

Prophets 5, continued

messenger.

Now those seven purposes, I think are rather important to have in mind as ~~being~~ showing us the prophets as men whom God sends for particular purposes in connection with a situation in their ^{day} and those cover most of the purposes. I had six originally and a student in one of my classes some years ago suggested one of these which I had not seen and which ought to be included and I added it and now I have seven. If one of you wants to add an eighth, you may add it but I think probably we can stop at seven. I think it covers most of the ^{points.} (Question from student) No, I should say, a prophet is to give a revelation from God. He is definitely a prophet in that sense. Now if he but, of course, a prophet is not a particular type of man like men with red hair, or men with long noses or men who belong to the different families. A man may be a prophet today and tomorrow not be a prophet. It rather is a statement of a function than a [,] and if a man is acting as God's instrument of revelation he is, then, a prophet but the same man might only be used in that way on one occasion.

Prophets 6

Now C is the part played by prediction. This is under the main head I. Prophets and Prophecy. It is general. I and under that A was the meaning of the term Prophet, and B is the purposes of prophecy and C is the part played by prediction, in the work of the prophet. Now for C the part played by prediction, No. 1 there merely repeats something that we have already said. Prediction is not primary but is important. It is not primary in the work of a prophet but it is important. I think that is very important and so I am stressing it but I don't think it is particularly complicated so I don't think it needs much discussion unless there is something that is not clear about it. But then, No. 2. Prediction is not something unnatural or unexpected in view of the nature of God. The modernists like to put a great deal of emphasis on the fact that a prophet is not a foreteller but a forth-teller and I agree with them thoroughly that a prophet is a forth-teller; that is what he is. He is not per se a