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because even though we think He won't come today, we know He can't because we are not in tribulation!" but if we get into persecution and you say it can't be now because we know it comes before a tribulation so this can't be the right one, then again you're not applying those words. Do we just don't know whether it is before tribulation, after tribulation, in the middle of tribulation, in time of calmness; we don't know when it is. In such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh. And is it true that there is then no clearly recognizable event which must precede the rapture by any substantial length of time so that the rapture either comes absolutely unexpectedly to the Christian as far as any outward signs are concerned, or without any sign which comes far enough ahead for him to make much preparation. Mr. Shepperson? /Last time when you were running through Matthew 24 you emphasized the fact that the main emphasis there was negative, but I didn't understand how you explained about the abomination of desolation. Was it that that was a sign only for the Jews that were living in Jerusalem at that time and would not be any sign for us at all unless we were living in Jerusalem at that time? Dr. MacRae: Well, that abomination of desolation is mentioned in verse 15, and He doesn't say, "When you see the abomination of desolation set up in the holy place in Jerusalem, then you know the return of Christ is near." He doesn't say that. He says, "When you see that, then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains and pray that your flight be not in the winter nor on the Sabbath day, for then shall be great tribulation." It seems to tie that up with an immediate situation in which people are to do an immediate thing and we have very close parallels to these verses in Luke where they seem to be definitely talking of the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A. D. rather than now, so that I won't say that there might not be an argument made from this that here is a definite sign which can be recognized which takes place at least a few days before the rapture, but that/<sup>it</sup>is something which indicates a period of several years which must precede the rapture, I don't think you will find evidence for, and even that it is something that all Christians can recognize