

that all nations should be blessed...., and it is necessary for the one who receives God's blessing to have the same relationship to God that Abraham had. But God's promises to ~~Abraham~~ Abraham will never be broken. They will be fulfilled. The Lord is going to comfort Zion. He is going to make the wilderness like Eden, and the desert like the garden of the Lord. There is a wonderful future ahead for God's true people. And so he says, hearken unto me, my people. The law will proceed from me. Who is this talking now? Is this the Lord? Or is this the Lord's servant?.....7 3/4..., the Lord. It is rather hard to be sure on that, but we can't help wondering whether the servant is himself speaking still, as he did in 49. "The law will proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people." The servant was told he was going to be a light to the nations. "My righteousness is near; my salvation is ~~on~~ gone forth...the isles shall wait upon me." You remember, these things were told us back in chapter 42, and ~~it~~ elsewhere about the servant. This is the servant now, declaring them himself. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look on the earth beneath. These things will vanish, but my salvation will be ~~for~~ forever. And then he goes on with advice to his people that put their trust in him, and call on him through v.8, and then v.9 someone addresses the Lord, calling upon him to bring to pass these wonderful promises. "Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord." Who is this now speaking? in v.9? Is not that the true people of God speaking, calling upon Him to do what He has promised? Put on strength. "Art not thou the one who has cut Rahab?" And Rahab represents Egypt? "And ~~was~~ wounded the dragon?/...Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return." The ones who call upon the Lord to show his power remember the wonderful works of God, and then continue with renewed confidence and assurance that His promises are to be fulfilled. And so verses 9-11 are the men praising God, calling upon God. And then remembering what God has done and praising God for the assurance that He will do it. And then in 12 again, either the Lord or the servant is speaking. "I, even I, am he that comforts you..." Again the stress on creation. God's omnipotence. v.14, the captive exile hastens that he may be loosed." God's deliverance from