they are to be repopulated, tremendously repopulated. Was this fulfilled in the return from the exile? It would seem to go beyond that. Probably to lead on perhaps even to milleniel millennial days. Then in verse twenty we have an interesting phrase. "The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other." What does this mean? Does this mean the new people coming back to Jerusalem after the old people have been taken into captivity? That is rather contradicted by twenty-one. "seeing I have lost my children, en who hath begotten me these." And here we find an interesting relationship to the statement in Isaiah twenty-nine where God tells Jacob that He is to make a new people bringing in Gentiles into the kingdom, bringing in Olive trees, wild olive trees grafted in to replace some of the natural trees which have been grafted out. In verse twenty-two and twenty-three there seems to be a return of people from exile to be brought by the Gentiles brought back in to Jerusalem. Would this find a sufficient fulfillment be the return under Cyrus? In verse twenty-three there is a very great element of respect to the people. Verse twenty-two would seem sufficient to apply to the return under Cyrus unless Gentiles and people must be taken as more than one nation and on that _____. Certainly twenty-two is what happened in the return from exile but twenty-three does seem to go beyond. It shows a humiliation for them; a recognition of supremacy on their part. We do not seem to have such a thing as a return from exile. Do we have such a thing predicted elsewheres for the end of this age? Can it be fulfilled literally in anything prior to the coming of the millennium? Is there any sense in which it could be spiritually fulfilled in the Church and the Gospel. I question unless there is some spiritual reference to the Gospel

The suggestion is made that twenty-two and the first half of twentythree describes a process yet to come of the nations bringing the Jews back

find a physical fulfillment prior to the milennium.

5

39