

you by the way you should go and oh, how hard it is for us as human beings to recognize that there is one who can lead us by the way to go. Notice even with a small child--you try to lead him in one direction and immediately he wants to go in the opposite and you have to put some little diversion in front of him to attract his attention and make him think then he is choosing to go in that direction. Someone said if you are going to understand grown-ups, it is a good thing to learn to understand children. It is the little tinsel, etc. that appeals to the lust of the eye and the lust of the flesh or the pride of life and it makes a big pull on us to make us go this direction or that one. We all think we want to follow the Lord and do <sup>what</sup> He wants us to do but when one of His servants comes to us and gives us some advise, the immediate reaction is almost always to resent the fact that someone should give us any advice and to-- instead of trying to profit by the advice we often say we had them already or else they aren't very good anyway. It is the instinctive reaction of the human being to reject being lead, etc. That was exactly the reaction of sinful Israel and the Lord says in v. 17--"I am the Lord who teaches you to profit and leads you by the way you should go. Oh, that you would harken to my command." The exact thing can be said by everyone of us in life if we will but think clearly and then we will say if only we had done that thing and had paid attention but I went another way because it appealed to me and perhaps plainly through one of the Lord's servants it was indicated what we should do but we then prefer to go off another way. God goes on to say if they had hearkened to the commandments, then the peace would have been as a river and as the waves of the sea. He speaks of the way Israel could have been continually enlarging and would have had a great name if Israel would have followed God. Instead of being lead off in every little point it could have sought for God and this is characteristic of not only the unbeliever in this sinful world but characteristic of everyone of us in this age. It is important in dealing with a church and the people of it to recognize that fact and often we say that what the Lord's will is that is what I am determined to follow and determined to go on doing His will. It is easy to find fault with someone else and to ask what the matter with someone else is when we say it is perfectly plain to see what he should do. How do you know you would be any better in his place? You may have to put the little tinsel in front to attract in the right way. There is only One who has ever lived that has followed 100% and that was Jesus Christ Himself. About the idol with the feet of clay and the man whom he had been ~~for~~