The Problem of Hand Prophecy Prof. Taylor Page 7

: :

with regard to Jehoiachin by the prophet in the days of the Babyloian captivity -"Write him childless," he says. Well, that's the enormously specific prediction
given by one prophet to one man. Quite different than the one where the prophet
says, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." So, there are many different types of
predictions and I merely mention here that there are several different ways in
which they can be classed. I will not go over them bit by bit. The ones that I
am most interested in, of course,

- (1) is the one that has although I am not thoroughly informed in the fields of other men -- Number 1 is the one that has the greatenst apologetic value in my judgment. Number 1 is the number in which the prediction is given in sharp, direct, specific terms, and the fulfillment is given in sharp, direct, specific terms. They are far enough apart that no one could have foreseen and figured the thing out and brought it to pass. So, in my judgment Number 1 has the great apologetic value, although I am not an expert in that particular field. (The field of my expertise has not yet been discovered! I'd like it, but it's not that and I don't know where else it is!) and the case of Number
- (2) Number 2 is a broad catagory that covers a lot of things. So, the Prophet Amos -- now the Prophet Amos speaks to the wicked priests in the fifth chapter of Amos and he tells them and he tells him that he will die in another land and that his wife will die as a harlot, etc., etc. Now, there is no recorded fulfillment of that, but when you read that in about 15 are years that the Northern Kingdom is swept away and dragged off to a territory; when you know the Assyrians, then there is no reason to believe that that thing was not fulfilled literally. There is no reason to doubt at all but that the prophet actually was taken to Assyria and he actually did die there, and that his wife was submitted to the barbarities to which the Assyrians submitted their particular persons. So, we don't really call that an unfulfilled prophecy. We say that that is a prediction which is apparently fulfilled in the course of history, (I can get interrupted at any time incidentally, but I don't have a long pauses. Occasi onally I look at the students and say, What do you think? And when I realize what they think, I wish I hadn't stopped!