

out that the one that seems to be barren of spiritual accomplishment, ~~this~~ one brings more into the kingdom than the one that had been set apart by God as the married wife. So He says to them, in view of what Christ has done on the cross, in view of the marvelous promises of God to the one who was barren and God called into His kingdom: Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thy habitations; ...lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes. And so Cary says we should go to India, we should take the gospel there, we should start a great work. And it certainly fits with 53, and it fits with this interpretation of verse 1 of 54, and it would fit perfectly with verse 3, though verse 3 also gives a prediction of growth after the exile. It could be taken either of the two ways. Verse 4 is a little hard to fit in with either of those ways. Thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shall not remember the reproach of thy widowhood. Some say the shame of thy youth is their being subject to Egypt, and the reproach of their widowhood is their being taken into exile. But just how would exile be widowhood? It seems a bit strange, doesn't it? Maybe you'd better look up that word in Hebrew to be sure of that. Widowhood seems to be if the husband is dead. Maybe it could be used for one who was separated. Widowhood. After all, we speak of grass widows. The shame of thy widowhood, though there is not among us, there is no great shame when the husband dies. I guess there is in some countries. There is in India I believe. At least there was before the developments of the last (4) years. (stu) Oh. I don't remember it (4 1/2)

shame. Isn't that strange, you'd think surely/some of the commentaries would have something to say about that phrase, the shame of widowhood. They just say well it's the Babylonian captivity, how is that the shame of widowhood? It might be the shame of separation from the husband. God cast them off first, it could fit with that.

Now the Lord has called thee, verse 6, as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused. That sounds like one who belonged