

"As thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone." v.40

Let us open our Bibles at the 20th ch. of 1 Kings, and begin reading at vs. 22 (reading through vs.43).

When I was speaking at a theological seminary out in Colorado a year ago, a young man came to me and he said, Will you please tell me what is the value of the OT? He said, How are we to use the OT?

Well, that is a very interesting question, and an important one. There are people who confine themselves to the NT. After all the NT tells us about the life of Christ. It tells us how Christianity began, how it was spread. It tells us how we can be saved through Christ, what kind of lives we should live, and what is ahead for us. We've got the Ot. We can study it. We can understand it, we can present it. But why do we have the OT? That's an important question for a person to face. It is something that we as Christians should be familiar with and have the answer to. Why do we have the OT?

The OT of course gives us primary facts about God and His world. The NT deals with us more as individuals. But the OT tells us what this world is all about, where it came from, how it got here. It tells about God's relation to this world. It tells about His doings through a long period. If we are going to understand God's doings through a long period in which we live we are missing a great deal if we do not get <sup>that</sup> the facts of the OT gives us. But that does not account for all of the claims. You find in the NT they are constantly quoting from the OT. This happened that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet. This happened because it had been spoken by the prophet. The NT writers felt that the NT was simply a carrying on, a completion of fulfillment of the OT. You can't truly understand it if you don't have the OT in mind. So the Messianic statements of the OT - those passages that look forward to the NT, a Christian should become familiar with them, should understand them, should