

to deliver us from exile? Yes, there is something even more important than that. God is7....., God is power. Behold your God! v.10, "The Lord will come with a strong hand." Conquer and deliver. "His arm will rule for him...his work before him." God's care for His ~~own~~ people. "He feeds his flock like a shepherd...gently lead those that are with young." What makes you think God is going to do all these things. The gods of Babylon are triumphant. There is nothing you can do against them. The glorious power of God again, v.12, God's omnipotence. "Who has ~~measured~~ measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span..." God's great power, His omnipotence, and v.13, His omniscience again. "Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord..." God's omniscience. 15 again, God's omnipotence. He is so great that the nations are just like a drop ~~in~~ the bucket. v.16, Lebanon, this mighty tremendous forest where they ~~get~~ get the wood for all their great palaces is nothing compared to God. It is not "sufficient to burn..." All nations before him are as nothing. And then we come to a theme which is stressed as much in these chapters as any other place in the whole Bible, but which I hadn't mentioned explicitly in my discussion of themes, but which certainly should ^{been} have/mentioned there, in contrast with the glory and the power, the futility of the idol. That is one of the great themes of these chapters. The futility ~~of~~ the idols and the gods of the heathen, verse after verse devoted in these chapters to it. Here in this prelude in ch.40 it is touched on very strongly in vv.18-20. The workman takes a piece of wood, and makes a graven image out of it, and spreads it over with gold. It is something that a man makes, and then you say it is a god. v.21, "Have ye not known..." The power of God compared with this. v.22, God's great creative power. God's great creative power stressed through these next few chapters, next few verses, through v.26. And in view of this, comfort again, 27, "Why do you Jacob and Israel, say my way is hidden from the Lord?" Your way isn't hid from the Lord. The Lord is so powerful and so great. He knows all about you, and he can do ~~what~~ what he wants. v.28. ~~Haven't~~ Haven't you known the creative power of God. He doesn't faint, or is weary. He is omniscient. There is no searching of His understand-