

told a half truth. He certainly gave a false impression. He gave an impression that the purpose of the meeting was one thing when the purpose of the meeting was a different thing. But the meeting was a meeting between him and Zedekiah and there were three parties involved--the Lord who sent the message, Jeremiah who gave it, and Zedekiah who received it--and it was not the right of these princes to demand that he tell them either what he had said to Zedekiah or what the Zedekiah had said to him. He evaded it by giving them an answer which we have no reason to say was not true but which simply was not the whole truth. Now these two cases in the Scripture it seems to me are clear cases of a man who is a prophet of God and who is carrying out the work of the Lord. In the case of Samuel he is given a command from God and in this case he is not given a command from God but we are told what he did ~~was not definite part of his~~ and given no reason to think that it was not a definite part of his right duty to have done what we are told he did. Those are, it seems to me, the strongest arguments in the Scripture that a half true is permissible under necessity.

(Question) Yes, Jeremiah 38:27 and I Samuel 16:1-5.

Now it think perhaps we'll leave this matter.

(Question) Those are two distinct questions. Let's look at them briefly in order. They are very interesting. They are perhaps philosophical questions; that is to say, they raise certain questions of interpretation and which it is difficult as to whether we have sufficient evidence or not to give a reasonable answer. Now the question as to why the king of Syria after Elisha had healed one of his best generals would then want to ^{capture} talk to Elisha is I think a question which is of great import for a person in life in this world today. That is this. If you do a favor for a wicked person, if you do something that is very nice and helpful for someone who is an enemy of the gospel, can you then expect that that person will continue for some time thereafter to be kind to you? The answer to it is that it is a wise warning to us. I'm glad that question was raised that in this case when the king of Syria might be expected to be friendly