

people who were ~~they~~ good Christian people even though they did not follow his religious ideas exactly, desired to come to America and establish a Colony, King James was very anxious to have more English colonies in America, and James said, How will they support themselves? And they said, By fishing. Oh he said, That's a good profession. It was the Apostle's own. He was in a good mood that day, and he gave his permission. But all he delayed and delayed it until finally it was 16²0 when they started. Now they were disappointed that they could not get started earlier, but in the providence of God if the pilgrims had come over in 1615 or 1616 instead of 1620, if they had made a safe trip over and had landed in New England, at that time humanly speaking I think we can say it would be very very ~~strange~~ strange indeed if two yrs. later there was one of them left. Because in New England in the section to which they came there were thousands of Indians at that time and when we read of the problems that they had in coming in 1620-21, in the next few years with the small number of Indians that there were then, we can see that if they had come a little earlier, the probabilities of their successfully surviving in New England would have been practically nil. They knew nothing about it, but during those years there there had been a great plague, a great epidemic such as swept in those days over many countries. In England they had had one 300 yrs. before that had killed more than half the people. Here a grt. plague had come in New England there that killed 9/10th of the Indians. And there in Plymouth where they ~~actually~~ actually established their settlement there had been a big Indians village with several hundred Indians, and every single Indian -- every one ~~1/10~~ of them = had been wiped out by this plague. And so there were not more than 1/10 as many Indians in this area. And as it was they had a difficult surviving. But in the providence of God, God knew that if they left earlier it would be impossible. He held them back until the time when it would be safe for them to get there. Now then they made arrangements; they came from Holland over to England. In England they got into two boats - the Mayflower and the Speedwell. They started out and pretty soon the Speedwell began to leak. They had to go back and wait for a couple of weeks while they worked on the Speedwell. They started again and they found it leaking again, and so they had to go back again. Of the 30 people on the Speedwell, 18 lost heart and decided they would not go. But they had to crowd the other 12 into the Mayflower which was already pretty full. Now they