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of the picture. The latter part of the chapter is dealing certainly with great cosmic events that overwhelm the entire universe, and whether you reach those cosmic events, after looking at the difficulty and depopulation of Judah, for its sin, and then go on to the eventual upheaval of the world as a whole, or whether you start with aspects of the world as a whole unto God's judgment, in either case you certainly come to that at the end of the chapter. Now at the end of the chapter you have verse 1, "It will come to pass in that day that the Lord shall punish the hosts of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth," and that certainly is not speaking about Judah there. He certainly is speaking of the hosts of the high ones on high as spiritual beings and he certainly is speaking of the kings of the earth--well, you might say the different members of the family of the Judean king but that doesn't seem likely. It seems much more reasonable to think that these are kings of different lands. They shall be gathered together as prisoners are gathered in the pit. It seems much more likely that the picture is here one of the spiritual hosts of wickedness and the rulers on this earth who are ruling in wickedness and of these being punished by the Lord in a great day which is still future, and then v. 22 would be a continuation of 21, or rather the first part is a further explanation of it. The Lord will punish them. How will He punish them? He will gather them together and shut them up in prison, gather them together as prisoners are gathered in the pit and shut them up in the prison, and then after many days they will be visited. He'll go and he'll pay a call on them. Of course you know that this Hebrew word " " never means to pay a friendly call. It means to exert authority in such a way as to make a great change in the situation of those upon whom it is exercised. It is a word which is used for the king's visiting his wrath upon those who displease him and demoting them from their positions or visiting his pleasure on those who please him and and raising them up and exalting them. The word " " can mean either one of the two and consequently when you say, "after many days they will be visited", you are not saying that they will be punished necessarily, though that may be it.