

We shall not ~~if~~ linger over the brief chapter which concludes the Book of Immanuel. Chapter 12 is a brief prayer of thanksgiving to God, uttered by His people as they ^{exult} ~~exalt~~ over the carrying out of the glorious promises contained in the earlier chapters of the book.

We have already noticed that chapters 13 to 23 deal with the declarations of God regarding the foreign nations. Instead of taking them up now, we shall leave their consideration for a later time, and shall, instead, examine another portion of the book of Isaiah which is closely related to the Book of Immanuel, which we have just been considering. Commentaries sometimes refer to Isaiah 28 to 35 as a section of miscellaneous promises and threats. Examination of the section, however, discloses that it is a closely knit unit, and has many striking parallels to the book of Immanuel. It is given at the same general time as the Book of Immanuel, but deals in its emphasis with a different portion of God's people. The Book of Immanuel describes the apostasy of King Ahaz, and tells of God's promise that He will bring in His own perfect king to displace the man, Ahaz, and men ~~like~~ like him upon the throne of David. In chapters 28 and following, Isaiah addresses himself to the rulers of Israel and the leaders of the people, and makes similar declarations regarding them.

In preparation for the next installment of these studies, I would like to suggest that serious students take up Isaiah 28 and 29, and read them over, and then write out an answer to the following questions:

1. What is the historical background of these chapters, as revealed by statements in them?
2. What is the general subject involved in chapter 28?