implication. Note it down, but indicate the degree of certainty or uncertainty about it and then check with other passages. Mr.---? (Student) That, of course, is possible, that they drew an incorrect inference from something he said. I've had that done occasionally when I have written letters. Of course, I wasn't writing from inspiration, but even, I know that under inspiration people do draw incorrect                    worthy of consideration as a possibility that 2 Thessalonians might intend to correct certain misunderstandings . I would not say that 2 Thessalonians could contradict                    , but it could correct a possible misunderstanding. If it contradicts it, as Prof. Robinson of McCormick Seminary said to me, he said, "Paul made a great mistake when he wrote 1 Thessalonians and a still greater one when he wrote 2 Thessalonians, but he did his best to remedy it when he wrote 1 and 2 Timothy." Now, of course, we cannot accept any such view as that. We hold that people might have made a mistake in their interpreting of the passage or in carrying something he said beyond what it meant, but we would say that correct interpretation of 1 Thessalonians shouldn't give you any wrong teaching. It might show you that a wrong teaching was a possible view but not that it is taught in the passage. Whatever is taught in the passage must be right, and as we take other passages in 2 Thessalonians and elsewhere and they help us to get more knowledge of the detail and so tell which of the different possibilities are the correct ones. Mr.---? (Student) I think that Paul could have just as well have said, "for this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that all those who are alive and remain to the coming of the Lord shall,"--(Student). I think the "we" there. "We". Now, that's a matter of