

Cyrus, but also from something far worse. He will deliver them from the terrible bondage of sin.

In verse 26 He points out the fate ahead for the oppressors. They are to be filled with confusion and their paths will lead to destruction. We have seen this in our own generation in the case of many who have sought to obtain their own ends at the expense of human suffering. We have seen them fall into confusion and terrible disaster. God promises that this will be the fate of those who oppose His will or oppress His people. He is going to make it plain to all that He the Lord is the Savior and the Redeemer and the Mighty One of Jacob.

The third answer to Zion's complaint is based upon the Lord's relationship to Zion (Isa. 50:1-3). He asks the people of Zion, "Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement?" A better rendering would be, "Where is there a bill of divorcement of your mother? What evidence is there that God has put her away, or that He has sold her to a creditor?" He declares that He has never taken such action. The fate of the Jews is a result of their iniquity; it came because of their transgressions. They have fallen into serious difficulty as a result of sin. God has called but no man has answered (v. 2). There is none other who is able to deliver the people from the fate which they have brought upon themselves. However, He announces that His hand is not shortened so that He cannot redeem. He proceeds to refer to a number of His former actions in connection with the deliverance of the people from Egypt. At His rebuke He dried up the sea; He caused the fish of the river to die; He caused darkness to cover the face of the earth. These are examples of the wonderful work which God performed in Egypt, showing the supremacy of His mighty power. The Egyptian bondage was typical of the bondage to sin -- a captivity which is far more dangerous than any outward captivity which results from it. God declares His power to establish supremacy over the forces of evil, bringing darkness and ineffectiveness to their efforts. He who has done this in the past can do it again; He still maintains His relationship to those He has redeemed. He is still married to them and has never put them away from Him.