

certainly the church has had great persecution. Surely this must be interpreted some other way than that. They--8: In a little wrath...but with everlasting kindness--there is the--7 and 8 go together in the brief period. Yes? (11 3/4) Well, now the possibility of their referring to the great mass of people to whom the Lord turned His face away, you might say, this time of this ignorance God winked at, remember Paul's statement? This time, but now He has commanded all men to repentance. (stu.12) Well, if you wouldn't say God forsook His church, then this can't be speaking of the church, can it? (stu.12 1/4) This is perhaps the hardest chapter in the section, though I think we have to interpret it in relation to what precedes and what follows, and we have certain which clearly relate to what precedes and what follows. But we have to try to get statements that really have been fulfilled and statements, that when you look back really apply. Now ^{if} it refers to the church, it refers to them as having been forsaken before they believed, as now having been gathered, but ^{if} it refers to Israel, it refers to them having been forsaken, through being sent into exile, but now being regathered. So there are the two possibilities and it's strange that more of the commentaries haven't faced that problem. I would think there ~~would~~ surely be some who would have faced up to it and come up with a definite answer, whether we could accept it or not, we'd have something definite to examine. But most of what we've had is very vague. Yes? (stu. 13 1/2) Alexander says, that as a nation Israel was cut off, but as a church it never could be, that's a true statement. But then when ~~He~~ says I did cut you off, He is talking about the nation, isn't ~~He~~? And when He says you can't be, He would be talking about the true people of God. So it should be possible to determine which sections are talking about one and which are talking about the other. Or does Alexander mean to say that He jumps from one to the other without much relevance. Does he say anything further on that? ^(stu.) Yes, that ~~The Dees-he~~ is a good statement but I think the statement has to be carried on further. It is a chapter of comfort, no doubt of that, a tremendous chapter of comfort, comfort for those who have been in sorrow, who