

The Problem of Unfilled Prophecy

Mr. Taylor

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caught on. And it was one of those places where you told them each item. You walked around the store; sat^{it} down at the counter -- if you wanted to buy more than three things, it took about two hours to do your shopping-- ~~but~~ my grandfather would walk ~~in~~ in and he would look at the clerk who never caught on, and he would say, Luther, he would say, "It is going to rain." And Luther would say (you mind if I imitate Luther), Luther would say, "Well, Mr. Brown, you really think it is going to rain?" And my grandfather would say, "It's going to be a long, dry spell if it doesn't, Luther." Now, you will have to browse on that, see "It's going to be a long, dry spell ~~if~~ if it doesn't." What he really meant was: He's not saying when it is going to rain. So, you can predict that the Phillies are going to win a pennant. Those who ^{are} around Philadelphia area know how childish a prediction like that would be. But you can predict it, and you can ^{just} say, Well, the Phillies are going to win a pennant. And fifty years from now somebody can say, But you -- Well, I didn't tell you when. ^{NO,} ~~But~~ the prophets of Scripture do not speak like that. The prophets of Scripture first give a number of specific things that you can see sharp and exact in fulfillment in order that you might believe the long range. Now, that is exactly the teaching of what we are told to test them by in Deuteronomy 13 and Deuteronomy 18. So the prophets in Israel are not like oracles. They are not day dreamers or big adventurous guessers. They give you a few specifics and then the long range thing is held on to. Well, that is the conditional aspect. And the thing I want to mention here in

~~Six, The Substitution of Hermeneutics~~

(6.) Six, The Substitution of Hermeneutics -- The Substitution of Hermeneutics. Here is a fellow -- he sees the unfulfilled prediction, and he can't understand it. Now, it is easy to speak uncharitably in a class like this. So, I'll try not to. But he can't understand it, and he can't understand the prediction. He has one of these automatic minds who thinks that he has to understand everyone of them ^{that} ~~who~~ have the answers to them, but he can't understand the predictions. And so somebody comes to him, and says, "Well, maybe you are using the wrong system of interpretation. Maybe if you spiritualized all of these predictions and made them show how ~~the~~ the light of the church is, you would be better off for it," and some men just on little ~~one~~ suggestions like that switch whole hermeneutical systems. You can do it two or three times in your lifetime rather easily, see, because it is easy to switch from system