

Prophets 14.

where Isaiah was in the temple and saw the Lord and heard the Lord make certain statements, and saw the seraphim and saw the burning coal and so on. There is a case where Isaiah had a vision and there were also words included in that vision. Now, Jeremiah I in connection with the call of the prophet Jeremiah there is a very interesting instance, an instance in which you read in Verse 11, Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Now how did Jeremiah come to see a rod of an almond tree? Is this a vision in that Jeremiah was asleep and saw something? Is it a vision in the sense that wide awake God caused something to be before him that he would see which wasn't there, or is it a vision in the sense that as Jeremiah was walking along in the country one day the Lord simply spoke to him and said, Jeremiah, what do you see? And Jeremiah described that which which was in front of him. The Lord used the object in the material world as a text, as a starting point to present a message to Jeremiah. That, I think, is the correct interpretation, in this latter part of Jeremiah. He saw two things which were common in his day and the Lord used them as means to present ideas to him. Now under this heading of visions I have made three suggested subdivisions which can help perhaps in understanding some of the material, so that we might put 1. in parenthesis and say Transport to Heaven. We have that in II Corinthians 12 where Paul says that he was carried into a third heaven and saw things that it was not lawful for a man to see. So Paul describes to us the carrying of his spirit into heaven where he saw that which was real. It was actual. It was true, but it was something which ordinary men do not see; something which in ordinary life one does not see. God transported him to heaven and showed it to him. Many think that this was after he was stoned at Lystra, in the interval between his stoning and his resuscitation. Whether it was then or at another time we do not know, but Paul says he was transported to heaven and there saw things which the ordinary person would not have the opportunity of seeing. Then a second method of revelation by vision might be entitled The Opening of the Eye. That is, the causing of a man to see that which was there, was true, was real but which he would not ordinarily see. This might be opening his eyes to something in the future, it might be opening his eyes to something there present. As to something there present we have that very interesting story in II Kings 6:17 where the king of Syria sent his soldiers to see Elisha and Elisha's servant looked up and