

such power as it had never gone before in all history. And today there are more ~~ever~~ <sup>heathen</sup> in the world than there were ~~eight~~ <sup>a</sup> century~~s~~ ago. The Gospel has gone out but Satan has come in behind and introduced apostasy and unbelief, ~~p~~ torn down the faith of the leaders in the schools, and as a result the ministers in church after church have riddled the general Christian testimony and the people who have come from other lands, who learn about Christ but many of them are taught unChristian teachings in many of our schools, and today the true Christian can well say in this day, we have been in pain, we have but brought forth wind, we have not wrought any deliverance in the earth, neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen. The Gospel is a tremendous power but God has never said that it will conquer the world. He has never promised that. We gather out of the world those who believe on Jesus' name, but we've never been promised that through the Gospel ~~the~~ world will be conquered, and so here is frustration, verses 16-18, the frustration of the church, trying to conquer the world for Christ, and finding the task seemingly hopeless, as it brings many to the Lord but is losing instead of gaining as far as gaining the whole world for Christ is concerned. And what is the answer the Lord gives. It is verse 19: Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

That is the coming of Christ. We that live shall not precede them who are dead. They and we, the dead men shall live, they shall be given their resurrection bodies, the Christians from all over the world will come to life, we will be caught up in the air, to meet the Lord in the air, and then in verse 19, we meet the Lord in the air, and what happens then? Verse 20: Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.