

do tremendous labors. It means that he has the protection of iron, the strength of iron to resist attack. And in this case it means that God is going to protect him. <sup>¶</sup> The meaning of it is perfectly clear.

And verse 19 shows absolutely clearly what verse 18 means, of course.

When you go into a ~~xxx~~ service for God, do you have a right to say, God has given this promise / "be not dismayed at their faces for behold I have made thee this day a defended city, they shall fight against thee but shall not prevail against thee". Do you have a right to apply that to yourself? You have the right to apply the general principle that when God calls you to do a piece of work for Him, He will see them through, and ~~xxx~~ nothing will happen to them except it be the Lord's will that it should ~~xx~~ happen. But you cannot say, whether He desires you to glorify Him by suffering for His cause, by perhaps being killed as Stephen was. Perhaps a martyr, perhaps undergo showing a wonderful testimony in what you are going under which seems to be failure to the world at large, or whether it is His will to protect yourself to enable you to accomplish a work. You cannot say. God is not here giving Jer. simply a general principle that God will be with his people. That is not it. <sup>¶</sup> God is giving Jer. a specific prediction which applies in its fullness only to him. He is saying to Jer. there is a tremendous work which I want you to do, in which you will face tremendous opposition. A work which is such a strain on a ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ man's normal ~~xxxx~~ attitude, that it is almost impossible for him to go through it. And I am giving you a help toward going through this. I am giving you the assurance that you will not be overcome, that nothing will happen to you until the work is done. He is giving Jer. a specific definite prediction of the special providence which ~~xxxx~~ none of us can say from this verse is necessarily His will for us, even though the general principle that that is His will for His people, and we can say that nothing can happen to us if we are truly serving Him, unless it be His will for His glory that it happen. This reveals that it was not His will for His glory that something happen to Jer. until the particular work He had given him was completed. That is, for at least the next twenty years after this time. But Jer. didn't know how