period of God's anger is spoken of as "a brief moment" (vv. 7-8), and she is assured that the LORD is her Husband (v. 5), who will show her everlasting kindness (v. 8). These verses clearly refer to Israel as a nation, rejected for a time because of her sin, but ultimately to be restored.

The great promise of God's continuing love (vv. 9-10) can be appropriated by all who are saved through the work of the Servant, though it applies in a special sense to the descendants of Israel.

The next two verses use an entirely different figure of speech.

> (11) O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted, see, I am setting your stones in antimony, and I will lay your foundations in sapphires. (12) I will make your pinnacles of rubies, your gates of crystal, and your entire wall of precious stones.

Here the future glory of God's people is pictured under the figure of a great building of marvelous beauty formed largely of precious stones. The passage does not clearly indicate what the building represents, but the context strongly suggests that it is a figurative picture of all the followers of the Servant of the LORD joined together in one body, as described in Ephesians 2:11-22, forming a great edifice, of which Christ is the chief cornerstone (Eph 2:20-22).

In the next part the division between verses 13-14 has been badly placed. The first clause of verse 14 goes with verse 13, but the rest of verse 14 belongs with the succeeding verses.

> (13) All your sons will be taught by the LORD, and the wellbeing of your sons will be great. (14*a*) In righteousness you will be established.

This is a marvelous picture of God's promise for the spiritual well-being of the followers of the LORD's Servant. Its complete fulfillment looks far beyond the present time, but it has been partly fulfilled during the centuries since Isaiah wrote. God has given His entire revelation in the sixty-six books of the Bible, which are His instruments for teaching His people. Righteousness, based on the Bible, is the only secure foundation