

## Prophets 20

we have of throwing in our "the's" most any place. He went for a walk in the woods. What woods? Why the woods that were in front of him when he went for the walk. We use this word "the" and there are instances where it throws a great deal of meaning and there are other instances where it doesn't give any meaning at all, in English. Now, of course, our question here is not the English article but it is the Hebrew article, and just exactly--we see how peculiar this "the" is in English, when you get back into Hebrew, just what did it mean? To study the article all through the usages in Hebrew and see whether it is clearer than in English would be an interesting study, but my impression is we would come out with just about what we have in English, that you can't attach too much importance to the article "the". Its <sup>just</sup> , but does it mean that it is a particular one <sup>is it</sup> we have been/talking about or/a particular one that happens to be in front of you, or a particular one we're just going to speak about, or what? It certainly doesn't mean any child. It means a child born in the near future, not just any child, not a child who was born ten years ago, or who will be born ten years from now, but it is using the length of a child's life as a period to show how soon they will be rid of these kings and how little cause they have to fear them and actually we know that historically it was fulfilled exactly as predicted. Now of course, the matter of what Verse 15 means and which one it goes with doesn't come under this particular head, but perhaps we needn't worry about it now but if you have occasion to wonder yourself what verse 15 means, I'll just give you a hint of the meaning. Compare Verse 22 and see if that is not decisive as to the meaning of Verse 15. In view of 22 I don't think you'll say that Verse 15 shows the simple nature of the early life of our Lord, as some have said. Now, I'm glad for all these--any point that any of you have in any of these connections. I'm glad for you to raise anything that you think is an objection to any suggestion I make. I've had classes where we spent three weeks arguing as to whether it wasn't true that Verse 16 referred to Christ and Verse 14 referred to something in the time of Isaiah.