

plan is not a plan for one day or a year, but a plan for a long stage of time, which is going to use the beacon, the ensign on the hill as a part of His purpose, but that the ultimate purpose is to work out ~~what~~ God's plan of judgment whereby he can be judged, and the Justifier of those who are trusting in Him. So, the transition takes place in 18 and then from 19 into 26, we have God's blessing on His people, (9 1/4)

Well, now when does this blessing take place? Well, I think we have to look at particular verses, not that you grab a verse and say oh, this fits the millennium, here is another verse, this fits this one, this fits this one, but you look at the verses to see what you can definitely get out of each verse, and then see if it arranges into a consistent progress of (9 1/2)

And if you do that, it seems to me that in v.19 we look forward to the ultimate blessing upon His people. Thou shalt weep no more. That is, for the people shall dwell at Jerusalem, thou shalt weep no more, He will be very gracious unto thee. Well, now that would hardly fit before the time of the millennium, and then you look at the end of it, and it impresses me that the blessings from 23-26 are a description of a renewed earth, an earth with the great blessing of God upon it, where the agriculture is far better than now where the privation, the difficulty in getting food and so on, that many people suffered at that time, is pictured as completely a thing of the past, as you often have in the millennial picture.

Well, then if you have the millennium in v.19 and in vv.23-26, then I think we can say about v.20 that it must be one of three things, it must be either the same time as 19, it must be a later time or it must be an earlier time, I think that's a rather safe statement to make, and having made that statement, with all the stress on the blessing of the millennium, it doesn't quite seem that v.20 about the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, is dealing with the millennium. And it hardly seems to me it is dealing with a later time, so that it impresses me that it is now looking back to the ~~the~~ interval before the climax of these blessings that are promised in v.19, and also in vv.22-26, that he looks back now to the period between his time when he gives it,