

Shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, he hath no understanding? Are you going to do the firing, or is he. You're turning things upside down, the implication is that he chooses to turn things upside down, he can. What does v.17 mean, Mr. Vannoy? 19 says your turning of things upside down will be esteemed as the potter's clay, 17 in rather figurative language says he is going to turn things upside down, takes two things and reverses them, completely. But it says, it is going to happen. That they will be turned upside down and when you look at the two things that are upside down, you find that one of them is a figure for what is outside, and you find that one of them is a figure for that which is rather uncultivated and the other is a figure for that which is cultivated, and so it shows a reversal between outside and inside, ~~a~~ between that which is at present the only area in which God seems to be working to produce His results, to build up His people, and that in which at present He seems not to be doing. So that you have those contrasts there, you have 16 and 17 fitting closely together, and you have the suggestion of a turning around between what is inside and what is outside, and making the outside fruitful and the inside barren. And then you come to 18, and what do you have in 18, Mr. Cohen? As you say, comparing with the previous verse you get the idea that this is the Gentiles, but then you note the figures used about them. To them as being deaf and being blind.

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G 3 (3/4)

...now earlier in the chapter you have had rebuke given to those who were, who should be the leaders of God's people. Were they called deaf or blind? They were not, were they? They were spoken of as those who had the power to see and to hear but did not use it. They made all kinds of excuses, to keep from using the power they had. They were the people who had the opportunity, and did not take advantage of it. Now he says that the change is going to be made between the uncultivated and the fruitful, the interchange, and so he says those who were not showing indifference,