

again (but this we have not yet studied, since the Messianic prophecies have been postponed for a time) upon the return from Babylon. Time appears to be a slight concern to the prophet, ~~events~~ are the significant things. Finally we have found how utterly unnecessary the so-called spiritualizing ex~~ig~~esis is in all places where we have met it. Israel, so far at least, has been Israel; Jerusalem, Jerusalem; and Babylon, Babylon. We do not deny the possibility that these names in places may stand ~~for~~ for the chosen people and the forces of evil respectively. But at least we have not found such places as yet, ~~and~~ from our study it would seem that such a use should be hinted at in the context in some way, or else exigesis would forever remain insecure.

In a word, we have tested in a limited and superficial way, but yet in a fair ~~nmber~~ number of cases, the historico-grammatical exigesis of prophecy which takes the words in their p~~ai~~ain sense--that meant by the author and recognized by the hearers--as far as patient study can discover that sense. We have tried to test this time-honored method of exigesis as applied to prophecy and we have not found it wanting.