

SEMINAR # 1

HE is talking to the people as a whole... God will punish you unless you turn away from your sins. Then he is saying that God is the one who will lead His people, and then He says, and then they consider themselves implicated with the rottenness of the sin of the nations, and of necessity/ they ~~g~~ are going to suffer with the rest of them as the result of the disobedience to God. He is saying to these people, Do not be afraid, / God ~~has~~ not through with His people. But punishment must come. But after the punishment God will bless. Ch. 2, 4, and many other sections/ of Isaiah. He looks beyond to this wonderful blessing. But in chapter 40 ... Isaiah turns his attention away from the nation as a whole, and then he looks to the godly portions of the nation, those who want the _____ of Isaiah, those who believe ~~in the~~ that Isaiah's predictions of the coming exile are true, and who can get away from this despair... / the Assyrians have already taken the Northern kingdom/ into exile at the end of the Northern kingdom/ Isaiah ~~at~~ have predicted ~~it~~/ chapter 39 that the Southern kingdom is going to the exile, not to Assyria, but to Babylon, and these people believed that which was going to happen, and that they cannot get away from the predictions, and that there would be nothing but misery there. ~~Isiah~~ Isaiah looks to these people in chapter 40 through 56:8 and says, Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem.... He carries them forward to the time of 150 years later when the exile will have begun, when the exile has been already going ~~on~~ for a considerable time. He carries them forward to the time, and saies, do not get in despair, do not get discouraged, for there is going to ~~be~~ be an end to it. You imagine yourself/ ^{already} being in that situation, because you know that it must come. I have