

III. Content Summaries

A. Qualifying notes

1. In my lectures I am reading either from the Hebrew Test, the King James version or the New King James version. You may use any text for class that is your favorite or your devotional text but if the wording is a variant from what I am reading... you will just have to make the most of it. Questions about translations, etc., are welcome but must be confined to what is pertinent to the discussion.

2. The outline system as given on page 7 has already received sufficient commentary. I will follow it in this part of my notes but note the following:

--some of the divisions are hopelessly artificial

--class headings are necessarily arbitrary

--breakdowns under each section are not complete..this is just a content summary, not a full-fledged commentary.

3. Preliminary resolutions

You will find these noted in my notes from time to time. To get a full grip on them it is necessary to put them together when the study is ended. When I call them "preliminary" I mean only that they must not be thought of as final until the total picture of the teaching and intent of the book is given.

--some are called "negative" which means the induction at that point is somewhat pessimistic

--some are called "positive" meaning they are the opposite of the foregoing.

--and some, would you believe it, are not labeled at all which means that the direction of the resolution is not apparent to me or that the context and the resolution are pointing in different directions.

B. The Prologue 1:1-11

This section sketches in brief form the conflict in which we find ourselves. It is the conflict of a transitory existence for us in face of a more permanent existence for our world. Note the following:

--the address of vs. 1

--the characteristics of ideal vs. 2

--the rhetorical question of vs. 3 (many of these in the book)