

in this particular course. Now our interest than is in the prophecies of the book. O, I mentioned too, at the end of the last hour how the critics say that the ~~book~~ book was written in the time of the Maccabees. They all agree on it. Well, now, this is not a ~~course~~ course in criticism. This is a course in interpretation. We are interested as Christians who believe that this is God's Word, ~~in~~ in knowing what it means. And our interest in this particular course is not in answering the arguments of the critics. We will answer some, we will touch upon some, but we are not going to take any thorough coverage. There are many of them we are not even going to touch at all. It is not our subject, criticism, now. It does enter in at some points rather vitally, and there we will deal with it some. Our purpose in this course is interpretation, and then again, I am not even so interested now in what the book means, we are interested in knowing how to find out what it means. We are interested in the basic principle of the interpretation of the book of Daniel. You see, I have narrowed our purpose down, and that's important, because I want to really fulfill that purpose. Of course, these others we will fulfill to some extent. Now, from the viewpoint of that purpose, I think it would be very helpful right now if we turned to Daniel 8, and ~~my~~ my guess is that most of you are far less familiar with Daniel 8 than you are with the chapters of which I have already spoken. Probably most of you know a good deal about ~~the~~ cha. 1-6, but probably very few, I wouldn't be surprised if most of you before you turned to it in your Bible couldn't even tell me what is in Daniel 8, and don't worry if that is the case. But Daniel 8 is ~~one~~ of the easier chapters to interpret ~~as far as~~ as far as prophecy is concerned. Dan. 2 is also fairly simple, altho some parts of it are harder, altho most of it is fairly simple. But Daniel 8 is getting us into the ~~area~~ area of special, it opens up the problems that we are ~~so~~ vitally interested in, and at the same time it is a fairly easy chapter to interpret. So I ~~am~~ want you to turn with me ~~now~~ now to Daniel 8, and we begin now with Daniel 8 "In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me, Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first, and I saw in the vision, and it came to pass that when I saw that I was at Shushan that