

This is probably the most important passage of Scripture on that subject and I hope you have a pretty good idea in mind now, each of you, as to what this passage tells you is the way to tell a true prophet, but we'll look at that a little further on. At present we will turn to Deuteronomy 18:15-22. There I would like to ask the question "What is the main thing that is under discussion in this passage as a whole?" In the passage as a whole, what is the main matter that is being presented? Well, in order to get an idea of that you might glance at the passage just before it. In the passage just before it, what is he talking about, Mr. -----?

(Student answers.) Yes, and why would they go to diviners or sorcerers - to learn what they are to do. He says you are not to go to diviners or sorcerers to learn what you are to do in a situation or to learn what the future is to be. Then it is as if somebody said to him: "Yes, but, Moses, we know that naturally we come to you and we ask you what to do. You are God's prophet. Of course, if we want to know what to do the only sensible thing to do is to come and ask you. If we want to know what God's will is in a matter--you are His prophet, you are the one to whom to go to hear it." What Moses has said in Verse 9 is - when you come into the land the Lord gives you - to do this. And they know that Moses isn't going into the land. Moses is going to die in the wilderness. Now, how can they tell God's will when they get to the land into which they are going? They are not to tell it by going to diviners or sorcerers - not to learn the future or to learn what the prophet's voice is in that way.

The subject under discussion from Verses 15-22, then, is what, Mr. _____?

(Student answers.) After Moses is gone, what will be the means of learning God's will? That is the question. How can they learn God's will when Moses is no longer with them? And what is the answer that he gives to this question, Mr. -----? in Verse 15 ? Yes, the answer is that from time to time God will raise up a prophet who will take his place.

There will be a succession of prophets. There will be men after they come into the land who will take the place among them which Moses took as their leader and as the spokesman for God. But he says to them, again after he gives them that statement in verses 15-19, he adds a very important warning. That warning is in Verses 20-22, and what.