

the servant spoken all the way on from ~~xxxix~~ v.16, or did the servant stop speaking, and did the Triune God come back as the servant again? I don't know. But at least the servant is clearly speaking in 49:1...end of P 199

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49:1 "From the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name." The reference to the mother is something we find often in connection with God's servant...1<sup>1</sup>..... "He hath made my mouth like a sharp sword;...he has hid me." You might say, maybe this is Isaiah talking. But v.3 shows it is not Isaiah. "And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified." Israel is God's servant, in whom He will be glorified. And the servant is declaring that God has made mention from the bowels of his mother of his name, God has prepared him from his womb.....1 3/4....., but ~~xxxx~~ Israel says, How can I carry on this work? How can I do it? Am I sufficient for it? v.4, "Then I said, I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength ~~for~~ for nought...yet surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my work with my God." How can I carry on the work? And yet God says the work will be carried on. "Now says the Lord that formed me from the womb to be ~~his~~ his servant..." Is the servant Israel? "To be his servant to bring Jacob again to him." We have always been told up to this point that the servant is Israel, but now the servant is going to bring Jacob. In other words, the work of the servant is to be a light to the Gentiles. It is to bring the message of God to the Gentiles.....2<sup>1</sup>....but Israel, who is the servant himself, is in bondage, himself is in exile, himself is in misery, himself is in sin, and so the work of the servant will be done by Israel. Israel is appointed to do the work, but maybe it will be a part of Israel, or one who can represent Israel, who will, on behalf of Israel, do the work for which Israel has been called, and will be the true servant of God. Now, this is the first clear reference that such is the case, the differentiation definitely here, between Jacob and the servant. "And now says the Lord that formed me from the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob again to him..." Up to this point it was always to bring the Gentiles, to bring a light to the Gentiles. But Jacob to him. "Thou Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God shall