

I wouldn't have predicted his going to S. Fran. but his going there would be the preparation of the fulfillment that I had made that when he got there. James says here, that when the Lord comes back to set up His reign over the earth, which was the re-establishment of the tabernacle of David which was fallen down, He is going to find on earth--two classes of people--there are going to be the rest of the Christian Jews following him--there is going to be a nation born in a day but there is also going to be another large group of people, who will be Gentiles--upon whom the Spirit of the Lord had fallen, and if they are going to be followers of His--if that is the case it is only reasonable to infer that the development which is now taking place, is as he said in v. 14--that He is now visiting the Gentiles to take out a people for His Name's sake. James is saying that instead of interfering with this work we should encourage it along--you don't have to have the Gentiles circumcised but we will suggest a few things that will avoid offence and to keep a proper moral standard and to make better cooperation between the Jews and the Gentiles; they were to abstain from things strangled because that was something so contrary to what the Jews were accustomed to that it would be pretty difficult for the Jews to take it, though now we take things that are strangled--what was more important was the moral law, to abstain from pollutions--they should show their sincerity in turning to Christ from these other things that were evil. The thing that Amos says, was not being fulfilled when James spoke, but it showed a future condition, but that it would come just as Simeon predicted something that was right at that time present. He is showing a specific fact that is going to happen in the future and from that specific fact in the future, you can infer that something else is going to happen first. There are a lot of statements that are true in one way but not in another. Take ~~these~~ statement, "There is neither bond nor free"--there are some people that think women shouldn't get theological education and many people that think women shouldn't preach but the Bible says neither male nor female. It means that we have the same position before Christ--as far as our standing before Christ is ~~concerned~~ concerned, it doesn't matter if we are male or female. That doesn't mean that there are not particular positions for the man or for the woman. Paul never told the slaves to run away from their masters, but to serve them with honesty--be morally obedient in order that they may see the moral character which you have. In dealing with these statements of the Scripture, we must not take one