

but they didn't say (flaw in record means missing some of this)

(6 3/4)

I guess we better dismiss for a while, don't you think?

Student: You made a statement a while back why you believe perhaps the Lord has permitted the scripture to come to us in its present form, that is, and I'd like that, I've forgotten just what it was--

MacRae: Yes, shall we take just one second on that? To me it is an undeniable fact that there are errors of transcription in the scripture, that I think is undeniable. When you have Ben Hadad and Ben Hadar, one is an error. When you have Ahaziah was I think 29 years old and began to reign--or is it 49, I forget, you have statements which it seems to me clearly show an error of transmission. People didn't like (7 1/2)

There's an error of transmission. Well now we have a Bible which is providentially preserved and remarkably accurate. No other book from that time is anywhere nearly as accurate. But not absolutely accurate. There are places where we have clear evidence of an error in scripture. Well now to my mind, that raises the possibilities, in fact the probability, that there are other errors of transcription that we don't have any evidence of. And why is this? Why didn't the Lord cause it to be written on tablets of steel and put up somewhere where we could go and check always and keep our Bible absolutely accurate as it was in the beginning? Well, there you get into speculation what is the reason for it. But to my mind I find it a satisfactory reason to say that the Lord knew that language changes would change the meaning, interpretations of the grammatical form change. He wants us to study those things and find out just as exactly as we can what those original statements mean, but there always is a possibility of error on that point. And that He wanted--in order to make us compare scripture with scripture, rather than take one little verse and say I'm going to just squeeze that verse (8 3/4)