

But there was just not time enough to climb them. And I said I used to be very sad because I could not climb all the mountains I'd like, but then I realized that during the millennium I'll have time to climb a lot of those!

A man said to me, You say the millennium! Why not say the eternal state? Well, I don't think there is any such thing in the Bible as the eternal state. What will be beyond the millennium we just don't know. God may have many interesting surprises for us. All the sin and wickedness of this life is to be eradicated with the coming of the Son of man.

Now we are ready to take a jump forward which may seem strange. To jump clear forward from ch. 7 to ch. 11. But the reason I wish to do that is because there are certain things that will come out in ch. 7 which are much easier to discuss in connection with it than with ch. 8, and it will make it much easier for us to deal with ch. 8 if we look at these first.

I think it would be a mistake to look at ch. 7 first and then look at ch. 2, because ch. 2 was given and ch. 7 was given 45 years later. So we can use ch. 7 to throw light on ch. 2, but we should start with ch. 2. Here we have ch. 7 which was given in the first year of Belshazzar, and we have ch. 8 which was given in the third year of Belshazzar. Then ch. 9 in the first year of Darius whom Cyrus made king over the realm of the Chaldeans, over that portion of his empire. Then we have chs. 10-12 which were in the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia.

So these chs. are given in a very short range of time. There is no great harm done in our looking at ch. 11 first. Ch. 11 is a chapter that not a great many people get a great deal out of. The archbishop who put in the ch. divisions certainly did not understand it, because as you know he put the ch. division one verse too early.

Ch. 10 tells about God sending a messenger to Daniel, and this messenger speaks, and ch. 11:1 he is telling about his difficulties in bringing this message to Daniel. But v. 2 begins this prophecy: "Now will I show you the truth. Behold there shall stand up yet three kings of Persia, and the fourth shall be richer than they all."

The critics say, According to the Book of Daniel there were only four kings of Persia. There were only these four. The author didn't know about any others. He was just ignorant! I have given you a statement which I hope you all have with you, which records important facts about the history. It lists all the kings of Persia, except one. That one was a usurper who held the power for a very brief time.

I have not listed them all. I have listed the ones vital to us and then said, Six more kings and then named the last one. There were actually 10 kings of Persia in the period of the Persian empire, between its establishment by Cyrus and its conquest by Alexander. This says, There will be three kings and the fourth will be richer than they all, and (v.3) a mighty king shall