

## Prophets 7

mind of

Well, of course, the purpose of authentication is in the/people rather than in the mind of God. (Discussion with students) Yes. But one thing about it which we would say would surely be an authentic case of proclamation would be, there was a king named Josiah; in fact, he said, "There is to be a child born to the house of David, Josiah by name". Now three hundred years in advance to tell the name of the king who would rule was certainly something which Josiah couldn't alter. That was certainly one element of it which you could not change, that was definite authentication. If Columbus had said, "There will be a president of the United States who will be a true man who will establish the United Nations to bring peace throughout the world", now certainly his giving the name of the president, one hundred and fifty years before would be a wonderful prediction even if Truman knew that Washington had made this prediction, especially if there had been none between of that name. Josiah was not a common name. It's not an unusual name; it's not a strange name. It's a name that fits in with the usual type of name but in the whole list of people in Israel and Judah we have no other Josiah. We have Jehoram of Israel and Jehoram of Judah; we have Ahasiah of Israel, Ahasiah of Judah, but this Josiah is the only one. He came three three hundred years later. It was predicted there would be a king of this name who would do these things and that was the man who was interested in doing them so that there was an element of the prediction which certainly did something that was authentic, the wonder of the fact that God spoke to the prophet. Mr. M----? Yes, that of course would be possible that they had said, "Now about three hundred years have gone by. It's about time for this prediction to be fulfilled. We'll name our son Josiah." (Student) Well, no, not quite. I mean, I might read a statement, somebody said there was going to be a man in Wilmington, somebody said two hundred years ago, one of the Swedes said here, that there was going to be a man in Wilmington who is going to walk down the street with shoes of different colors and make quite a sensation and I might say, "Well now that's a very interesting statement that Swede made two hundred years ago, let's do it, just for fun" but to say that, if he had said, "His name is going to be Allan MacRae" and to say that my parents gave me that name in order to fulfill it is --it's still possible but I mean it's adding a good bit to the thing. It can be rather spontaneous, if Josiah hears the prophecy, here he is on the ground, here's the situation, he can just go ahead and fulfill it, but it would take much more of a