

implies the deity of the Messiah, though that fact is not stated here.

The Apostle John, in the Revelation, again refers to this verse in Isaiah, and his interpretation must, of course, fit in with Paul's interpretation. In Revelation 19:11ff., John describes the coming of One whose name is called "the Word of God," and who has on His thigh a name written "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." In verse 15, he says of this One, that "out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron." Again, in verse 21, he says, "and the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth." John and Paul describe as something future to their day the event here predicted by Isaiah, when this wonderful ruler, the "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS," is to smite the wicked one with the rod of His mouth, and to destroy him with the breath of His lips.

When we look at the promise of the complete victory of the Messiah which this verse describes, we cannot but think of the wonderful promises in Psalm 2, Psalm 110, and else where, which describe the coming triumph of God's Son.

Universal Peace

Verses 6-9 describe the character of the kingdom of this One who is to slay the wicked one with the breath of His lips. A wonderful picture is here presented to us, portraying a time of absolute peace and safety. No longer need peaceful animals fear those which destroy and kill. All shall dwell together in unity. The passage is summed up in verse 9: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea." Here is pictured absolute safety covering the whole earth just as completely as the sea is covered by the water. Not a bit of it is to be in danger of destructiveness or cruelty. Certain commentators have dwelt upon the passage as teaching that the change in the wolf and the leopard from creatures of fierceness to creatures of gentleness is a figurative description of the change in the human heart through conversion. This change in human