

10 Preface

rendering of the King James Version or of some widely used modern translation.

Discussions that require reference to the original wording will be given in such a way that they can be understood by those not familiar with the Hebrew language. Readers familiar with Hebrew will find the Hebrew word or form mentioned in "Notes to Particular Points."

Since all the classical Hebrew that has been preserved is contained in the Old Testament, any reader can test the validity of statements about the meaning of words by using Young's or Strong's concordance to find all the occurrences of a Hebrew word and then examining the context of each rendering.

Other writers will rarely be mentioned by name, since this is an attempt to study the various parts of this section of Isaiah in relation to one another and to gather and present evidence from the text itself, rather than to compare views of various interpreters. Where several writers take a view that seems unwarranted, reference is sometimes made in a general way and the contrary evidence presented. The author does not desire to speak with great positiveness except where the Scripture itself is positive and clear. If two views are equally possible, both are mentioned.

Throughout the book the word "section" will be used to point to the entire section of Isaiah that is the subject of the present discussion (40:1-56:8) and will be restricted to this use.