

15 , "Alas for the day /for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty ~~h~~ shall it come." Our English translations here says ~~seh~~ shall it come, which is a perfectly possible translation-in Hebrew there are two tenses. One is usually ~~x~~ described as past , one as future, either can be used for the present, one showing a completed action and the other something going on . It is perfectly possible , but the phrase The day of the Lord is very often used in the Bible to describe the time at the very end of this age and therefore assume that if it is often used with that meaning it must be ~~th~~ so used here and this therefore must be looking to the very end of the age. The fact of the matter is , however, that the Bible is not ~~l~~ike a mathematics table, it is not like a technical ~~x~~ book of science which has a series of definitions in the front and you find there what exact sense they are going to give to certain words . I remember ~~have~~ having a class in botony in which the ~~ela~~ professor delighted in telling us over and over that a strawberry ~~x~~ is not a berry. He often told us that a strawberry is not a berry, and I don't think he explained it enough.~~an-that~~ The ~~p9i~~ point is that the word berry has been used in common language to mean certain ~~the~~ things , one of which is a ~~sh~~ strawberry. And that the word berry is used in botony in a ~~techin~~ technical sense to include certain things but does not include the strawberry. We have a right in any science to take a word and give it a specific meaning but we should get a ~~n~~ictionary in the front to tell exactly what these meanings are (?) Well , the Bible is not like that. The Bible is written in human-~~lanug-~~language, and it speaks to the people in their own day, and then after ~~warin-~~warning- words are used in a certain way, very often they take on a special meaning from the way they have been used . And that's the way with this ~~phar~~ ~~prha~~ phrase , the Day of the Lord. This phrase begins in the book of Joel and it is used several times in the earlier part of the book of Joel in its natural sense. The Day of the Lord is at hand. This is the day of the Lord.