

in two or three words, is the gist of that warning, Mr. _____? (Student answers.)

Yes, the warning is that there will be false prophets. The warning is that God is going to send you prophets. You mustn't go to sorcerers, you mustn't go to diviners but you must seek to learn God's will from those who are God's spokesmen but the warning is, there will be people who pretend to be God's spokesmen who are not. Therefore, you must test those who claim to speak for God and make sure that you are not being misled by one who speaks for Satan instead of for God. So that is the central theme here - a continuation of God's sending prophets. From time to time He will send a prophet, a spokesman to them, and this spokesman they are to listen to but they are to check carefully and be sure it really is one whom God has sent. Now, right here, I think may be an important point an important matter about predictions regarding the future. Supposing that someone were to say to Columbus when he came over to the United States: "From that land there will come to Europe a great army which will overrun Europe and conquer all the nations in it. Well, you might say this had never happened previously to 1917, so the prediction would have been utterly unfulfilled. Then in 1917-1918 the United States army went over to Europe, entered France and fought against Germany and the very presence of this constantly increasing number of soldiers from the United States was enough to show one of the two conflicting forces that a continuation of war was absolutely . You had two forces equally balanced so that neither of them and the United States didn't get a single tank over in that war. All the equipment that they used, practically, was made by . But it was very clearly the beginning of such a force as made continuation of the war practically hopeless. It was that which wrecked the morale of the German people and led very soon to the ending of the 1914-1918 war. Well, someone would say that They would say: "Well, no American army overran Europe. An army came, that is, just the beginning of one, about enough to have a tremendous effect upon the morale of the people here." It was that which destroyed the balance and caused the end of the war to come, but it was hardly a fulfillment of that prophecy. We will say the prophecy has not been fulfilled.