

is a promise that is pretty hard to see just where to fit it in. Now take verse 13, all thy children shall be taught of the Lord, great shall be the peace of thy children. Well, there is a wonderful promise, when does it refer to, who does it refer to, when they went back after exile? But verse 11 is--thou afflicted, tossed with tempest and not comforted--that would be a fine description of the people in exile, wouldn't it? Afflicted, tossed with tempest, not comforted. It wouldn't be a description of the Gentiles. And they've gone through all this oppression, now he says he is going to deliver them from oppression. They're going to be attacked, but not from him. Surely those are his true people, those are not the Jews per se, ~~em~~ in that sense. Because he certainly did send the Romans even as he had sent the Babylonians. And now at the end of verse 17 you have a statement: This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord--that seems to make it quite general. Those were the followers of the Servant of the Lord. That would surely be a general statement of the whole chapter. But in the chapter, don't you have certain which seem to fit the Jews and certain things which seem to fit Gentiles? And then you have certain things which fit all the people of God. And would we not get a better approach to it by seeing whether we can divide according to who the passages seem to fit? You try to force them into ~~em~~ either one or the other, they just don't seem to force, without a great deal of forcing, but if you take that last statement, this is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, surely that's the followers of the Servant of the Lord. That would mean all those who truly belong to the Lord, and no weapon formed against them will prosper. But they will have ~~some~~ suffering to go through, but no destruction for them. All thy children shall be taught of the Lord and great shall be the peace of thy children. That seems to describe all of His people, is that not all of His true people? But verse 11 would seem perhaps specifically to be dealing with those who were in the suffering in the exile, and verse 9 promises no repetition and that can be hardly a ~~repetition~~ ^{promise} of no repetition of exile, for they certainly have had repetitions of exile. And