

should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates. For we can do nothing against the truth but for the truth." There is a great deal of important thought in those words of Pauls. We won't have time to look at them much today because we are dealing with numbers, but certain of the main ideas in them I think are very appropriate right in this connection with this law of jealousy. There is that danger of gross sins. Here were the Israelites brought out of Egypt by God's wonderful grace delivered from slavery there. God's supernatural care following them, and yet it was ~~it was~~ necessary that God perform this supernatural act at this time in the wilderness journey in order to move toward the maintenance of purity among the people. It is really sad as you go through life so see the number of people who get a training for Christian ~~work~~ work, and who perhaps do Christian work in a way that wins considerable approval and makes people/^{think of} them as very effective servants of the Lord, and then who fall by the way because of sins of impurity. You wouldn't believe the cases that you run onto, of men who have seemed to be greatly used of God, and then have left their wives and run off with another woman, and I have known several churches, wonderful godly churches which have ~~just~~ just been shaken to their foundation almost by this curse. And so I think it is very good that ~~at~~ all of us at this point stop and think. If we all desire that our lives be consecrated to the Lord and that we accomplish for Him. And that we are not merely on the wilderness journey ourselves but we are anxious to be leading others and be the source of God's blessing to others. But how important it is to realize that the things that can come in that can wreck our ministry and destroy our usefulness. There in the wilderness journey God gave this special test, this special way of maintaing purity among His people. We do not have such a test or such a way today. But these things come out and they wreck many a life and many a church. A person should consider very carefully before he marries. Are you sure this is one with whom you are ready to spend your whole life. I heard someone say a few days ago to someone who was thinking of marrying, Now are you so much in love that you cannot possibly