was also a leader and commander of God's people. David's greater Son is the great Witness and the great Leader and Commander of all who are redeemed through the work of the Lord's Servant described in Isaiah 53.

David was a leader and commander of many peoples. He extended Israelite control over a far larger area than at any other time in its history. David's greater Son is to be a Leader and Commander of the peoples of the entire world. In modern English, the word "peoples" is not often used. The Hebrew form used here ^57 is plural to indicate that many nations are involved.

Verse 5 shows that the outreach of the work of the Servant will not only involve an extension of sway over many peoples, but will involve a willing seeking on the part of many to receive the blessings of the sure mercies of David. Nations that have never heard of Israel will come. The passage is reminiscent of Isaiah 2:3, with its promise that many peoples will come to Zion to hear the word of the LORD.

> (6) Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near. (7) Let the wicked man forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and he will have compassion on him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

These two verses continue the glorious offer of free salvation stressed inverses 1-2 but introduce three ideas not previously mentioned. The first is found twice in verse 6, with its call to seek the LORD "while he may be found." Here there is a definite implication that God will not always be available, and also a reminder of the fact that this offer was not extended to the nations of the world before the great work of the Servant was actually performed. When Paul addressed the Athenians he said: "The times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30).

Only rarely before the coming of Christ were members of other nations invited to believe in the true God. After Jesus was raised from the dead He explicitly commanded that the