

from the mouths of the lions. He showed His wonderful grace and goodness to His people whom He had called to ^{keep} speak His name alive, but He could not deliver His own son from this suffering because it was necessary that ~~it~~ He must go through it on our behalf if we were to be saved. And so he points out how God ~~is~~ has cared for His people in the past, but He is a worm and no man, a reproach of men and despised of the people. He must go through this humiliation and suffering ~~it~~ in order that it might be accomplished. You remember that in Gethsemane how ~~it~~ he cried to the God that this ~~cup~~ ~~cup~~ cup might ~~pass~~ pass from ~~him~~ me, but He said, not my will but thine be done. He bowed His head willingly to bear it because of His goodness and His love to us. And then we read a description of His humiliation of Him there, "All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver Him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him." Having just read the passage in Matt. we see how exactly this describes the situation. How would this fit with a sufferer in a Maccabean dungeon who ~~is~~ would be passing by shooting out the lip and saying these things about you. How would it fit a man in most ~~such~~ situations. But it was exactly fulfilled in the public crucifixion of Christ with His enemies standing around Him and making scorn of Him and ridicule of Him as described in the passage that was read this morning. And then those next two verses are very interesting, "But thou art He that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts. I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly." Four times in the course of these two verses stress is ~~laid~~ laid upon the fact that He belonged to God before ~~He~~ from before His birth. Upon the fact that He was brought into the world for a ~~particular~~ particular purpose, that He had a particular relationship with God from before, even before His birth. And its interesting, these four times the expression of the relationship to the mother. Now that's not what you find in Biblical times. In those times great stress