8 5/11/73 Isa. 24

And then how does "fires" means east? Well get up in the morning and look out in the East and see the sun rise. See the bright red. So the fires could mean the East. The trouble is my observation isyou get more fires in the sunset than you do in the sunrise. I don't think they'd use fires to show sunrise as opposed to sunset. But the Hebrew word here is specifically fires. Why glorify the Lord in the fires? Did Isaiah look foreward to the great witness to God that would be made and yet see the difficulties which it would face? Did he see Shara Shadrack, Mesack and Abnego aast into the fiery furnace and glorifying the Lord there in the fires? Did he see Nero taking the Christians and putting them about in his garden, pouring pitch over them and setting fire to them? Did he see the fires of the Inquisition? Did he see those who stood true to the Lord and glorified Him but did it in the midst of oppression? In themidst of persecution? IN the midst of difficulties in the eyes ? times to come? Was he showing us God's Word is going to go out, it is going to receive great blessing, it is going to have a tremendous impact? But it is not going to be a simple march of victory. There are going to be difficulties; there are going to be obstacles. There are going to be times when it is necessary to glorify the Lordin the fires. Well that is an awful lot to get out of one verse; one word in fact d isn't it? Too much in fact if that isn't the only source we have for it. But the prophet goes on and as he goes on I believe he makes it absolutely clear.

We go on in vs. 16: From the uttermost parts of the # earth have we heard songs even glory to the righteous. But I said, my leanness, my leanness. We unto me. The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, yea the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously." One of the strangest verses in the Bible. Surely in the Bible we have short verses like, Jesus wept. We have fairly long verses; not many as long as this. But how often de we have instances where those in early days who divided it into verses have put two separate sentences with a period in the middle into one verse like this;

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