

Prophets 20

vital in the interpretation of the prophetic books. Mr. ---? (Student)

In the 16th verse it would seem the best interpretation that I've ever heard on that is that it is simply supposing that a child was born now.

It is using simply the age of a child as a measurement, as a measuring stick.

The emphasis is not on the particular child or the activities of the child, in the sixteenth verse, but is on the measuring stick which would be furnished

by the age of the child if the child now is born in the near future, before he reaches this point of age, before he is as much as two or three years old,

both these kings will be gone. Well, suppose it's Christ, the 16th verse.

Suppose somebody were to say to, say that the people of Moscow ten years ago were terrifically afraid about Hitler. Hitler's going to come to Moscow and going to destroy the Kremlin and going to go take Uncle Joe away from it and going to put it under his control, and suppose that somebody had said, "Don't worry. Don't worry. Seven hundred years from now a child will be born and before that child reaches the age of two Hitler will be dead and gone." Wouldn't that be silly? There's absolutely no meaning to it. Now, to say, "Before Christ, seven hundred years from now, reaches the age of two or three, Israel and Syria will both have lost the particular kings that you now fear," there's absolutely no sense to it. The only way in which there is any sense to the verse whatever that I've ever heard is to say it is a measuring stick of the immediate situation--

given a child born in the near future, before that child even reaches this extremely young age where he is able to make very simple selections of that which is good and that which is

(Student) Yes. The child is the child whom we imagine as being born now, or such a child--yes. The word "the"--Mr. Tien has called our attention to a very peculiar thing. I don't know how it is in Chinese but in English and in most of our languages this article "the" is a very queer thing. There are instances where "the" means one particular one and there are other instances we use it where it means almost anything. He put the book on the table. Why not just say, "He put book on table"? It is a queer habit

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